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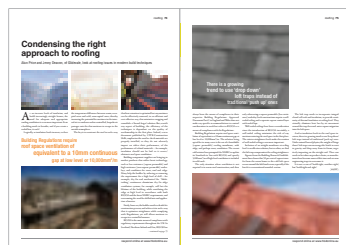
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Historic refurbishment



Asra Housing Group is set to refurbish the historic Abbey Mills building in Leicester, which will cost £8.75 million and create 78 extra-care flats.

The former stockings factory, in Abbey Park Lane, will be transformed into a facility that supports a range of vulnerable adults, including people with learning difficulties, mental health problems and older people.

As part of the project, which is being part-funded by Leicester City Council, the building will retain its historic shell with a complete refurbishment taking place inside.

The new extra-care facility will link via a bridge to Asra's Wolsey Building which is next door. This will allow people living in Abbey Mills to enjoy the Wolsey's facilities. Wolsey contains 68 extra care flats and was rebuilt to ensure it kept its historic frontage. The two buildings together will create a preservation hub near Leicester city centre.

Matt Cooney, chief executive of Asra Housing Group, said: "We are delighted to be working in partnership with Leicester City Council to convert and refurbish the historic Abbey Mills building into a multi-million pound

extra-care scheme.

"The building used to be a stockings factory and reached nation-wide fame when it provided Captain Scott with his warmth-preserving clothing when he attempted to be the first person to reach the South Pole. Our investment will mean the historic nature of this building is preserved and will now have a lasting legacy by providing ground-breaking care to the over 55s in Leicester.

"This development, when complete, will link to our Wolsey Building next door, which also provides extra-care to the over 55s – creating a landmark extra care hub in the East Midlands. Together they will ensure an area of great historical value in Leicester is preserved for generations to come."

Assistant city mayor, Cllr Rita Patel, responsible for adult social care, said: "This really is a fantastic opportunity for us. We had already set aside money to re-model some of our own housing stock into supported living accommodation."

The project is set to be completed by March 2015.

Picnics at Battersea Power Station

Londoners can look forward to picnics outside Battersea Power Station this summer after plans for a new temporary park were approved on Feb 11 by **Wandsworth Council**.

The temporary green space would be connected to Battersea Park via a new riverside walkway, which would run underneath the Grosvenor Railway Bridge.

The temporary park would be completed by the summer and the site's owners hope to open it to the public as often as possible within the constraints of their construction programme.

The redevelopment of the entire power station site will be completed in phases over the next ten years. Later in the project the temporary green space will be replaced with a permanent six acre public park and

riverside walk lined with cafes, restaurant and shops.

The final scheme will also include a new riverbus passenger pier, Tube station, offices and a whole new town centre providing thousands of jobs.

The listed power station building will be restored and opened up to the public for the first time in its history. The project is one of 27 development schemes taking place across the Nine Elms on the South Bank regeneration area. Together they are expected to provide 25,000 new jobs, 16,000 new homes, parks and a new public market.

This area-wide building programme is now underway and is expected to provide an additional 20,000 jobs and 1,000 training positions, which are being targeted towards local people.

AWARDS

Housing Design Awards 2013 – Entry now open

The Housing Design Awards, highlighted in the Government's Housing Strategy as to how it will champion design and innovation during this Parliament, are back for a 65th year.

The longest-running Awards in property and construction are also the most fairly assessed. A multi-disciplinary team of 16 judges undertakes a desktop review before visiting their

shortlist of 30+ schemes, considering everything from a development's build quality to the resident experience to the role of the local authority.

Schemes can include either new build or conversion/improvement, or a combination of both.

Deadline for entries is 4 March 2013 at 5pm. Go to www.hdawards.org for entry details.



East Midlands scheme singled out in 'Building for Life 12' awards

Manor Kingsway in Derby was singled out at a parliamentary event on Wednesday 6 February as one of the first five UK developments to meet the revised new national benchmark for well-designed housing in England (Building for Life 12) criteria for design quality, safety and community.

Planning Minister and Grantham & Stamford MP Nick Boles is an advocate for more high quality homes to address the nation's acute housing shortage, and he highlighted this particular scheme as a great example of a development that's fit for current and future generations.

The Architecture Centre for the East Midlands OPUN, the Home and Communities Agency (HCA), Derby City Council, Kier Partnership Homes and Stride Treglown Architects have all been involved in bringing Manor Kingsway to fruition, and all were delighted to have received this accolade.

Work will start on site at Manor Kingsway this coming autumn, and will deliver 700 new homes including an extra care facility plus shops and offices in the redevelopment of a hospital site.

Julie Tanner, chief executive, OPUN, which led revisions to the original Manor Kingsway masterplan, played an instrumental part in developing BfL12 and is now one of the leading national BfL12 training providers - commented: "This project is a super example of partnership in action, and shows that getting the right people around the table at an early stage in the planning process will pay dividends in the long term.

"Through our independent design review service, and in applying the BfL 12 standards, we've been able to offer practical solutions so the final development will be attractive, functional and sustainable, meeting the needs of local people both now and in the future.

Shortage of properties now biggest obstacle to home buyers as mortgage conditions ease

A shortage of homes for sale is emerging as the biggest barrier to house hunters as the availability of mortgages and selling a home become less difficult according to the results of new research.

The findings of the Barratt Home Buyers study of 2,275 homebuyers in Britain, has revealed a significant shift in market perceptions compared with a year ago with fewer people citing finance issues and selling their own home as difficulties.

The ability of homebuyers to find a suitable property has deteriorated and is now cited by 30 per cent of respondents as difficult. It is only seen as easy by 5 per cent of those surveyed. A third (32 per cent) of homebuyers reported that they have now been looking for a house for over six months.

A year ago, raising a deposit (39 per cent), finding a mortgage (30 per cent) and selling a home (35 per cent) were the main difficulties most often cited by the Barratt respondents. In the latest findings those experiencing difficulties finding a mortgage have halved (15 per cent) as have those experiencing difficulties selling an existing property (17 per cent).

Buyers appear to have caught up quickly with the fact that mortgage lending is improving. However, they are now starting to over-estimate the size of the deposit required and in some cases are doing so by a factor of three.

First Time Buyers in the study are on average expecting to put down a 15 per cent

deposit which would equate to around £25,000 based on the average Barratt First time buyer price of around £165,000. However, a more realistic deposit requirement is now 10 per cent (£16,000 on Barratt first time buyer price) and as low as 5 per cent or £8,000 under the NewBuy scheme.

The NewBuy scheme is not as well understood as it might be. Nearly two thirds (65 per cent) of homebuyers said that they were unaware of a tax-payer backed mortgage scheme. More encouragingly 12 per cent of the sample were aware and intended to use the scheme. Barratt has indicated that it expects 10-15 per cent of sales to use this low deposit scheme.

Commenting on the latest findings of the Panel Mark Clare, CEO of Barratt Developments said: "There has clearly been a shift in the market with a growing belief that the availability of mortgage finance has become a little easier - that's got to be good news for homebuyers. However, customers are overestimating the size of the deposit that they would need, particularly as NewBuy becomes established in the market.

"The Barratt study also underlines how low the level of activity in the market remains with a scarcity of property to buy. We are now steadily increasing production and this year we are likely to build more homes than at any time in last five years.

"In the last few years, we have invested £2 billion in land and our priority is now to bring these new sites into production."

NEWS BYTES

The latest news for housebuilders and developers. Visit www.hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk and enter the Reference Number for more information.

£240 million revolutionary university accommodation set to be created in UK...
Ref: 26412

Oakvest transforms derelict space into modern London mews homes...
Ref: 25087

Ecobuild 2013 supports vital movement to help 'green our cities'...
Ref: 46583

New housing design standards to be unveiled...
Ref: 99606

Ecobuild pledges support for Climate Week 2013...
Ref: 41015

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REVIEW

Visitor numbers soar 15% at Surface Design Show

Exhibitors at Surface Design Show (5 - 7 February) were delighted as thousands flowed into the only UK event to focus exclusively on innovative and exciting interior and exterior surface solutions.

Explains show director, Christopher Newton: "There has been a real buzz on every day of the Show. At 4119, visitor numbers were up by close to 15 per cent on last year, and it's the highest number of visitors we've seen since Montgomery Exhibitions took over the show."

Surface Design Show hosted a series of presentations, debates and CPD Seminars across the three days of the show filling the two purpose built theatres. More than 750 professional visitors

attended the Preview Evening many joining in the FX Live Debate entitled Material People.

Architects and designers presenting 20 of their favourite slides, each one for no more than 20 seconds, was the highlight of the second day's PechaKucha Evening.

The first ever Surface Design Awards, hosted by Annabelle Filer of SCIN with a keynote address by Eric Parry of Eric Parry Architects, were presented in front of a packed audience. The Velvet Underground Nightclub in Singapore won the Supreme Award, beating an international field of surface projects.

The roles and purchasing power of the visitors was also a key consideration and feedback from

the exhibitors indicates that the majority of people enquiring at the stands had real projects for which they were looking for innovative surface designs.

