Hamilton
First for Facades

First for Facades for over 29 years

Hamiltonfirst.co.uk

Introduction

Hamilton has been first for facades since 1996. As one of the largest and longest-standing specialist facade contractors in the UK, we're at the forefront of service and delivery.

Our hand-picked and passionate team has extensive experience of all aspects of design and build.

Our business is built on ensuring the best solution is chosen for each client before being installed to the highest standard.

Having worked on more than 100,000 properties, of all types, heights, sizes and permutations, we are not fazed by any project, of any kind.

We work as both main and sub-contractor on projects across the country and have become renowned for our knowledge and experience when consulting with building owners, architects, clients and contractors on the best solutions for their projects.

From high-rise facade remediation to new installations or external refurbishment, we can guide you through the entire process step by step.

"It was an absolute pleasure to work with Hamilton on another successful Building Safety Fund project. The dedication of the entire team has truly elevated the standard of excellence on this project and their hard work, expertise and commitment to quality have been instrumental in making our collective vision a reality."

Tony Elliott
Divisional Director, Equans

We have grown to become one of the largest recognised specialist facade contractors in the UK, in both the new build and refurbishment markets.

First for Facades

Ellison House, Ashton-under-Lyne

Partnership working

From simple supply and installation to bespoke packages, we are here to work with you however you need us, in both the commercial and domestic retrofit and new build markets.

Specialising in all aspects of facades and associated finishes, we are accredited installers for all the main system suppliers and manufacturers, with a proven and award-winning catalogue of work.

As main contractor or sub-contractor, we offer tailored turnkey packages, with full design, supply and management capabilities. This enables us to ensure your project is delivered safely, efficiently and to the highest quality standards.

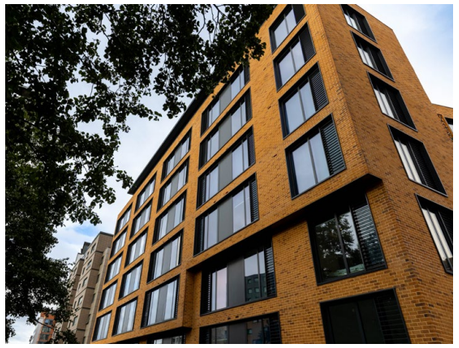
Recladding Facades

Since 2017, the safety of external cladding in the UK has come under incredible scrutiny. Important regulations on materials and maintenance have been introduced to properly ensure residents' safety and compliance requirements have become far more stringent. This has led to the removal and recladding of affected buildings.

Hamilton has the skill, experience and technical knowledge to make sure your building is fully safe and compliant, without compromising on architectural character or aesthetics. We stay abreast and ahead of all Building Control legislation, so you can rest assured that your building will also be future-proofed.

From high-rise external refurbishment schemes, to estate-based low-rise redevelopments, Hamilton has the skill and experience to ensure any project runs smoothly.

Seacroft, Leeds



Trapezium, Leeds

Refurbishment Facades

Hamilton has vast experience in introducing new facades to existing buildings. Over the course of the last quarter of a century, we've worked on virtually every type of property you can imagine.

For those with solid brick or non-traditional concrete walls, retaining heat can be extremely difficult. Energy bills are high and the external walls of these properties can often degrade quicker due to moisture ingress. The easiest way to tackle poor thermal performance and increase weather proofing is with an insulated facade.

Installing a cladding system can add value to your property. For example, a property treated with EWI typically increases in value by up to 38% in some parts of England, based on a study conducted by DECC.

New build Facades

An increasing number of developers are choosing modern methods of construction over traditional, with lightweight external walls constructed using a Steel Framing System (SFS) in conjunction with an insulated cladding system. The benefits of these build methods are easier and quicker erection and weatherproofing of the building, leading to faster fit out times, flexibility in achieving end 'U' Values and easier integration of a variety of facade finishes.

Through early collaboration with architects, highly cost effective and quick builds can be achieved with state-of-the-art compliant finishes, materials and designs incorporating curves, edges and feature details as well as traditional elements. These methods allow for more innovative thinking when utilising existing space, providing developers with real commercial advantages when considering projects and setting out budget proposals.

The Building Safety Fund was launched in May 2020 to cover the remediation cost of unsafe cladding on high-rise buildings. Hamilton has vast experience remediating high-rise buildings around the UK.

First for Building Safety

The fund is designed to enable the remediation of unsafe facades on residential buildings in the private and public sector that are over 18 metres in height, do not comply with building regulations or have significant construction defects that would affect the performance of the facade in the event of a fire. This fund is predominately targeted at supporting leaseholders in the private sector facing significant bills.

However, the government is clear that for leaseholders living in buildings owned by providers in the social sector, it will provide funding to meet the provider's costs which would otherwise have been borne by leaseholders. The government expects landlords to cover these costs without increasing rent for their tenants.

The Building Safety Fund came as the government also published its amendment to the statutory guidance to building safety regulations – Approved Document B. These changes ensure sprinkler systems and consistent wayfinding signage are mandatory in all new high-rise blocks over 11 metres tall.

The Fire Safety Act 2021 empowers fire and rescue services to take enforcement action and hold building owners to account if they do not comply with law.

"Hamilton is well placed to offer information, guidance and advice on securing funding to carry out remedial facade compliance works."

The Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund Wave 3 is a continuation of the scheme that was known as the The Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. It is a beacon of hope in the fight against climate change, demonstrating the importance of housing as a key component of global sustainability efforts.

First for Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund

It is transforming communities, reducing carbon emissions and creating a better future for all through energy-efficient and environmentally friendly social housing solutions.

More than one billion pounds has been awarded since the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Demonstrator in 2020. The money has gone towards energy-saving measures ranging from External Wall Insulation (EWI) upgrades and loft insulation to new windows and other improvements for vulnerable households.

Hamilton is proud to have been involved with projects to retrofit EWI to properties across the country and we're working with councils, housing associations and major construction partners to help to deliver on the programme.

