



# Glazing Journal

October Edition

## FANTASTIC FIT

SHOW SUCCESS FOR  
THE GGF

## AMAZING GRACE

GGF TRAINING  
LEADING THE WAY

## JOINING FORCES

GGF PARTNERS  
WITH THE JOINERY  
NETWORK

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT  
ON... **BIESSE**





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# Collaboration, Progress and Listening to Our Industry

By Ben Wallace, Managing Director, Glass and Glazing Federation



It's been an eventful and encouraging start to summer across the GGF Group. After a challenging first quarter for many businesses in the glass and glazing sector, it was energising to see such strong engagement, interest and optimism at this year's FIT Show, a clear sign that our industry continues to adapt, connect, and move forward together.

## A Stand That Stood Out

The GGF's stand at FIT was one of the busiest we've had in years. What made it truly worthwhile was the opportunity it gave us to have real, in-depth conversations with members and non-members alike. From technical queries to compliance concerns, from innovation ideas to day-to-day trading challenges it was a chance to really listen to how companies are coping in this environment.

The overriding theme? Resilience. Despite pressures around costs, regulation, and market uncertainty, it's clear that businesses across our sector are meeting those challenges head-on. That resilience continues to drive the GGF's focus, on support, on representation, and on action.



## Supporting Members Through Compliance Challenges

A recurring topic of concern has been around OPSS inspections and compliance with CE/UKCA marking requirements. Many companies, particularly manufacturers, are still being caught out by the detail and depth of the checks taking place.

Let me be clear: these are not issues to navigate alone. Whether you're a GGF member or not, our consultancy team is well-equipped to help businesses understand their obligations and implement the necessary documentation, testing and factory controls to remain compliant. If you're unsure, reach out; we're here to help, and we've already supported several businesses through recent inspections.

## Timber Joins the Fold: A New Group Launch

We're also pleased to share that the GGF Timber Group will officially launch in September, developed in partnership with The Joinery Network. Timber window and door manufacturers have historically been underrepresented in the GGF's technical structures, and this new group will aim to change that, offering technical guidance, best practice development, and a strong voice for timber-based systems.

We've already had strong interest from both new and existing members, and we'd welcome anyone keen to attend the launch or get involved in the group's future work. This is a genuine opportunity to help shape technical standards for a crucial part of our industry.

## Internal Change, Member Focus

Alongside this external progress, we've also been reshaping how we operate internally. We are currently reviewing how technical and regional meetings are run, with the goal of making them more targeted, better attended and clearly worthwhile for those taking time out to join. We want every engagement with the GGF to deliver meaningful value.

We're also pleased to have confirmed Kevin Jones as Head of Technical and Amy Hopton-Smith as Head of Membership, two strong appointments who will add depth and direction to their respective departments. The Training, Consultancy and Membership Departments report to Lauren Mawford, our Head of Commercial and Operations ensuring a joined-up approach as we develop for the future.

Meanwhile, a full website review is underway, with improvements to navigation, member resources, and meeting systems all in development.

## A Growing Community

I'm also proud to report that 55 new members have joined the Federation this year. That growth reflects both the ongoing appetite for support and guidance, and the hard work of the team in communicating the GGF's value. We've got a packed summer events calendar and are already deep into planning for this year's Members' Day in September, so there will be plenty of further opportunities to connect.

In a climate where margins are tight and pressures are real, industry bodies need to do more than just exist, we need to engage, support and lead. That's what we're working towards at the GGF every day.

Thank you to everyone who joined us at FIT, who continues to engage with our work, and who's helping to keep our sector strong and forward-looking. We'll see many of you again soon.

We've got a packed summer events calendar and are already deep into planning for the remainder of the year, so there will be plenty of further opportunities to connect.

# Meet the Team

YOURVOICE  
YOURSUPPORT  
YOURINDUSTRY  
YOURGGF



Ben Wallace  
Managing  
Director



John Agnew  
GGF Group CEO



Lauren Mawford  
Head of  
Commercial &  
Operations



Chris Beedel  
Head of Government  
Advocacy &  
Stakeholder  
Relations



Ann-marie Waugh  
Regional  
Manager



Kevin Jones  
Head of Technical



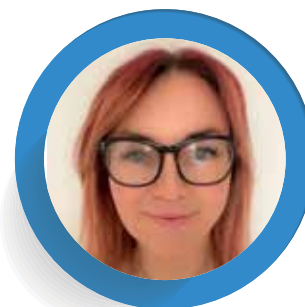
David Palmer  
Technical Officer  
& Consultancy  
Manager



Stephen Chappell  
Technical Officer



Amy Hopton Smith  
Head of  
Membership



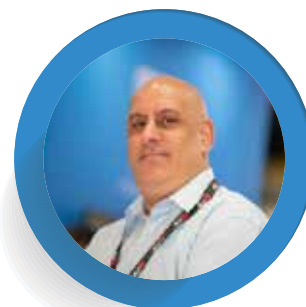
Sarah Potrykus  
Regional  
Manager



Leighton Cox  
Customer  
Relations  
Co-ordinator



Darrell Williams  
GGF Account  
Manager



Paul Ewens  
Membership  
Administrator



Chris Ferris  
Technical Content  
Creator



Bruce Turner  
Technical Officer



John Mannell  
Technical Officer  
& Training  
Manager



Samantha Locking  
Membership  
Administration  
Coordinator



# Policy Momentum Builds for Energy Efficiency and Glazing Sector

By Chris Beedel



At the time of writing, we await the Spring Forecast, where the Chancellor will respond to a new set of projections from the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) with a formal parliamentary statement. We are also awaiting the outcomes of the Government’s forthcoming Spending Review.