Summing up the show, Christopher said: "The responses we have been receiving are incredibly positive and our exhibitors were genuinely delighted with the results they achieved. We couldn't have asked for a better match of exciting and unusual surface designs with architects and interior designers looking for materials for real-world projects. We are looking forward to building even more on this success for Surface Design Show 2014."

Get set for the kbb LDN 2013 Innovation Awards

After the resounding success of the Innovation Awards at kbb LDN 2011, the prestigious competition is now back for its second year and is set to unveil yet again the most exciting advancements in the industry.

The kbb LDN Innovation Awards celebrate the most groundbreaking advancements across the kitchen and bathroom industries. This exciting competition allows industry manufacturers to not only put their products in front of an expert panel of judges, but also in front of thousands at the exhibition if selected.

Any product put forward for the award must demonstrate innovation at the highest level,

and have been or will be launched between May 2012 and May 2013.

The expert judging panel will be chaired by Martin Allen-Smith, editor of Designer Kitchens & Bathrooms magazine. Martin comments: "The kbb LDN Innovation Awards is an ideal opportunity for kitchen and bathroom brands to be rewarded and recognised industry-wide for their innovation and creativity. These are highly sought-after awards and the quality of entries in the past has been exceptional. I very much look forward to seeing what some of the leading manufacturers from across the sectors have in store for the judges this year".

The other two judges joining Martin

are Robert Timmons of Robert Timmons Furniture who will be bringing his specialist bespoke design skills to the judging panel and interior designer Daniel Hopwood, an expert in creative and practical design.

The judges will produce a shortlist of up to 20 entries that will be on display at kbb LDN. These products will then be assessed further by both judges and visitors alike, resulting in three winners for The Judges Choice Award, The Visitors Choice Award and The Online Choice Award. The winners will be announced and their awards presented live at the show 19 - 21 May 2013 ExCeL, London in a dedicated showcase.

EVENTS

Tomorrow's Smart:Home
charity networking event
28 February, London
<http://netmagevents.eventbrite.co.uk/>

The UK Concrete Show
27 - 28 February, Birmingham
www.concreteshow.co.uk

Research and Innovation
in Brickwork
5 March, London
www.buildingcentre.co.uk/events

Ecobuild
5 - 7 March, London
www.ecobuild.co.uk

National Homebuilding & Renovating Show
March 21-24, 2013, Birmingham
www.homebuildingshow.co.uk/

Ideal Home Show
March 15 - April 1, 2013, London
www.idealhomeshow.co.uk

Cast Concrete Surfaces + Formed Concrete Finishes
4 April, London
www.buildingcentre.co.uk/events

SustainabilityLive!/NEMEX
16 - 18 April, Birmingham
www.sustainabilitylive.com

Greenbuild Expo
8 - 9 May, Manchester
www.greenbuildexpo.co.uk

Greenbuild Awards
8 May, Manchester
www.greenbuildawards.co.uk

The ARC Show
19 - 21 May, London
www.thearcshow.com

kbb LDN
19 - 21 May, London
www.kbb.co.uk

INTERIORS LDN
19 - 21 May, London
www.interiorsuk.com

DX
19 - 21 May, London
<http://dx-london.com/>

OAS Development Awards
14 June, London
www.oasdevelopmentawards.co.uk

Eco Technology Show
14 - 15 June, Brighton
www.ecotechnologyshow.co.uk

Eco Open Houses
15 - 16, 22 - 23 June, Brighton
www.ecoopenhouses.org

The Energy Event
10 - 11 September, Birmingham
www.theenergyevent.com

Energy Efficiency & Renewables Awards
12 September, Coventry
<http://energyefficiencyexhibitions.co.uk/awards/>

100% Design
18 - 21 September, London
www.100percentdesign.co.uk

Open House London
21 - 22 September, London
www.londonopenhouse.org

Timber Expo
24 - 25 September, Coventry
www.timber-expo.co.uk

Energy Efficiency Exhibitions, incorporating Renewables Roadshow
10 September, Exeter
12 September, Coventry
17 September, Newcastle
19 September, Edinburgh
24 September, Surrey
26 September, Manchester
www.energyefficiencyexhibitions.co.uk
www.renewables-roadshow.co.uk

Q. When is a bi-fold door not a bi-fold door?



A. When it's a folding sliding door
(When it has more than two panels)

Why do so called Specialist bi-fold companies sell doors with more than two panels?

Q. If you have three shoes is it still a pair?

Bi-fold door (noun) An interior door (a door that closes off rooms within a building)
Meronyms (parts of "bi-fold door"): flexible joint; hinge (a joint that holds two parts together so that one can swing relative to the other)
bifold /bīfōld/ (adjective) 1. Twofold
bi /bī-/ or sometimes before a vowel (prefix) Two, twice, double

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Will building performance suffer along with relaxed office-to-residential conversion planning rules?

At the end of January, the government announced that it is considering relaxing planning rules to make it easier to turn empty offices into residential space in a bid to boost the UK housing market. While, in theory, the conversion of redundant office buildings and relaxation of planning constraints will increase the number of residential properties coming to market, Tom Cox, innovation and product manager at Saint-Gobain Isover, believes there are many issues to be taken into consideration before projects of this type become mainstream.

As you'd expect, there are a number of fundamental design differences between offices and residential housing that must be taken into consideration when looking at conversion. The 70s and 80s were a boom period for office construction and at this time, building regulations were not as stringent as they are now. Some key areas of focus for contractors taking on office-to-house conversion projects should be the thermal, fire and acoustic performance requirements, which can require significant alteration in order to be brought up to today's standards.

In recent years there has been a lot of development in improving the thermal efficiency of buildings. This has been bought about initially by the government's Community Energy Saving

Programme (CESP) and, more recently, the advent of Green Deal. Thermally, offices being converted would have to be upgraded in order to make them suitable for residential use. One of the most simple and cost effective ways for contractors to meet regulations is to use an internal wall insulation (IWI) system, which works with the existing fabric of the building and has a quick installation time, keeping labour costs low.

As well as considering the thermal requirements of housing, contractors and installers tasked with office-to-house RMI work will also have to think about controlling noise transfer – both within and between dwellings – and enhancing fire measures.

The retrofitting of an acoustic measure is notoriously difficult due the vast array of potential flanking paths in existing buildings. When designing a building for a given purpose, acoustic performance is considered throughout the design and construction process in order to control noise transference both within building cavities and through structures. However, the retrofitted application of a measure to control noise, particularly impact sound, can be difficult in conversions of this type and if done poorly, can be a continuous source of annoyance to future occupants. In fact, this can be so extreme

that their health and wellbeing becomes affected. Solutions to control noise transference, both within and between dwellings, range from wall and floor insulation to specialist ductwork insulation systems.

In addition to thermal and acoustic considerations, fire requirements also need to be taken into account. In office development there is typically less escape routes than in residential developments. In order to comply with regulations, additional escape routes may need to be added, in the form of new stair wells for example. Alternatively, extensive passive fire measures will need to be installed in the form of higher performing fire partitions and fire control systems.

Office-to-house conversion may well prove to help ease the housing crisis, however it's vital that thermal, fire and acoustic standards are met and where possible exceeded. With a selection of systems and products available to facilitate the successful conversion of offices for residential use, there should be no issue bringing spaces in line with the required standards. I just hope building performance is held at the forefront of all conversions to create safe, comfortable, healthy dwellings.

enq.601

RM Architects gain planning for assisted living housing in Grade 2 complex

Designed by **Richard Morton Architects** working with Sidell Gibson, proposals by Beechcroft Developments for assisted living and keyworker housing on an historic site in Henley have been unanimously approved by the planning committee of South Oxfordshire District Council.

The proposals form part of a comprehensive redevelopment of the Townlands site, which also includes a new hospital and care home, to be delivered by a consortium under the leadership of regeneration specialists Amber Solutions for Care.

Richard Morton said: "I'm delighted to have got approval for this project which rounds off my 25 years of work at Sidell Gibson and which, as it moves forward, will provide one of

the first major projects for my new firm."

The majority of the 32 assisted living units will be created within the grade 2 listed complex of buildings which originally formed the Henley Workhouse. The complex, parts of which date back as far as 1790, had been neglected in recent years.

Richard continues: "The complex is regarded by English Heritage as an important survival and is now set to re-emerge as a housing development of great charm and character for older people. There is a big challenge in the complexity and sensitivity of these buildings but we believe that RMA's wealth of experience with listed buildings and with design for older people will enable us to deliver a top class result for Beechcroft."



NEWS BYTES

The latest news for housebuilders and developers. Visit www.hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk and enter the Reference Number for more information.

Charles Church invest in a training programme for its talented sales advisors....

Ref: 58860

NHBC freezes fees to support housebuilding industry...

Ref: 56046

Planning measures will make best use of under-used buildings...

Ref: 14623

£46 million boost for 132 local energy schemes...

