

Technical Report

Title: Weathertightness and impact testing of Scalamid panels for

Architectural Facades

Report No: N950-21-18110





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Title: Weathertightness and impact testing of Scalamid panels for

Architectural Facades

Customer: Architectural Facades, Brewhouse, Wilderspool Park, Greenalls Avenue,

Cheshire, WA4 6HL

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Author(s): D. Bennett - Technician

Checked by: N. McDonald – Manager

Authorised by: S. R. Moxon – Operations Director

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VINCI Technology Centre UK Limited, Stanbridge Road, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, LU7 4QH

Registered Office, Watford. Registered No. 05640885 England.

Tel. 0333 5669000

email info@technology-centre.co.uk
web www.technology-centre.co.uk

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1 INTRODUCTION

This report describes tests carried out at VINCI Technology Centre UK Limited at the request of Concept Façade Systems.

The test sample consisted of a sample of rainscreen cladding manufactured by Concept Façade Systems.

The tests were carried out on 20 April 2021 and were to determine the weathertightness of the test sample. The test methods were in accordance with the CWCT Standard Test Methods for building envelopes, 2005, for:

Wind resistance – serviceability & safety.

Watertightness – dynamic pressure.

Impact resistance.

The testing was carried out in accordance with Technology Centre Method Statement C8347/MS rev 0.

This test report relates only to the actual sample as tested and described herein.

The results are valid only for sample(s) tested and the conditions under which the tests were conducted.

The long-term durability of the façade system is not assessed by these test methods.

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The tests were witnessed by:

Konrad Masternak - Concept Façade Systems



2 SUMMARY AND CLASSIFICATION OF TEST RESULTS

The following summarises the results of the tests carried out. For full details refer to Sections 6, 7 and 8.

2.1 SUMMARY OF TEST RESULTS

TABLE 1

Date	Test number	Test description	Result
20 April 2021	1	Wind resistance – serviceability	Pass
20 April 2021	2	Wind resistance – safety	Pass
20 April 2021	3	Watertightness – dynamic	Pass
20 April 2021	4	Impact resistance	Pass

2.2 CLASSIFICATION

TABLE 2

Test	Standard	Classification / Declared value
Watertightness	CWCT dynamic	600 pascals
Wind resistance	CWCT	±1800 pascals serviceability ± 2700 pascals safety
Impact resistance	CWCT TN76	Soft body Class 1 serviceability Hard body Class 2 serviceability Soft/hard body Negligible risk - safety



3 DESCRIPTION OF TEST SAMPLE

3.1 GENERAL ARRANGEMENT

The sample was as shown in the top right-hand side of photo below and the drawings included as an appendix to this report.

The Scalamid board was supplied by Architectural Facades.

PHOTO 7569





3.2 CONTROLLED DISMANTLING

During the dismantling of the sample no water penetration or discrepancies from the drawings were found.

