



Building & Construction Review

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If you are looking for high-quality fire-rated glass solutions for your next building project, look no further than Fire Glass UK

In this issue of Building & Construction Review, we are excited to spotlight Fire Glass UK, specialists in fire-rated glass solutions to enhance building safety by effectively containing and slowing the spread of fire and smoke.

The 'Fire Glass Journey' began in 2008 when Sean Haynes started with a single cutting bench and two staff in a shared factory. Celebrating 15 years in 2023, Fire Glass UK has grown into a market leader in fire-rated and specialist safety glass with its success stemming from hard work, dedication, and a commitment to integrity.

"Customers trust Fire Glass UK to deliver exceptional service and meet their needs in a challenging marketplace. Fire Glass UK is dedicated to excellence, embodying the principles of Safety, Quality, and Service, known as the Fire Glass Promise. This commitment is the foundation for building trusted relationships. At Fire Glass UK, getting it right every time is our priority," stated Sean.

The company provides a wide range of fire-rated and specialist glass, including products from Pyroguard, Pilkington, and AGC. Its offerings encompass wired, laminated, acoustic laminated, toughened, and mirrored glass, as well as fire and non-fire rated IGUs with integrated blind options. With in-house processing facilities, they ensure full control over orders and short lead times from nationwide branches. Their experienced fitters are FIRAS certified and offer installation services for fire-rated glazing. Additionally, Fire Glass UK provides technical support, CPD presentations, CNC work, decorative filming, sandblasting, and a specialist cut-size



service for partitioning companies.

With a network of nationwide branches, Fire Glass UK's head office and midlands branch is based in Oldbury along with a separate installations division. The Midlands branch has recently seen the addition of a Bottero CNC machine with capabilities to handle various tasks from cutting arches and creating cutouts

to polished edges and drilling holes with the utmost precision.

"The Bottero CNC machine has revolutionised our glass-cutting capabilities at the Midlands branch. With its precision, efficiency, and versatility, we've increased our productivity, improved quality, and expanded our product range. It's not just a machine; it's a game-changer that has helped position us as leaders in the industry, allowing us to take on even the most challenging projects with confidence," added Sean.

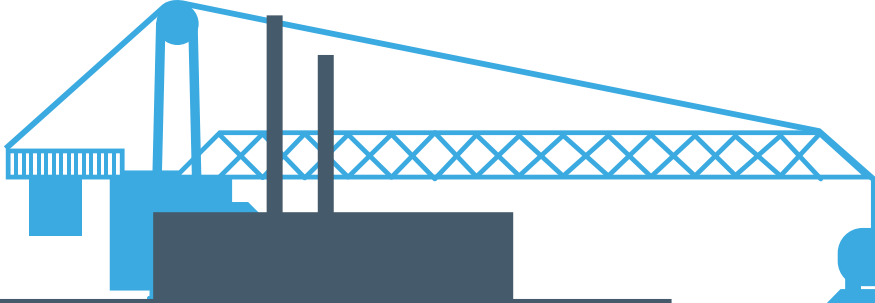


Furthermore, 2024 welcomed its first European office in Seingbousse, France.

"Fire Glass France is the first European Fire Glass branch to be opened as part of our growth plans. This 7,000ft² space will offer our full range of fire-rated and non-fire-rated glass processing services, including cut-to-size fire-rated, laminated glass, double glazed units, toughened glass, and mirrors. Following significant growth in European sales, setting up our first European branch, Fire Glass France, was a natural next step. It will serve customers across France and provide fast turnaround for glass requirements in Germany, Holland, and Belgium," stated Sean.

Fire Glass UK best serves customers from the following sectors: Architecture, Main Contractors, Joinery, Door Companies or Partitions and Screen Manufacturers, and Glass Companies. To focus on environmental issues is the next step for the company alongside developing and improving employee training to maintain its market leading position.

Discover more innovative products and how they contribute to safer, more resilient structures below:
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Hello & welcome to Issue 411 of BCR...

In this issue of Building & Construction Review, we bring you the latest and most up-to-date engineering and construction news, to help keep your building business ahead of the curve.

Welcome to our bumper-packed September issue, with features focused on fire-rated safety glass, health and safety consultancy and some fascinating insights into the sustainable benefits of timber frames and the comeback of earth building.

Fire Glass UK are leading specialists in fire-rated and specialist glass, to contain and slow down the spread of fire and smoke. The leading range includes products from Pyroguard, Pilkington, and AGC, with wired, laminated, acoustic laminated, toughened, and mirrored glass, as well as fire and non-fire rated IGUs with integrated blind options. Read more on page 1.

DCON Safety Consultants is our Health & Safety Consultancy of the Month on page 6 – with consultants offering leading services from Project Supervisor for the Design Process (CDM Advisor Plus), Pre-Planning Compliance to Physical Site Safety Auditing and much more. With a diverse range of customers from Public Sector Departments, Corporate Owners, Real Estate Developers, to Design Professionals and Infrastructural Bodies, DCON is accustomed to working on small and larger projects.

With a growing interest in maximised sustainability across the building sector, Seviour Timber Frames Ltd on page 3 and Bettablok® on page 4 are our recommended companies to watch. Timber frames ensure a highly insulated, airtight building fabric, helping achieve energy smart buildings for the future. Bettablok meanwhile is made of a mix of natural materials: aggregate, fibre, lime, chalk and clay and is a sustainable alternative to cement and concrete- offering a return to the age-old concept of building with earth.

Don't forget to send us your latest construction updates and news.

Email us at: buildings@bestpracticeuk.co.uk



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SEVIOUR TIMBER FRAMES: The exceptional craftsmanship that you deserve



Timber frames have become increasingly popular across the building trade and carry considerable advantages. These include enhanced thermal/ airtightness/fire-rated performance, design flexibility, speed of building, reduced on/off-site wastage, building regulations compliance, and lifetime cost savings from energy-efficient structures.

