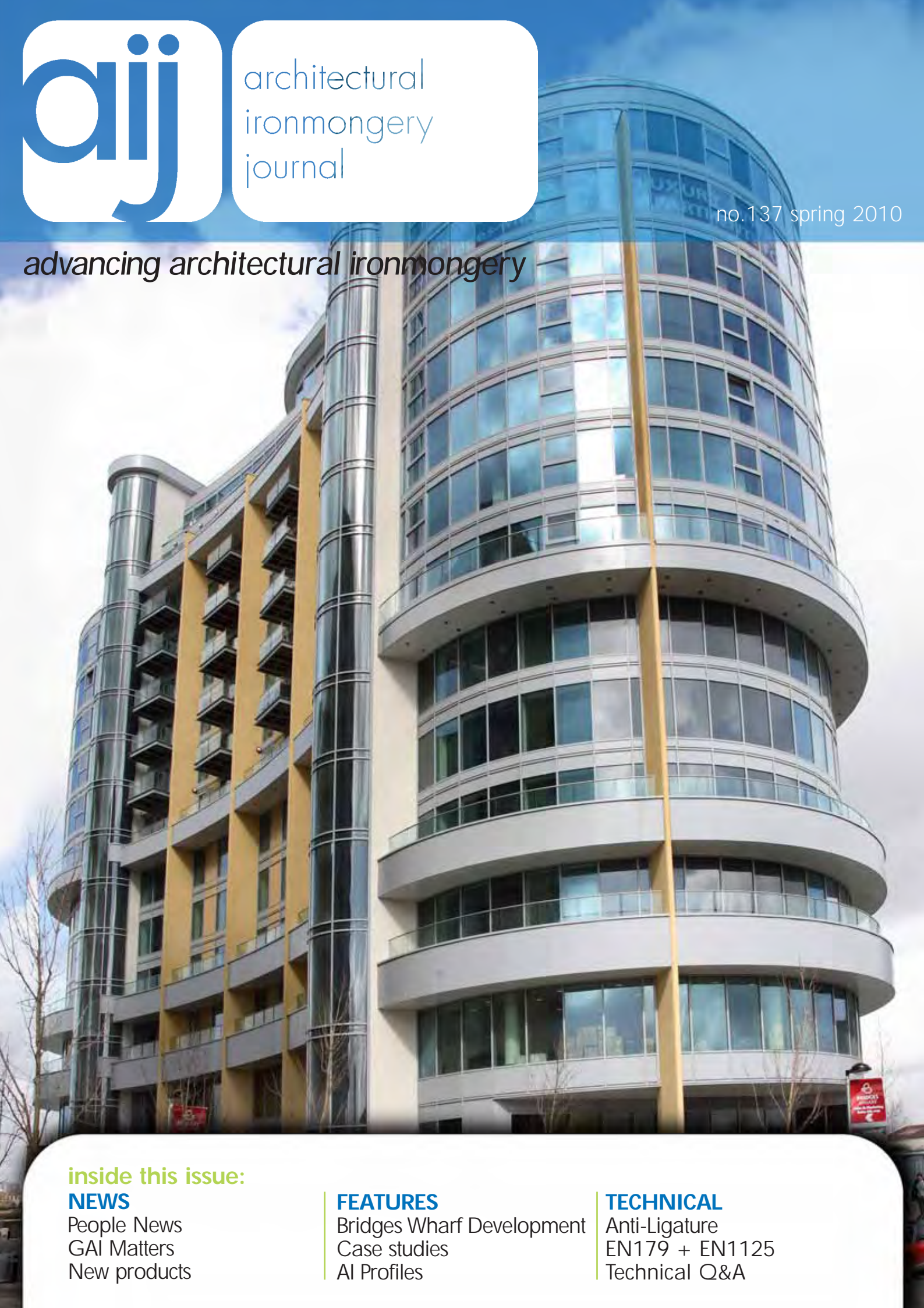




architectural
ironmongery
journal

no.137 spring 2010

advancing architectural ironmongery



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Briton



Opening doors with Briton just got easier

The new Briton 2700 Series of cam-action, slide channel door controls combines easy opening with safe, reliable closing. Designed to bridge the gap between the conflicting demands of Part B (Fire) and Part M (Accessibility) of the Building Regulations they assist all users and in particular the disabled, children and the elderly to help overcome difficulties in opening a door.

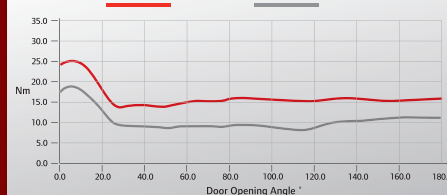
Precision manufactured from cast-iron for durability and strength they feature a stylish metal 'snap-on' cover in a smooth distinctive design. The Briton 2700 Series also features a unique FAST PowerAdjust™ dial, allowing installers and users to view and easily adjust the current power setting to suit door conditions.

For further information on the Briton 2700 Series, including the latest brochure and certification visit www.security.ingersollrand.com/camaction or call the marketing department on: 01922 707400.



CF738

Force Profile Briton 2720 set to EN 3 Power setting
Opening Moment Closing Moment



Independently tested by EXOVA Warrington APT Laboratories Ltd



As we go to press, the election campaign is in full swing, or rather, battle has commenced. And so far it has been disappointing to hear very little mention of the construction industry and its future under the new government.

The construction industry is the largest in the UK employing nearly 2 million people – almost 1 in 14 of the workforce. Yet, maybe because it is so fragmented, the industry seems to punch below its weight in terms of profile and clout in government circles and the public eye.

And yet there are few industries whose future is more closely affected by the outcome of the election, and more vital to the UK's recovery. Public sector capital projects have been the life-blood of the industry for many years and with the economy continuing to bump along the bottom, it would seem like swingeing cuts to this sector are inevitable, no matter who has the keys to Number 10. New housing starts are at their lowest since 1948 and this sector is also looking to Westminster for a boost.

These are changing times for the UK and the construction industry too. Only time will tell if Messers Brown, Cameron and Clegg will let us know their detailed plans for the industry as we emerge from recession.



Helen Curry

insideaij

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Copy date for the Summer 2010 issue is
25 June 2010. All adverts are accepted
subject to approval from a Technical Approval
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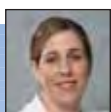


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ALL CHANGE AT JOHN PLANCK LIMITED

Following the retirement of John Planck, David Allison has been appointed John Planck Limited's new Managing Director. David has been with the company since 1996 and previously held the position of Sales Director.

David started out in the industry at 17, working with his Godfather, John Williams - one of the first Directors of Allgoods in the 1960s who subsequently set up his own company where David began his Ironmongery career. In 1980 David set up an Architectural Ironmongers for Charles Collinge in Blackfriars. This led on to the opening of a showroom for W & R Leggott in Clerkenwell Green. The showroom was later acquired by John Planck Limited for their London operation and David still works in this building today.

On David's appointment, Group MD Marilyn Monaghan commented:

"David's inherent sales focus and vast experience in the architectural ironmongery sector will, I am confident, take the company forward successfully in the current market and into a new era. Having been in the industry for more than 35 years and the winner of several GAI Specification Awards he brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to this key role."



aijobituaries

DEREK ASHLEY-NORMAN

One of the true Gentlemen of the AI industry, Derek Ashley-Norman, sadly passed away on 16 January following a battle against pancreatic cancer. Derek has been a figure within Architectural Ironmongery for 50 years, starting with East Sussex Hardware, then as Managing Director of Group Sales Ltd, which relocated to Peterborough in the late 1980's.

He has been Managing Director of D&E Architectural Hardware Ltd since its inception in 1994, where he was joined by his son William in 1999.

Derek was an inspiration as a leader, a colleague and as a family man, and will be missed by all who knew him. We offer our sympathy to his wife Lyn and his 4 children.



TED STEEL

The founder of Edward Steel & Craig Ltd and a well known and loved figure in the AI industry sadly passed away on the 6th November 2009 at the age of 79.

Ted Steel was a real "east ender" who first started his career in Ironmongery, which spanned over 40 years, at a company called Tyzacks in Shoreditch, London. He then went on to work at Stedalls, Olympia Signs, Alfred G. Roberts, Warsaw and United Builders Merchants before starting his own business, Edward Steel & Craig Ltd on 1 October 1973 from premises in Patrick Road, Plaistow, London E13.

Ted, a passionate West Ham United supporter, was a real character and always had a joke to tell and will be dearly missed by his family & all that knew him.

Ted retired in 1997 and spent much of his retirement looking after his seriously ill and beloved wife Jean, visiting her at the nursing home every single day, almost without exception, until she passed away in 2008.

Edward Steel & Craig Ltd, now in their 37th year of trading, is a fitting legacy to a great man and they will always be proud to have his name over their door.



STRONG GROWTH FOR IRONMONGERY DIRECT

Ironmongery Direct, the UK's biggest multichannel distributors of ironmongery to the trade, continues to enjoy strong trading sales figures. Despite the financial downturn, Ironmongery Direct has recorded sales of £10m for 2009 showing an overall growth of 36% compared to the same period last year. These results follow a continued growth pattern for the fifth consecutive year.

Profit is also up by 61% from £263k in 2008 to £425k and the last quarter results showed turnover growth of 40%, with strongest December sales on record. Online turnover also grew by 87% due to substantial investments made to the website during the year.

Managing Director, Wayne Lysaght-Mason commented: "It has been an excellent year. Not only have we finally reached our £10m turnover target but we've also increased our profit. During a time when many companies are reducing stock and cutting costs, we have concentrated our efforts on providing more products, first rate service and next day delivery."

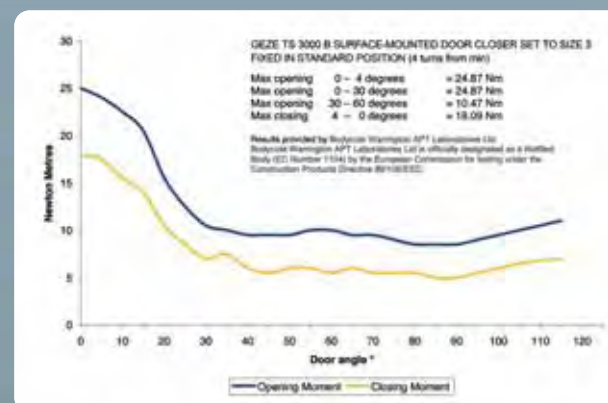


Automatic Door Systems
Window & Ventilation
> Door Technology
RWA & Safety Technology
Glass Systems
Service & Support

Two guide rail closers with the answers to Approved Document M

TS 3000 B and TS 3000 EC door closers are two more answers from GEZE that provide independent access for people with disabilities. Highly efficient with low opening forces they will help you to achieve the low opening force requirements and fire performance of Approved Documents M and B.

TS 3000 B and TS 3000 EC designed to give independent access to all.



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Call our customer helpline on **01543 443000**
Email info.uk@geze.com or www.geze.co.uk





MAINTENANCE REMAINS KEY

Graham Botwright, head of DORMA's service division stresses why during these difficult economic times maintenance of door systems is a vital service which should not be overlooked.

"Regular door maintenance reduces breakdowns and ultimately the accompanying inconvenience, such as potential loss of revenue, due to doors being out of commission. With doors and their associated hardware and ironmongery they account for around 80% of a total maintenance bill. Regular servicing is not only a safety benefit, but over time it can help to reduce costs as well."

With revisions of regulations regarding automatic doors, door closures and panic hardware including fire doors, there is no better time to make sure all doors are maintained. This is especially the case for fire doors, where the introduction of RR (FS) O in 2006 has made the responsibility for the safety of the employees firmly that of those who control the business.

HÄFELE GETS A HANDLE ON BS8300

When Häfele present their popular CPD seminar on Architectural Ironmongery one of the most common questions is regarding the limited choice of levers that can be used to comply with BS8300 recommendations, most people assume that this has to be a standard return to door lever.

In fact although this was never the case the latest version of BS8300:2009 now has much clearer guidance on lever specification and shows 4 examples of type that will meet these criteria.

They key design indicators are:

1. Hand grip zone of at least 95 mm (applies to all types of lever handle)
2. Hand grip zone at least 45 mm from face of door
3. Lever diameter at least 19 mm
4. Lock/latch backset at least 54 mm from door edge



A wide range of door levers can be used which allow the architect to meet the requirements of BS8300 whilst still using attractive designs of door furniture.

PACKED FOR THE FUTURE

New products from UNION in 2010 will be delivered to customers in redesigned packaging. Designers at the Willenhall-based company have reinvigorated the brand and with several new product launches due throughout the year, UNION has developed the new boxes to help reinforce the strength of the brand in anticipation of increased demand.

Tina Ainsworth, Head of Marketing at UNION Architectural Hardware, said: "First impressions count for a great deal so it's imperative that we get our packaging right. Apart from brand invigoration, the new packaging has a very practical benefit. With enhanced holograms for international customers and universal branding, the unique designs will help to eradicate illegal imitations. Customers will always be able to tell the real-deal from cheaper imitations and be confident of the proven quality of the products inside."



NEW STRUCTURE FOR DHF

The Door & Hardware Federation (DHF) is undergoing a significant reorganisation following the departure of Ian Wood who has left the DHF to pursue other interests after five years in the role of CEO.

Said Bob Perry, DHF chairman: "We will be placing much greater emphasis on helping members derive more commercial benefit from their membership and also help them meet the challenges posed by legislation, CE marking and compliance.

"Our new structure will enable us to concentrate more on meeting the requirements of our current members and their individual specialist groups within the federation. The reorganisation will make us more flexible, help to contain costs and will enable more funds to be allocated to marketing and promotion of the industry, its products and standards - so adding benefit to all our members."

TRIMEC UK OPERATION

Trimec, the electromechanical locking solutions provider, has announced its decision to establish distribution to the UK market alongside fellow ASSA ABLOY Group companies in Wolverhampton.

