



eFIG Awards 2007

Design and Installation
£5,000.00—10,000.00



Gold Leaf

Winner:
Project:

Urban Planters Stockport
Morris Homes, Wilmslow

Morris Homes are one of the largest independent house builders in the country and have an extensive portfolio of award-winning developments. Following their move to a new headquarters building, Morris Homes asked Urban Planters Stockport to propose a contemporary and innovative interior landscaping scheme that would reflect the design-led approach of the company.

The headquarters building has at one time been a performance car showroom and is something of a landmark in the local area, having a pyramid shape at its centre and being constructed almost entirely of glass. There are high levels of natural light in most parts of the building and this is supplemented by extensive halogen lighting. The building has been re-fitted to a very high specification, the interior finishes comprising brushed stainless steel, walnut, glass, leather and slate.

The request was for an interior landscaping scheme that was “stunning”, “dramatic”, and very contemporary. Plants had to be unusual and architectural in form; containers had to be different shapes, sizes and finishes; colours used had to be shades of grey. Despite the requirement for variety, each plant and container specified had to complement the others in the scheme and the interior décor of the building.

The agreed interior landscaping scheme comprised a total of 32 displays arranged in 6 main areas of the building

Each display was fitted with an Urban Planters irrigation system. For the taller pedestal and vase containers, the planting depth was reduced by inserting polystyrene columns into the containers and using these to support synthetic liners. Sand was also added to the taller containers for increased stability. The liners ensured that the container was water-tight and reduced the amount of compost needed.

The majority of the displays were planted-up at Urban Planters’ premises prior to transportation and installation. Attention was given to ensuring that the plants were planted to the correct depth in each container and that the “front” of the plant faced the front of the display with the irrigation tubes being positioned to the rear. For ease of transportation and access, the larger specimen *Ficus microcarpa* “Compacta” (3m) and *Podocarpus macrophylla* (2m) were planted in situ at the client’s premises. All plants and containers were secured and protected during transportation to prevent damage. The compost used for all the displays was 50% peat-free and was obtained from the approved supplier.



The European Federation of Interior-landscape Groups Ltd