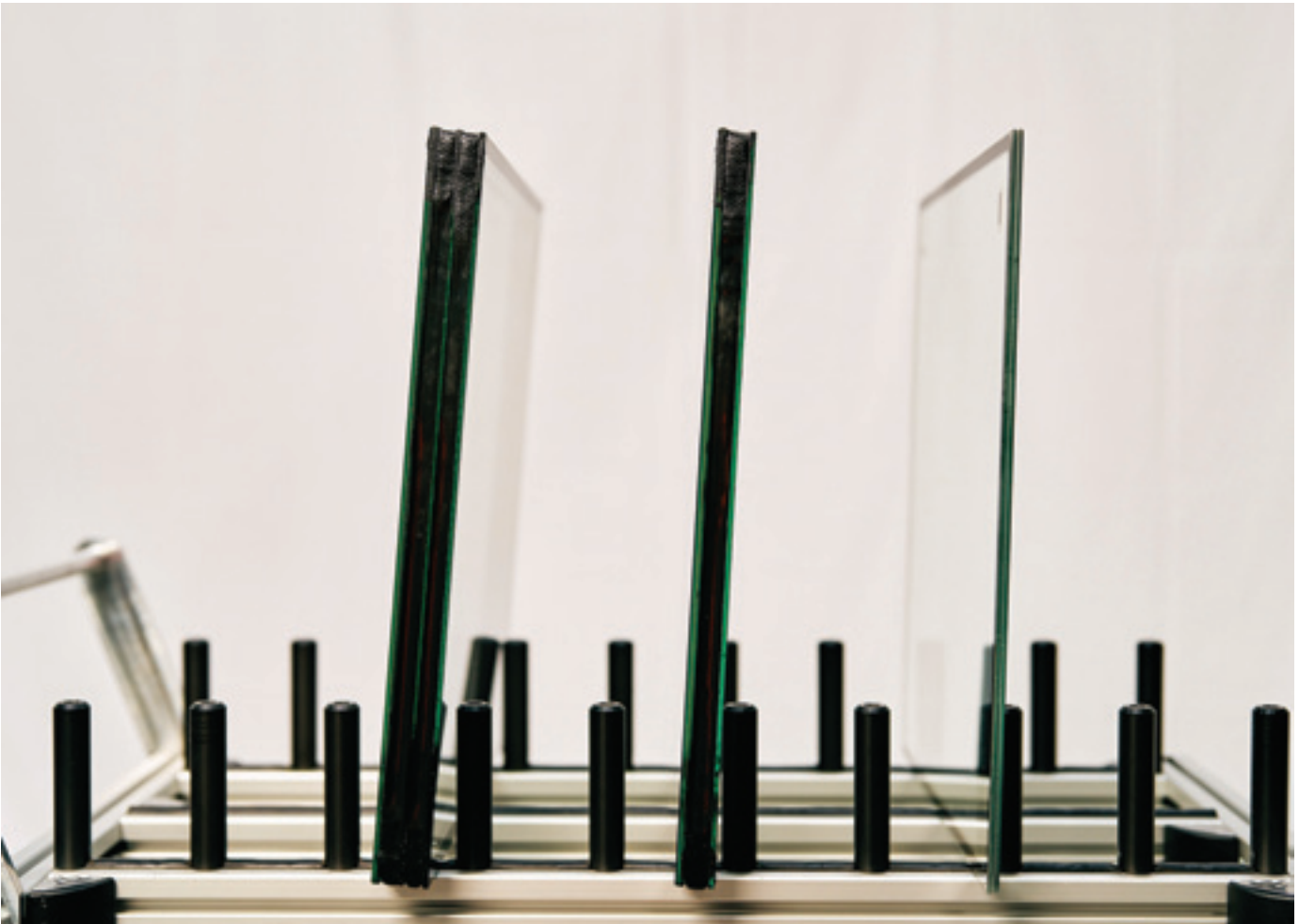


A step back from the carbon footprint

AN
ON-TREATED
GLASS
LONG-GLUED SYSTEM
with 100% energy
ΛΕΓΟΧΟ®

**Velux redefines energy efficiency
and reduces the carbon footprint
of roof windows with its new
vacuum insulating glass
technology**



At the DACH+HOLZ trade fair in Cologne, Velux unveiled its new vacuum insulating glass technology – a product designed to take the performance of roof windows to the next level.