The new Labour government renamed the scheme as the Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund (WH:SHF) as it launched Wave 3 in September.

"At Hamilton, we are committed to leading the way in retrofit decarbonisation through EWI."

Pathway to PAS 2035

Our expert team is here to help you to deliver your scheme from start to finish. Here is a simplified outline of timings involved in meeting PAS 2035 requirements:

Stage 1

Engagement and Appointment

Engage with clients to identify eligible schemes and assess feasibility for funded energy efficiency measures. Obtain Retrofit advice and appoint a Retrofit Assessor, Retrofit Coordinator and Retrofit Designer.

Two Months

Stage 2

Assessment and Pathway

The Retrofit Coordinator carries out a full project risk assessment to define the PAS Pathway (A-C) and the Retrofit Assessor performs whole house retrofit assessments.

One Month

Stage 3

Evaluation and Planning

The project team evaluates the assessments and the Retrofit Coordinator compiles a medium-term plan for the energy efficiency measures.

One Month

Stage 4

Approval and Design

The client approves the measures to be installed before the Retrofit Designer draws up the property designs, which are then reviewed and finalised by the project team.

Two Months

Stage 5

Installation and Completion

Energy efficiency measures are installed according to the agreed plans and all works are completed and checked before final handover to the client.

Timescales vary

Stage 6

Trustmark and Assessment

The Energy Performance Report, Condition Report, Reduced Data Standard Assessment Procedure (RDSAP) / full SAP and Occupancy Assessment are lodged for Trustmark and the Retrofit Coordinator carries out ongoing assessment to ensure that the intended energy and carbon reduction goals are achieved.

Timescales vary

The journey to PAS 2035 compliance is a meticulous process that emphasises the importance of thorough planning, quality control and ongoing learning. Following this pathway ensures that retrofit projects are not only energy-efficient but also meet the highest standards of quality and performance.

Our business is built on the strength of our reputation; we are entirely committed to quality and best practice at all times. We invest heavily in staff training and improvement and partner with only the industry's most respected suppliers. As a result, our work comes with peace of mind built in.

First for Quality

INCA (Insulated Render & Cladding Association) Member
The Insulated Render and Cladding Association was formed in 1981 to represent the External Wall Insulation (EWI) industry throughout the UK and to promote technical excellence, high quality and best practice throughout the industry.

NHBC
NHBC strives to build confidence in the construction quality of new homes by assessing, inspecting and directly insuring new homes registered with them.

Established for over 80 years, it is recognised by homeowners and trusted by builders and major lenders.

PAS 2030 Certified - British Assessment Bureau
Public Available Specification (PAS) is a specification and guidance framework for installing energy efficiency measures.

Compliance with PAS 2030 is needed in order to undertake Green Deal and ECO installations.

Solid Wall Insulation Guarantee Agency (SWIGA)
The Solid Wall Insulation Guarantee Agency (SWIGA) was developed by leading industry bodies along with Solid Wall Insulation system suppliers. SWIGA operates a robust quality and technical Framework backed by an independent surveillance scheme monitoring installations carried out by SWIGA members.

Trustmark - Government endorsed quality
TrustMark Registered Businesses have made a considerable commitment to customer service, technical competence and trading practices.

Choosing a TrustMark tradesperson means you get Government endorsed quality and robust consumer protection.

Robust health and safety procedures are central to everything we do here at Hamilton.

First for Safety and Design

Safety is paramount to Hamilton and underpins everything we do. Not only does the work we carry out make buildings safer, and entirely compliant with the latest regulations, but we are also committed to operating in the safest possible way, with the best interests of our clients, staff and the general public at heart.

We invest constantly in safety training, products and processes and, thanks to this, we are able to carry the highest levels of insurance. Our public and products liability insurance provides cover of £20,000,000 with no height limit, as does our employers liability insurance.

In addition, the longevity of our business and our reputation mean we are in the enviable position of having Professional Indemnity cover of £10m with no fire and combustibility exclusion up to £2m and no height limit.

This cover means we are able to oversee, or be a partner, in the design element of projects, further bolstering the services we can offer to clients. Hamilton is one of a handful of installers in the UK that can offer an insurance-backed warranty from SWIGA (Solid Wall Insulation Guarantee Agency) for any project, unrestricted by height.

We only work with trusted, proven partners and products, ensuring that our supply chain has absolutely no weak links when it comes to safety and risk management.

With multi-faceted, large-scale construction and remediation projects, there are countless things you have to organise and keep track of. Our job is to make your job easier at every stage. By partnering with Hamilton, as main contractor or sub-contractor, you can rest assured that the safety of your project is taken care of.

“Our ongoing efforts have been recognised with coveted, industry-leading accreditations.”

FIRAS
Certified under the FIRAS Installer Certification Scheme, operated by Warringtonfire and accredited by UKAS. This certification confirms our competence in installing passive fire protection systems, such as cavity barriers.

FIRAS - Warringtonfire Certification
This certification signifies that Hamilton’s fire protection installations are regularly audited by Warringtonfire, offering third-party assurance that we meet the highest standards in passive fire protection.

CHAS accredited contractor
CHAS helps clients (buyers) and contractors (suppliers) ensure compliance across the different areas of risk management and mitigate risks across the supply chain.

As one of the founders of Safety Schemes in Procurement (SSIP), CHAS is committed to setting health and safety benchmarks that drive industries forward and make the world of work a safer place.

Constructionline Gold Member
Constructionline Gold Member businesses meet the PAS 91 and Common Assessment Standard and pre-qualify across core modules required by Public and Private sector buyers.

They have also been awarded SSIP (Safety Schemes in Procurement) status.

First for Delivery

Operating across the UK, we tailor our project delivery to suit our clients' needs, combining the benefits of local labour and management with national support and resources.

With a head office in Baildon, Hamilton operates across the length and breadth of the country, with offices in Baildon and Dartford.