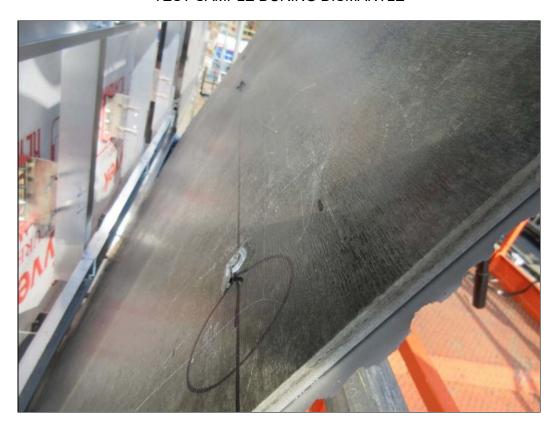


TEST SAMPLE DURING DISMANTLE



PHOTO 7751

TEST SAMPLE DURING DISMANTLE





TEST SAMPLE DURING DISMANTLE



PHOTO 7757

TEST SAMPLE DURING DISMANTLE





TEST SAMPLE DURING DISMANTLE



PHOTO 8090

RAILS REMOVED FROM TEST RIG



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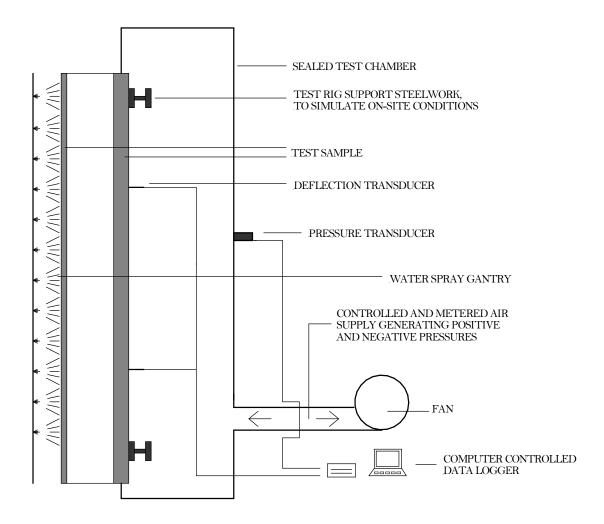


4 TEST RIG GENERAL ARRANGEMENT

The test sample was mounted on a rigid test rig with support steelwork designed to simulate the on-site/project conditions. The test rig comprised a well sealed chamber, fabricated from steel and plywood. A door was provided to allow access to the chamber. Representatives of Architectural Facades installed the sample on the test rig. See Figure 1.

FIGURE 1

TEST RIG SCHEMATIC ARRANGEMENT



SECTION THROUGH TEST RIG



5 TEST SEQUENCE

The test sequence was as follows:

- (1) Wind resistance serviceability
- (2) Wind resistance safety
- (3) Watertightness dynamic
- (4) Impact resistance



6 WIND RESISTANCE TESTING

6.1 INSTRUMENTATION

6.1.1 Pressure

One static pressure tapping was provided to measure the chamber pressure and was located so that the readings were unaffected by the velocity of the air supply into or out of the chamber.

A pressure transducer, capable of measuring rapid changes in pressure to within 2% was used to measure the differential pressure across the sample.

6.1.2 Deflection

Displacement transducers were used to measure the deflection of principle framing members to an accuracy of 0.1 mm. The gauges were set normal to the sample framework at mid-span and as near to the supports of the members as possible and installed in such a way that the measurements were not influenced by the application of pressure or other loading to the sample. The gauges were located at the positions shown in Figure 2.

6.1.3 Temperature

Platinum resistance thermometers (PRT) were used to measure air temperatures to within 1°C.

6.1.4 General

Electronic instrument measurements were scanned by a computer controlled data logger, which also processed and stored the results.

All measuring instruments and relevant test equipment were calibrated and traceable to national standards.

6.2 FAN

The air supply system comprised a variable speed centrifugal fan and associated ducting and control valves to create positive and negative static pressure differentials. The fan provided essentially constant air flow at the fixed pressure for the period required by the tests and was capable of pressurising at a rate of approximately 600 pascals in one second.

6.3 PROCEDURE

6.3.1 Wind Resistance – serviceability

Three positive pressure differential pulses of 900 pascals were applied to prepare the sample. The displacement transducers were then zeroed.

The sample was subjected to one positive pressure differential pulse from 0 to 1800 pascals to 0. The pressure was increased in four equal increments each maintained for 15 ±5 seconds. Displacement readings were taken at each increment. Residual deformations were measured on the pressure returning to zero.

Any damage or functional defects were recorded.

The test was then repeated using a negative pressure of -1800 pascals.



6.3.2 Wind Resistance – safety

Three positive pressure differential pulses of 900 pascals were applied to prepare the sample. The displacement transducers were then zeroed.

The sample was subjected to one positive pressure differential pulse from 0 to 2700 pascals to 0. The pressure was increased as rapidly as possible but not in less than 1 second and maintained for 15 ± 5 seconds. Displacement readings were taken at peak pressure. Residual deformations were measured on the pressure returning to zero.

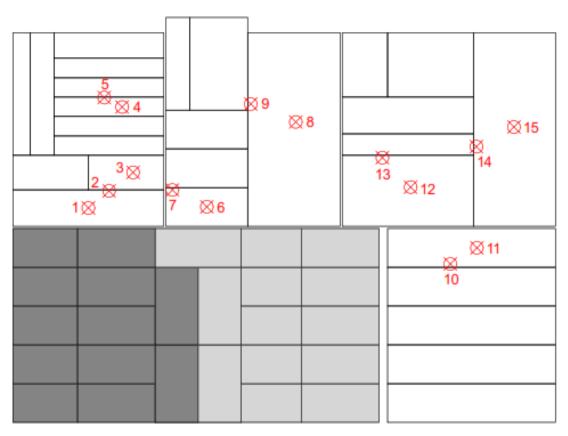
Any damage or functional defects were recorded.

