

A powerful presence

Forterro, the European software provider, has continued its expansion into the window, door and façade industry, with the acquisition of BM Group.

The BM Group acquisition is Forterro's second in the fenestration sector. In November 2024 it announced the acquisition of Orgadata AG, a German company known for its Logikal software.

The deal is expected to close in the first quarter of 2025, pending regulatory approvals. After which both companies will operate in the newly-formed Forterro Windows and Doors business line.

Marcus Pannier, regional president, Forterro says: "Adding BM Group to Forterro Windows and Doors means we have an immediate and powerful presence in this market, and it is a perfect fit with our other acquisition in the sector;" BM Group's managing director Graeme Bailey will remain with the company as will chief technical officer Jim Cronie. Bernd Hillbrands, the



Graeme Bailey

founder of Orgadata, will head up Forterro Windows and Doors following completion of the Orgadata transaction.

Bailey says: "Forterro is the ideal partner for us, with shared values and culture and a focus on innovation and collaboration." □

Welcome, new BDM

Stedek, the Walsall-based window fabricator, has appointed Shivani Kattri as its new business development manager.

Kattri joins Stedek with seven and a half years' of experience at the Residence Collection, where she built strong relationships with its installer network.

"Shivani's deep understanding of the Residence installer landscape perfectly aligns with our growth strategy," says Alex Page, director at Stedek. "Her expertise will be instrumental in expanding our reach and forging stronger partnerships with installers across the country, particularly as we continue to invest in our production capabilities.

"Our recent £350,000 investment in a new Supercut Six machining centre, which will boost our frame production from 400 to 600 per week, positions the company for significant growth. This



Shivani Kattri, BD manager

expansion, coupled with Shivani's appointment, underscores our commitment to meeting increasing demand while maintaining our high standards.

"As we celebrate our 30th anniversary, Shivani's arrival marks a significant step in our journey. Her experience with Residence, combined with our recent investments and expanded product range, including our new composite door offerings, sets the stage for an exciting new chapter at Stedek." □

Excellence, 2025

Schüco has announced that entries are now open for the 2025 Schüco Excellence Awards, launching the 12th year of this celebration of design innovation, technical expertise, and collaboration in the built environment.

Held in partnership with *Architecture Today*, the awards honour outstanding projects that incorporate Schüco aluminium and steel systems.

This year, entries are invited across 11 categories which reflect the breadth and diversity of the projects Schüco systems have helped bring to life. These include education, health, cultural and leisure buildings; commercial and mixed use; residential developments; individual houses; sustainability, and refurbishment and adaptive reuse projects.

In addition the judges will select one project as the Overall Winner, while the popular People's Choice Award will be voted for by attendees at the awards event.

The winners will be announced at an



awards lunch on 26th June, hosted at The Pelligon, Canary Wharf, London. Attendees will enjoy a day of celebration and networking as the architectural and specialist contractor communities gather to honour this year's most exceptional projects. □

The deadline for entry is Friday 11th April. Full details are at: www.excellence-awards.awardsplatform.com