

Faster Plaster

MP75 goes down a storm

see page 2



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:



Top hospital prescribes Knauf - see page 3

Canary Wharf banks on Knauf expertise - see page 4



COMPETITION



WIN AN F1 DRIVE

- see page 3



Welcome to Wall to Wall, our new publication for the Specifier and Contractor community. In this issue we report the latest news about Knauf Drywall and highlight projects where our quality of products and technical service have made a real difference.

Knauf Drywall is one of Europe's largest manufacturers of drywall building systems and plasters for hand or machine application. Part of the international Knauf Group, Knauf Drywall and our UK sister companies, Knauf Insulation and Knauf DIY, serve the entire building sector.

Our products are backed by extensive on-site and phone-based technical support, to help the specifier, developer and contractor throughout the project.

You can contact our technical support team on 01795 416259.

Full details of all Knauf Drywall products are available on our award-winning website www.knaufdrywall.co.uk/themanual and leading publications such as The Complete Drywall Manual and our Design Partner sector guides.

We've also just launched the online Partition Selector tool, which enables you to find the right partition in seconds – and then print a full specification for the job, saving valuable time.

Jon Bourne
Technical Director



Call 01795 416259 for assistance with your project

Faster Plaster MP75 goes down a storm

When torrential rain struck a Sheffield construction site, saturating two partly completed apartment buildings, Knauf Drywall's MP75 Projection Plaster got an unexpected chance to show its mettle – enhancing its growing reputation among plastering specialists.

Plastering subcontractors Lord and Downing of Rotherham were mid-way through a 7,500 square metre MP75 Projection Plaster project at Neepsend, Sheffield, when a storm flooded the top floors of the two four-storey buildings, then still unroofed.

Water soaked into blockwork walls on the lower floors, freshly plastered with single coat MP75. The excessive wetness and essential replacement of corroded galvanised electrical conduits meant that many of the walls had to be re-plastered. After close inspection, Knauf Drywall's technical experts found that a substantial proportion of the original plastering was damp, but undamaged.

Lord and Downing director Russ Downing says MP75 performed well under exceptional circumstances, "If it had been a traditional two-coat plaster it would probably all have washed off the wall. But much of the MP75 stayed

on and soon dried out again, producing an even harder finish than usual.

"MP75 is the best finish we've seen in 30 years. None of our teams want to go back to hand-plastering after they have used it. And now builders and developers are showing interest because it's fast and provides real quality."

Elsewhere, other UK contractors are winning more work with Knauf Drywall's MP75 Projection Plaster – the market leader in Europe. One of the first to benefit is Medlock Dry Construction of Lewes, which recently completed its first contract using MP75, and is forecasting more business as a result of the time savings now possible.

Bill Little, Surveyor for Medlock, says, "Our tradesmen sampled Knauf MP75 and found it was quick and simple to work with.

"The tradesmen enjoy using MP75 and they can cover larger areas – and with a better finish – than when they use hand-applied plaster. This means we can offer a real saving to our clients. It really is faster plaster." ■



Call 08700 613700 to order literature

Top hospital prescribes Knauf

As Great Ormond Street Hospital embarks on a 16-year, multi-million pound development programme, Knauf Drywall is providing key products and expertise for an environment that will help the London hospital to stay at the forefront of children's medicine for years to come.

The first phase of the building programme will provide new in-patient beds in the Octav Botnar Wing and reduce the pressure on acute beds in the Southwood Building, through the creation of a new "patient hotel" and transitional care facilities. It will also provide space to accommodate the next phase of the development project.

The drylining work, which is being carried out by sub-contractor Baris on behalf of the main contractor HBG, involves a range of Knauf Drywall products and features some unusual design details.

As well as complex curved partition work, there is a major design requirement to accommodate penetrations for piping medical gases and other specialist services.

Knauf was also able to provide a technical solution to the requirement for fire-wheels and hoses to be mounted in the wall, while still achieving the necessary fire rating.

The products used include Metal Stud partitions, Wall Liner systems, MF ceilings and Knauf Drywall's purpose-designed Shaftwall system for lift and service shafts.

Through each stage, Knauf Drywall is providing a high level of on-the-spot support to ensure that every aspect of the project runs smoothly. This includes regular site visits, telephone technical support, the approval and underwriting of design detailing, and developing bespoke systems for specialist applications. ■



e-mail technical@knauf.co.uk for assistance with your project



Super microscope looks good

Knauf Drywall is supplying a spectrum of high performance plasterboard and drylining systems to Diamond Synchrotron Light Source 'Super Microscope', the largest science project in the UK for 30 years.

The Diamond Synchrotron – described as a 'super microscope' – is housed in a striking doughnut-shaped building, 516m in circumference.