In short, choosing timber frames ensures a highly insulated, airtight building fabric, helping achieve energy smart buildings for the future.

Seviour Timber Frames Ltd is a family-run company providing energy efficient timber frames for a full range of applications across the public and private sectors. These include: single houses, social houses, schools, hotels and hospitals.

With over 25 years' experience, the team, under the watchful eye of Managing Director, Craig Seviour, employ different styles of timber frames,

cut and trussed roofs and a wide range of joists to create the perfect build every time.

The Bath-based company was established six years ago, built off the back of a previous experienced business and now uses a dedicated timber frame facility for all off-site work.

"I've been involved with timber frames since the age of 16 through my early apprenticeships. Since that time, I've been closely following the evolution of timber frames ever since. We are now using all types of insulation but mainly focus on ACTIS Insulation and H-Control. These products provide better U-value and make it easier to achieve a better airtightness.

We have completed timber builds in North Devon hospitals and hotels, with single builds delivered across the UK and one of our turnkey Bath houses was featured recently in a self-build magazine.



Seviour Timber Frames provide a complete timber package service: bronze, silver, gold and platinum, alongside our bespoke timber frame service with the highest quality joists and roofs, with a range of insulation to suit the client's preference, budget and style.

"We now exclusively offer Project Managers for builds and/or a

Timber Frame Consultant for any company's timber frame, so the frame can be overseen and report written by an independent timber frame consultant. For our more independent clients, we offer self-build training for those that wish to build the timber frames themselves," explains Craig.

Craig personally oversees the entire manufacturing and erecting process through to the timber frame sign off, offering seamless project management and quality assurance to customers throughout.

Seviour Timber Frames builds all its timber frames off-site, in the controlled timber frame facility. This energy efficient approach ensures the minimum amount of waste, with reduced carbon.

"Using our off-site facility also speeds up the building process, as we are not impacted by poor weather. This means the timber frames can be watertight in days, rather than weeks.



"We treat all customers personally – they are never 'just a job' to us and pride ourselves on offering up-to-date communication throughout the project. We know building projects can be stressful for customers, so always make sure any worries and fears are allayed.

"Looking to the future, we plan on expanding production due to increased demand, whilst maintaining our client-driven service, with market-leading timber frame builds, delivered on time."

To view a gallery of previous projects and to find out more, contact the team from Seviour Timber Frames below:
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www.seviourtimmerframes.co.uk



Sustainable earth building: BETTABLOK®

We are delighted to introduce BETTABLOK® with our Commitment to Excellence.

Building with earth is a practice that goes back thousands of years, using clay, cob, mud-brick and rammed earth. The 13th century Great Mosque of Djenne mud-brick structure is stunning and classified as a World Heritage Site. The earth's thermal mass insulates the building from blinding heat during the daytime, providing absorbed heat to warm the mosque on colder nights.

Simple but ingenious engineering.

Over the decades though, particularly in western countries, the built environment has opted for concrete over more natural materials. But the tide is turning. With a global focus on the devastating impact of climate change, the construction sector is now legally bound to minimise carbon emissions.



Introducing Bettablok: breathable, low carbon

Bettablok is made of a mix of natural materials: aggregate, fibre, lime, chalk and clay and is a sustainable alternative to cement and concrete. It is the brainchild of Director, Malcolm Carrington, who spent much of his working life in the forestry industry and 30 years repairing and restoring historic buildings.

"It was back in 2012, when I officially retired that I started working on the Bettablok idea. I had already been involved with the East Anglia Regional Telluric Houses Association (Eartha) since the 1990's, recently becoming chairman, so had a long fascination with earth buildings. The Bettablok brings a modern twist to the age-old concept of building with earth," explained Malcolm.

Benefits of Bettablok

The patented Bettablok has already been used for extensions for private customers. As Malcolm contends, the most laborious part is



removing tonnes of original concrete foundation, as placing the Bettablok is reasonably quick. It is cast and vibrated without heat onto timber cradles, then specialist pallets. During construction, a hydraulic crane is used to place the Bettablok in the walls.

"As a sustainable company, we are mindful of the impact on the local area, and we excavate clay for the next batch of Bettablok from the site. In a future build, steel piling will be used to eliminate cement and concrete."

The benefits of Bettablok are extensive and include the following:

- ▲ 100% naturally and locally resourced
- ▲ Minimum carbon footprint- compared to concrete (responsible for 15% of global carbon emissions)
- ▲ Zero waste: Bettablok can be crushed & re-formed, or re-used
- ▲ Earth has naturally high thermal mass, thereby keeping buildings cool in summer and warm in winter- no air con needed!
- ▲ Moisture control: Bettablok absorbs and releases moisture-perfect for humidity regulation
- ▲ Innate fire resistance: Bettablok is non-combustible
- ▲ Breathability: Bettablok naturally absorbs interior toxins and odours
- ▲ Low sound transmission levels
- ▲ Aesthetics: Can be finished with a breathable



- paint and plaster
 - ▲ Fast construction: machine-led, with no scaffolding required
 - ▲ One-man operation (reduces labour costs)
 - ▲ Overall reduced lifecycle cost: low long-term maintenance and reduced energy costs
- "Cement-making is responsible for 8% of man-made carbon emissions. The US Government announced earlier this year a huge £6 billion investment to decarbonise the heavy industrial sector, with a large part of that aimed at finding low carbon cement alternatives.

"Bettablok is already on the market as an earth-based patented interlocking building block system and we are looking to partner with larger-scale building projects."

See Bettablok at: Futurebuild 2025
4-6 March 2025, ExCeL London

To get in touch with Bettablok, see the contact details below:

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Protek and GTC launch innovative solutions for timber protection and durability

Protek and Gloucester Timber Company (GTC) recently introduced Protek ESP to combat water damage in the timber industry. Their new product, 'ESP Panel,' seals plywood edges to prevent delamination, a common cause of structural and safety issues. Tested by BM TRADA, it protects plywood in extreme wet conditions, with one litre covering 200 metres of 18mm plywood edges – enough for 21 full sheets.



