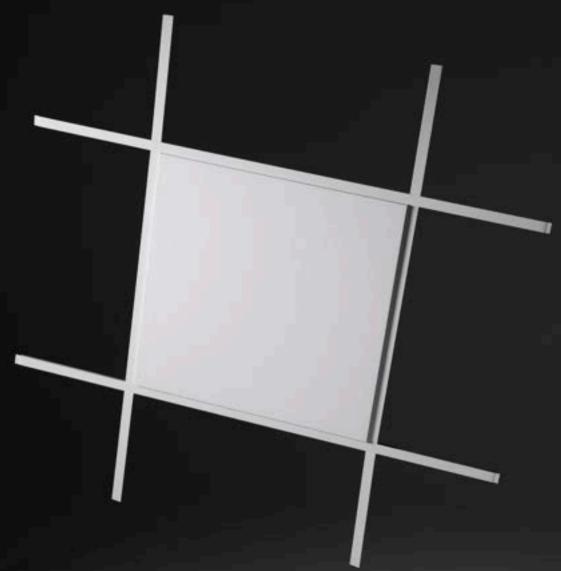




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FIS CONTRACTORS AWARDS 2025

The winners of this year's FIS Contractors Awards were announced by Olympic athlete and adventurer James Cracknell OBE at a lunch event on 5 June at the Royal Lancaster Hotel.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Entries are being sought for the 2026 FIS Contractors Awards. The award categories cover a wide range of disciplines and attract entries from some of the leading companies in the finishes and interiors sector. All FIS contractor members should consider entering as it is the quality of work which is judged, not the value or profile of the contract. Manufacturers may enter a contractor for a project where their product has been used.

WHY ENTER?

Winning an FIS award is an excellent way to raise your company's profile and gives you a competitive edge. An award provides visible and valuable recognition for your entire organisation.

If your company delivers first class interior solutions, then this is a perfect opportunity to be recognised for the quality of your work.

Winners and entrants receive substantial publicity across FIS publications and on the FIS website.

ENTRY FORMS

Deadline for entries is 31 October 2025 and the fee is £280 per entry.

Only FIS contractor members are eligible to enter.

For more details call 0121 707 0077 or visit **thefis.org**

CATEGORY INFORMATION

The FIS Contractors Awards ceremony pays tribute to design and craftsmanship. The architect or interior designer of a winning project also receives an award. This year's awards included the following categories:

Project of the Year

Interior fit out

Partitioning

Ceilings

Drylining

Plastering

Steel-framed systems

Acoustic excellence

Sustainability



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The FIS contractors awards celebrate high levels of craftsmanship and best practice in the finishes and interiors sector. The awards are a platform for contractor members to demonstrate the quality and excellence of their work to clients and the wider sector.

#FISawards



"Winning the 2024 FIS
Project of the Year was
a pinnacle moment
for Space Interior
Systems. I'm so proud
of my team and our
work, and it's great to
have that recognised."
NICK BOND
MANAGING DIRECTOR
SPACE INTERIOR SYSTEMS



"As judges, we have again seen a high volume of excellent entries for the awards. All of them, in their own inimitable way, exhibit high levels of quality workmanship, ingenuity and collaboration.

We don't just judge these projects on their overall finished appearance. Other factors – sustainability, design input, problem-solving, logistics, value-added initiatives and integration – are all factored into our assessment of the work involved.

As ever, the final judging evaluation comes down to minimal decimal point differentiation between those achieving or not achieving an award.

And as usual, FIS contractor members have excelled themselves in presenting to us a myriad of high-quality, stunning projects. To us, many of them are good enough to receive gold standard recognition; so all companies that have submitted projects should be proud of the work they have done. It remains a real credit to FIS and its members.

Ultimately, we judges have to make the difficult task of deciding who wins. So congratulations to the winners, and well done to the 'nearly winners'.

It has been a real pleasure for Colin and me to witness such outstanding and varied work again this year, so thank you to everyone for the courtesy and valuable time you have generously extended to us on our visits."