The Australian manufacturer, with distribution partners in many countries across the globe, has decided to distribute the Trimec brand to its UK customers from ASSA ABLOY's headquarters. The ASSA ABLOY infrastructure will provide enhanced customer service and opportunities to augment its product offering and introduce new products to the market. Trimec specialises in electric strikes but also offers a range of patented electromechanical technologies including drop bolts and V locks. David Wigglesworth, Managing Director of Adams Rite, part of the Assa Abloy group in the UK, commented: "By distributing direct to the UK market, it will be easier for us to introduce even more new products and we'll be able to offer a much greater customer experience."

Past and present Trimec customers will soon receive a welcome pack along with other useful information such as a product code converter. If you want Trimec to send you a pack, call Hayley Byrne on 01902 867180.

NEW TEAM FOR SCOTLAND

GEZE UK has opened a new office in Glasgow to serve Scotland. GEZE Scotland will offer a complete supply and installation service for GEZE automatic operators as well as full service support for all makes of automatic, manual doors and industrial doors.

The GEZE Scotland team consists of several ex-Rallock members including John Robb who becomes General Manager and Sandra Cameron, Sales Consultant. Joining them are estimators, site technicians and production technicians. Together they bring with them many years of experience in the automatic, service and façade industry.

Said Andrew Hall, GEZE UK's MD, "Our new office in Scotland gives specifiers better, local customer service from GEZE. The knowledge of our team in Scotland, both of product and the market place, is exceptional and this development demonstrates our philosophy of having local knowledge coupled with national coverage to meet customer needs'.

PRIMERA IMPROVE SCHEME

Primera has recently improved its Product Registration Scheme which has now entered its second year.

The improvements have been designed to reward AIs who schedule and specify Primera's range of anti-ligature products and the scheme continues to operate successfully. "The Primera Product Registration Scheme is designed to encourage the specification of our products and reward the commitment and investment that AIs make in the scheduling process," comments Jerry Smith, Director of Primera. The scheme is subject to a strict code of practice which the team at Primera uses to ensure that only the AI who originated the specification gains the competitive advantage which the scheme offers



CHANGE FOR GOOD

The GAI's Conference and AGM this year has been given a complete overhaul to give it a sharper business focus and offer delegates real business benefits including new business seminars and an updated schedule which will make it even more appealing to AIs.

The 49th AGM and Conference will be held from Friday 21 to Sunday 23 May at Whittlebury Hall which is a country hotel and spa conveniently and centrally located in rural Northamptonshire with top notch golfing facilities and fantastic leisure and spa facilities. Visit www.whittleburyhall.co.uk to see all the facilities.

The traditional golf tournament has been moved to Friday afternoon so that a full one day business programme is available on Saturday. Saturday starts with the Annual General Meeting, a must for you to see what the GAI and its volunteer members have been achieving over the past year; and what is planned for the coming year.

You will then be entertained by our guest speaker Jim Lawless, one of the most inspiring and highly sought after speakers in Europe. Everyone who attends the event is very welcome to join the audience for what is sure to be an inspiring and educational presentation.

After lunch, three business seminars on subjects of topical interest have been added to the normal programme. These will each be presented 3 times in the afternoon so you will be able to attend all of them.



The seminars will cover:

- ISO 14001 Environmental Management
- Building Control – what a building control officer looks for with particular emphasis on fire doors
- Specifying Door Security

For those who may not wish to attend the seminars or use the spa facilities, a special coach trip to nearby Warwick Castle has been arranged, or perhaps you would like to try archery.

This will be followed in the evening by the famous GAI banquet.



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INSTITUTE AGM MARKS NEW PARTNERSHIP

A well-attended AGM was held by the Institute of Architectural Ironmongers in Oxford in late April. The Institute, the individual membership section of the GAI runs a thriving network of local branches across the UK.

The Institute AGM, sponsored by Allgood plc, DORMA, Dortrend, GEZE UK, HOPPE and Lorient was addressed by Chairman Andy Howland who stepped down to make way for new Chairman Paul Spencer to take over the role for the next two years.

The Institute AGM also saw the presentation of the organisation's annual awards, including the Paul Lewis Trophy for outstanding customer service sponsored by Royde and Tucker, the final Bob Ramage Award for Services to the Institute and Fellowship of the Institute.

The winners were:

Fellowship – Dave Martin (*Millbrook Associates*).

Paul Lewis Award – SIMONSWERK UK LTD

Patrick Calvey – National Sales Manager

Steve Slater – Sales Office Manager.

Emma Gwilt – Sales Office Administration

Linda Griffin – Sales Office Administration

Bob Ramage Award – Estelle Adams (*Yannedis London Ltd*).



Paul Spencer

STATEMENTS OF FACT

The GAI has commissioned and issued to members a set of preamble clauses which AIs can use to guide clients and protect themselves when scheduling fire doors, access products recommended by AD M, and anti-ligature products. The clauses will protect AIs and clarify schedules for the client in instances when client briefs and requirements evolve or change after the schedule has been completed or the products installed.

The clauses were drafted by the GAI Technical Committee following a number of FAQs received and a desire to help protect and help professional AIs and their clients. Often an AI will write a schedule without benefit of seeing the fire risk assessment and/or the access statement. This is usually because they simply had not been written at the time the schedule was produced. So while the AI writes the schedule in good faith and in line with all current standards and best practice, in effect he is hampered by not having access to all the relevant decisions taken by the client and the architect after the schedule is put together.

It is often only when the property is handed over that fire risk and access issues actually come to the fore. If, at this point, the client decides that they require different hardware than was scheduled – for whatever reason – they might ask the AI to change the products, and could request this to be done free of charge. The new GAI preambles give the AI some protection in these situations.

In the case of the scheduling of anti-ligature hardware, the client should work closely with the AI early on and take responsibility for deciding if an item is suitable for their clientele. What suits one facility might be totally wrong for another, and anti-ligature requirements are often not the only criteria to consider in secure or protective environments. Anti-ligature furniture is often not compliant with the recommendations of BS 8300, so the client must decide which takes precedence. The same might apply to escape doors.

GAI President, Andrew Hall, comments "These clauses help protect the AI if the client can't give enough detailed information when the schedules are being written. It is so important that AIs are called in as early as possible and given as much information as possible so that these situations do not arise. This allows them to reflect the client's wishes first time, saving time and money for everyone concerned."

Fire safety products

This schedule has been prepared without sight of the building's Fire Risk Assessment which is required under the RR(FS)O. Door hardware has been specified following best practice as set out in the "Code of Practice: Hardware for fire and escape doors", jointly published by the DHF and GAI, and referenced in Approved Document B. The Code of Practice can be viewed and downloaded on www.firecode.org.uk. Whilst all care has been taken to ensure that items specified meet statutory and regulatory requirements, such items might not offer the particular functionality identified and required by the Responsible Person at handover.

Joe Bloggs Ltd can supply additional or alternative products as requested, but cannot take back for credit any items which have been fitted, or which are not in original packing. Any returns are at the discretion of the company, and will incur a handling charge.

Access products

This schedule has been prepared without sight of the building's Access Statement, which is required under the DDA/AD M. Door hardware has been specified following best practice as recommended by BS 8300: Design of buildings and their approaches to meet the needs of disabled people - Code of practice. It is accepted on the Approved Document M: FAQs' site, that compliance with this standard is deemed to satisfy AD M. Whilst all care has been taken to ensure that items specified meet statutory and regulatory requirements, such items might not offer the particular functionality identified and required by the Building Occupier at handover.

Joe Bloggs Ltd can supply additional or alternative products as requested, but cannot take back for credit any items which have been fitted, or which are not in original packing. Any returns are at the discretion of the company, and will incur a handling charge.

Anti-ligature

Any products described as "anti-ligature" have been designed and manufactured to remove, as far as has been foreseen, the opportunity to attach a load-bearing ligature to the product. This relies on the manufacturer's fitting and maintenance instructions being rigorously followed, and the site conditions allowing the optimum choice of product. As requirements vary from facility to facility, each Facility Manager should ensure that the products are suitable for the particular risks anticipated at the establishment.

Briton



Making a Stylish Exit

The Briton 376 Series, the UK's market leading exit device has a new and improved aesthetic design.

Sleeker lines and a softer form provide a stylish yet robust feel, making it even more appealing to specifiers, contractors and facilities managers.

The new Briton 376 Series complies with the latest revisions of EN 1125:2008, EN 179:2008 and CE Marking. It can easily be used for retrofit projects as the new variants fit existing footprints.

For further information on the Briton 376 series, including the latest brochure and certification visit www.security.ingersollrand.co.uk or call the Marketing Department on **01922 707400**.



RAISING THE STANDARD

The GAI is committed to the highest standards in door hardware and its specification, endorsing best practice and educating the sector about developments in standards and legislation. The issue of scheduling anti-ligature hardware is one which AIs, architects and their clients are meeting increasingly often and one which often prompts the most questions to manufacturers' technical departments.

As such, the GAI is now recommending that its members use products which have been tested to TS 001, the Door and Hardware Federation's guide to the specification for anti-ligature devices which outlines requirements and test methods for anti-ligature devices.

» DHF SETS THE STANDARD FOR ANTI-LIGATURE DOOR DEVICES

It was back in 2003 that the Door & Hardware Federation Technical Specification 001 for Door Mounted Anti-Ligature Devices for Safety and Security Purposes began to take shape.

The DHF's predecessor association the ABHM (Association of Building Hardware Manufacturers) identified the need to raise safety standards for door hardware in special care environments, such as prisons, hospitals, care homes and detention centres.

There was a growing demand for items of door furniture, such as hinges, coat hooks, handles and locks, from which it was not possible for a ligature to remain secured. So anyone intent on inflicting self harm by attaching a ligature, such as a rope or bandage to the item of door furniture, would find the ligature would not stay in place.

A good example of this is a door hinge where the knuckles are chamfered, so any attempt to use the hinge as a ligature point is foiled.

In 2005, DHF TS 001 was published, and manufacturers of door mounted devices began to rate their anti-ligature devices against the minimum requirements set out in the new technical specification.

The DHF publishes technical specifications such as DHF TS 001 so that specifiers of door and hardware products can judge what levels of performance are achievable and so are able to differentiate high quality products from inferior offerings.

Publication also gives specifiers, suppliers and testers the opportunity to make comment on the technical specifications so that they can be continually updated and improved. To that end, a group of specialists from the DHF hardware standards committee is currently rewriting DHF TS 001.

Copies of DHF TS 001 can be downloaded from the DHF website, www.dhfonline.org.uk at no charge.

Paul Duggan, business development manager of Exova Warringtonapt, the division of Exova Warringtonfire which tests a broad range of hardware products, doors and windows, said:

"Enquiries for testing under DHF TS 001 have increased. We have seen an increase from hardware companies both in the UK and mainland Europe, making enquiries on the DHF TS 001 and what goes into the testing of products against DHF TS001. DHF TS 001 will not totally stop people from harming themselves, if they are determined to do so, what the DHF TS 001 document is trying to do is help companies reduce the risk, the best they can, when supplying various products."

» PREVENTING INJURY: ACHIEVING TS001



Simon Gardiner, Sales and Marketing Director at Royde & Tucker, discusses the importance of manufacturers completing the DHF Technical Specification TS 001 for all anti-ligature hinges and devices.

Suicide rates by hanging and suffocation have steadily increased since 1981 and are now the most prevalent methods, accounting for 40% of suicides. Throughout the UK, there are various initiatives to reduce this figure and in England, the target is a reduction of 20% by 2010.

With research indicating that the likelihood of suicide will depend to some extent on the ease of access to, and knowledge of effective means, ensuring anti-ligature hardware products are specified is one valuable way of reducing the rate of suicides.

Anti-ligature devices prevent a ligature from remaining secure, for example, either over the hinge knuckle or between the door leaf and frame - when subjected to the load. With increasing emphasis being placed on ironmongery as a non-contributory component, it is in this instance essential, not just important, that manufacturers provide fit-for-purpose hardware items.

Having reliable third party accreditation and testing on anti-ligature products provides peace of mind to the client as well assisting in distinguishing a manufacturer's products from "similar" others. Currently the only form of independent testing is the DHF TS 001. This specification, entitled Door mounted anti-ligature devices for safety and security purposes, has been published by the Door & Hardware Federation in response to the growing need for this type of product and the verification of its appropriateness. It includes a proposed classification of anti-ligature devices, test methods and grades of classification.

The test methods are extremely thorough to ensure the product is fit for category of use. 6.1.1 of the specification states that: 'The anti-ligature device, including any associated mounting device, shall resist attempts to unscrew, or otherwise remove, using the following tools: any normally available tools including stainless steel dining knife, flat blade screwdriver, Phillips head or Posidrive head screwdriver, over an elapsed period of ten minutes. At the end of the test, the anti-ligature device and any associated mounting device shall comply with requirements of clause 5.5 Safety.'

This involves testing conditions that include corrosion resistance in accordance to EN 1670:1998, safety for fixed hardware devices across a multitude of application situations and fit for purpose devices for smoke/fire doors.

Royde & Tucker has developed two maintenance free HI-LOAD anti-ligature hinges; responding to client design demands, operation considerations and performance standard and guidance including strict testing in accordance to DHF TS 001, the H102-300 and H125-300 include anti-tamper screws, which

screw through the security faceplate and the hinge leaf creating a highly tamper resistance and anti ligature unit. The innovative design as well as chamfering the knuckle ends and recessing the knuckle prevents components being removed under the requirements of TS 001 and a ligature being gained either over the hinge knuckle or between the door leaf and frame.

Both of the above come inclusive of standard fixing screws as well as four Resistorex screws, which fasten through the security faceplate and the hinge leaf.

