MBS
Architectural

PRODUCT BROCHURE
2026

Open Cell Paddle Ceiling

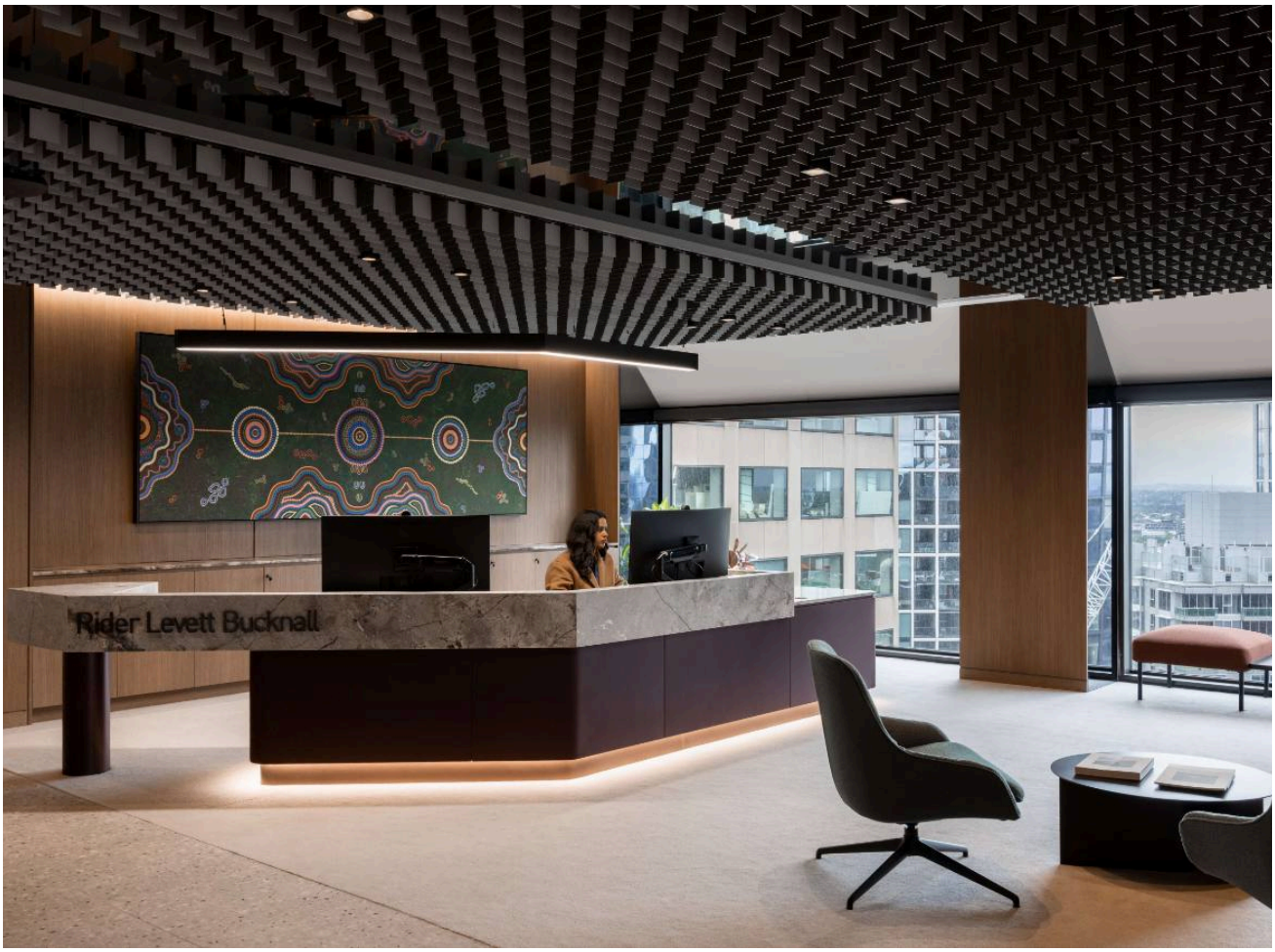
Vertical paddles on removable carrier rails, bringing depth, rhythm and open performance to the ceiling plane.

Design, Delivered.

Designed to give the ceiling plane depth and movement

Most ceilings are read as a surface. An open cell paddle ceiling is read as a volume. Vertical paddles, set out at regular centres on carrier rails, give the plane genuine depth: the field opens and closes as you move beneath it, and light falls through the ceiling rather than onto it.

The open structure keeps the plenum ventilated and the services above accessible, while the paddle field screens them from view. The result is a ceiling that holds its rhythm across long runs while everything above stays reachable.