TONY PIERI AND COLIN HUNTER





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PROJECT OF THE YEAR

Ornate Interiors

Bradford Live



Mike Hayes was the guest judge for the 2025 FIS Contractors Awards, selecting the overall Project of the Year from the winning contracts across all categories.

This project not only represents an exceptional technical achievement but revitalised an historic building which had stood derelict for two decades.

Although the original scope of the works was to retain as much of the original structure as was practical, this proved not to be possible due to the long period of dereliction the structure had endured. The project then expanded in scope from preservation to remanufacture which the contractor was able to take in its stride. All mouldings were therefore re-manufactured from somewhat scant information to reproduce the original finishes whilst also accommodating modern heating and ventilation and lighting. No easy task.

The result of this is the creation of a stunning interior, true to the original. It has transformed a derelict eyesore into a vibrant venue for both music and entertainment which is not only a wonderful asset to the city but also a source of civic pride. It is truly uplifting to preserve and enhance this splendid example of our rich architectural heritage.

See page 23 for more details



Mike Hayes Retired Project Manager, latterly at PwC.

After being in the construction industry for over 20 years, Mike joined Coopers and Lybrand in 1989 as a Project Manager. He was a key player in the delivery of major projects, including Embankment Place, the first 'air rights' building, and 7 More London, a large office near Tower Bridge, and the first in the UK to receive the BREAAM award for best practice in sustainable design and environmental performance.

CATEGORY SPONSOR

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INTERIOR FIT OUT (UNDER £1M)

Clansman Interiors



CONTRACT Future Beauty Labs, Glasgow

ARCHITECT **G53**

Clansman worked on the refurbishment of this ground-floor space to create a vibrant office for cosmetics brand We Are Luxe.

To achieve the high acoustic rating, glazed screens of 14.8mm acoustic laminated glass were installed with full-height timber doors integrating acoustic seals. Two ceiling rafts were designed: first, hanging QIC mesh ceiling tiles in two colours were laid into a matching ceiling grid; second, timber rafts were built to balance the lighting and furniture layout, with all timbers spray finished to match. Finally, a bespoke kitchen was created, with a mixture of existing and new units to match the look and feel of the office. Solid surface worktops were also installed, giving a durable work surface.

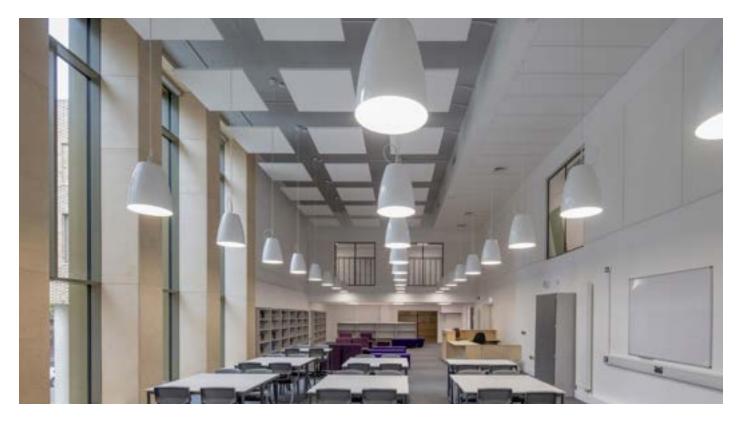
The judges said:
"Clansman provided various solutions, including custom ceiling rafts, partitions and a kitchen space, as well as modifying some of the project's components. The result was an aesthetically beautiful, ambient office setup."



CONTRACTORS AWARDS 2025 WINNER

INTERIOR FIT OUT (OVER £1M)

Titan Interior Solutions



CONTRACT

Mulberry Academy

London Dock

ARCHITECT **Architype**

Mulberry Academy London Dock is one of London's first Passivhaus schools, designed to offer exceptional air quality and low environmental footprint.

