



### Light transmission combined with sun protection

Okalux+ insulating glass has been specified for the Alexander Graham Bell Centre (the new Moray Life Science Centre) at Moray College University of the Highlands and Islands. The glass allows a soft and glare-free daylighting into the informal working areas of the new centre. As part of larger re-designing measures, some outdated accommodation was demolished to make way for the new building as well as realigning the public frontage with a new entrance.

The three-storey building acts as a mediator between the existing urban fabric and the campus, whilst a new two-storey glazed gallery links the centre to an existing 'B' listed Victorian Art Block. With this extension of the campus of the university in Elgin, in north east Scotland, jmachitects has successfully combined the old with the new. It defines a clear edge to the public street space and gives the college a new identity.

Important parameters in the architects' design were the improved accessibility of all college areas and the flexible possibilities of utilisation within the centre. The new building, a co-operative project by the university, the Highlands and Islands Enterprise and NHS Grampian, offers generous space for research and lecture rooms, especially in

the areas of biological science and health-care. They are complemented by a publicly accessible conference area and units that can be leased by external companies.

There are areas on the wide access corridors which provide working and learning zones and to ensure that these are supplied with sufficient and glare-free daylight, translucent capillary slabs have been inserted in the cavities of the insulating glass. These diffuse the light deeply into the interior, creating an optimal lighting atmosphere. At the same time, the glass itself offers a continuously high degree of light transmission and thermal sun protection.

The company says that, thanks to the translucent capillary panel with additional light-diffusing inlays in the inter-pane cavity and the slender construction (starting from 26 mm total thickness), Okalux+ achieves cost efficiency with respect to handling, construction and sub-construction. Thermal insulation values are achieved up to  $U_g = 0.9 \text{ W/(m}^2\text{K)/}0.16 \text{ Btu/(h ft}^2 \text{ }^\circ\text{F)}$ .

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### Getting to grips

Turnstyle Designs uses classic materials to create contemporary door hardware, found worldwide on prestigious projects such as hotels, restaurants and yachts as well as private homes. New additions include The Bridge door lever (above), with its flowing and subtle form having an elegant sweep and set on a newly developed square and almost flush rose. Cast in solid brass it is available in all of Turnstyle's metal finishes, including the polished nickel shown here and the new vintage finishes.

Also new, the Wire range of door hardware is available in door levers, door pulls and cabinet hardware and in multiple different finishes and is described as a contemporary grip design with industrial undertones, to fit in with the continuing industrial chic trend in interiors. It is cast in the company's signature Amalfine material (a resin-like material) and available in the Recess Amalfine range of door levers and pulls. The handles are ergonomic and are said to work well in most contemporary interior design, both commercial and residential.

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