



Building & Construction Review

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BespokeCrete

BespokeCrete creates custom and bespoke furniture, outdoor kitchens, kitchen worktops, waterfall islands, patio sets, indoor table & bench sets, coffee tables, baths, sinks and so much more. Every item is custom built, by hand – using local materials and trades, in our Norfolk workshop. BespokeCrete crafts furniture from wood or steel – that is coated in our full Microcement system, over several days – creating a strong and fully waterproof surface that is heat, stain and scratch resist.

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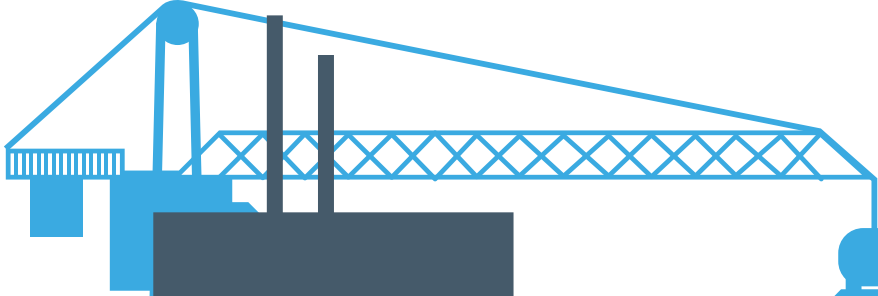
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Hello & welcome to Issue 400 of BCR...

In this issue of Building & Construction Review, we look at how businesses across the construction industry are supporting the PSTN replacement with fibre-based technology by 2025, training the next generation of flooring craftspeople and migrating century-old archives to digital formats.

SWIFIX is a worthy recipient of our COMEX through its exclusive, new partnership with CityFibre, supporting the nationwide installation of fibre-broadband cables. Founder Paul Brown shares his expertise in the EWI sector on pages 10-11 and has even found time to give back to his local community through writing the retrofit boot-camp course for his local FE college!

From airports, to museums, there's a strong chance that you've walked across a floor cared for with BONA's leading products. BONA has indeed transformed the culture of floor care products: from removing toxic chemicals from hardware floors in the 1970's, to its present pioneering training centre for budding flooring craftspeople. Read more about our recommended company on pages 6-7.

Fennell Green & Bates have successfully migrated archived documents, dating back over 135 years on local railway and colliery construction to a new state-of-the-art digital format. These expert chartered surveyors fully understand Brownfield Land and can expertly advise SME housebuilders on the history of the land, using its own archived notes. Read more on pages 4-5.

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Expert chartered surveyors at your fingertips

John Carlon, Managing Director at Fennell Green & Bates

In this issue of Building and Construction Review, we are delighted to award Fennell Green & Bates for its Commitment to Excellence in Outdoor Building Services.

Established in 1879 in Wakefield, Fennell Green & Bates originally advised coal and mine owners on the rapid expansion of the Victorian railway system across England and Scotland during the industrial revolution. The company still has archives that date back more than 140 years of mining and industrial uses of land in Yorkshire and the rest of the North and Midland of England. Since 1947, there have been



Our main aim is to advise SME housebuilders on developing brownfield land that may have been affected by mining or industry which other larger housebuilders tend to avoid

legal frameworks on how to reclaim derelict and brownfield land from successive Governments such as the derelict land grants and the practice has guided clients on reclaiming land for a suitable use for over the past 75 years.

"The practice has been established for over 135 years and has an archive going back to the construction of the railways and collieries. Many problems faced today on brownfield sites have been dealt with before and most of our data is digitised now by postcode or grid co-ordinates to assist in finding a solution to remediation," stated John Carlon, Managing Director.

To allow for a more streamlined process, the company has recently embraced the digital era, by moving its substantial archive, documentation and filing systems to a more secure online storage. That does not mean that the paper copies have been disposed of. They are to be donated to the local history centres for safe keeping. The process has already provided a more efficient service for its large customer base of: self-build clients, SME house builders, commercial developers, landowners, farmers, energy and mineral companies.

Fennell Green & Bates offer unrivalled professional expertise as Chartered Minerals, Waste, Energy and Building



Surveyors. As leading specialists in construction project co-ordination and management the services they offer include Building Surveys, Land Condition Surveys, Coal and Other Mining Risk Assessment Reports, Contaminated Land Audits, Land and Mine Surveying, Site Investigation and Geotechnical Advice on all Built Environment Projects.

"Currently our main aim is to advise SME housebuilders on developing brownfield land that may have been affected by mining or industry which other larger housebuilders tend to avoid. The land uses can be varied but our records and archive can provide additional information on treatment and stabilisation," added John.

In urban planning brownfield land refers to any



previously developed land that is no longer required or in use and at risk of potential contamination with hydrocarbons, asbestos or other materials.

An area in which Fennell Green & Bates is planning to focus on further in 2023 is contaminated land advice. In built-up areas for example an industrial site might be closed down and rehoused in a larger facility elsewhere away from other receptors.

The land may be redeveloped for housing or commercial use, which is a sensitive receptor. The land can contain asbestos, hydrocarbons, high levels of sulphates and metals in the ground from the previous uses over the past 150 years leaving commercial or housing developers in need of thorough professional environmental appraisal.

Advisors at Fennell Green & Bates can assess the site, consider ownership rights, advise on remediation costs, design a site investigation strategy and finally advise on which future date a

property developer could buy the land and begin building new housing or commercial development.