Safety is of the utmost importance to clients specifying anti-ligature devices and by having DHF TS 001, ensures a manufacturer's product is of the highest quality performance wise.

For more information please visit www.ratman.co.uk

» CLOSING THE DOOR ON ANTI-LIGATURE

DORMA's Technical Department outlines some of the considerations when specifying door closers for setting where there is a requirement for anti-ligature hardware.

In many installations it is vital to reduce the risk of suicide so all likely ligature points should be removed or covered. For door closers this means taking all the available anti-ligature safety precautions whilst still maintaining compliance with the requirements of BS EN 1154.

One of the most common requirements in Anti-ligature scenarios within mental healthcare is for a bedroom door which requires the following functions:

Anti-ligature

Double Action to enable a door to be opened outwards in case of a barricade situation

Free Swing Application to enable compliance with AD M/BS8300 and allow ease of use by the occupant

Anti-ligature combines well with a requirement for double action; this ensures that the door closing device is concealed within the floor or door leaf and frame, and that all fittings are concealed within the door. There are therefore no ligature points in respect of the door closing device.

Floor springs

To enable free swing a floor spring can be utilised, installed in such a way as to provide double action operation on a bedroom door.

The floor spring mechanism is installed as normal, except that the spindle is rotated by 90 degrees so that when mounted the door is in the open position away from the bedroom. The door is then pushed through 180 degrees providing 90 degree opening into the bedroom. On closing, the door can be made to rest within the frame by use of an emergency stop, this stop is only activated when the door is required to open away from the bedroom in case of an emergency. When power is then applied to the floor spring (24V DC) and the door opened into the bedroom the floor spring will then become free swinging.

This provides a Free Swing Double Action door which is ideal for bedroom use where anti-ligature is a requirement.

Overhead Door Closers

The use of slide arm door closers reduces ligature points, and if the closer is concealed, then when the door is closed there are no ligature points. Ligature points will only become an issue when the door is operated as this is when the arm connecting the door closer body to the channel will be visible. This may be acceptable if the area is "staffed".

There have been cases where modifications have been carried out to door closer arms when used with slide channels; then if any weight is applied to the arm, it will automatically 'disconnect' from the slide channel.

BS EN1154 states that:

A.4 The design of a door closer shall be such that it is not possible to inhibit its closing action in any way, without the use of a tool.

Thus by applying 'weight' to the arm which will then disconnect from the channel the closers' closing action would be inhibited. This practice should not be used as it results in non-compliance with the requirements of BS EN1154 and thus would nullify the CE Marking on the door closer.

CO-EXTRUDED SEALS OFFER ANTI-LIGATURE PROTECTION



While combined smoke and fire seals play a vital role in saving lives in a fire, they can also present a ligature hazard. Many seals are manufactured as two parts and assembled – so the smoke seal brush or fin strip is simply inserted into the carrier as a separate component. This means that, almost as easily as it was inserted, the brush or fin can be removed in one long length, and potentially used as a ligature device.

Lorient's combined acoustic, smoke and fire seals are manufactured differently. Lorient's flexible finned products, such as the DS seal, are produced using co-extrusion, which means that the rigid PVC seal carrier and the flexible fin are manufactured as one unit, not two. This creates an extremely strong weld between the carrier and the fin, rendering the seals almost impossible to destroy, and never to the extent that a long length of fin could be torn from the product and used as a ligature.

Lorient's seals are also multi-functional, which means that one combined seal can provide acoustic, smoke, fire and thermal containment around the perimeter of the door. This removes the need for multiple seals to be fitted, reducing both the costs and the potential ligature hazard of adding separate, surface-mounted seals.

STAINLESS ANTI-LIGATURE RANGE FROM INSTINCT



Manufacturer Instinct Hardware has introduced new designs of 316 stainless steel products to complement their existing portfolio of anti-ligature hardware. The products have been designed to suit a variety of applications, where integrity of material and consideration of individual safety are paramount.

The extended range has been developed with versatility in mind, highlighted by the aesthetically pleasing lever, ALL01, and pull handle, ALP01. Levers can be supplied with our new 4.5mm slim-line tapered anti-ligature rose, ALR01 and corresponding escutcheon, ALE01. Alternatively Instinct can supply packages individually to suit and application.

TAMPER RESISTANT AND ANTI LIGATURE HINGE



The HI-LOAD anti-ligature hinge from Royde & Tucker features innovative design which prevents a ligature being gained either over the hinge knuckle or between the door leaf and frame. The H102-300 includes anti-tamper screws, which screw through the security faceplate and the hinge leaf creating a highly tamper resistance and anti ligature unit.

The H102-300 is a triple knuckle butt hinge, available in stainless or mild steel, which is suitable for a minimum door thickness of 44mm. The H125-300 is suitable for a minimum door thickness of 54mm.

Both hinges come with Royde and Tucker's 25 year guarantee.

DOOR CLOSER HELPS CREATE SAFER ENVIRONMENTS

Increased awareness of the risk of ligature represented in the door environment has led to heightened interest in the Perko Powermatic® controlled, concealed door closer, according to manufacturers Samuel Heath.

The company's sales director, Martyn Whieldon, explains, "In addition to the expected interest from architects, designers and specifiers, we are receiving an increasing number of enquiries from clinicians, facilities managers and executives responsible for the welfare of a building's occupants. The projects have varied from secure accommodation and psychiatric units to health establishments and other facilities that provide care for vulnerable members of society."

He continues, "Whilst most ironmongers will be familiar with the specialist handles and other surface mounted door furniture for reduced ligature solutions, some may struggle to recommend a suitable door closer".

"Samuel Heath's concealed, controlled door closer offers a perfect reduced ligature solution. When the door is closed, Perko Powermatic® is totally concealed, which means that it does not offer surface mounted protrusions that might be used as suspension points. It can also be mounted within 300mm of the bottom of the door, a key requirement in the design of facilities for the vulnerable and an attribute that further enhances Perko Powermatic's reduced ligature credentials."

The high performance and reduced ligature characteristics of the Perko Powermatic® door closer can be combined with other reduced ligature hardware to create solutions for a wide variety of fire and non-fire door applications.

RAISING THE STANDARD (CONT)

HOPPE INTRODUCE ANTI-LIGATURE RANGE



HOPPE (UK) is launching a range of anti-ligature hardware, designed to assist with resistance against self harm. Ideal for use in buildings such as hospitals and prisons, the range will be available soon as the latest addition to the ARNONE® Plus range of products.

Available in Stainless Steel the range is successfully tested in accordance with the requirements of DHF001, a product specification document released by the Door Hardware Federation for the testing and assessment of anti-ligature products. The range will be also included in a successful fire test to BS EN1634 Part 1.

The range will consist of door handles, escutcheons, bathroom turns, knob furniture, hinges and pull handles. There are also additions to the ARNONE Plus architectural mortice lock cases, with a new bathroom lock, sashlock and rollerbolt all featuring an 80mm backset.

INVALUABLE GUIDE TO ANTI-LIGATURE DOOR FURNITURE



Laidlaw Solutions' new 28 page Orbis Anti-Ligature door furniture brochure contains comprehensive information on a range which has seen a significant number of additions since the last edition. Co-ordinated, ready-to-install locksets are available with functions which include rollerbolt locks with primary and secondary barricade override options. Specific designs for washrooms and bedrooms are available with the option of auto-locking night latches, while new door pulls, radius plates, retractable doorplates and accessories have greatly extended combination permutations. All have a standard 10-year guarantee, are supplied in either

Satin Stainless Steel or Silk Anodised Aluminium and come complete with Torx pin tamper-proof fixings. Go to www.laidlaw.net to download or call 01902 600431 for a copy.

aijprofile dave ratcliffe

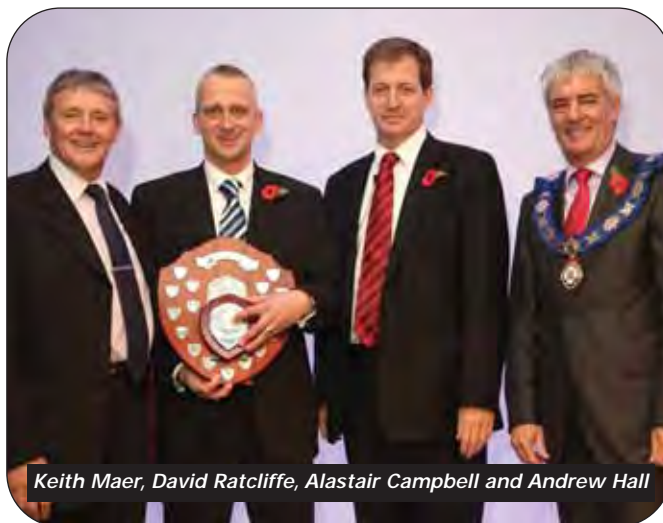
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN

When gold medal winner Dave Ratcliffe moved to the architectural ironmongery department of Leaderflush Shapland to take up the role of Architectural Hardware Manager he decided to enrol in the GAI education program to enhance and consolidate his expertise in that area.

Dave has worked for Leaderflush Shapland (a well respected company which can trace its roots as far back as 1838) for 25 years. He started off in 1985 as a junior in the production office. Over the years, he has progressed through various managerial roles until he was promoted to Architectural Hardware Manager about four years ago.

Dave said, "Whilst I was experienced in scheduling and estimating in the doorset area, my knowledge of architectural ironmongery was not as strong and I felt it would be a worthwhile investment of my time to enrol in the GAI education programme. Some years ago, Leaderflush Shapland set up an architectural hardware division but it has been difficult for them to recruit qualified Al's in this area of the country. As a result Leaderflush Shapland has been continually enrolling employees in the programme and there are about 25 people at different stages at any one time. Just this year alone, Leaderflush Shapland had 10 people qualify."

Being a more mature candidate, Dave said that he was slightly unsure when he first started whether he would cope with all the revision and studying that would be required. However he didn't want to pass the exams by just "scraping through" so he threw himself into the studying by putting in additional hours in the evenings and weekends. Dave said, "I knew it would be hard work for a few months but the end result would be worth it and getting this qualification would definitely benefit my career." This positive attitude is certainly one which has paid off as in his level one exam



Keith Maer, David Ratcliffe, Alastair Campbell and Andrew Hall

and level two exam, he achieved silver and bronze medal respectively. Whilst studying for his level three exams, Dave also attended a residential course alongside his Leaderflush Shapland colleagues. As there was a large contingent of Leaderflush Shapland candidates, the GAI were able to offer them their own residential course. As he was new to AI scheduling he felt he needed the extra support the residential course could offer and came away having gained a tremendous amount of knowledge. He said he would certainly recommend a residential course to all candidates, especially at level three. Considering Dave has been in the industry for 25 years he asked him whether it was possible to learn

anything new. He said, "I went into the programme with an open mind, I wanted to go back to basics so that I could learn the correct way to do everything. I didn't want to acquire bad habits. There have been so many changes in the industry, since I started out, that there is always something new to learn." Dave was undoubtedly shocked when he won the Gold Award, as the winners didn't find out until the actual day of the Awards. In addition to this, he was also the winner of the Scheduling Award. He had already been given his scheduling marks but had no idea that they were the highest for that discipline. He said, "It was a fantastic feeling to win both awards as well as a bit of a shock at the time. Since winning, I have had many messages of support and congratulations from colleagues as well as customers. My shield is on display and it is a real boost for the company to have a medal winner working for them."

"At Leaderflush Shapland we also have 10 other diploma holders and it demonstrates to our customers that we are taking their business seriously. On a personal level I am committed to the education programme and will be ensuring that I maintain my Reg AI status by keeping up to date with the programme."

PERKO POWERMATIC®

When health and safety matters



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Education



DDA



Healthcare



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Housing

Health and safety is a vital consideration in all projects. Fortunately, our Perko Powermatic® controlled, concealed door closer delivers these key attributes, and many more benefits, in abundance.

Whatever project you are working on, you will find that Perko Powermatic® not only offers exceptional performance, from its fire resistance and accessibility capabilities to a host of personal safety and reliability advantages, but also looks part of your design, without detracting from the aesthetics.

- ✓ CE marked
- ✓ BS EN 1154: 1997 Power size 3
- ✓ High efficiency will help you achieve the requirements of Approved Document M and BS 8300
- ✓ BS EN 1634-1 Approved for use on half-hour and one-hour fire doors
- ✓ 10 year guarantee

To find out more visit the Perko Powermatic® website or call us for specification advice.

SAMUEL HEATH

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PAUL SPENCER

PAUL SPENCER BECOMES NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF THE INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURAL IRONMONGERS THIS APRIL, TAKING OVER THE REINS FROM ANDY HOWLAND WHO COMPLETES HIS 2 YEAR TERM. PAUL STEPS UP FROM THE SOUTH CENTRAL BRANCH OF THE INSTITUTE WHICH HE SET UP IN 2004 AND HAS RUN EVER SINCE. HE IS ALSO A BUSINESS PARTNER OF POOLE-BASED AI COMPANY; ACORN SPENCER AND SPECIALISES IN INTUMESCENT AND PASSIVE FIRE PROTECTION ISSUES.



Paul freely admits that when, as a teenager, he first answered a job advertisement with local AI Richard Jenkins, he wasn't entirely clear what an Architectural Ironmonger did: "I thought they made iron gates" he explained. "But they took me on and I soon started learning the ropes. Like a lot of us I began at the bottom – opening parcels, then moved up to serving on the Trade Counter and taking the phone calls. Eventually I became buyer and helped run the office." He completed his GAI qualification in 1995, coming top in the country in his second year.

After Richard Jenkins, Paul was approached by George Boyd, now part of Jewson, to run their Devizes branch. "This was mostly specification work", he explains, "We worked in parallel with the builders merchant side who handled the Trade Counter operation".