Protek is an independent, family-owned woodcare manufacturing business located in Somerset, UK. Since its establishment in 1983, this innovative company has aimed to produce high-quality, water-based wood stains, paints, decorative timber coatings, and preservatives. Renowned for its expertise and reliability, Protek offers a comprehensive range of products that provide excellent coverage, durable finishes, and environmental friendliness.

"The company was set up by my mother and father, Eric & Janet Thornborough. Protek



has always been pioneering in its environmental awareness, only making water-based products when creosote was still universally used. With a mission to change the manufacture of all fencing and shed products to our new water-based wood stains and treatments, our Protek 9 Star Fence Grade, diluted with 9 parts water soon became the industry standard. The decisions we make today to limit the impact we have on the environment is the same philosophy that Protek was created on, and one we continue to improve upon," said Harriet Farquhar B.Sc. Joint Managing Director & daughter of Eric and Janet.

Another standout product, 'Timber Eco Shield,' uses nanotechnology for a waterproof finish that protects timber while inhibiting mold growth. It's ideal for softwood, hardwood, pressure-treated timbers, sheds, fencing, garden furniture, and more.

We asked Harriet about the advantages Protek products offer to their clients. She explained, "as manufacturers,



we can swiftly adjust colours to align with current trends and fashions. Additionally, Protek collaborates closely with its industrial customers to create bespoke products, tailoring each to meet specific requirements and needs."

Protek offers superior products with excellent coverage and long-lasting finishes. As a family-run business, it prioritises environmental friendliness in its manufacturing processes, earning the trust of loyal clients. Its sustainable range of products supports eco-friendly building practices and significantly reduces long-term costs.



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www.esp-timbertreatments.com

Site Geomatics Ltd



Laser Scanning and Validation of the Built Environment

Our 3D laser surveys offer a fast and effective way of recording large amounts of on-site measurement

Topographical Surveys

Site Geomatics we have extensive experience of carrying out geomatic surveys, across a range of sectors and for all sizes of project. Harnessing the latest survey technology means we can deliver data quickly, in detail and in different formats.

Building Surveying

Whether it's floor plans, sections, structural details, or elevations, we survey each element of the property, either independently or as part of a fully connected coordinated brief. Where appropriate, building surveys can also be carried out in conjunction with topographical or underground surveys.

Site Engineering

Our experienced engineers will work alongside your on-site team to manage subcontractors involved in piling, earthwork, groundwork, foundations, river restoration, flood alleviation projects and superstructure workflows ensuring construction proceeds on time and on budget.

for the purpose of validation of the BIM models to the as built. Minimize unforeseen future costs by incorporating 3D technology into engineering and construction projects.

Aerial Photogrammetry

Photogrammetry surveying or Photogrammetry is the study of making accurate measurements with pictures or digital photo images to locate features on or above the earth's surface. By utilizing the latest RTK GPS equipment and DJI Drones we can produce 3D Models which provide detailed information of the above ground topographical features aiding the capturing of existing ground features and models. The application of this information is used to provide precise material management plans, as-built surveys, monitoring of ground movement to name but a few.

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White Horse Contractors: Constructed with integrity

Founded in 1957 in the Vale of the White Horse, Oxfordshire, White Horse Contractors has significant heritage in soil and water engineering solutions for over 6 decades. The company have continually excelled in their heartland of agricultural land drainage and irrigation whilst applying their specialist knowledge to the sport, leisure, amenity, and environmental markets. Following the acquisition of the company and its incorporation to The Slatter Group in March 2019, White Horse Contractors continues to grow and look forward to the future.

White Horse Contractors have many years of experience working with elite clients and sports teams on flagship projects across the UK. These include the Alexander Stadium used for the Commonwealth Games, Luton Town FC, Watford FC, Queens Park Rangers FC, Guards Polo Club, Eton College, Whitgift school and many more, all of whom received full support of our



in-house, dedicated, highly professional team. Working within the confines of the sporting calendar to manage deadlines and budgets is integral to the success for their clients.

What makes the perfect partner from conception to completion of a project? A company who works closely alongside our clients from elite professional clubs, amateur clubs, local authorities, independent schools, and private clients to create a single bespoke solution. Trusted to deliver their vision and aspirations embodying the company motto: Constructed with Integrity.

www.whitehorsecontractors.co.uk
www.theslattergroup.com

DCON Safety Consultants: Ensuring continuous improvement in health & safety standards for the built environment



Award-winning DCON Safety Consultants are renowned leaders in built environmental, health & safety and wellbeing consultancy matters, consulting on various aspects of project design, constructability and operational lifecycle matters for local and global multisector clients. With a proven expertise in informed and intelligent advice, senior project resource allocation and compliance assurance, the team of experienced construction professionals prioritise and safeguard the best interests and statutory conformity of each client.

"We advise and offer guidance on design, planning, procurement, construction and operational outcomes. Outcomes are only attained from buy-ins from our clients. This relationship and rapport extend to our delivery partners – i.e. main contractors – who also have to be highly commended. Our service pool is extensive, and it is important to acknowledge everybody involved. Their contribution and hard work allow us to continue with our principal service offering and to extend and expand upon



In this issue of Building & Construction Review, we are delighted to showcase DCON Safety Consultants as our Health & Safety Consultancy of the Month

it." explains Founder and Managing Director, Diarmuid Condon.

DCON Safety Consultants are dedicated to continually improving health, safety and wellbeing management in collaboration with clients.