Titan delivered a comprehensive package, including drylining, suspended ceilings, acoustic panels and rafts, and specialist timber panelling, while collaborating with other companies within Horbury Group on the carpentry and flooring packages. The project presented unique challenges, particularly in integrating Passivhaus detailing within the drylining systems.

The judges said:
"Titan completed the intricate installation of this interior fit out. Each component was completed to an extremely high standard. It was enjoyable to observe the exceptional craftsmanship."

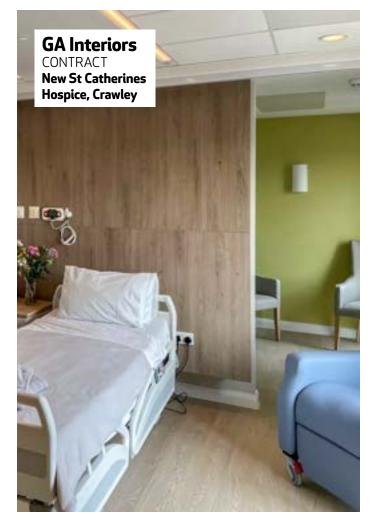


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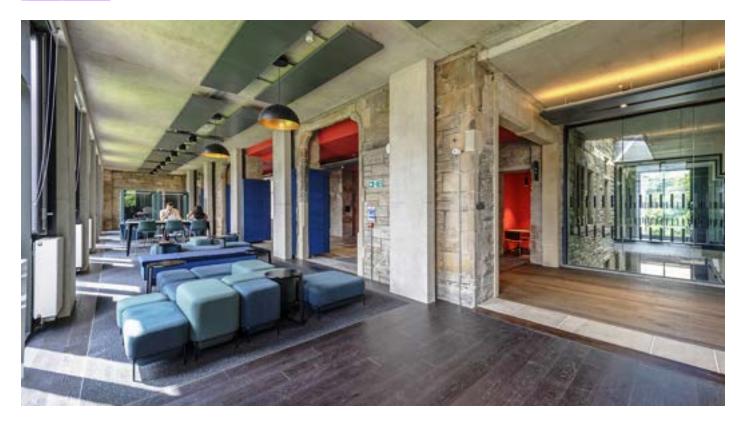




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Indeglas



CONTRACT
Edinburgh Futures
Institute

DESIGNER **Bennetts Associates**

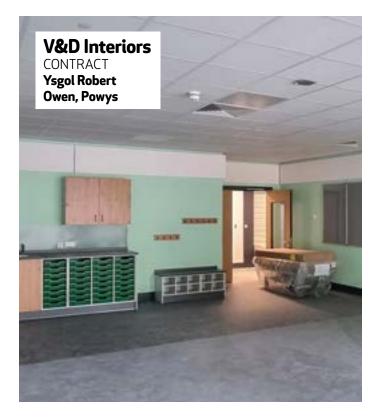
Updating any category A-listed Victorian building is challenging. But at the Edinburgh Futures Institute – the University of Edinburgh's refurbishment of the Royal Infirmary into a new arts, humanities and social sciences facility – Indeglas designed, supplied and installed a series of glazed screens.

The firm offered a mix of protective barriers, acoustic screens and fire-rated glazing, working alongside product suppliers to adapt to the architect's requirements. The team faced significant challenges delivering the glass into the building and then installing it into openings that often dated back to the original Victorian construction. But Indeglas has contributed to the transformation of one of Edinburgh's most loved historic buildings.

The judges said:
"The logistical challenges of moving the glazed panels onto site called for great skill, and installing glass panels on a Victorian structure required bespoke solutions. Indeglas produced an excellent final product."



