



WEST SIDE PROJECT



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An overhauled, extended and refurbished Grade A office accommodation

Westside was initially developed in 1990 as a landmark headquarter building providing 175,000 sq ft of office accommodation together with three full height reception areas, a security building and 730 car parking spaces.

When the design team at Sonnemann Toon first visited the site, it was clear that the uninspiring and underachieving building required a full refurbishment. Fortunately the base structure had been constructed to a high level and the shell and facade were robustly detailed.

A rigorous feasibility study investigated options to maximise the net internal area of the floors and enhance the layout of the building. This was achieved through removing three staircases; infilling terraces, balconies and external under cover ground floor areas. This increased the net internal area by approximately 8,012 sq ft to 99,274 sq ft without the need to increase the building footprint

The proposed works included a full CAT A refurbishment of the office floors, common parts, reception and toilets. The mechanical, electrical and public health infrastructure was replaced and the ▶



CONCRETE
EFFECT FLOOR
TILES WERE
CHOSEN FROM
THE FORMAT
RANGE

six passenger lifts were completely overhauled and modernised.

Solus Ceramics were delighted to work with Sonnemann Toone to supply tiles to the reception atrium and the WCs. Dramatic large format 1200x1200mm tiles from the concrete inspired Horizon range create a bold welcome at Westside with the rustically worn design of the tiles providing a warm aesthetic in the wide, open space.

In the WCs and shower facilities, light and bright stone effect porcelain tiles from the Gorges 2 range were applied in both wall and floor areas. The limestone effect tiles create a chic and modern ambience that is also easy to maintain and clean.

Tim Bennett, Associate, Sonnemann Toon Architects LLP, said: "The design team worked closely to overcome site issues and all parties worked hard to deliver a project to be proud of. The works have extended the life of a building that was once tired and lifeless. Now the building is bright, clean, modern and bustling with activity fit for the next 20 years." ♦



Our view



Jo Burley
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Solus Ceramics were delighted to work alongside Sonnemann Toon Architects on this innovative and extensive renovation project in Apsley, Hemel Hempstead.

No stranger to large scale commercial projects, we facilitated the supply of more than 1800m² of tiles to the site.

The large format concrete effect tiles in the reception are a personal highlight, with the monolithic porcelain helping to build the sense of space and scale from the ground up.



For more information about this project please visit our website