RIDER LEVETT BUCKNALL · MELBOURNE · HOT BLACK

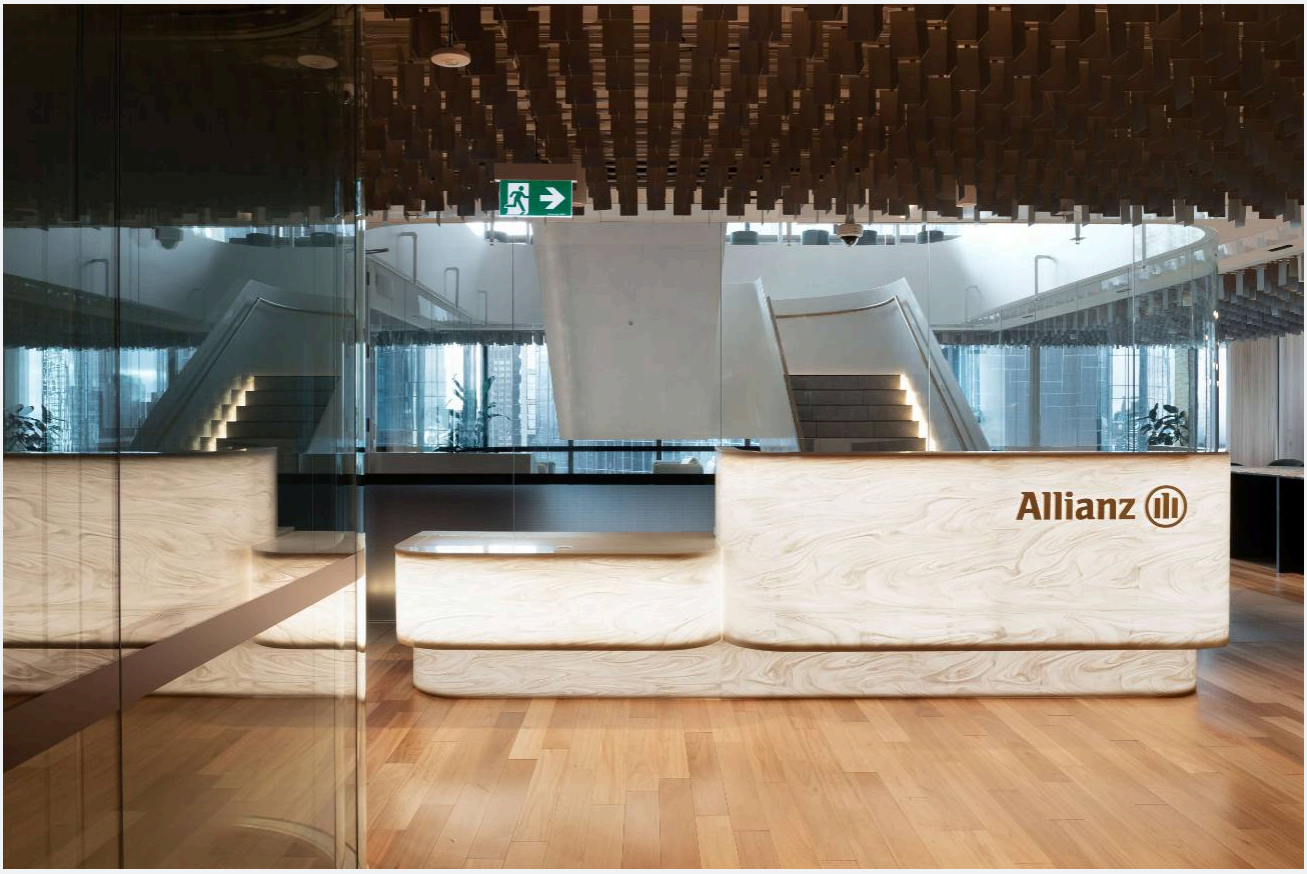
> The ceiling reads differently from every angle. That movement is the point.

SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Vertical paddles on removable carrier rails

The system is built from powder coated aluminium paddles, pre-assembled onto carrier rails at the specified centres and hung within a concealed suspension grid. Paddles are rectangular as standard; bespoke shapes and sizes are available on request.

Paddle depth and centre spacing set the transparency of the plane. Deeper paddles and tighter centres close the view line and read as a denser field; wider centres open it, letting more of the light and volume above come through.



ALLIANZ · MELBOURNE · GRAY PUKSAND

3 sizes	100–200mm	Lift-out	Bespoke
STANDARD PADDLES	TYPICAL CENTRES	PLENUM ACCESS	SHAPES, SIZES, CENTRES & FINISHES

WHY SPECIFY

Five reasons paddles earn their place in a ceiling

01

Genuine three-dimensional depth

Vertical paddles give the ceiling plane a depth and rhythm that flat systems cannot. The pattern shifts with every step beneath it.

