

A reimagining for Vision



Underlining its commitment to its customers, Ian Osborne, product manager for Reynaers Aluminium UK, talks to The Fabricator about the common challenges fabricators face and how Reynaers considered these issues in the design of Vision 7

Reynaers has designed its new Vision 7 with fabricators in mind – how did this work in practise?

During the initial design and development stage Reynaers was keen to find out what fabricators would want to see incorporated into a door – as well as listen to common problems and how they might like to see these addressed. Myself and our lead system designer Lieven Meersman, who is based in Belgium, visited a number of UK fabricators in their workshops to get a closer understanding of the way different fabricators worked – and what worked for them, and what they felt could work better.

What are the common problems?

The overwhelming issue that we found fabricators wanted to address was the time it takes to fabricate products. A number of challenges play into this, such as the complexity of the design and how the profiles are fitted together. For example, if the profiles are milled to be the same size on both sides you can go straight through with a saw, whereas if you are looking at different sizes it is more of a challenge. Another key point was the time saved if parts can be clicked in compared to the time needed to screw in components. All of the requests relating to how the product could be designed came down to the speed of fabrication.

Reynaers incorporated this into the design

We are aware that the anti-finger trap style is slightly more difficult to fabricate due to its rounded bulb style. However, this is central to the way it works as a safety mechanism. To accommodate the needs of fabricators as best as possible the design maximises uniformity. It has been designed so that an end milling blade can pass through the profile easily. By being milled to the same size, the machine can go through the profile in a square cut.

It was also from listening to the feedback of fabricators that we offered the door using either an Assa Abloy or Dormea closer. There were three or four that we could have added but the feedback focused strongly on these, which meant the components only needed to support these two closers.

Designing in the adjustment

Perhaps the biggest finding to come out of the consultation exercise was the feedback around the final installation of the door. As some of the fabricators also



Ian Osborne, production manager of Reynaers

work on the installation of the doors, they spoke of the work needed to adjust a door, which often means fixing the doors in place, checking the fit then removing the doors again to adjust the pivot.

From this we created bespoke components to enable an adjustable bottom pivot solution to be built into the design that allows it to be adjusted while fitted. This has turned out to be a real game changer and is a key USP of the Vision 7 door. The time savings from this are considerable.

At Reynaers we work with our partners to deliver long-term value, providing rigorous testing, accessible technical expertise and project pipeline support, alongside continual product development and updates.

Vision 7 now includes panic hardware, PAS 24 certification, additional locks and accessories, and STS 202 BR2 enhanced durability testing. Direct feedback from fabricators continues to influence further developments and testing for Vision 7 which will further enhance the range of profiles and compatible accessories available to suit a wide range of project needs. □

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