

SEATING





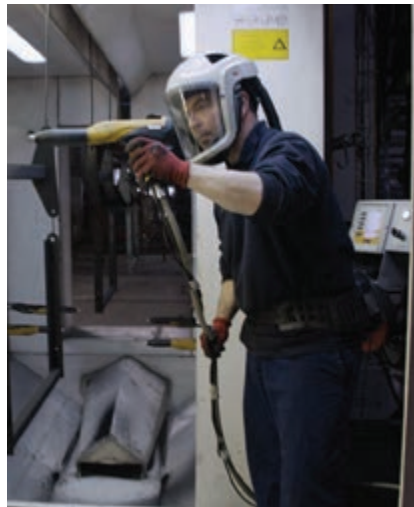
For over 50 years, Audience Systems has been creating auditoria that our customers can be proud of.

Our products are designed and manufactured in the UK, and built to last. We regularly service seating that has been in place for 25-30 years or more.

We love making beautiful seats for theatres, lecture theatres and arts spaces. We are also renowned as a specialist in retractable seating, with thousands of installations worldwide – from school halls to entertainment venues. We embrace challenge and innovation, and take on complex projects that nobody else will.

We offer outstanding attention to detail even before you place your order, with free site visits and CAD layouts. Once you become a customer, you'll be looked after by our experienced projects and installation teams until you sign off your project. We're with you for life, and our aftersales team offer comprehensive annual inspections, parts, refurbishments and upgrades.

Of course, this brochure can only tell you so much. We'd welcome the chance to show you around our factory and showroom, or take you to view an installation of our seating. We'd love to show you the difference that our passion and dedication can make to a venue like yours.





Theatres & Auditoria

Royal Albert Hall, UK
The Studio, Sydney Opera House, Australia
The Roundhouse, Camden, UK
Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Australia
Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, UK
The Globe, Stockton-on-Tees, UK
Royal Caribbean Cruise Liners (Multiple ships)
Glyndebourne Opera House, UK
BBC Studioworks, UK
Woodruff Arts Center, Goizueta Stage, USA
Estação das Artes, São Paulo, Brazil
Australian Chamber Orchestra, Sydney
Houston Ballet, USA
Oaklawn Racing Casino Events Space, USA
O2 Apollo Manchester, UK
Shakespeare’s Globe, The Nancy Knowles Theatre, UK
Lagan Valley Island, Lisburn, UK
Falkirk Town Hall, UK
Canadian Aviation Museum, Ottawa
Bell Shakespeare Theatre, Sydney, Australia
Vara Konserthus, Black Box Theatre, Sweden
Paisley Town Hall, UK

De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill-on-Sea, UK
Royal College of Music, Britten Theatre, UK
Proctor’s Theatre, New York, USA
Salle de Spectacle, Theatre St Omer, France
The Bush Theatre, London, UK
Tampa Performing Arts Center, USA
Victoria Hall, Keighley, UK
Usher Hall, Edinburgh, UK
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, UK
The Coliseum Theatre, Aberdare, UK
National Ballet School, Canada
Haugesund Sanitetsforenings Revmatismesykehus, Norway
Ford Theater, California, USA
The Lyric Theatre, Sydney, Australia
Hungarian State Opera
Queen’s Hall, Dunoon, UK
The Lighthouse Arts Centre, Poole, UK
National Dance Ensemble, Budapest, Hungary
Aberdeen Music Hall, UK
Sky TV Studios, UK
Casa das Artes e Criatividade de S. J. Madeira, Portugal

Education

Abu Dhabi Future Schools (Multiple Projects)
American School, Sofia, Bulgaria
Williamsville-Sherman High School, IL, USA
Northwood Park Primary, Wolverhampton, UK
John Masefield School, Ledbury, UK
The Green School for Boys, London, UK
Peter Symonds College, Winchester, UK
Galashiels Community Campus, UK
Mariners Christian School Auditorium, CA, USA
Reed Academy, MO, USA
International School Basel, Switzerland
Kellogg School of Management, IL, USA
Plymstock School, Devon, UK
Hethersett Academy, Norwich, UK
Keith Bell Opportunity Center, TX, USA
Kelmscott School, London, UK
University of Cambridge, UK
British Georgian Academy, Georgia
British International School, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Royal Grammar School, Worcester, UK
King’s College London, Bush House, UK
Swansea University Great Hall, UK
University of Reading, UK

Brentwood School, CA, USA
Calvijn College, Netherlands
Ysgol Morgan Llwyd, Wrexham, UK
University ETH Zurich, Switzerland
Cardinal Wiseman School, Coventry, UK
University of the West of Scotland, UK
Indian High School, Dubai
Kinsale Community School, Ireland
College Boreal, Canada
Royal College of Surgeons, Medical University in Bahrain
Larbert High School, UK
University of Western Australia
University of Birmingham, UK
Singapore International School, Hong Kong
Truro School, UK
University of Southampton SUSU, UK
Nottingham High School, UK
Swinburne University, Australia
UCLA Anderson School of Management, USA
University of Warwick, UK

Arenas & Sport

The O₂ Arena, UK
AO Manchester Arena, UK
Co-op Live Arena, UK
Hard Rock Live, Sacramento, CA, USA
Claudelands Arena, New Zealand
Leeds First Direct Arena, UK
Sheffield Utilita Arena, UK
Al Sadd Stadium, Qatar
Arena Riga, Latvia
Aspire Dome, Qatar
Connexin Live, Hull, UK
Beacon of Light, Sunderland, UK
BBC Arena, Switzerland
Derby Arena, UK
Europa & Lathbury Stadium, Gibraltar
Foyle Arena, Derry, UK
Wembley Arena, UK
Huddersfield Leisure Centre, UK
ICC at ExCeL, UK
Kaohsiung Arena, Taiwan
Qatar University Sports & Events Complex
Logan Metro Sports Centre, Australia
Sport Central, University of Northumbria, UK
Mariënhoeve, Wijk bij Duurstede, Netherlands

Refurbishments

Thurston Community College, Bury St Edmonds, UK
The Curve, Slough, UK
The Place, Telford, UK
Smiths Wood Academy, Birmingham, UK
Liverpool John Moores University, UK
Saints Peter and Paul Catholic High School, Widnes, UK
Oseberg Kulterhus, Norway
Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa, UK
Guernsey College of Further Education
The Brindley Arts Centre, Runcorn, UK
Radlett Centre, Hertfordshire, UK
Burnavon Centre, Cookstown, UK
Leeds Beckett University, UK
Birmingham Town Hall, UK
Lift Aylward Academy, London, UK
Liverpool ACC Arena, UK
Indigo at The O₂, London, UK
English Institute of Sport, Sheffield, UK
Norden Farm Arts Centre, UK
Keble College, Oxford, UK
King Edward VI Community College, Totnes, UK
Kingston College, Surrey, UK



Retractable seating allows venues of all sizes to achieve real flexibility. A school hall can double as a performance space, a lecture theatre can be transformed into an exam room, or an arena can be reconfigured for ice hockey, basketball or a rock concert.

Audience Systems have installed the TX Telescopic Platform System in hundreds of venues worldwide. Many are still in every day use after 25-30 years or more.

Benefits of TX

Renowned for strength: built to meet or exceed international standards.

System design verified by independent structural engineers. Calculations available on request.

Designed for low maintenance and low lifetime cost.

Backed by Audience Systems' unparalleled engineering and customisation capabilities.

All-steel alignment system ensuring smooth, reliable opening.

Robust spring and gravity operated row locks, suitable even for use in earthquake zones.

Bolted structure constantly adjustable to ensure consistent lifetime performance.