Paul then worked for a while with former Richard Jenkins colleagues at AFP before starting his own company; Acorn Spencer.

The company was created as the result of an approach by Farnham-based Acorn Ironmongery. They were keen to work with Paul and the outcome was a joint venture: Acorn Spencer Ltd which was established in June 2007. Here his AI work is mainly specification based, serving builders, architects and local authorities. He is particularly proud of a recent, rather up-market, very private house project in Jersey: "It was an amazing project, the design and specification was unbelievable", he says.

In parallel with his AI business, Paul has a growing reputation as a passive fire protection specialist, carrying out fire surveys and advising clients on current issues and standards. "Since the tragic tower block fire at Lakanal House in south London last year there has been a tremendous amount of activity in this area," he explains. "I've dealt with a number of Local Authorities and am currently working with Croydon Council on a project which involves the refitting up to 50 blocks. That all came from an appointment to identify a smoke seal on a door! Paul is also involved in fire issues with clients like the National Trust and has provided solutions and materials to several key properties including Knowle House in Kent and Polesden Lacey in Surrey.

So what of his new role as Chairman of the Institute? "I'm keen to build on the work that Andy has started", says Paul, "We recently carried out a survey amongst the members and that flagged up a number of issues that I'd like to address. One of my key concerns is the image we have. I think some people still see the Institute as a bit of a gentlemen's club and I'm keen to change that perception. I'm also keen to promote the Registered AI status. It's more crucial than ever that we all keep our expertise up to date.

We wish Paul success in his new role. He took over as Chairman of the Institute at the Annual General Meeting on 24th April in Oxford.



- > **Quality**
- > **Safety**
- > **Expertise**



With unparalleled experience and expertise in anti-ligature locking systems, the Primera team, under new management since 2009, is forging partnerships with Architectural Ironmongers across the UK, helping them win contracts in the mental healthcare sector.

As well as a full range of anti-ligature, anti-tamper, anti-barricade and anti-wrench lock-sets, Primera can offer bespoke locking solutions when an off-the-shelf product just won't fit the bill.

And now the company is proud to announce that its products have been tested under TS001, the Door and Hardware Federation's guide to the specification for anti-ligature devices across its whole range of applicable products. TS001 testing is now recommended by the Guild of Architectural Ironmongers, giving Primera customers the peace of mind of knowing that they are dealing with top quality products from the leader in the field.

Improved Secondary Barricade Access



Blocked keyway, snapped key or failed cylinder



Single anti-tamper screw across mechanism



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GREEN SHOOTS



KCC ARCHITECTURAL – THE DUBLIN BASED PAN-IRISH GROUP – IS WEATHERING THE STORMS IN THE IRISH ECONOMY BETTER THAN MOST. HELEN CURRY VISITED THEM TO FIND OUT WHAT THE COMPANY IS DOING TO THRIVE IN A CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WHICH IS IN THE MIDST OF A RECESSION WHICH HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS THE WORST IN THE DEVELOPED WORLD

The rainy dull weather in Dublin in April 2010 is a close reflection of the state of the Irish economy at the moment. And in an economy which has boomed on the back of a construction industry enjoying unprecedented growth in the 1990's, you could be forgiven for thinking times are pretty bleak at KCC. Especially since the recession is one which KCC MD Chris Kilpatrick says, with disarming honesty, "we just didn't see coming!"

In fairness to KCC, they were not alone. The Irish banks, and the (largely American) investors who poured money into the Celtic Tiger economy, were equally taken by surprise, hence the parlous state of the banks' balance sheets now. But perhaps unlike those banks, KCC cannot be accused of either standing still in tricky trading conditions, or being without a plan to trade through the difficult times.

The company was born in 1998 from a management buy-out of Ingersoll Rand's Irish operation by Chris Kilpatrick and fellow director Alan Currie. The company quickly grew and in 2002, the company made an ill-fated foray into the UK market, opening branches in Wales, Sheffield and Cambridge. This enterprise lasted only until 2005 when KCC made what Chris describes as a "tactical retreat" from the UK. "The whole thing failed because none of the directors wanted to relocate," he explains "and in the UK we were facing tough competition whereas in Ireland, the market was booming. It made so much sense to retreat back to our core home market and concentrate on making a success of that." Ironically, KCC is now tendering for work in the UK by piggybacking on the success of some big Irish contractors working in Britain on projects like the 2012 Olympics.

Since those early days, KCC has diversified and expanded its operations, thanks to some canny acquisitions. In 2004 they purchased Skelly Doors, (changing the name to Skelly Opening Solutions in 2007) a company with over 35 years in the Irish door market. "At the time we were purely an architectural ironmongery and access control company but Skellys gave us an excellent path into some expanding markets, particularly steel architectural glazing systems, steel doors and frames, fire and smoke curtains, moveable walls, and timber doors." This was complemented in

2008, when KCC expanded further with the takeover of MMF Architectural in Mullingar, specialists in stainless steel fabrication, thus adding products such as balustrades, handrails and canopies to the product portfolio.

This strategy allowed KCC to move away from commodity hardware products and concentrate on the high end, high margin projects which continued to come thick and fast during the boom years. All of the brands were brought under the KCC Architectural banner in 2008 and the company treats the island of Ireland as one market with fully functioning branches in Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Galway and Mullingar. In 2007 turnover peaked at €27.5 million. This has fallen back to €18million today – but that is still outperforming the Irish construction industry as a whole which many estimate has contracted by 80% in the last 2 years.

"We still have a strategy for growth which we are driving through all of our divisions. We expect the best results from automatics and our façade, partition and doors division," says Chris. The sales force, which, uniquely in Ireland remains at pre-recession levels, has been extensively retrained to sell across all of the company's divisions. "The days of being a straight AI have, we believe, gone," says Alan Currie. "We need to add value and diversify and offer our customers more than ever nowadays." And the results are impressive with four out of five of the biggest projects in Ireland in recent years being won by the group - St Vincent's University Hospital, Black Rock Clinic, Dublin Convention Centre, and the Point Theatre and Village.

It is this philosophy which has seen KCC establish a Repair and Maintenance Division this year. The company already carried out these services – particularly since the acquisition of Skelly – but has now broken out into its own division employing dedicated engineers and managers north and south of the border. The company has already secured contracts with M&S, Argos and the Bank of Ireland and sees this as a growth business as companies look to repair and refurbish equipment rather than replace it during the recession.

Despite this, KCC's commitment to the AI trade remains strong. The company is a member of the GAI and has seven members of staff currently going through the GAI education programme, demonstrating its strong roots



Left to right: David Skelly, Chris Kilpatrick, Alan Currie

“ WE STILL HAVE A STRATEGY FOR GROWTH WHICH WE ARE DRIVING THROUGH ALL OF OUR DIVISIONS. ”

in the trade. The education programme at KCC is overseen by Tony Hann, GAI Gold Medallist and the first person from Ireland to gain a GAI Diploma in 1976. “In tough times, it’s more important than ever that we offer expertise and technical know-how to architects,” says Alan. “We want to position ourselves as experts and differentiate ourselves from the inevitable margin-cutting that goes on during a recession. Having trained staff not only makes them better and more confident in doing their jobs, it also gives our customers confidence in us and our service.”

KCC offers a full range of door hardware – hinges and pivots, door furniture, locks and cylinders, closers, exit hardware and a full anti-ligature range – as well as integrated and stand-alone access control solutions and door automation packages. As well as some of the biggest brand names in the industry, KCC also supplies its own Fusion range of hardware which it has manufactured in China and Taiwan. This was not a decision the company took lightly, or rushed through and this thorough approach has paid dividends.

“Manufacture in the Far East is still somewhat frowned upon in Europe,” says Alan, “But the quality of product which we are producing out there is phenomenal and soon wins people over.” Everything is designed in Ireland and closely overseen by KCC’s man in the Far East, Bob Craig. He acts as Quality Manager there and every product produced there is checked and supervised by him before being sent to the UK for testing to European standards by Warrington Exova. “We did not go to China to chase cheap products, for cheap prices,” says Alan. “We took a long time - and not an inconsiderable investment - to establish an operation out there, even going as far as buying our own tooling.”

So while the outlook for the Irish Construction industry is not looking any brighter until 2012 according to some commentators, KCC is well placed to continue to prosper. “We have managed the business sensibly over the years,” says Chris. “Not because we had a crystal ball to foresee the crash, but simply because we wanted to grow the business and continue to invest in its growth.” Well-placed to maximise the smaller, more local projects which will sustain Irish construction in the coming years, KCC looks set to continue to prosper, despite the choppy waters it is currently sailing in.

Product vetting



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In this column, the GAI's Technical Consultant, Jacky Sinclair, shares some answers given to recent questions on the GAI Technical

Helpline. GAI and IAI members can contact Jacky for assistance with technical and standards questions on 01952 414411 or 07852 225996 or email

jacky@jrsconsultancy.co.uk

BS 3621 is a standard name well-known to many ironmongers, but it has recently been through some changes. It seems these are not yet common knowledge. Also, some myths and legends have grown up around BS 3621 that need dispelling. Here are some recent questions I've answered.

Q *Must BS 3621 locks be manufactured in the UK?*

A No. Locks claiming compliance with the Thief Resistant Lock Assembly standards - BS 3621; BS 8621; or BS 10621 - can be manufactured anywhere in the world. It's possible that in the past, such locks always were manufactured in the UK, because we made most of our own locks here, but there is no requirement in the standard with regard to country of origin.

Q *If a lock is marked "BS 3621" then it's 3rd party tested, isn't it?*

A No. They do not have to be 3rd party tested for the manufacturer to claim compliance with the standard(s). "Self-certification" is allowed, in common with all other British Standards. It is up to the specifier/buyer to satisfy themselves that the test evidence - if any - is adequate and believable.

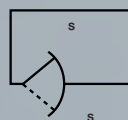
Doors which ordinarily open in one direction only, but which are required to open in the opposite direction in certain situations, can be fitted with a HI-LOAD Double-Action Pivot and emergency release. The situation could be, for example, an inward opening door to an accessible WC. It is important that the door can open outward in the event that someone collapses against the back of the door. If the person loses consciousness or is unable to move the only way of gaining access is through a double action pivot set.

With HI-LOAD pivots metal to metal contact is avoided using unique porous bronze bushes impregnated with a special lubricant. This combination eliminates the wear often experienced by other types of pivot. HI-LOAD's construction also creates exceptionally low resistance and ensures this high level of performance throughout the pivot's lifetime.

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Our Double-Action Pivot



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Q How do I know which version of BS 3621 the lock complies with?

A The lock must carry the standard no. and date on its forend, so you can tell if the lock complies with the latest version of the standard (2009), or one of the older versions, which can still legally be put on the market. (The latest version takes into account the more recent trends in burglary techniques.)

Q Can I put my own security cylinder into a BS 3621 lockcase?

A No – not if you want to sell it with BS 3621 marked on the lock forend. If the lock is operated by a cylinder, this must have been included in the lock's GVA (general vulnerability assessment) tests, and comply with the relevant clauses of EN 1303. Using a non-tested cylinder will nullify any Kitemark or standards compliance, so you would have to supply the lock with an unmarked forend.

Q What's the difference between a Kitemarked lock and a BS 3621 lock?

A Conformance with BS 3621 is the manufacturer's claim. The Kitemark is a 3rd party certification scheme that gives you assurance that the manufacturer's claims are true. In the Forewords of BS 3621 / 8621 / 10621, 3rd party certification is strongly recommended, due to the security nature of these locks.

Locks claiming compliance with the thief resistant lock standards under the Kitemark scheme must undergo independent testing at an accredited laboratory to specified security levels in BS EN 12209, and the GVA (general vulnerability assessment) will be done by a panel of

3 expert locksmiths nominated by the MLA (Master Locksmiths Association). Going forward, the manufacturer must supply samples from stock on a regular basis for audit testing.

If the Kitemark (or some other recognised quality mark) isn't on the forend, next to the standard number and date, then you are relying on the manufacturer's claim alone.

Q If I put a cylinder and turn into a BS 3621 lockcase, does it become a BS 8621 lock?

A No. For a start there will be the wrong markings on the forend. These represent the manufacturer's declaration of conformity with standards. Only the manufacturer or his authorised agent can make such changes. If the lock is additionally Kitemarked, any changes must be authorised through the Kitemark scheme administrators.

Q Can a BS 8621 lock be used as an emergency escape lock?

A No – except on domestic dwellings covered by Approved Document B Vol. 1, England and Wales. (Scotland and Northern Ireland have similar documents.) For applications covered by Approved Document B Vol. 2, it should have additional testing to show that it complies with EN 179, and the GAI would strongly advise CE marking to that standard as well. Testing to EN 179 would show that the lock's escape function met the necessary requirements for "ability to release" and "durability of ability to release", required by the Construction Products Regulations and Building Regulations.

ots and **Emergency Releases** are potentially real life savers.



H131-400 Double action Pivot

RAVEN
Acoustic, Fire & Smoke Seals

**Double-Action Pivots &
Emergency Releases**

SEAL THE DEAL

MARIA SIMMONDS,
MANAGING DIRECTOR OF
LORIENT, ANSWERS SOME OF
THE QUESTIONS THAT THE
SEAL EXPERTS LORIENT GET
ASKED MOST OFTEN.

Q *Is there such thing as a 30 minute fire seal?*

A Not all fire doors are the same - so there's no single answer to this question! But most importantly remember that adding a fire seal to any door doesn't automatically make it a fire door. You have to make sure that you have a properly tested fire door construction - and the manufacturer ought to provide the test evidence. You must check within that test evidence what type and size (or sizes) of seal have been tested and that is what you should buy.

Where door manufacturer's test evidence isn't available, the usual recommendation is to use a 15 x 4mm seal, fitted centrally at the head and both jambs of a single leaf, single acting door. If it's a fire and smoke door (which will be denoted FD30S), then do also remember that a fire seal alone will not be sufficient - you must purchase a combined smoke and fire seal.