02

Open by design

Air and light move through the open structure, and services above are visually screened without being enclosed, simplifying coordination overhead.

03

Lift-out access

Pre-assembled paddle carrier rails lift out of the grid as required, giving direct access to the plenum without dismantling the ceiling.

04

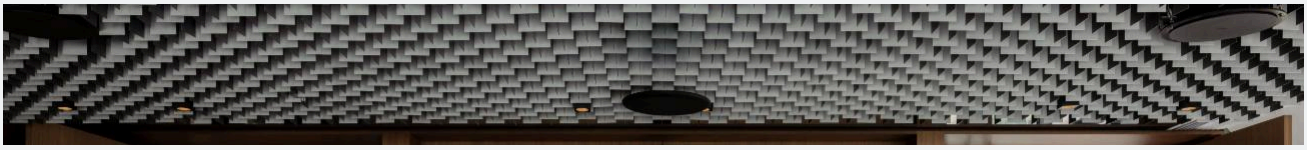
Acoustic options

Acoustic infill can be installed above the open cell structure to enhance sound absorption. The ceiling stays open; the ceiling functions acoustically.

05

Built for specification

Standard paddle sizes and centres give documentation something firm to reference, with bespoke shapes, sizes, set-outs and finishes available on request.



PADDLE FIELD · DETAIL

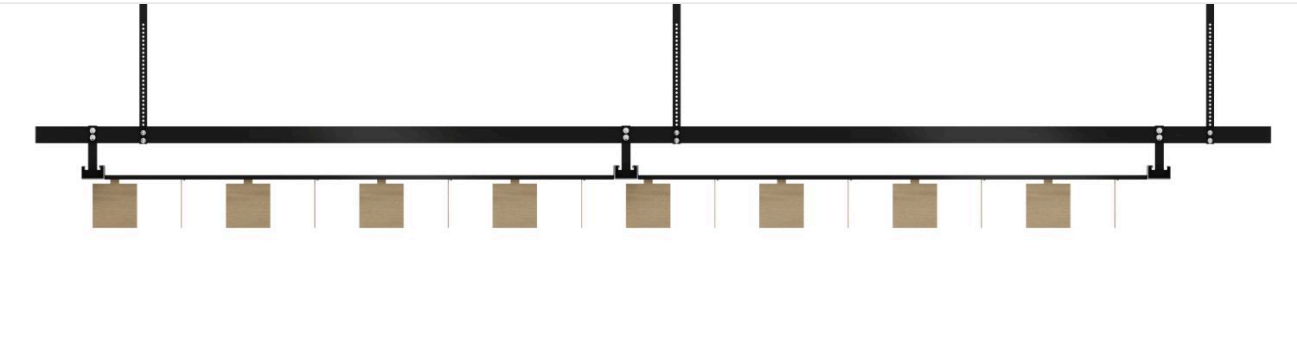
PADDLE SIZES

Set the depth, then set the rhythm

Paddles are rectangular as standard, in three sections. Deeper paddles close the ceiling visually on approach; shallower paddles keep the plane open. Bespoke paddle shapes and sizes are available on request.

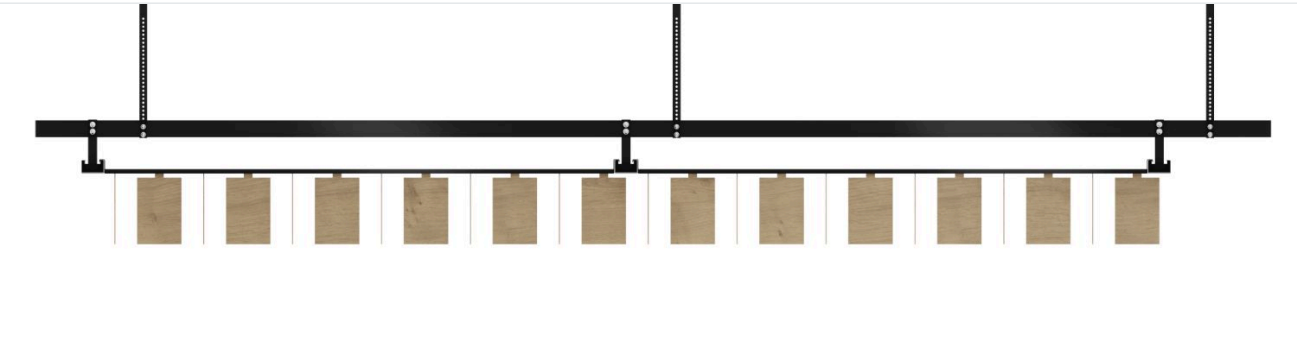
100mm (d) × 100mm (w)

