

The dynamic duo

Sash to be standard

Hardware specialist Winkhaus has introduced two new products – the autoLock AV3 Heritage Plus and Heritage Duo Pull – both designed to complement each other and suit a wide range of contemporary and period door styles.

Based on the AV3 range of multi-point locks, the AV3 Heritage Plus provides automatic locking once the door is pulled shut without the need for a key and comes with several new features.

Heritage Plus offers the daytime latch function that, when activated, makes it possible to open the door from the outside without a key.

The euro cylinder position is similarly placed to a traditional eye-level round cylinder pull, making it ideal for use in traditional or period door designs. Another new feature sees the latch located at the central gearbox position, which provides superior security and weather-resistance.

Another feature is compatibility with the FAB slave door lock. This forms a solution for double door entrance doors and permits, if needed, an upgrade to the automatic unlocking – blueMatic AV3-E Heritage Plus, which can provide



unlocking via all access control systems.

Paired with AV3 Heritage Plus is the new Heritage Duo Pull. This high-security PAS24-compatible escutcheon/pull has been improved to offer new features, while retaining its quality and distinctively-crafted appearance. The Heritage Duo Pull now features an integrated internal and external scalloped finger pull secured by hidden fixing screw heads. □

www.winkhaus.co.uk



Morley Glass and Glazing has won a £500,000 integral blinds contract with Belfast City Hospital and saved the hospital thousands of pounds.

Morley has supplied the hospital with its SL20 MB system, which are motorised blinds inside sealed units that were specially developed with two operating mechanisms – one for the patient to control inside their room, and a key operated override system for nurses to operate from remotely. The integral blinds have been installed at the new £20m two-storey acute mental health inpatient unit which has been purpose-built and sits on a 3-hectare site within the Belfast City Hospital estate. It combines mental health inpatient facilities previously spread across three Belfast sites. □

www.morleyglass.co.uk

Independent research of the PVC-U flush sash market reports nearly half of the fabricators interviewed see flush sashes becoming as important as standard casement windows in the next 10 years. A quarter of those who don't make flush sashes now said they expected to start in the next twelve months. The research was undertaken for Timberweld by MRA Research.

Timberweld is a patented method of welding corners to create an authentic timber-look butt-joint effect. Timberweld allows fabricators to create the timber-look on both sides of the window.

Timberweld commissioned MRA Research to conduct independent research into the flush sash and timber alternative market. All the fabricators



Alan Burgess

interviewed welded their flush sashes, with 85% of joints (by volume) being welded and 15% mechanically jointed. Ninety percent of those who welded, welded conventionally with 45° corner grooves.

“Most of the fabricators who were interviewed loved the look of the flush sash, in particular the timber-look butt joints,” says Alan Burgess, managing director of Timberweld. “They saw demand growing but a significant number thought mechanically jointing was ‘a pain to fabricate’ and wanted to weld to meet volume demand cost effectively.

“The research echoes what we’ve found in the market – fabricators are looking to create a timber look butt-joint cost-effectively at scale, in order to take advantage of the opportunities the flush sash market offers.” □

www.timberweld.co.uk

The modern look

Black Millwork has redesigned its aluminium clad casement windows into a slimmer profile to suit the aesthetics of modern homes.

Available in a range of colours, Black Millwork's updated aluminium clad casement windows are manufactured from quality knot-free, engineered Baltic pine and then completed with aluminium-clad exteriors. The updated range is now available with a narrower profile than ever before without losing any of the performance capabilities or strength of earlier models.

Black Millwork has reworked the product in-line with recent developments in the house building market, where there is an increasing demand for minimalistic designs. With the new profile the product will blend seamlessly with modern property aesthetics and can be used to create sleek architectural designs. The aluminium clad casement windows come with a Winlock multipoint locking mechanism and the company's renowned extensive warranty as standard.

By reworking its aluminium-clad windows, Black Millwork can now supply windows and doors in nearly all relevant building materials and styles.



Aluminium-clad windows have a range of advantages. They are both low-maintenance and durable. The aluminium cladding works to extend the product's lifespan and provides better resistance against the elements. It also allows greater design choice with a wide variety of RAL colours and anodised aluminium finishes available. The RAL colour system is a series of standardised colours that help guarantee uniform colour finishes across the construction sector. □

www.blackmillwork.co.uk



Swisspacer, has introduced online ordering of warm edge products for customers. The website offers a quick, convenient, 24/7 way to order warm edge spacers, Georgian bars and accessories.

The online ordering tool makes it simple to select the required product, followed by colour and width. Past orders can be added to the basket, making repeat ordering as easy as the click of a button.

Andy Everett, national sales manager at Swisspacer, says: "Our new online ordering tool is a fantastic development. We're making it easier than ever for sealed unit makers to get everything they require from their warm edge supplier. "Early feedback from customers has been positive with the system working smoothly and reliably. As soon as an order is placed, customers receive an email confirmation and their delivery timeframe – it's simple, quick and efficient." □

www.swisspacer.com

Quality and credibility

Astraseal reports a surge in demand for its aluminium flush casement window, Alitherm 800. Since launching the product earlier in the year, the Wellingborough-firm says it has seen the window become one of its fastest growing and most popular products.

"The response we've seen so far for our new aluminium flush casement has been absolutely incredible, it's such a strong validation of both the quality and the credibility of the system," says Colin Stanley, operations director at Astraseal. "In less than a year, the Alitherm 800 has become one of our best-selling products, a feat I can only attribute to its versatility – delivering a high-performance solution that suits everything from period applications to



contemporary new-build projects and is far more cost-effective than its PVC-U counterparts.

"It is suitable for both residential and commercial applications and offers impressive U Values and a window energy rating of 'A' – thanks in-part to Smart's thermal break technology. It is also available in any RAL colour and can be finished in a shade from Smart's Cotswold and sensations collections.

"The early success has really made adding the line and the necessary investments completely worthwhile," Stanley adds. "We are fully committed at Astraseal to providing our customers with the tools they need to really grow their business and meet any demand. We are delighted to see that our customers have really got behind Alitherm 800." □

www.astraseal.co.uk