

# PRODUCTS IN ACTION

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## Stiff and Light Panelling for Cruise Ships



One of the major benefits of sandwich cored structures is the increased stiffness values that can be achieved. A recent application that clearly highlights this feature is a series of light weight panels that were fabricated to cover the life-boats on two large cruise ships, 'Radiance of the Seas' and 'Brilliance of the Seas'. For each ship around 980 square meters (10,550 ft<sup>2</sup>) of panelling was produced.

Manufactured by Hahlbrock GmbH, each panel has an unsupported span of approximately 3.70 meters (12 ft.) yet is capable of withstanding hurricane force winds. Divinycell H 80 core material was chosen because of its good dynamic load capabilities coupled with it being easy to form and fabricate using a resin infusion process.

When complete the edges of the panels were bonded directly to each ship's steel superstructure using a high performance adhesive. As can be seen in the photograph above, the 'rib-less' panelling shows a clean, uninterrupted profile to be achieved that aesthetically enhances the ship's lines.