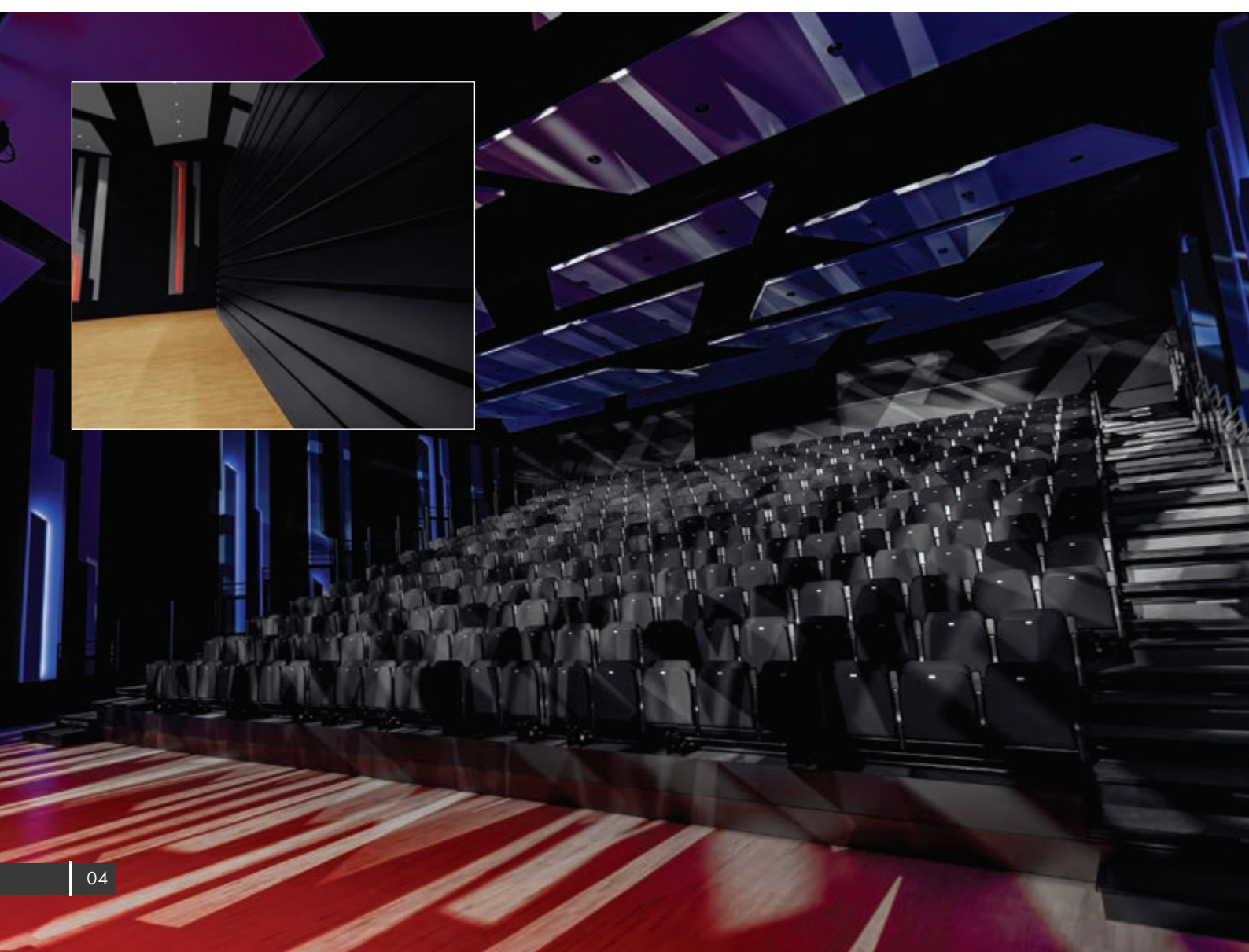
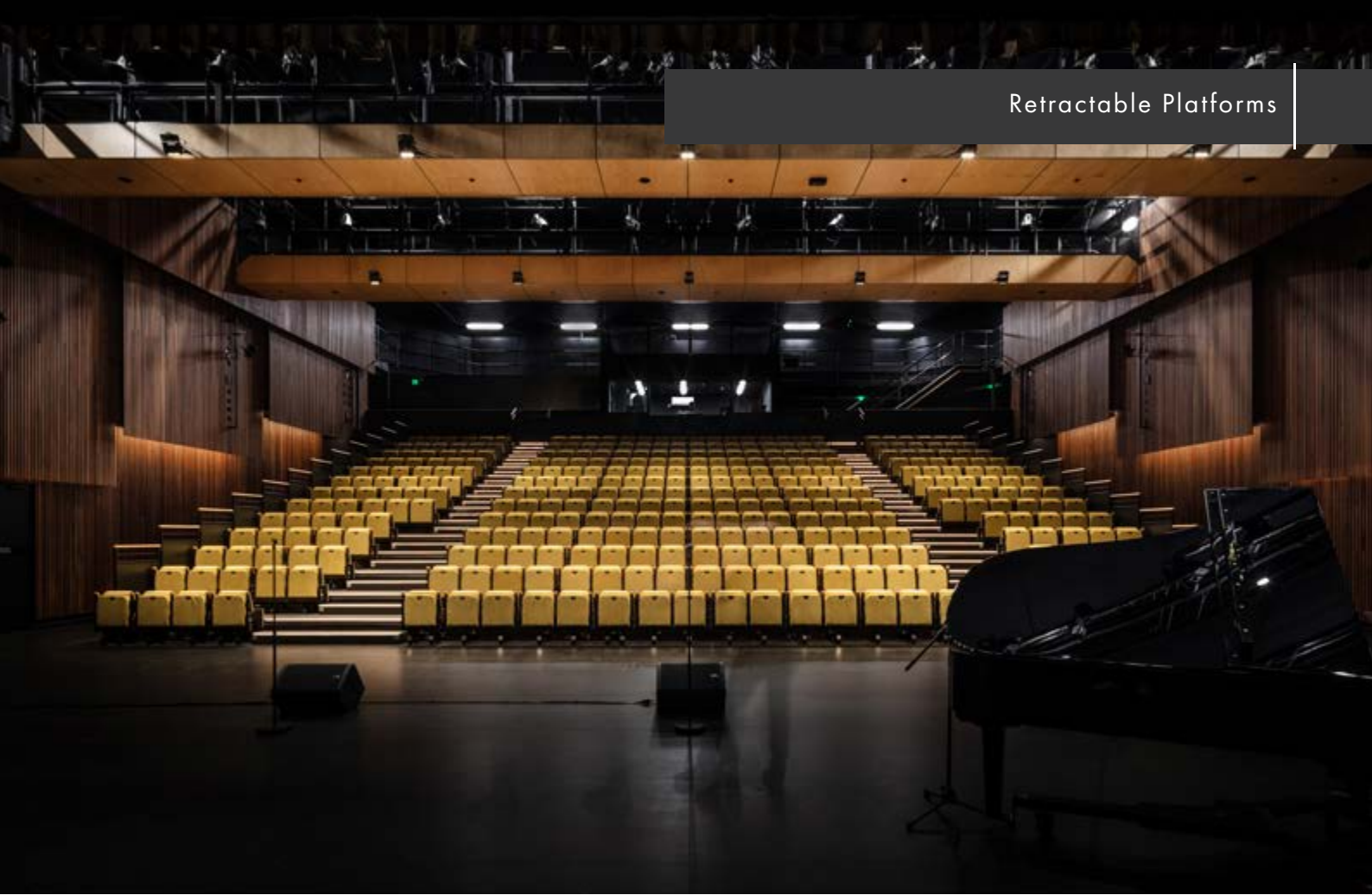
Specifically designed to eliminate metal to metal contact, minimising wear and noise during use.

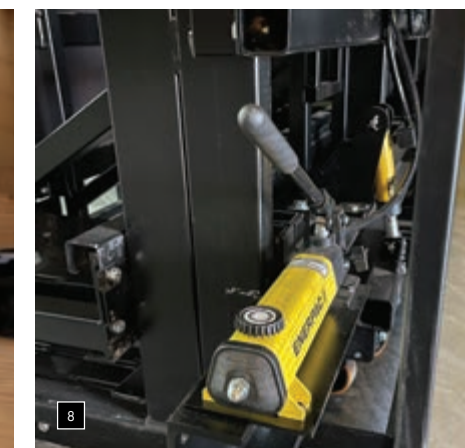
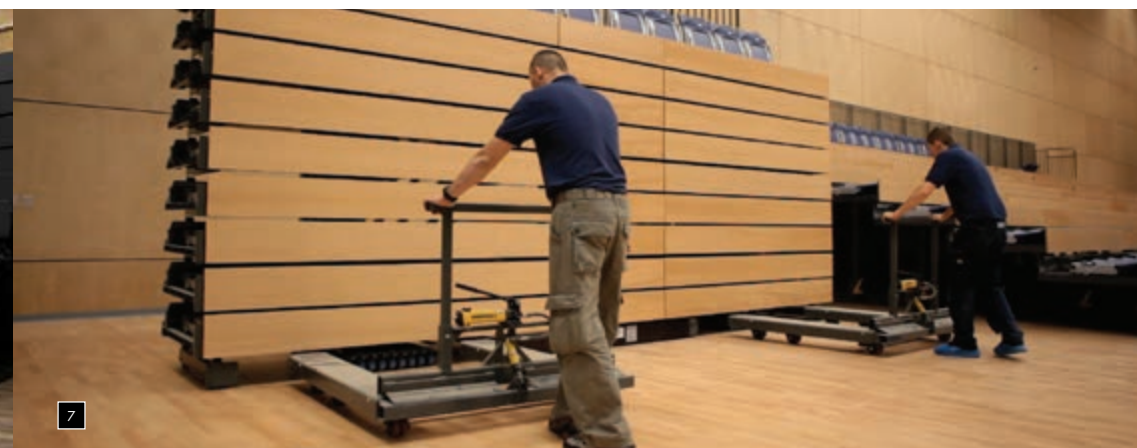
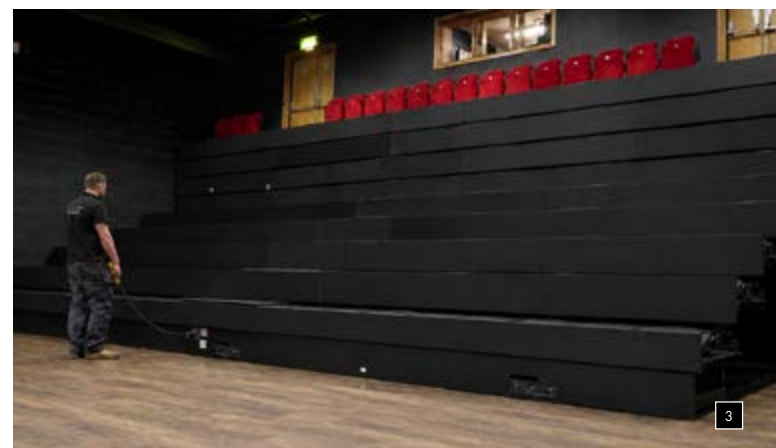
Can be provided for use during rock concerts, where the effect of synchronised crowd movement can be a concern.

Comprehensive service and maintenance package available.

Understructure guaranteed for ten years.

All systems carry the UKCA/CE Mark.





Fixed: Seating unit stays in situ when closed. [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) (This example also has a row of removable Matrix seating in front.)

