



SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL SYSTEMS

Sustainability

“a combination of long in-service life, low maintenance, maximum recyclability and minimum negative impact on the environment.”

Justin Ratcliffe - CAB Chief Executive

Overview

SAS is committed to delivering sustainable systems for use with today's modern methods of construction. As a responsible business all aspects of material sourcing and handling through to product maintenance for a long in-service life are at the forefront of SAS technology.

SAS actively support the Council for Aluminium in Building in communicating to the construction industry the benefits of aluminium's sustainability and 100% recyclability.



SAS actively support the Timber Research and Development Association in communicating to the construction industry the benefits of timber's sustainability and 100% recyclability.





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Material Sourcing

Prime materials sourced by SAS for fenestration systems manufacture are aluminium and timber profiles.

Aluminium is a strong yet lightweight material which is resistant to corrosion in its natural state. To enhance its natural aesthetics aluminium can be powder coated or anodised in a wide range of colours. Aluminium is non-toxic, does not age, is impervious to UV light and virtually 100% recyclable, not once but many times over.

Over half of all extruded aluminium is supplied from UK extruders thereby keeping transport emissions at a minimum. Where possible profiles are extruded from recycled aluminium. Recycled aluminium saves 95% of the original energy used to produce aluminium and 70% of all the aluminium in use today has been recycled. It is estimated that the current reserves of Bauxite, from which aluminium is extracted, will last at least 300 years.

Engineered timber is ethically sourced. SAS work with suppliers that are PEFC accredited, which means that the timber is from sustainable sources and properly managed. SAS also use UK manufacturers to support the UK economy and to reduce the miles that profile has to travel to get to its use on site. SAS aim to provide engineered timber which is virtually 100% recyclable.



Systems Supplied

SAS supply a range of systems in various materials to suit project requirements. First and foremost SAS are a facade systems company offering commercial products in a range of materials with proven sustainable characteristics.



Aluminium profiles are normally insulated using a wide polyamide strip which offers good thermal ability whilst allowing dual colour



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profiles to be manufactured. Powder coated and insulated products are easily recycled with near 100% aluminium recovery.

Timber during its growth uses CO² which is a benefit to our natural resources. With the high performance finishes now available timber products have life spans well in excess of 30 years.

Specifiers can be assured that by specifying SAS profiles that they are using systems that have been produced with the minimum of resources, whilst offering low 'U' values which exceed current requirements of Building Regulation, Document L.

Logistics

In all processes within the production and logistics operations energy reduction is at the forefront of change. New lighting in the powder coating plant uses sodium lamps, replacing the older tungsten and fluorescent lighting. Not only does this give brighter light and longer life, it has enabled SAS to reduce the number of lights need for effective operation.

Recycled cardboard and wrapping film is used for packaging and protecting profiles during transportation. Re-usable stillages are rotated amongst the depots to carry and store profile safely prior to final delivery.



Powder coating is undertaken in-house at the Doncaster premises. This removes the transport miles added to the final product making it one of the least travelled systems in the UK.



Council for Aluminium
in Building
Member

All waste aluminium, timber and packaging waste from manufacture is collected and recycled through local companies.



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In order to reduce transport costs SAS operate from three distribution locations; Doncaster Head Office, Livingston in Scotland and Newport in South Wales.

Partnerships

Supplier partnerships allow SAS to make best use of resources, reducing waste and reducing costs.

Fabricator training is undertaken by SAS either at the Doncaster training Centre or at the fabricators premises. Training includes waste reduction programmes and product efficiency and insulation requirements in use ensuring current building regulations are met and exceeded where possible.

Longevity

Long service life is crucial to ensuring a sustainable product. All products supplied by SAS are designed to offer the maximum life expectancy whilst requiring the minimum of in-life maintenance.



Deconstruction & Recycling

Details of deconstruction and recycling procedures for all products are supplied by SAS to the industry to ensure that near 100% recycling is possible and is undertaken in a safe and sustainable method. All materials, glass, aluminium, timber, plastics and steel are recycled.





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All waste materials from production, design and storage areas are sent for recycling within the SAS operations.

Future Developments

SAS remain committed to further developing sustainable production and developing world class products which exceed customer expectations in order to maintain its position as a leader in the supply of fenestration systems in the UK.

Further Reading

'aluminium & sustainability'
CAB publication - August 2008