

# New showsite for Leka

Leka Systems has opened a show site at the award-winning National Self Build and Renovation Centre (NSBRC) in Swindon, Wiltshire. Rhys Hoddinott, managing director of Leka Systems, says: “The NSBRC is the UK’s only permanent visitor centre dedicated to supporting developers, self-builders and renovators through their real-life projects. We are delighted to have a presence there.”

The NSBRC provides an ideal setting for Leka Systems to show its innovative roofing solutions, which include three of its core systems, each designed to enhance the comfort, energy efficiency and aesthetics of conservatories, extensions and freestanding buildings.

The Leka solid conservatory roof system offers market-leading thermal efficiency and ensures year-round comfort for new build and retro-fit projects. The Leka Xi provides a warm, sustainable alternative to a traditional block/brick-built conservatory base and wall. And the Leka orangery roof is a lightweight, thermally efficient, structural orangery roof replacement system.

In addition to showing these products, Leka’s show site includes a complete training suite. This facility will be used to host Leka’s open days and training sessions, allowing fabricators, installers and distributors to gain insights into the benefits of Leka’s products. Hoddinott says: “Our open days give attendees the opportunity to



**Rhys Hodinott talks at the Leka showsite**

meet the team, explore the replacement roof market, find out more about Leka products and understand building control requirements. There is also information on marketing and lead generation and the additional value available by joining Network Leka.

“The Leka training days give attendees everything they need to install a Leka roof system with confidence. The hands-on days give step-by-step tuition and cover all Leka products.” □

[www.lekasystems.co.uk](http://www.lekasystems.co.uk)

## How many stars?

The personal finance website [www.nimblefins.co.uk](http://www.nimblefins.co.uk) has done some interesting analysis of the domestic burglary statistics contained in the most recent annual *Crime Survey for England and Wales*. The figures make a pretty compelling argument in favour of TS007 3-star security on all entrance doors, whether they are at the front or the back of the house.

76% of all burglaries occur through doors (59% front, 33% back) compared with just 20% through windows and 4% by distraction or false pretences. And, in a massive one in three of all burglaries, the criminal gets in by forcing the lock on a door.

The figures don’t reveal the type of lock being forced, but it’s safe to assume that the vast majority are zero star, standard six pin cylinders, which are highly vulnerable to snapping.

Despite the statistics, approved document Q of the building regs, which requires 3-Star TS007 compliance for door handles and cylinders, still only applies to new build and change of use properties. While there is a consultation taking place at the moment which may well see it extended to replacement installations, that is not currently the case.

Mila offers a choice of either a 1-star cylinder paired with a 2-star Kitemark accredited and audited security handle, or a three star cylinder on its own. Both options



are currently fully compliant with PAS24: 2022 and allow buyers complete flexibility on budget and aesthetics, with everything from ProSecure and Yale 1-star cylinders. SBD accredited, SupaSecure stainless steel handles are available, as well as Diamond Grade ProSecure and Yale 3-star cylinder options. □

[www.mila.co.uk](http://www.mila.co.uk)

# A thriving partnership

Software solution provider PST is celebrating six successful years of serving tiled conservatory roof supplier SupaLite. PST has been responsible for streamlining the company's manufacturing processes.

Since 2017, SupaLite has been utilising Virtual Shopfloor, PST's manufacturing-based software that allows fabricators to choose from a library of 3D model templates or create custom designs from scratch using a free form tool.

Alan Watters, SupaLite's technical director, says: "Our initial discussions with PST took place at the FIT Show, and since then our partnership has flourished. We now use Virtual Shopfloor primarily for fabricating our signature SupaLite roof systems, as well as our I Lite flat roof orangery system.

"Prior to our partnership with PST, our processes required us to flat-pack only about 75% of our roofs, which entailed physically assembling the roof on the shop floor to ensure all components matched up accurately. With the introduction of Virtual Shopfloor, we've been able to bypass this physical assembly step and significantly boost our productivity.

"Since 2017, our collaboration with PST has been an evolving one. Alongside Virtual Shopfloor, we've also implemented their CAST software, a cloud-based centralised management solution that allows for multi-user access and editing of centrally stored contracts. CAST has also facilitated the batching of multiple roofs together, optimising our processes even further.

"The tangible benefits of using PST's software solutions have been evident in the material savings and time efficiencies we've experienced, and we would certainly recommend a collaboration with this dynamic company to others."