Main contractor for the £66m building contract, Costain, specified Knauf Drywall to provide a range of systems for the project – including specialist acoustic, fire-rated, and thermally-rated partitions.

For the experimental halls, and the two large rings of services (one of which is inside the storage ring, with the second running around the perimeter of the building), a variety of Knauf boards are being installed on 70mm high performance twin frame stud systems. Knauf Twin Frame lightweight partitions provide exceptional sound reduction properties and high fire resistance values. High specification Knauf Vapourshield, Moistureshield and Soundshield boards are being utilised for the Twin Frame systems.

Knauf Shaftwall is being used for service areas throughout Diamond. Shaftwall is a lightweight system comprising Knauf Plasterboards screw-fixed to a steel frame made up of special profile studs and channels that allow it to be wholly reconstructed from one side. It offers a major advantage in lift and service shaft construction because installation work can be carried out from the floor side only, avoiding the need for costly scaffolding within the shaft. ■

Call 01795 416259 for assistance with your project



Campaign promotes time saving Partition Selector

WIN AN F1 DRIVE



A fantastic F1 driving experience worth £1295 is the first prize in a competition launched by Knauf Drywall aimed at promoting the new web based Partition Selector tool.

"We wanted to promote the time you can save by using our new partition selector tool and it made sense to offer an incentive to drive the fastest thing on four wheels," said Bob Stark, Marketing Communications Manager, Knauf Drywall.

The prize draw is part of a tongue in cheek promotional campaign called 'Don't tell your boss!' which is aimed at anyone who's responsible for writing partition specifications for projects. Free to all users the partition selector cuts out all the tedious donkey work of cutting and pasting different documents to create a specification.

"It's very easy to use and I reckon 10 partitions can be comfortably specified, complete with the full specification document in about 5 minutes. Anybody who's done it the old way would know that normally takes hours rather than minutes," adds Bob. "With so many project teams under-resourced we think our partition selector will improve productivity. What's more it's free to anyone. All you have to do is register online."

The partition selector is simple to use and you should get the hang of it in minutes. Registering allows you to create multiple partitions in a job, store and retrieve as many jobs as you like, and come back and create an automatic Operations and Maintenance Manual as you need it.

But if you want the chance of winning that F1 driving experience – don't delay. **The closing date for the competition is 30th September 2005.**



5 runners-up prizes of Apple's iPod shuffle

Go to www.dont-tell-your-boss.com now!

Canary Wharf banks on Knauf expertise

As one of Europe's leading manufacturers of plaster, plasterboards and drylining systems, Knauf Drywall has consistently won competitive tenders for shell and core work from Canary Wharf Contractors Ltd. With this latest contract, Knauf Drywall has been involved in the construction of 13 towers at Canary Wharf – and about 60% of the lettable space on the estate.

Spencer Maynard, Technical Services Manager for Knauf Drywall, says, "We aren't a 'preferred supplier' in the sense that the customer is obliged to use us, but we have consistently won contracts by delivering expert specification advice and technical support to suit each project's needs".

He says the client has particularly appreciated Knauf Drywall's commitment to a high level of involvement from the