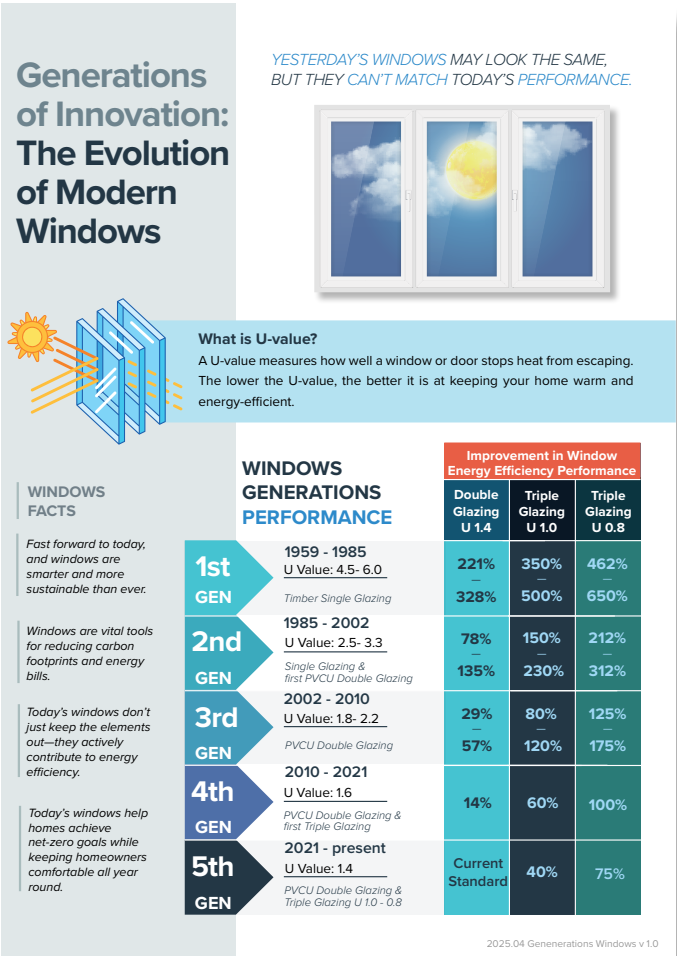
This review is expected to reshape how public services are delivered, introducing a mission-led approach that prioritises reform, drives efficiency and makes better use of technology. It will set spending plans for a minimum of three years within the five-year forecast period and could have significant implications for energy efficiency initiatives — an area in which the glazing industry is poised to play a pivotal role.

## Highlighting the Benefits of Replacement Glazing

We are excited to be launching our new ‘Generations’ infographic — a powerful visual tool designed to illustrate the benefits of replacing older windows with modern, energy-efficient alternatives. Using U-values derived from the Building Regulations, the infographic presents an easy-to-read table showing just how much performance has improved.

With homeowners now familiar with terms like 3G, 4G and 5G from the world of telecommunications, this comparative format is designed to resonate

and highlight the significant energy-saving benefits of window upgrades. It also serves as an effective sales tool. For those unsure of the age of their existing windows, the FENSA website offers a free, user-friendly resource featuring over 16 million recorded installations since 2002. Simply enter the postcode and house number to access installation data and order a FENSA certificate if required.



## Policy Engagement and Industry Representation

The GGF recently held a productive meeting with the Head of the Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations at the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). The discussion focused on the current consultation on energy performance in buildings and the key role that windows and doors play in reducing energy bills. Further follow-up meetings and submissions are planned.

On Tuesday 12th March, I met Dr Miatta Fahnbulleh, Minister for Energy Security, at a roundtable supper held in Westminster. I was invited to open the session, offering the glazing industry’s perspective on energy efficiency and the consumer.

I was joined by Natascha Engel, Chair and Minister Fahnbulleh. The key points included:

- The flat glass industry is highly energy-intensive and reliant on gas; furnaces typically operate continuously for 20–30 years.
- The industry welcomes the Government’s commitment to building 1.5 million new homes during this Parliament.
- UK manufacturers have the capacity to produce significantly more windows and doors, though the volume of replacement windows has fallen by over 50% in the last 20 years.
- The glazing sector is proudly UK-based, and we are committed to keeping manufacturing domestic.
- Windows and doors are inherently energy-efficient products and should be eligible for VAT exemptions.
- Most homeowners and stakeholders are unaware that today’s windows are 50% more energy-efficient than those installed decades ago.
- Modern windows and doors may appear similar to older models, but the performance gap is significant — a national education

programme is needed.

- Homeowners could save up to £395 per year on energy bills through window upgrades.
- Upgraded glazing contributes significantly to the Government’s Net Zero commitments.
- Our industry continues to innovate, offering solutions that help keep people warm and safe while aligning with Net Zero goals.

## Parliamentary Visit and Industry Engagement

On the 10th of July, Neil Coyle, Labour MP for Bermondsey and Old Southwark, visited the GGF Group Head Office on Rushworth Street. He met with members of the senior leadership team to learn more about the glazing industry’s economic contribution, technological innovation and environmental potential.

## Celebrating 50 Years of the NHIC

This year marks the 50th Charter Year of the National Home Improvement Council (NHIC). Founded in 1975, the NHIC advocates for home modernisation in line with energy and water efficiency goals, carbon reduction targets, and improved industry standards. Chris Beedel proudly serves as a Director of the NHIC.

To celebrate this milestone anniversary, the following key events are scheduled:

- **24th–26th June** – Installer Show, NEC Birmingham
- **15th October** – Parliamentary Reception, House of Lords
- **19th–20th November** – Elemental Show, ExCeL London

As the sector faces increasing pressure to decarbonise and modernise, the GGF continues to lead by example — engaging policymakers, educating homeowners, and championing the value of energy-efficient glazing solutions.