The test was then repeated using a negative pressure of –2700 pascals.

FIGURE 2

DEFLECTION GAUGE LOCATIONS

External View



Deflection gauge



6.4 PASS/FAIL CRITERIA

6.4.1 Calculation of permissible deflection

Serviceability Test TABLE 3

Gauge number	Member	Span (L) (mm)	Permissible deflection (mm)
12	Scalamid panel	2332	L/L/90 = 25.9
15	Scalamid panel	3418	L/90 = 38.0

Note: Span based on diagonal panel span.



6.5 RESULTS

Test 1 (serviceability) Date: 20 April 2021

The deflections measured during the wind resistance test, at the positions shown in Figure 2, are shown in Tables 5 and 6.

Summary:

Serviceability Test

TABLE 4

Gauge number	Member	Pressure differential (Pa)	Measured deflection (mm)	Residual deformatio n (mm)
12	Scalamid panel	1803 -1777	1.7 -10.4	0.0 -0.4
15	Scalamid panel	1803 -1777	1.0 -0.9	0.2 0.1

Note: Measured deflection adjusted for movement at supports

No damage to the test sample was observed.

Ambient temperature = 8°C Chamber temperature = 9°C

Test 2 (safety) Date: 20 April 2021

The deflections measured during the structural safety test, at the positions shown in Figure 2, are shown in Table 7.

No damage to the sample was observed.

Ambient temperature = 13°C Chamber temperature = 14°C



TABLE 5

WIND RESISTANCE - POSITIVE SERVICEABILITY TEST RESULTS

Position	Pressure (pascals) / Deflection (mm)				
	612 1015 1512 1803 Residua				
12	1.8	3.2	4.5	5.3	0.9
13	2.5	4.2	5.9	7.0	0.9
14	2.5	4.1	5.6	6.6	0.7
15	3.0	4.8	6.5	7.6	0.5

TABLE 6

WIND RESISTANCE - NEGATIVE SERVICEABILITY TEST RESULTS

Position	Pressure (pascals) / Deflection (mm)				
	-458 -920 -1353 -1777 Resid				
12	-5.5	-10.6	-14.7	-18.4	-1.0
13	-2.1	-4.1	-6.0	-8.0	-0.6
14	-1.6	-3.5	-5.2	-7.0	-0.3
15	-2.0	-4.1	-6.0	-7.9	-0.2

TABLE 7

WIND RESISTANCE - SAFETY TEST RESULTS

Position	Pressure (pascals) / Deflection (mm)			
	2700	Residual	-2625	Residual
12	9.7	0.6	-25.2	2.5
13	10.8	1.1	-12.8	2.0
14	10.0	0.8	-11.0	1.8
15	10.8	0.8	-11.3	2.0



7 WATERTIGHTNESS TESTING

7.1 INSTRUMENTATION

7.1.1 Pressure

One static pressure tapping was provided to measure the chamber pressure and was located so that the readings were unaffected by the velocity of the air supply into or out of the chamber.

A pressure transducer, capable of measuring rapid changes in pressure to within 2% was used to measure the differential pressure across the sample.

7.1.2 Water Flow

An in-line water flow meter was used to measure water supplied to the spray gantry to within 5%

7.1.3 Temperature

Platinum resistance thermometers (PRT) were used to measure air and water temperatures to within 1°C.

7.1.4 General

Electronic instrument measurements were scanned by a computer controlled data logger, which also processed and stored the results.

All measuring instruments and relevant test equipment were calibrated and traceable to national standards.

7.2 FAN

A wind generator was mounted adjacent to the external face of the sample and used to create positive pressure differentials during dynamic testing. The wind generator comprised a piston type aero-engine fitted with 4 m diameter contra-rotating propellers.

7.3 WATER SPRAY

The water spray system comprised nozzles spaced on a uniform grid not more than 700 mm apart and mounted approximately 400 mm from the face of the sample. The nozzles provided a full-cone pattern with a spray angle between 90° and 120°. The spray system delivered water uniformly against the exterior surface of the sample.