Developed in partnership with Guardian Glass, the technology is specifically engineered for roof windows – a far more demanding application than facades due to higher loads and structural requirements. It provides high thermal and acoustic insulation with a reduced CO₂ footprint, contributing to more sustainable buildings and improved indoor comfort.

This new technology allows Velux to replace the space between glass panes with a vacuum that significantly reduces heat transfer. This enables excellent insulation performance within a much thinner and lighter construction compared to standard triple glazing. Instead of separating panes with argon or krypton gas, this solution uses a vacuum that effectively minimises heat loss.

As a result, the vacuum insulating glass achieves the performance of triple glazing in a slimmer, lighter design. A subtle, dotted pattern, created by tiny spacers between the panes, is characteristic of this technology but does not obstruct the view. Velux will introduce the technology in two variants: a single vacuum glazing solution and a hybrid version.

Single vacuum glazing

The single vacuum glazing variant is an ultra-thin double pane that delivers thermal performance comparable to triple glazing. By eliminating the third pane, this new solution is between 1.5 and 5 kg lighter per MK06 unit (depending on the full window construction),

making installation easier.

In addition, it offers approximately 30% lower CO₂ footprint compared to an insulating glass unit. A roof window equipped with this glazing achieves insulation value of $U_w = 1.0 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2\text{K})$. The difference becomes clear when comparing thickness: this new glass measures only 11.5 mm, versus 26.4 mm for standard double glazing and 38 mm for standard triple glazing with similar insulation performance.

It will debut in the UK and Ireland in 2026 in the Velux Heritage range.