SHALLOWEST



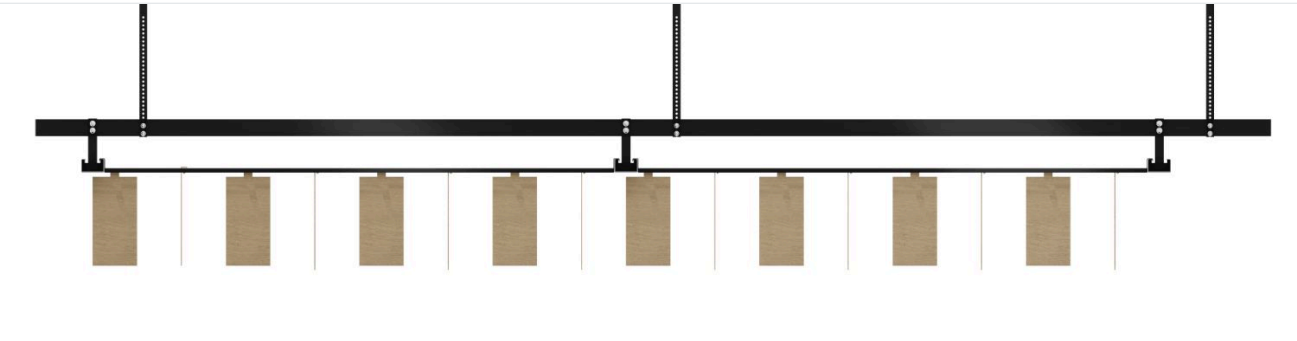
150mm (d) × 100mm (w)

MID DEPTH



200mm (d) × 100mm (w)

DEEPEST



Paddle sections shown at 150mm centres. Dimensions in millimetres, depth × width.

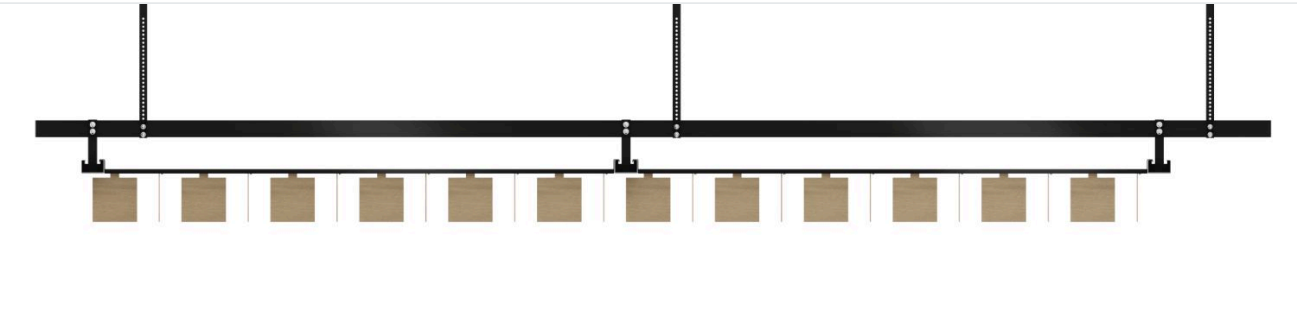
PADDLE CENTRES

Openness, tuned to the space below

Paddles are typically set out at 100mm, 150mm or 200mm centres. Tighter centres read as a denser, more continuous field; wider centres open the plane and let more light through. Bespoke centres are available on request.