7.4 PROCEDURE

Water was sprayed onto the sample using the method described above at a flow rate of at least 3.4 litres/m²/minute.

The aero-engine was used to subject the sample to wind of sufficient velocity to produce average deflections in the principle framing members equal to those produced by a static pressure differential of 600 pascals. These conditions were maintained for 15 minutes. Throughout the test the inside of the sample was examined for water penetration.

7.5 PASS/FAIL CRITERIA

There shall be no water penetration to the internal face of the backing wall throughout testing. At the completion of the test there shall be no standing water in locations intended to remain dry.



7.6 RESULTS

<u>Test 3</u> Date: 20 April 2021

No water penetration was observed throughout the test.

Chamber temperature = 15°C Ambient temperature = 14°C Water temperature = 9°C

PHOTO 7758

DYNAMIC WIND GENERATOR





8 IMPACT TESTING

8.1 IMPACTOR

8.1.1 Soft body

The soft body impactor comprised a canvas spherical/conical bag 400 mm in diameter filled with 3 mm diameter glass spheres with a total mass of 50 kg suspended from a cord at least 3 m long.

8.1.2 Hard body

The hard body impactor was a solid steel ball of 50 mm or 62.5 mm diameter and approximate mass of 0.5 kg or 1.0 kg.

8.2 PROCEDURE (CWCT TN76)

8.2.1 Soft body

The impactor almost touched the face of the sample when at rest. It was swung in a pendular movement to hit the sample normal to its face. The test was performed at the locations shown in Figure 3. The impact energies were 120 Nm for serviceability and 350 Nm and 500 Nm for safety.

8.2.2 Hard body

The impactor almost touched the face of the sample when at rest. It was swung in a pendular movement to hit the sample normal to its face. The test was performed at the locations shown in Figure 3. The impact energies were 3 Nm, 6 Nm and 10 Nm.

8.3 PASS/FAIL CRITERIA

Note: Tables 1 to 2 are taken from CWCT TN76.



Table 1 - Classes for serviceability performance

Class	Definition	Explanation/Examples
1	No damage.	No damage visible from 1m, and Any damage visible from closer then 1m unlikely to lead to significant deterioration.
2	Surface damage of an aesthetic nature which is unlikely to require remedial action.	Dents or distortion of panels not visible from more than 5m (note visibility of damage will depend on surface finish and lighting conditions – damage will generally be more visible on reflective surfaces), and
		Any damage visible from closer than 5m unlikely to lead to significant deterioration.
3	Damage that may require remedial action or replacement of components to maintain appearance or long term performance but does not require immediate action.	Dents or distortion of panels visible from more than 5m, or Spalling of edges of panels of brittle materials, or Damage to finishes that may lead to deterioration of the substrate.
4	Damage requiring immediate action to maintain appearance or performance. Remedial action may include	Significant cracks in brittle materials e.g. cracks that may lead to parts of tile falling away subsequent to test, or
	replacement of a panel but does not require dismantling or replacement of supporting structure.	Fracture of panels causing significant amounts of material to fall away during test.
5	Damage requiring more extensive replacement than 4.	Buckling of support rails.



Table 2 - Classes for safety performance

Class	Explanation/examples
Negligible risk	No material dislodged during test, and No damage likely to lead to materials falling subsequent to test, and No sharp edges produced that would be likely to cause severe injury to a person during impact, and
Low risk	Cladding not penetrated by impactor. Maximum mass of falling particle 50g, and Maximum mass of particle that may fall subsequent to impact 50g, and No sharp edges produced that would be likely to cause severe injury during impact.
Moderate risk	Maximum mass of falling particle less than 500g, and Maximum mass of particle that may fall subsequent to impact less than 500g, and Cladding not penetrated by impact, and No sharp edges produced that would be likely to cause severe injury during impact.
High risk	Maximum mass of falling particle greater than 500g, or Cladding penetrated by impact, or Sharp edges produced that would be likely to cause severe injury during impact.



