

CASE STUDY

Gutter Refurbishment

MAKERS

...makes the difference

PROJECT

M&S Gutters, Enfield

STRUCTURE

Distribution Warehouse

CLIENT

Marks and Spencer

CONTRACT



Makers have recently completed a full refurbishment of the guttering system for Marks and Spencer on their distribution centre in Enfield. The project involved work upon 992m of guttering across 8 lengths of gutter.

After an initial survey of the gutters, Makers found them to be in extremely poor condition. The original steel gutters had been previously lined with a physical gutter liner, however, due to a poor installation the rainwater was able to get in between the liner and existing gutter, causing leaks and corrosion issues.

The original gutters are jointed every 3m. Failures will always occur at the systems weakest point; which is the joints. Also, the gutters are generally not laid to falls which means that there is a constant presence of water between outlet points. Corrosion continues to weaken the substrate to the point of failure. Once corrosion has set in and a joint has started to fail, building movement, thermal expansion, freeze/thaw will further increase the problem.

These issues mean it was of paramount importance that the client undertook remedial action to the gutters before the corrosion and associated issues impacted the distribution centre below.

Makers utilised the Alumasc Caltech Cold-Applied Liquid System on this project to successfully renew and refurbish this guttering system.



Before



Before

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Firstly, Makers were required to remove the existing gutter lining. This allowed us to better assess the extent of the corrosion upon the gutters and the damage this had caused. The gutters were cleaned with a high-powered jet washer to remove any dirt and debris from them before the remedial works could begin.

To tackle the heavy corrosion evident on the gutters, they were mechanically abraded to remove surface rust. In the worst affected areas, Maker's operatives applied an anti-corrosion coating to help extend the lifetime of the gutters by helping to postpone inevitable decay due to corrosion, oxidization, or other forms of breakdown.

As the joints were identified as a potential problem area, Makers reinforced these joints using Caltech Reinforcement Tape laid centrally over all joint details. This was firmly pressed into the profile avoiding stretching, tenting and the creation of air pockets that may compromise the system, to make the joint stronger. In addition to this, the bolts in the system needed to be reinforced. This was completed by encapsulating the joint fixing bolts using Caltech G-MAT patches and coated using Caltech QC Detail.

Finally, an even coat of Caltech QC was applied to the prepared gutters. Embedded into this coating is the Caltech G-Mat glass fibre matting. This fleece further reinforces the liquid coating to create a longer lasting system. Caltech QC is a quality waterproofing system that works exceptionally well in gutters, where there may be some pooling water, to offer a durable waterproofing solution.

Makers Construction Ltd. are an approved Alumasc Installer and have worked with the products for many years. For Marks and Spencer, Makers were able to warranty the gutters for 20 years.



Before



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After



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