Case Study

Brent House
“I couldn’t believe it until I saw it, we installed 15-18 per day. You can’t put a value on that speed and building on site wouldn’t be able to compete.”

Project Director – Henley Homes
Brent House is a vibrant development minutes from Wembley Stadium, providing 248 apartments to the nation's capital.

Challenge

The project was developed using modern methods of construction from our modular balconies to the light-gauge steel frame. The design of some of the balconies also featured a very deep projection of 2.5 metres. These factors brought the challenge of ensuring the frame could adequately support the balcony method chosen.

Unforeseen delays on site of over a year meant balconies could not be sent for installation in line with the agreed project programme.

The busy city location of the project meant that some balconies needed to be lifted over a public footpath and busy street for install.
Solution

A key concern for the architect with the light-gauge steel frame was the weight of traditional balconies. Our aluminium Glide-On™ solution is half the weight of its steel alternative, meaning the load on the frame was dramatically reduced. This was even more important due to the large projection of some of the balconies which enable residents to make the most of their outside space.

Unforeseen delays on site of more that a year could have posed a significant challenge with traditional balcony methods. However, our offsite manufactured Glide-On™ balconies were completed ahead of the agreed date and safely stored until they were needed on site. Unlike traditional balcony methods no materials or components took up valuable space on site and the site team were able to call the balconies for install when it suited the programme.

The project manager was so impressed with our offsite manufacture and quick install he said, “from a programme perspective it was great, [traditional balcony methods] wouldn’t be able to compete with 15-18 a day”.

When asked about how Glide-On™ compares to traditional methods he said, “the finish of the balconies is good, time is the biggest thing you can’t put a value on that. Safety and costs are better and there’s no need for scaffold which makes the building look finished a lot sooner”.

![Balconies Image]
Step 1: Cast in anchors were cast into the slab & incorporated thermal break connections offering superior rigidity to the balconies.

Step 2: Cassette® balconies were preassembled offsite, including the balustrades, decking & soffits.

Step 3: Cassette® balconies were transported with balconies ‘nested’ onto each pallet making transport both cost effective & safe. Balconies were pre-slung offsite ready for installation upon arrival.

Step 4: Once lifted into position, the Cassettes® simply Glide-On™ to the pre-erected support arms, before completing the simple mechanical fixings.
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Reference: Glide-On™ aluminium Cassette® balconies with Crystal® frameless, structural glass.

Balcony anchor: Cast-in anchors incorporating thermal breaks.

Arms: 2-piece galvanised steel.

Cassette® structure: Standard 400mm modular Glide-On™ Cassette® balconies.

Soffits: Polyester powder coated aluminium controlled draining soffits.

Deck finish: Enjura WPC composite decking fixed with hidden clips.

Toprail: 22 x 22mm (nominal) 'U shaped satin anodised aluminium capping to top of glass.

Guarding: 21.5mm clear toughened laminated structural glass panels PVB interlayer with a screen printed band to conceal the balcony frame.

Base fixing: Mechanically fixed to Cassette®

Fascias: Polyester powder coated aluminium fascia trim to conceal edge of balcony frame fascia raised above the level of the decking to provide a safety kick plate for vertical bars.