

## Connect

September 2016

### Covering the UK!

It's been an exciting year so far and it is certainly flying by. We've been busy designing, manufacturing and installing canopies across the UK, from the new entrance canopy at our own premises to re-glazing six platforms at East Croydon Station. And a lot more besides...

### Multiple canopies installed at Green Lane Community Special School



Over the last two years we have installed canopies on three separate occasions at Green Lane Community Special School in Warrington. The initial project involved fitting a 35m long 2m wide walkway on this school, and a similar 32m walkway at the adjacent school on the site, both designed to provide under cover access between car drop-off and the school buildings. We were approached by main contractor ISG Construction Ltd from Salford to design, manufacture and install these.

Once the school was up and running Head Teacher Paul King got in touch with us requiring a canopy over their second entrance and for three covered

areas to be installed adjacent to neighbouring classrooms. Once these were fitted the school staff were so delighted with them that they wanted more!

Our sales specialist Nick Featherstone worked very closely with Paul King and his team to make the most of the available space, resulting in two of the three original classroom canopies being extended and the installation of a fourth. Taking Nick's advice they also ordered a vertical screen to run along the open side of one of the earlier canopies in order to provide weather protection from what staff had previously found to be a bit of a wind tunnel.

Paul King explains: "We cater for children from 3 to 18 years old. They're not like children in a main-stream school, they're vulnerable and they all have special needs. We wanted them to have covered access to the outside throughout the year and these canopies have enabled us to achieve this. Our children have to be taught how to play and having such large, safe protected outside areas gives us the space to do this. All the areas had to be closed off from pupils for installing the footings for the post supports and again for the actual build – but Twifix were very accurate in the timings they gave us and they were finished within their promised time-frame."

### CE marking

We have been audited by BSI to the BS\_EN-1090-1 standard for factory control and welding/fabrication processes which allows us to now CE mark all of our fabricated aluminium structures in accordance with current construction product regulations.

### Our Design Team become Installers for a day

We recently tasked our design team to not only create a new smoking shelter for use on our site, but also to install it. This novel assignment had a serious objective: to see if the designers found the information they usually supply to our installation teams was easy to follow and sufficiently clear to enable quick and trouble-free installation. It took our four designers one and a half days to complete the install. Along the way they found that several of their 'standard' instructions were not clear enough to make for speedy and trouble-free fitting.

We now have a smart new smoking shelter and a team of designers who will approach their fixing instructions with more of an expert eye in future. Win, win all round!

### New literature

You can find our new Multi-Link and Canopies brochures and an updated Glazing Bar catalogue now available to download from our website. Should you prefer a printed copy, please get in touch.



### BIM

We are proud to announce that we are the first canopy manufacturer to have BIM objects. They are currently hosted on the NBS National BIM Library website as well as being available for download on the Twifix website.



## East Croydon Station canopies

We joined a dedicated team of professionals, from Network Rail Asset Managers to contractors and specialist architects who embarked on the task of ensuring the correct roof glazing was specified and installed on the platform canopies for an exciting and much needed £20M redevelopment of East Croydon Station. After careful consideration our modular Multi-Link non fragile panel glazed with 6mm opal solid polycarbonate was chosen. Just over 3,000 square metres of these rooflight panels were required to re-glaze the six station platforms, supplied in some 1,800 panels delivered to site ready for quick installation.

Graham Richards, Senior Asset Manager Network Rail, comments: "The Twinfix canopy glazing system was key to the overall design; safety, aesthetics, install speed are just some of the items we considered and we are extremely pleased with the results, they have surpassed our expectations."

This whole project has produced a real transformation at East Croydon Station, achieving what it set out to do, to create a world class railway station for commuters on the busy South East route.



## Our new entrance canopy

As a result of an internal competition for our design team, we now have a very smart new cantilevered canopy fitted over our building entrance.



The brief was to create a structure to replace the original 16 year old corroding steel canopy. It was really looking its age and did nothing to enhance our reputation as the one-stop shop for canopies!

The winning entry was from Russ Ellery whose design is cantilevered off two round aluminium columns that are fixed tight up against the building to keep the area underneath as free as possible.

Well done Russ on a great design – we love our new entrance canopy!

## New canopy for VIPs at John Lennon Airport

As part of a major redevelopment to the premium car park at Liverpool's John Lennon Airport, we designed and installed a 3m wide walkway that enables continuous under-cover access from the car park into the airport building.

John Gallagher of Cambrianway says "We used Twinfix because we were confident that their part of the project would run to time. Everything went well. It was fitted on the agreed date and installation was actually faster than they said it would be."

The exceptionally quick turnaround meant that our teams had to pull out all the stops, with meticulous co-ordination between the sales, design, planning and installation departments.



## Team work with a difference!



Getting out of the office for a bit of fun is a good way of team-building and the recent go-karting event really proved this. We may not have any Formula 1 champions in our midst, but there was a great deal of competitive spirit around! All in all, it was an exciting and enjoyable way to spend an evening.



## ★ A lovely thank you ★

"Can I just express my sincere gratitude concerning the recent installation of our new canopy to the rear of our school. What a pleasant experience I have had dealing with Twinfix, especially your design team, ground workers and installation team.

The professionalism shown from the first phone call enquiry through to completion is without question unrivalled by any contractor I have dealt with in my 20 years' experience of Facilities Management."

Dave Charnock, Site Manager  
Fred Longworth High School

## New product – umbrella canopy



We've recently added an aluminium-framed umbrella canopy to our range. Glazed in either solid or multiwall polycarbonate it is available with a diameter of 2m, 3m or 4m. This single-posted, round canopy will fit in many spaces that will not take a traditional canopy design. Watch this space for more exciting products.