# Maintaining an Icon: GG Glass's Ongoing Role in Tower Bridge's Glass Walkways

By Tony Adam

**T**ower Bridge is one of London's most recognisable landmarks, drawing millions of visitors each year. Among its most popular features are the high-level East and West Walkways, each housing a dramatic glass floor panel that offers views 42 metres straight down to the River Thames. These modern insertions into a historic Grade I-listed structure represent a unique intersection of engineering, design and public engagement.

GG Glass & Glazing has played a central role in the evolution and upkeep of these glass walkways. Originally installed by Glassolutions in 2015–2016, the platforms were designed and manufactured by a team which now operates under GG Glass. Since the closure of Glassolutions' installation division, GG Glass has continued this legacy, leading the critical ongoing refurbishment and maintenance work that ensures safety, structural integrity and visual clarity for all who step onto the glass.



## A High-Spec Installation

Each walkway contains six stepped glass panels, comprising a complex layered structure designed to accommodate high footfall while maintaining transparency and safety. The footfall-bearing substrate consists of four layers of 12mm tempered heat-soak-tested glass, laminated with three 1.5mm SentryGlas interlayers. An external insulated sealed unit (ISU) is formed from two layers of 6mm tempered heat-soak-tested glass, again laminated with a 1.5mm SentryGlas interlayer. On top sits the internal sacrificial layer—a decorative, anti-slip panel finished with a 175-micron vinyl membrane on its non-contact side.

These components are housed in an internal mild PPC steel frame, overclad with 3mm SSS angle curb flashings. A perimeter LED channel, originally installed with a polycarbonate lens, provided aesthetic lighting but was later found to require redesign.

## Ongoing Maintenance and Redesign

In 2023, GG Glass was appointed once again to carry out the scheduled replacement of the sacrificial glass panels. These panels, subject to wear from foot traffic, scratches, and occasional vinyl blemishes, are replaced approximately every 18 months to maintain aesthetic quality and safety. The works are typically completed within a tight 12-hour window—executed overnight to avoid disruption to daytime visitors.

The logistical challenge of working 42 metres above the river, within a protected structure and under exacting health and safety constraints, underscores the level of expertise required. A timelapse video captured during the June 2023 works showcases this process in action, condensing a full overnight operation into just 40 seconds. It is a testament to the meticulous preparation, coordination, and skill of the GG Glass team. [Watch the video here.](#)

As part of this project, GG Glass also proposed and implemented improvements to the original LED channel and perimeter cladding. Over time, the dry-jointed stainless steel and acrylic lens system proved vulnerable to movement and footfall-induced stress, leading to lifted joints and damaged straps. GG Glass engineered a redesign that removed the LED lens and replaced it with a wider cladding system featuring reinforced butt-strap supports, greatly improving the durability and finish.

## Continuity and Expertise

The transition of key personnel from Glassolutions to GG Glass ensured that the knowledge and craftsmanship underpinning the original installation have been preserved. This continuity has enabled seamless maintenance and technical upgrades without compromising the original design intent or performance.

GG Glass's partnership with the City of London Corporation has grown out of this sustained excellence. The client continues to entrust GG Glass with this high-profile landmark, confident in their ability to deliver specialist refurbishment within tight operational constraints.

## Outcomes and Legacy

Visitor safety and experience remain paramount. Each refurbishment ensures crystal-clear views through structurally sound and visually pristine glass, preserving the "wow factor" for millions of annual guests. At the same time, improvements to the cladding system and efficient installation processes contribute to better durability, fewer disruptions and a more sustainable approach that retains the main glass structure and replaces only the top sacrificial layer.

Tower Bridge stands as a symbol of historic grandeur and modern innovation. GG Glass is proud to contribute to its ongoing story, ensuring that every step on the glass walkway is as breathtaking, safe and reliable as the day it was first revealed.



# The Glass and Glazing Federation at the FIT Show: A Resounding Success

By Lauren Mawford



The Glass and Glazing Federation (GGF) enjoyed a landmark moment at the recent FIT Show, held at the NEC in Birmingham at the end of April. With a refreshed, dynamic trade stand and a renewed energy across the board, the event was nothing short of a massive success for the GGF team. This year's stand was not only more inviting and engaging, but also served as a powerful platform to showcase exactly what the GGF stands for – and just how much we have to offer.

From long-standing supporters to first-time visitors, the GGF stand welcomed a stream of familiar and new faces, all eager to learn more about the Federation's rapid growth and expanding services. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive, and it's clear that the GGF is moving at an incredible pace. With innovation and support at the heart of everything we do, the excitement from visitors confirmed that our efforts to remain the UK's most influential trade body for our industry are hitting the mark.



Of course, no mention of our FIT Show success would be complete without celebrating the unexpected star of the stand – the squeaky chicken! What started as a bit of light-hearted fun quickly turned into a crowd favourite, creating memorable moments. Who would have thought that a humble rubber toy could become a huge crowd-pleaser and a staple of the GGF exhibition experience?

Adding to the buzz was the much-appreciated presence of the PiGs (People in Glazing society) team, who brought their famous bar to our stand. Their contribution created a lively atmosphere and ensured a fantastic turnout. We can't thank them enough for helping to make the event one to remember.

A heartfelt thank you also goes out to the incredible GGF team involved in this event. Their dedication and hard work made our FIT Show appearance a standout success. And, of course, thank you to everyone who visited us – you helped make it an event we won't soon forget.

As we ride the wave of this momentum, we're proud to report that GGF membership is now at an all-time high. This growth reflects just how vital the GGF is within the glazing and fenestration industry. More than ever, companies are recognising the value of being part of one of the UK's leading trade federations. Our members have access to unmatched benefits – from expert technical support and guidance to exclusive networking opportunities, specialist training and much more.