Alan Watters

PST managing director Neil Travers says: "To have partnered with SupaLite, a leading name in the conservatory roof market, is an honour, and I'm so pleased to see Virtual Shopfloor and CAST helping to streamline its manufacturing processes.

"PST is committed to adapting and innovating in response to the dynamic shifts in market demand, and as we expand, we look forward to a continued and thriving partnership with SupaLite." □

[www.pstonline.co.uk](http://www.pstonline.co.uk)  
[www.supaliteroof.co.uk](http://www.supaliteroof.co.uk)

## These come in twos

WELSH fabricator Dudley's Aluminium will support the construction of two schools in England.

The fabricator will be working with ISG Construction on Two Bridges School in Bristol, a net zero carbon school for 112 pupils who have special educational needs and disabilities such as severe, profound and multiple learning difficulties and autism.

Dudley's will install Metal Technology System capped curtain walling, doors and windows, in addition to fire rated windows and automatic swing doors.

Metal Technology System products will also be installed on Dudley's second education sector project: Katherine Lady Berkeley's School in Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire.

Dudley's is working with Kier Construction on the project and will install Metal Technology System capped curtain walling, doors and windows on the build, as well



### Artist's interpretation

as automatic swing doors.

Colin Shorney, managing director at Dudley's Aluminium, says: "We are delighted to have secured a further two projects in the education sector. These projects will provide modern learning environments to enable pupils to learn, develop and achieve their potential." □

[www.dudleys.uk.com](http://www.dudleys.uk.com)

# Lock, secure, escape

Carl F Groupco has highlighted the benefits of its SmartSecure FUHR autotronic 834P hybrid automatic door lock for educational and commercial installations. It says that one of the product's key differentiators is its built-in panic function that provides an effective emergency escape.

John Crittenden, managing director of Carl F Groupco, says: "The 834P offers a practical hybrid solution for multiple occupancy buildings or dwellings that need the security and convenience of an automatic locking system with access control options. But what sets this product apart from others on the market is its emergency exit, or panic, function, which is a critical safety feature in such settings. It is a step change in intelligent hardware design that is proving popular with our commercial customers."

The emergency exit and panic door function of the 834P is compatible with the CISA FASTouch panic exit push bar, allowing unimpeded escape from the inside of a building at any time on either the active or inactive door leaf. The hardware set is BS EN 1125 and BS EN 179 accredited for panic and emergency exit doors, and is also UKCA approved.

The 834P lock is suitable for aluminium, composite, PVC-U and timber doors and is available for single and double doors. The lock is fitted into the eurogroove, which unlike face fit alternatives, make it particularly suitable for education and commercial settings where the risks of tampering may be higher.

On closing, two latching deadbolts simultaneously extend and lock in place, providing instant security compared to a standard mechanical door lock. Unlocking is motorised, allowing access control to be added or integration into existing building management systems. A



PAS 24 and Secured by Design option is available too.

The CISA Push Bar is also suitable for installations that need to comply with Scottish building regulations, because at just 75mm from the door, it is well under the requirement that hardware on panic exit doors should protrude no further than 150mm for category-1 doors and 100mm for category two doors.

Crittenden says: "We are committed to offering products with added value benefits to support our customers, and the SmartSecure FUHR autotronic 834P is the perfect example of this. It offers an intelligent, practical solution that meets the needs of educational and commercial settings." □

[www.carlfgroupco.co.uk](http://www.carlfgroupco.co.uk)



Sixteen keen golfers from across the window industry gathered in the beautiful Cheshire countryside recently to compete in Rapiestar's annual charity golf day and raise money for GM Fundraising. The 'pre-GMF Cup' event at the Astbury Golf Club was organised by Rapiestar's managing director David Furness and his colleagues as part of the company's continued support for the charity, which works to raise money for Hope House Children's Hospices.

Four teams of four took part involving some of the industry's most familiar faces in a competitive battle which saw some moments of brilliance, and others that may be best forgotten. The ultimate honours went to winning 'Team Nigel' formed of Dave Jones, former Veka MD, Nigel Hutchinson MD at Ingenious Locks and Hardware, Mark Westbrook MD at Frame Express and Dean Hodges, BM Aluminium's MD. □

To donate: [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/gm-](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/gm-)