8.4 RESULTS

<u>Test 4</u> Date: 20 April 2021

Ambient temperature = 14°C

TABLE 8

SOFT BODY IMPACT TEST RESULTS

Location	Impact energy (Nm)	Observations	Classification
26	120 x 3	No damage observed	Class 1
	350	No damage observed	Negligible risk
	500	No damage observed	Negligible risk
27	120 x 3	No damage observed	Class 1
	350	No damage observed	Negligible risk
	500	No damage observed	Negligible risk
28	120 x 3	No damage observed	Class 1
	350	No damage observed	Negligible risk
	500	Horizontal crack in panel	Low risk

TABLE 9

HARD BODY IMPACT TEST RESULTS

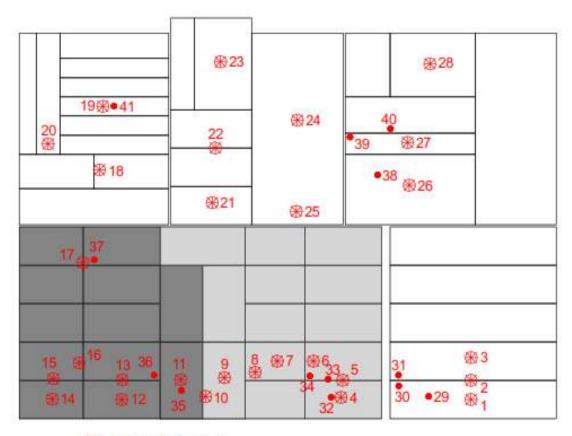
Location	Impact energy (Nm)	Observations	Classification
38	3	No damage observed	Class 1 / Negligible risk
	6	No damage observed	Class 1
	10	Minor indent	Class 1 / Negligible risk
39	3	No damage observed	Class 1 / Negligible risk
	6	No damage observed	Class 1
	10	Corner crack	Class 2/ Negligible risk
40	3	No damage observed	Class 1 / Negligible risk
	6	No damage observed	Class 1
	10	No damage observed	Class 1 / Negligible risk



FIGURE 3

IMPACT TEST LOCATIONS

External View



- Soft body impact
- Hard body impact



SOFT BODY IMPACTOR



PHOTO 7768

SOFT BODY IMPACT



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HARD BODY IMPACTOR



PHOTO 7780

HARD BODY IMPACTS



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HARD BODY IMPACTS

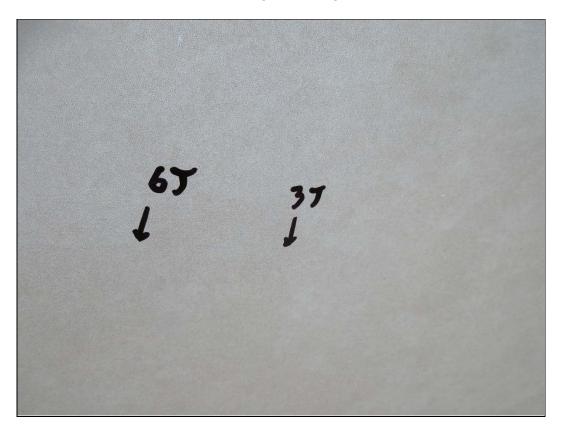
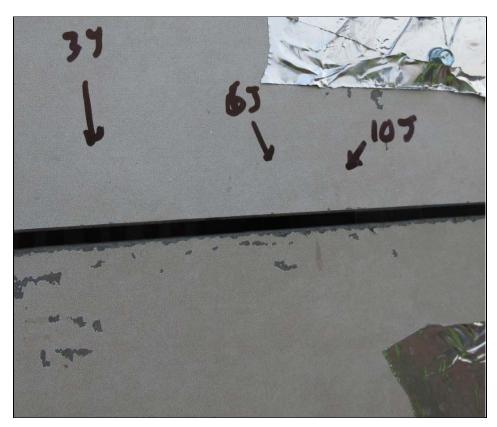