It's especially encouraging to see members not only joining, but actively engaging with everything the GGF has to offer. And don't forget: our popular "Member Get Member" programme is still going strong! If you know of a business that could benefit from joining the GGF, refer them – and once they join, you'll receive a fantastic 20% discount on your next year's membership fees.

## It's a win-win.

As we enter the summer months, it's hard to believe it's already July – time really does fly when you're having fun! But there's no slowing down at the GGF. We've got a packed calendar of events lined up to keep the momentum going and bring members together.

From our always-popular Golf Days to a thrilling day out at Windsor Races – plus lots more – there's plenty to look forward to. We'll be at the Glazing Summit and the G Awards, and both of those events are shaping up to be engaging and impactful. Expect engaging discussions, exciting announcements, celebrating the best of the industry and valuable networking opportunities all at once.

Whether you're a long-standing member or just getting involved with the Federation, there's never been a better time to be part of the GGF. Thank you for your continued support – we'll see you at the next event!



# Member Benefits Update

By Sarah Potrykus



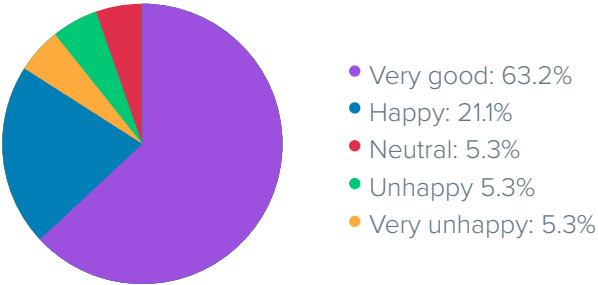
### April Survey Results

Earlier this year, your Regional Managers, Ann-Marie and Sarah, asked for your feedback through the April 2025 Regional Survey – and we’re incredibly grateful to everyone who took the time to respond. Your insights are helping shape the future of GGF member services, and I wanted to personally share some of the key takeaways with you.

Many of you told us that you regularly attend regional and technical meetings. Overall, the feedback was positive, with 63% of respondents saying they were very happy. For those who haven’t attended, the most common reasons included scheduling conflicts, location and time constraints – and we’re now exploring how we can address these challenges moving forward.

When it comes to networking events, nearly half of respondents were satisfied with the current setup. However, we also heard from those who

If you attend any meetings, are you happy with the venue and location?



felt improvements could be made. You told us that more meaningful networking opportunities and better content would make a real difference – and we’re actively exploring new formats to meet those expectations.

**“To hear more about the market trends, issues and other significant factors which could benefit all businesses.”**

In terms of member benefits, technical support and publications ranked highest in usage. However, some of you noted that you were unaware of the full range of benefits available – a clear sign that we need to communicate more effectively and improve accessibility. In response, we are currently working on launching a new website designed to better support and inform members.

**“BFRC testing costs reduced for members to encourage glass companies to join.”**

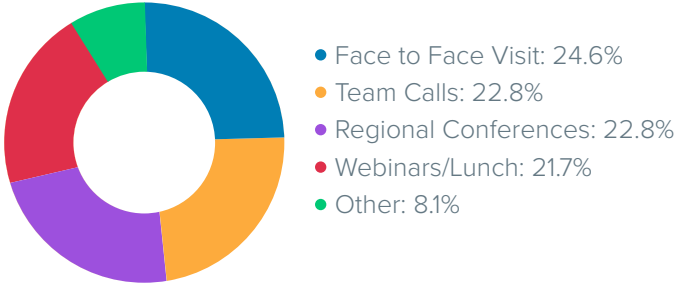
A number of you also asked for discounts, more tailored support for small businesses and real-world case studies showing how our industry partnerships can benefit you. This feedback is already shaping our upcoming plans – so keep an eye out for our online events in the latter half of 2025, and check out our new discounts on BFRC services, highlighted in this month’s Benefit Spotlight.

When it comes to engagement preferences, many of you said you’d like more face-to-face interactions such as site visits or conferences, while others preferred online formats like Teams calls and webinars. We’re working to offer a flexible mix of both going forward. Simply contact your regional manager if you’d like to arrange a face-to-face meeting.

This survey is just the beginning. Your feedback is vital in helping us build a stronger, more valuable member experience – and we’re excited to take the next steps together.

Look out for our next survey in July. Your input helps shape GGF services to suit your needs, so please do take a few minutes to have your say.

Would you attend any of the following if these were available?



### Upcoming Online Events – Don’t Miss Out!

We’ve got an inspiring line-up of events planned for this autumn. Be sure to save the dates:

- **September** – Sustainable Energy First  
Discover practical steps towards a greener future.
- **October** – Citation Employment Law Webinar  
Stay informed and compliant with expert legal insights.
- **November** – Croner: New Business  
Guide Essential support for small or newly established businesses.



### Benefit Spotlight – BFRC Testing

BFRC goes beyond basic thermal specifications by offering UKAS-accredited testing trusted throughout the fenestration industry. Whether you’re a manufacturer, installer or homeowner, BFRC ratings and testing deliver clarity, credibility and a competitive edge in a market increasingly driven by energy efficiency and compliance.

### Exclusive GGF Member Discount on BFRC Testing

As part of our commitment to delivering added value, the GGF is pleased to offer members an exclusive 10% discount on BFRC testing services.

This includes:

- EN 1279-6 testing
- Fogging testing
- Gas concentration testing

These services are critical for sealed IGUs (insulating glass units). Whether you’re pursuing certification for regulatory compliance or looking to boost your product’s marketability with a BFRC rating label, this discount helps maintain competitive quality standards while lowering operational costs.

This initiative is part of a broader strategy to support technical excellence and commercial growth across the glazing industry. As our collaboration with BFRC continues to strengthen, we plan to expand the range and scale of member benefits available.