PARTITIONING SHORTLISTED



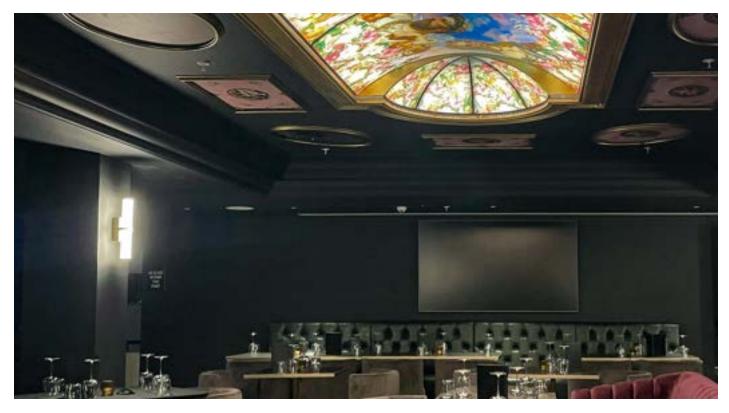






DRYLINING - COMMERCIAL

Measom Dryline



CONTRACT

Co-op Live Arena,

Manchester

ARCHITECT **Populous**

Measom's involvement in the project to create the UK's largest indoor arena included the full drylining package, partition walls, plastering, metal frame ceilings and lighting bulkheads.

Measom offered technical support and liaised with the architect to come up with design solutions prior to issues emerging on-site.

At the second level of the arena, spectacular lighting features were created from specialist vaulted ceilings and curved apertures, all of which required high levels of precision. In addition, the bars required heavy-duty walls to support the steel framework for bottle displays.

The judges said:
"The scope of work
was difficult, with
high standards
needed for crowd
loadings, security,
fire and acoustics,
and blast-resistant
exterior walls.
Measom's excellent
craftsmanship led
to the creation of a
stunning new arena."







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Yesero



CONTRACT
Square Gardens, Blocks A
& B, Manchester

ARCHITECT

Simpson Haugh

Based in the First Street district of Manchester, Square Gardens aims to 'bring people together to connect and share experiences' with its collection of co-living apartments and studios, shared gardens, media rooms, gym and lounges.

As part of the build – covering landscaping, community living, eating establishments and health and wellbeing facilities – Yesero oversaw the drylining and installation of MF ceilings and spray plastering in 1,200 flats, as well as the ground floor commercial spaces.

Limited floor space in the flats, each of which had been fitted with a bathroom pod, made work challenging, and delivery restrictions meant materials had to be delivered and unloaded three to four times a day.

The judges said:
"This contract proved very challenging logistically, with limited space and restricted deliveries. Yet despite the time pressure, Yesero produced drylining of exceptionally high quality."

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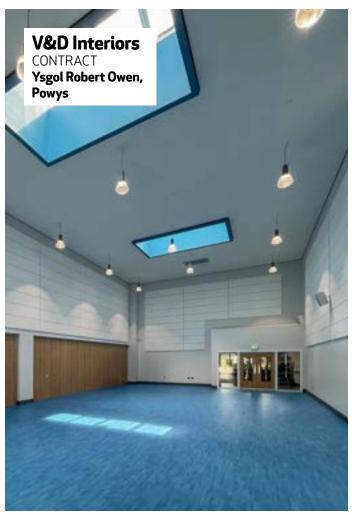
Discover the range



DRYLINING **SHORTLISTED**







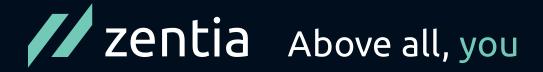






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CONTRACTORS AWARDS 2025 WINNER

