

Seamless all set



Haffner MD Matt Thomas, Dekko sales director Kurt Greatrex & Graf Synergy area manager Michael Fer

Dekko Window Systems has launched, what it claims is, the world's first fully seamless window.

Working in conjunction with Haffner, the new Infinity fully seamless window was launched at this year's FIT Show. Complete with transoms and mullions, as well as

cruciforms and reverse butt welding, it was achievable only with Haffner's new Graf Synergy machine, which also made its debut at the show.

Dekko sales director Kurt Greatrex says: "Following the success of our Infinity range of PVC-U windows, we have improved our offering to manufacture a window with a fully seamless weld. It is a world first from Dekko, and we would not have been able to make it happen without the Graf Synergy machine.

"Thanks to a multi-million pound exclusivity agreement with Haffner we are all set to install this specialised machinery to manufacture this market-leading product.

"Dekko has also teamed up with Kubu in order to offer the new seamless sash with smart security sensors. Once set up these provide security and lifestyle smart alerts through the dedicated Kubu app.

"Dekko was one of the launch partners for Kubu, and since 2019, it has been a standard feature on our PVC and composite entrance doors." □

www.dekkowindows.com



Yale has appointed Paul Balfe sales manager northwest to develop sales across the northwest of England.

In his new role, Balfe who has 36 years, experience in the door and window industry, will be responsible for developing relationships with the company's fabricator partners, as well as its strategic distribution partners.

Balfe says: "I am very excited to be joining the Yale business. The brand has such a strong heritage and reputation for quality. I can't wait to get out in the field to meet with customers and will ensure that we deliver the best possible service."

John Fletcher, national sales manager for Yale DWS, says: "We are delighted to have Paul join our team. The fact that he has worked in the hardware industry for 36 years means that he brings a wealth of knowledge and extensive experience to the role. He will be a valuable asset to the business." □

www.yaledws.co.uk



Paul Balfe

Can't take the heat

News from the Fire Door Inspection Scheme (FDIS) that three quarters of the fire doors inspected in the UK by its approved inspectors did not meet the required standard. This should be a warning for the building safety sector says Howard Trotter, business manager of Birmingham-based window and door manufacturer Shelforce.

“The last few years have brought a much-needed wake-up call on fire safety,” says Trotter, “not just for the fenestration industry, but for the construction industry and society more generally. The FDIS’s data, based on more than 100,000 fire door inspections carried out by its approved inspectors in 2021, many on buildings with vulnerable residents such as healthcare, local authorities and housing associations, shows that more must be done.”

FDIS revealed that the most common reason for failure was due to improper installation, including excessive gaps between the door and the frame, care and maintenance issues, and issues over smoke sealing.

Trotter says: “A greater understanding of fire doors and their components, including testing and certification, regulations and standards, inspection, and maintenance is needed.

“It is crucial that trained fire door installers are used, and reputable and trained fire door inspectors conduct fire door inspections.

“Raising awareness and encouraging building owners and users to check the operation and condition of their fire doors, and make sure they are regularly inspected and maintained, is vital.



Howard Trotter

“Fire doors are not ordinary doors; they are a carefully engineered fire safety device and are critical to the fire safety of a building and preventing a loss of life and more understanding is needed to make sure a fire door performs as intended.” □

www.shelforce.com

All under Lock

Central Window Systems has appointed Chris Lock as commercial estimator. It says the appointment is intended to help streamline processes and make customers’ lives easier.

He joins the company with a wealth of experience, having previously worked at Hydro Aluminium UK, as well as one of the industry’s leading specialist aluminium fabricators.

His appointment is part of Central’s plans to expand its aluminium division and better serve domestic installers.

“My previous experience has prepared me well for my role at Central, where I’m responsible for researching the cost of materials, establishing relationships with contractors, securing quotes from suppliers, and assessing the risk levels associated with projects,” says Lock.

“Central is a single source supplier of PVC-U and aluminium products and, as part of our growth strategy, we’ve spent the last few months expanding both our aluminium range and our range of high-end products.

“During this period of growth, it is vital that we have a constant eye on the changing prices of materials, and that we’re maintaining strong relationships with our suppliers, and I’m fully confident that with the right investments, the



Chris Lock

company will continue to be a strong player within the industry.” □

www.centralwindowsystems.co.uk