Ref: 17347

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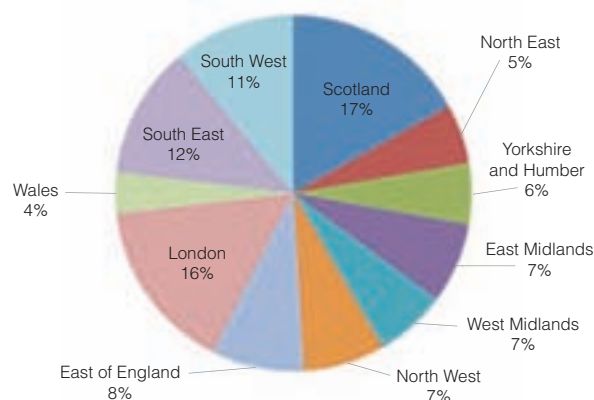
LEAD SUPPORTERS



PLANNING PIPE

Scotland leads new residential and commercial plans

Planned New Residential Units
January 2013



Planning applications for new residential units submitted during January 2013 kept pace with the monthly average for 2012, according to new data released by construction information provider Planning Pipe. There were plans for just under 40,000 new units from multi-dwelling schemes and approximately 1,500 single builds or conversions during the first month of 2013 – with 2 of the biggest 3 residential schemes proposed for Scotland.

The largest single residential scheme submitted was BAE Systems plans for a village of 2,500 homes north east of Glasgow supported by Cass Associates. Meanwhile Berkeley Homes and Allies and Morrison submitted an outline proposal for over 2000 flats in Woolwich, south east London. First approved as a Masterplan in 2008, the scheme comprises a series of residential buildings from 4 to 21 storeys high situated by the river Thames.

Scotland's second major residential projects going into planning in January was submitted to Fife Council. The authority received early notice from Ironside Farrer of Scotland's biggest scheme with an environmental screening request for 1,100 new homes – together with a new school, retail and healthcare services – north of Dunfermline.

The continued rate of plans for new residential units was not confined to the largest schemes. There were over 2,500 separate projects proposed across the UK for smaller sub-10 unit schemes during the month – over 80 every day. It remains to be seen whether this momentum will continue throughout the first quarter of the year.

By Paul Graham, managing director of Planning Pipe. Planning Pipe provides free and cost-effective access to over 4,000 new UK construction projects every week – bespoke leads built to your requirements.
www.planningpipe.co.uk

enq.602

COMMENT

CITB-ConstructionSkills welcomes proposed boost to green construction through energy reform amendment

In response to a proposed amendment to the Energy Bill by the chairman of the House of Commons Energy and Climate Change Select Committee Tim Yeo, chief executive of CITB-ConstructionSkills Mark Farrar has urged contractors to take action now in preparation for an increase in low carbon construction work.

Mark Farrar, said: "Tim Yeo's proposal to bring forward the date for setting decarbonisation targets would be a positive step for the construction industry, and for the UK's low carbon

future. The move could stimulate investment in green construction projects, from major green energy generation infrastructure projects to associated smaller scale work. But industry needs to have the expertise and capacity to respond and deliver when this low carbon construction work comes on-line.

"Those who have the right skills and qualifications to carry out low carbon work will be in a strong position to make the most of the opportunities that will be generated – those without

the right training will miss out. For many contractors, the process of updating and building on existing skills in order to be low-carbon ready is a straightforward one – our Cut the Carbon portal at www.cskills.org/cutcarbon can help.

"In January our Construction Skills Network report showed a nine per cent fall in construction output in 2012, with significant improvement unlikely in 2013. It is essential that contractors are able to take advantage of low carbon work streams as soon as they are available..."

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Output in the Construction Industry, December and Q4 2012

Headline Figures (constant (2005) prices, seasonally adjusted)

- The estimated total volume of construction output in the fourth quarter of 2012 grew by 0.9% compared with the third quarter of 2012. The small rise in the total volume of construction output halts the decline first seen in the third quarter of 2011. The private housing and infrastructure sectors provided the greatest contribution to the increase in the fourth quarter, growing by 5.9% and 4.2% respectively, but are partially offset by decreases in new public non-housing work and private housing repair and maintenance, which fell by 4.9% and 4.8% respectively.
- The estimated volume of all new work grew by 1.6% and repair and maintenance fell by 0.3% compared with the third quarter of 2012.
- The estimated total volume of construction output in the fourth quarter of 2012 fell by 9.3% compared with the same quarter of 2011 continuing the trend of year-on-year falls started in quarter three 2011.
- The estimated volume of all new work fell by 11.6% in the fourth quarter compared with the same quarter in 2011, while repair and maintenance fell by 4.7%.
- The non-seasonally adjusted output for the fourth quarter (months of October, November, December) showed a somewhat different pattern to previous years (although the survey has been running for only three years). Although December has shown large falls compared with November for all three years, in 2012 the fall was bigger. In addition, output has fallen between September and October in the two previous years but rose by 8.8% this year. Finally output has risen between October and November in the previous two years but fell by 3.1% this year.

New housing

The volume of new private housing work in the fourth quarter of 2012 was 5.9% higher compared with the previous quarter but 3.8% lower than the same quarter in 2011.

The volume of new public housing work in the fourth quarter of 2012 was 1.9% lower compared with the previous quarter and 17.0% lower than the same quarter in 2011. There has been a downward trend in this sector since the fourth quarter of 2010.

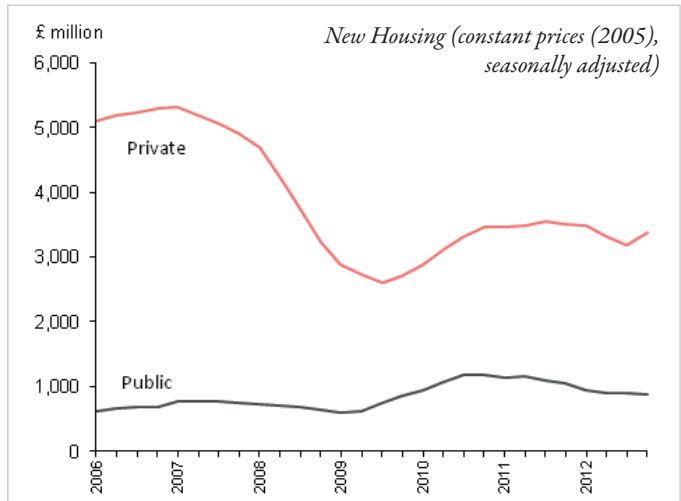
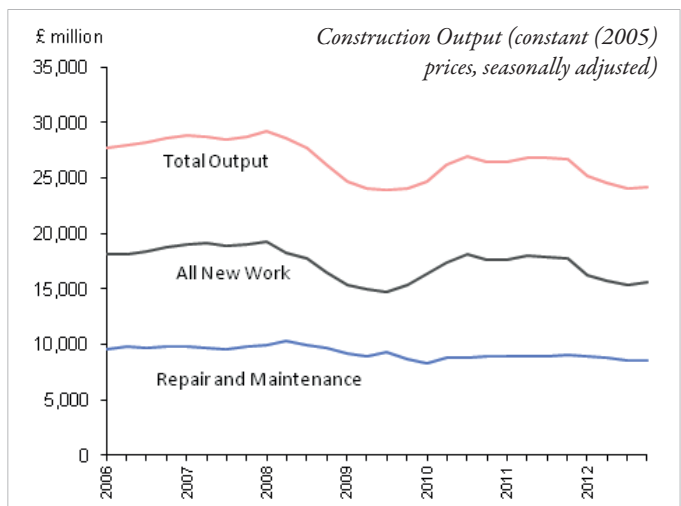
During the last year private housing output volumes have been approximately three times bigger than public housing output volumes.

New work in the fourth quarter of 2012 grew by 1.6% compared with quarter three. The largest rises were in private housing (5.9%) and infrastructure (4.2%) partially offset by falls in public non-housing and private housing repair and maintenance (4.9% and 4.8% respectively).

Over the year from the fourth quarter of 2011 to the fourth quarter of 2012, there was a 9.3% fall in total construction output. The overall fall in new work was 11.6%. There were decreases in all types of new work other than private industrial, but this is a small sector. The largest falls in new work were seen in public non-housing (18.5%) and private commercial (17.0%). Repair and maintenance output fell by 4.7% over the same period. The only sector of repair and maintenance that grew in this period was public housing (3.4%).

The fourth quarter of 2012 sees the continuation of the decline in public new work sectors (public housing and public non-housing) which, as reported last quarter, have seen an almost continuous decline since the fourth quarter of 2010.

www.ons.gov.uk



Source: Construction: Output & Employment - Office for National Statistics

COMMENT

The CIC chief executive Graham Watts said that the small increase in Q4 over Q3 (2012) was to be welcomed (since any increase is better for confidence than a continuing decline) although in reality the industry is just 'treading water' and remains far weaker than prior to the recession.

"Construction activity in the private sector relies upon confidence in the economy as a whole to encourage investment decisions.

"Construction activity in the public sector is still hit by austerity policies; and domestic refurbish-

ment is hit by a mixture of low confidence and the failure to get the Green Deal moving."