2024 has so far been an excellent year for the company as it was once more recognised by the B&C Review team, a feat which Diarmuid admits would not have been possible without the invaluable input of an extensive network of partners. He explains: "We are a small, and gifted boutique company that again is humbled by this recent award. Our simple reality is that we again would not put ourselves forward for this award without our clients, their design teams and project managers, our consultant partners that we work

closely with on a day-to-day basis prioritising health, safety and wellbeing in the construction sector.

DCON Safety Consultants serve a wide and varied selection of customers including Public Sector Departments, Corporate Owners, Real Estate Developers, Main Contractors, Design Professionals and Infrastructural Bodies. No project is considered too simple or complex for our team of specialist consultants and construction professionals, with an average of 20+ years' experience working in the built environment."

The leading primary services provided by DCON Safety Consultants include:

- ▲ Project Supervisor for the Design Process (CDM Advisor Plus)
- ▲ Pre-Planning Compliance
- ▲ Safe Design Adherence
- ▲ Health & Safety Strategy Creation
- ▲ Client Advisory Roles
- ▲ Physical Site Safety Auditing
- ▲ Expert Witness

These integrated services drive the design of proven health, safety and wellbeing strategies that help clients achieve high-quality, cost-effective work for the safe design, construction and operation of their assets.

Diarmuid Condon's expertise in designing and executing strategic safety plans and systems for construction clients across Ireland and the UK is built upon a core knowledge of safety design, which reverberates throughout the company, from top to bottom.

"We are construction-qualified specialists, and are there when it is difficult, not just when it is easy," Diarmuid stresses.

"We are delighted to receive this Health & Safety Consultancy of the Month accolade, but we would be



nowhere without our clients, their design teams & project managers, and our consultant partners that we work closely with on a day-to-day basis prioritising health, safety and wellbeing. It's imperative that we acknowledge all project parties as it's ultimately a collaborative effort."

A huge congratulations to DCON Safety Consultants for receiving our recommendation: this industry-leading consultancy has demonstrated leading health & safety best practices across the fast-moving built environment sector.

For more information, see the website and links below:
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www.dconsafety.com



Business is heating up

Renewable energy heat pumps take natural thermal energy from the air, ground, or water and turn it into heat that can be used for hot water and heating systems.

They are an alternative to the traditional heating methods, such as gas, that are currently used to heat business properties up and down the country, but which are being phased out as part of the 2050 Government net zero targets.

There are three main types of heat pumps available to businesses:

▲ Air source heat

pumps – These work by transferring heat from the air into a fluid. This fluid passes through a heat exchanger to warm up hot water cylinders for taps and showers, as well radiators and other heating systems.

▲ **Ground source heat pumps** – These circulate a mixture of water and antifreeze through a loop of piping buried outside your business premises. The heat from the ground



is then absorbed into the fluid before being passed through a heat exchanger into the heat pump.

▲ **Water source heat pumps** – If your business

is based near a large area of water, a water source heat pump can be used to extract energy from it.

What are the benefits of switching to heat pumps?

- ▲ They will reduce your carbon footprint
- ▲ They will lower your energy bills
- ▲ They cost a lot less to maintain than gas boilers and have a longer life span
- ▲ They can be used as a cooling system in warmer weather

If you combine a heat pump with other renewable energy technologies, such

as solar panels, you can make your business premises almost completely self-sufficient through self-generated energy.

If you would like to find out more about options available for your business, please get in touch with Go Geothermal today on 01388 720228, email: sales@gogeothermal.co.uk or visit: www.gogeothermal.co.uk



Expert plant and tree solutions for every landscape project or garden

Landscape gardening plays a pivotal role in commercial and hospitality sectors, giving a strong first impression to visitors, clients and patrons. Choosing the right trees and plants can create the right corporate vision for your company.

Quercus Nursery is located in Ferring, near Worthing on the South coast and offers an extensive range of high-quality plant solutions for landscape professionals, garden designers and private clients.



Established in 2011 by David Baldwin, the 3.5-acre nursery contains specimen trees and plants, such as herbaceous perennials, ornamental grasses, shrubs, palms and tree ferns.

Quercus Nursery prides itself on offering outstanding, bespoke customer service and door-to-door delivery.

"We fulfil commercial orders across the UK with our extensive product portfolio. We offer the A-Z of plant and tree solutions including wildflower plugs, green walls, interiors and provide bespoke contract plants grown to order. We import plants from all over Europe but also grow many shrubs, herbaceous & grasses on-site too. All our imported plants are certified with 'plant passports' by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) - they are rigorously checked for diseases at customs and later by our internal plant experts before dispatching. To receive 'plant



passport' accreditation, our nursery is inspected annually, which gives extra reassurance to all our customers.

We take great pride in secure plant packaging, using trolleys rather than crates, so your plants and trees arrive in perfect condition every time.

Quercus Nursery has a dedicated fleet of vehicles that delivers direct to your landscape project or garden and we serve the whole of the UK. We are happy to offer quotations for large commercial projects across the country and our dedicated team of plant experts can answer any questions on plant care from trade professionals. Our dedicated fleet of vehicles can deliver direct to your landscape project or garden."

Want to find out more? View the gallery on the website and contact us today: www.quercusnursery.co.uk/nursery



RYNO TerraSmart® Bespoke Planter Systems breathe life into your projects and transform outdoor living spaces



due to its backward leaning face, and suitable for layouts including straights, corners, and curves.

TerraSmart® Planter Systems feature panels that come in virtually any required size, they integrate seamlessly in any project, offer a range of finishes, from steel and metallic to classic colours and timber cladding, and a choice of components, from recessed and cantilever seating to hinged access doors, and recessed lighting strips that bring the planters to life at night.

RYNO is proud to announce 3 new systems that have been crafted to transform outdoor living.

