

GRENFELL TOWER INQUIRY

CORE PARTICIPANT: CEP ARCHITECTURAL FACADES LIMITED ('CEP')

POSITION STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF CEP

Introduction

1. CEP supplied the ACM cladding and aluminium window frames which were fitted to the exterior of Grenfell Tower as part of the refurbishment works carried out in 2015/16 ("the Works").

Contracting Parties

2. The parties that CEP contracted with in respect of the Works are set out below:-
 - a. Harley Curtain Wall Ltd ("Harley")
 - b. Harley Facades Ltd
 - c. Alcoa Architectural Products SAS ("Alcoa")
 - d. Rydon Group Ltd ("Rydon")
 - e. Metal Technology Ltd ("Metal Tech")
 - f. Blackburns Metals Ltd
 - g. Schueco UK Ltd
 - h. Maran Atha Fasteners Ltd
 - i. Multibond Solutions Ltd
 - j. Davies Sheetmetal & Fabrication Ltd
 - k. VBH (GB) Ltd
 - l. Gesipa Blind Reverting Systems Ltd
 - m. Omnis Exteriors Ltd
3. In 2013 CEP was involved in discussions that took place with other parties regarding the proposed refurbishment works to Grenfell Tower. The discussions included various high level quotes and involved the exchange of information relating to the

Grenfell Tower project which is therefore in CEP's possession. Whilst none of these proposals culminated in CEP contracting with those other parties, as a result of this process CEP has a much larger volume of documents than it might otherwise have for the contract itself. These documents have been disclosed to the Inquiry for completeness.

Pre-Contract Enquiries

4. CEP had conducted business with Harley since 2004, working on approximately 11 projects with them prior to 2014.
5. In January 2014 Harley provided CEP with its schedule and National Buildings Specifications for the curtain wall and window requirements for the Works and asked CEP to provide a quote. This initial approach by Harley was for CEP to provide a quote for the design, fabrication and supply of aluminium window frames and ACM cladding.
6. CEP approached its suppliers to obtain costings to allow them to provide the quotes requested by Harley. On 21 January 2014 CEP sent Harley two quotes. The first was for the design, fabrication and supply of aluminium window frames and ACM cladding utilising some materials from Metal Tech. The other quote was for the design, fabrication and supply of aluminium window frames and rainscreen cladding utilising some of the window frame materials from a different window system supplier, Wicona, as set out in the specification documents provided by Harley to CEP. These quotes provided by CEP were not ultimately pursued by Harley.
7. In around May 2014 discussions took place between Harley, Rydon, Studio E Ltd and Alcoa regarding the colour of the proposed ACM panels and sample panels. CEP was copied into some of the discussions but did not have an active role. CEP's involvement started in June 2014 when it was asked by Harley to fabricate the ACM panels required for the mock up they were assembling for the Grenfell Tower site. Harley informed CEP that the purpose of the mock-up was purely for the planner/client to select the colour and finish of the ACM panels. CEP was asked by Harley to fabricate the mock up panels and deliver them to site and CEP agreed. Harley provided CEP with drawings of the proposed mock-up which specified

Reynobond ACM panels that are manufactured by Alcoa, and subsequently arranged for the panels to be delivered to CEP. CEP took delivery of the mock-up panels from Alcoa and fabricated them in accordance with the drawings provided by Harley and delivered them to the Grenfell Tower site on 9 July 2014.

Supply Contract for Window Frames

8. In September 2014 Harley approached CEP and asked them to supply and fabricate the window frames for the Works. Following this request CEP provided Harley with quotes for the supply only of fabricated aluminium window frames. Harley accepted this quote and thereafter provided CEP with an order form on 10 November 2014.
9. To enable CEP to fulfil this contract for the supply of the aluminium window frames, it purchased various materials from the other suppliers set out at paragraph 2 above. CEP proceeded to deliver the fabricated window frames to the Grenfell Tower site with the first batch delivered in February 2015 and the order being completed by August 2015.

Supply of ACM Cladding

Contract with Harley

10. In February 2015 Harley provided CEP with their cladding panel requirements for Grenfell Tower specifying Reynobond ACM panels. As stated above, Reynobond ACM panels are a product manufactured by Alcoa. Harley asked CEP to provide a quote for the supply only of fabricated ACM panels together with lead times. CEP approached Alcoa to obtain a price for the supply of the type of Reynobond ACM panels specified in the cladding requirements. The Reynobond ACM panels are produced by Alcoa in complete aluminium composite sheets. CEP does not alter the composition of the panel in any way, it merely sizes and shapes them.
11. Following Alcoa's quotation CEP provided 3 quotes to Harley for the supply and fabrication of Reynobond ACM panels. After negotiations between CEP and Harley, the parties contracted for the supply and fabrication of the Reynobond ACM panels. CEP proceeded to fabricate the ACM panels as ordered by Harley. Attached is a schedule of all orders placed by Harley with CEP for the supply and fabrication of Reynobond ACM panels for the Grenfell Tower refurbishment project (Appendix A).

CEP also supplied a curtain wall screen to the ground floor of Grenfell Tower which included an entrance door.

Contract with Rydon

12. In around September 2015 Harley went into administration before the Works had been completed. CEP were approached to provide Rydon with a quote for the remaining Reynobond ACM panels required for the Works on the same terms as CEP had provided to Harley. CEP provided Rydon with schedules confirming the panels that had already been delivered to site and those that remained outstanding, together with a quote for CEP to supply and fabricate the remaining ACM panels (Appendix B).
13. Rydon accepted this quote. CEP proceeded to fulfil the contract with Rydon for the remaining ACM panels. CEP completed this order with the last ACM panels being delivered to site in around December 2015.

Contract with Harley Facades Ltd

14. CEP was required to supply and fabricate replacement ACM panels, a replacement door and screen as one of the ground floor entrance doors had been damaged at the Grenfell Tower site. CEP contracted with Harley Facades Ltd for these additional items.

Contracts with other Suppliers

15. In order for CEP to fulfil the orders placed with it by others for the Grenfell Tower refurbishment CEP contracted with various suppliers for required materials. These other suppliers are set out at paragraph 2.