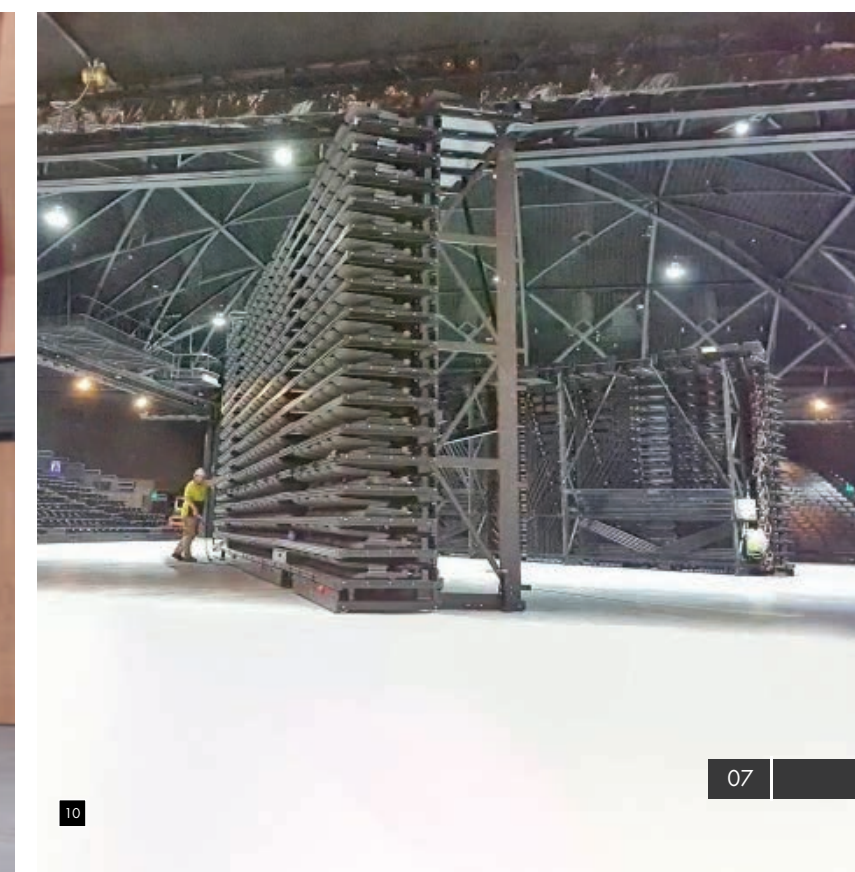
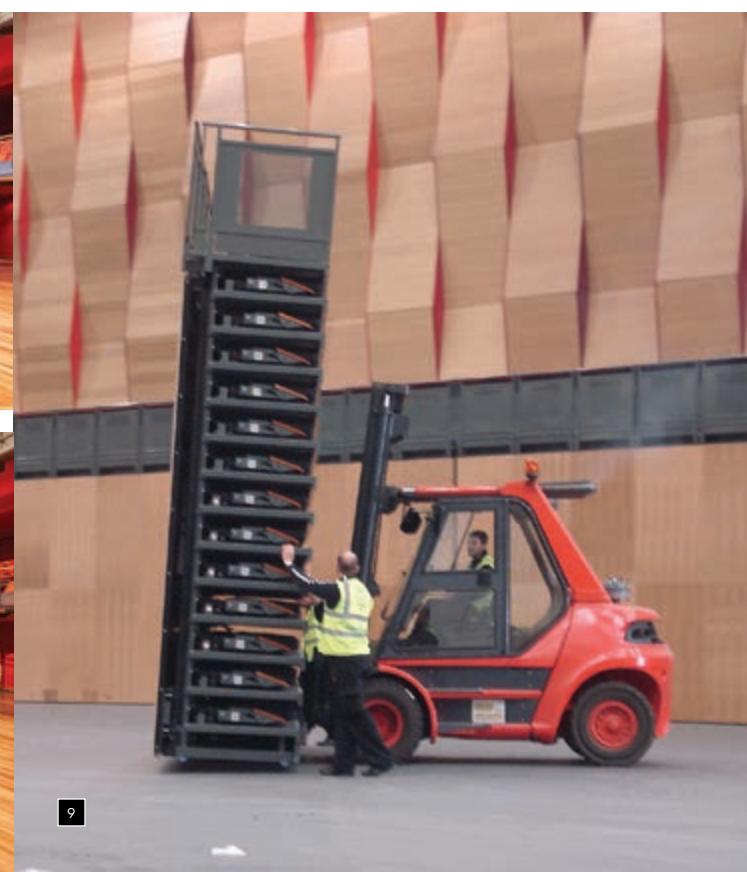
Recessed: Units slide back into a recess or below a balcony as they close. [4](#) [5](#)

Mobile: Can be completely removed from your room once closed.

Mobile units can be moved on our hydraulic trucks [7](#). Optionally, hydraulic trucks can be used together with a power truck [6](#) to reduce manual effort.

We can also supply forkliftable units [9](#), or units with their own integral hydraulics [8](#), which can be moved without extra equipment.

Travelling: 'Driven' using a hand controller. Can be specified for forward and back movement only, or for 360° rotation. [10](#)



Retractable Platforms : Operation

Platform Opening and Closing

Power Operation Motorised opening and closing via hand controller. **1**

Manual Operation With detachable pull handles. **2**

Power Truck Operation Opening and closing via power truck. **4**

Chair Fold Down

Manual Chairs fold down in small groups. **3**

Semi-automatic Chairs fold down automatically as the platforms close. **1**

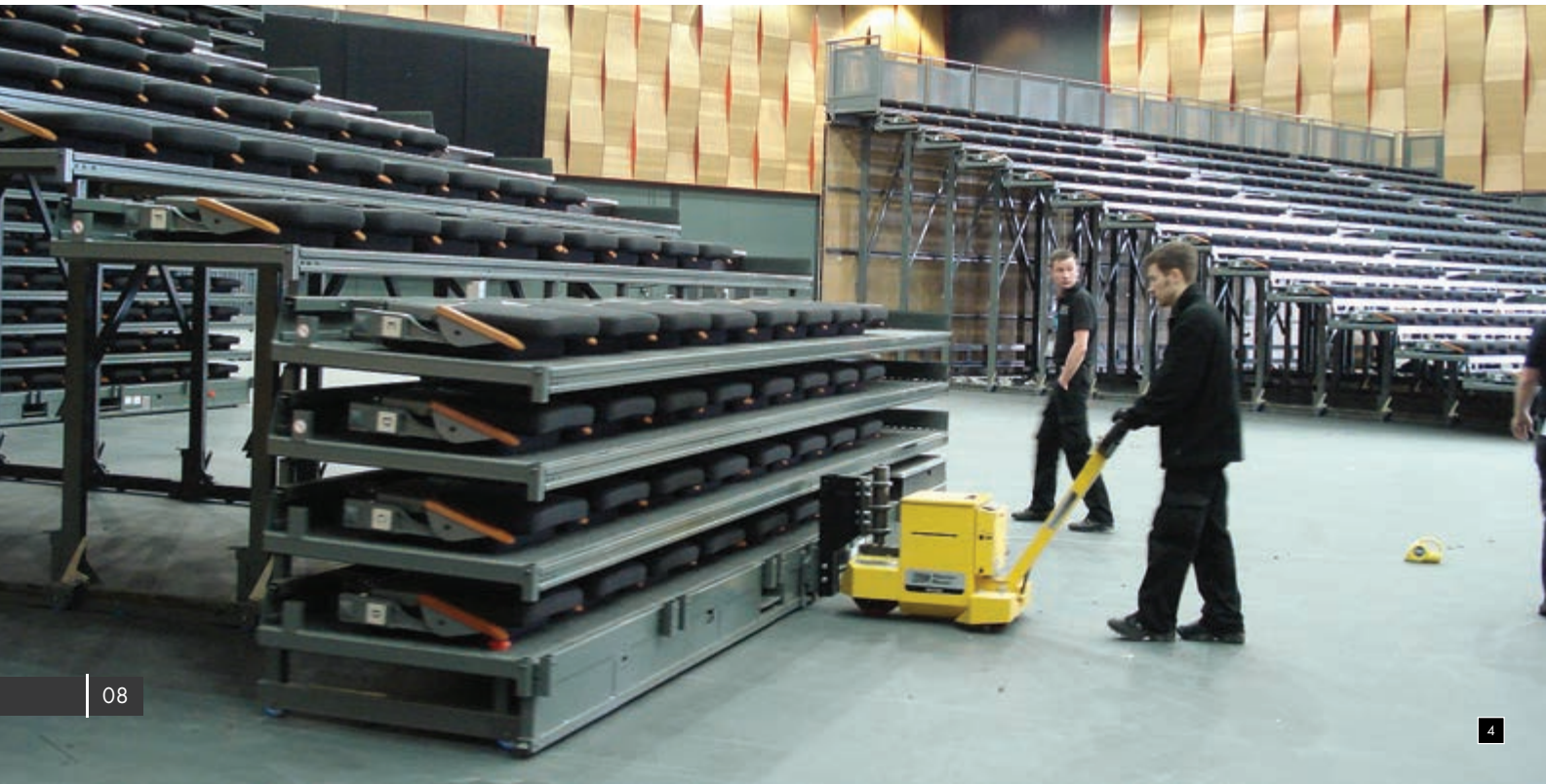


Retractable Platforms : Options

Double row depth: Seating units with two rows of chairs per platform, perfect for rooms where ceiling height is limited. **5** **6**

Partial opening: Option to open a specified number of rows at the front of the seating bank only. **7** **8**

Truncation: Option to open a specified number of rows at the rear of the seating bank only. **9**



Aisle lights: LED type **1**, LEDTRED type **3**. Both with optional battery back up.