The fully bespoke planter systems are the following:

- ▲ **TerraSmart® Contour Bespoke Planter System**, crafted for curves, waves, and radial designs.
- ▲ **TerraSmart® Ledge Bespoke Planter System**, designed for straight lines and angular corner details.
- ▲ **TerraSmart® Ascent Bespoke Planter System**, aptly named

Each planter system offers a choice of fixing method:

- ▲ **Baseboard Fix:** Seamless integrated planter support, minimising weight and providing a void for services underneath.
- ▲ **Concrete Fix:** A concrete parapet to secure the planter edge.

See our Planters at our Studio, visit our website: www.rynosystems.com for more information, or please call: +44 (0)203 967 3500.

Empowering Your Growth with Tailored Financial Solutions

The landscape of business finance is dynamic and constantly evolving, shaped by technological advancements, economic shifts, and changing business needs. In today's fast-paced environment, businesses require more than just traditional financing options—they need flexible, innovative solutions that cater to their unique circumstances.



Let us introduce to you, Principal Business Finance, a trusted partner to the construction industry since its inception, helping both startups and established industrial businesses secure the equipment and funding they need to grow and succeed. Its mission is to support UK SMEs by offering a diverse range of finance products, each tailored to meet the unique needs of your business.

From asset and equipment finance to vehicle finance, business loans, government-backed loan schemes, invoice finance, and more, Principal Business Finance provides comprehensive solutions for all types of businesses. Whether you are a sole trader, partnership, LLP, or limited company, Principal is here to help.

Principal Business Finance is committed to seeing UK businesses thrive. By empowering business owners with the financial support they need, they'll help you to unlock your full potential. With funding available from £10,000 to £5,000,000 and approvals in as little as 8 hours, Principal is your go-to partner for business growth.

Let Principal Business Finance fuel your business ambitions by getting in touch below:

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“Securing finance for us was seamless and incredibly helpful. Working with PBF was a pleasure, and their expertise expedited our growth in a way we couldn't have achieved on our own. Not to mention, we were able to secure unbeatable rates. Highly recommended.”

Jack Brundle

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“Architecture is basically a container of something. I hope they enjoy not so much the teacup, but the tea.” Architect Yoshio Taniguchi



For over 20 years, Gromtec Europe Ltd has been involved in the manufacture and supply of mini floor boxes for a wide range of projects from airports to zoos, as well as a growing number of domestic projects. The modern built environment demands safe and plentiful access to power points. While wall sockets are typically the preferred location for power sockets, floor boxes provide power and data points for larger open plan areas, such as offices and concourse spaces.

Gromtec specialises in the supply of mini floor boxes where the surface finish is as important as the boxes function. Like a chameleon, the floor box must often blend into the overall floor finish. Inserts such as wood, tile, or marble are



commonly fitted into the floor box lid. We have over the years seen an increase in the specification of mini floor boxes in large domestic projects. Clients are seeking discreet access to power in the centre of their living spaces for a wide range of applications.

These thoughtful inputs greatly enhances and elevates our living and working environments and makes them safer by eliminating unsightly and dangerous trailing cables.

If you require more information about our ‘mini’ floor box range or our IP66 Simonbox product, please see our website: www.gromtec.com or call our office: 02032 867949, we will be happy to help. Enjoy the tea!

Shou Sugi Ban® blackened wood

Inspired by the traditional Japanese preservation technique, Shou Sugi Ban® is handcrafted blackened wood for interior and exterior timber cladding.

When charred, the dark timber panels form a textured crackled finish. This is desired for some architectural projects, however, our expert team apply additional techniques to extend the range:

- ▲ Light brushing results in a smooth finish
- ▲ Heavy brushing defines the grain
- ▲ Colour applications create lighter tones and tints

Shou Sugi Ban® is a market-leading product manufactured in Buckinghamshire

Our charred timbers are specified by architects as they provide a timeless finish that:

- ▲ Blends new buildings into the surrounding landscape
- ▲ Meets requirements for historical renovations & barn conversions



- ▲ Differentiates original and new features in urban developments
- ▲ Offers a sustainable and insulating building material
- ▲ Delivers a highly desirable aesthetic to architectural projects

Shou Sugi Ban® premium timber cladding has featured in several RIBA award-winning properties and requires low maintenance to retain its visual appeal.

See the full range on our website: <https://exterior.supplies/charred-timber-cladding> or please contact Exterior Solutions Ltd for further information, quotes and samples or call 01494 711800.

Ensure your housing development is market-ready with Bright Ideas Consulting & Development

In the ever-evolving landscape of construction, Bright Ideas Consulting & Development offers the help and support needed to organisations requiring assistance in delivering their development programs and ambitions.



Bright Ideas can advise and guide you on the best way to tackle strategy, public sector and Home England

issues, scheme risk analysis and appraisal, design, cost, and procurement.

Founder, Martin Hawthorne has over 30 years' experience in the industry and comes highly sought after as one of the best and most highly-qualified housing development professionals in the UK.

When it comes to project development and management, Bright Ideas can help to tackle any issues you might face. Whether you're looking for a reputable second opinion on an important scheme or in need of some help getting a project off the ground,

Bright Ideas is always on the lookout for new sites to develop. In the world of New Home Development, Bright Ideas is keen to progress further and is looking for small, niche sites for sale. Alternatively, Bright Ideas also offers a service for larger joint venture arrangements, so if you are in need of a partner, some advice or looking to sell a site, get in touch with Bright Ideas below.

Contact
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Quality bespoke door & panel manufacturers

Earlier this year, Pandor proudly celebrated its 10th anniversary as a leading UK manufacturer of bespoke doors and panelling. Founded in 2014 by Mike Hill, the company has steadily grown, serving diverse sectors, including commercial buildings, offices, hospitals, and residential properties. Its state-of-the-art production facility in Sittingbourne, Kent, is equipped with advanced machinery to ensure top-quality manufacturing and finishing for every project.



