



Sector introduction & case studies

Acoustic Comfort for Commercial Offices

Examples of **completed commercial office projects** showing how acoustic ceilings are applied in real environments.



Addressing the challenges

Elevating the modern office

Today’s office has transformed significantly, driven by hybrid work models, employee well-being, and sustainable, brand-driven design. Ceilings now serve more than utility concealment. They shape acoustics, lighting, air quality, aesthetics, and user experience. As offices evolve, they face several key challenges:

Acoustic disruption in open-plan offices

While open layouts promote collaboration, they often suffer from poor acoustics causing distractions, reduced focus, and lower productivity, especially in hybrid setups where calls and conversations overlap.

Visual comfort and natural light integration

Improper lighting can cause eye strain and fatigue. Open plan offices often struggle to balance natural and artificial light effectively.

Health, hygiene & indoor air quality

Indoor air quality affects performance and well-being. Post-pandemic, there’s increased focus on low-VOC materials and cleanable surfaces.

Acoustic flexibility & brand identity expression

Offices should reflect company values and support belonging. Designers seek freedom from uniformity and embrace hospitality-inspired, “hotelified” environments.



What is Acoustic Comfort?

Achieving Acoustic Comfort

Acoustic Comfort is an approach that creates the optimum acoustic experience by considering the purpose, materials, and size of a designated space. From an acoustic viewpoint this simply breaks down into three factors for consideration:



Clarity

“I want to be understood”



Concentration

“I would like to focus”



Confidentiality

“I would like some privacy”

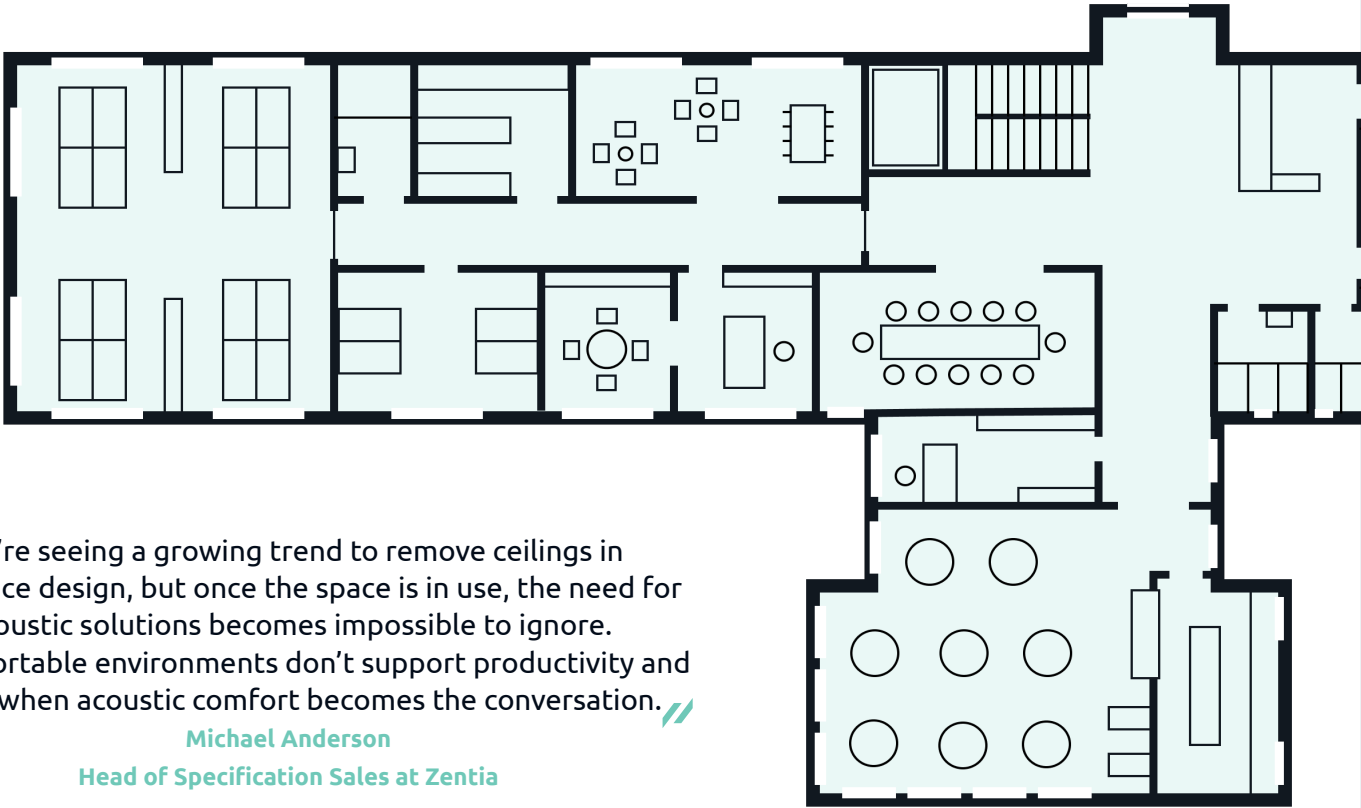
These three factors help you create “**Intentional Acoustic Design**” resulting in “**Acoustic Comfort**” for the end user.