Q *I have an existing fire rated door, but have been told it needs to be upgraded to provide smoke containment too. What do I do?*

A The simplest and most effective way of achieving this is by installing a retrofit cold smoke / acoustic seal. The best products have a choice of sizes for different applications, ultra-low frictional resistance for ease of door operation, and as they fix straight onto the doorstep with strong self-adhesive tape, it's easy to install and you won't need to remove your door to fit it. If you have double leaf doors, remember you will need to fit a seal at the meeting stile too.

Q *What's the difference between a brush seal and one with flexible fins?*

A Brush seals were the first on the market back in the 1970's and hence they have popular appeal as the traditional smoke seal solution. While they're still effective as smoke seals, the Building Regulations have moved on since they were introduced, most notably with new requirements in the last few years for doors to also provide acoustic containment, and be easy to operate to allow access for all. With so many new requirements, the brush-style smoke seal is simply not up to the job any more. Brushes are particularly poor at providing acoustic containment, as the filaments allow air to pass straight through, and where air goes - sound goes too. They also provide plenty of friction, which makes doors more difficult to operate. Fin-style seals provide a much more modern, comprehensive and indeed hygienic solution. They have better acoustic containment properties (particularly ones with multiple fins) and much lower frictional resistance.

It's important though that the fin seal remains continuous around ironmongery for both acoustic and smoke containment - but this can be a challenge if the seal has centrally positioned fins. Offset fins make this much easier.

The market leading fins have been extensively tested - some up to 1,000,000 times (10 times the usual industry level) on a full-size door assembly, without failure. As long as the seal is correctly installed, and the doors are suitably maintained, it will provide years of reliable service.

Q *Can you paint over fire and smoke seals?*

A Over-painting of fire seals should not compromise performance in a fire situation - however, do not paint over the flexible elements of smoke seals as this will certainly compromise smoke containment performance. If the smoke seal part of the seal has already been painted over, you will need to replace it.

Q *I'm working on a hospital project that needs a sealing system that will stand up to rigorous cleaning. What do you recommend?*

A You can't do better than a stainless steel sealing system from a quality manufacturer. There are perimeter and threshold sealing products included, and both the carriers and gaskets are impervious to most strong cleaning chemicals, making them ideal for hospitals.

Q *I've heard about Document E - but how does it relate to doors?*

A Much of Document E relates to the acoustic performance of floors, ceilings and walls. However, for the first time, the acoustic performance of door assemblies in a number of situations is also specifically detailed. It says: "Ensure that any door has good perimeter sealing (including the threshold where practical), and a minimum mass per unit area of 25kg/m² or a minimum sound reduction index of 29dB Rw (measured according to BS EN ISO 140-3: 1995 and rated according to BS EN ISO 717-1:1997). The door should also satisfy the Requirements of Building Regulation Part B - Fire safety."

It is important to remember that, while Document E says the threshold should be sealed "where practical", extensive testing has proven that it is essential to do this in order to achieve the required level of acoustic performance.

Requirement E4 covers acoustics in schools, and incorporates Building Bulletin 93 as the recommended way of meeting the requirements. BB93 requires an acoustic performance for doorsets of 30dB Rw, and for music rooms, 35dB Rw.

Q *I need to achieve the highest acoustic rating possible on a standard door, can you help?*

A While quality & proven acoustic seal systems will certainly help you get the best acoustic performance possible from the door assembly you have - it's important to remember that no sealing system will improve the acoustic performance of the door leaf itself. Every door leaf will have a maximum acoustic performance, which will have been determined by testing the door construction with all the gaps around the edges filled (caulked). Many combinations of leading seal brands have been proven to maintain a door leaf's acoustic performance to the same level as if the gaps were filled, and that's the best acoustic performance you will be able to achieve.

Q *I've heard that some seals on the market can achieve acoustic ratings of around 40-50dB Rw. Is that right, and how is it possible?*

A You need to be very careful when you look at the acoustic rating of door seals. The door and the sealing system always work in combination, so the only way to really know how a seal will perform in practice is to test it on a full-size, working door assembly. Many current claims in the market place, when examined closely, refer to test evidence on very small, hugely modified panels - not working doors.

For example - a product currently being promoted in the market place as a "51dB" seal was actually tested on an: "Optimised door leaf: 47mm thick, multilayer design (single rebate with overlap and frame gasket) with reinforcements made of lead, steel sheet and bitumen heavy steel sheeting and clad on both sides with steel sheet coated with heavy bitumen, particle board, cavities filled with absorbing material with a frame that contains lead and sheet steel reinforcement" How many doors do you know are made like that?! Also, be careful if you find that any part of the

door perimeter has been artificially caulked (filled) for testing purposes; or that a non-standard door construction was used - any of these things may result in the seal being given an 'artificial' acoustic performance that it couldn't actually achieve in practice.

Q *Approved Document M says that doors need to be easy for everyone to use. Which products do I choose?*

A Leading brands have been designed with ease of access in mind, and the recommended seals would provide exceptionally low frictional resistance to ensure the seal interferes as little as possible with the smooth operation of the doorset.

For a combined acoustic, smoke and fire sealing solution, choose a one-seal solution, which carries test evidence and third party accreditation. Remember that brush-style fire & smoke seals provide very high levels of frictional resistance, so won't be suitable.

For acoustic and smoke containment only, either for new door assemblies either fit a surface mounted, self adhesive, retrofit seal or alternatively, an architectural perimeter seal mounted onto the doorstop, will provide a compression seal that will provide minimal interference.

It's vital to have a seal at the threshold for effective acoustic and smoke containment, and good automatic threshold drop seals have been designed with high efficiency mechanisms, so doors can be opened with the minimum of effort.

There are also a number of threshold ramps available for situations where different floor levels need to be accommodated.

Q *What's the maximum size of glazing vision panel I can fit into a fire rated door?*

A You will need to refer to the door manufacturer's original test evidence, as this will show the maximum size of glazing panel you can fit.

Q *I need to fit a glazing panel into a door that also needs to provide acoustic performance. How can I do this?*

A This won't be a problem, provided that thick enough glass is used, with an appropriate sealing system, and the size of the aperture is limited. Conventional "Georgian Wired" glass is most popular with a recognised certificated fire resistant glazing retention system. This will normally provide optimum acoustic performance for most types of door construction, including FD30 and FD30S doors, but always consult the test evidence.

Q *I need to put a letterplate into my fire rated door - but the door needs to provide acoustic performance too. What do you recommend?*

A A number of leading brands have carried out comprehensive acoustic testing with their fire rated letterplates. Once again - make sure you look closely at the test evidence.

Q *Can apertures be cut in fire doors to fit ironmongery?*

A provided that test evidence exists in the particular door type - then this should provide no problem, so long as the aperture is lined with the relevant intumescent material. Leading manufacturers of ironmongery have tested their products for use in fire doors in conjunction with a pre-cut and shaped cladding kit, which wraps around the ironmongery thus providing the required fire resistance in a test. This is essential, as being made of mainly metal products, unprotected ironmongery in a timber door heats quickly and encourages burn through at that point. This is especially true of unprotected viewers, letter plates, locks, latches, concealed door closers and hinges. If you are cutting a fire door to fit an air transfer grille - you'll need to ensure that you fit a tested fire resistant air transfer grille or a combined fire and smoke grille - in order to maintain the integrity of the door.



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NO PANIC ON NEW STANDARDS

FOLLOWING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE UPDATED HARMONISED STANDARDS FOR EN179 AND EN1125 EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY THIS YEAR, NIGEL TAYLOR, SALES AND MARKETING DIRECTOR FOR FRED DUNCOMBE LTD, MANUFACTURERS OF THE BRAND LEADING EXIDOR RANGE OF PANIC AND EMERGENCY EXIT HARDWARE, HAS HIGHLIGHTED THE APPARENT CONFUSION IN THE MARKETPLACE REGARDING THE UNDERSTANDING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LATEST STANDARDS.

Since the updated harmonised standards became effective in January we have fielded numerous calls from our customers asking for clarification of the latest standards and of course the possible implications that could apply in incorrectly specifying the appropriate hardware on new projects.

We are pleased to reassure our customers that all Exidor panic and emergency exit hardware products have been tested, and CE certificated to the new 2008 standards".

The introduction of the updated standards for panic and emergency hardware has largely gone unnoticed, despite the fact that some of the changes made are fundamental to which accessories are allowed to be used.

The original EN179, emergency exit standard, and EN1125, panic exit standard were introduced in 1997, with an amendment being introduced in 2001. Therefore, it was felt that both standards required updating.

The 2008 standard came into effect on 1st January 2010, meaning that all exit hardware manufactured after this date, must have been tested and CE marked to the relevant 2008 standard.

Stocks of products manufactured before this date (CE marked to the previous revision) can still be sold and installed. It is also worth noting that this does not affect existing installations".

The main changes in the new standard are:

- All accessories now have to be tested or assessed with the panic and emergency hardware, and detailed on the CE certificate. Therefore, using exit hardware from one manufacturer, and an outside access device from another, would invalidate the CE marking. This not only covers outside access devices, but also all other accessories such as alarms etc.
- The classification coding has now increased from nine digits to ten.
- Provision is now included, under EN179 (emergency exit hardware), for inward opening doors, such as hotel bedroom doors.
- Provision for doors in excess of 200kg is now included
- The scope for use on fire and smoke doors is increased to now include smoke door assemblies only. (New classification in addition to the existing fire and smoke door assemblies)
- The provision for security is also increased under EN179 to include a force of up to 5,000N being applied to the door

Each digit of the new classifications for both EN179 and EN1125 are shown below

Digit 1 – Category of Use

Only one category is identified

3 = high frequency of use where there is little incentive to exercise care, i.e. where there is a chance of an accident occurring and misuse

Example: Doors to shops, hospitals, schools and other buildings which provide access to designated areas, and which are used by the public and others frequently carrying or propelling bulky objects.

Digit 2 – Durability

6 = tested to 100,000 cycles

7 = tested to 200,000 cycles

Digit 3 – Door Mass

5 = for doors up to 100kg

6 = for doors up to 200kg

7 = for doors over 200kg

Digit 4 – Suitability for Use on Fire/Smoke Doors

0 = not approved for use on fire/smoke door assemblies

A = suitable for use on smoke door assemblies

B = suitable for use on fire and smoke door assemblies based on a test in accordance with EN1634-1

Digit 5 – Safety

Only the top grade is allowed for panic and emergency hardware

1 = safety

Digit 6 – Corrosion Resistance to EN 1670

3 = high resistance

4 = very high resistance

Digit 7 – Security

EN1125

2 = 1,000N – this is the only grade allowed under EN1125

EN179

2 = 1,000N/ 3 = 2,000N/ 4 = 3,000N/ 5 = 5,000N

These four grades are used to allow the opportunity of greater security because these devices are subject to testing with doors under a greater pressure.

Digit 8 – Projection of Device

1 = large projection (projection of 150mm from the face of the door)

2 = standard projection (projection of 100mm from the face of the door)

Digit 9 – Type of Device

EN179

A = emergency device using a lever handle

B = emergency device using a push pad

EN1125

A = panic device using a push bar

B = panic device using a touch bar

Digit 10 – Door Application

EN179

A = outwardly opening single exit door, double exit door: active or inactive leaf

B = outwardly opening single exit door only

C = outwardly opening double exit door: inactive leaf only

D = inwardly opening single exit door only

EN1125

A = single door, double door: active or inactive leaf

B = single door only

C = double door: inactive leaf only

Therefore an example of the new classification coding would be the code for the Exidor 294 panic bolt.

Classification No 3 7 6 B 1 3 2 2 A A

EN1125: 2008

Remember, the only accessories that can be used with this example are those listed on its CE certificate.

In the case of Exidor they would be as follows:

Outside Access Devices: - 298, 302EA, 302EC, 302OA, 302OC, 322EA and 322EC

Exit Alarm: - 304

Dogging Device: - 299

If any other accessory is used with the above unit, the CE marking will be invalidated.

In summary, it is important to understand the changes in the 2008 standards, in order to be able to give accurate advice when specifying.

It is also worth checking that any unit purchased is certified to the new standards, and that any accessory used is listed on the relevant CE certificate.

The above information has been supplied in good faith by the technical department of Fred Duncombe Ltd.

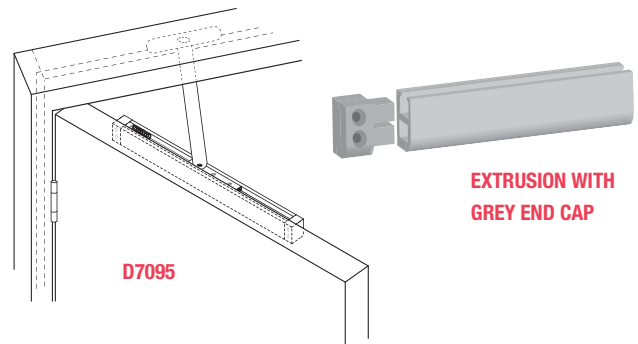
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BRIDGE OVER TRO

At the heart of the mixed residential and commercial development is the block containing the new Hotel Verta, built for the luxury hotel operator von Essen. Billed as London's first five-star hotel on the southern bank of the River Thames and Europe's first 'integrated hotel heliport', this hotel block includes a two storey basement spa, 70 room hotel and conference facilities, offices for the heliport and a penthouse residential suite. It's a striking building with spectacular views along the river - and with an interior specification to match its five star status.

The Ironmongery specification for the hotel block was awarded to John Planck Ltd. It was a fascinating project as John Planck's Area Sales Manager Gary Whitbread explains: "As with any hotel, the combination of fittings was quite complex, but we were also working with four different finishes: The hotel floors and penthouse used satin brass, the heliport accommodation was satin chrome, back of house was polished chrome and the Spa areas used 316 grade stainless steel for all items due to the need to withstand the high humidity and presence of chemicals. The spa will feature the latest in both hydrotherapy and chromatherapy technology.

