

Technical Officer Evaluation

- Materials –



Steel

Manufactured using varying grades of cold formed steel which comply with European standards EN10204/10219 & 10255, the high strength cold formed hollow sections are suitable for applications where controlled specifications and associated design regulations apply.

Paint and finishing Process

All the Wicksteed manufactured steel equipment is subject to our metal finishing process, which offers durability and longevity. The process entails extensive labour and plant investment and involves shot blasting, zinc-thermal spraying and polyester powder painting.



To achieve consistent quality, the product is shot blasted using G17 sized shot, chosen specifically after extensive trials to ensure not only material cleansing but also the necessary peak and trough for zinc and powder paint adhesion. Wicksteed use Zinc Thermal Spraying as a method of galvanisation that protects the base steel from corrosion. This method uses a lower heat process reducing the potential for heat distortion of the steel and can be applied in a much denser coating thickness compared to Hot Dip Galvanisation.



Wicksteed offer a 10-year corrosion guarantee on steel items that are protected with the application of an externally coated zinc metal thermal spray pre-treatment applied in accordance with B.S.5493, prior to polyester powder coat painting.

After zinc-thermal spraying, the product is manually prepared for powder coating by removing any dust or loose particles and only after that process is the zinc protected product polyester powder coated.



Wicksteed offer a lifetime guarantee against structural failure of the steel on our products. The steel is then powder coated using a polyester paint which further protects the steel and allows for lower maintenance costs as a result of equipment needing repainting less often. Wicksteed offer a 7-year guarantee against corrosion on all paintwork.

The advantages of this pre-treatment are:

- Extends the expectant lifespan of the paintwork by providing added protection against corrosion.
- Provides painted metalwork with good abrasion resistance, thereby providing more resistance to chipping, scratching and wear abrasion.
- Protects damaged areas by cathodic reaction i.e., if areas are damaged, the zinc pre-treatment provides a “self-healing” reaction.
- Lower maintenance costs results, as a substantially greater time elapses before repainting becomes necessary.

If properly maintained, steel equipment is durable, withstands the elements and has a long lifespan, making it ideal for areas with high traffic and potential for anti-social behaviour. All paintwork repairs must be carried out promptly as per Wicksteed's maintenance instructions, using only approved materials, in order to maintain the original level of anti-corrosion protection.

High Density Polyethylene Panels (HDPE)

Wicksteed use HDPE on the Biscay multiplay, Squirrel 4Saw, musical play and Swirl roundabout. Densetec HDPE Design Panels are used worldwide in the manufacture of panels and components for the Playground, Sport, Leisure and Recreation Industries and are increasingly being used to replace timber and composite panel components. Whilst the initial cost of these materials may be lower, the long-term maintenance requirements and shorter life expectancy make their choice a false economy. The HDPE Design Panels and components on Wicksteed manufactured equipment give a more professional finish and greater product longevity and come with a lifetime guarantee against cracking, splitting and delamination. The HDPE on the musical play equipment have a ten year guarantee.



The panels are an extruded 'sandwich'. This allows us to CNC a design which cuts away the top layer to expose the inner layer showing a contrasting colour. As the colour is embedded into the sheet, Densetec HDPE Design Panel requires no painting. This is especially useful in harsh environments where the colour will not chip, flake or wear away.

The advantages of HDPE are:

- UV stabilised for fade resistant outdoor use
- High impact resistant
- Requires no painting
- Durable matt finish
- Moisture and chemical resistant
- Stain and graffiti resistant for easy cleaning
- Virtually Maintenance free
- Will not rot, delaminate, splinter or crack
- Recyclable and non-toxic
- Easily machined and engraved

Timber

Our timber is sourced from UK Forest Stewardship Council FSC approved suppliers that ensure it originates from a well-managed source. This is approved by organisations such as WWF, Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth. This timber is renowned for its stability and resistance to large cracks. The surface has a machine sanded finish and is ideal for all situations where children are likely to come into contact.

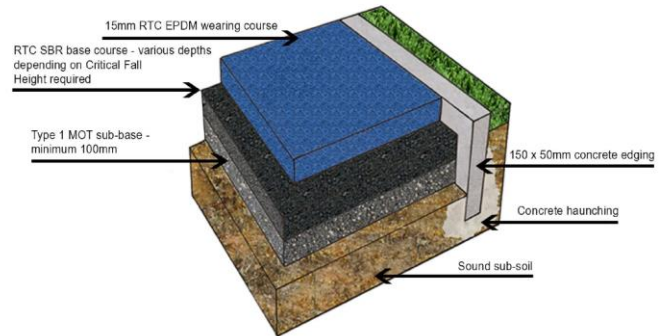
As the accepted market leader in high quality, cost-effective timber fitness and play equipment, Wicksteed has set the standard to which others aspire. The tactile nature of timber trail items appeals to all users and brings a bit of nature to the playground; improving children's balancing, climbing, dexterity, interactive and coordination skills whilst strengthening limbs and upper body.

