Glazing systems from Kawneer feature on Trinity Leeds

Architectural aluminium systems from Kawneer feature on one of UK's Coolest Brands for 2014/15 – Trinity Leeds, the UK’s fifth top* retail location.

*CACI UK retail rankings

Building: Trinity Leeds
Location: Leeds
Architect: Chapman Taylor
Main Contractor: Laing O’Rourke
Installers: Bennett Architectural Aluminium Solutions

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Kawneer helps Trinity to a Top 5 position

The multi-award winning Trinity Leeds development has made use of Kawneer’s AA®100 capped and SSG (Structurally Silicone Glazed) curtain walling systems with 50mm sightlines and AA®110 zone-drained curtain walling with 65mm sightlines on shop fronts and link bridges complemented by top-hung casement and tiltturn windows.

The £400million scheme over 817,000ft² unites three of Leeds’ busiest shopping thoroughfares around a new central space and includes the refurbishment of an existing shopping centre, all to a BREEAM “Excellent” rating and a 28% improvement over Part L (CO₂ emissions).

Design and delivery architects Chapman Taylor created a new design for property giant Land Securities (which also owns the White Rose Centre, a large shopping centre on the city’s outskirts) that completely modernised and integrated the Trinity shopping districts into an all-year-round late-night venue for fashion, food and film.

It is a naturally ventilated scheme composed of buildings linked by a series of open-air arcaded streets and public spaces above which self-supporting glazed grid-shell roofs rise 30m above street level.

The design, although contemporary, echoes the character of the original Victorian streetscape and respects the adjacent 18th Century Holy Trinity Church. The scheme comprises two parts - Trinity East, a new-build development on the site of the former Trinity and Burton arcades, and Trinity West, the redeveloped former Leeds Shopping Centre.

The Kawneer systems were installed on the Trinity West element and on Trinity East, this project representing a particularly large and prestigious one for approved specialist sub-contractor Bennett Architectural Aluminium Solutions. Initial construction started at Trinity East, with the erection of a 40,000ft² glass dome centrepiece.

Designed by the internationally renowned structural engineers SKM Anthony Hunts, its 1,900 glass panels rise 100ft above street level. Built on a steel framework, during construction it was supported on an immense scaffold structure which when removed resulted in the dome sinking 20mm.

In addition to creating a modern shopping experience, almost 25% of the 100+ units anchored by the flagship Marks & Spencer and Topshop/Topman stores have been dedicated to food and leisure.

This includes the creation of a rooftop dining terrace, basement cocktail bars, an Everyman 27,000ft², four-screen art house cinema (the first outside London) and two D&D London restaurants, again the first in the UK outside London.

Most revolutionary of all has been the creation of Trinity Kitchen, the UK’s first authentic indoor street food venue. An extensive public arts programme complements the leisure offer, with the architectural design accommodating several sculptures by renowned artists.

Obtaining the right mix of retail and leisure elements at Trinity Leeds proved central to driving footfall and dwell time as well as facilitating the late-night shopping and social destination elements.

The scheme has proven a revolutionary project and had an extraordinary socio-economic impact on the local area, with Leeds enjoying a reported increase in overall visitor numbers of two million as a result of the development. The centre attracted more than 22million visitors in its first year of trading.

Please contact our Architectural Services Team if you have a project you would like to discuss: Tel: 01928 502604 / Email: kawneerAST@arconic.com

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