The relationship with Weston's design team and concept architect Chantry Davis Associates worked particularly well. "The design team knew what they wanted, so once we had agreed the styles and finishes we were able to get on with the specification," says Gary. "They were happy for us to deal with the day to day issues. They worked with us to help develop common product lines across the project and we were able to flag up any issues and advise on solutions. For example; the interconnecting doors between hotel rooms and conference areas had a thick acoustic facing which required projection hinges to meet the specific joinery details - this is where we used our Fusion Satin Brass Projection hinges manufactured by Cooke Brothers.

With over five hundred doorsets in total on the site, Gary commented "Bridges Wharf is a prestigious development, spanning sixteen levels of residential and commercial floors so we needed the support of manufacturers who could supply high specification products, in different finishes and to suit various applications, whilst at the same time meeting the challenging delivery dates the programme called for."

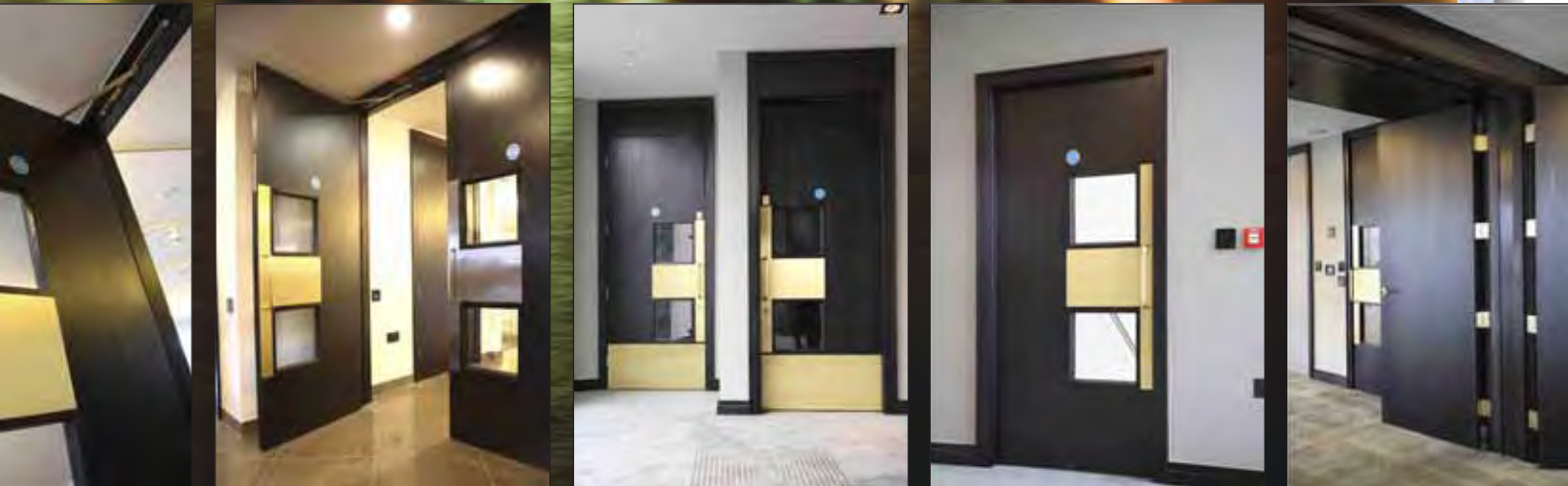
John Planck approached Cooke Brothers Ltd to supply their Fusion Concealed Bearing range of hinges from the Phoenix brand, to be supplied in a variety of finishes and to suit a number of applications, including special Satin Brass Projection hinges for the interconnecting doors in the hotel rooms. Gary added "I am pleased to say that Cooke Brothers provided the hinges and delivered on all fronts. We will certainly be specifying our Fusion Hinges from the Phoenix range on future projects".

As well as Weston Homes, John Planck Ltd worked closely with Hartlepool based door manufacturer Bridgeman IBC Ltd and they co-ordinated the supply of nearly 500 door sets. These were pre-fitted with all morticed and non-projecting items before delivery to site. Items including lock cases, concealed closers, shear magnets and specially made door plates were all from John Planck's Fusion range, whilst the Door furniture was from Carlisle Brass.



DOUBLE WATERS

IN SPITE OF THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN, RIVERSIDE PLOTS IN SOUTH WEST LONDON ARE STILL HOT PROPERTY. AS A RESULT, **WESTON HOMES' £150M BRIDGES WHARF DEVELOPMENT IN BATTERSEA** IS AIMING AT THE TOP END OF THE MARKET. IT IS BUILT ON A PLOT ADJOINING THE LONDON HELIPORT, THE ONLY CAA LICENSED HELIPORT IN THE CAPITAL. TO YOU AND ME THAT MIGHT SEEM A DISADVANTAGE, BUT AT THIS END OF THE MARKET IT'S A BIG ASSET, AND ONE OF WHICH WESTON ARE TAKING FULL ADVANTAGE.



The son of an ironmonger, John has spent his entire working life in the industry. He joined his father, Richard Planck, at Alfred G Roberts (Exports) Ltd at age 19 working in the warehouse. His career path then moved onto pricing, estimating and sales. In 1972 the company was taken over by Laidlaw & Thomson and he was made a Director and worked in a marketing role for several years. In the late 1980's Newman Tonks acquired Laidlaws and other architectural ironmongers and created Thomas Laidlaw AHD and John was invited to become its Technical Director. He held this position until he was made redundant in 1990 when he decided not to relocate to the North-West of England when the headquarters of Laidlaw AHD moved there. "In many ways this was good timing for me since it coincided with my own desire to do something myself," says John. "At the time I met John Monaghan who had been running his own company for many years and was looking to expand," he explains. "We struck a deal to establish John Planck Ltd and started trading on 1 January 1991 in Rochester, Kent."

Sadly, John Monaghan passed away only shortly after that leaving the onus to move the business forward on John, who, in typical optimistic style, claims that the last recession of the early 90s, helped him establish the business. "In those difficult conditions, there was only one way to go – and that's growth! We were lucky at the time in that we were able to pick up good staff that were being made redundant from other companies."

In 1995, John's business came under the umbrella of the Monaghan Group with John becoming Commercial Director of the John Monaghan Holdings Board. "My 9-5 job continued to be at John Planck Ltd, and this is where my concentration continued to lie as the company maintained its growth," he explains. Marilyn Monaghan, MD of the Group pays tribute to John's contribution to the board: "John's vast knowledge of ironmongery and the industry has been a major influence in the development of the Architectural Division of the Group which will be greatly missed now that he has retired."

1995 also saw John Planck Ltd establish a London presence which continues to this day when John was able to acquire the London showroom of W&R Leggott in Clerkenwell, along with the services of Dave Allison (who is now replacing John as MD of John Planck Ltd) at the same time. "We set up a pretty impressive London operation there – it was a good move for the company – and this continues to this day," says John. "Once again this was an opportunity which came out of recession – and when they come along, you have to grab them!"

John has been involved with the Guild of Architectural Ironmongers since the early 1970's and was Chairman in 1984/85 and President from 2000-2002. This second term of office came about when John was approached by his long

John Planck retired and hung up his 'hardware hat' at the end of 2009. Helen Curry talked to John, one of the best-known figures in the industry and leading light of the GAI for many years, about his career, the GAI and his hopes for the future of the industry.

WALK THE PLANCK



time friend Bob Ramage who asked him to become his VP. "I talked it over with my staff because John Planck Ltd is a small company and this is a big commitment. They gave it a positive endorsement and so I went for it."

The most memorable aspect of John's second term in office was AI 2001, an exhibition held at Excel and organised in collaboration with Emap. "Even though the number of punters through the doors was disappointing, the industry put on a fabulous show," he recalls "And it did enhance the GAI's reputation – and coffers!" John was made an Honorary Life Member of the GAI in June 2005 and at last year's GAI Education Awards John was awarded a GAI Medal for Outstanding Contribution in recognition of his lifetime contribution to the industry.

After a life-time in the Architectural Ironmongery industry John sees this as a time of great change for the trade. "Like all industries, the AI trade is changing very rapidly in many ways – in terms of customers, processes and products. But some things never change," he reflects. "For as long as I can remember, the industry has had to fight tooth and nail to hang on to those elements which relate to the control of a door." He believes that the competition for this is now coming from different places – for example, from

electricians who fit these new electronic elements. "But AIs should see themselves as the designers of installations," he says "And this is so vital with the arrival of the doorset gathering momentum. Most door manufacturers will, or can, supply ironmongery, but only an Architectural Ironmonger can design the whole AI scheme."

John sees training and education as being at the forefront of this movement. "Education was a prime reason for establishing the GAI and it continues to be vital. And the industry is so much better off with the GAI, it allows small companies to benefit from an excellent education programme and I don't know of another organisation in construction which allows arch rivals to become colleagues and good friends within the borders of the GAI."

John is already enjoying his retirement in Cornwall. "It's hard to believe I am reaching that time of life when my working day will be exchanged for a life of leisure, away from the day-to-day cut and thrust of the business world," he says. He claims that the only things he won't miss are London and the traffic, but the list of things he will miss is longer: the camaraderie, the routines, problem solving and the excitement of getting a big order.

aijderby

DOORSETS FOR KINGSWAY HOSPITAL

Mental health patients have moved from the Victorian Hospital in Derby into a new £34m PFI development at Kingsway Hospital - a modern complex where they will have access to shops and cafes, a chapel and faith centre, a patients' bank and outdoor recreation areas. With a wealth of experience within the healthcare sector, performance doorsets from Leaderflush Shapland were the natural choice.

Leaderflush Shapland supplied 570 Performance doorsets from its Designer and Extended Performance ranges, each doorset designed and chosen to fulfil a specific purpose within each unit. Leaderflush Shapland is able to provide complete doorset solutions, meeting all the necessary performance characteristics including fire resistance, sound reduction, antimicrobial protection and reduced ligature.

To meet anti-ligature requirements and to ensure that the doorset, including architectural hardware, performs to meet exacting performance criteria Leaderflush Shapland's team of architectural ironmongers worked with architects, Gilling Dod, and Cylinder and Access Control specialists, Access 2, to produce a reduced ligature, battery operated access control system as well as a standard lever handle version of the system.

In addition to meeting performance criteria for up to 60 minutes fire resistance, doorsets from the Castle AV2 Extended



Performance range were chosen to provide increased resistance to physical attack. Further more, to assist patients in way finding and to differentiate between patient and non-patient areas, Architects Gilling Dod chose a variety of door finishes and colours.

aijliverpool

DORMA HELPS NURSERY ACHIEVE TOP MARKS

DORMA recently installed several automatic sliding door operators at the Noah's Ark Nursery in South Shields, as part of a £75,000 development programme to the nursery.

The doors are operated by push pads at the children's height so that they could come and go unaided from the room during free time. This creates independence for the children which did not go unnoticed by OFSTED during a recent inspection. The ability for a child to learn independence from an early age is something, which OFSTED is pushing for Nursery schools to achieve and Noah's Ark Nursery was praised highly for this.

With the nursery teaching children as young as one, the safety and reliability of the operators was a key priority. The nursery chose DORMA ED200 automatic swing door operators and ES200 automatic sliding door operators for use in the classrooms because of their adaptability for different situations.

Eamon Gribben, Nursery Owner explains, "I have used DORMA before so knew that their expertise in this area is second to none. We have worked together to create a space which not only allows the children to develop life skills but keeps them in a safe environment as well."



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aijdubai

TALL ORDER

Häfele Group has supplied hardware products and technology worth 8 million Euros for the world's tallest building that was recently opened in Dubai. The Dubai office of Häfele GCC formed a local joint venture with DORMA Gulf, the international architectural firm Skidmore Owings and Merrill and project managers Turner International to provide the specifications for the 'Tallest Tower in the World', now named Burj Khalifa, burj being the Arabic name for tower, and Khalifa referring to Sheikh Khalifa, the president and ruler of the UAE.

With its own team of dedicated specialists for this project, Häfele successfully supplied a complete assortment of hardware products. One of the challenges Häfele conquered was to meet the stringent American building codes NFPA for fire protection and ADA barrier free design. Over 2,000 different types of hardware products were included in the programme for this project. Approximately 12,000 doors now feature Häfele products including custom designed lever handles, locks, door closers, special hinges, and a broad assortment of door accessories as well as electronic locking systems with up to 12 functions. In addition, Häfele also supplied numerous articles from its furniture fittings assortment.



aijcounty durham

UNIQUE DOOR HANDLES FOR ROCKLIFFE HALL

Rockliffe Hall, one of the UK's newest leisure developments, has opened its doors with bespoke architectural ironmongery designed and produced by Carlisle Brass.

Situated in County Durham on the banks of the river Tees, this 19th century historical building has been completely restored and transformed into a 5-star luxury hotel, spa and leisure complex complete with a championship golf course all on a 375-acre site.

An important part of the refurbishment has been the attention to detailing. This included a brief to create a set of special door levers and pull handles which would enhance the stunning interior. Working closely with Jeff Mason Design Associates, Carlisle Brass developed the original concepts into beautifully crafted working fittings. Such involvement through the entire design and production process, in conjunction with Shepherd Construction and their Architectural Ironmonger Saturn Architectural, has resulted in architectural ironmongery which is exceptional for its quality, consistency and performance. The fittings remain unique to Rockliffe Hall.



aijbristol

MUSIC TO DORMA'S EARS

Two of DORMA's full circle BST automatic curved sliding doors have been installed in the new glass foyer of Colston Hall, Bristol. This £20 million redevelopment project, built by Willmott Dixon Construction for Bristol City Council, greatly improves the customer experience of visiting the hall that is the largest hall in the South West.