“40% office workers said poor acoustics were impacting their concentration, and a third said their mood was negatively affected, with a quarter reporting stress induced by exceptionally high noise levels.”

Work in Mind

“Implementing better acoustic solutions can lead to a significant reduction in employee stress levels.”

Haworth



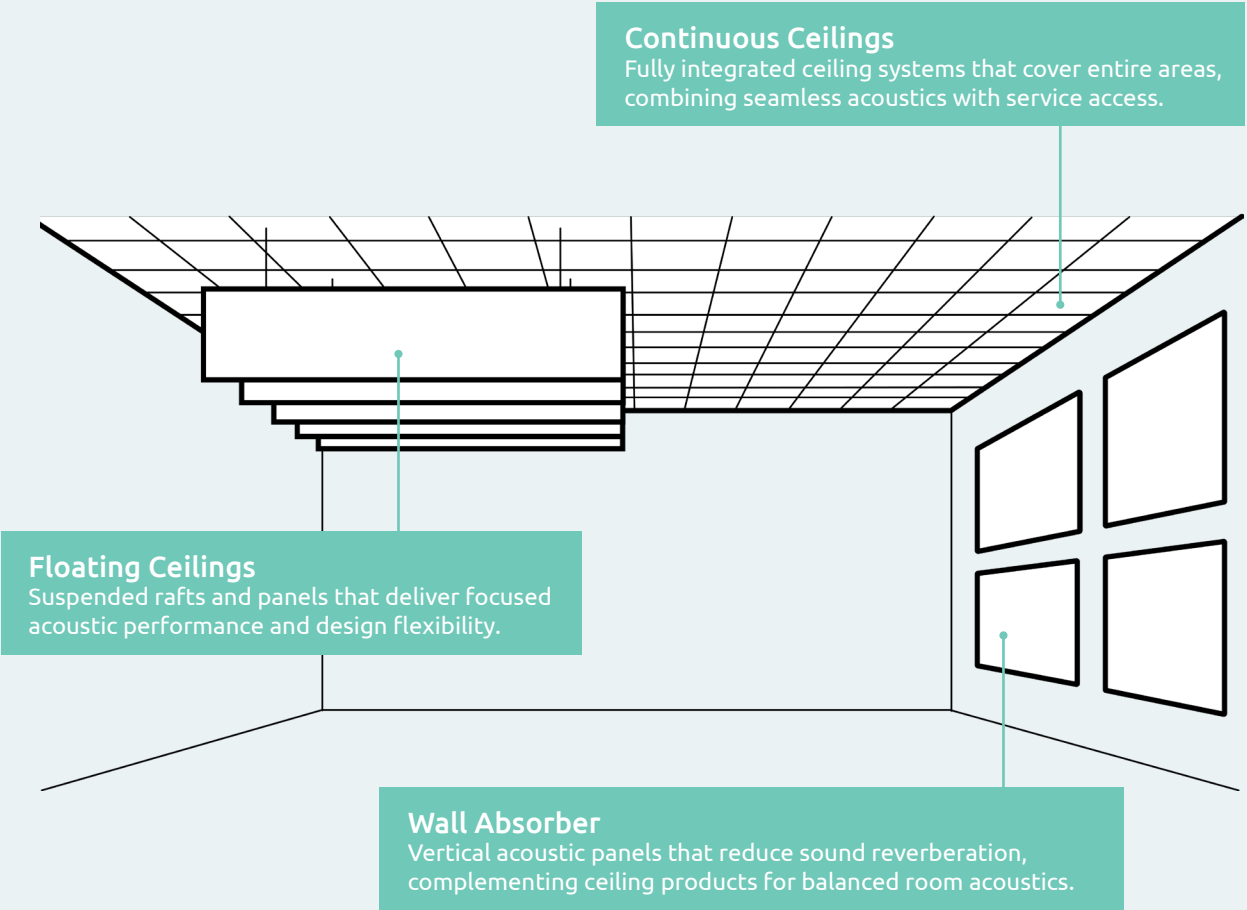
“We’re seeing a growing trend to remove ceilings in workplace design, but once the space is in use, the need for acoustic solutions becomes impossible to ignore. Uncomfortable environments don’t support productivity and that’s when acoustic comfort becomes the conversation.”

Michael Anderson
Head of Specification Sales at Zentia

Our expertise

Whatever your commercial office space, we understand your requirements

Modern office environments must support wellbeing, productivity, and long-term performance. To achieve this, ceiling systems need to provide more than just functionality. They must offer aesthetic appeal, support acoustic clarity, foster visual calm, and accommodate flexible layouts that promote focus and collaboration. Zentia’s ceiling solutions are built for the demands of today’s agile offices with materials that balance visual appeal with acoustic comfort.



Our portfolio

Multiple options for fitting out a room

Zentia offers a range of ceiling systems designed for modern office spaces. Continuous suspended ceilings provide full coverage, easy maintenance, and seamless integration with lighting and HVAC. For tailored acoustic or design needs, our portfolio also includes floating ceilings, canopies, baffles, and wall absorbers, ideal for flexible, high-performance workspaces.



