## **The Quality Pathway - Defect Avoidance**

# Composite and Built-up Cladding (Walls and Roof)



To facilitate this ambition of getting the quality right, these checks should take place:

#### Both systems

- Air, fire and acoustic integrity requirements should be considered by the architect at the initial design stage and should be fully designed, buildable and understood by all parties
- > The type of cladding and installation sequence will dictate the plant (Mobile Elevating Work Platform) and scaffold requirements
- > Check requirements for storage and cutting of panels
- Secondary steelwork should be checked and accepted by the cladding subcontractor
- > Check earth bonding requirements
- > Install heads and cills to the site datum. It is essential that cills and support brackets are level with regard to the composite panels
- > Ensure all joints are sealed to specification
- > Fixings to be strictly to the manufacturer's recommendations, to prevent failure and expensive rectification
- > Remove swarf from cladding as this will potentially damage the surface
- > Flashings and cappings should form a continuous barrier and not rely on sealants as the primary protection against the elements
- > M&E roof and wall penetrations should be sealed with a proprietary 'decktite' system
- Manufacturer's protection should be left in place as long as possible
- > Protection is essential to doorways, window cills and low level cladding
- Any damage must be repaired by certificated companies with an accompanying manufacturer's warranty
- > Ensure that the panels are fully sealed to the secondary steelwork as installation progresses to ensure air integrity test requirements
- > Check that ail integral seals are in place at panel joints
- > Seal cut panel ends as the specification to prevent deterioration through water penetration
- Check that panel end caps are installed and sealed

#### Built up system

- > Whilst installing liner panels form all the builders work holes and fully form all upstands
- Install the vapour barrier system to the manufacturer's recommendations ensuring all joints are fully taped and lapped
- > Check spacers and Z bars are installed to the correct centres and sealed to the vapour barrier
- Check insulation is to the correct specification and kept dry
- Check laps, sealant and fixings are as specified and installed exactly to the manufacturer's specification
- Composite panels



### **Our Quality vision:**