"Our surveyors and engineers are governed and regulated by the professional institutions to which they are members on practising our specialities and giving clear advice to clients. We plan to take advantage of our level of expertise and records at hand as we look to the future to offer more advice. One speciality provided to developers is mineral rights and we try to reach a compromise with owners of land where there may be a dispute on mineral ownership. There are cases where mineral owners claim trespass for excavations below sub soil level so that the foundation and utility excavations cannot proceed. Our surveyors have a great deal of experience in mineral ownership and the law and can advise developers or mineral owners of their rights.

In other recent news, we asked John what the company is currently working on, he answered, "Fennell Green & Bates is currently assisting a housebuilder on remediating a former mineral railway yard and coal depot for affordable housing and utilising the materials on-site for recycling. We are also assisting a larger house builder on engineering the fill on an inert tip to build 108 houses over the next 5 years."

"We also have a brand-new website that is now live to which we have been working on for a while and are excited to launch."

Under the expert direction of the current director, the company has expanded exponentially, employing experienced staff with chartered surveying expertise and having a tool-box of other dedicated professionals to offer their expertise to our clients. From its convenient central UK base in Wakefield, West Yorkshire, customers can be reached easily within three hours, excluding the southern counties of Devon and Cornwall, which takes a little longer.

To find out more information, please see below:
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fennellgreenandbates@gmail.com
<http://www.charteredurveyorswakefield.co.uk>



Craftsman training is back



In this issue, we've chosen to recommend Bona for creating resilient, sustainable, and best-performing products for the flooring industry.

Since its inception in 1919, Bona has laid out a constant thread that has woven its foundation. Its values of passion, performance and pioneering are present in everything it does from its products to the company culture and to its sustainable business practices. It's not only how it operates as a business but how it interacts in the world.



Rewind back to the early 1970's when Bona was among the first to remove toxic and hazardous chemicals from hardwood floor finish, and proved water-based finish as a reliable and durable alternative, Bona was also one of the first companies to insist on dust containment systems that remove carcinogenic wood dust from the air and environment during the hardwood floor-sanding process.

"We were also the first in our industry to offer a full system of waterborne hardwood floor finishing,



and floor care products certified for indoor air quality. Our exceptional performance track record and expertise have given us the privilege to care for floors in some of the world's busiest and most beautiful buildings. From the largest sports and basketball courts, to airports, museums and other public places. Bona can be found in a variety of environments where the floors are exposed to heavy daily wear and tear, and where the demands on sustainability and performance are high," stated Leanne Garvie, Marketing Manager.

It is this accolade that has enabled Bona to continuously grow year on year; being recommended by professionals since 1919. Bona is now present in 90 countries through subsidiaries and distributors and is still as committed to making a difference and innovating best-performing products in the industry since it began.

After 10 years at its current location, the Bona UK business has more than doubled. Having outgrown its current warehouse space and facilities, Bona is pleased to announce that a new larger premises has been secured allowing for greater distribution opportunities.

Within this important upgrade of facilities for the Bona business a new training centre is being constructed. Bonas new training centre launched in early 2023 offering a wide range of training and development opportunities for flooring craftsmen allowing for more capacity for direct customer demonstrations and practical technical support.

It's commitment to professionals comes completely unrivalled in the industry, so we asked Leanne to explain the training courses in more detail.

"We're committed to helping professionals make the most out of our formulations and equipment. We therefore offer three levels of training to help



provide the very best levels of service to customers. Bona Certified Contractor scheme, Bona Sand and Seal Training, and Bona Resilient Floor System Training. Bona also offers technical support and are on hand to support with product specifications and





GREENGUARD

PRODUCT CERTIFIED FOR
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UL.COM/GG

UL 2818, UL 2820

ongoing technical product and application advice as well as samples on request."

As well as the two-day course for qualification as a Bona Certified Contractor, Bona also offers a one-day sanding and sealing course aimed at those new to the industry. This course is also useful for staff working for Bona distributors to give them a real understanding of Bona products and to help them advise their contractor customers. The next available dates for this course are Thursday 14th September and Thursday 16th November 2023.

Bona Resilient Solution is an innovative and highly effective system that renews and extends the life of resilient floors. The Bona one-day Resilient Floor training offers a full introduction to the system including full floor renewal, maintenance processes, and the many designs and additional features that can be introduced with this system. The next available dates for this course are Wednesday 27th September and Wednesday 29th November 2023.

Commercial buildings need durable floors to withstand heavy foot traffic, spills, and transporting equipment. This innovative and highly effective solution transforms and extends the life of resilient floors. It is high-quality, sustainable, and offers substantial downtime cost and environmental savings. This system can be used, not to just maintain a floor's freshness, but also to completely transform its look, without replacing it. Even in heavy-traffic areas, surfaces can be sealed for extra durability and long-term protection.

As leaders in the flooring industry, Bona always strives to offer solutions for every flooring situation. Bona is committed to always listening to its customers and creating innovative systems to meet the demands of the flooring industry. However, it is the company's willingness and endeavour to create more sustainable products that largely contributes to its success over any competitor.



transformation of our industry, caring for people and the planet. What we've learned from 100 years of commitment to sustainable practices is that sustainability is ever-evolving. Rather than a destination, it's a multifaceted journey that changes as our world changes. Developments in technology, new innovations, and cultural shifts are all part of how we continue to create a better world. Our sustainability journey is aligned and in accordance with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, and is focused on bringing better products and practices to Home, Health, and Humanity – across the globe," said Leanne.

