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Enhancing Structural Integrity Fixing Systems for Aluminium Cladding

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1. Generally speaking, what are the two main types of fixing systems?

Exposed systems, which are defined by their visible fixing points at the front side of the facade. and concealed systems, which are defined by their invisible fixing points at the front side of the facade.

2. What is the difference between wet and dry fix systems?

Wet fix systems for aluminium cladding use adhesives or mortars to bond panels, providing good sealing but requiring longer installation times and more maintenance due to potential degradation. in contrast, dry fix systems use mechanical fasteners, allowing quicker installation. easier adjustments, and better accommodation of structural movement with reduced need for ongoing maintenance.

3. Describe at least two key benefits of cassette cladding?

Cassette cladding offers a modern appearance, featuring sleek, clean lines and concealed fixings that create a smooth. contemporary facade. Its simple installation is facilitated by a specialised mounting system, allowing the panels to be easily attached or adjusted, which reduces installation time and complexity. Additionally. the cladding's robust folded design provides excellent structural stability. ensuring durability and resistance to environmental stresses while maintaining the aesthetic integrity of the building. It can also be utilised for internal and external applications.

4. When selecting a cladding fixing system, why are load-bearing capacity, and seismic and wind resistance important considerations?

Load -bearing capacity ensures the system can support the weight of the cladding and any additional forces acting on it without compromising structural integrity. Seismic and wind resistance is crucial for maintaining stability during earthquakes and high wind pressures. preventing damage and ensuring the cladding remains securely in place, especially in high-rise buildings or exposed locations.

5. How does the choice of fixing system impact access for maintenance?

The choice of fixing method-such as exposed fasteners. concealed clips, or mechanical fixings-affects how easily cladding panels can be accessed for cleaning, inspection, or repairs. Systems with easily removable panels or accessible fasteners facilitate straightforward maintenance.

6. In relation to weatherproofing, Deemed-to-satisfy provision F3D5 in the NCC 2022 provides that external metal wall cladding comply with which standard?

The standard referenced in F3D5 is AS 1562.1:2018 *Design and installation of metal roof and wall cladding. Part 1: Metal.