This discount is just the beginning. We’re committed to helping our members improve quality, enhance credibility and grow successfully in an evolving marketplace.



# Biesse: Supporting the Future of Glass Manufacturing



With more than 50 years of engineering expertise, **Biesse** is a global manufacturer of machinery and automation solutions for processing wood, glass, stone, advanced materials, and metal. Through its Intermac brand – now known as **Biesse Glass** – the company has become a trusted name in the glass industry, renowned for reliable, high-performance equipment that helps manufacturers meet the demands of modern production.

In the UK and Ireland, Biesse continues to support glass processors with **practical, cost-effective solutions** that help businesses stay competitive in the face of economic pressures. From spare parts to machinery availability, recent initiatives have been introduced to provide flexibility, value, and reassurance to customers across the sector.

## 30% Off Parts for Glass Machinery

To help glass manufacturers keep production running smoothly and affordably, Biesse is offering a **30% discount on genuine spare parts** for its glass machinery range\*. This offer is available to customers in the UK and Ireland until **31st July 2025**.

To place an order or find out more, contact the Biesse Parts team and quote the discount code **30PARTS**:

- parts.uk@biesse.co.uk
- 01327 300366

## Stock Machinery Available – Short Lead Times

For those looking to **increase production capacity** without the usual wait, Biesse UK currently has a **limited number of glass processing machines available from stock**.

These high-specification machines present a rare opportunity to invest in premium Biesse performance – without the factory-order lead time. With limited availability and fast delivery, now is the ideal time to **upgrade your production**.

Each machine comes with a **Biesse 5-Year Total Care Package** as standard\*\*, including:

- Five-year warranty on parts
- Two professional services per year

This ensures your equipment remains in optimal condition, reducing the risk of unplanned downtime.

## Available Machines Include:

### ■ Intermac Master 33.3

The Master Series is designed to perform the most complex and diverse machining operations, delivering outstanding finish quality – whether on large structural glass sheets, unique design pieces, or small components for the lighting industry.

### ■ Intermac Drill Up

With automated optimisation of glass handling, the Drill Up maintains consistent productivity across varying glass sizes, thicknesses, and machining positions.

This machine can process any glass shape with at least one straight edge and accommodates both small and large formats. As a true **batch-one system**, it offers **zero set-up time**, automatically adjusting to different pieces – even when each one is unique – maintaining a steady production flow.

Quantities are limited, and machines are available on a **first-come, first-served basis**. To view other available machines, visit the News section at [www.biesse.com](http://www.biesse.com).

Biesse is committed to helping businesses thrive, even in challenging times. From consumables and spare parts to high-performance machinery, these offers are designed to provide **value, reliability, and peace of mind**. Take advantage of them while they last, and move confidently towards a more efficient and productive 2025.

Choosing the right machine is a vital decision. That's why Biesse offers **one-to-one personalised demonstrations** at its UK showroom in **Daventry**, helping every customer make a confident, informed choice.

[Visit our website to request a demo today.](#)

\*Terms and conditions apply.

\*\*Warranty and service details as per Biesse 5-Year Total Care terms.

## Sales Support Contacts:

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# GGF & FENSA Recycling Scheme

One of the GGF's main strategic goals, both in the short and long term, is to **drive sustainability** within the industry – and the **GGF & FENSA Recycling Scheme** is a vital part of achieving that aim.

We're therefore delighted to announce a **significant expansion** of the scheme across **England, Wales and Scotland**, in collaboration with **VEKA Recycling, Rehau** and **May Glass**.

## From Pilot to Nationwide Scheme

When the scheme first launched, it was focused exclusively on old uPVC frames and limited to the **North of England**. While we expected it to be well-received, we didn't anticipate the **volume of enquiries** from companies outside the initial pilot region – a clear indicator of the demand and its wider potential.

## Free Collection & Cost Savings on Skips

The recycling scheme is built around two core benefits:

- **Free collection** of old frames and IGUs
- **Significant cost savings** compared to hiring a skip each week

By simply **completing the form on the GGF website**, you can arrange your collections and play a key part in supporting a more sustainable industry.

## Flat Glass Recycling

It quickly became apparent in our discussions with partners that there was widespread **frustration** in the industry: only a **small percentage** of old IGUs were actually being recycled and returned to the flat glass supply chain.

The **potential** remains for our sector to become **world-leading in circular economy practices** – and to serve as a flagship example for other construction-related industries.



## Glass Recycling: Expanded Services

The **flat glass recycling** element of the scheme has now been running for around **18 months**, and in our drive to increase recycling volumes, we're pleased to confirm the

scheme has now **expanded across England, Wales and Scotland**, with different services depending on your location.

## VEKA Recycling

If your business is located within **50 miles** of **VEKA Recycling's Wellingborough** facility, there's a **new and exciting development**.

Previously, the scheme required **deglazing** of units before collection. That is **no longer necessary** – windows can now be handed over exactly **as they've been removed from the property**. It really is that simple – the VEKA team will handle the rest!

## Rehau

Outside of the Wellingborough area, **Rehau** offers a **nationwide uPVC frame collection service**. If you'd like to have your frames collected at a time that suits you, simply **fill out the form on the website** and select the relevant materials.

We're proud to be working with such **respected industry names** to deliver a recycling scheme of this scale and ambition.

## May Glass

**May Glass** is a family-run business with **over 75 years' combined experience** in the glass recycling industry. Founded in 2013 to serve the **plate glass market in the south of England**, they now support businesses **nationwide**.

As part of the scheme, companies can **request a skip for on-site flat glass collection**. May Glass will **provide the container** and collect it when full. However, it's essential that the glass is kept **free from contamination**, to ensure it can be returned to the flat glass supply chain.