The DORMA BST full circle automatic sliding doors were installed at both ends of the glazed atrium, which stretches up all 5 storeys of the lobby. The design of the BST made it a perfect installation choice at this busy hall, which has up to 200,000 visitors a year. The BSTs help to guide pedestrian traffic during busy periods and add valuable width and depth to the hall's entrances. In addition to this, DORMA's BSTs assist with draught exclusion making sure the bars and cafes within the hall are a comfortable environment for visitors.

DORMA's BST range can be customised to contrast or harmonise with the building's façade. To fit in with the unique TECU Gold cladding – 60 per cent of which is from recycled sources – used on the external walls of Colston Hall, DORMA supplied both BSTs in an unusual copper/gold finish.



aijmiddlesbrough

SAFER ENVIRONMENT FOR MOTHERS

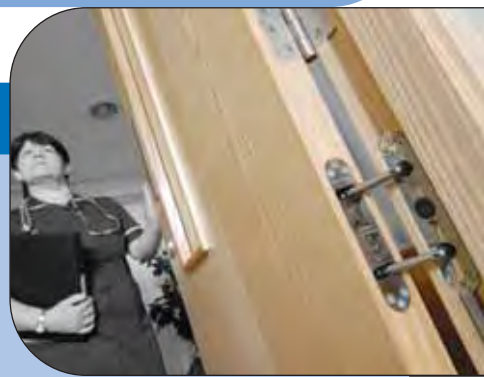
Samuel Heath's Perko Powermatic concealed door closers have been used in conjunction with a continuous geared hinge to create a safer, more comfortable environment in a specialist mother and baby unit at St Luke's hospital in Middlesbrough. The unit has been specifically designed to accommodate new mothers with post-natal difficulties. As such, a number of factors have been taken into consideration to ensure that all areas are not only homely and less institutionalised, but also as safe as possible.

The selection of hardware for doors was given careful attention by the Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Trust. The objective, to provide an effective reduced ligature solution whilst retaining a domestic atmosphere within the unit, was achieved thanks in large part to the fact that Perko Powermatic, is totally concealed when the door is closed and particularly unobtrusive when opened. The solution also enhanced accessibility within

the unit, as Perko Powermatic's high efficiency enabled the doors to meet the opening force recommendations of BS 8300 and Approved Document M.

Delighted with the results, the design office for Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Trust commented, "The safety of clients is foremost in our thoughts during the design process of such development works, with the need to minimise any harmful risk.

"Combining the continuous hinge with the Perko Powermatic, concealed door closer delivered the performance essential for fire door applications throughout the unit in an unobtrusive manner, which enabled us to create a safe and comfortable environment."



aijnew products



KEEPING FINGERS SAFE - AGAIN

Safehinge Ltd has just launched its second product: Safehinge ALUfast – durable, quick and hygienic retrofit protection for doors.

Safehinge ALUfast was developed when a local authority, who uses the ALU range of integrated finger protection in new schools, inquired about the potential of retrofitting the product to 300 existing schools. Safehinge ALUfast is a durable extruded aluminium shield that prevents fingers accessing the danger area created by traditionally hung doors. The product can be fitted to a variety of existing doors without affecting the fire, mechanical or acoustic performance.

Safehinge ALUfast offers the same whole life cost savings as the ALU range, with local authorities estimating they will get a return on their investment within three years of installation by saving on the replacement of plastic hinge covers.

UNION INHERITS CHUBB MORTICE LOCKS IN NEW C-SERIES

UNION's range has just broadened, with the introduction of over 20 high security Chubb mortice locks, the latest stage in the plan to migrate Chubb products to either the UNION or Yale brands,

24 Chubb five lever cylinder and mortice locks are now available under the UNION brand, in the new UNION high security C-Series. All products have exactly the same part numbers to minimise disruption for Chubb customers. The UNION C-Series includes the famous 3G114 British Standard (BS3621) five lever mortice deadlock, patented Registered Key System (RKS) range and high security detainer locks.

The UNION branded products are exactly the same as their Chubb predecessors and will be made in the same factory, by the same people using the same technology. Other than the brand name, there is no difference and the UNION products are still 'Chubb at Heart'.

The 3U Chubb locks are direct equivalents to the well-established UNION sash and deadlocks, so the 3U locks will now migrate to existing UNION part numbers.

A part number conversion guide is available at www.chubb-at-heart.co.uk to help Chubb customers switch to buying UNION.



SHOW ME HOW TO CREATE MY DOOR LEVER

DORMA now has three new door furniture ranges: **PREMIUM**, **PLUS** and **PURE**. Let us inspire you at www.DORMASHOW.com





NOT SO SQUARE

Square shaped handle styles are very much in demand and HOPPE has launched the new Acapulco series, which starts from the basic square shape but has a unique, distinct style to develop it beyond minimalist rigidity.

With its elliptic elements, the Acapulco series represents a further development of the commonly used basic, square shape providing the combination of handle and rose with a more subtle design than current square handle designs.

As with all HOPPE door handles the series is backed by a 10 year operational guarantee as well as Resista® offering a 10 year surface guarantee on the polished brass, satin chrome and polished chrome finishes the series is available in. The handle set is supplied with the HOPPE quick-fit connection.



LATEST GEZE CLOSER TICKS ALL THE BOXES

A unique new free swing door closer from the UK's leading door and window control system manufacturer, GEZE UK, tackles the challenge of accessibility, fire safety, personal safety, building regulation compliance, aesthetics and durability and ticks all the right boxes.

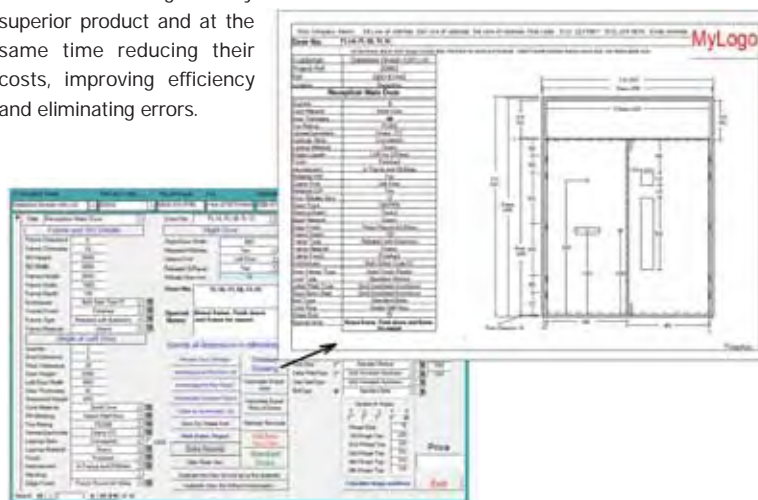
The Boxer EFS, which combines three important functionalities, accessibility, personal safety and fire safety, a fully concealed unit with an electro free swing mechanism, which ensures easy access by enabling users to open and close the door without the resistance of the closer. As the closer is linked to the fire alarm system, when an alarm is activated, the closer releases the spring that re-engages the door, ensuring it self-closes.

Tackling the issue of personal safety, for areas where anti-ligature is a priority, the cam action door closer is integrated into the top of the door and the guide rail fitted discreetly into the frame, ensuring the whole unit is completely concealed when the door is closed.

The Boxer EFS is the ideal for single action, right or left hand closing doors and is suitable for wooden or metal doors with a leaf minimum thickness of 50mm, maximum leaf weight of 130kg and maximum leaf width of 1100mm.

QUICK AND ERROR-FREE SCHEDULING

RapidSpec is a new product produced by Database Design Limited designed to take the risk and slog out of door scheduling. RapidSpec starts with an onscreen form that allows the user to specify a door set by using drop down menus and tick boxes along with the required dimensions supplying all the information systematically. The program then automatically produces a detailed, scaled and dimensioned door set drawing, whilst simultaneously adding the Door Set to the Door Schedule. Once this is complete it is then a simple procedure to specify ironmongery for the current Door set. You simply choose a supplier and then select items from the suppliers list. The software then lists all the required ironmongery for this particular door set and at the same time adds this to the ironmongery schedule. RapidSpec then creates a drawing in one and a half seconds. RapidSpec means, from a documentary point of view, that Als can offer a significantly superior product and at the same time reducing their costs, improving efficiency and eliminating errors.



NEW STAINLESS STEEL WINDOW FITTINGS

Carlisle Brass has launched a new range of square stainless steel window fittings manufactured in satin stainless steel to provide clean lines and high performance. The range comprises a casement fastener, casement stay and locking espagnolette fastener.

Designed to complement Carlisle Brass' Serozzetta levers and the Eurospec SSL range of door furniture, the new window fittings have been developed as cost effective options for design-conscious customers. As with all Carlisle Brass products, they are the result of continuous innovation and focus on in product quality, durability and, in particular, surface finish and feature a full 10-year mechanical guarantee.

NEW SEAL DEAL

A new range of acoustic drop down seals is now available from Eurospec and is designed to satisfy the latest building regulations and requirements for sealing the gap under exterior doors against the ingress of rain, dirt, insects and other contaminants. Internally it helps prevent the passage of sound, fire, smoke and light.

The drop seal range is suitable for both wooden and glass doors. It is available in two versions – either morticed into the door itself or surface mounted which is ideal for retrofit applications. Tested to 200,000 cycles, the patented flash seal can drop an impressive 14mm and is self-aligning to compensate for uneven floor finishes. It can block noise levels up to 57decibels making it ideal for areas where privacy is required.

Quick and easy to install and adjust, the drop seal range eliminates the need for threshold plates while assisting compliance with aspects of DDA and reducing slips or trips. The seal is activated by the closing action of the door, dropping down to seal only when the door is closed. It provides a cost-effective solution for parts E and M of the latest UK Building regulations relating to disability, access and energy conservation.



STRAND STAYS AHEAD

Strand Hardware has introduced the new D7095 surface mounted stay to their range of Friction stays. The new stay, based on the popular D6095 mortice stay, has been designed to be surface mounted onto the door face allowing full opening of between 90 – 100 degrees. After adjustment the stay can also hold the door open at any angle up to 90 degrees. Available in SAA and various plated finishes, the standard size stay will suit light doors from 600 up to 850mm wide.

100 NOT OUT

DORMA UK has introduced the ED100, a brand new groundbreaking low energy swing door operator with DORMA cam-action technology. The ED100 uses the principles of low energy openers but with the benefits of advanced technology: the drive unit is an electromechanical system consisting of a powerful DC motor and multi stage high performance gear, which is so quiet in operation it is barely audible. The new ED100 is not only powerful but also smaller than previous generations.

The incorporation of the DORMA cam-action closer design is a key feature of the ED100. This linear drive mechanism and heart shaped cam mean that when the door is opened manually the opening force falls away rapidly to create little resistance. This innovation means that the cam allows a single system to be used on push and pull applications without a drop in performance.

The unit does not compromise on aesthetics as it is designed in the CONTUR style and the height and length of the operator perfectly support the design so the closure looks like an integral part of the door and suits all environments and interior designs.

DORMA is offering Als a full package of support with the new ED100 including cost-effective box sales, training programmes and full technical back-up.





Mailboxes GB are the leading independent manufacturer, importer and distributor of banks of mailboxes. Being independent, we have the flexibility to offer both quality and cost effective mailboxes to suit all budgets.

Mailboxes GB offers a range of mailboxes in all RAL Colours, stainless steel & wooden mailboxes.

We provide a free of charge quotation and drawing service to help with the design and planning of your project.

Mailboxes GB can offer a wide range of configurations and applications to meet the most rigorous specifications and design criteria; we have a diverse range of mailboxes in stock available for delivery at short notice.

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CODE FOR STYLE



UNION, suppliers of architectural hardware, has launched Codehandle, a stylishly designed door handle that has an integrated mechanical lock solution for convenient locking of inner doors.

This new e-locking solution from UNION is controlled with an integral key-pad with five buttons. The handle is programmable with one mastercode and nine user codes. The solution also offers automatic locking during timed hours and does not require any wires or special fitting. The handle is powered by two CR2 lithium batteries, which last for 100,000 operations. Codehandle is available separately or as part of a Sashlock or Nightlatch pack.

"The product's compact design, highly competitive pricing and ease of installation ensures that it is the smartest code lock on the market" says Pauline Richardson, Product Manager at UNION Architectural Hardware

CONTINUOUS SUCCESS

Cooke Brothers are one of the first UK manufacturers to supply continuous hinges that have been fully tested and certified to BS EN 1935:2002 standard, grade 14.

The company's CE marked 56015/6 fire rated range of Stainless and Mild Steel continuous hinges have been successfully tested to grade 15, 200kg door loading, in preparation of the revised specifications called for in the forthcoming new edition of BS EN 1935 due to be confirmed in the spring.

The Phoenix continuous hinge range offers lightweight, medium duty, heavy duty and architectural hinge options. Typical applications include, security hinges incorporating dog bolts and with the option of through connections for electronic locks, alarm systems and electronic door closers.



BRONZE FINISH FROM ROYDE & TUCKER

Royde and Tucker has introduced a new bronze finish multi layer application across its ironmongery range, for specifiers looking for a genuinely workable imitation bronze that is both consistent and resilient. Royde and Tucker can now provide the only effective and viable alternative to real bronze, which can be a very expensive option.

Royde and Tucker has developed a set of applications and processes that produce a genuinely bronze looking finish, that does not patinate and change over time and which can be applied to a range of ironmongery items – allowing the specifier a consistent bronze option for most applications. The new bronze process will provide a highly reliable product finish, which authentically emulates the natural and subtle qualities of bronze, a desirable material for specifiers looking for a specific characteristic look.