Bona's global presence is inevitably growing as it continues to not just innovate but lead the next



generation in sustainable flooring products. In closing, we asked Leanne how Bona felt receiving our award. She answered, "Bona is delighted to be recognised for their long-term investment in the flooring industry. To see our passion for floors being recognised is a true highlight for the Bona Team!"

For more information, please see below:
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info.uk@bona.com
www.bona.com/en-gb/professional
www.bona.com



Luxury living meets impeccable craftsmanship: Total Park solution provider

In this issue of Building & Construction Review, we have selected Park Realty Group for its unwavering Commitment To Excellence throughout the residential park home and holiday home manufacturing sector.

The Maple Grand Park Home from Park Realty Group created a buzz at June's World of Park & Leisure Homes Show 2023, at Stoneleigh Park. During the three-day show, visitors could look around the elegant and spacious park home in-situ, experiencing its expert craftsmanship. Not only does the Maple Grand look fabulous but it is built with a solid steel chassis which is made in-house. All homes manufactured by Park Realty Group are also issued with a 10-year Platinum Seal warranty giving assurance for longevity. Homes are built to building regulations or BS3632. All park and leisure homes have fully insulated floors, walls and roofs. The Timber framed homes come with double glazed windows and either gas central heating, hot and cold air-conditioning or eco-friendly heat pump installations.

Available as fully furnished or unfurnished, customers can have their park home or luxury lodge designed and decorated to bespoke specifications, therefore creating the perfect well-deserved home. The team at Park Realty Group work with clients to interpret their ideas of their dream home and design the layout, interiors and exteriors. With all bespoke builds



they create a floor plan, specification and CGI images of the home to demonstrate the visual impact to their customers.

Park Realty Group was established in January 2021 by enterprising owner Janine Dove and prides itself on providing both smart and practical homes and luxury living with *exceptional craftsmanship*.

The family-run business has its headquarters in Ferndown, Dorset, with a bustling factory in Cardiff. Luxury living has never been easier and Park Realty Group offers everything from their standard portfolio of homes through to high-end, state-of-the-art designs incorporating built on decks with frameless glass conservatories. With an expert in-house siting team, design and manufacturing department

and dedicated aftersales team, the company offers customised integrated solutions to park owners and private landowners throughout the UK. Every bespoke home supplied for commercial use comes with free professional photos and a matterport virtual tour. Drone services and professional videography for marketing services are also available through Park Realty Groups' subsidiary company: Orb 3D, which is co-owned and independently operated by her son George, who joined forces with Janine at inception. George and his team also provide digital marketing services including photography, videography, drone services, virtual tour CGI, website design and hosting. Clients come from across the construction and development sectors and estate agencies. Recently Orb 3D has created some amazing content for new developments, lodge parks, premium properties in Sandbanks,



luxury villas in Spain, a 30,000 sq. ft. commercial premises on Regent Street, a luxury private jet in Jersey and two universities.

Known for meticulous attention-to-detail, this emerging powerhouse with Janine at the helm offers all-encompassing solutions for park operators from design concept to cutting-edge marketing.

Park Realty Group also offer a wonderful line of leisure products that can be built on a mobile chassis or as a modular building, that include fully equipped golf simulators, home cinema, disco/ party box with Karaoke booths, groom rooms, facilities suites, and offices.

We caught up with owner extraordinaire, Janine Dove to find out more, "We provide complete-solutions for park operators and the private sector across the UK and Europe. We help land-owners and park operators through the



whole process with our excellent planning partners and infrastructure partners. We design and build homes and deliver them through our transport partners and all siting is carried out by our own team and supported by our aftersales team. Once the homes are ready to sell we also provide sales and marketing services which include website development, advertising, social media marketing and the hosting of open events. It's important to mention that we also offer off-market land and parks for sale (parks not available on the open market) so for an individual or company new to this sector looking to develop or own a park we can offer specialist end-to-end guidance and support whilst keeping budgets on track. We currently have several exceptional opportunities in Aberdeen, Lincolnshire, Cornwall and Devon."

The Dorset based company offers an impressive range of leisure and park homes as well as resi-spec caravans, modular builds and leisure boxes.

The Foxglove Lodge, for example comes with three bedrooms and two bathrooms and is ideal for a family of four to six people. It is available in any size from 45 x 14ft up to 65 x 22ft with a spacious open plan living/dining area and fully-integrated kitchen with integrated appliances. This home features a mono pitch roof and extra high windows for maximum light and airiness.

If it's sustainability you're after, then why not consider the Crystal Super Lodge. Customers can choose an optional ECO package with solar panels, intelligent SMART home package and electric vehicle (EV) charger point, making this eco-lodge truly part of the green era. The unique frameless glass design in the conservatory truly brings the outside in when fully opened up. Eco packages are available on all homes and buildings.

Janine added, "Looking to the future, we are focussing more on eco-buildings that are in line with the market for more sustainable living. Net-zero certification is important to our business and we are diversifying to create a new range of truly eco-homes for the future."

UK Staycations are here to stay with 50% of Brits expecting to holiday at home rather than abroad this year according to Time Out Magazine. With the cost-of-living crisis, airport staff shortages/strikes and even the recent UK air traffic control system failure are all playing their part in persuading Brits to stay at home resulting in holidays parks, caravanning and glamping all surging in popularity as a response.