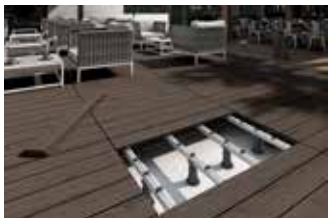
In the wake of the Grenfell Tower tragedy, Pandor has taken extra care to manufacture fire door sets that meet FD30, 60, 90, and 120 certifications, offering all clients peace of mind with full certification and traceability. The company also offer a variety of finishes, including laminated, painted, and veneered options, tailored to clients' specific needs.

With over 40 years of expertise in the fire door industry, Mike Hill has always emphasised a customer-first approach. Pandor is committed to listening closely to its clients and delivering on their needs promptly, which has earned them the trust and loyalty of many long-term customers. Specialising in made-to-order fire doors, decorative doors, frames, and related products, Pandor focuses on certified fire doors that are essential for passive fire protection systems.

Pandor takes great pride in its ability to tackle complex projects and meet tight deadlines, as seen in its recent work on an oversized mansion door and a crucial government project. As the company looks ahead, it is committed to continuing its investment in cutting-edge machinery and sustainable practices, such as using FSC-certified wood and water-based finishes, ensuring that it remains at the forefront of quality and innovation in the industry.

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For architects seeking a superior decking solution, EXADECK is the perfect choice. Discover more at: www.firedeck.uk and see how EXADECK can transform your outdoor projects.

Segregation of people and vehicles

Seven people die every year as a result of accidents involving vehicles or mobile plants. In 2022/23, 10% of fatal accidents on construction sites involved people being struck by a moving vehicle. Construction is one of the deadliest injuries in the UK with a fatal injury rate of 1.72 per 100,000 workers – around 4.2 times higher than the all-industry rate. How is this still an issue in our modern safety-conscious world?

Natalie Sherborne, Product Development Manager at NEBOSH, believes it could be down to a lack of awareness on the behalf of the employer as to what they need to put in place.

“There is legislation in place that ensures you have safe access and egress, which includes vehicles entering construction sites and making sure pedestrians have safe walkways,” she says.

The planning stage of a construction project is crucial. Says Natalie, “As part of the planning stage there should be a construction phase plan – that’s where the principal contractor, the principal designer, the client, and other people involved in the project should all be working together and understanding what’s going to be put in place.”



The HSE advises that segregating pedestrians from vehicles, preferably by making routes entirely separate, is the most effective way of protecting them. Pedestrian traffic routes should ideally correspond to the paths people would naturally follow when walking across a site (often known as 'desire lines').

Keeping people safe on site is the number one priority in construction. The issue of people and vehicle segregation shouldn't still be a matter of life and death, and planning and training are two key ways to make sure sites are safe.

To read this article in full, visit: www.nebosh.org.uk/our-news-and-events/our-news/segregation-of-people-and-vehicles

Safety signage for construction environments and more



Safety signs are crucial in construction environments because they can help to prevent accidents and injuries to workers and visitors, ensuring everyone on-site follows the correct safety regulations.

Construction & Safety Signs (CSS) has a solid reputation that spans over 30 years providing the very best safety signage for both building and industrial industries.

Their wide range of products supports the creation of a safe working environment, which is vital for both worker welfare and legal compliance. From personal protective equipment (PPE) to site signage and barriers, CSS offer tools that enhance safety, help meet legal compliance, and protect workers from

hazards.

Based in Ticehurst, East Sussex, CSS is well-known in the local community for its top-quality services and deep-rooted commitment in providing the community and its clients with the highest standards of services and products.

Using their in-house digital printing machinery, CSS has the capabilities to screen print large quantities in any amount whilst keeping costs within your budget. Their range includes Construction Site Signage, Health & Safety Signage for Sites, Offices, Schools and Hospitals, Branded Signs, Bespoke Signs, Health & Safety Posters, Site Logo Boards, Site Development Boards, Temporary Traffic Signs/Frames, Permanent Traffic Signs, Engraved Signs, Street Nameplates, and even large items such as Fund-Raising Charity Cheques!

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Wallbed Systems: No compromise on safety, comfort and ease of operation

Wallbed Systems Ltd (WBS) is a London-based global business providing an exclusive range of wall bed hardware designs to furniture manufacturers, hardware distributors, retailers, and hospitality contractors worldwide, for over 20 years.

Initially a major supplier to the USA market, Wallbed Systems Ltd (WBS) has been designing & manufacturing spring systems, allowing for safe & precise tension adjustments and easy lifting, with no compromise on comfort or convenience. Sales coverage includes over 22 countries.

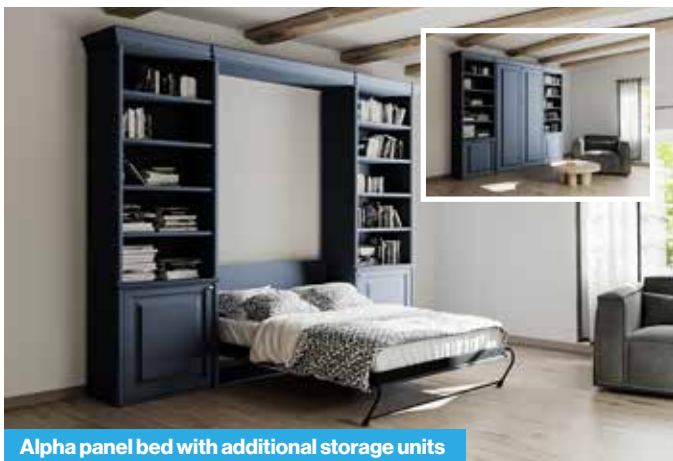
Let's focus on three of its most popular products globally.