"Since construction is an enabling activity for the rest of the economy, a lack of growth in construction will continue to hold back growth generally. Recovery in the construction sector is vital to underpin long term economic sustainability.

"Construction is a huge sector in the UK economy, much bigger than it's given credit for because it affects areas beyond construction site activity, including the provision of professional services."

NEWS BYTES

The latest news for housebuilders and developers. Visit www.hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk and enter the Reference Number for more information.

Red Tape Challenge is removing unnecessary regulations...
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Next steps for £10 billion housing guarantees...
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New housing statistics back up government bid for more homes...
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UK housing transactions will hit a million for the first time since 2007...
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FirstBuy offers landmark development

First-time buyers will find it easier to purchase one of the distinctive homes at the new development at Beechfields View, Torquay, after **Sovereign Living** secured FirstBuy funding for the scheme from the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA).

FirstBuy is a government-backed equity loan scheme that aims to assist eligible buyers who would otherwise be priced out of the housing market, to purchase a home. The scheme provides funding to help purchase a new home reducing the mortgage and deposit required.

Sovereign's director of home ownership, Tony Quigley said: "This is fantastic news for people in south Devon who are looking to buy their first property. This funding will allow us to meet a very real housing need and help prospective home buyers meet their aspiration of owning their own home with a mortgage they can afford."

The mortgage, together with a deposit, will equate to approximately 80 per cent of the purchase price. This means that purchasers may only require a five per cent deposit. The rest of the purchase price will be paid for by the equity loan



and will equate to a maximum of 20 per cent.

The loan is free of charges for the first five years. The purchaser can repay the loan at any time over a 25-year period or when the home is sold, whichever happens first. At the start of the sixth year an annual fee will be applied. This will be collected on a monthly basis and will equate to 1.75 per cent of the loan amount. FirstBuy is available to home buyers who cannot afford to buy a property without financial assistance. As such, they should not already own a home or have a household

income of more than £60,000 per annum.

The striking £20 million Beechfields View development, which is being supported by an investment of more than £7 million from the HCA and Torbay Council, will feature a mix of 112 apartments and 32 houses, all built to a high specification. The scheme is being developed by Sovereign Living Ltd, a subsidiary of the Sovereign Housing Association to provide the flexibility to build a range of homes, including those for outright sale and open market rent.

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Ideal Home Show to re-launch the Blue Ribbon Awards

The Ideal Home Show is re-launching the famous **Blue Ribbon Awards**, which will give home builders, housing associations, developers, architects, and designers the chance to be awarded a mark of excellence and quality it was announced today.

Media 10 Ltd, which acquired the Ideal Home Show in 2009, will be re-launching the awards at this year's Ideal Home Show on the 20 March 2013, reviving the hallmark of approval, while offering a practical benchmark for consumers to cut through the massive selection of property and housing options in a market of constant social change.

Dating back to the 1960's, the Blue Ribbon Awards were traditionally run to identify and celebrate good design and innovation in architecture and to create and encourage interest in new design and thinking.

The Ideal Home Show Blue Ribbon Award winners of the past saw products and home designs commended for their innovation and forward thinking. Winners included the 5M Patio House by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the Thomas ABC in 1966, The Concord RS boiler by Ideal Standard

in 1968, the Kitchen mixer IMI Developments Ltd 1969 and the Electrolux Automatic 310 cylinder cleaner, which converted from a nozzle for carpets to a brush for cleaning floors.

In partnership with some of the industry's most credible housing authorities including; the Prince's Foundation for the Building Community, The RIBA, CEDIA, the National Self Build Association, the Building Research Establishment and the Home Builders Federation the awards will stand as a mark of excellence in the home build industry.

Entries will be judged in consultation with some of the finest professionals in the industry including; Hank Dittmar (CEO Prince's Foundation), George Clarke (broadcaster & MR of George Clarke Associates), Angela Brady (President RIBA), Ted Stevens (chair, National Self Build Association), Paul Monaghan (Allford Hall Monaghan Morris), David Hills (partner, DSDHA), Sue Timney (interior designer), Gary Lewis (chair, CEDIA & director of Cornflake), David Bryant (New Homes marketing board) and Oliver Novakovic (director of Building Futures, Building Research Establishment).

The Blue Ribbon Awards 2013 will consist of

eleven categories; Ideal Home of The Year, Ideal Apartment Home of The Year, Refurbishment of the Year, Housing Development of The Year, Housing Architect of The Year, House Builder of the Year, Developer of the Year, Outdoor Communal Space of the Year, Interior Design of the Year, High Tech Home of the Year, Self-build Development of the Year.

Organisers are now inviting entries from homebuilders, developers, registered social landlords, architects and interior designers. Anyone wishing to enter this year's awards will be asked to submit their entry through the Blue Ribbon Awards official website. The closing date for applications is 1 March.

The winners will be announced at an exclusive evening reception set within the surroundings of the Ideal Home Show's spring event in London. By invitation only, this event expects to attract over 400 guests from across the homes industry including developers, housing associations, architects and interior designers.

For full details on how to enter this year's awards, please go to www.idealhomeshow.co.uk/blueribbonawards.co.uk



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The British Homes Awards have been pivotal in providing a catalyst for change in the way we design and construct our homes and in the process recognise, endorse and showcase exemplars of best practice



The Barratt Green House

The entries for the Awards' Home for the Future design competition in 2007 demonstrated that zero carbon housing is not only achievable but can also be aspirational.

Voted the competition winner, the Gaunt Francis Architects' designed Green House was constructed by Barratt Developments on the BRE Innovation Park and officially opened by Caroline Flint MP as the first stamp duty exempt Code Level 6 home from a major housebuilder with the potential for mass production.

As a showcase for new technology, new systems and materials a significant legacy can be anticipated for the Barratt Green House.

AIMC4

Gaining leverage from the experience obtained in building the Barratt Green House, the TSB committed to a groundbreaking £6.4 million programme to build world-class energy-efficient homes that achieve Code Level 4 without using renewable energy technologies.

This unique project – entitled 'AIMC4', which won the award for Best low or zero carbon initiative at the Housebuilder Awards 2012 – takes a 'fabric-first' approach to the construction of the new homes, with the aim of achieving a 44 per cent reduction in carbon emissions. Working in partnership with H+H, BRE and Oxford Brookes University, leading homebuilders Barratt Developments, Crest Nicholson and Stewart Milne are now evaluating three different construction types – one timber, one masonry and a third, hybrid, option – each capable of longer-term volume delivery.



Tomorrow's Townhouse: Santiago

The 2011 design competition challenged architects to create the 21st century's answer to the classical Regency and Georgian terraced townhouse- incorporating environmental technologies to attain Code Level 4 with interiors that allow occupants to maintain a 21st century lifestyle as they grow older.

RIBA President Angela Brady announced Santiago as the winning design at the presentation of the 2011 British Homes Awards and it was exhibited as one of three Show Houses at the 2012 Ideal Home Show, the UK's largest consumer event, pointing the way to how our future homes will be designed and built. It will stand on BRE's Innovation Park as an exemplar of best practice.

Tomorrow's Smart:Home: S,M,L Home

Building on this successful legacy and with the support of Britain's most read quality Sunday newspaper, the Sunday Times, the 2012 British Homes Awards challenged architects to design integrated, inter-operable solutions that demonstrate the application of digital monitoring and control systems in the home.

From a shortlist of six exemplary schemes the readers of The Sunday Times voted the S,M,L Home as the winning design. This will now be displayed as the unique Show House exhibit at Grand Designs Live (at both London ExCel and at Birmingham) and at The Ideal Home Show Scotland, presenting tomorrow's technologies and future home systems.



Britain's Future Home

The recently published *'The Future Homes Commission: Building the Homes and Communities Britain needs'* recommended that government must ensure that its review of local housing standards sets minimum national standards for space, storage, noise insulation and natural light. It emphasised that these standards are essential for residents' quality of life and should be incorporated into Building Regulations so that they apply to all housing, of all tenures, across the UK.

It also recommended 'that in the future, the layout of homes should reflect the growing need for flexibility and adaptability. The RIBA should mount a design competition for a flexible home that meets consumer needs and can be replicated at scale.'

So the focus of the 2013 design competition will be 'Britain's Future Home' and it is planned that the winning design, as voted by readers of The Sunday Times, will be built at either the 2014 Ideal Home Show or Grand Designs Live.

The design brief can be found at www.britishhomesawards.com/designbrief.asp and www.architecture.com/competitions from March 11

TOMORROW'S SMART:HOME

Charity Networking Event


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 Architects Benevolent Society

Sponsored by the Eco Technology Show and In association with the British Homes Awards and the Building Centre, netMAGevents is delighted to announce a networking event to be held at the Building Centre, 26 Store Street, London on the evening of Thursday 28th February 2013, 18.30 - 21.30. The evening will give you an opportunity to network and view a gallery display showcasing the six shortlisted schemes from the 2012 Sunday Times British Homes Awards design competition for Tomorrow's Smart:Home. You are invited to join the organisers of the Awards, meet the architects behind the successful designs and network with other building professionals. The proceeds from the evening will be donated to the Architects Benevolent Society. Please note that this is a networking event only; an opportunity to socialise over drinks and canapés (included in the price of the ticket) and there will be no seminars or speakers.