For demanding and complex projects, Hamilton appoints one of our Company Directors as Project Director to act as the key contact for the duration of the contract and beyond. All projects are overseen and delivered by one of our experienced Contracts Managers and many projects also have a full time, highly qualified, experienced and dedicated Site Manager to drive project delivery.

All aspects of cladding works are delivered by our own highly skilled labour force. We have over 250 operatives located around the UK, so your project will more than likely be carried out by a local team, retaining regional economic benefits.

In addition, we have built fantastic relationships with many other trade suppliers including joiners, plumbers, electricians and general labourers to complement our delivery capabilities on core works. This enables us to take on a wider scope of works for you, reducing the number of subcontract trades you need to manage to deliver your project successfully.

Furthermore, we can bring in our own pre-approved specialist sub-contractors such as scaffolders to provide a full turnkey package to you. You can focus on managing other project demands, knowing that our work, and that of our supply partners, comes with peace of mind built in.

"Hamilton operates across the length and breadth of the country."

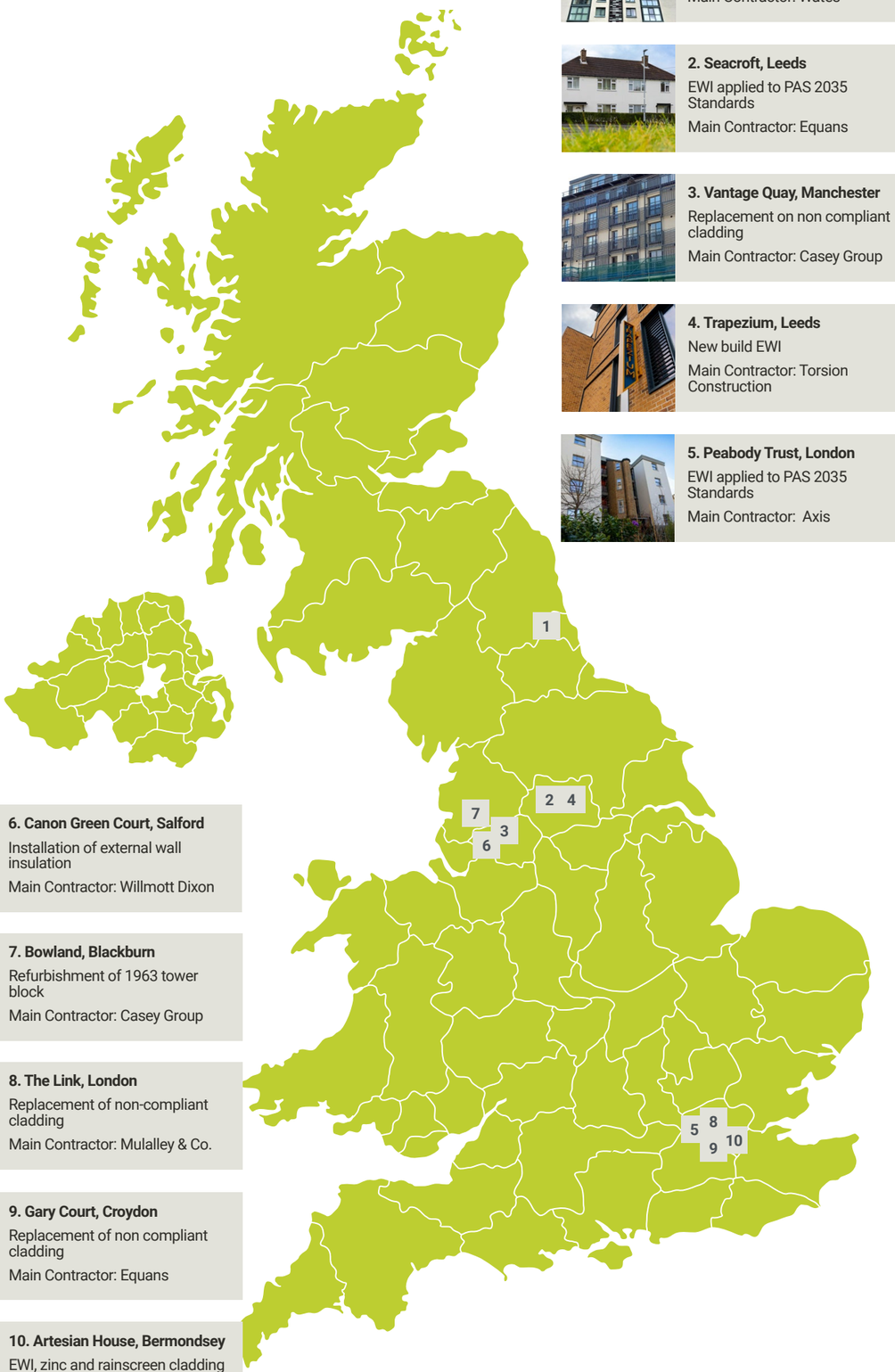
1. Cruddas Park, Newcastle
Installation of rainscreen cladding feature panels
Main Contractor: Wates

2. Seacroft, Leeds
EWI applied to PAS 2035 Standards
Main Contractor: Equans

3. Vantage Quay, Manchester
Replacement on non compliant cladding
Main Contractor: Casey Group

4. Trapezium, Leeds
New build EWI
Main Contractor: Torsion Construction

5. Peabody Trust, London
EWI applied to PAS 2035 Standards
Main Contractor: Axis



6. Canon Green Court, Salford
Installation of external wall insulation
Main Contractor: Willmott Dixon

7. Bowland, Blackburn
Refurbishment of 1963 tower block
Main Contractor: Casey Group

8. The Link, London
Replacement of non-compliant cladding
Main Contractor: Mulalley & Co.

9. Gary Court, Croydon
Replacement of non compliant cladding
Main Contractor: Equans

10. Artesian House, Bermondsey
EWI, zinc and rainscreen cladding and balcony decking
Main Contractor: Equans

First for Simplicity

We don't expect everyone to be experts in fire safety regulations and compliance documentation.