The Alpha bed – a best seller design in 20 countries

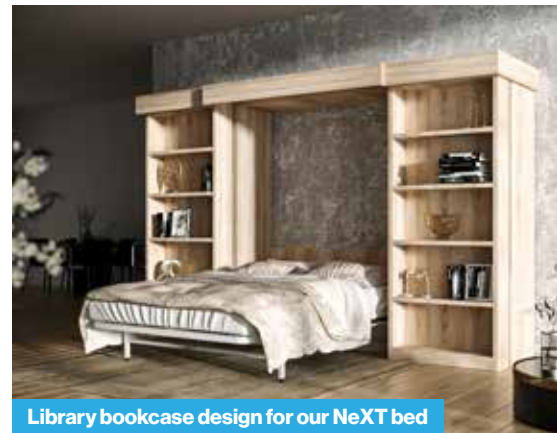
The Alpha bed system is available in standard and special sizes, vertical and horizontal mounting, with a choice of leg options and even a desk. The lightweight Alpha bed frames feature robust steel construction with reinforcing stiffeners, available in single, double, queen, and king sizes. This system includes the adjustable SBLM for perfect balance and easy, safe fingertip operation. Disappearing desk available too.

Hallmarks of WBS design

WBS wall beds are easy to install, fit mattresses up to 300mm, and ensure a great night's sleep. They include a counterbalance spring mechanism, frames, mountings, pivot system, springs, and fasteners. Powder-coated parts are ergonomic and durable, and the beds open and close with minimal effort.



Alpha panel bed with additional storage units



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Great British Lighting is a specialist lighting manufacturer with a reputation and portfolio established over the last 100 years. Our work is primarily in the manufacture of decorative light fittings for Public Buildings, Cathedral, Museums and Theatres and International Theme Parks: from one-off reproductions to large scale manufacture. All items are manufactured and assembled at their premises in Fleetwood, Lancashire.

With an archive of over 35,000 products, drawings and specifications, Great British Lighting can reproduce almost any luminaire from the last century and earlier, employing the latest CAD technology coupled with traditional craft skills. Great British Lighting also offers bespoke metalwork service producing high quality items such as balustrade, ecclesiastical fittings and door furniture.

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Recently completed the refurbishment of existing lighting at Rochdale Town Hall.



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Founded in 2018, Olympus Crew has rapidly established itself as a versatile and reliable partner in the event industry. Over the past six years, they have successfully managed a wide array of events, including festivals, corporate gatherings, live shows, and sporting events. With seasoned crew chiefs at the helm, Olympus Crew ensures smooth operations, effective client communication, and proficient management of large on-site teams. Its dedication to excellence makes them a standout choice for event execution.

Olympus Crew have the ability to travel all over the UK and even overseas when required. The team is made up of diverse skillsets including carpentry, audio visual,



physical and mental strength, as well as forklift and IPAF operators.

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Case study



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One of the UK leading installers of pre-insulated district heating systems, Vital Energi Utilities Ltd, use Doyma Curaflex C40 Gaskets to provide a water and air tight seal for all below ground building entries. The specialist installations can be subject to slight movement through expansion and contraction as the system heats and cools.

The Curaflex C40 Gasket is designed to accept the axial movement that may occur during the operation allowing Vital Energi to seal both the opening of the building

façade as well as the HDPE outer-casing.

Vital Energi's Managing Director, Ashley Walsh, noted, "This provides our installation with an excellent termination. It provides confidence both to ourselves and our clientele that we'll leave the fully installed works sealed from any moisture ingress while providing a product that has the flexibility and capability to work alongside our very complex pre-insulated products."

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Service Sealing Solutions Ltd are the sole UK distributor of DOYMA products. Wherever services are installed through walls, ceilings or floors, penetrating water may cause damage to buildings. Lack of attention to the points of entry of pipes and cables into the building can have serious results: damp cellars, equipment damaged by water ingress and high repair costs. Service sealing systems ensure professional and perfect pipe sealing, thus presenting excellent preventative measures against structural damage.




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Nationwide Louvre Company offers a full supply and installation service to its customers throughout the UK and have completed a number of projects in the Channel Isles and Europe. The business installs bespoke made to measure quality products on residential, commercial and construction projects.

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Hebridean housebuilder specifying SterlingOSB Zero on sustainability grounds

Situated seven degrees west of the Greenwich Meridian, and exposed to some of the harshest weather conditions anywhere in the British Isles, the Hebrides present a challenging location for building projects, prompting a recently-established building company to adopt offsite construction technologies which make full use of the technical and environmental benefits of West Fraser's SterlingOSB Zero.

70-22' Systems was established in 2022 by three business partners whose experience encapsulates architecture, education and manufacturing amongst other skills, and who decided to develop their own highly-insulated, modular timber building system. Growing organically by providing bespoke packages to clients of parent business, Fraser Architecture, 70-22' has already delivered properties on the Outer Hebrides; and has more than half a dozen schemes of different sizes in the pipeline for the coming year.

The trademarked system has been designed specifically to avoid the need for craneage, due to the inaccessibility of many sites, while the cellular component modules take the form of wall blocks, lintels and beams to span larger openings. The SterlingOSB Zero is CNC machined and assembled in the workshop before being filled with Warmcel recycled paper insulation.

Significantly, the 70-22' Systems design personnel were determined from the outset to utilise the West Fraser board because of its formaldehyde free formulation and the fact the material is manufactured in the North of

Scotland, using mainly locally sourced softwood from well managed forests.

70-22' Systems' co-founder and Commercial Director, Alex Durie, commented, "We use West Fraser's SterlingOSB Zero to construct our ecological building components, that are prefabricated in our workshop utilising CNC technology to achieve 0.1mm tolerances for each beam and block. It is the ideal material to use as the shell for our components, which are then filled with recycled insulation to achieve a building system that can achieve market leading thermal performance, with a U-value of 0.1 W/m²k, and excellent air-tightness, while maintaining a breathable floor, wall and roof construction. The added bonus of being formaldehyde-free, OSB enables us to build ecologically, utilising timber grown and processed in Scotland as we aim to limit the travel miles in each of our builds. The OSB produced by West Fraser has performed very well in our structural testing, with our system proving to be 1.6 times stronger than a traditional timber frame – and as our system arrives on-site as a component that is pre-fabricated, pre-insulated and designed for manual handling, it is much quicker to assemble."