Glamping has also proved to be more than a flash-in-the-pan and is definitely here to stay, offering families and couples a home-from-

home glamping experience over more hardy camping experiences. Park Realty Group provide stunning Glamping Lodges, Airbnb suites, pods and truly amazing glamping domes.

Park homes and lodges on the stunning Cornish coastlines have always attracted holidaymakers but there has been a resurgence in holidaying in other beauty spots from Ayrshire in Scotland to the lakes of Cumbria, and the lush rolling hills of Yorkshire, all of which are pointing towards a steady upward trend in the popularity of UK holiday parks. When Brits holiday in the UK they are still looking for affordable-luxury and Park Realty Group provides an unrivalled range of accommodation and leisure buildings to add value to any business.

For more information on the fully comprehensive range of services from Park Realty Group, please see the website below:

Head Office

T 0800 090 3052

Out of Hours

T 07393 999690

info@parkrealtygroup.co.uk

parkrealtygroup.co.uk

For digital services: orb3d.co.uk

For leisure buildings: boxleisure.com





SWIFIX signs exclusive, new collaboration with CityFibre

In this issue of Building & Construction Review, we are delighted to showcase SWIFIX, with its exceptional Commitment To Excellence throughout the EWI industry.

The current analogue phone system: Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) is on schedule to be fully replaced with fibre-based digital technology across the UK by the end of 2025. The Data Age demands more gigabits per second and the open access, fibre-only operator: CityFibre is committed to the operation of an extensive, national full fibre infrastructure network. SWIFIX can now exclusively reveal that it has confirmed its new collaboration with CityFibre for the foreseeable future. The operator giant will be utilising five products from the SWIFIX range to enable their installations, from fibre broadband cables, through to utility boxes. SWIFIX has an existing, ongoing similar partnership with Sky EUROPE, now with CityFibre joining forces, SWIFIX is looking to partner with European system designers and utility companies in the near future.

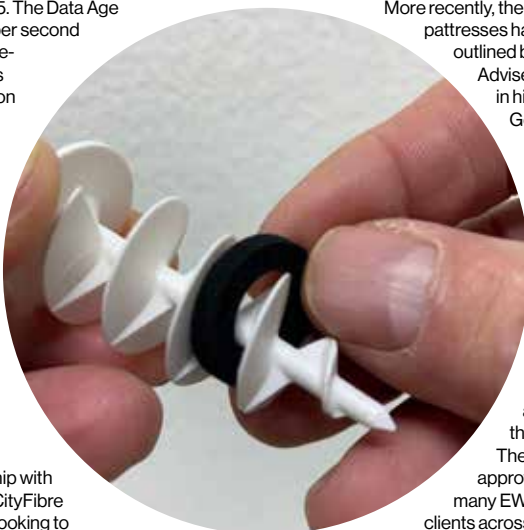
The traditional method of fixing items, such as satellite dishes, fence/gate posts, external pipe work, lights/

alarms, canopies, utility boxes, through to washing lines and hanging baskets has been through timber pattresses, spreading the load over a larger area of surface wall. This however contributed to cold spots, thermal bridging and even impacted on insulation qualities, alongside the natural wear and tear of the timber itself.

More recently, the usage of timber pattresses has been questioned, as outlined by the Chief Construction Adviser (CCA): Peter Hansford in his report to the UK Government.

Multi-award-winning company: SWIFIX seized on this gap in the market, in line with Peter Hansford's recommendations and developed a new range of fittings, precision-designed for refitting and installing lightweight and heavyweight items through EWI systems. These innovative fixings are approved and specified by many EWI system designs and clients across the UK and can be used during or after system installation.

With the passing of PAS 2030 in 2017 and PAS 2035 later in 2019, the industry has subsequently reconsidered the traditional usage of timber pattresses, with SWIFIX fixings



Paul Brown, Director at SWIFIX

now being routinely used instead as product of choice by many EWI Systems Designers.

The SWIFIX range is fully PAS 2035 quality-compliant for retrofitting, modular housing sector and futureproofed for maintenance provision, meeting robust requirements to mitigate against insulation compression, with its watertight seal, as outlined below:

- ▲ **SWIFIX single universal fitting:** Secures, downpipes, vent pipes, canopies, lights, alarms, and more
- ▲ **SWIFIX satellite fitting kit:** Designed for refitting a standardised satellite dish through EWI.
- ▲ **SWIFIX Pipe connector:** Securing small to large pipes and cables, giving a robust, watertight seal.
- ▲ **SWIFIX connection point fitting:** Ideal for attaching cables, hanging baskets, trellis utility cables and washing lines.
- ▲ **SWIFIX tap fitting:** Fits an external tap through EWI, ensuring a watertight seal.
- ▲ **Introducing new additions to the SWIFIX family:** A range designed for fixture to render for small lightweight cables, through to thermally effective solutions for air source heat pumps and air conditioning currently being developed.





SWIFIX was first established in 2016 by Director Paul Brown, with the range added to over time, including a successful partnership with SKY EUROPE telecommunications for a new product for securing cables and small pipework.

Building & Construction Review is not alone in seeing the brilliance of these next-generational fittings, moving the industry past timber pattresses, SWIFIX has been the recipient of many well-deserved awards, including:

- ▲ Offsite Awards (finalist) 2023
- ▲ Energy Efficiency Awards (finalist) 2023
- ▲ INCA Awards (finalist) 2023
- ▲ The National Building & Construction Awards (shortlisted) 2023
- ▲ EWI Company of the Month (Building Update)
- ▲ The INCA Innovation Award Winner (2021).