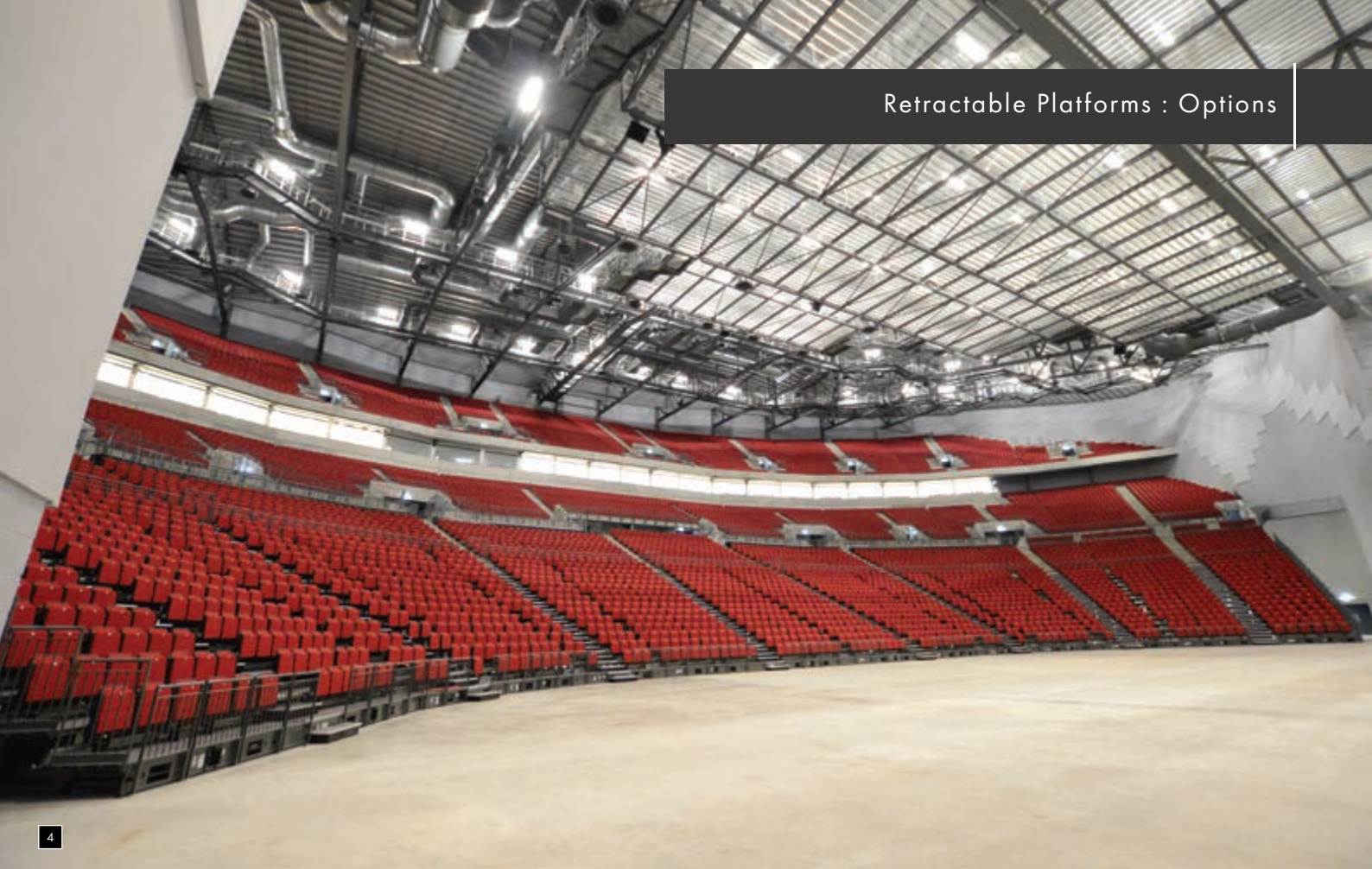
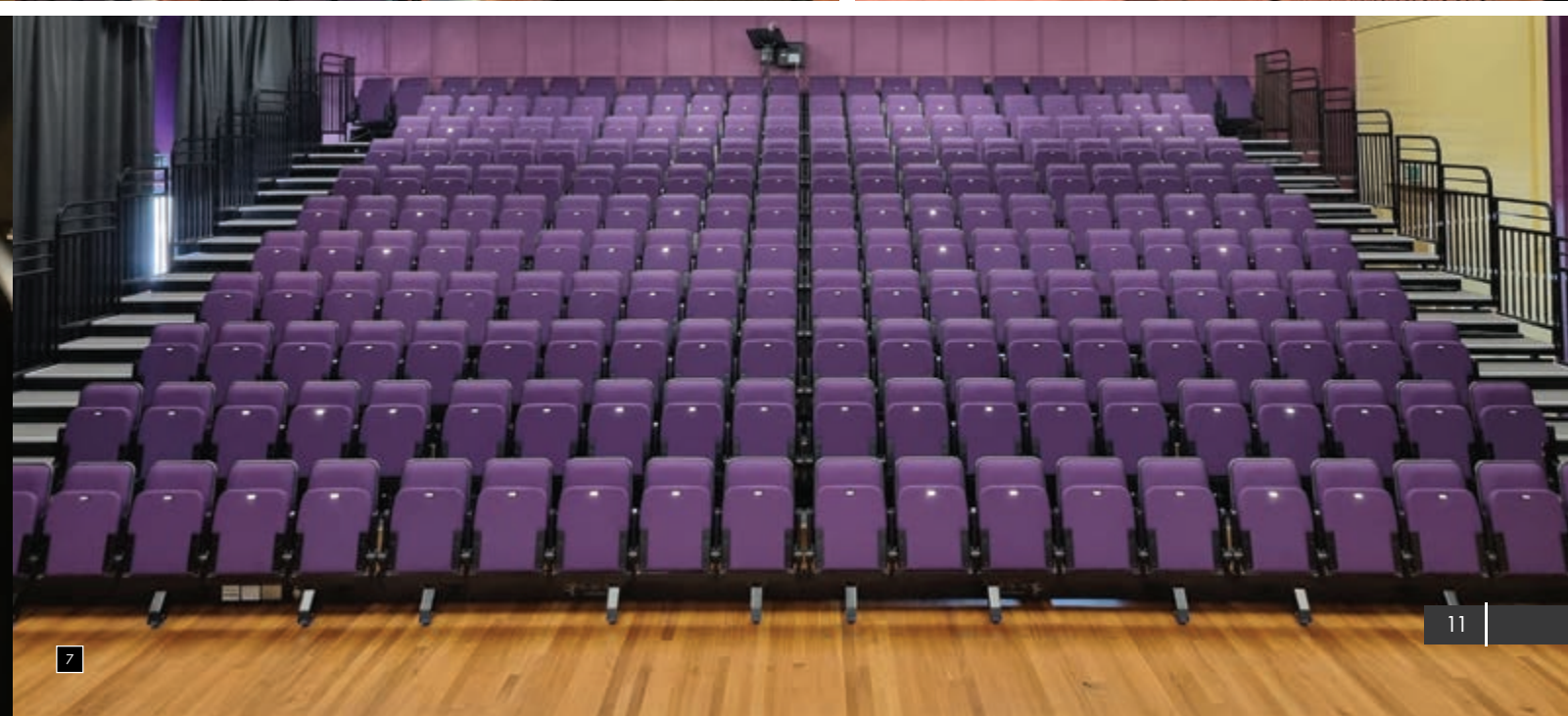
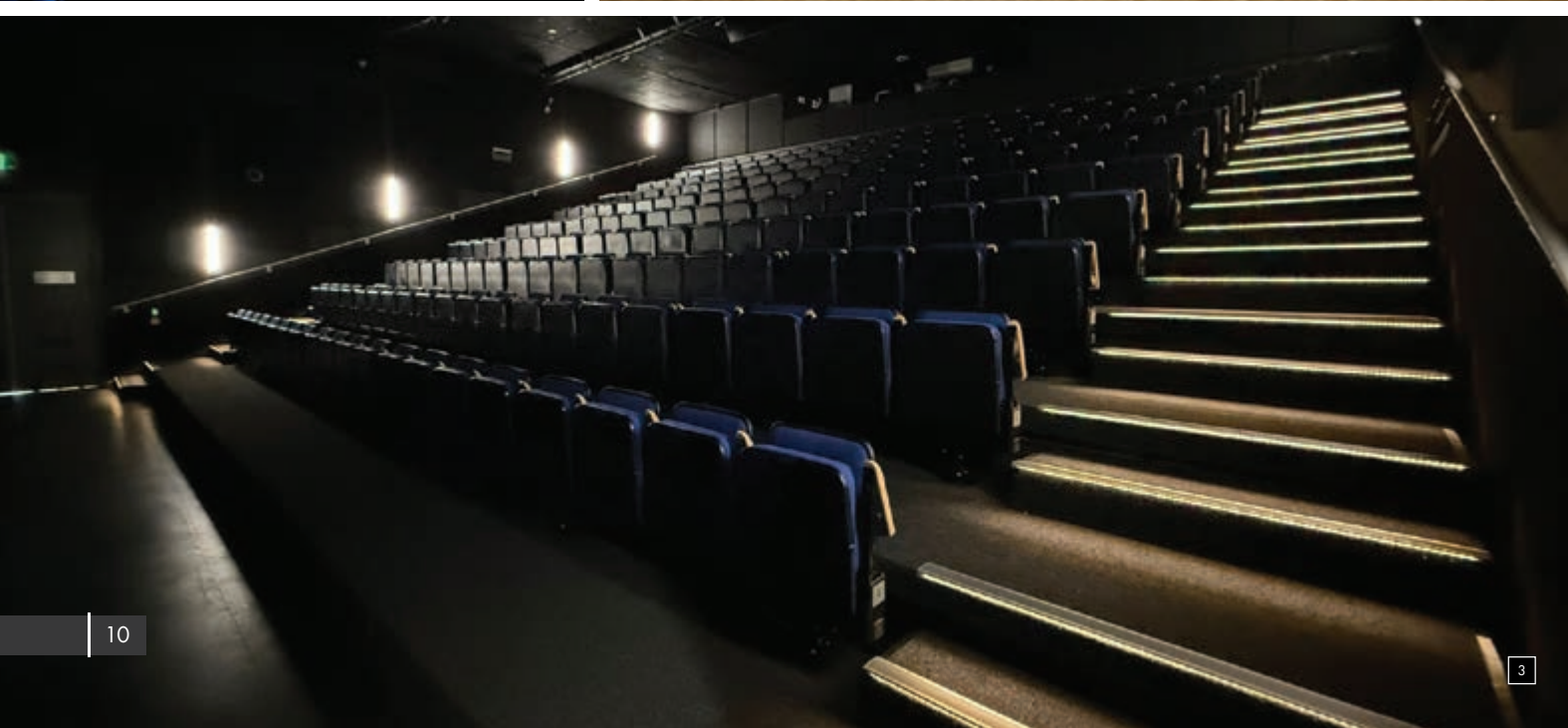
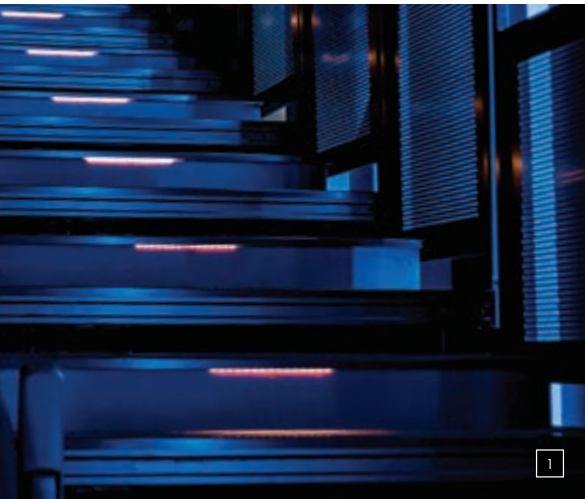
Deck finishes: Carpet or non-slip phenolic coated board .