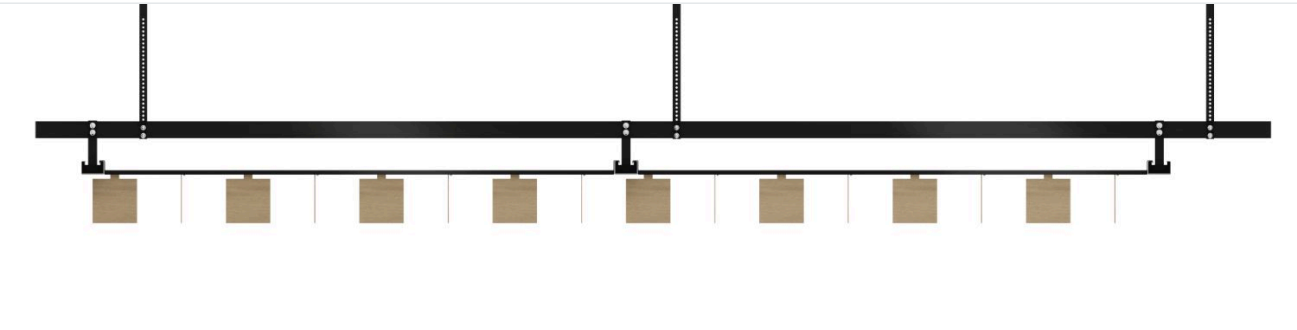
100mm centres

MOST DENSE



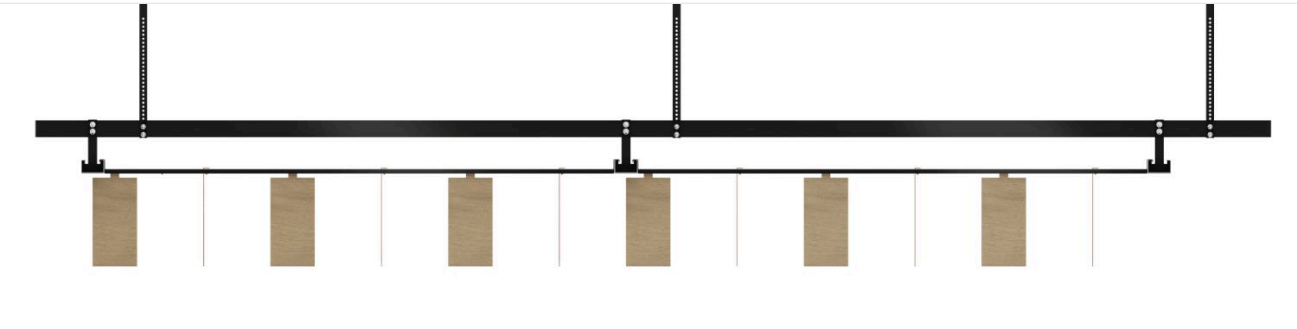
150mm centres

BALANCED



200mm centres

MOST OPEN

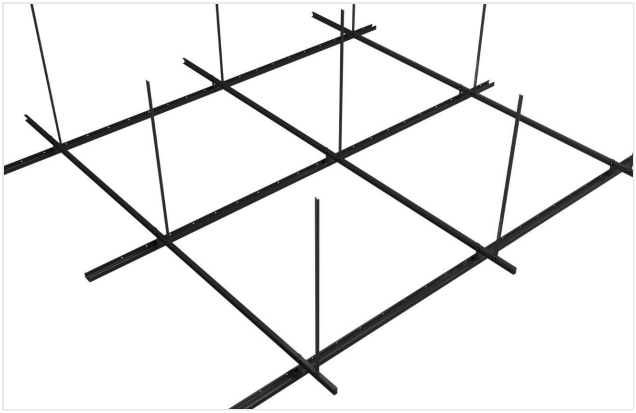


Centres are measured paddle to paddle along the carrier rail. Depth, width and centres are specified independently.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Grid, carrier rails and suspension

A concealed suspension grid carries the system. Paddle carrier rails arrive pre-assembled and hang from the grid, so set-out is controlled in the factory rather than on site and the finished field holds a consistent rhythm across long runs.

