

# Architects Choice

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## ECOBUILD 2010

We take a look back at the shows success and its triumphant exhibitors

## AN EDUCATION IN CULTURE

The long list for the Art Fund Prize 2010 is revealed

## STANDING OUT FROM THE CROWD

Question Time give graduates a helping hand

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AIR CONDITIONING  
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**OPENING THE DOOR TO INNOVATION**

For more information, turn to pages 27 & 28

## Unique safety glass cladding solution



A unique safety glass cladding solution, suitable for both new build and refurbishment is the intriguing new Chromatics product from The Glass Wall Company. Chromatics is not a toughened glass. The exceptional performance standards achieved by this unique product are made possible by the extraordinarily resilient qualities it acquires by bonding together, at a molecular level, float glass, colour layer and metal, transforming them into a laminate. This results in a number of benefits for specifiers, contractors and building users.

Importantly for schools, colleges and universities, it is shatterproof and safe, with independent testing proving indisputably that, while withstanding considerable force, Chromatics breaks safely under repeated extreme impact. The panel does not shatter but retains its integrity, remaining intact and functional until the damaged panel is replaced.

Aesthetically, any stunning colour or image is also possible. Solid colour panels can be consistently matched, time and time again, to any RAL Classic or RAL Design colour. Being encapsulated under the safety glass surface, colours are UV stable and do not fade. By combining Chromatics with leading edge digital printing techniques, an infinite range of ex-

isting graphics is possible too, including the printed replication of any traditional finishes such as natural stone, wood, terracotta, porcelain, marble, ceramic, brick and metal surfaces.

Whereas conventional toughened ceramic-coated glass has to be made to size, Chromatics is a stockable product that can be cut and edge-worked, even after processing – and assembled to suit any glazing system. Potentially, this can save weeks, or even months, when closing the building envelope and can certainly save on costs.

Chromatics is a UK manufactured product and the production process is a low-energy green technology using float glass and organic colour pigments. The product is entirely free from toxic elements, solvent-based compounds and heavy metals such as lead and cadmium – even when supplying traditionally 'difficult' colours such as reds, violets and purples. The Glass Wall Company is one of the most technically advanced and innovative safety glass cladding suppliers in the UK and is responsible for introducing new concepts that are impacting significantly on the architectural glass market.

**For further information telephone 0844 800 9260, email [web@theglasswall-company.com](mailto:web@theglasswall-company.com) or visit [www.theglasswall-company.com](http://www.theglasswall-company.com)**



## Silent swing drive from Blasi UK

Blasi UK, part of the Record Group, has introduced their latest under floor swing drive the Circo C90 SU. This discreet product can cope with a load of up to 600kg and door leafs of up to three metres high. The Circo C90 SU is totally silent and offers fully powered automatic movements without hydraulics or spring components. Openings can be from 90° to 250° and is also available in a push and go and also low energy version. Safety is a key priority in any building design these days and the Circo C90 SU conforms to BS7036 and can be connected to a buildings smoke/fire alarm system and also

building management systems. It operates from a conventional power supply (240v) or 110v if required. The opening time and speed of operation are continuously adjusted thanks to a computerised system. Electronic control is via a four function operating switch (80x80mm). The Circo C90 SU Swing Door Operator fits underneath the floor within a very high quality stainless steel frame and is then hermetically sealed with a stainless steel cover plate.

**For further information, telephone 01698 376411, e-mail [info@blasi.co.uk](mailto:info@blasi.co.uk) or visit [www.blasi.co.uk](http://www.blasi.co.uk).**



## Touch of Glass from GEZE

GEZE UK's award-winning glass sliding door system launches in the UK this month, combining minimalism with maximum transparency. The sophisticated new Vetroslide, part of GEZE UK's quality sliding door hardware range, has already scooped the renowned reddot design award in Germany, offering the highest level of transparency for internal doors on the market. Uniting style and elegance, the stainless steel running rail is paired with sliding glass leaves of up to 80kg that glide almost silently with a floor guide, making the Vetroslide ideal for offices, retail and residential

environments. Minimising the fixtures and fittings required for the rail and compatible with toughened or laminated safety glass, the sliding door system retains a high level of security and functionality while meeting aesthetic requirements. Designed to be modular, the easy-to-operate Vetroslide features a rail made up of a point-fixed glass blade and leaves with filigree point-fixed rollers that take on the function of the roller carriage and include an anti-lifting device.

**For further information, telephone 01543 443 000 or visit [www.geze.co.uk](http://www.geze.co.uk)**