Vomitory opening: Walkway through the centre of the retractable seating, with further seating rows above. **2**

Tapered units: Wedge shaped banks to fit curves and corners. **4**

Faceted or curved seating banks: Banks of retractable seating faceted **5** **6** or curved to suit your auditorium.

Riser fixed row 1: Extra row of seating fixed to front of seating unit **7**. Permanent or removable.



Retractable Platforms : Options

Rail designs: Steel bar [5](#) [7](#) [8](#), perforated panel [2](#), timber panel [6](#).

Rail types: Removable [1](#) [2](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#), self storing [3](#) [4](#), folding [5](#).

Rail tops: Stepped [2](#) [4](#) [5](#) [7](#) [9](#), sloped [6](#) [8](#), timber top rail [9](#).

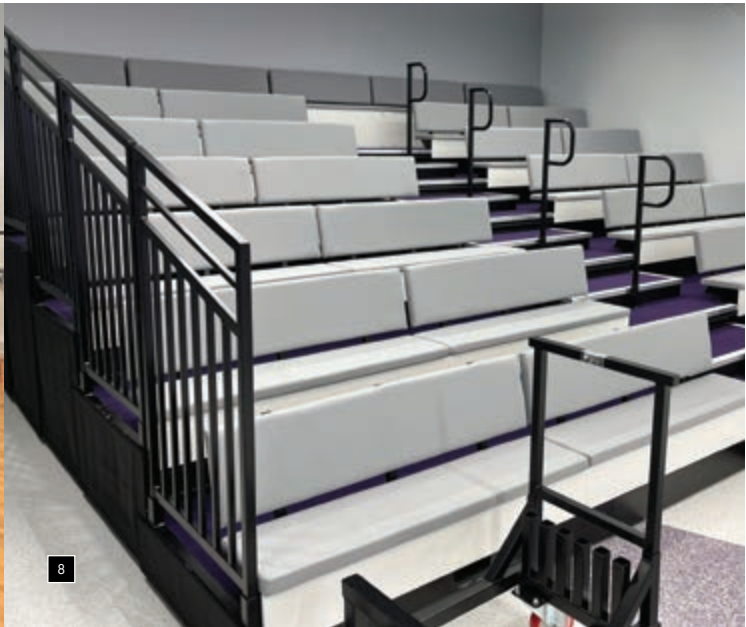
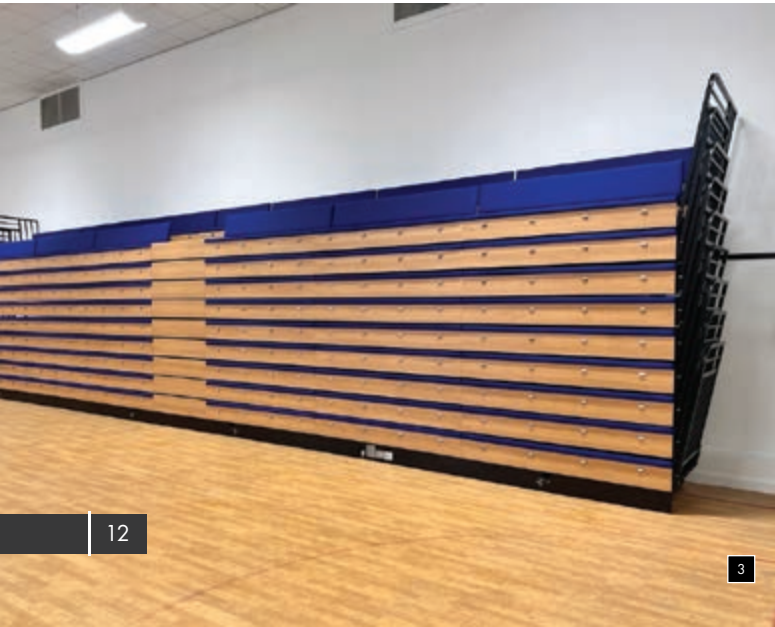
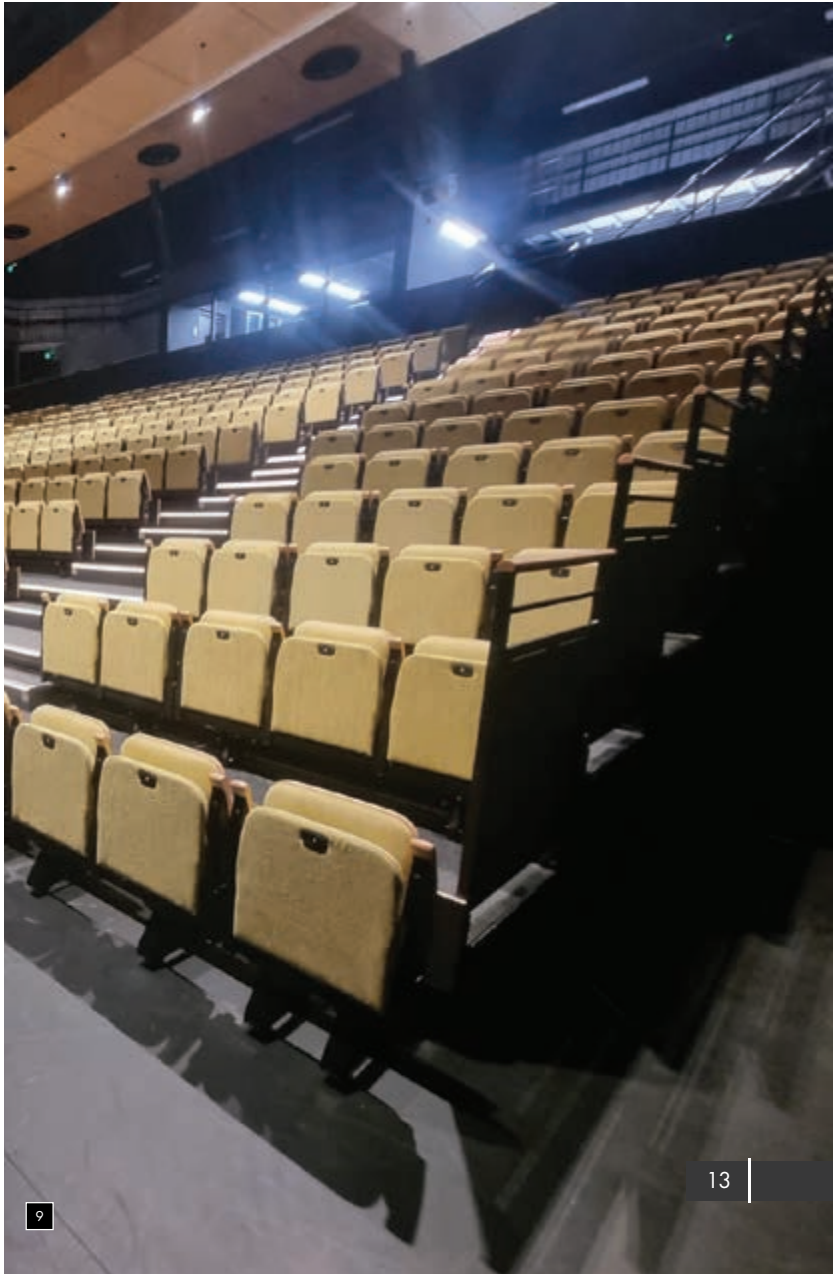
Rails are also available for the rear [1](#) [2](#) and front of the retractable unit.

‘P’ rails: Compact hand holds to assist audience members on the stairs [7](#) [8](#).

Fascias: Available in various painted and timber finishes [1](#) [3](#).

Side screening: Removable or self-storing drapes [2](#), removable panels [7](#).
Also available for rear of system.

Storage trolleys: Available for removable items including rails [8](#), fascia infills and screening panels.



We can provide a complete solution to fit out your auditorium or lecture theatre, with our robust, adaptable fixed tiering system.

Features

- Powder coated steel understructure.
- High specification 25mm WBP plywood decks.
- Euro code compliant.
- Independently structurally verified.
- Bolted structure constantly adjustable to ensure consistent lifetime performance.

Options

- Custom designed layout to perfectly fit your space.
- Choice of finishes, carpets and trims.
- Options include side rails, access hatches, side panels and access steps.
- Additional customisations available on request.



Modular Stages

Our modular stages are perfect for creating stages, platforms, seating tiers and orchestra pits. Our range includes fixed height, adjustable height, scissor leg, hydraulic and motorised systems.

Options include:

- Custom sizes and shapes
- Accessories such as stairs, access ramps, safety rails, skirting, side panels and transport trolleys.
- A range of deck finishes
- Anti-slip and outdoor surfaces

Our stages offer excellent load capacity of up to 750kg/m², with robust deck construction designed for use in the most demanding venues.

Fixed ², Adjustable ³ and Scissor Leg ¹ Stages

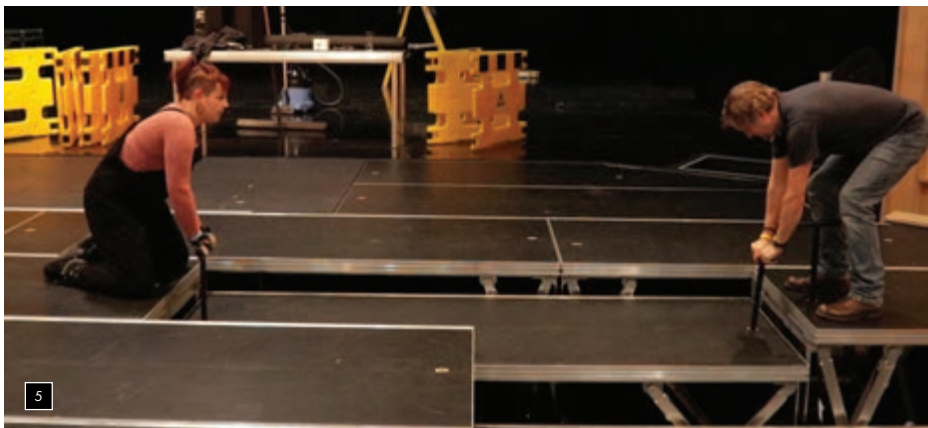
Robust modules, available with fixed, adjustable or scissor legs. Decks are at least 22mm thick and modules can be configured for staging or seating tiers, then stored on dedicated trolleys when not in use. Adjustable models can reach up to 4m high, while scissor leg models adjust up to 1m.