Join us on Thursday 28 February 2013
at The Building Centre, 18.30 - 21.30

For further details, please contact
Lesley Mayo on lesley@netmagmedia.eu
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It's been a tough few years for the housebuilder and developer sector as growth has flatlined, the recession has ground on and the government's austerity measures have so far failed to kickstart the economy as hoped.

Yet there could be light at the end of the tunnel. The sector is forecast to see growth in 2014, when recent government investments in infrastructure, planning and housing should have started to yield benefits.

These initiatives include an extra £300 million for the Affordable Homes programme to provide 15,000 affordable homes and bring 5,000 empty homes back into use — as announced in the Chancellor's Autumn statement; new planning rules, which have made more public land available for development and taken the responsibility for housing away from poorly performing public authorities; and NewBuy, FirstBuy and the Funding for Lending scheme, which are all helping to stimulate the mortgage market.

While it may be tempting to sit tight and ride out the storm until the benefits of these initiatives filter down and (hopefully) start driving growth, companies need to be proactive to develop new markets, consolidate existing ones, forge stronger customer relationships, and develop product knowledge.

One area where this is especially important is green building. With the results of a consultation on zero carbon homes due to be released this year, the launch of the Green Deal earlier this January and consumers' energy bills increasing year on year, creating homes that are more energy efficient is rising rapidly to the top of ministers' and the public's agendas.

"Environmentally conscious building is no longer seen as a niche area of the build industry due to gradual popular and ministerial acknowledgement of the issues," says Nicola Gunstone, commercial director of Eco Technology Show 2013.

"The net effect for the building industry is that they now have European and national targets for achieving greater energy efficiency in new-build and eco-retrofit projects."

"Green building is an area that the sector is having to skill up in," says Steve Turner, communications director at the Home Builders Federation. "But though cost implications have to be balanced with energy efficiency demands, the sector has to embrace it. It's a challenge to deliver the targets, but it's a challenge we have got to deliver."

Yet, despite its growing importance, there are a lot of misconceptions about homes and energy efficiency. The sector needs to educate consumers on the value of green homes within the context of rising energy prices, demystify technologies for consumers and ensure it fully understands the commercial opportunities new regulations will



create in the market.

The Eco Technology Show 2013 places education and networking at the heart of its two-day exhibition (14-15 June) — the Friday is for trade, the Saturday is open to the public. After a successful debut last year, which saw more than 4,000 visitors interact with 115 exhibitors, this year's show has switched to a central Brighton venue with a host of new features.

The Communications Hub is one such innovation. This is a series of bookable meetings allowing, for example, developers to talk to suppliers and suppliers to explain their products to developers. Developers can book a meeting with

a council officer to discuss, say, how the tender process for building new homes in the city works.

Through its conference and two-day seminar programme, The Eco Technology Show gives legislative, regulatory and market context to the products and services on offer. The 2013 one-day conference is still being finalised, but confirmed topics include funding for renewable energy (renewable heat incentive, feed-in-tariffs); saving money for developers through sustainable solutions; whole-life costing of housing developments; and re-skilling the supply chain for more energy efficient buildings.

So who goes to the Eco Technology Show? Relevant to this sector are developers, property managers, property services and professional trades. Analysis of last year's visitors showed that almost half the attendees were directors or managing directors.

"Visitors to the show will have a unique opportunity to find out more about the sector's latest products, as well as relevant regulation and financing, which will help their business sustain growth in spite of the current economic turbulence," says Gunstone.

"Once the good times roll again, those companies that have put in the vital preparatory groundwork will be best placed to take advantage of new business in new and existing markets."



The Eco Technology Show 2013 takes place at The Brighton Centre on 14-15 June.
www.ecotechnologyshow.co.uk

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MVHR set to soar

Housebuilders have been set tough efficiency goals to meet in new-build properties. Ian Mitchell, product marketing manager – new build residential at Vent-Axia, explains how ventilation is central to improving a home's dwelling emission rate (DER), while improving household comfort and cutting energy bills

A tough juggling act. With the government keen to cut UK carbon emissions, housebuilders have been striving to improve the efficiency of homes in tricky trading conditions. As the efficiency of new homes improves it becomes more difficult to shave off extra points to improve a property's dwelling emission rate (DER).

At the same time, as buildings become more air tight and thermally efficient, it becomes increasingly important to ventilate effectively and efficiently to ensure good indoor air quality. This is set to further drive the adoption of continuous centralised Mechanical Extract

Ventilation and Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery (MVHR).

Legislation

The latest revisions to Part L and Part F of the Building Regulations have already resulted in a shift away from the use of intermittent fans in favour of more energy efficient continuous ventilation.

These factors are driving the adoption of MVHR, which now boasts a significant foot-hold in new UK housing. According to the Zero Carbon Hub VIAQ (Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality) Task Group



Interim report, over 18,000 MVHR units were sold in 2010-11. The report forecasts that MVHR is set to dominate new sustainable homes post-2016. This is because MVHR is beneficial in terms of the SAP assessment and ventilation heat loss is minimised.

Recent advances in energy efficient MVHR technology, in particular those with high thermal efficiency and low specific fan power, mean that these systems can demonstrate a net cost saving over their lifetime. A unit ventilating a three bedroom house may consume 20 Watts, which equates to an annual running cost of £22.77 at 13p kW/hr. Energy recovered may be ten or twenty times this figure.

Meanwhile, a report by the National House-Building Council (NHBC), 'Today's Attitudes to Low and Zero Carbon Homes', showed that a high number of occupiers stated that they would pay a premium for a home when it is directly linked with a saving in energy bills. According to the research, this is currently not reflected by surveyors, who attribute little or no value to enhanced new homes. As fuel prices continue to increase consumer demand is set to grow for properties that will offer energy savings.

In addition, new homeowners will also appreciate the 'fresh air' benefits of MVHR, which cannot be underestimated. Anyone who has lived in a dwelling properly ventilated using MVHR will attest to the good comfort levels achieved with this technology.

MVHR can reduce excessive moisture in the air, combating condensation and subsequent mould growth, thus saving households money on maintenance and decoration in both the long and short-term. The improved indoor air quality also offers the dual health benefits of reducing microscopic fungal growth and eliminating the condi-

As efficiency targets rise, ventilation becomes central to improving a home's DER

tions in which house dust mites thrive, both of which are linked to allergic reactions and asthma.

Overheating

Another benefit of MVHR is thermal comfort. Low energy, highly insulated modern homes are now causing a new comfort challenge as the homes are at risk of overheating in Summer. This is a more serious problem than keeping homes warm in winter. Overheating has become such a recognised issue that the NHBC Foundation recently launched a guide, 'Understanding overheating: where to start – an introduction for housebuilders and designers'.

Not only is overheating a potential health risk, but the discomfort of living in an overheated house could lead to households offsetting the energy efficiency of their home by using portable air conditioning units. One strategy to deal with overheating is to fit MVHR.

The term 'Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery' does the technology a disservice; instead it should be known as 'energy recovery'. An MVHR system seeks to maintain the target temperature of the internal environment; therefore in summer the unit recovers 'coolness'. This can prevent dwellings overheating by pushing the internal peak temperature later in the day. If overheat point is reached, more sophisticated MVHR units, such as Vent-Axia's Sentinel Kinetic, can employ a summer-bypass to accelerate cooling by taking advantage of lower external air temperatures.

As well as thermal comfort, quiet operation is essential to household comfort. Using a competent person to install MVHR will help a system achieve optimum performance, providing good indoor air quality, high efficiency and silent operation.

DER

Selecting a competent person to install an MVHR system not only helps to ensure a system is performing to its optimum efficiency it also offers housebuilders a valuable SAP benefit that reduces a home's DER.

Currently conservative ratings are applied in SAP calculations to the performance figures of centralised MEV and MVHR because specific fan power (SFP) can increase if a system is not installed correctly, affecting efficiency. The government therefore applied 'in use' performance penalties to the technology's laboratory data results in initial SAP calculations to compensate, adding a 40 per cent specific fan power penalty to MVHR and 30 per cent to MEV systems.

Following changes to SAP, since January 2012 a housebuilder can choose to have ventilation



installed by a competent person and at the same time reduce these penalties. Under the scheme, a trained contractor, who must be a member of a Competent Person Scheme, ensures an installation is in line with competency requirements and complies with or at least meets the performance laid out in the original system design. The installation details are then captured on a commissioning sheet, which is submitted to Building Control and the SAP assessor. This information can reduce MVHR penalties from 40 to 30 per cent and MEV from 30 to 25 per cent, enabling housebuilders to achieve a better value for their

spend in SAP.

As efficiency targets rise ventilation becomes central to improving a home's DER. Currently UK MVHR installations are growing at 20 per cent a year, this is expected to increase as we move towards zero carbon homes targets and it becomes increasingly difficult to meet DER targets. Installing a highly efficient MVHR system can make a significant difference to a DER, saving valuable points, while providing household comfort and reducing energy bills. As a result MVHR systems are set to soar in popularity.