The Insulated Render and Cladding Association (INCA) is the recognised trade association for the EWI industry across the UK and awards are presented for exceptional work in the industry.

We spoke to the founder of SWIFIX: Paul Brown to find out more about the history of the company, "Having worked in construction for over four decades, initially as an apprentice plasterer rising to a senior director from the ground-up, I was familiar with the usage of timber pattresses and its shortcomings. I actually came up with fixing idea whilst as an installer in the 90's but wasn't a viable commercial at the time. Now with EWI on the agenda and following years of stringent testing across wind loadings, shear and load testing and the crucial element of thermal loss and heat transfer, the products have been meticulously perfected."

"The range offers watertight solutions, protecting against water ingress and furthermore, there are products available for every fixture: regardless of format or weight."

"Fast-forward to the present day and the range is now approved and recommended by the UK's leading system manufacturers."

"Having worked previously in the industry and possessing the ability to 'think outside the box' has propelled this range of fixings into the market. Our solutions robustly secure external furniture through EWI, from satellite

dishes, canopies, signage to cables, with full-PAS2035 quality-compliance for added assurance."

"Our range is highly recommended by system designers, due to the fact that by using the solution and the way in which they are installed, they protect warranties and guarantees for the systems installed."

"We routinely work with Architects, Local Authorities (LA's) to major contractors and system designers providing innovative, industrial solutions for securing external wall furniture, through insulation and cladding, across a range of properties, including retrofit, new build, and the off-site modular sectors."

With the current focus on the circular economy and meeting the UK Government's 2050 net-zero targets, it is an added bonus that the fixings are made from partially-recycled plastics, with all parts and packaging fully recyclable, reducing the need for landfill.



We asked Paul to look into his crystal ball and tell us about the future, "Recently I have been working with the local FE College on the creation and delivery of retrofit boot-camps and upskilling courses to help train the next



generation. This has been an incredible experience and I have loved giving back to my local community."

"Regarding SWIFIX, with ongoing discussion we see the next step to the wider European market, even further afield like Australia where the focus is on keeping the heat out."

SWIFIX external wall fixings are available via wholesale merchants and come highly recommended by the UK's leading systems manufacturers.

For more information, please see below:

T 01884 560477
info@SWIFIX.co.uk
www.SWIFIX.co.uk



PPD Security ratings made simple



An illustrated guide aimed at ironing out confusion over standards and accreditation for security rated powered pedestrian doors (PPD) has been published by the Automatic Door Suppliers Association (ADSA).

Guidance for Security Rated Powered Pedestrian Doors is a free 20-page illustrated document, which defines principal burglary resistance security standards currently used in the UK.

Available to download from ADSA's website: www.adsa.org.uk/about-us/news/post/security-rated-ppd it outlines the scope of each standard, how they vary from each other and how they apply to exacting benchmarks such as Secured By Design – an initiative managed by UK police.

The document clarifies the range of physical attack ratings against damage, which may be caused during burglary or vandalism and outlines the levels of testing undertaken for products to achieve certification. These are depicted through diagrams and flow chart to help

the reader make better sense of each standard and its processes.

It is also packed with interactive links for further reading and access to standards documentation – helping keep all related content in one place.

ADSA produced the guide after recognising confusion across the industry over the different standards. The initiative was prompted by an increasing number of enquiries to its technical support line from members and other industry professionals including architects, specifiers, building owners and facilities managers, seeking clarification on subtle differences between the likes of RC2, RC3 and LPS 1175.

Darren Hyde, ADSA's Technical and Training Manager, said, "This publication is a useful addition to the information that we currently offer through the ADSA Academy and our training courses. It extends a level of understanding to a larger audience – not just ADSA members but those in the wider development and building management industry.

"There are a variety of standards which apply to the security of automatic doors to ensure that they meet quality standards to protect property from attempted burglary and vandalism. Some of the requirements within these standards overlap but each is intended to meet a specific criteria and this publication outlines how these apply, together with the levels of testing, which products must undergo.

"Ultimately, these standards raise the bar by ensuring our industry produces quality products that are resilient and provide peace of mind to the end user."

For further information about ADSA membership contact: rachel@adsa.org.uk.

Visit: www.adsa.org.uk

LSTA Academy

The Lead Sheet Training Academy is at the forefront of training for those using lead or hard metals in the construction industry. The LSTA explains the Changes to the CSCS card scheme.



If you're a skilled craftsman, general labourer, or somewhere in between, you've probably been asked to demonstrate your competence and abilities through a CSCS card. They're a great benchmark for clients and principal contractors to determine whether a contractor is able to carry out the work that you require. Recently, there have been changes to the CSCS card scheme, affecting the way they are issued.

There are a number of ways to move off Industry Accreditation:

- ▲ **Vocational qualifications already achieved:** cardholders who have achieved the qualifications for their occupation can renew their card for the full five-year term as normal.
- ▲ **Academically Qualified person card:** This card is available to people who have completed certain construction related degrees, HNDs, HNCs, CIOB Certificates and NEBOSH diplomas.
- ▲ **Professionally Qualified person:** This card is available to competence assessed members of CSCS approved Professional Bodies of which CIOB is one.
- ▲ **Not everyone needs a card:** There will be IA card holders who no longer require their CSCS cards. For example, you may have moved into a management role, become a director, or rarely visit site. In these scenarios, you do not require a CSCS card.
- ▲ Those unable to fit into these four scenarios will be required to register for the appropriate qualification for their occupation before their cards expire in 2024.

