

# Trent concrete's bright white delight



Over 700 pre-cast concrete units, expertly crafted by Trent Concrete, have given Nottingham's flagship mixed use waterside development a unique visual appeal that's built to last.

Set in the heart of Nottingham's regeneration area, Southreef will see the creation of nearly 240 apartments, plus a number of business and leisure spaces along the south bank of the city's canal. The Canal Street site is contained within Nottingham City Council's designated 38 hectare Southside development area.

<b>Project:</b>	Southreef, Canal Street, Nottingham
<b>Client:</b>	Southreef Properties
<b>Architect:</b>	Levitate
<b>Contractor:</b>	Thomas Fish & Sons Ltd
<b>Products:</b>	200 pre-cast cladding panels; 150 cantilevered balconies; 125 standard balconies; 150 balustrade panels; 20 parapet panels and 20 bridge links - all in white reconstructed Portland stone finish
<b>Completion date:</b>	December 2008



It's always rewarding to see our products playing a key role in the regeneration of any location. But to create such a striking visual impact on our own doorstep has been immensely satisfying for everyone involved.

David Walker,  
Managing Director,  
Trent Concrete



## Nottingham's new face

As part of the rejuvenation of Nottingham's Canal Street, the project comprises a 160m long terrace building along the street front, with three separate pavilions and a 13 storey tower along the Nottingham canal edge, all designed by London based architect, Levitate.

Situated right on the bank of the canal, Southreef offers an eclectic mix of exclusive waterfront apartments and cutting-edge office space, plus a host of thriving bars and restaurants. Together, they combine to create a dynamic setting that has made Nottingham's Southside Quarter the place to be.

### Brief

In creating a vibrant extension to the city centre, Canal Street has also become a gateway from the south. Therefore, to provide the perfect landmark for the area's regeneration, architects Levitate specified a gleaming Portland stone finish. The material offers a stunning reflection on the water's surface, with a finish that will age timelessly.

In addition to the building's distinctive ribbed cladding panels, the architect's vision required a series of matching features, which serve to tie up the overall design concept.

### Solution

In total, Trent Concrete designed, manufactured and installed 200 pre-cast cladding panels in a spectacular white reconstructed Portland stone finish. The building's distinctive rib pattern effect was achieved by incorporating rubber matting within Trent's custom moulds.

Working closely with Levitate from the initial design stage, Trent accurately recreated the architect's original vision by crafting features that play a key role in the developments unique visual character.

Among the features provided are 150 cantilevered balconies and 125 6.6 metre long standard balconies that span between 150 vertical pre-cast fins, all in a matching white finish.

The three Pavilions along the Canal edge are connected to the Terrace building by pre-cast link bridges that range in length from 4-6m. And to complete the specification, Trent Concrete also manufactured 150 balustrade panels together with 20 parapet panels.

### Benefits

Altogether, the specification succeeded in perfectly complementing the architect's inspiring design that has uplifted the Southside area of Nottingham.

Trent Concrete used its ability to produce high quality pre-cast cladding in virtually any finish, to create a concrete mix that is a good match for the Portland Stone seen on many of Nottingham's existing buildings.

The combined force of Trent Concrete's design and manufacturing capabilities and pre-cast concrete ensured all units were produced off-site in safe, quality controlled conditions.

Fast production times and an impeccable level of efficiency provided the project with the most cost-effective solution to create the exact visual appearance desired.

With Trent's job successfully completed, the buildings are now ready to play a key role in Nottingham's regeneration, providing 237 residential units and over 54,000sq ft of waterside offices.