

Queen's Hospital, Burton upon Trent

Aquarian Cladding's Gebrik system provides a turn-key solution to unlock hospital site.

Working with specialist fast-track building supplier, ModuleCo, Aquarian Cladding supplied its Gebrik insulating brick cladding system for the Queen's Hospital development project in Burton.

In June 2010, ModuleCo was appointed to provide a new building which would enable the paediatric clinic to be relocated adjacent to the existing children's ward. The challenge was to position the building within a 'land-locked' courtyard and have it usable within just four months! To meet this brief, nine prefabricated 'pods' were lifted over the hospital rooftop and dropped into position in the courtyard by a huge, 350 tonne crane, creating a two storey building which was then clad to match the existing polychromatic brickwork within the courtyard.



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The £2 million programme, which formed part of the Burton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's 'Transforming to 2012' project, included an integrated in-patient and out-patient clinic for children, an ante-natal clinic and an elective admissions lounge for the hospital's main theatres on the first floor.

Jonathon Brindley of ModuleCo said: "The hospital trust placed the order in June and the building was completely operational in October, the short turn-around time from ordering to opening made possible by the use of modular construction techniques and modern materials such as Gebrik."

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Project details

- **Cladding:** Gebrik
- **Finish:** FE71-20 Amari Yellow
FE10-50 Carmesi Red
- **Site Address:** Belvedere Road,
Burton upon Trent,
Staffordshire
- **Client:** Burton Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust
- **Main Contractor:** ModuleCo
- **Cladding Contractor:** EAGA



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The short turn-around time was made possible by the use of Gebrik

These short timescales are clearly a major advantage to any hospital that may need to provide additional bed space or to move patients to allow them to deep clean wards".

Aquarian Cladding worked with specialist contractor EAGA to design the yellow brick panels with string courses of red bricks to co-ordinate with the existing brickwork. The final specification saw approximately 300m² of Gebrik Amari Yellow (Ref FE71-20) and Carmesi Red (Ref FE10-50) panels, corners and reveals, all of which were applied over a four week period to ensure the building was completed on programme.



About Gebrik

Gebrik is an Insulating Brick Cladding System, invented and patented in Belgium in 1982. Since Aquarian Cladding was appointed exclusive UK distributor of the system in 2007 over 30,000m² has been used throughout the UK to refurbish ageing housing stock and schools and to clad new-build schemes such as flats developments, schools as part of the BSF programme, supermarkets, student accommodation and off-site volumetric buildings.

The system consists of approx three hundred different natural clay brick finishes. Available in a wide range of sizes, the units are cast in polyurethane under factory controlled conditions. Stretcher or stack bond panels are produced to create approx 1m² 'sheets' which are screwed directly to a masonry, timber or steel frame substrate on site.

A range of standard corner options is available to suit external corners, surrounds to window or door openings or any other abutments.

The insulating properties of the system help to significantly improve a building's thermal performance and a BREEAM credit is achieved due to its excellent GWP/ODP rating.

Where components abut, foam is injected to ensure the façade remains impervious to water, whilst still allowing the wall to breathe.

Gebrik is an excellent solution for over-cladding existing buildings - improving their appearance, thermal performance and durability. A Modern Method of Construction, the Gebrik system will:

- improve overall build quality
- improve the accuracy, certainty and speed of the build programme
- reduce wall thickness, whilst improving thermal performance
- reduce the facade loadings on foundations and frame
- minimise storage, scaffolding and delivery requirements
- reduce dependency on good weather conditions

Yellow panels manufactured to include red string courses, which align with existing brickwork



Working within the restricted confines of the courtyard



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