Airstage ⁴ ⁵

A hydraulically assisted stage system. Airstage is stored in a shallow pit, with the deck flush to the floor when lowered. Gas spring height adjustment enables modules to be raised quickly with minimal manual handling, making it ideal for flexible venues and tiered seating layouts.

Motorised Stages ⁶

Motorised stages use a heavy-duty steel construction. They are stored below floor level and raised via a control console or computer. Preset heights and whole-room layouts can be created, making the system suitable for spaces requiring fast, repeatable configuration.



Matrix System

Matrix seats are ideal for flexible venues from community theatres to arenas. They can also be used to add extra capacity in front of a retractable system, or to create adaptable seating areas suitable for wheelchair users.

Matrix is a quick, simple and compact removable seating system. Groups of chairs are slotted into a “matrix” of floorbars, with no floor fixings required. Both chairs and floorbars can be stored and transported on trolleys or stillages.

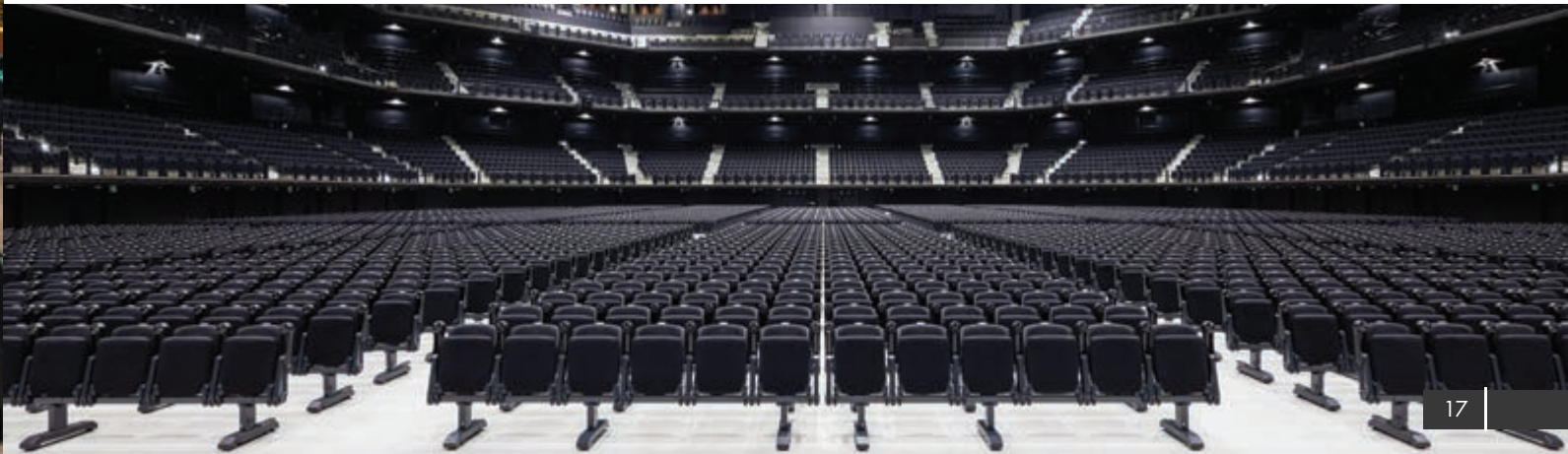
- Benefits**
- Fast turnaround times.
 - Chairs grouped on beams, reducing handling.
 - Compact and straightforward storage and installation.
 - Wide walkways in front of vacated chairs.
 - Rigid rows with no moving or snaking.
 - Low leg count for fast, easy cleaning.
 - Free from trip points with no floor fixings required.
 - Chairs can exactly match those in retractable or fixed areas. Matrix is available with Espace, Evolve, E-Form, Accolade, Zenith and Campus Fold Down chairs.



K-Roll System

K-Roll is a removable seating system where groups of chairs can be rolled into a new layout, or wheeled off to a storage area.

With K-Roll you simply activate the lever on the footshell to drop the castors. Chairs can then be stored nested together – ideal for venues with storage space under the stage. In seminar rooms, K-Roll allows quick reconfigurations for different types of learning. The system also makes short work of accessibility adjustments, letting you roll away a small group of chairs to quickly make room for a wheelchair.





Centura Multipurpose

A popular, hard-wearing and flexible seat which is certified to BS EN 12727:2000. Featuring a recyclable, gas injection moulded seat, back and rail, Centura offers high impact resistance.

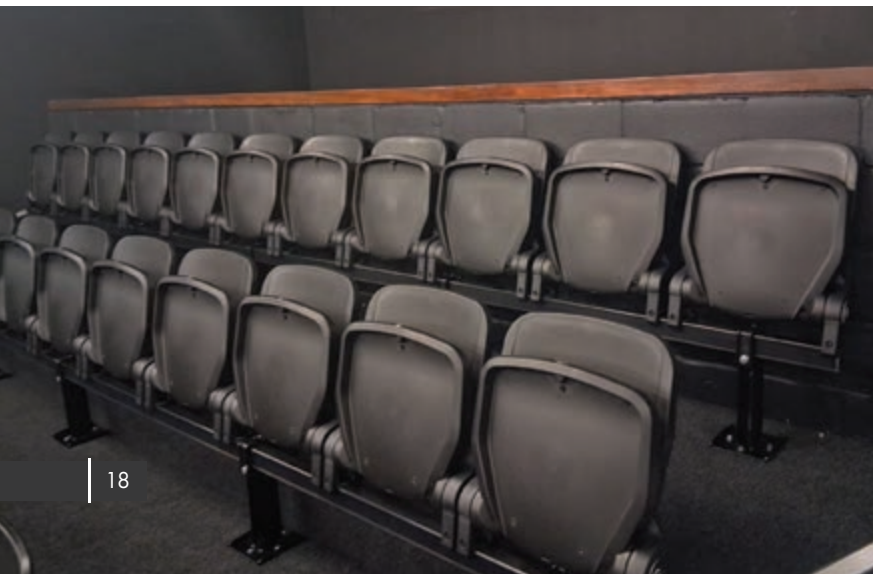
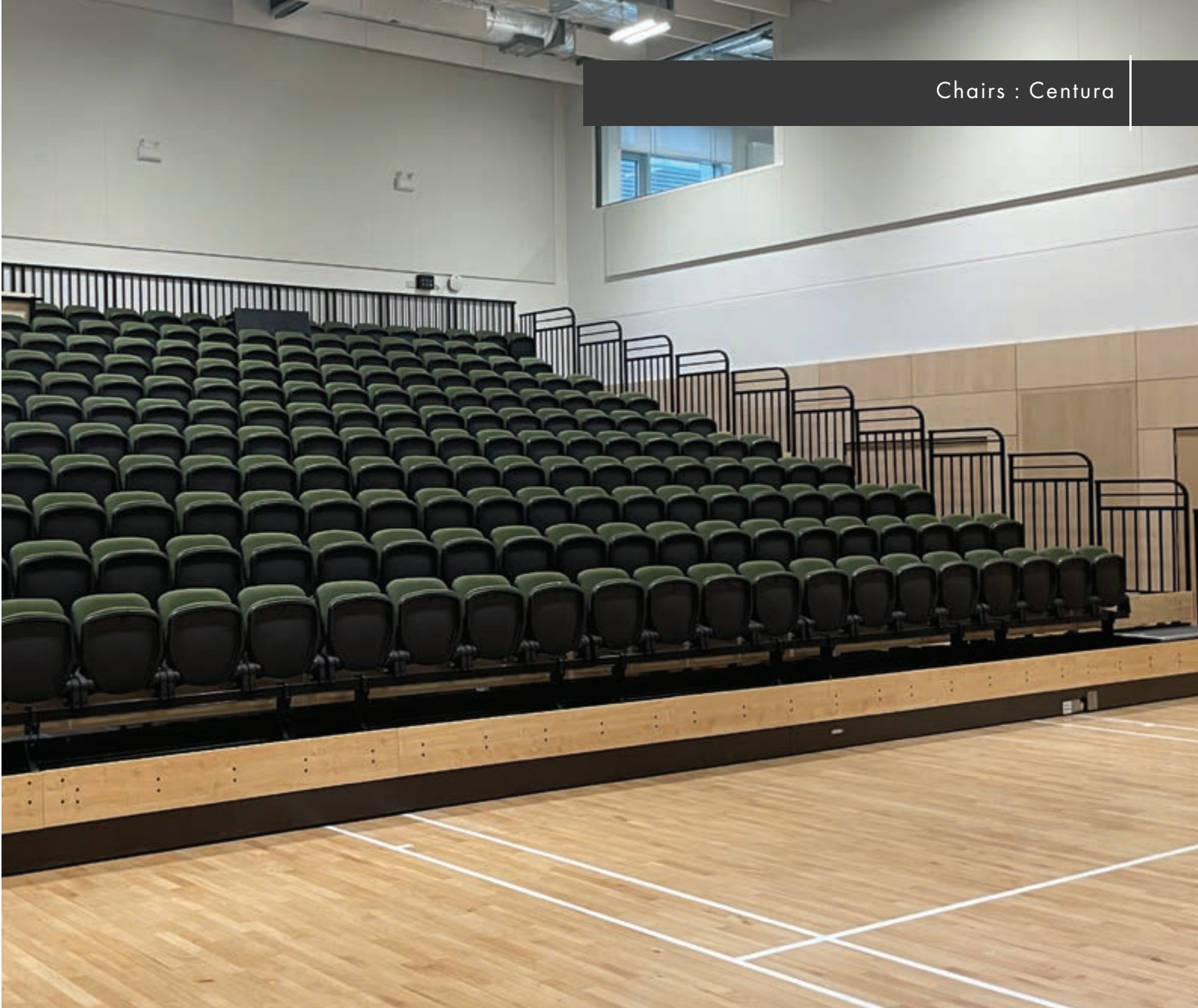
Seat modules and arms are clamped to a rail, making it simple to reconfigure, upgrade or respace your seats in the future.

