

The Macallan, Aberlour

Flexible formwork helps shape an awe-inspiring distillery

Key Benefits:

Detailed architectural finish

Consistent geometry

Large formwork area



The project at a glance

The Edrington group has invested £140 million in a new distillery to enhance production capabilities and enable visitors to experience the production of the luxury single-malt whisky. Hidden away in the countryside, the distillery is both a modest and modern architecture. The exterior is camouflaged by grass, enabling the structure to blend in with its natural surroundings, whilst the interior comprises concrete, steel and timber reflecting the complexity and detail of the design.

Customer: Careys Civil Engineering

Main contractor: Robertson Construction

Developer: The Edrington Group

Project type: Private, Non-residential

Products and Services: RUNDFLEX wall formwork, TRIO panel formwork, VARIO GT 24 formwork, PERI UP



What did the customer need?

Achieving a high-quality architectural concrete finish was a top priority, as the interior of The Macallan is exposed. In addition to the finish, the structure consists of various geometrical shapes that required suitable formwork solutions to ensure they were accurately constructed as per the design. The design also included a 6m high wall along the service route requiring a cost-effective shuttering solution.

What was the challenge?

The main contractor requested fewer tie holes to achieve the desired finish. This became a challenge for our design team as sufficient ties were required to safely bear the concrete load. In addition to the load, tie hole arrangement had to take the architectural finish into consideration.

How did we help?

We employed TRIO panel formwork to form the 6m high walls. The system's large shuttering capacity meant fewer concrete pours were required. TRIO also integrated with our PERI UP scaffolding system to provide easy and secure access to shutters on the higher levels. System compatibility was paramount as it enabled workers to erect and strike the formwork safely and accurately.

For the circular production tanks, RUNDFLEX offered a consistent curve and flexible shuttering. The system could be adjusted to meet individual radii measurements without making modifications to the actual panel, whilst still producing a fair-faced concrete finish.

All internal exposed walls were formed using customised VARIO panels. By using GT 24 girders and steel walers we were able to provide Careys with the flexibility of positioning ties where desired, ensuring project-specific construction.

The tie holes were positioned to create consistent patterns across the structure, which on completion became part of the architectural feature. The result, a cost-effective and detailed finish.

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