Contractor: Bespoke Construction Services

Howdens Joinery Group

Challenge

Howdens required a ceiling solution for their new national logistics hub that met strict criteria for sustainability, acoustic performance, and aesthetic quality. The open-plan offices, meeting rooms, and welfare areas needed acoustic control, moisture resistance, and a modern industrial look, all while coordinating with M&E services and aligning with the company’s brand identity.

Solution

Zentia supplied Prestige hA+ mineral ceiling tiles and DecoFrame Kit canopies, installed as floating canopies in open areas and wall-to-wall ceilings in enclosed spaces. This solution offered tailored acoustic performance and a clean, modern finish. The white tiles under black soffits reinforced the industrial aesthetic while supporting functional needs across the diverse office environments.



Architect: HTC Architects
HTC Architects, Leeds

Sonify Baffles were installed to improve acoustic comfort and bring visual structure to the open-plan workspace, supporting both concentration and collaboration.



Architect: Sims Design
Southwark Bridge Road

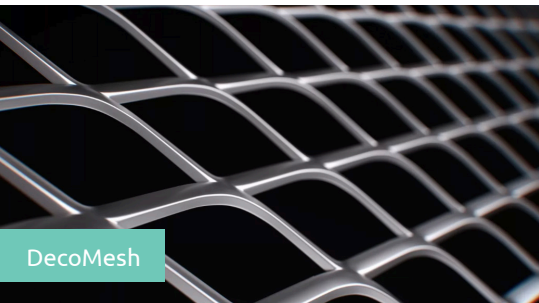
Zentia installed 490m² of DecoFrame canopies with high-performance Aruba acoustic tiles featuring Class C sound absorption, 85% light reflectance, and Euroclass A2 fire resistance.



Aruba Tegular 15

Architects: IMA Architects
Dove Valley

Zentia supplied Aruba acoustic ceiling tiles in dual-tone greys, offering Class C sound absorption and humidity resistance, to meet the aesthetic, acoustic, and installation needs.



DecoMesh

Manchester
Material Source Studio

Zentia’s DecoMesh metal ceiling tiles added a durable, industrial look to the new gin bar at Material Source Studio, enhancing the experimental space with customisable colours and patterns.



Prestige hA+

Architect: Sinclair Watt

VELUX UK and Ireland’s HQ

Challenge

The goal was to create a high-performing, modern extension with open-plan offices, meeting spaces, and shared areas that embodied Velux’s values: prioritising natural daylight, ventilation, energy efficiency, and the use of healthy materials. At the same time, the ceiling system needed to meet strict fire safety and acoustic standards while supporting the aesthetic and environmental ambitions.

Solution

Zentia supplied over 11,000m² of Prestige ceiling tiles, chosen for their high light reflectance, Class A sound absorption, and Euroclass A2-s1,d0 fire rating. The system delivered seamless integration across diverse spaces, aligning with the fabric-first, low-energy strategy and ensuring both functional performance and architectural consistency throughout the extension.



Our Services

With you at every project stage

We know acoustics, we know ceilings, we know you are busy, we are here when you need us. We are Zentia.

Expert advice when you need it

Our UK-wide consultants, in-house acousticians and CAD specialists are here to support your design from first sketch to final installation. Whatever your challenge, we're just a call away.

Proven process from design to installation

We've partnered with architects and contractors for decades. Our tested workflows keep your project on track – reliable, efficient, and tailored to your way of working.

Digital-first product accessibility

We can supply a wide range of digital documents that integrate seamlessly into your project and allow you to design, configure, and simulate ceiling systems within your preferred software.

Get in touch

Your local Architectural and Design consultant will be happy to help you.



Why Zentia

Reasons to choose Zentia for your next commercial office project



Perfect fit

Zentia provides a comprehensive range of ceiling solutions for commercial offices, combining acoustic performance, durability, and design flexibility.



Design flexibility

Zentia's portfolio offers full design flexibility with mix-and-match products, sizes, and colours to bring any vision to life.



30-year warranty

Most products come with a 30-year warranty if combined with Gridline for lasting performance and peace of mind.



Excellent service

Our UK-wide team of Architectural and Design Consultants provide expert support at every stage of your project.

Zentia is a market-leading
UK manufacturer delivering
high-performance acoustic
ceiling and wall solutions.



Zentia website

The UK's market leader in
complete ceiling solutions.



NBS Source

Specification should be
seamless. Find all our products
and BIM files.



Book a CPD

Earn RIBA CPD points and learn
more about the sectors we
work with.



Book a design visit

Speak to a dedicated member
of the Architectural & Design
Consultancy Team.

Zentia Ltd & Head Office

Kingsway South
Team Valley
Gateshead NE11 0SP

Zentia Innovation Centre

Unit 401 Princesway Central
Team Valley
Gateshead NE11 0TU

Technical support:

0800 371 849

General enquiries:

0191 497 1000

Email:

enquiries@zentia.com

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