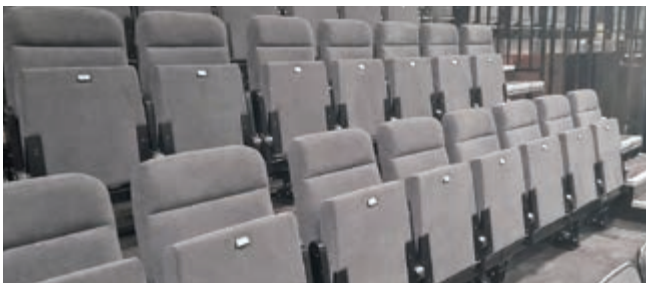
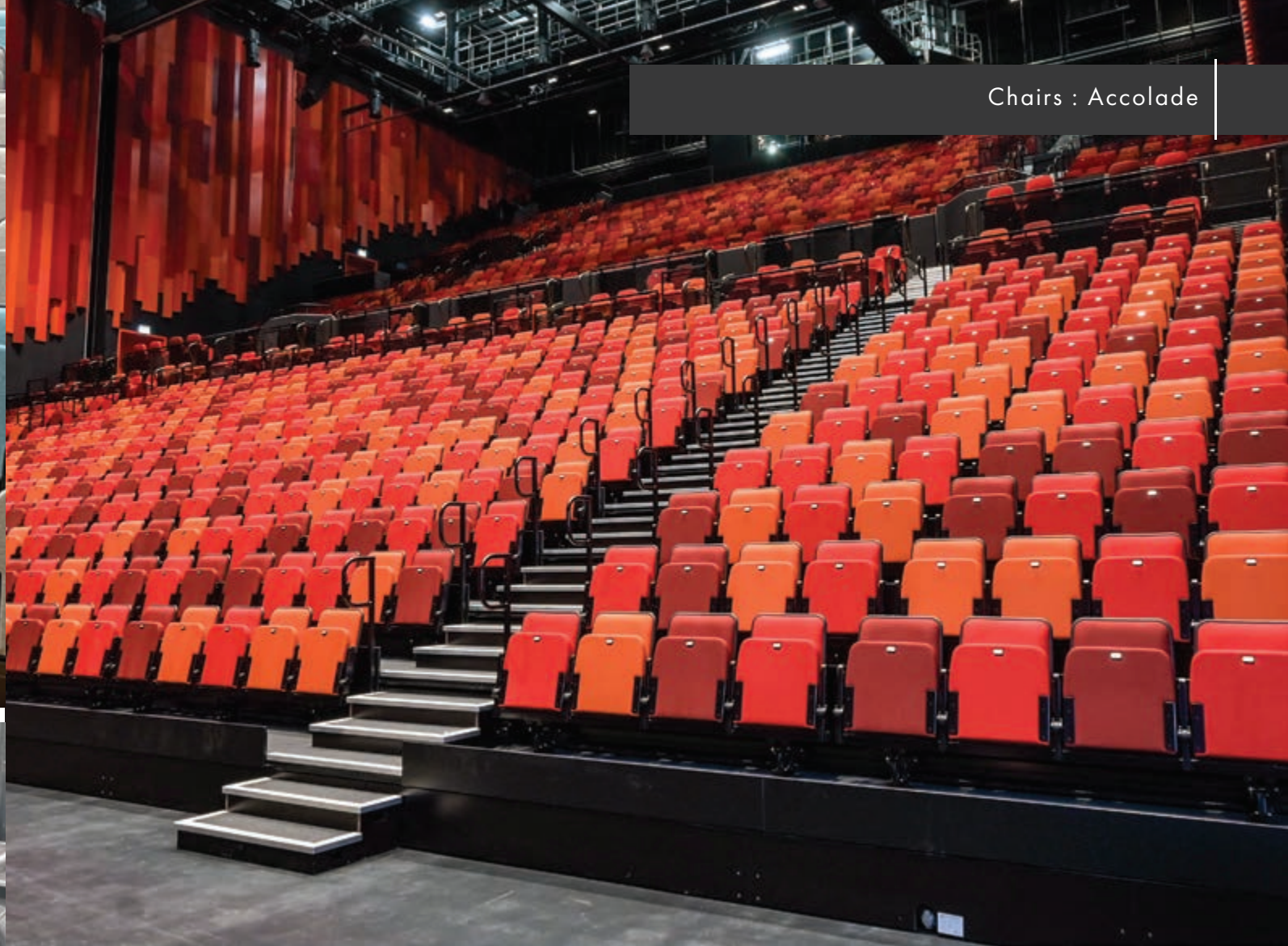
Options

- Upholstered seat and back cushions.
- Armrests.
- Cupholders.
- Higher backrest.

Applications

- Retractable.
- Removable ("Matrix").
- Tread or riser fixed.





Accolade Multipurpose

A stylish and durable all-rounder which achieves the highest grade of the British and European strength standard BS EN 12727:2000.

Options

Available fully upholstered, or with protection panels for outer back and/or under seat.

ABS or timber armrests.

Premium options including thick 'Concert Comfort' seat pan, and high back.

Applications

Retractable.

Removable ("Matrix").

Tread or riser fixed.

Rail mounted (straight or curved).





Espace 628 Multipurpose

Espace is our most popular family of seats. This versatile design is based on our classic tipping mechanism – when the chair is vacated, the seat, back and arms swing into an upright position to form a neat, space-efficient closed profile.

Features

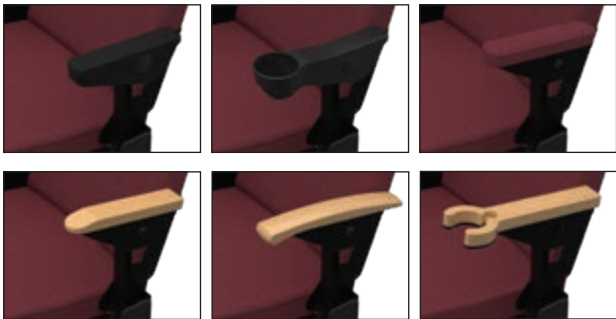
- Spring-free gravity tip mechanism and auto-tip armrest.
- Small closed envelope creating wide, safe walkways when vacated.
- Achieves the highest grade of the British and European strength standard BS EN 12727 (Level 4).

Options

- Available fully upholstered **1**, or with plastic **3 4**, or timber **2 5** protection panels for outer back and under seat.
- Thick pocket sprung “concert” seat for long term seated comfort (shown on p18).
- Six armrest options.
- Upright geometry version for high tiers.
- Fixed back variation for more traditional auditoria.
- Special designs include ‘high chairs’ **6** and swivel chairs **5**.

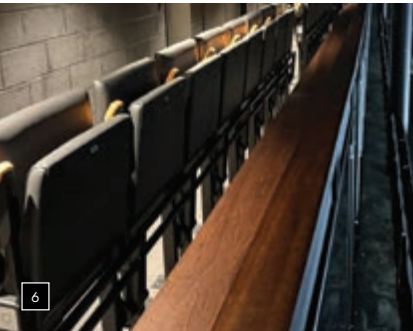
Applications

- Retractable **1 2 4**.
- Removable (“Matrix”) **3**.
- Tread or riser fixed.



Evolve Multipurpose

Evolve is a variation on the Espace design, with squared corners to the upholstery.





Espace & Evolve High Back Multipurpose

All the advantages and options of an Espace or Evolve plus a high backrest for outstanding shoulder support.

Evolve High Back is shown in the bottom right photo; all other photos are Espace High Back.



Espace T & Espace T High Back Multipurpose

A variation on our comfortable, space-efficient Espace chair with a fold-away writing tablet. The chair can be used with or without the tablet – perfect for spaces which double up for performances and lectures.

Features

- Anti-panic mechanism on tablet, meaning that it moves gently aside if the occupant jumps out of their seat.
- Soft-touch armrest when tablet is not in use.
- Small closed envelope creating wide, safe walkways when vacated.

Options

- Available fully upholstered, or with plastic or timber protection panels for outer back.
- Left-handed tablets available.

Applications

- Retractable
- Removable ("Matrix")
- Tread or riser fixed.





Recital Multipurpose

A fully featured auditorium chair. Uniquely, it will also fit on retractable platforms with a row rise of as little as 280mm.

Features

- Designed for comfort with good lumbar support.
- Dampened spring tip mechanism for smooth, silent operation.
- Show wood end panels, even on retractable model.
- Complies with the strength standard BS EN 12727:2000 level 4.

Options

- Curved timber panel to outer back and/or under seat.
- Fold-away writing tablet.

Applications

- Retractable.
- Tread or riser fixed.
- Stacking.



E-Form Multipurpose

A beautifully contoured and comfortable auditorium chair suitable for retractable platforms.

E-Form can be specified with each seat mounted on its own individual mechanism. This reduces vibration across the row of seats. It also allows you to create curved seat rows, even on a retractable unit.

Alternatively, E-Form can be mounted in groups on a beam, just like our other multipurpose chairs.

Options

- Fabric or timber armrests.
- Decorative timber to rear of back or under seat.
- Upright geometry version for high tiers.

Applications

- Retractable.
- Tread or riser fixed.
- Matrix.

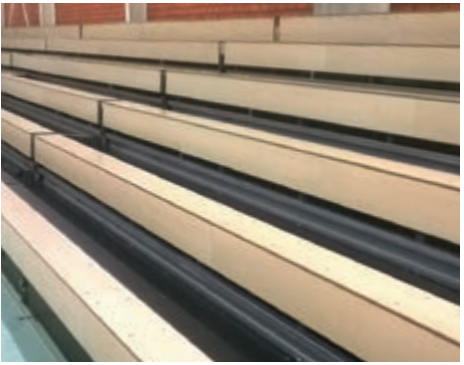
Chorus Multipurpose

Perfect for schools and studio theatres, Chorus is a comfortable upholstered bench with clean lines. Its folding backrest is available in two designs, classic and enhanced.