CEILINGS Titan Interior Solutions



CONTRACT
One Nine Elms, London

ARCHITECT

Dexter Moren Associates

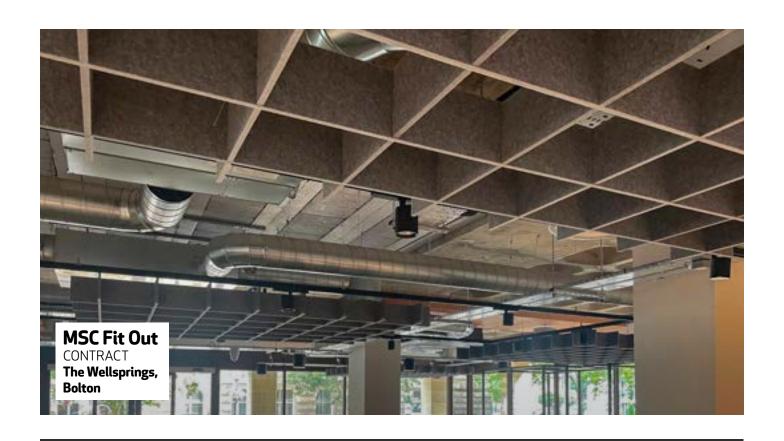
Titan Interior Solutions delivered high-quality drylining works across the hotel rooms and podium levels of One Nine Elms, also known as the Park Hyatt, a 42-storey luxury hotel featuring 173 rooms, a spa, a grand ballroom and clubhouse restaurant.

Valued at £8.2 million, the project involved the installation of partitions, metal frame ceilings, bespoke GRG mouldings and pattresses. Titan demonstrated innovation and adaptability to create a stunning and resilient structure.

The judges said:
"The soffits had to be
thoroughly soundproofed
before ceiling finishes
were installed, and
plasterboard ceilings
required custom GRG
mouldings and lighting
features. Overall, the
completed project has
produced a hotel of the
highest calibre."



CEILINGS SHORTLISTED



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CONTRACTORS AWARDS 2025 WINNER

PLASTERING - HERITAGE

Ornate Interiors



CONTRACT

Bradford Live,

West Yorkshire

ARCHITECT
Tim Ronalds Architects

Ornate helped reinstate the original ceilings and features in the former art deco Odeon cinema's ballroom, bars, balcony front, staircases and turret ceilings.

The original intention had been to retain and restore the ceilings and features where possible, but 20 years of dereliction and water ingress meant this was not possible; the fibrous plaster casts had perished and the jute hessian scrim and timber lath reinforcement had rotted. So all the mouldings were re-manufactured with new sections to match the original sizes, but updated to incorporate lighting and ventilation systems on metal framework suspension to support the new fibrous plaster casts.

The judges said:
"Built in the 1930s, the building was neglected for years, so it was necessary to work from sketches and photos to recreate the finishes.
The final product has given Bradford a location to be proud of.

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CONTRACTORS AWARDS 2025 WINNER

PLASTERING - INTERNAL

David Fisher & Sons (Edinburgh)



CONTRACT
Edinburgh Futures
Institute, Edinburgh

ARCHITECT

Bennetts Associates

The transformation of the 145-year-old Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh into a flagship education centre was expected to last 47 weeks but turned into a three-year contract, with 95% of the works being a variation to contract.

David Fisher installed some 15,000m² of lime plaster to wood wool boards and to curved riblath substrates. The firm sent staff to Italy to be trained in using Diathonite Insulating plaster and then applied more than 500m² to the stairs areas.

The team also applied more than 1,000m² of skim coat to barrel-vaulted ceilings and installed 625 linear metres of cornices, both plain moulded and enriched. At its peak, there were 12 tradesmen, four apprentices and three general operatives on site.

The judges said:
"The areas high above the upper levels called for ad hoc plastering around structural timbers, which proved extremely challenging because of limited access and operating circumstances. The resulting converted structure is aesthetically pleasing."

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CONTRACTORS AWARDS 2025 WINNER

PLASTERING - FIBROUS AND GRG

Ornate Interiors



CONTRACT

Beamish 1950s cinema,

County Durham

ARCHITECT

Space Architects

Ornate was first contacted by the Beamish Museum in February 2018 to advise on relocating the original plasterwork of a 1950s cinema in Ryhope, Sunderland, to the museum. But when the contract came to tender in 2023, all the plasterwork had been demolished and removed from site, with no site sections or dimensions retained.

Ornate faithfully recreated in fibrous plaster the balcony front, proscenium arch, lead window features and high-level frieze mouldings to the cinema wings, based on photographs and a digital survey by Space Architects.