## Take Advantage

The **newly expanded scheme** provides GGF members with **greater opportunities** to recycle old windows and IGUs – and we hope to see **widespread adoption** across the UK in the months ahead.

It's what our industry needs – and with your support, we can **make a real impact** on sustainability.





# Shape the future of the fenestration sector

By Chris Beck

The Glazing Summit returns for 2025 in a new venue and with a renewed focus on the issues that matter most to today's fenestration industry professionals.

On 9 October 2025, the Glazing Summit, the glazing industry's flagship event, returns in full force – this time at its new home of the Coventry Building Society Arena. With over 300 senior-level delegates expected from across the UK fenestration supply chain, this is the one-day summit that shapes our industry's future.

What makes this year's Summit so critical? This industry, like many others across the country, is facing countless challenges, from rising energy demands to evolving consumer trends, and from an aging workforce to tighter regulations. The Glazing Summit offers a platform for industry leaders to network, exchange ideas and forge strategies for 2026 and beyond.

## World-class conference programme

By attending, you'll hear from some of the industry's leading figures, who will share their insights on the key topics affecting your business, offering practical and achievable advice.

## Key highlights from the 2025 agenda include:

### Economic Outlook by the Bank of England

The Bank of England will present its most recent forecast for the UK economy, including forecasts for growth, labour supply and the outlook for UK inflation.

### Skilling the future panel discussion

The GGF's John Mannell will be taking part in a panel discussion exploring how the sector needs to step up and become a desirable place for the next generation of glazing installers.

## Creating a bigger and better marketplace

How can the industry get back to its previous success? Quickslide chairman, Adrian Barraclough, will be exploring how to rekindle the entrepreneurial spirit that previously defined the sector.

## Mental Health workshop

Andy Stevens, founder of the Build Network, will be delivering a special, hands-on session designed to address stress, stigma, and mental wellbeing in the workplace – helping firms foster healthier, more resilient teams.

Rounding off the day is a keynote from legendary businessman, Gerald Ratner. Best-known for his infamous speech in 1991 where he called his products 'total crap', Gerald will be sharing the tale of how his business collapsed overnight, and how he worked to build it back again.

## Unrivalled networking opportunities

The day is about more than just listening to keynotes, though. With over 300 of your peers in one room, there is no better place to network with fellow-minded business leaders. Interactive panel discussions and workshops will let you share your opinions with the speakers on-stage, while the refreshment breaks promise to be abuzz with conversation as delegates catch up with contacts old and new.

New for 2025 is the evening networking event. The previous formal dinner has been replaced with a more relaxed drinks reception, held in the exhibition area straight after the conclusion of the conference. With attendance included in your standard ticket price (and the first drink on us!), this is the ideal opportunity to reflect on the learnings of the day in a relaxed and informal setting before having the chance to while away the evening exploring all that the venue has to offer, including bars and a casino, or heading into Coventry to continue the party.

"This year's Glazing Summit promises to be the best yet," says Chris Beck, editor of Glass & Glazing Products magazine and conference chair. "The conference programme is jam-packed with world-class content that has been tailored to benefit business leaders from across the sector, while the networking opportunities throughout the day give delegates the chance to share ideas with peers."

"Throw in an exciting new venue at the Coventry Building Society Arena, with its on-site hotel and entertainment opportunities, and it's fair to say that the 2025 Glazing Summit will be one of the highlights of the year for the fenestration sector."

**For more information, including the full agenda, visit [www.glazingsummit.co.uk](http://www.glazingsummit.co.uk).**

Tickets are available from £135 (+VAT) per person, or £545 (+VAT) for a group of five.



## Why the 2025 Glazing Summit is unmissable

### An exciting new venue

The Coventry Building Society Arena is a world-class venue that offers delegates and sponsors alike a focused space to conduct business.

### Strategic insights from industry leaders

Speakers from some of the industry's biggest names will be taking to the stage to share their expertise on the topics that matter most to businesses today.

### Unparalleled networking opportunities

Meet influential peers across the entire fenestration supply chain. The Glazing Summit isn't just about meeting contacts – it's about building long-standing partnerships.

### A showcase of game-changing solutions

The exhibition area will teem with the latest innovations in materials, hardware, technology and manufacturing tools to boost efficiency, quality and affordability.

### Chance to unwind

Step away from formalities at the evening drinks reception, included in the ticket price, offering a relaxed environment to keep the day's conversations flowing.



# GGF's New Online Learning Platform: Empowering Knowledge-Based Learning

By John Mannell



**G**GF was thrilled to unveil its brand-new **Online Learning Platform** at the FIT Show — a dynamic, accessible and interactive hub for professional development.

Whether you're just starting out or looking to sharpen your skills, this platform is designed to support knowledge-based learning for all routes to competence, with a current spotlight on installer training.

## Why It Matters

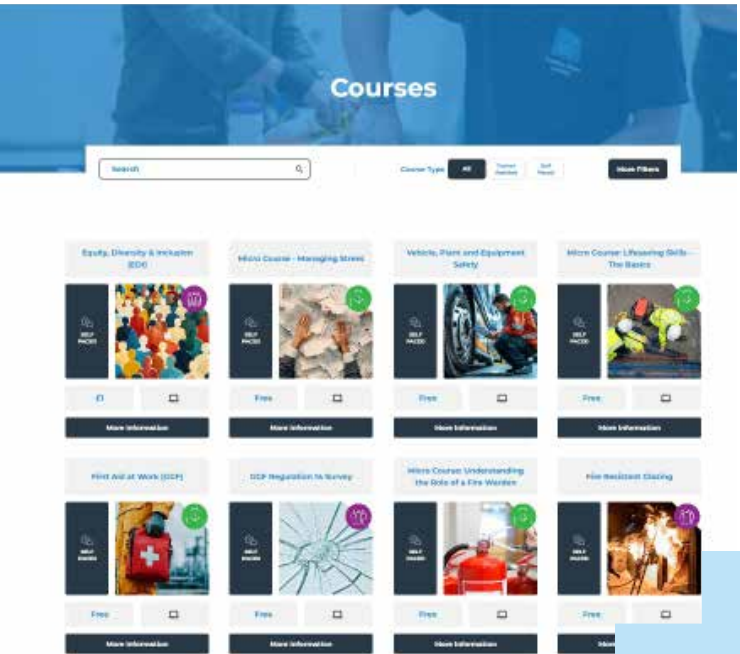
In an industry that is constantly evolving — with increased scrutiny and legislation around competence — staying up to date with best practices and regulations is more important than ever. The GGF's Online Learning Platform is here

