

Case study



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Schöck and cross-laminated timber feature at Hoxton cinema

Originally opened in 1914, Hoxton Cinema in London's East End became a victim of the first wave of mass cinema closures, with its last screening in 1956. The next forty or so years saw the building in Pitfield Street serve as home to a number of different trades and activities, until it eventually fell into disrepair. Today, there has been a transformation and Hoxton Cinema will soon be back in the limelight. The plans, by Waugh Thistleton Architects, are for a replica of the original 1914 Gaumont façade to be reconstructed. Its accuracy ensured by confirming that 'all mouldings and architectural details have been recorded with onsite measurements, castings and extensive photographic studies'. Behind the façade will be a boutique development of contemporary black-brick one, two and three bedroom apartments – and in the basement, with a nod to the past, the doors will be opening to a new three-screen arthouse cinema.

The design consists of two distinct elements. A solid concrete ground level to accommodate the three-screen cinema, and an acoustically insulated cross-laminated timber (CLT) upper residential element. This has a stepped western elevation providing gardens, balconies and a lightweight zinc-clad pavilion. The balconies on the western elevation are of steel construction and typically these would be connected to a concrete or steel building frame. However, the less conventional requirement here is to connect the steel balconies to the CLT, fabricated for the project by KLH UK. Cross-laminated timber performs well thermally, but the steel cantilever with its high thermal conductivity penetrates

the insulation layer. So it is still important to minimise the risk of any potential thermal bridging problems.

Schöck Isokorb integrated with CLT

One of the leading solutions on the market for the prevention of thermal bridging, involving practically any cantilever connectivity requirement, is the Schöck Isokorb range. This is a comprehensive range of load-bearing thermal break elements and specifically it is the Isokorb type KST – usually for steel-to-steel connections – which has been cleverly integrated here. The modular design of the Schöck Isokorb type KST ensures that it can be adapted to all profile sizes and load-bearing capacity requirements.

With the Hoxton Cinema project, a right angle steel retaining plate has first been fixed to the CLT outer wall and floor using heavy duty screws. The inner face of the Isokorb KST is then bolted to the retaining plate and the steel balcony in turn is then connected to the outer face of the module. The result is a more rigid structure and the prevention of any increased heat loss or, just as importantly, condensation. Particularly where it might occur under the steel retaining plates at the connectivity points with the CLT.

The diverse range of Schöck Isokorb thermal insulation solutions guarantees totally verifiable performance standards, meets full compliance with all relevant UK building regulations, offers LABC Registration and meets the highest standards of BBA Certification.

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Main Project Team

Architects:	Waugh Thistleton
Cross-laminated panel fabricators:	KLH UK Ltd
Principal Contractor:	Simply UK
Structural Thermal Breaks	Schöck Ltd

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Notes to the editor**A leading European supplier**

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Images and Captions

[Hoxton Cinema.jpg]



Aerial view of the project – Courtesy of Waugh Thistleton

[Hoxton Cinema_facade.jpg]



Front elevation – Courtesy of Waugh Thistleton

[KST and CLT.jpg]



KST modules and CLT in position – Courtesy of KLH UK Ltd

[KST modules.jpg]



KST modules and CLT in position – Courtesy of KLH UK Ltd

[under construction.jpg]



Work in progress at Pitfield Street – Image: Schöck Ltd