

PRESS INFORMATION

from Caldwell Hardware (UK) Ltd

Caldwell window restrictors provide safe and secure solution for new mental health unit at Farnborough Hospital

Caldwell (UK) Ltd - the UK's leading manufacturer of specialist window hardware products - recently completed a major project to supply 400 window restrictors for a new mental health unit at Farnborough Hospital in Kent.

The unit is part of a massive £155 million Private Finance Initiative where Taylor Woodrow are the main contractors. By 2003, the whole of Farnborough Hospital will have been re-developed.

First to be completed was the mental health unit, a 'figure-of-eight' two-storey building with two inner courtyards. As this houses some disturbed patients, it was important that the restrictors had no ligature points which could provide an opportunity for self-harm. It was also vital that the restrictors were strong enough to prevent patients opening the windows too far.

An innovative and pro-active approach by Caldwell resulted in a successful outcome for what was a demanding brief. Using its 901-model restrictor as a starting point, the company's design team decided on using a special covering plate which would effectively deny patients access to the restrictor itself.

Two of these modified restrictors were fitted on site to each opening window at the unit. This involved over 200 windows - side and top-hung casement windows made from timber with aluminium facing.

Additional security was provided by Taylor Woodrow in the shape of external stainless steel cleats fitted within the frame of each window.

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

* Caldwell's range of face-fixed or concealed restrictors is suitable for aluminium, PVC-U, timber and steel windows. They are available for many window-types including: vertical sliding; high rise pivoting; bottom-hung hopper; and side-hung casement windows. Customised versions can be developed to suit individual customer requirements.

* The Caldwell 901 locking restrictor has a spring-action aluminium extruded arm with positive re-engagement. It is supplied with a steel pin housed in an aluminium bracket and tested to meet BS6375 part 2.

* Caldwell is one of Europe's leading designers and manufacturers of specialist hardware products for the window and door industry. A wide range of standard and bespoke products - including sash balances, folding openers, handles & locking systems, pivots & hinges and catches & bolts - ensures that all customer project requirements can be met.

* Caldwell is part of the Caldwell Manufacturing Group founded in the USA in 1888. A century later, a Caldwell group company supplied window balances as part of a window refurbishment scheme for New York's Empire State Building.