The timber used on site will be fitted with steel shoes that extends the guarantee period to 15 years.

Wet Pour

Wicksteed has developed an ingenious method of re-using rubber door seals from old, discarded washing machines to incorporate with recycled tyres into making eco-friendly Eco-Fleck playground surfacing.

The Wet pour surfacing beneath the Swirl roundabout is laid on site and helps take Wicksteed's commitment to the environment one step further.



Bonded rubber, they are mixed on site using special equipment and laid to exacting standards. Usually installed in a two-layer system. The topping layer or 'wearing course' of wet pour is formed using EPDM (Ethylene Propylene Diene Modified) rubber crumbs that are bonded together with a polyurethane binder. The base layer is formed using bound SBR (Styrene Butadiene Rubber) granules to produce the absorbing qualities of wet pour. This means that the soft play surface can be installed in a variety of depths, according to CFHs (Critical Fall Heights).

Wet pour requires a hard sub-base for us to install on top of. When installed onto a free-draining sub-base, wet pour is porous and is suitable for all-year-round use.

Grass Safety Mats



Manufactured from recycled rubber tyres, our grass mats to be used on site require no engineered base and can be laid directly onto an existing grass/soil surface that has been prepared by ensuring large stones have been removed. Suitable for flat and contoured sites they will follow the natural topography of the land and give a natural appearance.

The 1.5 metres x 1 metre mats weigh approximately 19 kg each, are secured with cable ties for additional security and laid over a ground stabilising mesh to provide extra stability where access water may be an issue.

Practically maintenance free, the grass mats virtually disappear as the grass grows through the individual cells, with grass cutting being able to be carried out with a conventional hand or ride on mower.

Our grass mats have been tested in accordance with BS EN 117 and achieve a Critical Fall Height of 2.3 metres when installed onto a grass surfacing.

- Play Value and Features -

Biscay Multiplay

Part of our new Universal Range, the Biscay provides a multitude of play activities for children of all ages and abilities. Incorporating the latest technology and processes ensures that our Universal Range is our most sustainable multiplay units ever. The three separate towers provide decision making opportunities as users decide which route to take



- * Suitable for toddlers upwards
- * Six different deck heights
- * Low level and mid level, wide accessible steps
- * Midi Inclusive slide and High Slide
- * Crawler ramp with hand and footholds to allow users with mobility issues to be able to pull themselves up to the next level
- * Three interactive environmental themed panels, accessible from a standing or sitting position
- * Firefighters Pole
- * Linking Bridge



30m Cableway with Ramp

Image flying through the air, well this can be achieved with our 30 metre cableway, offering an exciting and exhilarating experience as users cruise through the air



- * Suitable for juniors to seniors
- * 30m Cable for the longest ride
- * Tyre Buffers either end to absorb impact
- * Generates operative play with users returning the seat to the start line for the next user
- * Helps with core strength
- * Ramp with anti slip foot treads for ease of access
- * Accessible button seat



Swirl Roundabout

Ideal roundabout for inclusive play, this is the perfect product for those with a mobility impairment, who use wheelchairs or for young children in a pushchair to fully enjoy the swirling sensation with their friends, without compromising on fun. The spinning motion helps with balance in users as the movement acts upon the inner ear fluids.



- * Suitable for all ages and abilities
- * Supports multiple users
- * Flush to ground installation for smooth transition for wheelchair users
- * Dedicated wheelchair space
- * Separate seating area
- * Two directional spinning platform to help prevent dizziness
- * Aids vestibular stimulation and kinaesthetic awareness



Spin-a-Bounce

A cross between a seesaw and roundabout, users will experience the thrill of bouncing as well as satisfying the craving children have for spinning.

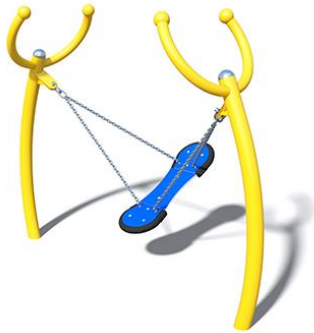


- * Suitable for up to two users in the junior age range upwards
- * Comfortable rubber seat with large hand supports
- * Helps increase vestibular stimulation whilst helping with kinaesthetic awareness, particularly beneficial to users on the autism spectrum
- * Supports cooperative play as users work together to create the motion



Surf Rider

Ride the waves on the Wicksteed Surf Rider! Plant your feet on the deck and hold on tight. Move the deck back and forth with a swinging motion for the ultimate thrill ride as they imagine they are surfing.

