

## PEDOCK COST STUDY

### Comparison of Costs Between Prefabricated Casings and Traditional Constructed Casings

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

EC Harris has been instructed by Alumasc Interior Building Products Limited to investigate the cost of construction of three types of casings using proprietary pre-fabricated components manufactured by themselves, and compare these costs against cost of equivalent casings constructed employing traditional methods and conventional materials

The finishing components to be studied are:

- Pipe casings

## 2. COST STUDY METHODOLOGY

The work needed to be carried out to construct the various casings were analysed to determine the activities involved for each of the components. These activities were then further broken down to establish the required

- type and quantities of material
- type and number of trade operatives
- time to carry out the activities.

These resources were then priced up by applying current prevailing rates appropriate for an average medium sized building contract in the Midlands.

The items are priced nett - ie, no profit element has been included for all the items.

### 3. SUMMARY

#### 3.1

The main aim of this study is to compare the construction cost of the various casings by the two different construction methods, and the result of the study is set out here below:

#### Pipe casings

Casing type	Material Total (£)	Labour Total (£)	Total (£)
Pendock 75 x 150 MX mm pipe casing (per 100m run)	965.95	540.00	1,505.95
Site constructed 75 x 150 mm pipe casing, plywood clad (per 100m run)	348.60	1,490.00	1,838.60
Site constructed 75 x 150 mm pipe casing, MDF clad (per 100m run)	320.60	1,394.00	1,714.60

The study indicates a very significant saving in labour costs by the use of prefabricated components for all the three types of casings studied when compared with the cost of constructing these by traditional methods.

Further analysing this, the labour cost savings result from savings in the number of man-hours required, as shown in the schedules below.

#### Labour hour comparison

#### Pipe casings

Casing type	Labour (man-hour)
Pendock 75 x 150 MX mm pipe casing (per 100m run)	24
Site constructed 75 x 150 mm pipe casing, plywood clad (per 100m run)	72
Site constructed 75 x 150 mm pipe casing, MDF clad (per 100m run)	66

The installation of prefabricated pipe casings require only a third of the labour hours when compared with traditional site built casings.

The construction cost of pipe casings, constructed with the prefabricated components as they are priced now, compare very favourably with the cost of constructing these by traditional means. In addition, there is also a saving to the time required for the actual installation of the casings. Further, the pre-finished casing components do away with the need to decorate on completion contributing to the saving in time.