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The Stone Zone has supplied materials to National Trust Parks, Caravan Parks, Housing Developments, Golf Courses, The Tower of London and many more affluent settings!

Now proudly supplying a 'Developers' range, the Stone Zone offer stunning porcelain paving products designed for newly-built homes, at affordable prices.

Are you a Greensman or

Greenkeeper? Their Wessex range consists of Bunker Sand, Silica Sand, Dutch Tree Sand and more. They can even make bespoke soil blends tailored to your requirements!

To cater to the environmentally conscious, the Stone Zone have developed their own eco-friendly 'Sustainable range,' including FSC Certified Oak Sleepers, Composite Decking and locally blended soils.

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Commissioning Tree Information for planning, in line with BS5837:2012 (RIBA) Plan of Work (2020)

Barnes

Associates Ltd are leading tree surveyor helping architects and developers with their schemes. Tree surveys to BS5837 are our speciality. We provide high quality arboricultural impact assessments and Tree Protection Plans.

We problem solve so building near trees is possible. Regardless of their protected status, all trees can be a material consideration in a planning application. To ensure a smooth passage through the planning process, you and your design team will need information in line with British Standard 'Trees in relation to construction – Recommendations' BS5837:2012, the national standard for the management of trees on and close to the development, redevelopment and building sites.

Works are done in stages initial assessment/'development windows.' We provide tree constraints plans in CAD 2D and 3D. Tree retention and removal



plans with liaison with ecologists. We can provide tree planting and landscape schemes as well.

Arboricultural method statements are regularly a conditional item, we liaise with developers to ensure storage areas and facilities on-site can be practical whilst still protecting trees.

Often further investigation is required to find out where tree roots are – we provide Tree Root mapping (Tree Radar) services throughout the UK too.

Contact Sue Barnes, Director & Landscape & Arboricultural Consultant,
T 01423 322371
info@barnesassociates.co.uk
www.barnesassociates.co.uk
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Eco Clipper FM4 Sport for sporting grounds

Eco Clipper offers large area mowers that help field managers minimise mowing costs while producing a professional cut. The Eco Clipper mowing system was originally developed to replace the cylinder mower in turfgrass production. The aim was to retain the cutting performance of a well-tuned cylinder mower, but not the high maintenance requirements and sensitivity to mowing conditions, such as wet grass and weeds.

The system

The smooth cutting decks with fast spinning small blades ensure a high quality of cut and a good distribution of clippings. Even in wet grass, the clippings are well distributed. This makes it possible to schedule this mower almost independently of the weather.

Thanks to the electrically driven blades, the mower



is very economical and quiet. The large wheels and smart mower deck linking system ensure good contour following and enable high mowing speeds.

Municipalities and sports field and park managers have also discovered the advantages of the Eco Clipper mowing system. For them, Eco Clipper offers the EC-FM4 Sport. This 4.11m wide mower has four independent mowing decks. Its position in front of the tractor provides excellent visibility and comfort for the tractor driver.

The benefits

Users report high productivity gains, a factor two compared to 5-gang self-propelled cylinder mowers, and appreciate the low maintenance need and the ability to schedule the mowing even in less favourable mowing conditions, such as early morning dew and wet autumn.

For more information, contact:
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With highly efficient electric-powered mowers that can be used at high cutting speeds and in almost all weather conditions, the Eco Clipper FM4 Sport is a safe solution to significantly reduce mowing costs on sports fields.

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Bluerun manufactures quality, bespoke joinery items and everything is made to order, nothing is 'off the shelf.'

If you're looking for items made from both hard and softwood or even veneered and painted panels, Bluerun can reproduce an array of items including replacement sashes, where it can manufacture a brand new one on a like for like basis, so the mouldings will match.

Bluerun only produce purpose made joinery to client's drawings and specifications. Its unrivalled level of customer services means that

free quotations are normally provided within 2-3 days or less, and the company can usually deliver a quick turnaround of any manufactured items required. And, because it has an experienced spray operative in charge of a modern spray paint and lacquer facility, articles can leave the factory in a fully finished state, ready for installation on-site.

What really sets Bluerun apart is that since its establishment it has never used computer aided machinery for any designs. Crafted to perfection, all items are finished by hand, drawings are prepared with pencil and paper, and everything that is manufactured by the team has been done so with the utmost attention to detail.



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The UK's leading wastewater monitoring and treatment experts



Initially developed by Smart Storm for the Thames Tideway project, The NeutraliZer™ is a unique, mobile, in-line treatment plant that uses only CO₂ to continuously neutralise concrete washout water.

The concrete wash water issue

The pH of concrete wash water from construction and building sites is highly caustic (pH 12-14) and very damaging to the environment if untreated. It is illegal to discharge without an acceptable pH level (usually 6-9).

Equally, this applies to concrete wagon washouts to sewer and surface drains, where usually illegal to discharge below pH 6 and above pH 10.

This high alkaline wastewater is customarily treated with hazardous chemicals on a batch basis.

NeutraliZer™ CO₂ concrete washout treatment

The NeutraliZer™ works by monitoring the caustic washout with Smart Storm's USM pH meter and based on the readings, carbon dioxide (CO₂) is

automatically dissolved into the wash water flow to reduce the pH to a safe level for discharge; this happens on a continuous flow basis.