Historically, achieving an acceptable imitation bronze has been very difficult, partly because bronze has a 'living' patinating natural lustre finish, which changes in colour and appearance depending on how much it is used and on its location.



KEEP IT IN YOUR POCKET

The new Orbis Pocket Doorset Range from Laidlaw Solutions is a heavy duty sliding system in which the door is hidden neatly in a wall cavity. It has been designed for use in hospitals, care homes, schools and areas of similarly intensive use, in walls of 100mm, 125mm or 150mm thickness.

The 'Room saver' design combines optimum stability with maximum free passage, making it ideal for situations which require a wider opening or where space is limited. Doors are available in a choice of factory painted finish, high quality durable laminate or veneer, faced both sides and solid lipped all round. In addition to the standard white RAL9010, an extended range of RAL colours is available, while laminates from the Formica PSM Door Collection Range can be supplied in plain colours or wood grain effect. Ash, Beech, American White Oak and Maple veneers are crown cut and book matched to provide an attractive, carefully balanced pattern across the width of the door.

Orbis Pocket Doorset frames provide a clear opening width from 590mm - 1090mm in a single leaf, to accommodate door widths up to 1230mm. Made from 1.5mm steel with a highly resilient white, powder-coated finish, they are supplied with a double recess and reinforcement. The door mechanism requires no floor guides, while built-in brush seals and end buffers provide a perfectly smooth, stable action. The split-head frame construction allows a ceiling mounted hoist system to pass cleanly through



the doorway without interrupting the door action.

Doors can be supplied with centrally positioned vision panels and factory-prepared mortice nightlatch, mortice bathroom lock or no lock at all. Doorsets with a lock have a stainless steel strike plate installed in the frame and lock forend in satin stainless steel. Traditional Orbis ironmongery, including lever and pull handles, bathroom lever turns and emergency release indicators can also be specified.

A STAR IS BORN

HÄFELE UK has expanded its Startec range of Architectural hardware to include a brand new range of top quality budget glass door patch fittings. The range is designed for 10 or 12mm toughened glass doors and has options to incorporate fixed glass as overpanels and side panels, and are available in a satin or polished stainless steel finish.

Doors up to 80kgs can be carried with options of a self closing floor spring or standard floor pivot making the Startec Patches ideal for shop fronts or interior doors.



LOCKING GOOD!

Nico Manufacturing, one of the UK's leading manufacturers of friction hinges and locking systems for the window industry, has extended its product range with a new Shootbolt and Shootbolt Extensions.

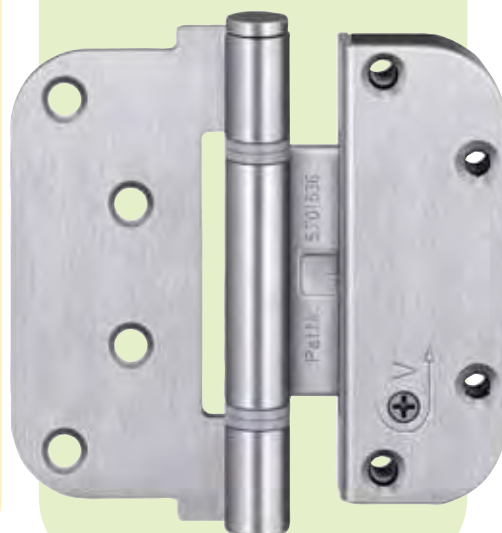
The new Mark One Shootbolt offers the same security standards as the established Nico Twin Cam Shootbolt, meeting the requirements of BS 7950. Successfully tested for over 1 million cycles, it features a super strong gearbox which, thanks to its compact size, is ideal for those timber profiles with smaller cavities.

Both Nico Shootbolts are now available with special extensions allowing off centre gearbox fitting to windows up to 1500mm high. This enables the window handle to be fitted in a low level position suitable for operation by elderly or disabled people, as specified by many housing associations under the 'Housing for Life' concept.

All Nico Locking Systems and Keeps are available finished with Supercoat 500 Silver as standard for excellent corrosion protection.

THE ULTIMATE ADJUSTABLE HINGES

The answer for doors that scrape, catch or even not lock properly could be the SIMONSWERK range of adjustable hinges which include their ULTIMATE 2D and COLUMBUS 3D hinges. These simple mounting, low cost, maintenance free hinges are ideal for flush fitting composite doors enabling quick, effortless two or three way door adjustment with the turn of a screw driver or allen key. They are available in a variety of finishes to complement any architectural style with an optional security device offered for outward opening doors.



ON THE SURFACE

Sterling has launched a new range of door closers, following the acquisition of Spectra at the end of 2009. Sterling's Spectra Door Closers will offer a quality surface-mounted range at a great price, perfect.

Without the expense of overhead-mounted door closers, the Sterling door closer range is easy to fit and capable of closing heavier doors. But unlike most surface-mounted closers it comes with a half hour fire rating and is tested to BS EN 1634-1. The tension is adjustable and it is available in Polished Chrome, Satin Chrome, Brass, White and Wood Effects there is a finish to suit any door style.

The range also includes a Concealed Door Closer and an Outdoor Closer which is ideal for gates and sheds. Finally, the range offers heavy polished chrome Door Stops. Simple and effective, these have a protective rubber bumper to protect door finishes.



A CLEAR SUCCESS FOR GEZE CPD

A RIBA approved CPD training seminar from GEZE UK, is proving popular with today's chartered architects. The 'Glass Door Assemblies – Selection and Specification' seminar, launched in March 2009, now accounts for nearly 50% of GEZE UK's CPD presentations.

The course forms part of RIBA's CPD core curriculum. Its content provides an overview of the properties of glass, its manufacture, and the different types available, and also covers the standards that need to be followed, and how glass can be used in manual and automatic door systems throughout a building environment.

The seminars are held on site at architectural practices across the UK and can be booked directly with GEZE UK by calling 01543 443015 or by emailing info.uk@geze.com. For more information visit www.geze.co.uk



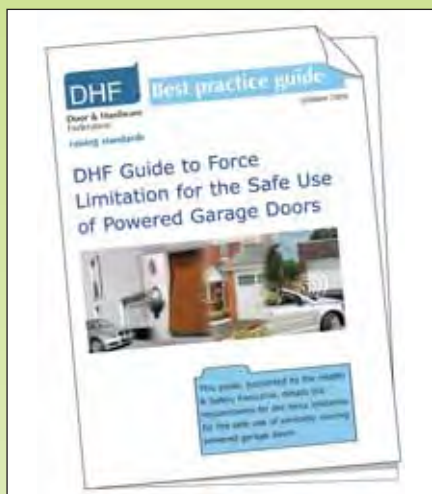
DORMA LAUNCHES NEW GLASS ESTIMATING SOFTWARE

DORMA has recently launched a newly updated version of its DGES Fittings, DORMA Glass Estimating Software to help customers in the rapid planning and costing of toughened glass door and assemblies.

DGES was first launched by DORMA back in 2004. It enables people to design, create, plan and price projects, making it a popular tool within the glass industry. The calculations performed by the program take into account the costs of the DORMA products, the price of glass, installation costs and finally add a margin for analysis, all determined by the user.

The new DGES has been extensively updated to include more products from the catalogue of DORMA glass products. The software allows installers to estimate a project effectively and easily, with it providing a list of DORMA products required to build the system, a list of glass sizes needed and a detailed scaled elevation drawing. Also with 24 types of standard glass assembly all ready installed it's a perfect start for any custom plans. The quotation supplied can be generated to print or email with a customising option, which enables you to add in a company logo and details such as order conditions making the quote ready to be sent straight to the client.

For further information on the DGES visit www.dorma-uk.co.uk or email glass@dorma-uk.co.uk



SAFER GARAGE DOORS WITH DHF GUIDE

The DHF has produced a Best Practice Guide which will enable specifiers, manufacturers and installers of powered garage doors to ensure there are adequate force limitation safeguards built in to the doors. These safeguards include a safety edge on the door leaf or a safety device incorporated into the drive system. These measures will eliminate the risk of any door striking or crushing a person with a degree of force that could cause injury.

The DHF produced this definitive guide – the Safe Use of Powered Garage Doors - in the wake of a number of cases in the UK where users of automatic doors and gates, including garage doors, have been killed or injured. The Guide has been officially endorsed by the HSE

The DHF guide details the requirements for the force limitation for the safe use of vertically moving powered garage doors of all types including canopy doors, retractable doors, sectional overhead doors and rolling shutters. It describes the Standards covering garage doors, and includes a checklist that can be used by customers when selecting a garage door supplier.

The DHF Guide to Force Limitation for the Safe Use of Powered Garage Doors is available for free download from the DHF website www.dhfonline.org.uk



INTRODUCTORY GUIDE TO DOOR SEALING IS CPD ACCREDITED

Leading door seal manufacturer Lorient has produced an informative new guidance document entitled: "Sealing Systems for Door Assemblies; An Introductory Guide"; which is accredited by the Construction CPD Service - and qualifies for one hour's CPD.

The guide has been written as an introduction to the concept of door sealing; and has been specifically designed for students, or those new to the industry who want to learn 'the basics'. It incorporates the principles of acoustic, smoke and fire sealing for doors assemblies; and focuses on the important issues of perimeter and threshold sealing. Several other useful sealing products are mentioned too, such as seals for glass doors and finger guards.

Relevant Approved Documents to the Building Regulations (England and Wales) are covered including: Approved Document E (sound); Approved Document B (smoke at all temperatures and fire); and Approved Document M (accessibility). Similar publications for Northern Ireland are also mentioned; as well as the relevant requirements for Scotland - the Scottish Technical Handbooks.

Another section of the guide provides an overview of independent accreditation schemes that exist, with particular relevance to fire seals and smoke seals. These schemes set out benchmark quality and performance requirements, which go beyond the simple passing of a single fire or smoke test.

To download the guide visit www.lorientuk.com.



THE GAI EMPLOYMENT LAW HELPLINE

This service has been available to members for many years, but in recent times usage has been disappointingly low. So, here's what you are missing.

"The Law is a ass" Charles Dickens would have us believe, but employment law, as a relatively recent addition to established legal institutional traditions, has been reasonably well balanced. However, the European influence is importing into our system some increasingly unpalatable rulings.

For example, the question of whether you can accrue annual leave while you are off sick. I wrote about this in a recent issue of AIJ, and just to recap, we had in this country reached the sensible position whereby the Court of Appeal had ruled that the whole point of annual holiday is to provide a paid break from the stresses and strains of working life. So, if you are not at work, it makes no sense that you should need a holiday from work that you are not doing....as you would be experiencing a break anyway. This was too much like common sense for the European Court of Justice. They say that annual leave is an inalienable right, that it must be preserved under any circumstances, and if your employee is too sick to go on holiday, then he must be entitled to carry his untaken leave entitlement forward to the following year or beyond. The same is true of Maternity Leave. Once on such leave, then an employee cannot work, the contract of employment ceases to have any benefits for the employer, yet leave entitlements continue to accrue.

Another development, which has been in the media, is that of "associative discrimination", and occurred in a disability case. The Claimant was not disabled herself, but her son was and when she complained to the Tribunal that she was being treated less favourably on the grounds of disability (but not hers), it was referred to ECJ who found that discrimination can occur in these circumstances. While I have no problem with that particular case, the forthcoming Equality Bill is likely to extend the definitions in all discrimination jurisdictions to include this associative type of claim eg I am only 46 but I have to care for my elderly Mother, and dismissing me because of the inherent complications of this care, discriminates against me on the grounds of age.

The management of member firms cannot possibly keep abreast of such developments in Employment Law, which was why the Helpline was established years ago. The line is open during business hours, and can field any employment-related query. We can vet any letter that has

already been drafted, or if you wish, we can draft it for you. I personally have been representing employers at Employment Tribunals since 1978, so I do know what needs to be included in letters of dismissal, and what needs to be omitted. The same is true for other types of letters, you can always get them checked out to ensure that there are no hostages to fortune there.

Over the last 2 years, the most common calls have related to re-structures/redundancy, which happily is one of the only areas of employment law that remains employer-friendly. Tribunals have had before them a vast number of redundancy cases in that time, and normally need little persuasion that a redundancy situation exists. Once over that hurdle, then what you have to show is that you set about the task of selection reasonably and in good faith. One of the potentially contentious issues is: who should be included within the pool for comparison? It is very important to get that right. Give us a call if you are concerned about that. Otherwise always keep in mind their right to be accompanied by a work colleague or by a Trade Union official, and always remember their right of appeal.

Absenteeism has always been a regularly discussed topic. Is it a question of someone who doesn't come to work because they don't want to, or is it because they can't. If they can't, then how serious is it? If it is an eruption of an old problem (eg clinical depression) then are they disabled? If so, what steps should you take? How long are we expected to manage without them, however acute the symptoms, and sympathetic you are? Do we use the same procedure as for Disciplinary matters? What happens if every senior member of the Company's management has been involved, then who can hear the Appeal?

What if the employee refuses to let you have access to their GP? What if the employee refuses to communicate with you altogether?

The potential issues go on and on, and it is important to get an objective view, which is precisely why the Helpline is there. You can also access it by e-mail, on roger.vincent@talk21.com

So, if you are experiencing employee difficulties, you are welcome to use this service, which is funded by the Guild. We look forward to hearing from you.

Roger Vincent

SECURITY, QUALITY, INNOVATION

DOM RS SIGMA

New



Using the latest in security technology DOM RS Sigma has been developed to offer a lifetime trademark protection. Incorporating the DOM logo into the key profile this 6 pin system offers a high level of security, increased copy protection and secures a long term investment at an affordable price.

Also available as a dealer profile, the RS Sigma gives customers the freedom to build and manage their own master keyed suites with the full support of our customer services department and technical team.

For more information on the full range of security products available please contact a member of the sales team.



SECURITY, QUALITY, DOM.

SECURiDEV