



## D is for Design

Aluminium can be formed by rolling into sheet, casting and of course extrusion. It is a perfect material for architectural metalwork as it can be easily worked and is strong, lightweight, weather resistant and affordable. Add to all these excellent characteristics the ability to be 100% recycled, no other material comes close.

Architect and Chair of Architecture at Nottingham University, Professor Michael Stacey has long been a convert to aluminium's inherent properties. In his book, 'Component Design', first published in 2001 and now seen as a reference on the subject, Michael bestows the virtues of aluminium and the ease at which it can be formed for structural use in construction.

From 'bottle tops to spacecraft', the world would be a very different place without aluminium. Whichever way you look at it aluminium is easy to form with little cost. Dies for simple extrusion for example cost from as little as a few hundred pounds to produce, not tens of thousands. There are some excellent uses of aluminium found in all building projects, from standard components to many bespoke solutions where CAB is on hand to advise the specifier the best approach.

With high performance thermal breaks commercial aluminium window systems can now achieve BRE Green Guide 'A' ratings and, with life expectancy measured in decades, aluminium is very much the designer's first choice for a

sustainable solution.

More information on CAB can be found at [www.c-a-b.org.uk](http://www.c-a-b.org.uk) or by contacting the associations head office on 01453 828851 or email [justin.ratcliffe@c-a-b.org.uk](mailto:justin.ratcliffe@c-a-b.org.uk).