Not only do all of the 70-22' Systems structures exceed the thermal requirements of Section 6 to the Building



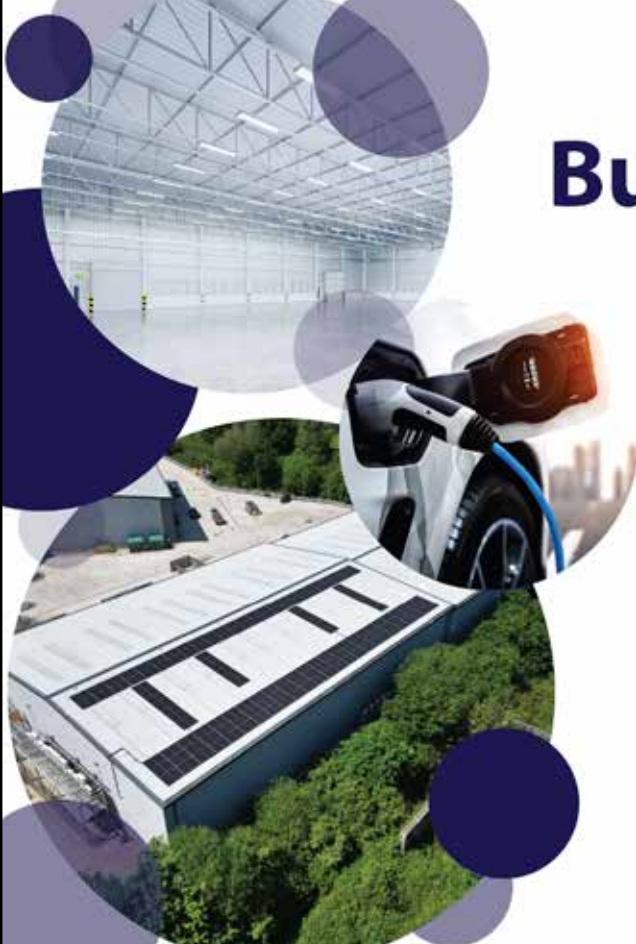
Standards, Scotland, but can also be delivered as a Passivhaus compliant solution where the client or planning consent demand it. In the medium to long term, the business is building a pattern book of standard house types and has plans to establish a pilot plant on the mainland. The company will also be showcasing its system at the Self-Build and Renovation exhibition in Aviemore this autumn.

SterlingOSB Zero is available in a range of sizes and thicknesses up to 22mm as well as a T&G version ideal for flooring and decking applications. The high performance panel product, free of added formaldehyde, has also earned BBA approval and meets the requirements of NHBC Technical.

As is always the case, West Fraser's experienced technical team is available to aid with product specification, while downloadable data sheets are available at: <https://uk.westfraser.com>

For further information, call 01786 812921 or visit: <https://uk.westfraser.com>










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Innovative Base Screens speeding up construction programmes across the country

Base Structures are announcing a new offering from its tensile fabric experts, Temporary Weatherproof Screening, promising to speed up building programmes and mitigate against weather delays on site.



provide a bespoke solution to ease the installation, movement and removal of the screens at various points in the building programme at specific fixing points. This means that there's no requirement for scaffolding, minimising any potential for damage to works that have

are well placed to help teams find solutions to keep building programmes on track despite the rainfall and weather challenges we've seen this springtime."

Base Screens are a new product that provide a unique and efficient solution for weatherproofing requirements on construction sites. Quick to install and demount, they are customisable to meet specific site conditions, which presents contractors with the chance to remove conventional cladding from a programme's critical path. This accelerates the construction schedule and allow teams to progress with fit out works, staying ahead of any delays that the changing climate may bring.



Base Screens are made of PVC fabric that can cover large areas. They're durable, easy to clean, fire retardant and a low-risk option, offering a less labour-intensive and safer solution than other more traditional weatherproofing options.

Base Structures have produced case studies of their work in this area, which can be found via the links below:

- ▲ [Project Resilience - Base Structures](#)
- ▲ [Engineered Temporary Weather Screens](#)
- ▲ [Dublin Terminal 2 Temporary Works Screens](#)

Andy Traynor, Director at Base Structures and Head of Installations and Health & Safety, said, "Our in-house expertise and engineering capabilities mean that we can design, manufacture and erect temporary weatherproof screens very quickly and to fit an existing structure, safeguarding construction works from external elements.

already been completed.

"We're delighted to have been able to offer this innovative solution to several happy clients across the country, and with an increase in this kind of work, Base Structures



They have also produced a blog post detailing some of the [benefits of adding weatherproof temporary screens](#) to your next building project.

For more information, case studies, images or quotes, please contact: mail@basestructures.com or visit: www.basestructures.com/contact-us

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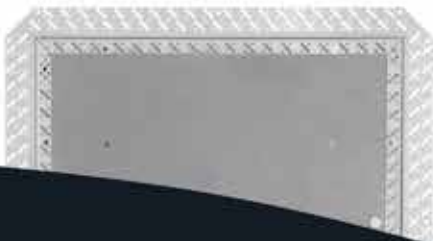
Beaded Frame changes



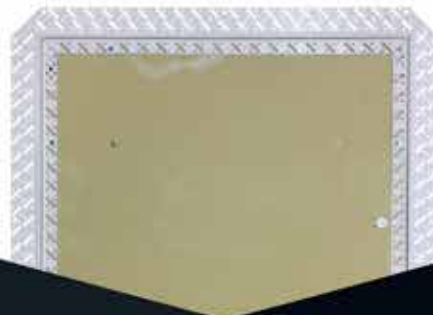
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