PHOTO 7787

HARD BODY IMPACTS



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HARD BODY IMPACT

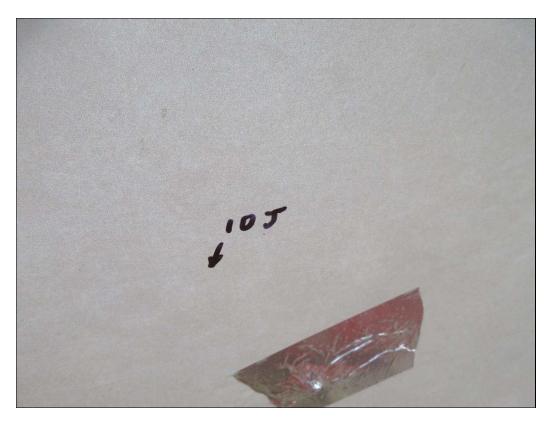
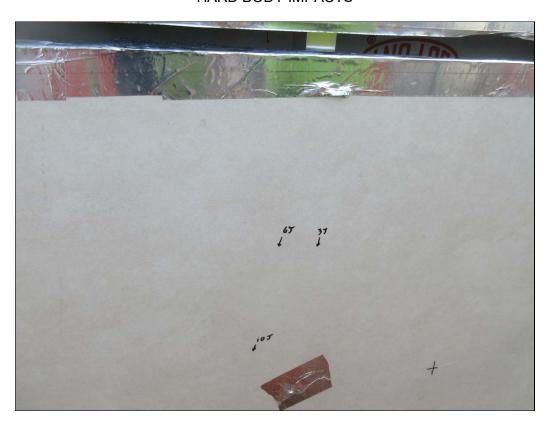