Smart Storm's USI, a multiple water parameter meter, provides a 7" touch screen interface for user-friendly operation. A Magflow flow meter monitors the effluent leaving the unit, which can treat up to 25m³ of wastewater per hour.

CO₂ dissolved in water is slightly acidic so is ideal for neutralising concrete wash water and CO₂ self-buffers so cannot overdose no matter how much is injected.

Available to purchase or hire; contact Smart Storm Ltd to find out more:

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Looking lean – Strand makes warehouse improvements

Strand Hardware has developed leaner assembly, dispatch and warehousing processes – saving hundreds of staff hours each year – in a joint project with a crack team from Warwick University.

The project with WMG (Warwick Manufacturing Group) has optimised warehouse layout and movement for the efficient flow of picking, assembly and packing operations across key ranges. It involved measuring processes via time study and motion analysis through site visits, video capture and process flow assessment. Findings outlined cycle times and mapped the movement of people.

The resulting report outlined a series of recommendations to improve process capacity, including quick wins and minor modifications to warehouse and workstations layout to introduce time savings. This has led to the introduction of mobile Kanban shelving within the assembly area to allow components to be picked and assembled more efficiently. The double-sided racks allow bins to be restocked by a dedicated person who conveys stock between Strand's warehouse and its head office on another part of the site.

Steve Marshall, Managing Director of Strand Hardware, said that the project had been 'thorough and exacting.' 'Strand Hardware has grown over 30 years. Like most companies, while scaling up, we have focused

on customer requirements and day-to-day business operations. We felt that the time had come to review what we were doing and whether we could be doing it more efficiently, which led to the opportunity to work with WMG.

"Having experts come into the business with fresh pairs of eyes, ask the right questions and with the knowledge to assess and analyse our operations has been invaluable. It was important for us not to disrupt warehouse activity, so recommendations had to incorporate improvements that would be easy to apply. In the long term, this will make our business leaner and more efficient – the ideal foundation for future growth," he said.

The project was undertaken with funding from the Digital Innovation for Manufacturing programme.

Strand Warehouse and Production Manager, Andy Michel said that it had been fascinating to work with the University Team, "The results will make the job easier for many of the team and help Strand Hardware in its continuous improvement."

Chris Wang, of WMG SME Group added, "WMG and Strand Hardware have worked collaboratively to analyse their current assembly area in readiness for



optimising their production facility. Across the three recommendations put forward, a maximum 50% reduction in cycle times per unit has been predicted which allows for a 5.105% capacity increase."

For more information on Strand Hardware's range of products, contact: info@strandhardware.co.uk, call: 01922 639111 or visit: www.strandhardware.co.uk







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Stanza Blue

Zoo Hardware is a designer and supplier of architectural door hardware, including door handles, knobs, locks, hinges and much more. Dedicated to ensuring its products meet the highest standards, Zoo Hardware uses only high-quality aluminium, brass, steel and zinc. This eye for detail and dedication to quality is of the utmost importance for Zoo Hardware and as such, the company is confident that it can provide the highest quality products at the most competitive prices.

Boasting unrivalled design skills through the company's in-house design team, Zoo Hardware assures its customers that they will receive top-end products, developed by its team of designers, who are highly qualified and experienced in all aspects of design and production. The team constantly aims to push the boundaries of possibility for its designs, creating innovative, stylish and cost-effective hardware solutions.

The Stanza Blue ZPA range is a new and exclusive collection of designer aluminium levers built on a zinc screw on rose or aluminium backplate and is ideal for housebuilders and homeowners alike. The full metal construction of these levers utilises quality materials at a great price without compromise, whereas inferior alternatives on the market use aluminium for both the lever and rose,



ZPA090 – Bilbao Lever

which can easily suffer from cross threading of the outer rose.

Offering a broad selection of lever styles to suit even the most discerning tastes, the range consists of a mix of seven classic lever on rose designs with the addition of three new contemporary in-house designed levers, and two lever on backplate options for the more traditional residential feel.

All variations are available in three distinct finishes: Polished Chrome, Satin Chrome, and Matt Black, each one suitable for any modern or traditional interior. The inclusion of a high-quality Matt Black finish at this ranges' price point will be an exciting addition for customers, and with black levers having cemented themselves as a fashionable interior design trend, we are certain they will be a popular choice for many households throughout the UK.

www.zoohardware.co.uk

Air conditioning and heating solutions



Clima-Tech was founded in 2015 by Ashley Shemmings, a self-employed specialist in heating engineering with over 18 years' experience in the engineering industry. Clima-Tech is a family run business and alongside Ashley, wife Franki Shemmings works in the office. What started off as a maintenance and servicing company, soon evolved into a specialist multi-faceted service with a proven track record in the electrical, refrigeration, domestic, and commercial sectors.

Clima-Tech is well trusted and well established in the renewable energy field. Clima-Tech is hands on and works closely with its clients to ensure that the best service is delivered. Clima-Tech is an approved contractor by the following certified bodies: Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS), Renewable Energy Consumer Code (RECC), IWA, and REFCOM. Furthermore, Ashley has trained to the highest level, holding qualifications such as City and guilds 2360 NICEIC certified, City and guilds F-GAS, B-PEC G3 unvented, B-PEC Heat pump design, and B-PEC water regulation.

Clima-Tech has been the receiver of many awards over the years receiving first, second and third place in the following: 2019 National Energy Efficiency Awards, Energy

Efficiency Champion and Commend Renewable Heat Installer & Contractor 2020/21 and the National Energy Efficiency Awards 2020/21. Another milestone for the company was in 2021 when Clima-Tech employed its first member of staff.