Just because we live and breathe technical data, doesn't mean we expect everyone to study it in as much depth as we do. Hamilton is here to offer straightforward solutions, information and advice to help you complete complicated projects without adding any complexity. We tick all the boxes for specification, so you can confidently put your cladding responsibilities in our hands. We pride ourselves on clear and helpful communication, in our literature, in our consultation meetings and on our sites.

Whether we work for you as main contractor or sub-contractor, you have access to all our knowledge and resources. We are happy to advise and consult as much or as little as is required by the client and project management team.

Our Directors are leaders in compliant systems, government regulations, insurances, securing grant funding and more and can provide any correct and up-to-date industry information that may be required.

Hamilton can take on every aspect of cladding work, from initial inspection, specification and testing - to completed installation. Alternatively, we can carry out one or more of these stages for clients with a straightforward 'pick and mix' approach to suit you and the demands of your project. We are guided by Quality Assurance at all times to ensure that standards are met and expectations are exceeded.

"Working on Chartist House was a remarkable experience due to the scale and complexity of the project. Hamilton's team demonstrated exceptional professionalism and dedication throughout the refurbishment process.

Their commitment to quality and attention to detail significantly contributed to the project's success, and it was a pleasure to collaborate with such a skilled and reliable subcontractor. Their performance not only met but exceeded our expectations, ensuring that we delivered a finished product that both we and the residents can be proud of. "

Simon Moseley - Site Manager, Casey

The Hamilton name is only as strong as the staff that represent it and our trusted, experienced people are our most valuable asset. Always striving for perfection, our team's philosophy is that we are only as good as our last job.

First for People

Robert Storton
Managing Director

After qualifying as a surveyor in the early 90s Robert set up Hamilton in 1996 with a view to creating a respected business alongside a team that shares his values and vision.

With over 30 years' experience in the design and delivery of residential and commercial refurbishments and new build construction projects, he brings a wealth of knowledge and professionalism to all projects.

He has created a results-driven culture with a positive approach to management, design and construction, with a clear focus on health and safety.

Daniel Mackie
Director

Daniel was appointed to the Board of Directors at Hamilton in 2021 after working tirelessly to grow the national presence and turnover of the business, strengthening a solid base of clients and work in London and the South East.

Since joining the company in 2013 he has helped Hamilton to secure and deliver large scale funded projects across the UK, with strong ties to Local Authorities and Large Tier 1 contractors.

With decades of experience, he is responsible for securing, planning, designing and managing the delivery of large scale, multi-million pound projects all over the country.

Kirsty Haley
Operations Director (Commercial)

Kirsty joined Hamilton in 2008 and realised her passion for construction. Her wealth of knowledge and unwavering commitment to the business and its core values are pivotal to providing the best service to clients.

Involved in all operations of the business, her focus is ensuring the smooth running of the commercial and contracting side.

The team philosophy "we are only as good as our last job" is central to all that Kirsty does. She's one of the first to see a project come in and one of the last to sign off another job well done.Hamilton's continued growth.

Kirsty Fleming
Operations Director (HR & Finance)

Kirsty joined Hamilton as Quality and HR Manager in 2012, bringing management experience from a manufacturing and sales career.

Since then, she has progressed to the position of Operations Director – HR & Finance and plays a vital role in the success of the business.

From accounts and training and development, to recruitment and quality management, Kirsty's thorough knowledge ensures the smooth running of the business.

Barry Clark
Contracts Director

Having joined Hamilton in 2010 as Contracts Supervisor, Barry worked his way up to Contracts Director by embodying Hamilton's commitment to quality and attention to detail at all times.

With over 20 years' experience in refurbishment and new build construction projects Barry brings professionalism to all projects and keeps a keen eye on site operations and health and safety.

Martin Walker
Regional Director (South)

Martin is a Chartered Construction Manager with over two decades of experience delivering complex, high-value projects across the UK. He brings a strong track record in operational leadership and strategic project delivery.

A respected member of the Chartered Institute of Building (MCIOB), Martin was one of the first professionals in the UK to complete the CIOB's Principal Contractor Competency Scheme.

As Regional Director for the South, Martin is based in our Dartford office and is responsible for leading our operations across the region.

Dawn Lanaway
SHEQ Manager

Michal Piescik
Pre-Construction Manager

Mark Tilley
Commercial Manager

Ram Mehet
Senior Estimator

Adrian Morley
Contracts Manager

Elonas Bubnelis
Contracts Manager

Managers

Our team of managers bring many years of experience in the industry and are integral to maintaining Hamilton's reputation for excellence. They are on hand, and on site, to make sure everything runs efficiently throughout the duration of your project.

"Hamilton's Directors are hands on with every project to ensure our commitment to excellence is consistently maintained."

An EWI facade (External Wall Insulation) is a system that involves applying a layer of insulation material to the exterior walls of a building before covering it with a protective and decorative finish, such as render or brick slips.

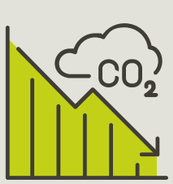
EWI Facades

EWI facades significantly reduce heat loss, making buildings more energy-efficient whilst also improving their appearance. This proven method is widely used for upgrading the thermal performance of existing buildings and is a preferred choice for achieving high energy efficiency standards in new construction.

Benefits of EWI Facades

Improved Energy Efficiency

EWI significantly reduces heat loss by adding a continuous layer of insulation, leading to more stable indoor temperatures. This results in lower energy bills by reducing the need for heating in winter and cooling in summer.



Reduced Carbon footprint

Enhanced energy efficiency leads to lower carbon emissions, supporting sustainability goals and helping meet stricter energy regulations.

Improves Building Appearance

EWI systems offer a variety of finishes, from smooth renders to textured coatings and brick effects. This allows for a modernised appearance while improving the building's overall performance.

