

CASE STUDY

Highcross Mall Leicester



Highcross Mall, Leicester

Client: Hammerson
Architect: Chapman Taylor / Benoy
Main contractor: Sir Robert McAlpine

Size: 1,000 m²
Location: Leicester
Duration: 12 weeks
Value: £350,000
Completion date: December 2007

Features

- Complex sloping ceiling design, curved in plan and in section
- Over 650 different sizes of prefabricated panels
- Concealed fixing details
- Class C acoustic system
- Covered but not enclosed location
- Fire treated to Class 0 surface Spread of Flame

The timber ceiling at Leicester Highcross Mall is a central feature of its new build, joining the new and existing shopping areas. The geometry is highly complex, combining curves in section and a gradual pitch, further complicating the symmetry.

To meet this challenge, the BCL design team came up with over 650 different sizes of slatted ceiling panels, all manufactured off-site over a period of six weeks. This meant the entire installation could also be completed in just six weeks, a third of the time associated with traditional site-fix methods and highlighting one of the key benefits of a BCL panel system, rapid installation.

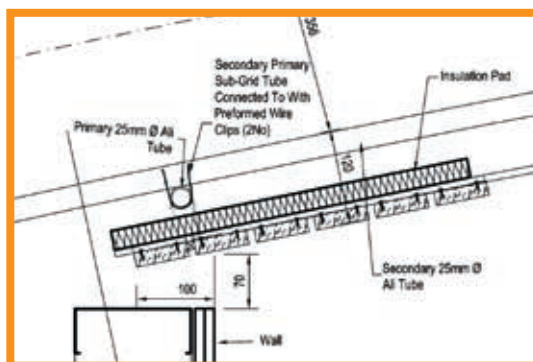
The choice of materials was also important as the mall was not heated and subject to fluctuations in temperature and humidity. BCL were also on hand to consult on technical issues and recommended that Western Red Cedar be used, given its combination of low movement, low knot content and warm high-grade appearance.



The challenging roof design at Highcross Mall featured inward- and upward-curving skylight areas.



Concealed fixing details mean the ceiling has clean, uninterrupted lines, as well as providing a durable solution.



Suspension detail



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