

Case Study

Canolfan S4C Yr Egin,
University of Wales, Carmarthen

Education



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Setting a Quality Standard

Novastruct's FSX 110 curtain walling, and DSX 190 TB doors feature on the creative and digital centre, Canolfan S4C Yr Egin, located on the University of Wales Trinity Saint David's (UWTSD) Carmarthen campus.

Architectural glazing systems by Novastruct played a key role in a state-of-the-art building which is at the heart of Wales' creative and digital future.

Specified by BDP architects, they were installed over 10 months by a team of up to eight from Novastruct-approved dealer APIC UK for main contractor Kier Construction.

The FSX 110 zone-drained curtain walling with 65mm sightlines was used alongside Novastruct's DSX 190 TB automatic entrance doors on the ground floor which houses a spacious public café alongside performance space and auditorium as well as resources for community groups and offices for the building's administrative staff.



“At the heart of Wales’
creative and digital future”



The FSX 110 system also features on the first floor, which is let to the centre's main anchor tenant - Welsh language broadcaster S4C - for its headquarters (corporate, communications, finance, business affairs and legal departments). It also features on the third floor, which is let to a number of different companies working in the creative and digital sector, as well as on a clerestory lantern above an atrium which overarches the three storeys.

Building: Canolfan S4C Yr Egin, University of Wales
Location: Carmarthen
Architect: BDP
Main Contractor: Kier Construction
Installer: APIC UK

Meeting a Range of Requirements

Many of the centre's tenants will offer work experience to UWTSD students, allowing them to make the most of the university's connections during their studies. BDP's award-winning design was based on the close relationship between the university, prospective tenants of the centre and the wider community.

This relationship, or trinity, is reflected in its form - a simple triangle that grows from Carmarthenshire's soil, a titular reference to Yr Egin - a Welsh play on words referencing energy and birth.

The 3,600m² building is linked to the main campus by a large public square which allows for the staging of a variety of outdoor activities in its stunning Carmarthenshire location between the Pembrokeshire coast and the Brecon Beacons.

On the use of Novastruct's systems, BDP's project architect noted: "As most of the façade comprises curtain wall we needed a system that could meet a wide range of performance requirements.

"We specified Novastruct due to their extensive range of features which met the functional and aesthetic demands of the project.

"The Novastruct curtain walling had a key role in the project. As a naturally ventilated building it has an active façade that reacts to changing environmental conditions."

The Novastruct system houses the various components that protect the interior from the elements while allowing air to flow through. A key element of the building's aesthetic was to create a distinct character for each level of the building - a challenge for a facade almost entirely constructed from curtain wall.

This challenge was met by the extensive range of Novastruct features, especially the fin capping, which was vital to the characterisation of the different elements of the facade. The durability, strength to weight ratio and life cycle benefits of aluminium were key factors in the consideration of Novastruct's system when specifying the external envelope.



Solutions for an Award-Winner

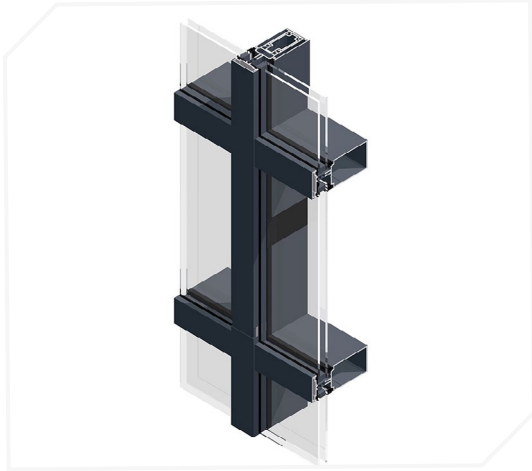
APIC UK senior sales and estimating technician Andrew Finn said: "Working with Novastruct we were able to offer solutions for all the differing project requirements including profiled vertical faced caps with new dies for the 100mm and 150mm profiles to the ground-floor curtain wall which was specified to accommodate the vertical movement of the building. The 100mm, 150mm and 200mm vertical faced caps provide a strong vertical emphasis to the curtain wall. The use of differing sizes and finishes to these are designed to provide a 'flickering effect'".

Canolfan S4C Yr Egin was opened by the Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AM, first Minister of Wales and has since won a RICS Wales award for best commercial building.

For further information about Canolfan S4C Yr Egin, visit <https://yregin.cymru/>



Product Specification Highlights



FSX 110 65mm Curtain Wall System



DSX 190 TB Door

Novastruct UK

Astmoor Road
Astmoor Industrial Estate
Runcorn, Cheshire
WA7 1QQ
United Kingdom

Tel.: + 44 (0)1928 502500
Mail: Sales.UK@novastructeurope.com

www.novastructeurope.co.uk

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