Weather Protection

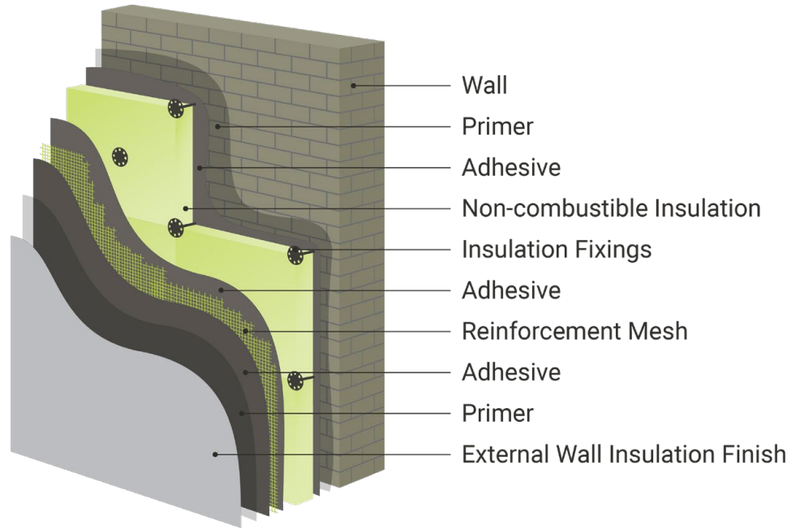
EWI provides an additional layer of defence against the elements, such as rain, wind, and UV rays. This extends the building's lifespan by reducing weather-related wear and tear.

Increased Property Value

A building equipped with an EWI system is more appealing to buyers and tenants, thanks to its enhanced aesthetics, improved thermal comfort, and lower energy costs.

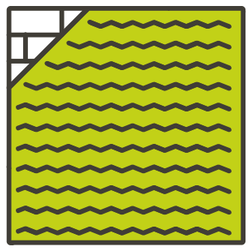
Sound Insulation

EWI systems also offer noise reduction by adding an extra barrier, which is especially beneficial in urban areas.



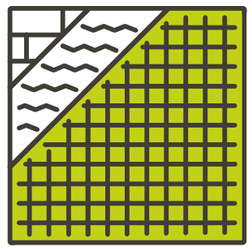
EWI System Overview

An external wall insulation system enhances both the thermal efficiency and appearance of a building. Here's how it works:



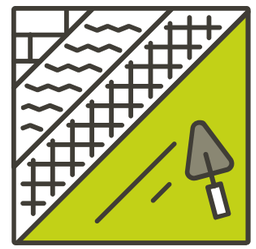
Insulation Board Installation

Insulation boards are adhesively and mechanically fixed to the building's outer surface. The type and thickness of insulation, adhesive, and fixings are professionally specified based on substrate type, environmental factors, and wind-loading requirements. EWI systems can also be applied onto rail systems, for use on SFS frames or where a drained cavity is required.



Basecoat Application

A specialist cement based base coat is applied over the insulation. This polymer-modified coat adds strength and flexibility, with a fabric reinforcing mesh embedded for extra durability. It serves as a weather-resistant barrier and prepares the surface for the final finish.



Finish Application

The system is then ready for the chosen finish, whether it's a smooth thin coat render, a heavier thick coat, a traditional dry dash, or a brick effect finish. Custom combinations of colours and textures can also be applied for a unique result.

EWI Finishes

EWI systems consist of insulation, a reinforcing base coat and a finish of choice. There are many different types of EWI finishes, showcasing the versatility of these systems.

Thin Coat Renders

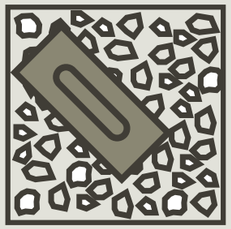
One of the most popular finishes, thin coat renders, includes silicone, silicate, acrylic and mineral renders. These are typically applied to match the grain size, with thicknesses ranging from 0.6mm to 3mm, though 1.5mm is the most common.

These premixed renders are easy to apply with a trowel and generally only require a single coat. Some may need a primer or additional coatings, especially mineral thin coats. They come in a vast array of colours (often hundreds) and can be customised to match specific project requirements. With the addition of silicone in many of these renders, they are low-maintenance and easy to clean.

Thick Coat Renders

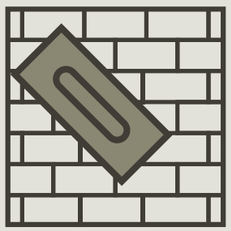
Thick coat renders, usually through colour mineral renders, are mixed with water and applied at a thickness of up to 15mm. These renders can be spray-applied for a heavy, rough texture or hand-scraped for a more refined, scratch-render finish.

However, colour options are more limited, often restricted to whites and pastels due to the pigment concentration. The added thickness enhances impact resistance, making them a durable choice.



Dry Dash

Dry dash remains a traditional and popular finish. Using a thick coat of dashing mortar as a base, local aggregates (stone chips) are hand-thrown into the wet mortar. The combination of various coloured mortars and aggregates can create unique visual effects.



Brick Effect

The UK has a long-standing affinity for brick, and there are several ways to replicate a brick finish on an EWI system without constructing an actual brick wall. Some popular options include:

Clay Brick Slips

Brick tiles, which range for 6mm to 15mm thick, are adhesively fixed to the EWI basecoat, with mortar joints created using specialist grouts. This method offers a highly realistic brick finish.

Acrylic Brick Slips

These are flexible, thin imitation brick tiles which make them easy to apply and more cost effective than clay slips. Adhesively fixed to the EWI basecoat, the joints are finished with a wet paintbrush to seal around the tiles.

Brick Effect Render

This technique uses a base coat in the colour of the mortar joints, followed by a second coat in the brick colour. The render is then textured and cut back to reveal the ‘mortar,’ creating the illusion of brickwork. Additional effects can be achieved using paint or resin stains.

