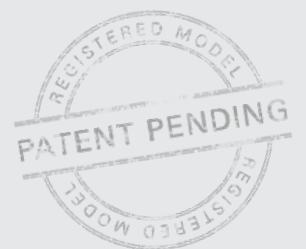


groovEe™
Concrete
Glass
Railings



About EeStairs

EeStairs make feature stairs and balustrades of exceptional beauty, precision and structural integrity in Europe, North America and Asia. We work closely with leading architects, interior designers, engineers and high-profile commercial and private clients to produce stairs of outstanding formal, material, and technical quality.

EeStairs controls the entire stair-making and installation process. We collaborate in taking original designs through the final detailed and engineering stages. We fabricate according to the ISO9001 and ISO14001 quality systems in our BREEAM Outstanding factory. We then install the stairs and balustrades using our own experienced installation teams.

And we are innovators. Our engineers and materials specialists continue to develop sophisticated, and often unique, detailing systems to ensure that our clients' original designs and specifications will always produce stairs of superb architectural quality – and also be a delight to use.

The culture of excellence at EeStairs is driven by a single intensely focused desire: to create Beauty Between Levels.

What is groovEe?

groovEe™ by EeStairs is an innovative system that revolutionises the fitting of glass balustrades to precast concrete balconies. groovEe™ creates an accurate channel in which to securely seat the glass into the concrete. And this guarantees aesthetic purity and easier installation, compared with traditional systems.

groovEe™ is the latest innovation from EeStairs' continued drive to deliver major advances in stair and balustrade systems. It accelerates the production and delivery of stylish, highly durable, cost-saving glass balustrades for concrete balconies. And unlike conventional systems, groovEe™ requires no visible fixings, guaranteeing clean lines and transparent balustrades with unobstructed views.

groovEe™ is aesthetically and technically excellent, and has a key cost benefit: it allows glass balustrades to be installed faster and more accurately than traditional methods.

Patent Pending & Registered Model



groovEe Benefits

- 1 — groovEe™ is efficient and cost-effective, because it's quick and easy to install.
- 2 — It's aesthetically outstanding because no visible mountings or supports are required.
- 3 — The groovEe™ system uses recycled material.
- 4 — Drainage channels are pre-formed in the balustrade base.







Groovy Perfection

The design of this home, by Olof van der Linden Architects, is a bold fusion between Modern and Traditional architecture, and the groovEe™ glass balustrades are an important design factor: their clean-lined transparency supports the razor-sharp outlines of the thatch and the staircase linking the house to the courtyard.

This strengthens the graphic and haptic qualities of the architecture, ensuring that the outline of the building, the horizontal layering, and the varying materials are completely evident and uncluttered by unnecessary glass detailing.

The groovEe™ glass balustrade panels fit securely and accurately into balcony edges and coping without using upstands or posts, and add precise perspective lines.





Books — Hasselt

Pure Glass

Architects Segers and Moermans designed two apartment buildings in the heart of the historic city of Hasselt in Belgium that resemble tall, narrow bookcases. One of the most important aspects of the design of the Books 1 and Books 2 buildings – which contain 37 apartments – was to make sure the glass railings on the balconies were almost invisible, so that they wouldn't interfere with the visually clean lines of the apartment structures.

This meant that the glass railings had to be free of visible fixings – pure glass, in other words. And that challenge was solved using the quick-fit groovEe™ glass balustrades system, whose on site cost-saving is typically one hour of labour per square metre of glass railing or balustrades.

EeStairs supplied the contractor, STRABAG Belgium, with precisely accurate formwork glass channels for the concrete edge sections of the balconies.





Geerts Talks groovEe

Mark Geerts of EeStairs explains to architecture critic Jay Merrick why the glass balcony balustrades on the apartment blocks at Hasselt, Belgium (pages 14-19) were so important to the architecture.

JM — “What is it about the buildings’ design that made the balustrades significant?”

MG — “One of the most important aspects of the design of the Books 1 and Books 2 buildings was their very clean-lined structures. So we had to ensure that the glass railings on the balconies were almost invisible.”

JM — “And how did the groovEe™ system achieve that?”

MG — “Simply by being free of visible fixings, posts, or upstands – pure glass, in other words.”

JM — “Can you give a little more detail?”

MG — “Normally, glass balustrades sit in clearly visible metal upstands, with fixings. But with groovEe™ you don’t need that, because we have an extremely accurate way to form the balustrade channel straight into the concrete so that it can’t be seen. The glass balustrades are securely seated in this groove, and so they keep their clean lines.”

JM — “Were the architects happy with the outcome?”

MG — “Well, there’s no doubt that groovEe™ delivered glass balustrades which preserved the architectural clarity of the facades, and guaranteed clear views across Hasselt. They can’t be unhappy with that!”



Glass is
seated in
an invisible
groove

The George, Amsterdam [NL]

Crystal Clear Zuidas

EeStairs + DOK Architecten

Crystal Clear Zuidas

Two trendy new apartment buildings in Amsterdam's Zuidas area share an important design feature – groovEe™ glass balcony balustrades, which don't require upstands or posts. As a result, the secure, detail-free connection between the glass and the concrete balconies provide unobstructed views.