PHOTO 7789

HARD BODY IMPACTS





HARD BODY IMPACT





9 APPENDIX - DRAWINGS

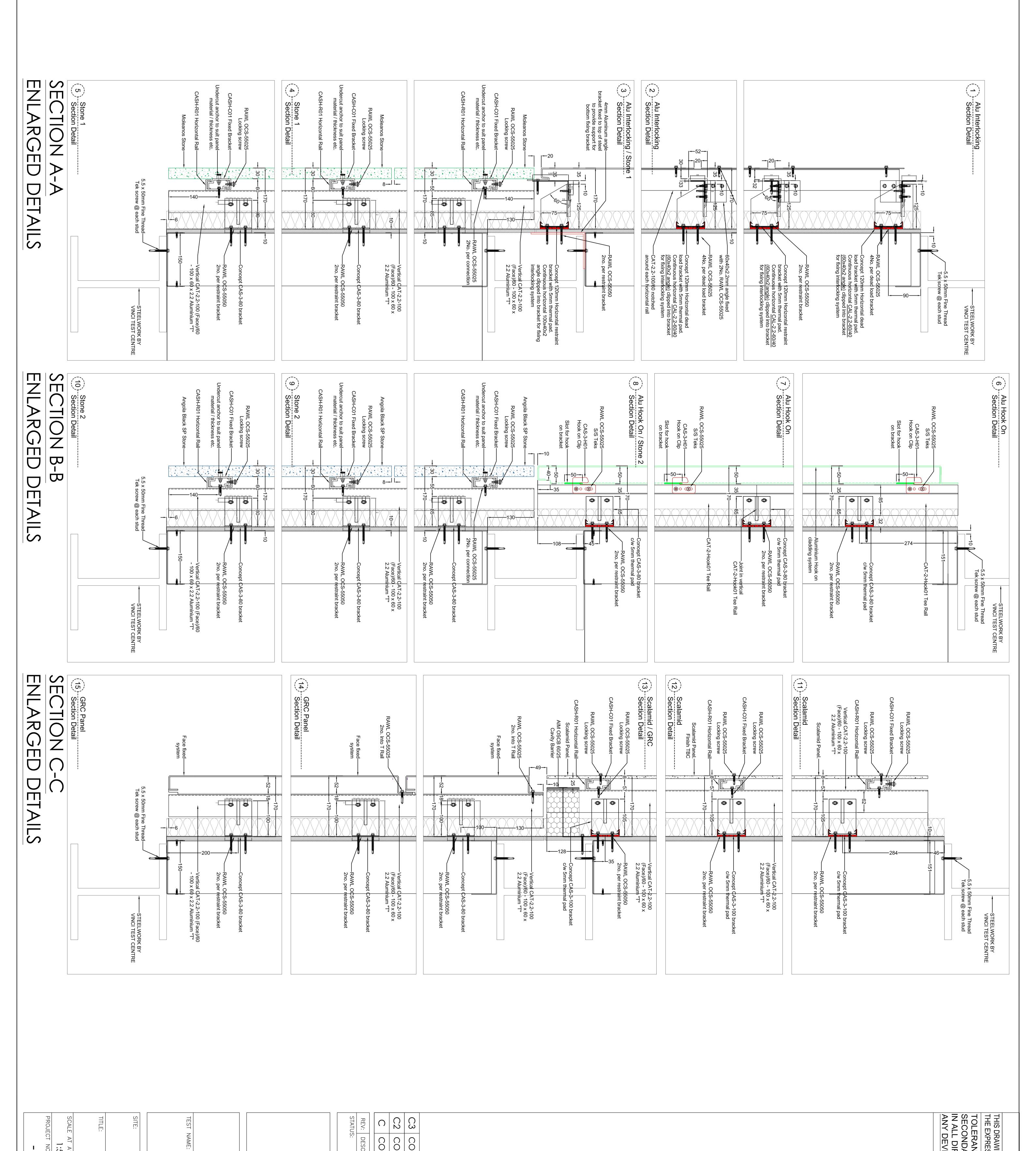
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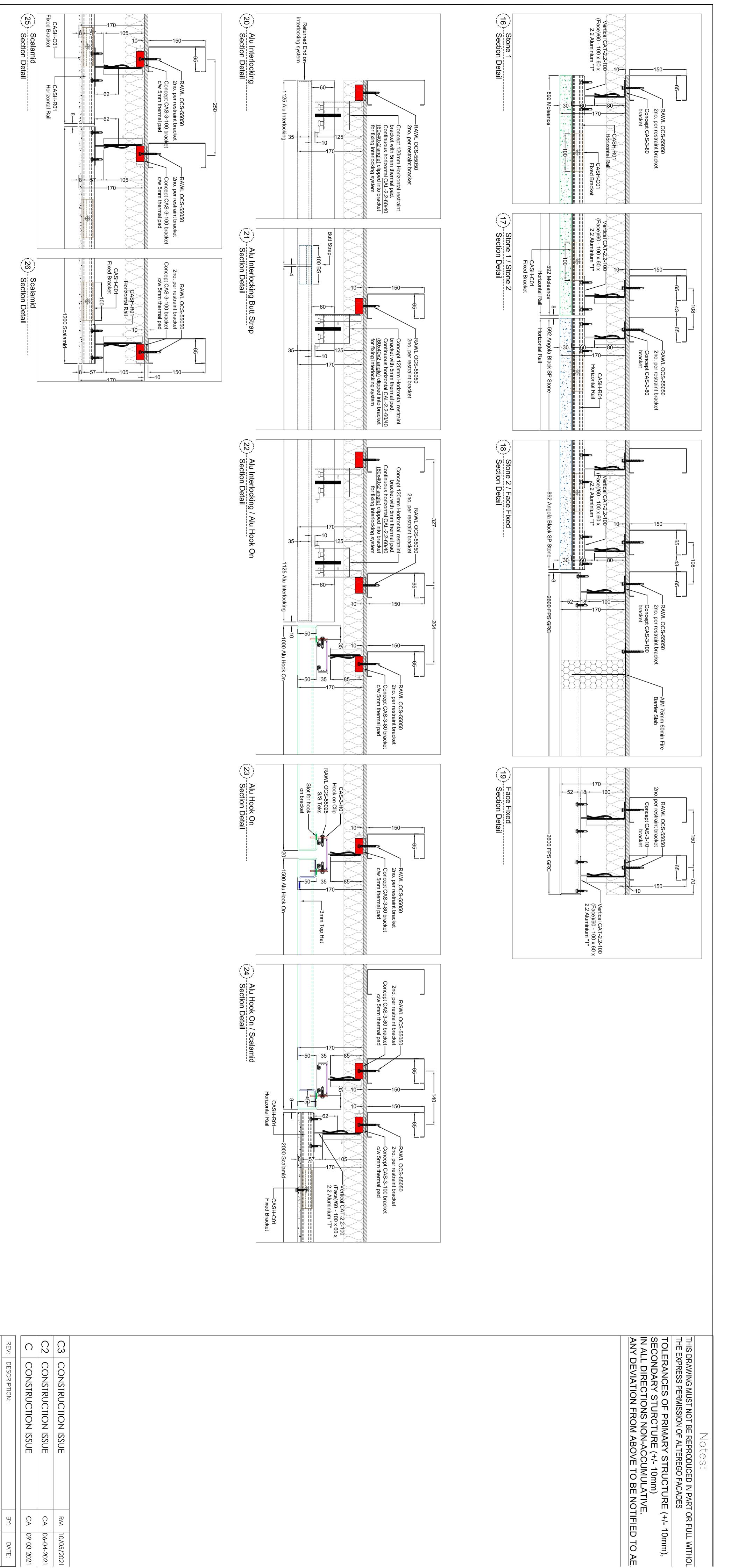
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