Expert advice at your fingertips



Polypipe Ventilation has revamped and re-launched their System and Product Selector, packed with the latest products and technical information on their full range of energy-saving domestic and light commercial ventilation systems.

The catalogue has been designed as a comprehensive guide that will assist distributors, specifiers, developers, installers and engineers in the specification of ventilation systems that meet Building Regulations and save time and money. In addition to the new catalogue, Polypipe Ventilation is also offering further support for customers with the launch of a new Part F and L brochure, detailing how specific products meet the requirements of the latest Building Regulations.

enq.110

Extending IntesisHome® compatibility



Panasonic is pleased to announce that the internet-based control system, IntesisHome® will be fully compatible with the PACi, ECOi and Ethea PKE ranges from 2013. IntesisHome is a cloud-based monitoring system that can be accessed from iPhones, iPads

and Android Devices as well as the IntesisHome® website. Users are provided with a quick and easy remote solution for controlling their air conditioning and heating systems. This WiFi-operated software allows customers to access notifications, temperature control, product descriptions and device warnings from anywhere in the world with an internet connection.

enq.112

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Following on from the successful launch of 505 Plasterers Gripcoat – a bonding agent specifically designed to reduce suction on porous substrates and provide an improved key when plastering onto smooth interior surfaces – **Everbuild Building Products Ltd** has launched 507 Rendagrip, an exterior rendering version

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Ancon invests in new web technology



Structural fixing specialist, **Ancon**, has redeveloped its popular website to make it fully accessible to the growing number of mobile users now accessing the site via Smartphone, iPad, netbook and similar devices. The new site is designed

to recognise a particular device and automatically resize and alter the typography, and shift to different page layouts, to make it easy to read and navigate at the particular screen size and definition involved. Ancon's web users are guaranteed the same high quality experience and content availability every time they visit, whether at work on a desktop, at home on an iPad or on-site via their mobile phone.

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Ellis Furniture's new bathroom ranges



Ellis Furniture has launched two contemporary, modular bathroom ranges – Solus and Duo – which are available in four widths of 600mm, 800mm, 1,200mm and 1,600mm. Select from 17 different door options spanning three competitive price bands, 16 diverse carcass choices and a variety of 17 handles. The wide range of high gloss colours or beautiful natural wood grains mean you can mix and match door and carcass colours and finishes for a truly

individual design. For those who prefer to go handleless, Solus and Duo are available with the Ellis minimo push to open technology.

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enq.115

Crosswater's new digital marketing tools



Crosswater, Bauhaus and Simpsons have launched a comprehensive range of Apple Brochure Apps available free of charge from the iTunes Newsstand as well as a new line-up of page-turning interactive brochures on the company's group website. This is the result of a year-long research and commissioning

programme. Marten Baker, commercial manager for Crosswater, explains: "We at Crosswater are extremely keen on modern marketing techniques and see these initiatives as crucial in providing retailers with the very best sales tools, and the consumer with market-leading, 24/7 easy-to-understand product information."

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Snickers' product and price list catalogue

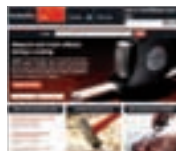


The new **Snickers** product and price catalogue is now available with loads of new garments and accessories for working effectively wherever you are on-site – whatever your trade. The proof of Snickers' quality and innovation can be seen in every garment – the sign of a company that knows what it takes to get the job done. Whatever the task, whatever the season, the

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The new Hultafors Tools website



Check out www.hultaforstools.com/uk for the latest information on the complete and extensive range of hand tools and accessories for discerning tradesmen and women. It's a really user-friendly site with all the product information you'll need to select precisely the right

hand tool you'll need to get your job done right – wherever you are on site and whatever your trade might be. There are all kinds of hammers, spirit levels, measuring tapes, multi-purpose tools and craftsmen's knives – hundreds of different products to choose from. Plus 360 degree pictures to highlight the ergonomics of the products and special videos that demonstrate how you can get the most out of **Hultafors'** hand tools.

enq.119

New cutting edge for reciprocating saws



Marcrist has unveiled the innovative SB850 range of Reciprocating Saw Blades that offer unrivalled cutting performance. The SB850 range represents a major breakthrough in the successful application of a diamond cutting edge onto blades for this increasingly

popular type of machine. Marcrist has made this possible by utilising its wealth of experience in the field of applying vacuum brazed diamond technology to a wide variety of different types of machine consumable. The result is a range of four blades that offer unrivalled longevity and cutting speed while minimising blade whip.

enq.120

Top award for Brick Selector App



The win recognises the company's Brick Selector App, which was launched earlier this year and developed by Sync Interactive with **Wienerberger**, and is just one of many investments Wienerberger is committing to for the benefit of its customers. The App allows architects, housebuilders, merchants

and selfbuilders to search Wienerberger's comprehensive brick range at the click of a button. Specifiers can select bricks (and order samples) according to style, texture, pattern, size, shade and colour. The ceremony was held at the London Film Museum, and saw 19 mobile campaigns honoured on the night.

enq.121

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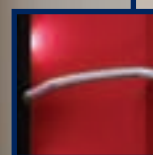
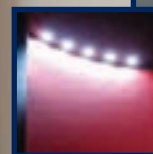
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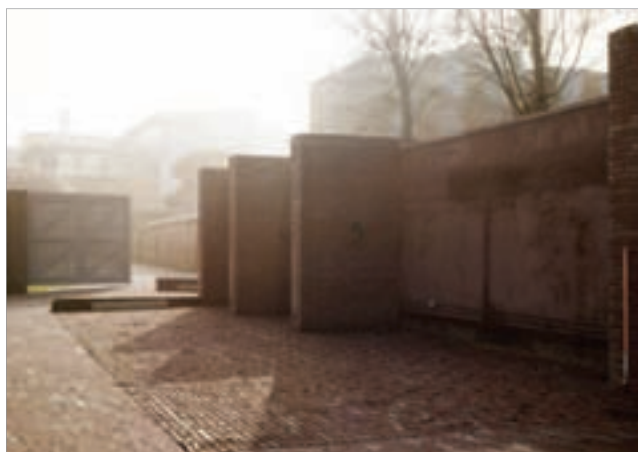
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Wienberger celebrates four BDA awards

Wienerberger, the Cheadle-based provider of wall, roof and landscaping solutions, is celebrating after scooping four awards at this week's renowned Brick Development Association awards. The proud winner of the Best Public Building, Best Outdoor Space and Architect's Choice Award, Wienerberger was also given the accolade of the highly coveted Supreme Award. Recognised by the latter category for its Mellowed Red Sovereign Stock bricks and work with Hackett Hall McKnight Architects and Grove Builders Ltd on The Mac in Belfast, it was a successful night for the industry all round. Voted for by registered architects and architectural students across the country, Wienerberger was awarded the prestigious Architect's Choice Awards for the North London Hospice. Allford Hall Monaghan Morris architects and brickwork contractor, Pavhall hailed the project as a 'sophisticated response' to an under utilised suburban environment.

enq.125

Dulux Trade paints help retrofit challenge



A range of Dulux Trade coatings have been used in an award-winning social housing retrofit project in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The retrofit, led by Eco-Energy (NI) Ltd, was completed as part of a UK Technology Strategy Board (TSB) initiative to develop a whole-house solution to reduce

carbon emissions, and won the DECC/BRE UK Retro Expo award for Domestic Retrofit Project of the Year. William Stevenson and Sons, provided painting and decorating services for the retrofit, which included the use of Dulux Trade Supermatt, and shades from the Light & Space colour range in Diamond Eggshell and Vinyl Matt formulations.

enq.126

Combining security and style



Garador has unveiled its new stylish handheld transmitter device, expertly designed for opening automatic doors. Offering advanced security functions, the new hand transmitters are a real innovation in the market place. Simon Hipgrave, managing director of Garador, believes the remote monitoring capability of the device combined with its unique, stylish design will make Garador's new hand trans-

mitter a market leader. He said: "New features such as the inclusion of a remote status query means that a simple push of a button will inform the user whether an out-of-sight door is open or closed."

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enq.127




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Sustainable Rational House™ wins pilot

A new type of housebuilding created by two entrepreneurs will be piloted at a site in the west London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham for the local authority, at Springvale Estate. Rational House™ won the pilot project to supply and build ten units, with the possibility of a further x 100 over the coming years. In an attempt to address the increasing demand for new homes, which is currently not being met across the UK, experienced construction design professionals, engineer Tim Battle and architect Robert Dalziel created Rational House and their subsidiary company City House Projects Ltd. Natural stack ventilation via the stairwell and low water use fittings also help achieve these great energy efficiency credentials. The 150m unit has a footprint of just 9.5m x 9.5m. NorDan supplied its lowest U-value windows, N'Tech 0.7 Passive Windows, which are triple glazed timber tilt and turn windows. The Norwegian firm also supplied balcony doors and sliding doors. The glazing is Super Low E Argon filled and the windows are factory painted in RAL colours.

enq.129



Slimlite Double Glazing the original patent innovators of the very slim double glazed units with small 5mm perimeter edge seal for fitting into most single glazed windows have now introduced another innovative technology aspect to Slimlite for the external glass.