Four of the balconies at the seven-storey Gustav apartment, designed by KCAP, are extensive – rather like the sun-decks on a luxury cruise ship.

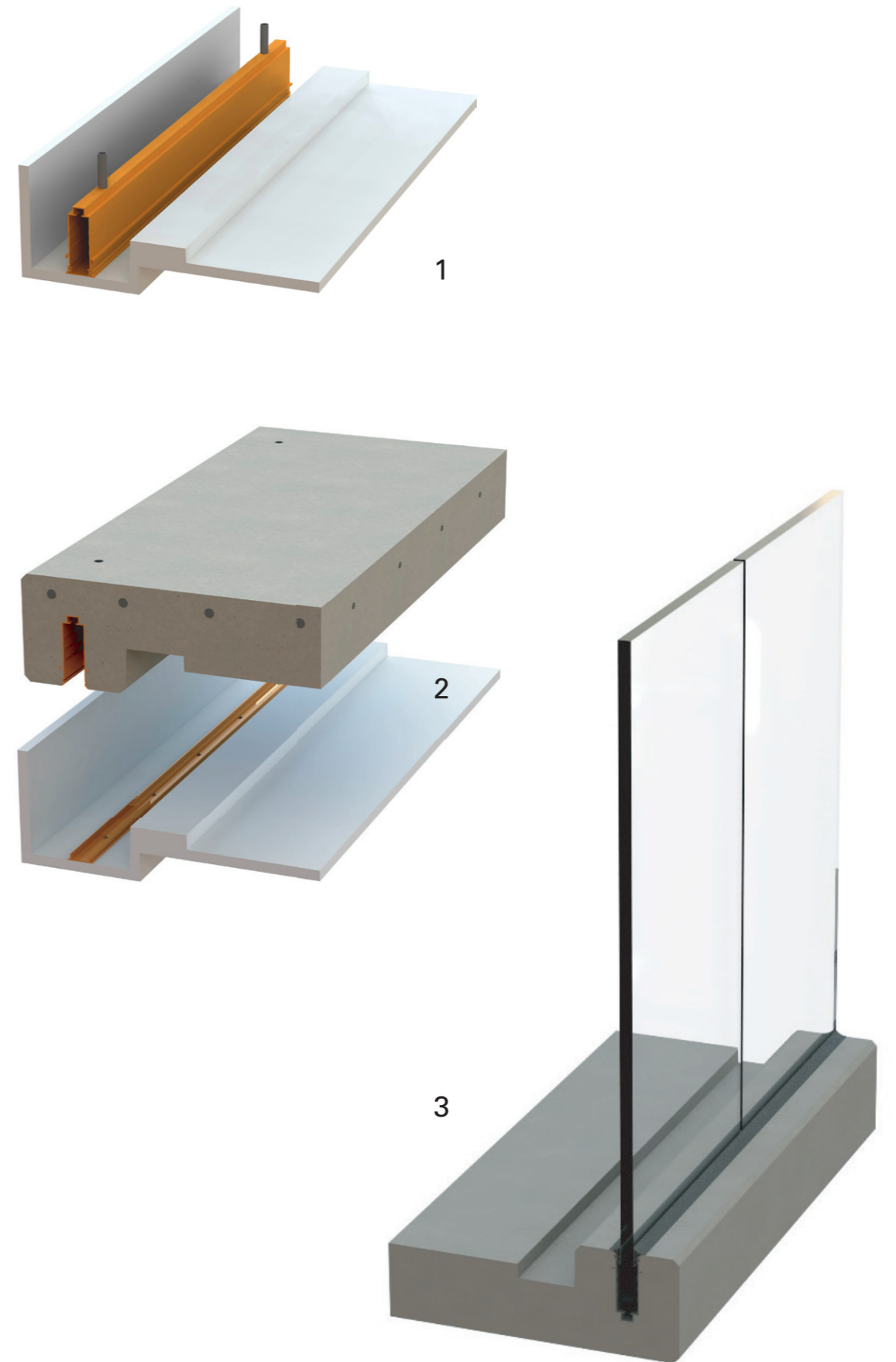
At the 11-storey George apartment building, designed by DOK Architecten, projecting balconies add to the visual drama of the multi-coloured bricks of the main facade – and the groovEe™ balustrade system ensures that these architectural qualities are seen very clearly.





