

# The Leadenhall Building





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**Client**

British Land

**Creative Partners**

Rogers Stirk Harbour & Partners

Laing O'Rourke

**Contractor**

Laing O'Rourke

The Leadenhall Building (commonly known as 'The Cheesegrater') is one of the most iconic and architecturally distinctive buildings in the City of London, featuring a distinctive wedge-shaped exterior profile to avoid any impact on the protected sight lines of St Paul's Cathedral when viewed from Fleet Street and the west.

Cobal were awarded the project to supply external wayfinding and statutory signage.









### External wayfinding

External wayfinding featured a series of stainless steel framed black glass monoliths, measuring 3m high, securely bolted into solid foundations. Lift lobbies had 1m black squares suspended with white letters to indicate the various blocks of lifts. White text and coloured icons were applied to the signage, giving a striking and impactful overall appearance, coupled with consistent branding.

### Statutory signage

Statutory signage comprised a variety of fire exit signs, with some requiring graphics to be fitted to cylindrical glass substrates and featured white vinyl lettering applied to various walls and surfaces within the fire-fighting lobbies. Also supplied were 2m high die-cut metal numbers signifying plant rooms and generators. We also produced special wayfinding and instructional signage for use by the fire service, including at the Fire Command Centre. This ensured clear command and control communications, vital for the safe evacuation of thousands of people from such a large and complex building.





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### **Challenge**

A challenge arose in the Fire Command Centre, where the requirement was to have a permanent elevation detail of the building, that could be updated to show the results of fire sweeps in the event of an emergency evacuation. This required a combination of both permanent and temporary graphics, a perfect example of our ability to guide and support our clients to achieve their objectives.

### **Outcome**

Delivered on time and on budget, providing a range of high quality solutions, matching the exact specification and design requirements of the project team.





"We worked closely with Cobal for well over a year on this project, holding a number of design workshops with them and the architects. Showing a strong partnering ethos, Cobal collaborated with us and contributed a number of innovative ideas, which we were able to employ in the finished scheme.

Their suggestions, prototypes and finished signage were of a very high quality and they undoubtedly added value. I would have no reservations in using them on future projects."

**Bill Bennett**

Construction Manager, Laing O'Rourke

