

TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER: GAI SUCCESSES IN 2023

With the support of our members, the Guild of Architectural Ironmongers (GAI) delivered significant successes and outputs throughout 2023, including these highlights.

01 BUILDING INDUSTRY COMPETENCE

- **327** students from **20** countries trained on our globally recognised education programme.
- **67** CPD sessions delivered via **40** Community Hub events and **27** webinars (now with nearly **7,000** participants in our webinar programme since it launched in 2020).
- **350** guests welcomed to a spectacular GAI Education Award ceremony at The Brewery in London.
- Celebrating **97** successful diploma candidates, including the first cohort to pass our new Stage 3 qualifications in door systems, electric hardware & access control, and standards and regulation.

02 RAISING TECHNICAL STANDARDS

- **100+** technical documents revised and updated to bringing our members the latest information through our GAI Knowledge Base.
- **10** new technical documents published to inform members: **4** technical briefings; **1** specifier guide; **1** guide to standards; and **4** quarterly technical reviews.
- **1** new installation guide (for cylinder locks) and **1** new product data template (for doorsets, the first of its kind).
- New architectural hardware user guides published for building owners, managers and end-users, with **4** variants for residential, commercial, healthcare and education sectors.
- **300+** technical queries resolved via the GAI members' Technical Helpline.

03 INFLUENCING SPECIFIERS & USERS

- A unique architectural ironmongery overlay to the RIBA Plan of Work published to provide unique clarification on the value and role of the architectural ironmonger at each stage of the design and construction of buildings.
- A free and comprehensive 32pp Architect + Designers' Guide to Architectural Ironmongery published, bringing together everything specifiers need to know to work effectively with the architectural ironmonger sector – a Highly Commended entry in the Trade Association Forum Awards' Publication of the Year category.
- **150k+** audience of architects, designers, and other construction professionals reached in promotional campaigns highlighting the importance of engaging GAI Registered Professional for demonstrable professional competence.
- A **100%** year-on-year increase in online engagement with the GAI's specialist resources for architects, designers and other specifiers.
- **6** CPD presentations and webinars presented by GAI experts and partners to specifier and construction industry audiences.

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04 REPRESENTING THE INDUSTRY

- Led the industry's response to **3** separate Government consultations (in England, Wales and Ireland) to proposed changes to BS 476 22 and Approved Document B.
- Conducted **2** major industry surveys and launched **2** GAI member consultations.
- **5** new appointments to ISO/CEN and BSI committees, bringing our representative engagement to a total of **52** standards committees and drafting panels.
- Chairing **5** influential construction industry committees, plus membership of **5** key external industry committees.

05 SUPPORTING MEMBERS

- **12** GAI Community Hubs holding a total of 40 meetings across the UK, GCC and Hong Kong.
- A record number of entries received for the GAI Community Awards, celebrating excellence in the architectural ironmongery sector.
- **750+** free template documents and **4** specialist helplines delivered free HR, health & safety, legal and taxation support worth £££ to GAI member companies.
- Weekly technical, education and update emails sent to members.
- Architectural Ironmongery Journal relaunched with new format, new design and new editorial vision to bring even more focus onto professional competency in architectural ironmongery – and securing the Magazine of the Year title at the Trade Association Forum Awards 2024.
- **5,000+** visits made to the online GAI Job Shop, helping individual members find the right roles for them, and our member companies find the skills and talent they need to thrive.

06 SECURING THE FUTURE

- Welcomed **16** new members to our community of **345** members across **19** countries worldwide.
- Maintained a retention rate of **96%** for individual and corporate members.
- Raised the profile of the GAI, its members and the architectural ironmongery sector at key industry events, UK and international.
- Continued investments in our new GAI Learning Hub, online digital service and the continued expansion of our education programme.