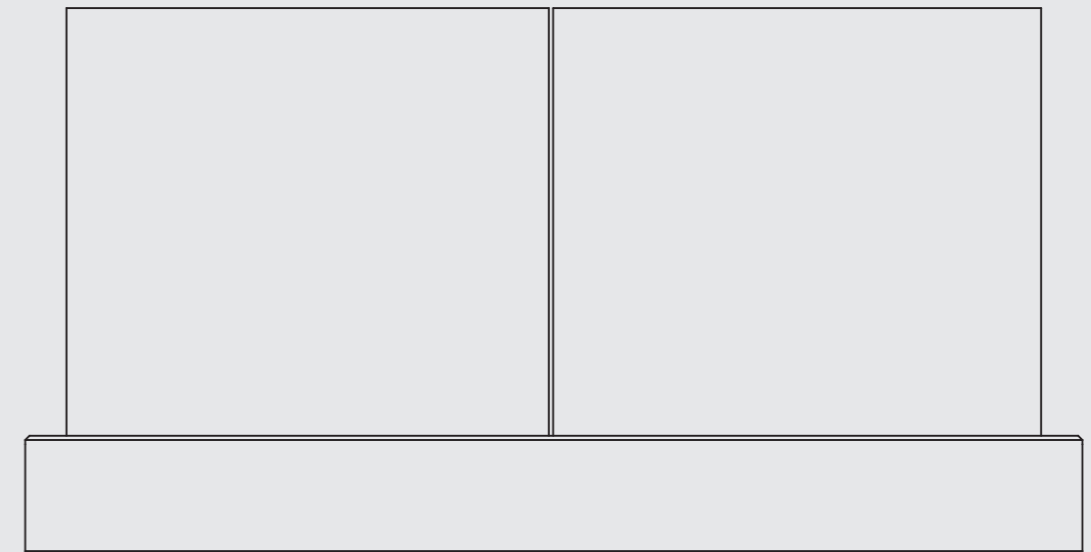
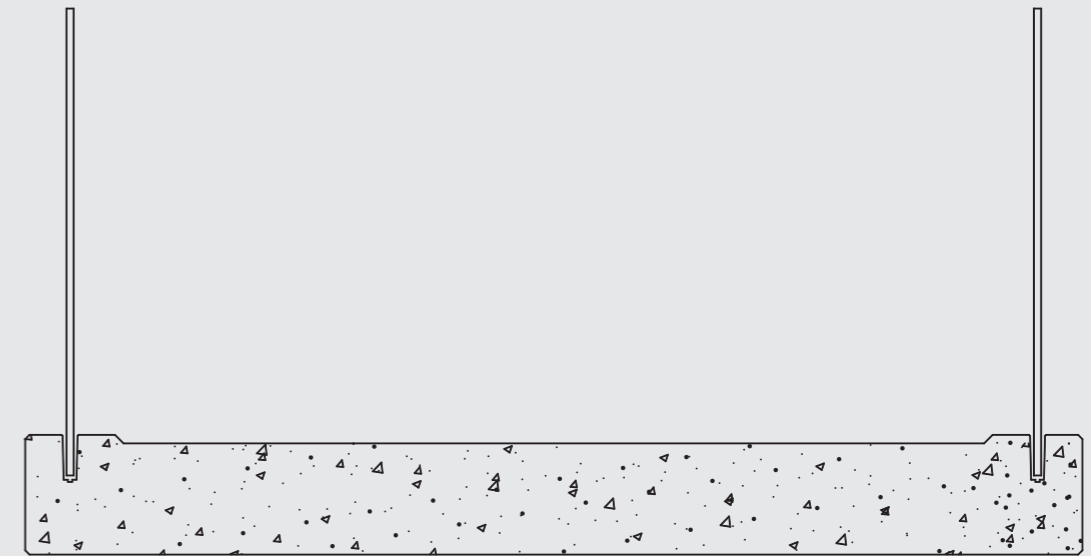
How groovEe Works

- 1 — EeStairs supplies the concrete contractor with a strong and accurate pouring-mould for the balustrade base section. This holds the groovEe™ channel, and a securely fixed cover for the open side of the channel. The other in situ elements, such as drainage pipes and reinforcement, are then positioned by the contractor. The concrete mould is now ready to receive the poured concrete.
- 2 — The groovEe™ channel-cover is removed after the concrete has been poured and cured. A new temporary cover is placed over the channel to prevent damage to the groovEe™ rebate during the transport and on-site assembly of the groovEe™ base section.
- 3 — When the balustrade base is in place, the glass balustrade panels are fitted. EeStairs supplies glass panels with a rubber seal profile on their longitudinal edges, so that they can be quickly and securely mounted in the groovEe™ channel using a highly durable adhesive.



Specification

Infill	Structural glazing (laminated toughened, depending on the application).
Glass Composition	Domestic: 8.8.2. Public: in consultation. Other use: in consultation (office, school, hospital, nursing home etc.)
Floor Edge	Not applicable. Balustrade is placed in the concrete floor. The floor edge of the balcony remains in sight.
Floor Balustrade Height	1.000mm (1.200mm is optional)
Material	Glass
Finish	Polished edges
Fixings	Glass is clamped into the concrete.
Note	In situations subject to excessive wind-loads, handrails may be required.



Safety & Regulations

Balustrades protect users by guarding voids and floor edges. Our glass balustrade systems are put through rigorous testing procedures including structural analysis, impact testing and soft pendulum testing to ensure that they meet or exceed safety requirements.

Our glass balustrades comply with NEN standards and with national and international regulations, such as Bouwbesluit (NL), British Standard (UK) and International Building Code (USA).

Specifications

Specifications differ, depending on the function of the building. For example, the specifications for a balustrade are different to specifications for a public building.



Innovations & Products

1m2™

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