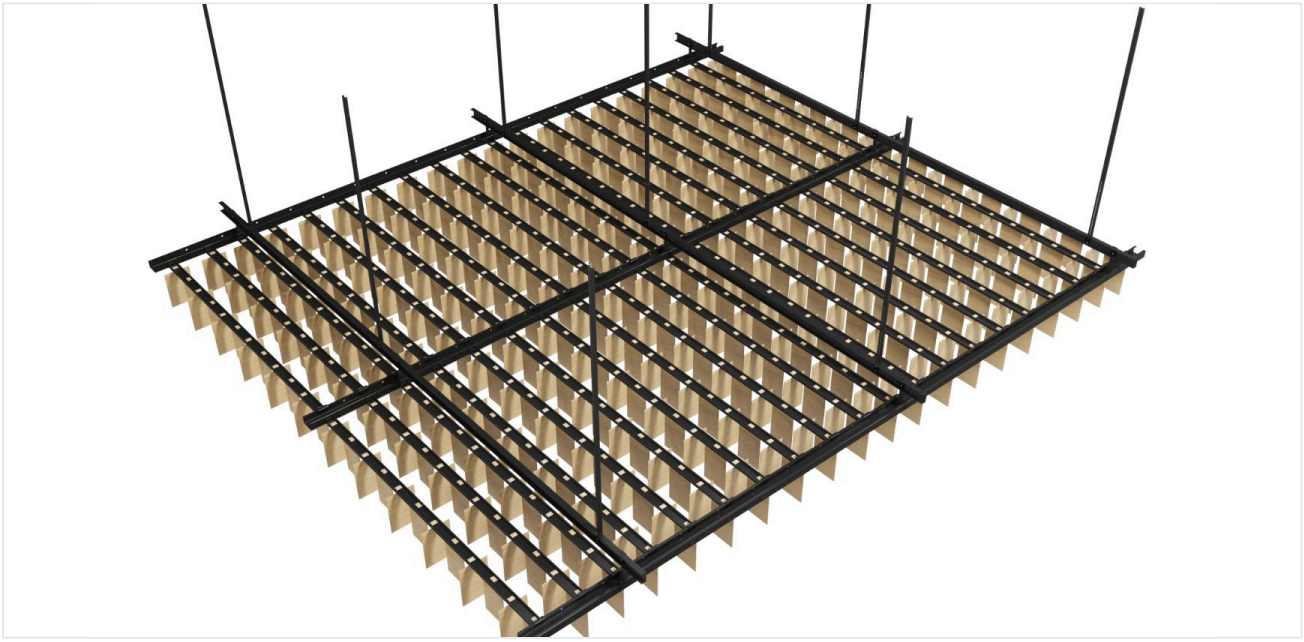


01 Suspension grid

Primary runners suspended from the structure above, levelled and set-out in a 1200 x 1200 module.

02 Carrier rail junction

Paddle carrier rails locate onto the grid at each junction, holding alignment along the run.



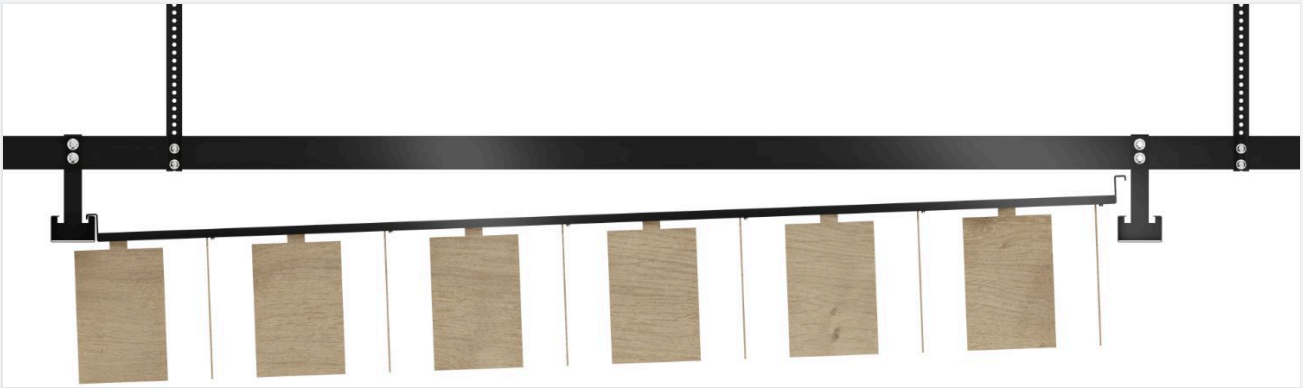
03 Assembled field

Pre-assembled rails hung in sequence build the paddle field. Services above are independently supported and remain reachable through the open structure.

ACCESS

Access without dismantling the ceiling

Pre-assembled paddle carrier rails can be lifted and removed from the grid as required, giving direct access to the plenum for maintenance and upgrades. The rail is re-seated in the same position, so the set-out is undisturbed.

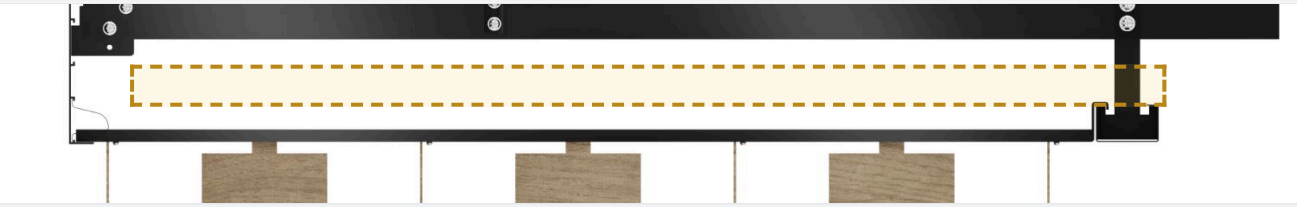


Carrier rail tilted and lifted clear of the grid. No tools at the ceiling plane. The grid is notched so that the carrier rail can easily be reinstated in its exact position, maintaining ceiling alignment after access.

ACOUSTICS

Absorption above, architecture below

Acoustic infill options can be installed above the open cell structure to enhance sound absorption and improve acoustic performance in shared environments, without altering the appearance of the ceiling. Infill is coordinated with services and specified project by project. Sound absorption up to NRC 1.0 can be achieved.



ACOUSTIC INFILL ZONE · ABOVE THE OPEN CELL STRUCTURE

Acoustic infill sits within the zone noted, above the paddles and below the suspension grid. Perimeter trim closes the field against walls and bulkheads with a clean shadow line.

FINISHES

Powder coat, specified to the palette

Paddles are finished in polyester powder coat: RAL 9003 White or RAL 9005 Black as standard, with other RAL colours available on request. Anodised and timber effect finishes are also available. Finish selections are confirmed against physical samples during specification.