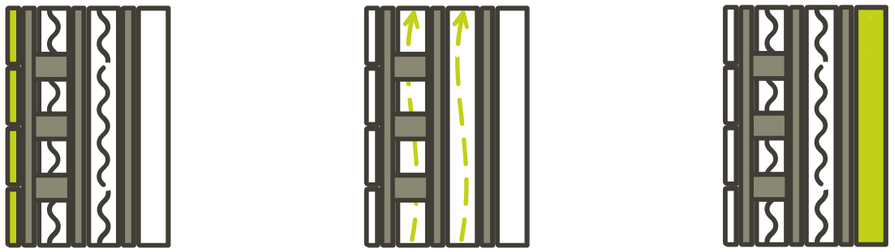
“The final product is a thermally efficient, weatherproof, breathable, and low-maintenance facade that complies with modern building and fire regulations. EWI systems typically have a design life of over 30 years.”

A rainscreen facade is a type of exterior cladding system designed to protect a building from weather elements. It works by creating a gap between the outer cladding and the structural wall of the building, allowing moisture to escape while improving the building's overall thermal and moisture control.

Rainscreen Facades

Rainscreen System

Rainscreen systems consist of an outer cladding layer, an air cavity or ventilation gap, a waterproof membrane on the structural wall and support brackets or fixings that secure the cladding. This allows airflow to offer effective moisture management and weather protection for the building.



Outer Layer (Cladding)

The exterior cladding serves as the first line of defence, shielding the building from direct rain and wind. It's not completely sealed, which allows some moisture to penetrate.

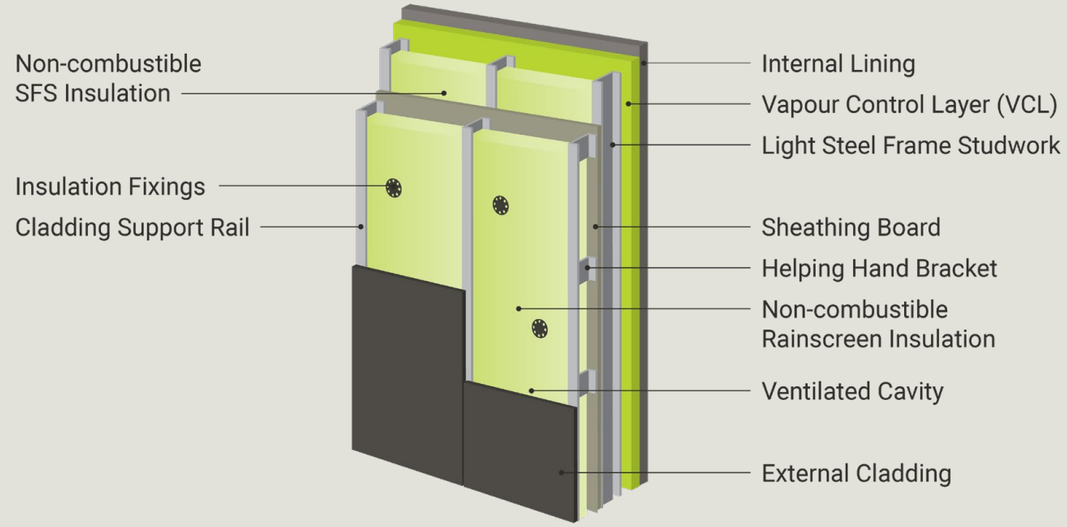
Air Gap & Ventilation

Behind the outer cladding, there's a cavity (air gap) which allows air to circulate. This ventilation helps any water that infiltrates to drain away or evaporate, preventing moisture from building up on the structural wall.

Inner Layer (Structural Wall)

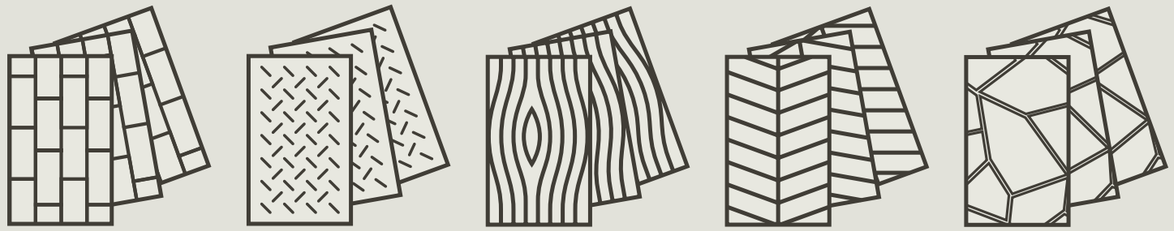
This is the actual load-bearing structure of the building, protected by a waterproof membrane. The rainscreen design ensures that the inner layer remains dry, thus preserving the structural integrity.

"Rainscreen Facades offer numerous benefits, including better insulation, reduced condensation and an extended lifespan for the building's structural components."



Rainscreen Finishes

There are a whole host of finishing options when it comes to rainscreen, all of which have their own features and benefits.



Brick

The timeless appeal of traditional brick makes it a very popular choice for many projects but conventional brick work is time consuming, labour intensive and can add significant weight to a building.

Metal Panels

Contemporary metal facades can be specified for new builds or easily retrofitted for the refurbishment of existing buildings. Options include uncomplicated hook-on panels, large format panels, fully concealed fixings, and sustainable recyclable panels.

Wood Effect

All the beauty of wood, without the maintenance. Using high performance materials, you can specify a timber style virtually indistinguishable from the real thing – but without wood's natural limitations. Quick and simple to install, these modular components clip together and offer lightweight good looks, durability and longevity.

Terracotta

There's a reason that terracotta has been used as a building material for centuries. This hard-wearing material has a host of natural properties to benefit modern buildings. Modern terracotta tiles are available in large scale versions with bespoke glazes and finish options, making terracotta a versatile option for any project.