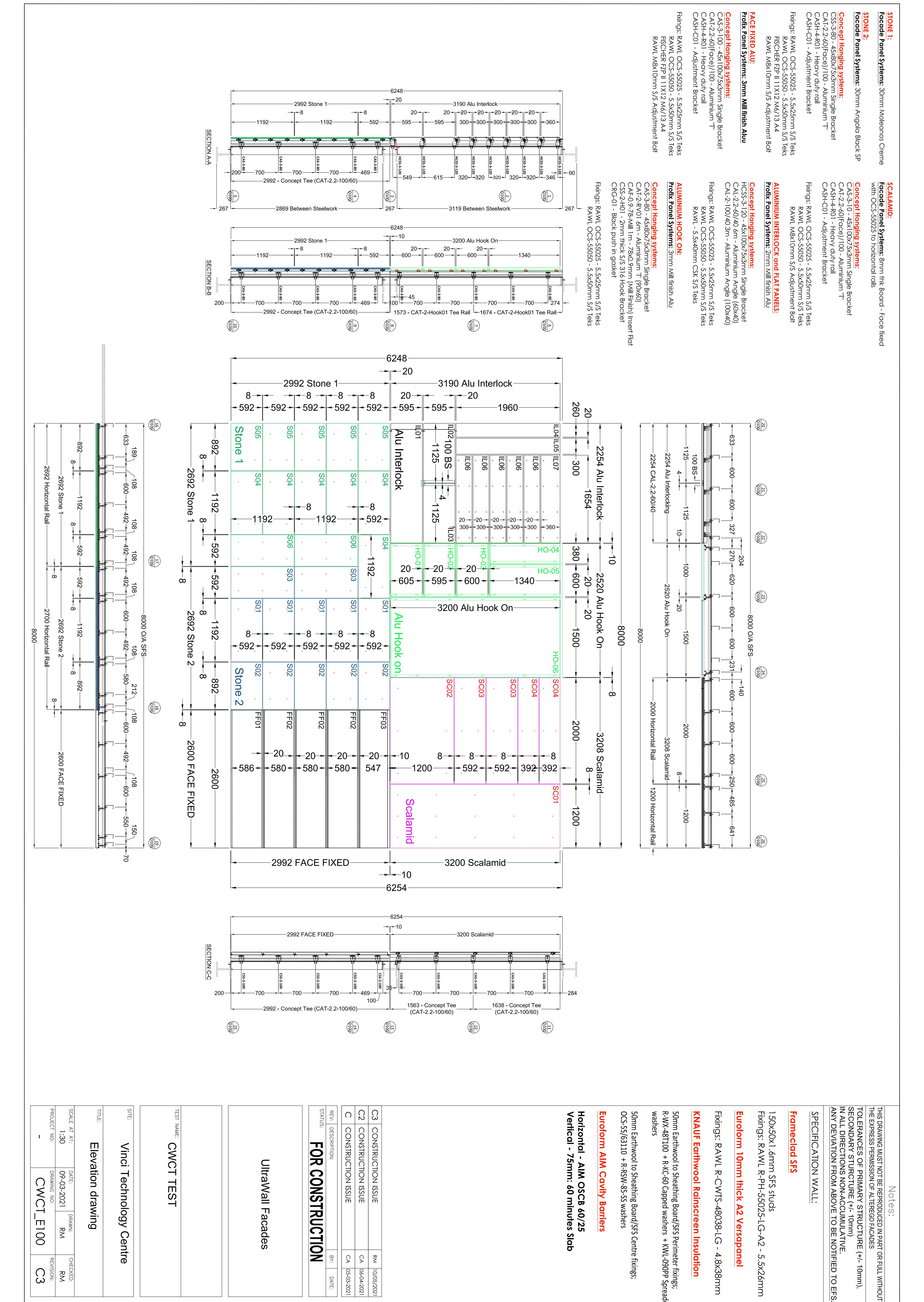
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VINCI Technology Centre UK Limited Stanbridge Road Leighton Buzzard Bedfordshire LU7 4QH UK

0333 5669000

info@technology-centre.co.uk www.technology-centre.co.uk