

C A S E S T U D Y

University of
Southampton

Building 85

Internal acoustic wall
system

University of Southampton Building 85

Client: The University of Southampton
Architect: NBBJ
Main contractor: BAM Construction

Product: BCL Internal Acoustic Wall System
Species: BAMBOO
Size: 1,000 m²
Location: Southampton
Duration: 6 weeks
Value: £250,000
Completion date: June 2010

Features

- Acoustic BAMBOO panel system achieving a NRC = 0.8
- Fire resistance rated to Class 0 SSF.
- Low level lacquering for easy 'wipe-down' maintenance.
- Acoustic system delivered to site as BCL 'secret-fixing panels'

The new Life Sciences Building at the University of Southampton, known as Building 85, has been designed with the purpose of being the University's flagship building, creating a world-leading research and learning centre in the field of Biological & Medical Science and is the first project in the UK to utilise BCL's BAMBOO acoustic system.

The interior was designed to have an acoustic timber panel system lining areas of the walls, providing enough acoustic absorption to achieve the required reverberation times laid out by the acoustic consultant. As with every BCL panel system, NBBJ & BAM had complete control over the species, treatments & dimensions of timber used on the panels. After a rigorous selection process, Bamboo was chosen as the clear winner over other competing species for its fantastic combination of quality, sustainability, durability and low cost.



Bamboo acoustic panel system to open plan library



low level panels finished with clear lacquer

Although not technically a 'wood', bamboo is a 'super-plant' and the world's most sustainable 'building timber' with a growth cycle of around 5 years (compared to 25 – 50 years). It is remarkably strong, with a tensile strength similar to mild steel and the same strength-to-weight ratio as graphite. It is also knot free and highly cost effective, making it a great substitute for 'Prime Oak' and an ideal choice of treatment to the internal atrium space to building 85.

Currently BCL are the only company in the UK to offer a solid bamboo acoustic panel system for large scale applications to architects & designers and can provide all bamboo systems to be FSC certified if required.



The Old Byre
 Oakley Farm, Pound Lane
 Hurst, Berkshire
 RG10 0RS

Tel: 0118 934 4155
 Fax: 0118 934 4188
 email: info@bcl.uk.net
www.bcltimberprojects.co.uk

