

# Rockfon is The Word for stylish acoustics

The Word, South Shields



## 21st Century School Programme

The Word, National Centre for the Written Word, is the centre piece of a £multimillion regeneration in the heart of South Shields. Rockfon Mono Acoustic seamless ceiling system is installed throughout to meet both the aesthetic and acoustic requirements which helped the project win the prestigious Public Sector Interiors Project of the Year award in the 2016 Mixology North Awards.

The Word is designed to be South Shields' gateway to cultural, social and business knowledge, and to be exciting. The area's industrial heritage plays a role in helping to realise this ambition and is woven into the fabric of the building.

Inside, the circular façade is likened to the pages of a book inviting the reader into the depths of creative writing, of knowledge, of individuality and ideas.

Visitors to The Word are welcomed in the triple height central atrium which forms the focal point of the building. Inside the atrium, visitors can take in excellent views of all four levels of the building and beyond towards the water front and the River Tyne.

## Products in use

- Rockfon® Mono® Acoustic
- Chicago Metallic™ Monolithic Grid

### A natural progression

Steve Dickson, Senior Director at FaulknerBrowns Architects, specified Rockfon for the project and explained why, *"In terms of selecting Rockfon it really was a natural progression for us as we'd used the product successfully previously. The key to our specification was that we wanted a monolithic product that is also Class A rated acoustically. Rockfon Mono Acoustic is installed around the perimeter of the galleries to help create a continuous ribbon around the circular atria of the building which enhances its stylish, contemporary interior design."*

Rockfon Mono Acoustic is a unique product which combines the elegance of a seamless ceiling with high performance sound absorption, thought only possible with modular suspended ceilings. To create a continuous finish, the ceiling tiles are installed and then finished with an impressive acoustic render to create an elegant, smooth-white, monolithic surface.

### 'Unrivalled acoustic performance'

John Osborne, Senior Project Manager at Bowmer & Kirkland, was impressed with how well Rockfon Mono Acoustic enhances the design scheme, *"Aesthetically it sits so comfortably in the building and complements the surroundings, specifically how it curves around the central atrium space seamlessly, almost like a halo."*

John is also impressed with the acoustic performance offered by Rockfon Mono Acoustic, *"The system's acoustic performance is unrivalled. We carried out stringent post completion acoustic testing with our acoustician and all areas tested passed with flying colours."*

Daniel Reilly at installers Reilly Ceiling and Drywall was impressed too, *"The Rockfon Mono Acoustic ceiling was chosen for this project because it offers the best performing Class A sound absorption with a monolithic finish on the market. It is a ceiling system that provides complete flexibility and design freedom. Approximately 1100m<sup>2</sup> Rockfon Mono Acoustic were fitted around the curved bulkheads which mirror the shape of the concrete building to create the central atrium."*



### Versatile installation options

Rockfon Mono Acoustic tiles are installed using a Chicago Metallic suspension system or can be directly mounted on existing ceilings and walls. The ceiling offers Class A2 fire protection and dimensional stability at up to 100% relative humidity, and allows for easy incorporation of lighting, air conditioning and ventilation systems. It is suitable for new builds or refurbishment projects.

Find out more by visiting [www.rockfon.co.uk](http://www.rockfon.co.uk) or email [info@rockfon.co.uk](mailto:info@rockfon.co.uk)

Rockfon provide advanced stone wool acoustic ceiling and wall solutions to create beautiful, comfortable spaces. Easy to install and durable, they protect people from noise and the spread of fire while making a constructive contribution toward a sustainable future.