The **self cleaning** action refers to the ability of a nanostructure invisible coating applied to the glass a few atoms thick which forms a permanent covalent fused bond to the glass. This has the effect of changing the glass surfaces from 'Water Loving' to 'Water Hating' or from Hydrophilic to Hydrophobic.



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enq.132



Nationwide Windows triumphs

Fresh from its success at the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) Welsh Housing Awards, Nationwide Windows has once again triumphed. This time the company scooped the award for Excellence in Glazing at the National Home Improvement Council's (NHIC) Annual Awards luncheon. The luncheon was hosted by the NHIC's President The Rt Hon Nick Raynsford MP, who commented: "Our thanks must go to everyone who has taken part this year, especially the finalists and runners up, the Category Sponsors and all those who have kindly contributed to this very special occasion." The company has so far replaced single glazed windows with 'A' rated double glazed windows in 13,700 properties as part of the £45 million refurbishment programme, which secured at least 500 jobs and created 45 apprenticeships.

01788 569 228 www.nationawidewindows.co.uk

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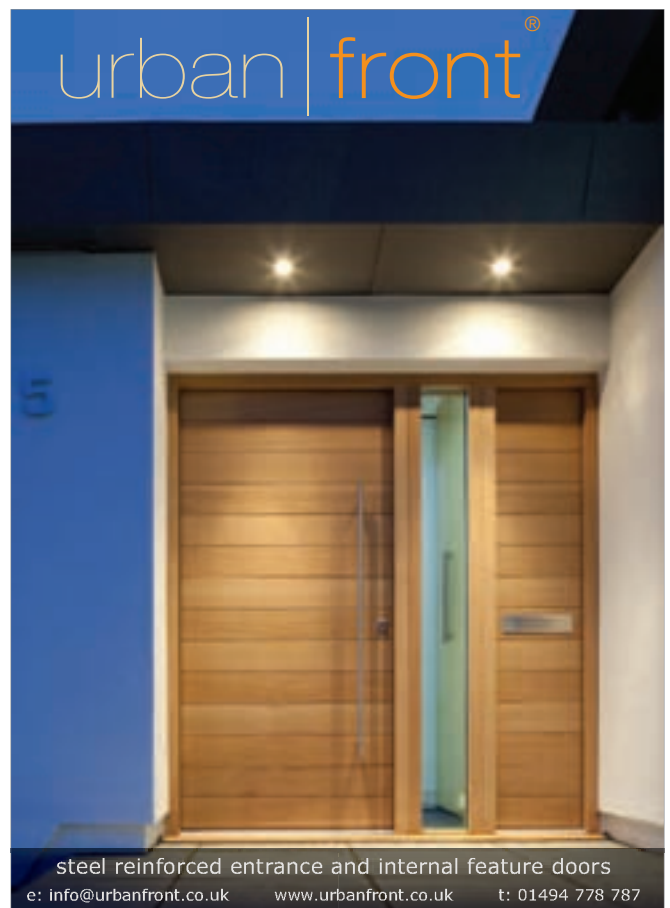
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enq.135

Solid core doors with keyless operation



Rocal, the Lincolnshire based manufacturer of solid core composite doors, celebrates its 21st birthday by adding the Yale Keyfree electronic door lock to its Endurance range. Rocal manufactures the complete door set including the unique door leaf and frame. When looking for the best electronic locking solution to allow users to access their doors without

the use of a key, Rocal turned to VBH (GB) for advice. The hardware specialist recommended Keyfree, which can be operated either remotely via a key fob transmitter or by entering a 4 – 12 digit PIN code on the polished chrome or gold handle unit.

enq.136

Scheme Green



McArthur Groups range of 'Scheme Green' products, created to comply with the Code for Sustainable Homes. Credits are awarded under 34 categories for performance targets, which contribute positively to environmental issues. Scheme Green enables 'easy additional points' as a sure way of getting builders those all

important credits, with little effort. McArthur offer a full range of scheme green products including; bicycle racks/storage, garden sheds, recycling solutions, internal and external airing, drying lines and racks. Scheme Green products, which also carry the all important credits, are bird and mammal nesting boxes.

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enq.137

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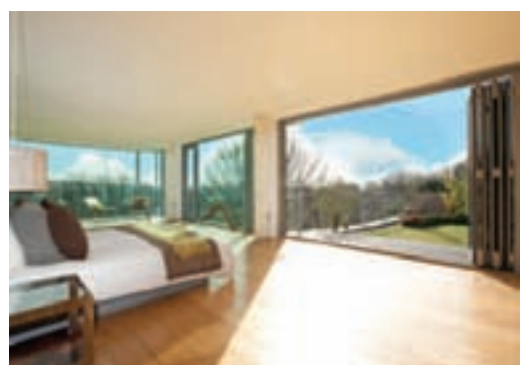


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SCHÜCO

Yeoman Shield launches next level website



Yeoman Shield, one of the UK market leaders in the supply and installation of wall & door protection products, has got 2013 off to a flying start by launching a brand new website. Designed to provide its growing customer base with an easy to navigate, interactive site, the new website is packed full of details on Yeoman Shield's wide range of products, case studies and technical

details. Yeoman Shield, sales director, Stuart Russell said: "Our 'next generation' website has been specifically designed to enable visitors to easily access all the relevant information they require and also download literature or request a hard copy of our brochure."

enq.141

POD Point

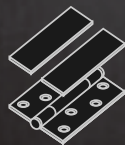


Another eco-planning requirement is on the horizon. Electric car charging provision is now mandatory in many parts of the UK. **POD Point**, one of Europe's leading electric car charging companies, advises on installation requirements, load management and passive provision, engages with planning teams, liaises with grant funding bodies – and provides intelligent on-street and domestic charging solutions

that leave a margin for the developer. Fill in the reply card to find out more about electric car charging. They'll even send you a copy of the new guidance *Installing Charging Facilities for Electric Cars*.

enq.142

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Sustainability strategy set for future



The Brick Development Association (BDA), which represents the majority of the United Kingdom and Ireland's clay brick and paver industries is once again joining forces with British Precast and the Modern Masonry Alliance in the Masonry Village at Ecobuild 2013. The BDA has produced its Sustainability Strategy Progress Report 2012 (based on data from 2002-2011), which will be promoted at Ecobuild. It provides crucial

information for everyone involved in the specification of brick and masonry walling systems.

020 7323 7030 www.brick.org.uk

ecobuild stand N1555

enq.145

Environmentally friendly cast stone



Haddonstone, manufacturer of landscape ornaments and architectural cast stone, will be launching its Environmental and Sustainable solutions leaflet at this year's EcoBuild, detailing the environmental and cost benefits of using Haddonstone on architectural projects. Previous projects include the restoration of Scarborough Spa, which saw the company awarded the

prestigious Green Apple Gold Award (Building

Materials) for Environmental Best Practice and Sustainable Development. Haddonstone's dry-cast material and the wet-cast TecStone provide thermal mass benefits while revolutionary TecLite is up to two-thirds lighter than similar Haddonstone pieces.

ecobuild stand S700

enq.147

Eco and Green Deal work flexible solution



Exhibiting at EcoBuild stand N1225, Bostik will be showcasing how its new Climatherm external wall insulation system offers important advantages for work carried out under both the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) and the Green Deal. External wall insulation (EWI) is an increasingly popular method of upgrading the energy efficiency of solid wall properties, and demand

is set to rise further as the government introduces its two flagship schemes for energy efficient refurbishment. Additionally, the innovative system of selling means that those supplying materials as part of the ECO and Green Deal can select from a range of components that meet Bostik's minimum performance requirements.

ecobuild stand N1225

enq.146

Building regulations compliance testing



BSRIA provides an independent nationwide, one-stop-shop to prove compliance with Building Regulations. Their accredited services along with experience from thousands of tests help all types of buildings pass first time and ensure certificates are recognised by Building Control. Tests include Airtightness to Part L in both domestic and commercial buildings, Acoustics for Part E on

party walls and floors and Ventilation assessment on systems to Part F. As Building Regulations get more complex and demanding, builders along with designers, need good guidance and accredited testing to get them through the Regulations, BSRIA can offer this service.