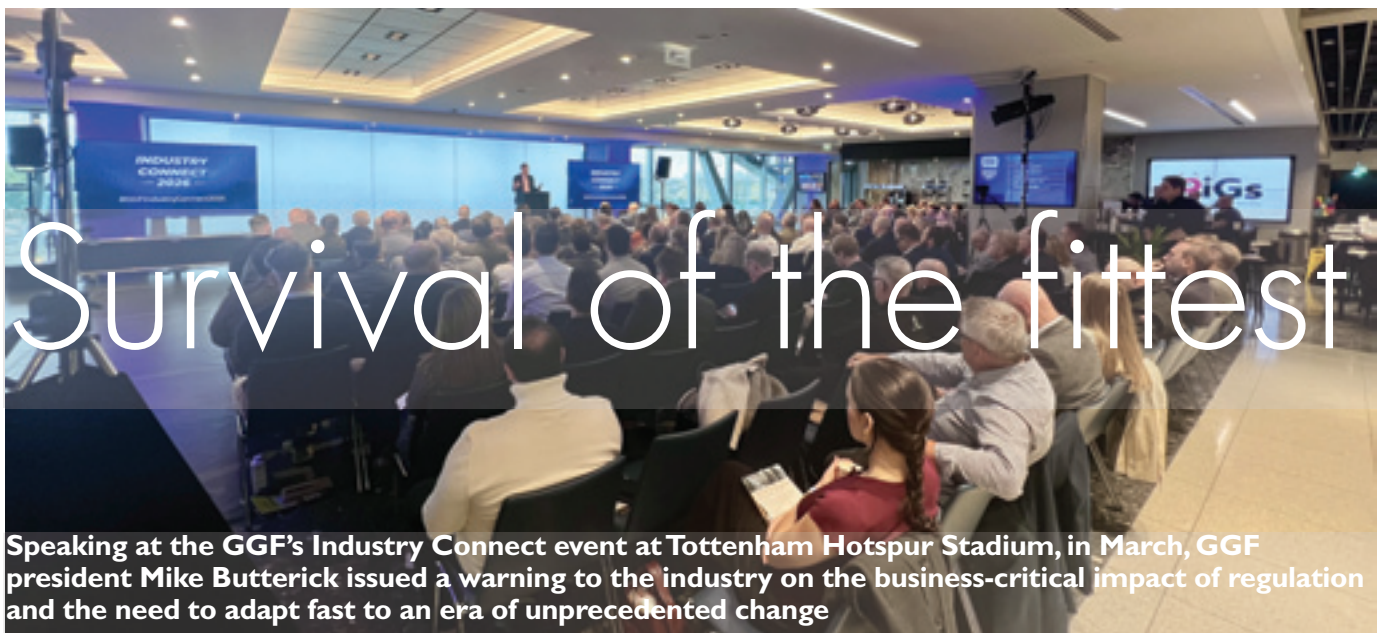
Vacuum hybrid technology

The hybrid version combines the vacuum double glazing with a third pane separated by a gas filling.

With a U_w value of $0.83 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2\text{K})$ and a sound insulation rating of 38 dB, the hybrid solution offers high energy efficiency and acoustic comfort, comparable with the company's most efficient glazing, IGU 67. Velux says that it can reduce carbon emissions by 5% compared with a full roof window and by 12% compared with the glass alone.

"We are very pleased to introduce this product innovation at DACH+HOLZ. It demonstrates our ongoing commitment to sustainable construction and living and confirms that our product innovations are future-proof, designed to meet even the most stringent upcoming requirements for window thermal insulation values," says Tina Mayn, executive vice president for products and innovation at the Velux Group. □

www.velux.co.uk



Speaking at the GGF's Industry Connect event at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, in March, GGF president Mike Butterick issued a warning to the industry on the business-critical impact of regulation and the need to adapt fast to an era of unprecedented change

Butterick said that the regulatory framework was now “more complicated and challenging than it has ever been before”, and that the sector must treat compliance and engagement with policymakers as core strategic priorities, not a back-office task.

He said that the Future Homes Standard was just the tip of the iceberg, with even bigger changes for the sector coming down the line with an expected revision of Document Q.

He said: “You need to be aware that there is a conversation ongoing that will potentially update and extend Document Q away from just new build housing in England and apply it to accessible replacement windows and doors.

“Now that’s big. It’s actually got the potential to have a bigger impact on what we do as an industry than the Future Homes Standard. Whatever the granular detail that lands in these regulations, our products are part of the solution.”

Speaking in front of an audience of 250 GGF and FENSA members, Butterick said that effective engagement with government was more important than ever.

“In the GGF Consultation Response Group, we have a collective strength and expertise that does not exist anywhere else in our industry. Government recognises our expertise and our leadership, and it means that we can get access to the conversations that are so important in terms of making that influence,” he explained.

He underlined that rising regulatory expectations come with serious consequences for those who fail to meet them. Citing a recent Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) report, he noted it revealed a ‘deep structural compliance issue’ in the sector.

“Compliance is not a tick box exercise any more,” he said, “it is far more important than that, because it is the difference between leadership and liability, it is the difference between quality and risk. The OPSS has the power to stop businesses if they are not compliant. That is disruption none of us need, particularly now.”

Butterick advocated for better point of sale conversations with the end consumer to support them in selecting products which made homes warmer, more comfortable, secure and to help prevent overheating.



Mike Butterick speaks at GGF's Industry Connect

He also highlighted the importance of sustainability and product circularity, including as an opportunity to attract new talent to the sector, by demonstrating real environmental impact.

“When you look at our industry through that lens, we are helping to deliver the net zero plan and the energy independence plan that the country has. We can be proud that we are part of that solution.