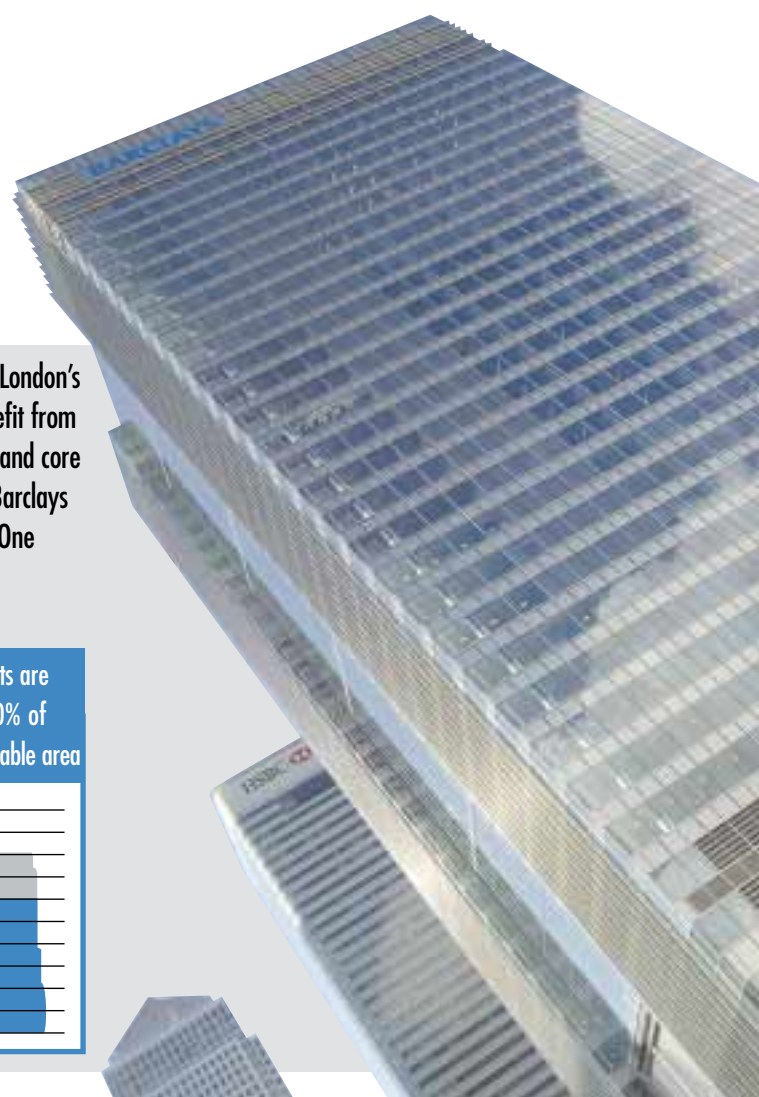
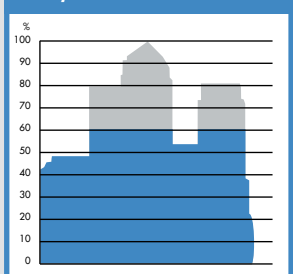
design stage onwards. This involvement includes weekly site visits, the approval and underwriting of design detailing, and developing bespoke systems for applications such as pressurised lift shafts.

The Knauf Drywall team also organised the logistics of getting materials to site in a phased and timely manner. Says Spencer, "It is very important for the prime contractor, and indeed for the drylining subcontractors, that we are there to give them our help and support whenever they need it".

The main contractor on all of these projects was Canary Wharf Contractors. The subcontractor on the Barclays One Churchill Place project was Future Interiors – one of five subcontractors responsible for most of the Knauf drylining at Canary Wharf. ■

The latest building at London's Canary Wharf to benefit from Knauf Drywall's shell and core expertise is the new Barclays global headquarters, One Churchill Place.

Knauf Drywall products are specified on nearly 60% of Canary Wharf's net lettable area



Call 01795 416259 for assistance with your project



in my view

Consultant engineer Roy Hammerton stands on his soap box

After many years as a manufacturer's advisor to architects, Roy Hammerton turned to construction consulting in 1990. He has provided drywall building expertise for prominent UK and foreign developments including the Petronas Twin Towers, Kuala Lumpur and the Sultan of Brunei's residence, London. He has lectured extensively on gypsum products, quality control and fire protection.

Design and build contracts have an alarming tendency to go expensively off-course when relatively small mistakes are not detected soon enough. For example, a simple drywall design error – such as incorrect encasing of structural steel – can grow into a costly problem when work has to be redone. This can also lead to protracted disputes over liability.

Why do errors happen – and what can be done about them?

However much we try to automate things, the human element plays a big role in the construction chain and inevitably some mistakes occur – anywhere from concept to completion. Usually, they are made by people who ought to know better or sometimes by

others who lack adequate knowledge. In recent years we have seen a number of problems which emerged when projects had reached an advanced stage. Called in to check subcontractors' work on site, we found evidence suggesting that design teams had missed key requirements of the Building Regulations or incorrectly specified methods of construction.

Had a consultant been involved earlier – or if there had been stricter internal checks – the problems might have been identified upfront and rectified without needing to renegotiate contract prices because of additional costs.

Drywall is a brilliant construction method, with solutions to suit a wide variety of building needs. Its versatility gives designers freedom to explore new creative limits – but like much in

the building arena, it demands that certain rules are followed.

The major manufacturers offer immense technical backup – especially for specifiers and installers – while experienced consultants can provide an impartial check on the finer points of drywall design and construction.

Getting things right first time is always better than putting them right later!

A quick tip on fire walls

Plasterboard fire walls should be marked as such above the ceiling line to warn maintenance staff of the dangers of penetrating such walls. Mark by spraying red paint through a stencil with letters at least 100mm high. Adhesive tape is not suitable.

More info: fax this form to 01270 824025 to amend your details or to request further information

Please send me further information on:

Name _____
Position/Title _____
Company _____
Address _____

Tick here if you would like someone to contact you:

Please give details:

Post Code _____
Telephone _____
Fax _____
E-mail _____



Knauf Drywall

PO Box 133 Sittingbourne Kent ME10 3HW

Literature Hotline: 08700 613700

Email: knauf@knauf.co.uk www.knaufdrywall.co.uk