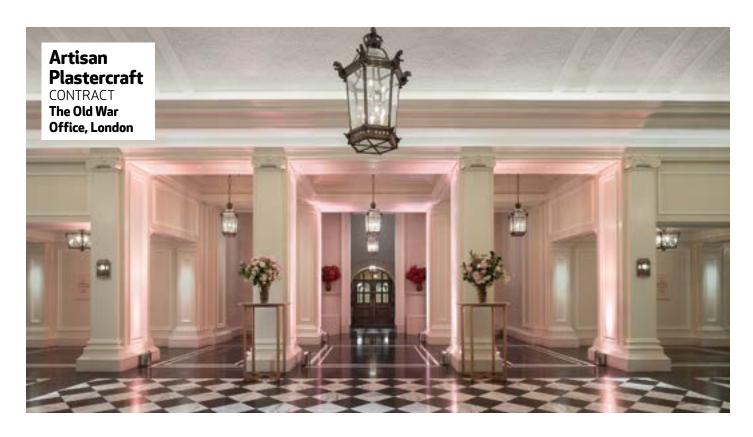
Drawings and sketch profiles were created, clay models and moulds of the ornamental features produced, then fibrous plaster sections cast in Ornate's Leeds workshop. Installation was completed in April 2024.

The judges said:
"The historic Ryhope cinema was meticulously dismantled and moved to the Beamish Museum – despite the original plastering having been thrown away. Ornate's final touches were superb and perfectly capture the 1950s."