Stone

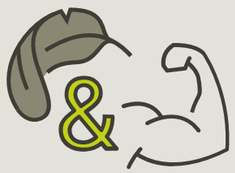
Stone rainscreen systems provide a cost-effective, lightweight alternative to traditional hand set stone (2-3 times faster) without compromising on authentic appearance.

Stone tiles are fixed to a vertical T rail, and are available in different colours and sizes to create the desired stone effect.

Glass Reinforced Concrete

GRC is a lightweight alternative to traditional concrete that retains many of its benefits. It offers versatility in shape, size, and finish, allowing for bespoke designs that meet your vision and planning needs - all without the structural load of conventional concrete. GRC can be up to 80% lighter than standard precast cladding while maintaining strength and durability.

Why Choose GRC?



Lightweight & Durable

GRC is easier to handle and install than traditional concrete, thanks to its significantly lighter weight. Despite this, it remains highly durable, with excellent resistance to cracking and weathering.

Design Flexibility

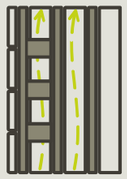
GRC can be moulded into intricate, custom designs, offering aesthetic versatility for both modern and traditional styles without the bulk of solid materials.

Weather Resistance

Its resistance to environmental factors like rain, wind, and freeze-thaw cycles makes GRC ideal for exterior applications, ensuring long-lasting facades.

GRC in Rainscreen Systems

GRC is also well-suited as outer cladding in rainscreen systems, protecting buildings from moisture and enhancing energy efficiency. As part of these systems, GRC forms the first line of defence against the elements while delivering an attractive finish.

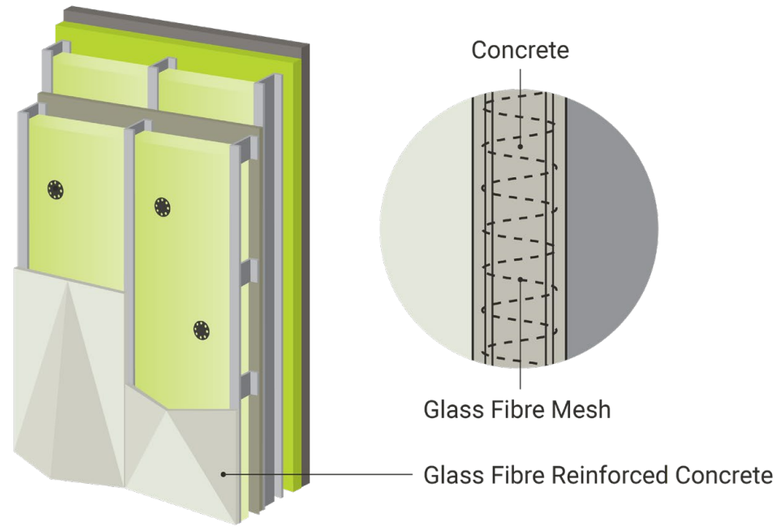


Ventilated Cavity

A ventilated cavity behind the GRC panels promotes air circulation and drainage, preventing moisture from reaching the internal structure and reducing the risk of water damage.

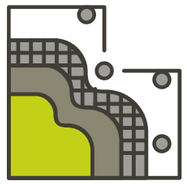
Energy Efficiency

By incorporating insulation and waterproof membranes, GRC-based rainscreen systems enhance thermal performance, helping to regulate temperature and reduce energy costs.



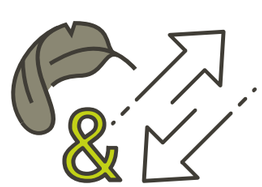
GRC in External Wall Construction

GRC is often used as the outer cladding in External Wall Construction, providing a durable and weather-resistant finish, while insulation materials such as mineral wool handle thermal performance.



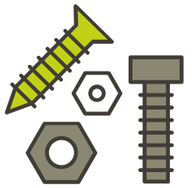
Protective Cladding

Shields insulation from environmental exposure, offering long-term durability.



Lightweight & Flexible

Lighter than traditional concrete, simplifying installation and design versatility.

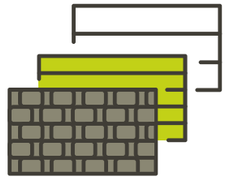


Mechanical Fixing

Typically fixed to a subframe or structure, ensuring stability.

Compatibility

Works well with a range of insulation materials and enhances fire resistance.



Aesthetic Versatility

Can mimic stone, wood, or other finishes for design flexibility.

GRC is used across residential, high-rise, and commercial buildings for its fire resistance, lightweight nature and architectural flexibility.

Benefits of GRC for Your Project

Design Versatility
GRC opens up creative possibilities, from natural stone effects to unique textures and finishes.

Sustainability
With reduced raw material usage compared to traditional concrete, GRC supports more sustainable building practices.

Long-Term Durability
GRC panels are designed to withstand challenging weather conditions, offering long-lasting strength and low maintenance.

"At Hamilton, we're proud to offer GRC as part of our commitment to high-quality and sustainable solutions. Whether you're enhancing a façade or incorporating advanced rainscreen systems, our expertise ensures a successful project from start to finish."

Full facade remediation

Artesian House, Bermondsey, London

Hamilton acted as sub-contractor for Equans on this challenging remediation project which involved complete removal and replacement of all external cladding and insulation on a high-rise, mixed-use building.

With 73 mixed-tenure flats above a busy ground floor health centre, Artesian House presented a number of challenges; eight storeys high and with a largely curved exterior, removing and replacing the cladding and insulation was no easy task. The building featured numerous different wall types, with timber cladding on the upper floors, a combination of external wall insulation, and zinc cladding on two elevations.

As always, a considerate and courteous approach was required, and residents remained in occupation for the duration of the project.