to help members meet those expectations by offering accessible training that fits around busy schedules, available via both online browsers and mobile phone applications.

## CPD-Certified and Proud

We're especially proud to announce that **nine of our courses have been officially CPD-certified**, giving members confidence that their learning meets recognised standards. These courses include:

- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Best Practice with Display Screen Equipment
- Fire Warden
- Slips, Trips and Falls
- Vehicle, Plant and Equipment Safety
- Managing Workplace Stress
- Life-Saving Skills
- First Aid at Work
- The History of Glass Production in Construction



These modules are not only informative — when used correctly, they're essential for building a safer, more inclusive and better-skilled workforce.

## A Growing Library of Learning

Beyond the current CPD-certified courses, the GGF Online Learning Platform currently offers **twenty courses in total**, with a growing catalogue designed to meet the evolving needs of the glass and glazing sector. Topics range from essential health and safety, Building Regulations and product knowledge to surveying. The platform covers a broad spectrum — supporting both foundational knowledge and the development of more advanced skill sets.

Importantly, the future of this platform will be shaped by our members. The value of what already exists — and what's still to come — depends on your input. By working together, we can ensure the platform continues to grow in ways that are relevant and useful for everyone in the industry.

## Blending Online and Practical Learning

While we're excited about the flexibility and reach of online learning, we know it's only one part of the picture. The platform is designed to

**complement — not replace —** hands-on training and mentorship. By covering foundational knowledge online, learners can spend more time on-site with company mentors, focusing on practical skills and real-world applications.

This blended approach helps **maximise learning time** and ensures that trainees not only know what to do, but also understand why it matters — reinforcing what the GGF stands for: industry best practice.

## Register Your Interest!

Many of these courses are **free to GGF** members, making it easier than ever to invest in your team's development. Help us build a stronger, smarter, and more skilled industry.

**Register your interest today by scanning the QR code and completing the form.**





# National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs)

An NVQ is a work-based qualification that recognises the skills and knowledge a person needs to do their job. More importantly, it is a flexible route to becoming qualified in the workplace with no examinations. An assessment is carried out via a practical demonstration of the individual's skills, as well as workbooks to capture their knowledge and understanding and successful candidates receive a certificate to demonstrate they have met a national standard for an occupational role.

## Qualifications for The Trade

The GGF Training Academy has two routes to gaining an NVQ, on site or remote assessments. The on-site option is the more traditional version with assessors coming to a workplace and the candidate provided with workbooks to be completed in their own time.

The remote assessment provides the tasks to be completed via email and assessments are carried out by evidence submission from the candidate, answering questions, taking photos and submitting documents.

In both cases there are no classes to attend and no exams to sit.

## Industry-specific Qualifications include

- **NVQ Fabrication**
- **NVQ Fenestration Installation**
- **NVQ Glass Processing**
- **NVQ Glazing**
- **Level 4 NVQ in Occupational Leadership in a Glass or Glass Related Working Environment**
- **Level 6 NVQ in Construction Site Management**
- **Level 7 NVQ in Construction Senior Management**

For a full list of NVQs scan the QR code below:



# Short Courses

Short courses in the fenestration sector provide focused training to develop practical skills and industry knowledge. They cover a wide range of subjects including maintenance and repair, safety regulations, surveying, fire-resistant glazing, mentoring, and sales compliance. Combining hands-on learning with remote study, the courses are suitable for both those new to the trade and experienced professionals looking to refresh or expand their expertise. On completion, learners gain valuable knowledge and skills that can be applied directly in the workplace.

## Industry-specific Short courses

### Maintenance and Repair of Windows and Doors (2 Days)

A practical course covering essential repair techniques including toe and heeling, hinge and lock adjustments, drainage checks, and identifying sealed units. Ideal for anyone maintaining windows and doors.

### Regulation 14 Training (4 hours with remote assessment)

Introduces the importance of safety glass in buildings and how to conduct Regulation 14 surveys. Covers glass types, markings, safety film, and relevant regulations.

### Glass Manual Handling (1 day practical / 4 hours remote)

Designed to improve safety in handling glass. Covers glass types, breakage risks, PPE, storage, lifting equipment, and includes hands-on exercises for safe movement and transportation.

### Introduction to Mentoring (4 Hours)

Explores the principles and stages of mentoring, types of mentors, essential skills, and common barriers. Suitable for new and experienced mentors.

### Introduction to Fire Resistant Glass & Glazing (4 Hours)

Provides foundational knowledge on fire protection through glazing. Covers system behaviour in fire and the importance of correct specification and installation.

### Sales and Compliance Course (4 Hours)

Equips sales professionals with knowledge of consumer legislation and building regulations to improve sales effectiveness and compliance.

### Level 1 Window and Door Installation (5 day practical / 3 days remote)

A beginner-friendly qualification covering health and safety, tools, components, surveying, glazing, and regulations. Includes practical exercises and leads to a GQA Level 1 certification.