CATEGORY SPONSOR



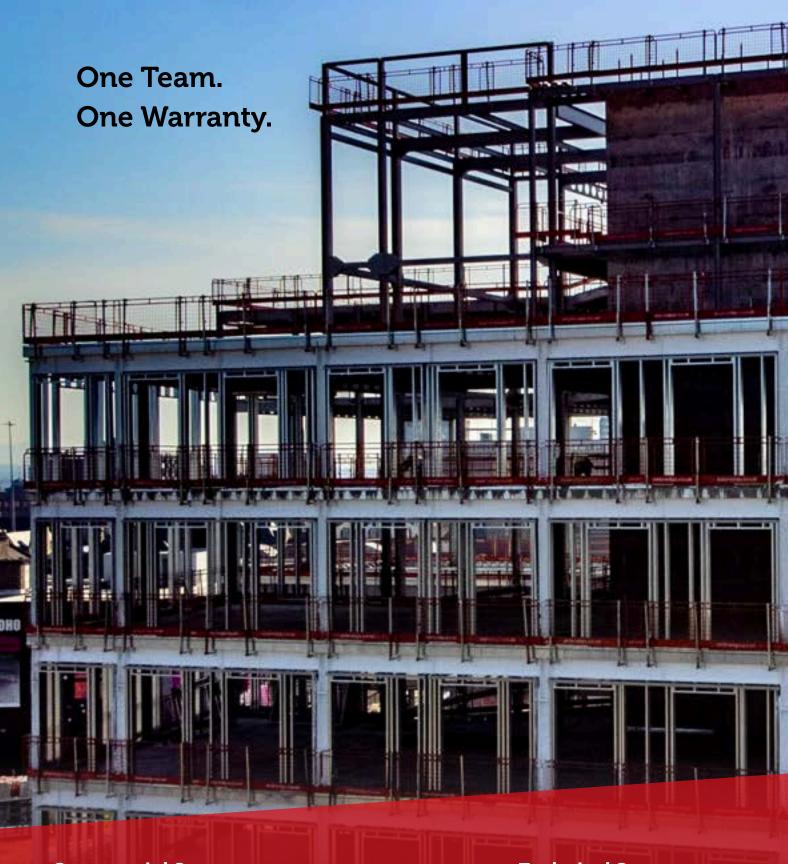
PLASTERING SHORTLISTED











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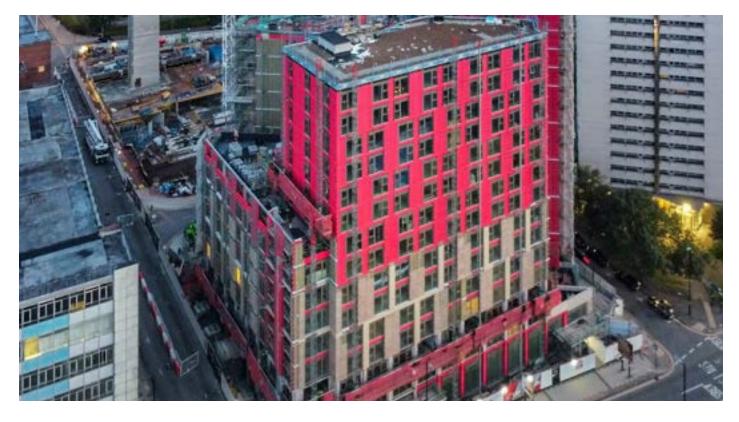
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STEEL FRAMED SYSTEMS

Drywall Contracts



CONTRACT
Holloway Head,
Birmingham

ARCHITECT

Corstorphine & Wright

Drywall Contracts helped to develop the Holloway Head private rental scheme on a site 10 minutes' walk from New Street Station that has been vacant for more than 25 years.

The design consists of four blocks ranging from 10 to 16 storeys on a steeply sloping site, with 485 flats, co-working spaces, lounges, a dining area, gym, courtyards and roof terraces. A new SFS specification using a Portuguese board had been developed for the project, but the board was not on the market at the time. And ground conditions around the building meant mast climbing work platforms would not be available, so the panels had to be built on the ground and lifted into position without the use of a crane. A panelised system using retaining angles enabled the entire project to be built and boarded without the use of external access equipment.

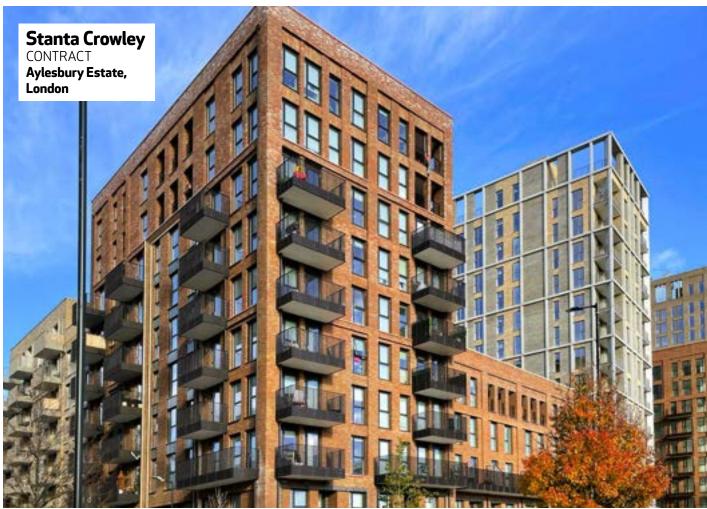
The judges said:
"Without the use
of external access
equipment, panels
created at ground
level had to be
hoisted to the site
location. These
issues were resolved
thanks to Drywall,
producing a superb
final product.."



