

C A S E S T U D Y

Sackler Centre,
Victoria & Albert
Museum
London

Sackler Centre, Victoria & Albert Museum, London

Client: Victoria & Albert Museum
Architect: Softroom
Main contractor: Allenbuild

Size: 300 m²
Location: Kensington
Duration: 10 weeks
Value: £80,000
Completion date: May 2008

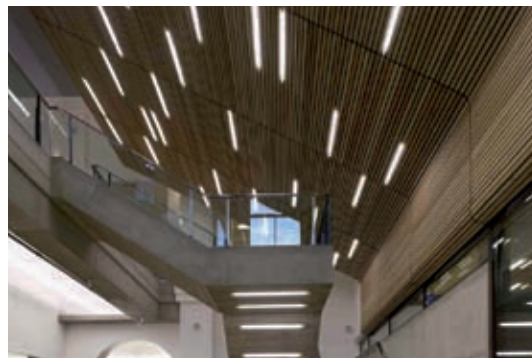
Features

- Class C acoustic system, including reflection and attenuation panels.
- Pre-fabricated, concealed fixings.
- 50 x 25 mm Siberian Larch slatted panels.
- All timber obtained from sustainable FSC accredited sources
- Fire treated to Class 0 Surface Spread of Flame using Arch “Non-Com” treatment.

The construction of the new Sackler Centre provides state-of-the-art workshops and education areas for visitors of the V&A Museum. A critical design feature of this project was the undulating timber ceiling and wall linings that run throughout the lecture theatre and around the main foyer of the building. The intricate design involved various curved elements at very tight radii, making traditional approaches highly impractical.

BCL have considerable experience in creating curved timber surfaces and were approached by the architects Softroom at an early stage to consult on their design. The panels were made off-site in the BCL factory, with the curved elements pre-fabricated and ready to fix straight to the steel sub-grid, also installed by BCL.

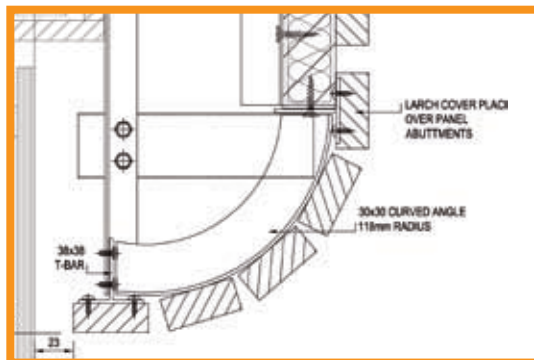
The ceiling also runs at low levels and thus was subject to human contact. Siberian Larch therefore was the recommended species of timber as whilst fulfilling the aesthetic goals set by Softroom, it provided a hard wearing and cost-effective solution.



Ceiling system with integrated lighting



Pre-fab panels showing vertical shadow gap



Curved cladding detail