STANDARD

RAL 9003 White

Polyester powder coat · standard

RAL 9005 Black

Polyester powder coat · standard

POPULAR FINISHES

Monument

Dulux Duralloy · PMC10D46A

Basalt

Dulux Duralloy · PMC10G82A

Surfmist

Dulux Duralloy · PMC10P21A

Deep Ocean

Dulux Duralloy · PMC10B99A

ALSO AVAILABLE

Anodised

Clear and coloured anodising · on request

Timber effect

Timber-look powder coat · on request

Colours shown are screen representations only and are not a substitute for a physical sample. Confirm all selections against a physical powder coat chip before specification.

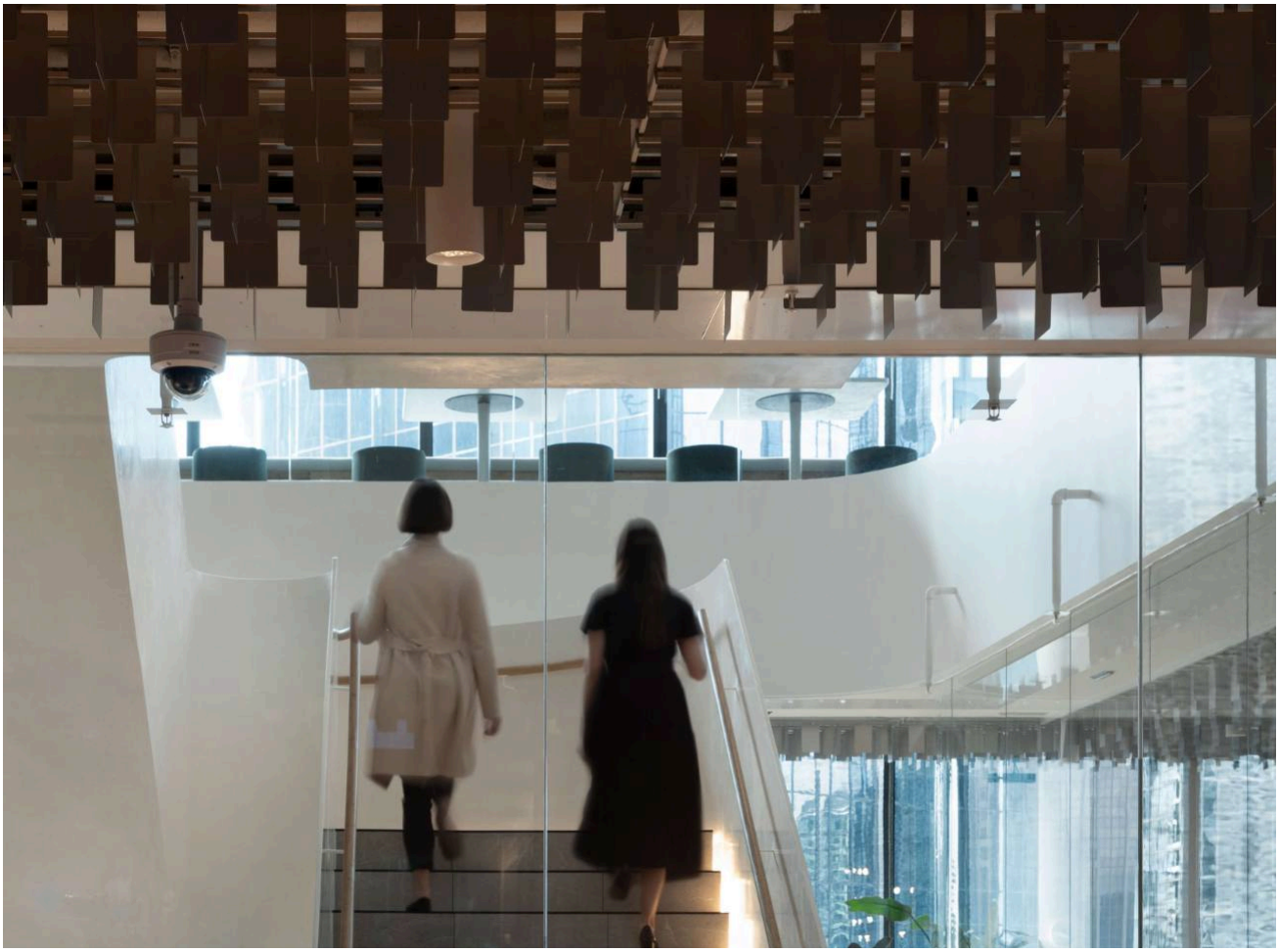
DESIGN AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

From concept through to construction

Our technical team works alongside architects, designers and contractors to develop paddle ceiling set-outs that sit comfortably within the wider ceiling design. Speak with us early and we will detail the field around your lighting, services and junctions.