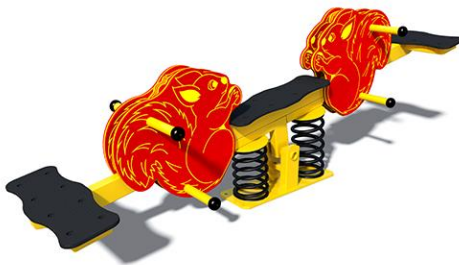


- * Suitable for juniors to seniors
- * Supports 1-2 users
- * User(s) work to create the swinging motion, helping with core strength
- * Users can choose to stand or sit on the deck, making it ideal for users who have issues with balance
- * Side supports allow users to graduate up the degrees of risk, starting out with maximum support
- * Helps in the development of balance, coordination and gross motor skills
- * Improves agility
- * Challenges and develops management of risk



Squirrel 4 Saw

The 4Saw gives a new twist to the classic seesaw, a staple of playgrounds and loved by all ages. Panelling in the guise of squirrels provide a fun element to this multi user piece.



- * Suitable for all ages and abilities
- * Supports up to 5 users
- * Parent/carer is able to sit alongside the user for additional support
- * Large textured nonslip seating and contrasting brightly coloured, easily visible hand and footholds for support
- * Central platform for sitting or standing for a more challenging experience
- * Supports cooperative play as users work together to create the rocking motion
- * Ideal for users who enjoy a repetitive self-stimulating rocking motion



Turnstile

Small but mighty, the Turnstile roundabout provides all the fun of a larger unit but in a compact design



- * Suitable for toddlers upwards
- * Supports 1-2 users allowing them to enjoy the spinning sensation
- * 3 large hand holds for support
- * Small footprint requires minimal surfacing
- * Promotes commutative and cooperative play
- * Enhances kinaesthetic awareness
- * Helps build muscle strength and endurance as users have to grip and hold as they spin



Balancing



Interactive



Coordination



Rotating



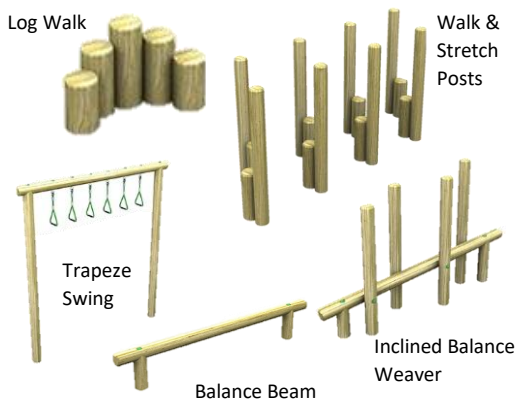
Upper Strength



Agility

Mini Fitness Trail

Designed to encourage physical development in a fun yet challenging way and perfect for helping users of all ages and abilities to get fit and trim. The high and low level units require little supervision and minimal safety surfacing. Good outdoor exercise is so important for children and to learn sporting competitiveness is also good to learn at an early age. How to challenge their friends, but at the same time how to be defeated gracefully and how to let others win sometimes are all great lessons to take on board and carry into adult life.



- * Half Log Walk, Walk & Stretch Posts, Balance Beam, single Trapeze Swing, Inclined Balance Weaver
- * Suitable for all ages and abilities, encouraging multigenerational play
- * Single Trapeze Swing helps with upper body strength
- * Horizontal beams on Balance Weaver and Balance Beam have a flat walking surface to aid younger users
- * Helps in the development of vestibular and kinaesthetic awareness
- * Promotes exercise in a safe and fun environment



Stepping



Balancing



Sports Active



Social



Interactive



Coordination



Agility



Upper Strength



Swinging

Musical Play

Designed for outdoor use and a fun addition to any play space

- * Suitable for all ages and abilities
- * Encourages multigenerational play allowing parents/carers to join in play



- * Allows users to express themselves
- * Accessible from a seating and standing position, making them suitable for wheelchair users and inclusive play
- * Studies show a positive correlation between exposure to music and improved wellbeing for users with autism
- * Offers a sensory play experience
- * Helps with hand and eye coordination and fine motor skills

Eco-Tongue Drum

Eco-Bell Tree



Imagination



Inclusive



Social



Interactive



Educational



Sensory