

SPORTPARK, LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY
ASH & LACY BUILDING SYSTEMS LIMITED



Ash & Lacy Building Systems supplied its curved, perforated Ashtech panels for this office development which houses some of the UK's national sports governing bodies, in Loughborough. Owned by Loughborough University and located on a gateway site to the University campus, SportPark plays host to various sporting organisations in three pavilions, over four storeys.

Managed by Baggaley Construction Ltd, the project was designed by David Morley Architects and the external envelope materials strike a balance between life span, low maintenance requirements and aesthetics. Bringing the fire escape stairwells to the exterior of the building was a part of this specification – a move which required a carefully considered aesthetic solution.

Ash & Lacy's Ashtech was able to meet all expectations in terms of structural capabilities, quality and appearance. Manufactured at Ash & Lacy's West Bromwich facility, Ashtech was delivered onsite to Ashtech-approved installers William Cooper Ltd, pre-curved, sized and ready for installation.



One of the benefits of using perforated Ashtech around areas such as fire escapes, is the additional shelter from the elements it provides, creating a safe and dry fire escape route, while also allowing adequate ventilation. As well as the product itself being a low-maintenance solution, it also cuts costs further by allowing natural light to illuminate the stairwells in daylight hours, as opposed to fitting extensive lighting. Providing a perfectly flat solution which can be curved easily and polyester powder-coated or anodised to match any colour, Ashtech provides the most cost-effective, aesthetically pleasing finish.

Ashtech itself requires no additional framework to support the panels, reinforcing the transparent appearance specified by the architects, reducing the visual bulk whilst still retaining form. This also allowed a smooth installation process. Michael Friel, David Morley Architects, commented, "Ash & Lacy's Ashtech helped us to achieve our design vision simply and economically. We are all delighted with the result."

Office space at SportPark is occupied by prestigious sporting organisations such as the Amateur Swimming Association, Youth Sport Associations and the Wheelchair Basketball Association, to name but a few.



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