Clima-Tech specialise in a range of core services in the renewable energy field for MCS/RHI registration systems, Heat pumps, Heating systems, Electrical system design and installation, System commissioning, Air conditioning, Solar panel specification, design, installation, repair and maintenance, and Underfloor Heating and Plumbing works.

We now have a showroom open in Martlesham. We want to help more households experience the benefits that heat pumps can bring – and to encourage early adopters to make the move. Our showroom will share information about all the advantages of heat pumps, while busting myths about barriers to adoption. Our showroom has a working heat pump in place to demonstrate the technology in action, alongside everything that goes with them, including cylinders and controls.

T 01473 798321
ashley@clima-techservices.co.uk
www.clima-techservices.co.uk

New small duct heating and cooling system set to tackle rising temperatures in UK homes



A new small duct heating, cooling and ventilation system by US manufacturer Unico Systems has been launched in the UK.

The Unico System, which is installed in half a million homes and businesses throughout the US, provides heating, cooling and ventilation along with improved air quality and well-being.

The decision to make the Unico System more widely available to UK residents follows a series of record-breaking summers, as well as increasing demand for greater climate control.

The near silent, system, which operates at under 30 decibels, uses aspiration to deliver draft free heating and cooling ensuring temperature differentials are

no greater than one degree throughout the home.

Richard Soper CBE, of Unico Systems UK, said, "The US is used to much larger variances in temperature, meaning that domestic ventilation and air conditioning is often installed as standard. As a result, the Unico system is fully adapted to the needs of domestic properties; providing effective climate control, but also operating at a barely audible sub-30 decibels. For self-builders and renovators this provides a unique opportunity to give occupiers the same level of climate control and comfort that they've come to expect in cars, hotels and gyms, no matter the season."

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Access Panels and Riser Doors

At Rapid Access, we understand visually aesthetic designs, evaluates the quality of your work! As a leading manufacturer in the Access Panel world, we are always looking for new sleek ways to improve our products and your projects.

Our new invisible ironmongery is now available on our Riser Doors with a sleek new element. Our magnetic fire door keep locked shut sign simply slides away from the door face to reveal the hidden ironmongery.

These door sets can be easily opened to provide access to services in buildings such as water, electrical, mechanical, gas, telecommunication compartments, HVAC systems, and many other maintenance options. Rapid Access offers either a piano hinge system or our fast, quick and user friendly Rapidfit® hinge system, which has revolutionised the riser door. Say goodbye to old Piano Hinge technology and say hello to future of Access Panels.

As no cap is required to hide the lock, this new feature is completely maintenance free, this means we have eliminated additional moving parts when accessing the lock.

Our new design is available up to 2 hour fire rated and up to 36dB acoustic rated. Rapid Access can also offer this new feature in both single or double door units ranging from 2,400mm x 1,800mm.

The company specialises in manufacturing steel products, and it currently has two unique products that offer ease and money saving aspects when fitting the panels that Rapid



Access Ltd have designed. These are the Rapidfit® hinge system for Riser Doors and the unbeatable Flipfix panel for wall and ceiling use.

The FlipFix range launched in 2015, offers a unique fitting device, Mitreless frame and new Flush Lock system. The innovative box packaging for stock sizes doubles as a pop-out template – simply draw around the template and cut your hole ready. The FlipFix device easily secures the access panel against plasterboard or drywall with a thickness ranging from 8mm to 32mm, and this allows the panel to fit flush to the wall providing a clean overall finish. FlipFix complies with the performance criteria for integrity using the principles of BS EN 1634-1: 2014.

Rapid Access Ltd are also the inventors of the trademarked RapidFit® hinge system on its riser door range, and this hinge system



has revolutionised the riser door by reducing door fitting times on-site by as much as 95%. Working on a spring-loaded pin hinge means that installation of the door, once the frame has been installed is much quicker than a door supplied with a traditional piano hinge.

In a crowded marketplace, Rapid Access Ltd works hard to stay at the forefront of the industry, and it has a committed and exclusive team that works on product development. Using previous and market leading research the team constantly works on new products that its loyal customers can promote with pride. The company is also always looking to pioneer its established name into all industries by way of bigger and better ideas.

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We have experience in face fit testing, and we have Fit2Fit accredited fit testers in our team. Meaning our methods have been checked and confirmed with best practice for face fit testing in line with the BSIF and HSE.

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so many types of respirators – gas masks, SCBAs, respirators. If the mask requires fit testing, count on the PortaCount Pro fit tester to provide the fastest and easiest HSE (UK) and OSHA (US)-compliant fit test method.

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Contact Andy at: andy@cavity-fit-test.co.uk or call: 0118 214 6192 to get your local fit tester today.

You can visit: www.cavity-fit-test.co.uk for more information.





Quality Access Panels & Riser Doors

Read about the panels

For over a decade, we have been committed to providing superior Access Panels & Riser Doors to the manufacturing and distribution industries.

We take pride in our role as a top supplier and strive to continue delivering excellence in all we do.

We supply a wide range of products, including the revolutionary **FlipFix** Range, allowing easy installation in seconds thanks to the **FlipFix** clamps.

As well as the **RapidFit** Riser Doors, which can be fitted by one person instead of two!

Our products come with a variety of additional features including:

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- **Anti-Bacterial coated Panels**
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