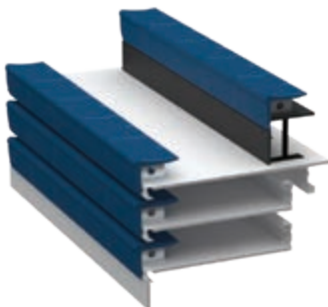
Unity Multipurpose

Classic timber bench and fascia. Available with natural, stained or painted finish.



Duet Multipurpose

Padded upholstered bench with timber fascia.



Contour Multipurpose

Durable plastic bench modules manufactured from high density blow moulded polyethylene.



Soprano Fixed Auditorium Chair

A luxurious auditorium chair designed to provide optimum comfort and silent operation. Elegant in its design, Soprano features a waveform sprung seat and moulded foams to provide outstanding ergonomic support. Soprano is tested and certified to the strength standard BS EN 12727 at Level 4.

Options

Anti-panic foldaway writing tablet

End panels (long or short)

‘Spacia’ seat allowing free movement of the lower leg for improved circulation

Timber panel under seat



Mezzo Fixed Auditorium Chair

A classically styled auditorium chair, contoured for comfort with wraparound lumbar support. Mezzo features an attractive wood reveal within the backrest, and a silent tipping mechanism.

Options

Anti-panic foldaway writing tablet

‘Spacia’ seat allowing free movement of the lower leg for improved circulation

Timber panel under seat



Alto Fixed Auditorium Chair

An auditorium chair that offers silent action and exceptional comfort thanks to its unique Ducktail seat. Designed in Japan using ergonomic principles, the Ducktail seat reduces strain on the lower back, greatly enhancing comfort during long periods of sitting.

Options

Anti-panic foldaway writing tablet

End panels

Quilted backrest

Timber panel under seat



Our Lecture Theatre Seating range can be combined with fixed tiering (see p12).

Scholar Lecture theatres

Scholar is a flexible and robust seating system suitable for nearly every lecture theatre – straight or curved. Seat widths and back heights vary to perfectly fit any space. The writing tablet can be finished to meet each client’s requirements for design and durability.

Options

- Choice of seat shapes and specifications.
- Resilient wrap-around plastic protection panels for seat base.
- Timber panels for seat base or chair back.
- Backrest contouring and/or lumbar support.
- Stitch details for backrest.
- Extended backrest height to overtop writing tablet.

Applications

Tread or riser fixed.

Campus & Campus Fold Down

Lecture theatres

The Campus system combines comfortable individual seats (usually “Accolade” model) with a continuous writing tablet. The fold down version can be used on retractable platforms; the writing tablet folds down to form a fascia along the front of the closed seating unit. An ideal product for multipurpose spaces in universities.

Options

- Seats and backs available with or without plastic protection panels.
- Choice of finishes for writing tablet.

Applications

- Retractable.
- Removable (“Matrix”).
- Tread or riser fixed.



Custom Lecture Theatre Seating

Audience Systems can also create custom lecture theatre seating layouts, including tiering if required. Provision for power and data can be also be included.





Venue S



Venue S Midi



Recital S

Our durable stacking chairs are known for their versatility – whether you’re looking for a large quantity for a busy concert venue, or just a few to add capacity in front of tiered seating.

With tough steel sled frames that won’t bend or warp, they include simple side to side linkage, with front to back linkage as an option. They also offer much improved comfort when compared to banqueting or folding chairs.

All our stacking chairs are available with wheeled trolleys or forkliftable stillages for easy transportation and storage. Trolleys are specifically designed to hold our stacking chairs steadily with excellent space efficiency. Trolleys for all models are available in single or triple stack designs, and can be customised to suit your storage plans.

Venue S Stacking Chair

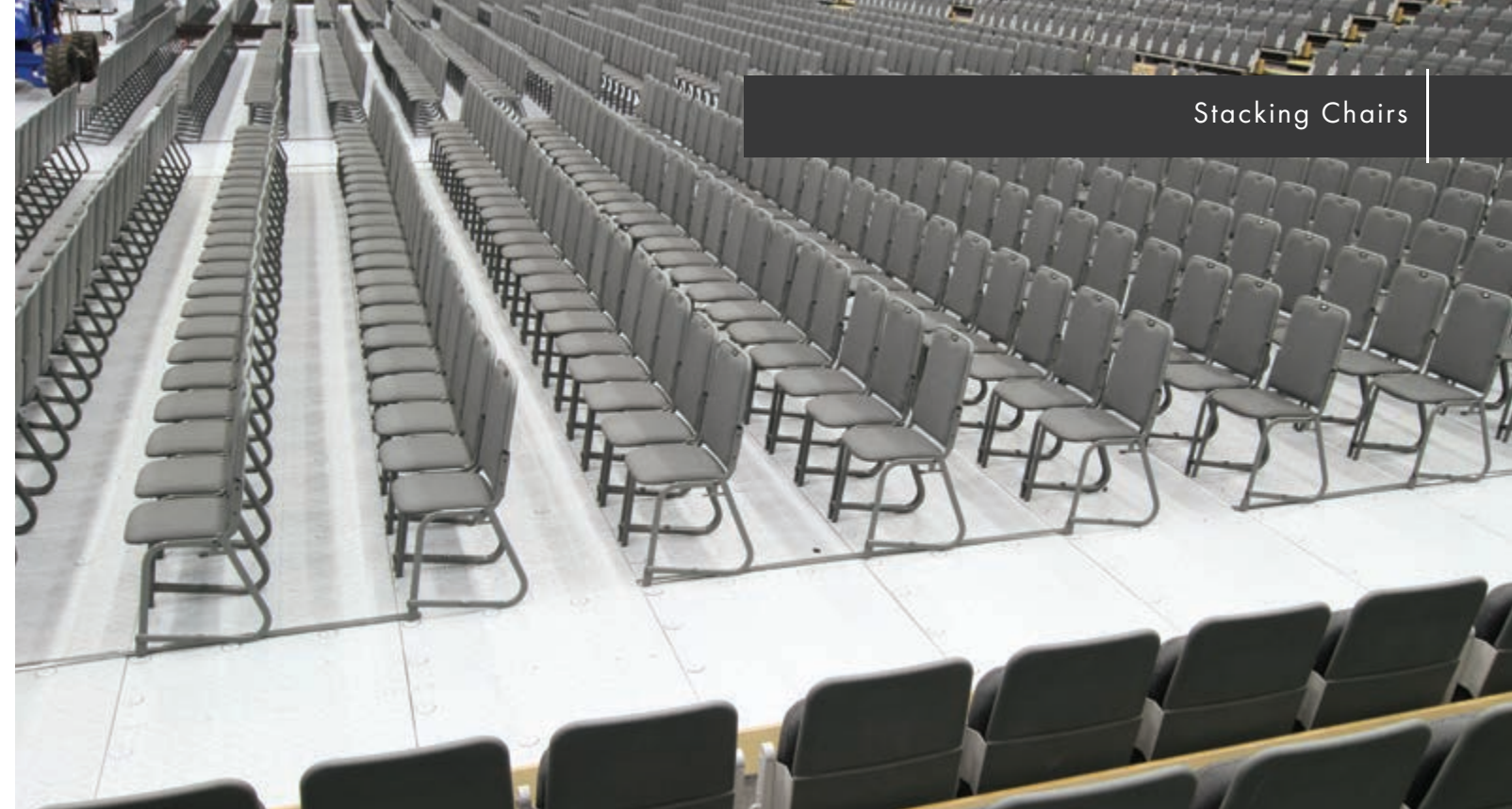
Made to match our popular Espace and Accolade chairs, Venue S is commonly specified with a plastic wraparound panel for the backrest, but is also available fully upholstered.

Venue S Midi Stacking Chair

A more compact, fully upholstered version of the Venue S, with a lower backrest.

Recital S Stacking Chair

Made to match our Recital multipurpose chair, Recital S has an elegant show timber panel to the outer back, making it the perfect choice for even the most upscale auditorium.





Zenith *Multipurpose*

An ergonomically contoured chair in blow moulded, UV stabilised, high density polyethylene. Renowned for its durability, Zenith satisfies the requirements of the British and European strength standard BS EN 12727:2000 to level 4 (Severe).

Options

- Armrests.
- Upholstered “onset” pads.

Applications

- Retractable.
- Removable (“Matrix”).
- Tread or riser fixed.
- Rail mounted (straight or curved).



Audience Systems provide aftersales care and customer service to a level unmatched in the industry. Our customer service team are based at our factory in Wiltshire, and our engineers are located around the country.

Annual Servicing & Parts

Especially in the case of retractable seating, any responsible manufacturer will recommend annual service inspections. These help you to ensure safety for your audience and staff, comply with insurance requirements and meet building regulations. Audience Systems can support our own and other manufacturers’ seating, offering:

- Knowledgeable and experienced engineers.
- Access to genuine replacement parts for Audience Systems seating.
- Manufacturer’s safety certificate (once any safety-critical work required is complete).
- Multi-year contracts at a discounted rate.

Emergencies

In case the unexpected happens, we have a 24 hour call out number.

Upgrades & Ancillaries

Upgrades to Retractable Platforms For example, our engineers can add power operation or a partial opening mechanism.

Additions for Seats and Platforms For example drapes, panels, aisle lights, seat numbers and gas dampers.

Ancillary Items Our most popular ancillary items include hydraulic trucks for moving retractable platforms, and trolleys for storing rails, panels, or removable seats. Of course, we can also supply extra seats to help you increase your capacity.

Refurbishment

Our comprehensive refurbishment package will make your seating look visibly new again. We can refurbish seating from most manufacturers, subject to survey. Your refurbishment package may include:

- Replacement or re-upholstery of seating.
- Specialist cleaning.
- Re-finishing such as replacing trims or freshening up powder coating on rails.
- Replacement of understructure components.

Upholstery

Audience Systems has its own upholstery business, Audience Upholstery Ltd. As well as carrying out upholstery and refurbishment work for Audience Systems, Audience Upholstery also carries out sub-contract upholstery for other furniture manufacturers, as well as re-upholstery for venues such as restaurants, bars and hotels.

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KOTOBUKI SEATING

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