STEEL FRAMED SYSTEMS

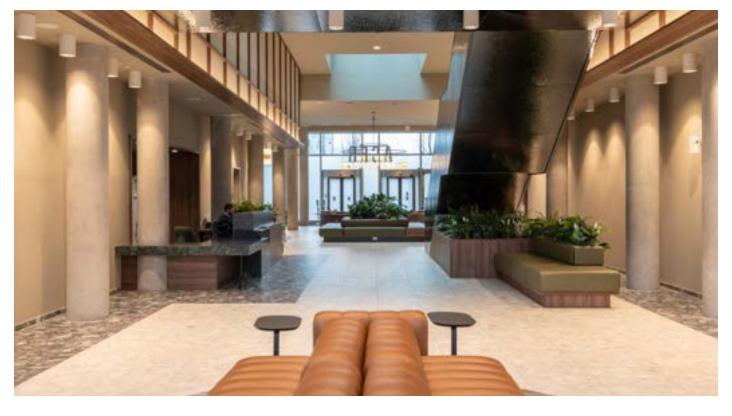
SHORTLISTED







ACOUSTIC EXCELLENCE Yesero



CONTRACT
Square Gardens, Blocks A
& B, Manchester

ARCHITECT

Simpson Haugh

Based in the First Street district of Manchester, Square Gardens aims to 'bring people together to connect and share experiences' with its collection of co-living apartments and studios, shared gardens, media rooms, gym and lounges.

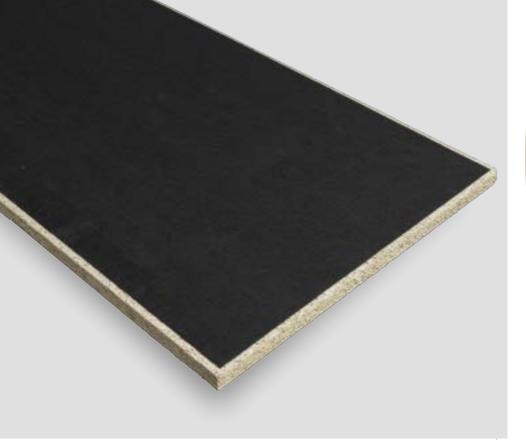
As part of the build – covering landscaping, community living, eating establishments and health and wellbeing facilities – Yesero advised on acoustic issues, warning of potential design flaws, a lack of product certification/testing and a hybrid of manufacturers. It proposed optional designs for acoustic performance and engaged an independent acoustician, which resulted in over and above the performance required.

The judges said:
"For this award, adding value must include enhancing the acoustic outcome. The evidence on this project was that qualified people have been involved, and that acoustics was a key consideration and not an afterthought."

CATEGORY SPONSOR

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Troldtekt Plus Fleece is most effective when used as a suspended ceiling with a suspension depth of 200 mm. Here, the solution can achieve Class A sound absorption, meaning it can absorb between 90 and 100 per cent of sound - with an aw {alpha value} = 0.90–1.00 depending on the panel thickness, whether 15, 25 or 35 mm.

Multiple colours, structures and designs are available

Troldtekt Plus Fleece is available as either unpainted or painted panels in standard and special colours. Users can also choose between fine, ultrafine and extreme fine structures and from a range of standard edge profiles.

Options for the surface can be drawn from the Classic range or Troldtekt line, Troldtekt line design, Troldtekt v-line or Troldtekt tiles T24 from the design solutions collection. Thicknesses are dependent on the style chosen and each of the four design solutions are available with different combinations of milled surface grooves for creating an elegant and visually appealing ceiling.

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SUSTAINABILITY **Ambit**



CONTRACT
The Waterman, London

Originally a collection of Victorian warehouses, the 6,500m² Waterman building merges four structures, integrating ground-floor retail with workspaces above. Ambit had to develop a design that respected the historic roots while upgrading for contemporary needs.

Around 700 items from the strip-out were reused, including 5,000 bricks and timber from the old lift shafts repurposed as flooring. In addition, unwanted items such as desks, chairs and carpet tiles were sent to local charities rather than landfill.

New double-glazed wooden windows were installed as part of a natural ventilation system, eliminating the use of energy-intensive mechanical systems, and glazing from the old windows was transformed into terrazzo countertops and vanity units.

The old top floor was removed, two new floors added, and a large, communal terrace constructed, with wildlife boxes integrated into the façade.

The judges said:
"Ambit was tasked
to redevelop the
structure, focusing
on carbon reduction,
resource efficiency
and circular design.
The team have
delivered a highperformance, lowcarbon building."