The existing cladding was extensively tested and inspected – a combination of EPS insulation, phenolic insulation and timber – then stripped out and replaced with a new system of non-combustible and fully compliant materials. The finish fit the aesthetics of the building and met today's stringent fire safety requirements.

Lewis Morrell, Equans Senior Site Manager, said:

"Working with Hamilton on this technically challenging and demanding project, has been a pleasure. From the off, they have engaged fully and professionally with us, the client and consultant and had valuable input into the entire project. Their desire to hand over only the highest quality workmanship is clear to see in the end product."

300 houses in 30 weeks!

Seacroft, West Yorkshire

Seacroft is an outer-city township consisting mainly of council housing covering an extensive area of east Leeds, West Yorkshire.

It is home to one of the largest council estates in the country, which is where Hamilton carried out a huge project to insulate 300 houses in the remarkable timeframe of just 30 weeks.

With money from the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund and in partnership with main contractor Equans and Leeds City Council, we applied Wetherby Building Systems' 100mm mineral wool insulation with a silicone finish to the properties.

The project started as 150 houses but additional funding was secured to work on a further 150 and teams from all parties worked tirelessly to ensure it was a resounding success.

Trusted system supplier, Wetherby Building Systems, provided us with their top-quality WBS Stone Wool Silicone Render System throughout the project.

The entire development adhered to the PAS 2030 standards, ensuring energy efficiency and environmental friendliness.

Steve Green, Site Manager at Hamilton, said:

"300 houses in 30 weeks is no mean feat and we had to make sure that everything ran like clockwork. *With longstanding relationships with main contractors such as Equans and suppliers like Wetherby, we know that we can rely on everyone around us to play their part in delivering large scale projects. The results really do speak for themselves and It was wonderful to be able to contribute to the development of the Seacroft community.*"

James Dawson, who is Commercial Manager at Equans, said:

"The Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund isn't just about reducing carbon footprint; it's about making homes healthier, more comfortable and more affordable for social housing tenants. This was a fast-paced project and we needed to work with suppliers we know we can trust. We've partnered with Hamilton on sites across the country and we know that they always deliver first class results that meet tight deadlines. From specifying the best materials through to completion, the team are knowledgeable, professional and always great to work with. Now, 300 families have houses to be proud of and they will all benefit from energy and money savings for years to come."

Residents covered by Building Safety Fund

Gary Court, Croydon

Gary Court is a nine-storey, mixed tenure, high-rise building that is home to 150 residential apartments and a mix of commercial units in Croydon.

The residential properties are a mix of leaseholders and social housing, managed by the Hyde Group, who are the freeholder for the building and who applied for funding from the Building Safety Fund when it was confirmed that the original building materials were non-compliant with regulations introduced following the Grenfell Tower fire.

Hyde appointed Equans UK & Ireland and Martin Arnold Ltd who, in turn, selected Hamilton to deliver the full facade remediation following other successful partnership projects.

Based on a major arterial route and busy high street above a row of shops, and with residents still living there during the works, Gary Court was never going to be an easy job.

Based on a major arterial route and busy high street above a row of shops, and with residents still living there during the works, Gary Court was never going to be an easy job.

The first and most significant challenge was the absence of the ‘as built’ drawings and information, which details how the building was built against original plans to give an exact picture of the finished scheme.

Without this crucial data, the team had to carefully measure all external façade substrates and manually calculate and overlay the systems.

Additional complexities included a short timescale for completion and the site itself was extremely tight, which meant off-site storage and just-in-time deliveries were required throughout.

Our teams replaced the existing rendered EWI with Wetherby Building Systems’ fully accredited A2 rated system.

We also removed the traditional brickwork elements of the piers around the façade and applied Wetherby’s Insulated Clay Brick Slip System directly to the concrete frame.

The zinc cladding was remediated with Valcan’s A1 VitraDual cassette system before we worked on the terracotta areas and re-fixed the original tiles.

All insulation and fire barriers were replaced with ROCKWOOL’s non-combustible products and all the sheathing board across the building is now RCM Y-Wall board.

The £10million project was awarded £6.4million from the Building Safety Fund, which has become a cornerstone in promoting public safety, encouraging sustainable development and enhancing quality of life for all.

Partnership approach to the Building Safety Fund

The Link, London

Cladding on The Link building, which lies on one of London’s busiest arterial routes, was identified as non-compliant with regulations in the wake of the Grenfell Tower tragedy.

The Link is a mixed-use development with retail premises, offices and residential apartments.

Monies from the Building Safety Fund were allocated to replace dangerous external wall insulation and main contractor Mulalley & Co appointed Hamilton to carry out the remediation works to bring the building in line with the latest regulations.

With heavy traffic around the building and no storage facilities for the new facades onsite, we needed to assemble a team of trusted suppliers to ensure the project ran smoothly.

For The Link we teamed up with Vivalda, Encon, PermaRock and Benx in order to install a new, compliant system that aesthetically mirrored the existing facade.

Together we overcame many logistical challenges throughout the year-long project. Access was strictly controlled around the building, which remained fully occupied throughout the works.

We worked with supply partners to devise and roll out a just-in-time programme for deliveries of materials and equipment to minimise disruption and maximise productivity.

In addition, the specification included colour matching the existing cladding, which was a mix of greys, mint green, royal blue, vibrant orange and off-white render.

Vivalda fabricated and delivered Valcan’s solid aluminium VitraDual, A1 rainscreen cladding and the Nvelop framing to ensure an exact visual match to the original cladding, along with the supply of the Nvelop NV1 helping hand and rail system.

Encon supplied the Rockwool insulation and Siderise Cavity barriers, which were utilised throughout the façade with PermaRock being specified for the external wall insulation requirements. RCM Y-Wall sheathing boards were supplied by Benx and replaced the existing to all areas of the façade.

Over the course of our 27 years in business we have built long-standing relationships with many of the leading names in the industry and they are seen as an extension of our teams. A true partnership approach means everyone is invested in ensuring outstanding results.

Hamilton
First for Facades

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