### Introduction to Fenestration Surveying (1 day practical / 4 hours emote)

Covers surveying essentials including structural support, ventilation, measurements, regulations, and risk assessments to ensure smooth installations.

### Understanding Building Regulations (4 Hours)

Demystifies building regulations, explaining their role in safety, access, energy efficiency, and building use in a clear, accessible format.

For a full list of Short courses scan the QR code:





# The Joinery Network and GGF: A Stronger Future for Timber

**G**GF Members who attended the recent FIT Show may have spotted GGF staff on The Joinery Network (TJN) stand at various points throughout the week. The reason? As part of our ongoing mission to support every corner and facet of the industry, we were proud to announce a brand-new partnership with TJN.

## Who Are TJN?

The Joinery Network is a co-operative of specialist companies providing a comprehensive range of products and services for businesses that manufacture or install timber windows and doors.

Through access to its Lignum fully certified independent timber window and door system, alongside expert training and technical support, TJN empowers manufacturers and the wider trade to grow their businesses with confidence. From superior energy-efficient, high-security products to marketing support and compliance documentation, The Joinery Network ensures companies have everything they need to thrive in a competitive market.



## What Does the Partnership Mean?

This collaboration enables the joint voices of both the GGF and TJN to form a more robust and influential presence for the timber sector. Timber continues to represent a significant portion of the overall industry and, while subject to the same regulations and challenges, it also presents distinct needs and opportunities.

As part of the partnership, we're launching a new Timber Group for both TJN and GGF members. The group will be led by the GGF Technical Team and will meet twice a year to discuss the latest updates and developments affecting the sector. The inaugural Timber Group meeting is scheduled to take place in October.

TJN licence holders will be able to join the Timber Group once they become GGF members. We look forward to welcoming new members from across the timber sector, strengthening the GGF's presence in this vital area of the industry.

For more information, please contact GGF Head of Technical, Kevin Jones, at [kjones@ggf.org.uk](mailto:kjones@ggf.org.uk). He will be happy to discuss the partnership and how it can support your business.

## The Joinery Hour – Meet the Experts

Following the announcement of the partnership, the GGF has already taken part in a 'Meet the Experts' session hosted by TJN in June. This collaborative event explored the role of timber products in today's market and highlighted how the GGF is working with TJN to support the timber window and door sector — and what the future holds.

This event is just the beginning of what promises to be a series of collaborative projects. They are designed to ensure that GGF members and TJN licence holders get the most out of this exciting new relationship.



## Building on Momentum: ACDM

Our growing partnership with TJN follows the acquisition of the Association of Composite Door Manufacturers (ACDM) earlier this spring — a strategic milestone that has further strengthened the GGF's position as the leading trade federation for the glass and glazing sector in the UK.

Together, these partnerships with ACDM and TJN present an exceptional opportunity for all GGF members to benefit from a stronger, more unified industry. We are confident that these initiatives will continue to enhance the value of GGF membership and support your business in an increasingly competitive market.



# Glass and Glazing Federation

## Auditing Service Stay Compliant, Stay Competitive

At the Glass and Glazing Federation (GGF), we understand the complexities of CE and UKCA marking compliance. Our comprehensive auditing service ensures that your products meet all necessary regulatory requirements, allowing you to confidently place them on the market.

### Our Full Audit & Implementation Service

We provide a complete compliance solution, covering every aspect of CE and UKCA marking, including:

**Full Compliance Audits** – Assessing your current processes to identify any gaps in compliance across industry standards.

**Implementation Support** – Assisting with the full CE and UKCA marking process, ensuring all requirements are met.

**Type Testing & Factory Production Controls** – Verifying your products against relevant standards.

**Declarations of Performance (DoP)** – Helping you produce the necessary documentation for compliance.

**We can support your compliance and testing needs across a wide range of products, including:**

- **Toughened Glass**
- **Laminated Glass**
- **Heat Strengthened Glass**
- **Windows and Doors**
- **Heat Soak Tested Toughened Glass**
- **Insulated Glass Units (IGU's)**

Find out more



[www.ggf.org.uk](http://www.ggf.org.uk)



[consultancy@ggf.org.uk](mailto:consultancy@ggf.org.uk)  
[www.ggf.org.uk](http://www.ggf.org.uk)



**Exclusive  
discounts available  
for GGF Members**

## Calibration & On-Site Testing Services

In addition to compliance auditing, we offer specialist calibration and testing services, including:

**EN 14179 Heat Soak Oven Calibrations** – Ensuring glass heat soak processes are correctly calibrated.

**On-Site Testing** – Conducting in-situ evaluations to verify product performance.

**Inclusion Analysis** – Spontaneous Breakage inclusion analysis and removal.

## Why Choose GGF?

### Industry Expertise -

As the UK's leading authority in glass and glazing, we provide unrivalled knowledge and experience.

### Tailored Support -

We work closely with you to ensure your products are fully compliant.

### Trusted by the Industry-

Our services are recognised and respected across the sector. Discounted rates for GGF Members.

**For more information on how we can assist with CE and UKCA marking compliance, or to discuss your calibration and testing requirements, contact us today.**



UNITING  
THE INDUSTRY  
FOR A CLEAR  
VISION OF  
TOMORROW

# GLAZING SUMMIT

THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025  
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## 2025 PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Keynotes from industry leaders
- ✓ Business Growth insights
- ✓ Panels tackling consumer trends, energy policy, and supply chain innovation
- ✓ Interactive Q&As and industry polls and debates
- ✓ Workshops on mental health, apprenticeships and future skills
- ✓ Motivational close from legendary speaker Gerald Ratner

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DON'T DELAY, BOOK YOUR TICKET **TODAY!**





