

March 2025

Case Study

Focus

Gate Systems

Scope: One of our Trade Customers has a contract with a national self storage brand to supply and install fully compliant, automated cantilever gates at a number of their premises.



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Background and Context

Project Scope:

This was an urgent requirement for the customer following a large amount of local car thefts and burglaries in the run up to Christmas. The customer wanted to secure his vehicles and offer a visible deterrent to thieves.

What Industry is it?

The goods were supplied to one of our trade customers who were carrying out the full install at a new self-storage site for a nationally known self-store brand. At these types of sites, perimeter security is paramount to ensure their clients' goods are safe and secure 24/7. As First Fence are a member of the Self Storage Association, our expertise helped both parties.

Initial Challenges?

The end client has several sites under construction at the current time, with different size openings and as such, different size gates required. We were tasked with keeping lead times down for all options to ensure when a site is near completion, we could effectively put that site's gate into production.



Objectives

Project Benchmarks:

Having previously used a different supplier for some of the client's other sites, our customer had a set design to match to keep all sites uniform. Working with our design team we were able to match the exact style, despite it not being a 'regular' offering of ours.

Time Frame:

The customer gave us 6 weeks from them confirming the date site would be ready to accept the gates and fencing.

Limitations:

No specific limitations on this project other than keeping a tight schedule.

Key Challenges:

The initial design work to ensure the end client was happy with the product, as well as supplying a pedestrian gate and run back fencing to match. Then being able to specify the correct hardware and automation to match the client's needs.



Approach and Strategy

How did we approach this?

Once images of existing gates were received, we worked on drawing up the same style, whilst working on the specification of the cantilever system used to ensure the frame and overall build of the system was perfectly specified.

Who was responsible?

Our specialist automated gate team handled the initial enquiry from our client. Then further work was carried out by our design team, working alongside both our customer and their client.

Any bespoke requirements?

The infill bracing bars had to run in the same direction and to be of certain box section size to match previous designs. The client picked a specific brand of automation so we had to specify the right one. Fortunately, our automated gates can come with a host of well known automation brands so we had it covered.

Key Resources:

Our project Manager of Gates & Automation was heavily involved from the start, helping to specify the correct build dimensions and also the automation used to ensure a 100% duty cycle for the busy entrance / exit gate.

Solution

What did we supply?

We supplied a custom built FFL 130 automated cantilever gate. This was hot dip galvanised and PPC in RAL 9005. The infill used was a 358 anti-climb mesh for additional security. This was supplied with a manually operated pedestrian gate with matching infill and finish and run back fencing the same. All our automated gates comply to BS EN 12453 but the run back fencing further enhances the safety aspect.

Lessons Learnt?

No lessons to be learnt on this one. We supply a lot of these automated cantilever gates to our installer customers and also for our installation team to install for the end user clients, so everything ran rather smoothly.

Also, as members of the SSA (Self Storage Association), we have lots of experience dealing with this kind of site, meaning our expertise was incredibly valuable to both our customer and the end client.

Expectations:

The end client required the goods to be supplied as soon as possible, so our customer could carry out the install. Luckily, our standard lead times are around 6 weeks from drawing sign off on mesh infill gates so this was easily achieved.

Client satisfaction:

“The ease of install with the plug and play system made this a really straightforward job from start to finish. We installed the full cantilever gate, pedestrian gate and the run back fencing and had it signed over to our customer in less than 2 days. Delivery via HIAB was great too as the driver hung around while we got fixings in the ground and then repositioned the gate for us.” - Karl - MD Gate Systems Ltd





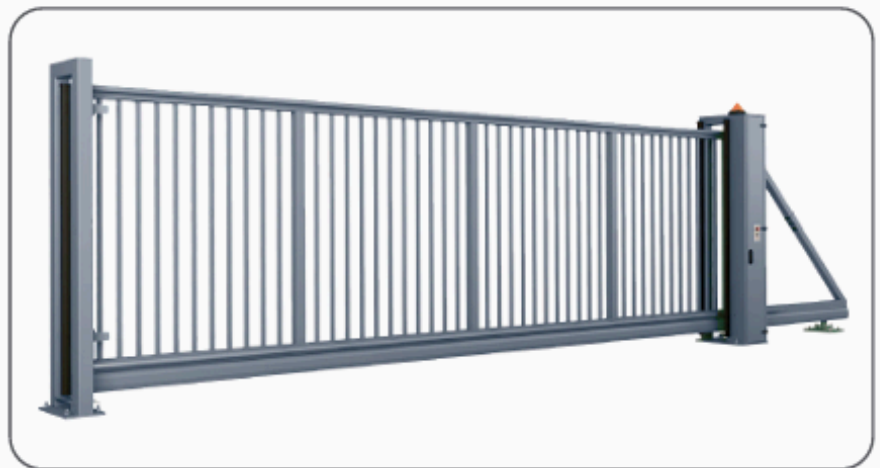
The FFL 130

Key Features

- ✓ **Safety**
(Compliant with BS EN 12453 standards for automated gates)
- ✓ **Cantilever Design**
(The leaf is seated on a track beam and does not contact the floor)
- ✓ **Corrosion Resistant**
(The gates are secured against corrosion by galvanising & PPC)
- ✓ **System-Based Solution**
(FFL 130 gates form a system of elements for access control)

Suitable For

- ✓ **Industrial Buildings**
- ✓ **Airports and Ports**
- ✓ **Schools and Nurseries**
- ✓ **Guarded Car Parks**
- ✓ **Residential**



Safety

Automated FFL 130 gates comply with BS EN 12453 Standards for gate safety.



Corrosion Resistant

FFL 130 gates are hot-dip galvanised or hot-dip galvanised and coated with polyester paint, securing the gate against corrosion.



Cantilever Design

The FFL 130 gate features a cantilever design. The leaf is seated on a 130 x 115mm track beam and moves on carriages mounted to a concrete foundation. The gate does not contact the floor.



System-Based Solution

These gates form a system of elements for access control. When used together with industrial segments, mesh panels, posts and double-leaf gates, they form a complete system.

Specification

Material	Galvanised Steel
Infill	Vertical Bar or 868 Twin Mesh
Finish	Polyester Powder Coated
Colour	A range of RAL colours is available
Post Type	Bolt Down
Lead Time	Five Weeks

What's Included - Hardware, Accessories & Fixings

Gear Rack (Fitted)
Cantilever Carriages
Ground Anchor Bolts
Bolt-Down end catcher post
Full Height Motor Cabinet & Rear Support Post
Top Support Roller System

What's Included - Automation, Accessories & Safety

Heavy Duty Sliding Gate Motor with Built-In Control Panel
Flashing Light
Dual Height Photocells
Key-Operated Switch with emergency stop button
6 x Cat 3 safety edges
2 x Remote Control Transmitters/Fobs
Gate Mounted Safety Edge Transmission system
External RF aerial

	2.4m	✓	✓	✓	
	2.15m	✓	✓	✓	✓
	1.95m	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gate Height	1.65m	✓	✓	✓	✓
	1.45m	✓	✓	✓	✓
	1.2m	✓	✓	✓	✓
	1.0m	✓	✓	✓	✓
		6.0m	6.5m	7.0m	7.5m
		Gate Width			

Available in standard colours: 6005, 5010, 7016, 7030, 7040, 9016, 8017 and 9005. Custom colours are available on request, as is a galvanised-only option.



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