“As we replace the 80 million windows and doors in the housing stock that do not comply with current regulations, we have to focus on the quality and the performance of those products, and position the value and benefits like never before,” he said.

This built on a theme first raised by newly-appointed GGF director, Lauren Mawford, who framed the day around the theme of change and the need to drive up standards across the supply chain.

“When we work together effectively, we do not just respond to change, we shape it,” she said. “The future of this industry is not something that happens to us, it is something that we all build together.”

Mawford said that the new Industry Connect format itself had been deliberately reimagined to reflect this drive for higher standards and modernisation.

“We decided this year we were going to step outside of the traditional format and take a big leap. We wanted to modernise this event and reshape it into something more dynamic, more engaging and more of a celebration of our industry,” she said. □

www.ggf.org.uk

Trust that pays off

Double R Glass and Roofing Systems has renewed its service contract with Flat Glass Solutions (FGS) for its Yinrui glass cutting tables after three years of successful performance in production.

The IGU manufacturer originally selected the Yinrui tables, supplied by FGS, after recognising that they delivered comparable performance to established European brands – but at significantly better value.

“For the same investment we would have spent on one traditional brand, we were able to purchase two Yinrui cutting tables, both with edge deletion and automatic double-sided glass loaders,” says Neil Spicer, operations director at Double R. “There’s been no perceptible difference in performance or product quality.”

Initially cautious about investing in Chinese-manufactured equipment, Double R relied on the expertise of FGS managing director David (Oz) Cahill and his team to ensure the solution would meet the company’s production requirements. Double R produces around 1,000 sealed units per day.

“The cutting tables are the engine room of the factory,” says Spicer. “Making the wrong decision could have serious implications. But the trust we placed in FGS and its understanding of our cutting requirements has absolutely paid off.”

FGS worked closely with Double R to plan and install the tables within tight factory constraints, designing the



Neil Spicer, Double R ops. director, with David (Oz) Cahil, FGS (MD)

layout to within 100mm tolerances to ensure safe glass deliveries and uninterrupted production.

“The positioning and integration of equipment is a fundamental part of our service,” says David Cahill. “By carefully planning around Double R’s operational parameters, we ensured the tables were manufactured to their exact specification and installed without disrupting production.” □

www.flatglassolutions.com

BiGG enlightenment

Blinds in Glass Group (BiGG) is working with Regency Glass, the manufacturer of Regency Triple featuring Corning Enlighten Glass.

The offering strengthens BiGG’s overall market position as a leading specialist distributor and enables Regency Glass to extend its reach to a broader customer base that requires smaller-order quantities. The collaboration is specifically designed to provide a service to window manufacturers operating south of Birmingham, who require smaller, more flexible order quantities of Regency Triple. Regency Glass will continue to deliver to its larger retail installers, manufacturing and housebuilder customers across the UK.

“From the beginning BiGG has focused on delivering real quality,” commented managing director of BiGG, Ian Woolley. “Over the years we have developed a strong distribution network from our Coventry HQ, delivering our range of integral blinds, IGUs and residential front door ranges, to our longstanding and loyal customer base. Our reputation for reliability and quality positions us ideally for working with Regency Glass, which can grow its own sales through BiGG with confidence”.

By leveraging its established logistics infrastructure and industry expertise, BiGG will provide an additional efficient and reliable route to market for Regency Triple, Regency Glass’ ultra-thin glass triple-glazed unit. This ensures that more manufacturers and installers can access



Regency’s lightweight solution, which offers a lower carbon footprint compared to traditional soda-lime glass.

“Regency Triple featuring Corning Enlighten Glass is a premium solution, and we are proud to make it more accessible to fabricators who may not require large volume orders but still expect the highest standards,” says Wes Clarkson, head of sales, Regency Glass. “BiGG’s experience in the market means we understand exactly what smaller installers and manufacturers need – flexibility, reliability and products they can trust.” □

www.blindsinglassgroup.com