



GETTING THE JOB DONE FOR GLENALMOND TIMBER

Of the many construction sector projects EMF has been involved in, none have matched the scale of complexity and speed of production required for a commission earlier this year from timber building specialist Glenalmond Timber. Dave Civil, EMF's managing director explains why.

Highly regarded in the construction sector for supply to the timber frame industry and for its high performance timber engineered products, Perthshire-based Glenalmond, approached EMF after it won a prestigious contract to build a four-storey glulam showcase office and community centre as part of a mixed use regeneration project on the 24-acre Mayfield site next to Manchester's Piccadilly railway station.

The project

Glulams (large timber beams) were chosen to form the key structural and aesthetic element of the complex, together with a fabricated mild steel bracket for anchoring and bolting the beams together.

Challenges

From the get-go, the commission to supply Glenalmond with a number of steel fixings and brackets of varying dimensions was one that certainly got the adrenalin pumping. EMF's workflow and delivery of components had to sync exactly with the build schedule to ensure that Glenalmond's on-site construction could continue uninterrupted.

Furthermore, exacting standards of drilling precision for ensuring that all brackets lined up with pre-machined main timber beams, was also a critical factor to the project's success – with minuscule tolerance levels in place, we knew that even the slightest deviation from the specification would cause problems.

Throughout the entire project, we kept in close communication and that, together with frequent visits to the site in Manchester, meant that we were able to anticipate and quickly resolve any issues. That way of working helped us keep the job on track - the first batch of brackets being delivered within a week.

Completion

The EMF team met the targets set and the development was officially opened in June of this year.

Seeing the magnificent structure of the community centre in place, with our components in clear view, is hugely satisfying and I have to confess to feeling a sense of pride in contributing to it. It was great working so closely with the Glenalmond team and I look forward to doing so again.



Assembled parts lifted into place, then early stage building commences—with two more storeys to go.



First part out of the welding bay



Galvanised parts mounted on timbers on site

“EMF pulled out all the stops for us on this job, supplying a high quality product which contributed to the successful completion of our part of the project. Their determination in working to punishing time scales to deliver a superb product never wavered.”

—Dave Cleverley
MD, Intelligent Wood Systems Ltd