



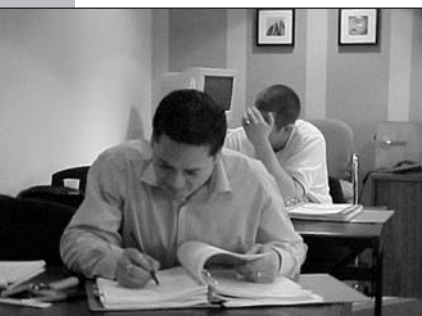
THE GUILD OF
ARCHITECTURAL
IRONMONGERS

INDUSTRY BRIEFINGS

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behalf of the
Industry

Reg AI's – Training for Excellence



What is a Registered Architectural Ironmonger?

Like many professions in the building and construction industry, the Guild of Architectural Ironmongers, representing some 95 per cent of all architectural ironmongers in the UK, supports a programme of life long learning.

The Guild is the only organisation recognised to run courses for individuals within the industry which leads to a Diploma (Dip GAI). Thereafter Dip GAI's can register for the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme which is designed to make sure that a rolling three year's of continuous learning is undertaken.

Why is this important?

The architectural ironmongery industry in this country is becoming more and more complex. There is new legislation constantly being introduced such as the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) and new parts of the building regulations, not to mention the many new European Standards being introduced for many of our products some of which must now carry a CE mark. Add to this the ongoing development of products, many of which these day's use sophisticated electronics and it is easy to understand why specifiers and others in the building process need to confidently rely on the advice of professionals.

How can I be sure that an individual is a Registered Architectural Ironmonger?

Firstly only those participating in the scheme can use the designation Registered Architectural Ironmonger and only those who have attained the Guild Diploma qualify.

So the first point of call is the business card which should show both such as

A. N. Other Dip GAI M.Inst A.I.
Registered Architectural Ironmonger

Or you can ask the Guild Secretariat to confirm that an individual holds this status as the Guild maintains a register of all those participating. Or you can log on to the Guild's website at www.gai.org where this information is given.

Do I have to use a Registered Architectural Ironmonger?

No. There is no law which requires you to do so. However, should a component fail on a building which you are associated with and litigation follows, it may harm your defence if you have used the advice of an unqualified person and then used unsuitable products.

Registered Architectural Ironmongers are best qualified for you to consult and their advice is free. So why not use them.

Do all distributors have Registered Architectural Ironmongers?

Most do. And where for example they only have one it is important that he or she approves any advice given and checks each schedule or specification before it leaves the distributors premises. You will be able to see this has been done because all approved documents will carry a stamp showing the Guild's logo, that person's name, registration number, expiry date and a signature space.





10 GOOD REASONS

why you need the services of a **Registered Architectural Ironmonger** to specify the correct architectural ironmongery for your building

- 1** The guarantee that all your hardware specifications/schedules will be prepared by a fully qualified professional who has completed a minimum of three years of study.
- 2** They will be fully aware of current legislation particularly as it affects fire/life safety issues.
- 3** They will be fully conversant with all the latest products and technology.
- 4** Registered Architectural Ironmongers are fully conversant with the new European BS EN standards on builder's hardware.
- 5** Registered Architectural Ironmongers undertake an ongoing programme of Continuing Professional Development to maintain their status.
- 6** The assurance that all Registered Architectural Ironmongers are required to abide by a Code of Professional Practice.
- 7** All Registered Architectural Ironmongers hold the recognised industry qualification:- Dip GAI. This is recognised by the Royal Institute of British Architects who also endorse the Guilds training programme.
- 8** A Registered Architectural Ironmonger is able to offer advice on all your hardware – with solutions to make your buildings work.
- 9** With over 200 Registered Architectural Ironmongers there will be at least one covering your area.
- 10** A list of all current Registered Architectural Ironmongers is maintained by the Guild and this is published on the Guild website and in promotional literature.