SUPPORT INCLUDES

- Project-specific set-outs and detailing
- Bespoke paddle shapes, sizes and centres
- Service and lighting coordination
- Shop drawings and suspension design
- Samples and finish selection
- Installation guidance



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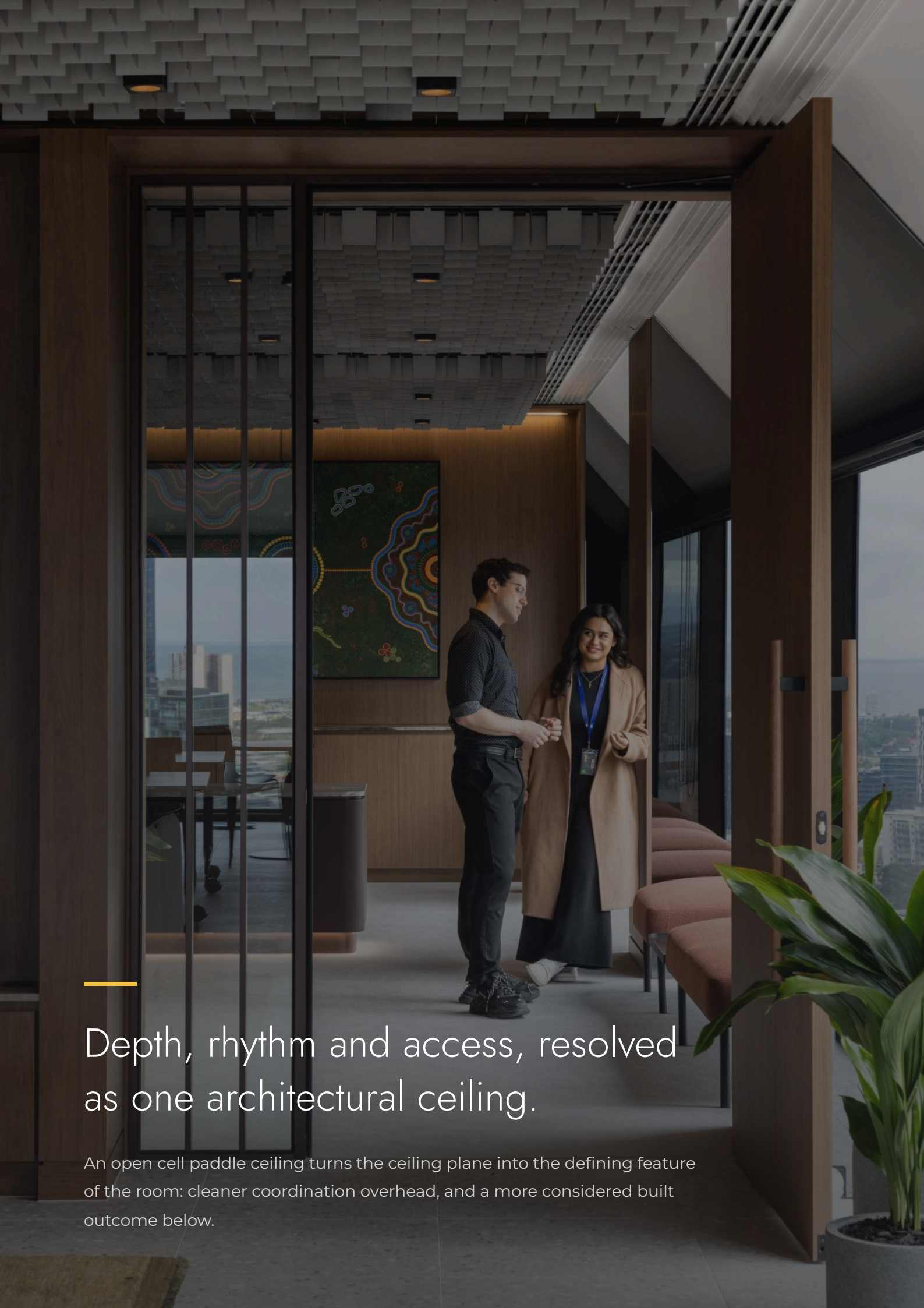

Depth, rhythm and access, resolved as one architectural ceiling.

An open cell paddle ceiling turns the ceiling plane into the defining feature of the room: cleaner coordination overhead, and a more considered built outcome below.

MBS Architectural

CEILING & WALL SYSTEMS

Design, Delivered.

Good ceiling design is often about restraint. If a paddle ceiling belongs in your next project, bring us the drawings: we will resolve the set-out, the finish and the detail, and manufacture it to suit.

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