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ecobuild stand N430

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enq.149



Mellowed Red Sovereign Stock

Situated on St Anne's Square behind St Anne's Cathedral, the new £18 million Metropolitan Arts Centre (the MAC) is a striking contemporary building, which has helped transform Belfast's Cathedral Quarter creating a world-class visitor destination. Mellowed Red Sovereign Stock is part of a range of high quality waterstruck bricks available from Wienerberger. Other colours available are Oast Russet Sovereign Stock, Reclaimed Shire Sovereign Stock, Autumn Russet Sovereign Stock and Smoked Russet Sovereign Stock. This attractive waterstruck style of brick has been widely used across Ireland for a number of years and is ideally suited to both traditional and contemporary buildings. Approximately 300,000 Mellowed Red Sovereign Stock 65mm facings were used in total, making the construction of the MAC one of the biggest brick construction projects in Belfast in recent years.

enq.150

IKO PLC's new products



IKO PLC will be launching two new pitched roof products at this year's Ecobuild exhibition at ExCel in London, 5 – 7 March. They have been added to IKO's range of sustainable roof engineering concepts, which already includes green roof systems, photovoltaic energy roof

systems and heat reflective membranes. IKOslate is a composite roof tile manufactured from mineral reinforced, 99 per cent recycled and re-engineered materials. Its unique structure gives it superior strength and makes it easier to handle and install. Ultimo HS is an intelligent membrane that can deal with high levels of humidity.

01380 730 668 www.ikogroup.co.uk

ecobuild stand S1806 enq.151

Flushplates of a new generation



Geberit will be exhibiting at Ecobuild 2013, held at London's ExCel, to present and showcase its new developments and innovations ideal for modern, sustainable building designs within private and public applications. Taking pride of place on Stand S349 will be Geberit's new addition to its

Sigma10 range of flushplates. The new design incorporates the very latest dual flush technology, controlled via infra-red, and has been styled for the next generation. Boasting water-saving credentials for both commercial and domestic situations the new Geberit's Sigma50 and Sigma10 flush plates are being launched to ensure they meet modern requirements on both an aesthetic and practical level.

ecobuild stand S349 enq.153

Johnson & Starley heating and ventilation



'Sustainable Solutions Under one Roof' will be the theme of Johnson & Starley's participation at Ecobuild 2013. The company will highlight its comprehensive range of highly energy efficient heating and ventilation solutions for residential properties. The new

super-efficient QuanTec condensing combi boiler with integral passive flue gas heat recovery will be a major attraction for Ecobuild visitors, alongside this will be the company's latest innovations in high efficiency Warm Air Heating. Also on show will be Gencair HPT air to water heat pumps, developed for comfort heating when integrated within traditional residential heating systems.

ecobuild stand N2000 enq.152

Energy saving controls at Ecobuild



Horstmann is one of the UK's foremost designers and manufacturers of domestic central heating controls and its latest products use advanced technology that can contribute significantly to saving energy – in many cases as much as 10 per cent annually. Conventional and programmable room thermostats using the very latest TPI technology (Time Proportional Integral) have proven features that improve boiler firing efficiency and contribute significantly to energy savings. It is TPI technology around which the latest HRT room thermostats and C-Stat programmable room thermostat ranges are designed.

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ecobuild stand N2425 enq.154

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Ecobuild is back and looking to the future

Major investment from organiser UBM Built Environment will see a wealth of new features and content showcased at Ecobuild (5 – 7 March 2013, ExCeL London – www.ecobuild.co.uk), the world's largest event for sustainable design, construction and the built environment.

Visitors can check out the latest innovations from across the renewables, sustainable building products and materials, insulation, flooring bathrooms, doors, windows and joinery, timber, roofing and landscaping markets, all under one roof. Leading suppliers exhibiting in 2013 include Saint-Gobain, Dufaylite Developments, Lafarge, Boon Edam, Renson Fabrications, Timberplay, Knauf, Isover and Kingspan Insulation.

The new Future Materials Gallery is a must-see. Think scientists in lab coats and beakers bubbling away, the new Future Materials Gallery will bring the world's latest building technologies together in a futuristic showcase to educate and inspire at Ecobuild 2013.

Mind-blowing innovations will be on display, from self-healing concrete and use of 'biomimicry' – stone, cement and wood substitutes, to heat responsive 'thermobimetals' metals that act like human skin, and the pioneering application

of 'blue smoke' – the world's lightest solid, to create see-through doors, windows and structures without fear of heat loss.

Reinforcing the importance of the natural environment in sustainable design and construction, a new Working with Nature area of Ecobuild will bring together an exclusive number of interactive features to educate and inspire visitors including the Green Infrastructure Pavilion, in association with DEFRA. The



popular pavilion will be right at the heart of the exhibition, next to the Ecobuild Arena where ministers from DEFRA, DECC and BIS and high-level industry speakers will take to the stage for big debates, policy announcements and future thinking.

Working with Nature will also bring together Natural, Sustainable; daily interactive demonstrations covering a wealth of materials and techniques including straw bale construction, lime rendering, rammed earth, clay plaster and carpentry as well as the ever popular Biodiversity Pavilion, which will offer practical advice on how to create a rich biodiverse environment even in the grittiest urban environment.

And if that wasn't enough education to help visitors brush up, Ecobuild's highly acclaimed conference programme will also be back for 2013 bringing together over 1,100 industry experts, ministers and VIPs from across the sustainable built environment. The crème de la crème of

...continued on page 37

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Ecobuild's prestigious conference programme will come together in the Ecobuild Arena on the show floor to cover topical issues such as 'The Green Deal and ECO – is it delivering?', 'Making our cities better', 'Green for growth – reality check' and 'Beating the performance gap – regulate or educate?'

Ecobuild will also offer a fully CPD accredited educational programme, which will include a 12 stream, three-day seminar programme featuring an additional 700 speakers.

Not to be missed....

Ecobuild exhibitor innovations:

Dufaylite Developments Ltd (stand N1102) will be showcasing its latest environmentally-friendly clayboard innovation at Ecobuild 2013, which, unlike other alternatives in the marketplace, has a 100 per cent recycled and biodegradable, paper honeycomb core set between two polypropylene facings which have up to 70 per cent recycled material content.

Visitors to the **Boon Edam stand N816** will see its latest range of revolving doors which help conserve energy by reducing building energy loss and preventing draughts. Recognising the ever-increasing awareness of environmental issues and

energy conservation, the company has also recently introduced its Energy Savings Calculation Software which quantifies the energy savings and draught infiltration benefits offered by revolving doors.

John Newton & Co Ltd (stand N1255) will be profiling Newton Diathonite, an eco-friendly thermal plaster – a premixed plaster, fibre-reinforced with cork (granular 0-3 mm), clay powders and NHL 3.5 natural hydraulic lime. The resulting natural compound produces a plaster with unrivalled thermal and acoustic properties that is both hard wearing and flexible which is ideal for both internal and external applications.

Accoya (stand S820), will be on hand to talk about its revolutionary wood which has just been used as an innovative and sustainable alternative to concrete in the construction of Dunsmore

House in the Scottish Highlands.

Coillte Panel Products (stand S825) with its SmartPly OSB, Medite MDF and Medite Tricoya products will be showcasing not only its transparent position on sustainability at Ecobuild 2013, but also some key innovations in wood panel products. With such a strong environmental stance and product innovation, SmartPly, Medite and Medite Tricoya mark a step-change in the wood panels industry.

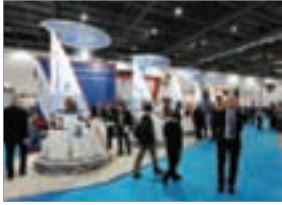
Arden Windows (stand S830), a founder member of the Wood Window Alliance, will be exhibiting its seamless Ali-clad timber window system with an expected life in excess of 80 years. With a seam free face fix aluminium cladding, this window range offers the Architect and Developer a contemporary, clutter free design to compliment their building.

To register for your free ticket, please visit the website www.ecobuild.co.uk/register

You can also follow us on Twitter (@Ecobuild_now) or join our Linkedin (Ecobuild) group and Facebook page (Ecobuildnow) for the latest show news and updates



Grundfos take a stand at Ecobuild



Grundfos Pumps will once again be playing a central role at Ecobuild, which is taking place at the ExCel from 5 to 7 March. Pumps account for 10 per cent of the world's electricity consumption and two thirds of the installed base use 60 per cent more energy than necessary. With

the fantastic mix of new and existing eco-products on show from Grundfos Pumps, including the new award winning highly acclaimed MAGNA3 and ALPHA2 circulators and the SOLOLIFT2, collectively mean that Grundfos will have a great story to tell.

01525 850000 uk.grundfos.com

ecobuild stand N2540

enq.160

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The new Stuv μ M from Jetmaster is a revolution in design winning the 2012 Award for Appliance of the Year. The micro combustion chamber guarantees the very best efficiency, ensuring that the heat output is suited to the more efficient modern design of your home. A Mega view of the fire is framed by the integrated curve,

making the fire visible from far greater angles than traditionally expected. Visit us at Ecobuild on stand 1830.

0238 06 29 513 www.jetmaster.co.uk

ecobuild stand S1830 (AWEX Area)

enq.162

Latest low energy fixing innovation



2012 Queen's Award Winner, Ancon, has chosen Ecobuild to showcase the latest innovative structural fixing solutions that are helping to change the way that sustainable low energy buildings are designed and constructed.

Solutions on show will include low thermal conductivity cavity wall ties, such as the Ancon TeploTie, an innovative basalt-fibre tie used in many groundbreaking low-energy developments; and new Staifix RT2 275mm, the first high thermal performance Type 2 stainless steel wall tie to enable the use of 150mm wide insulated cavities in multi-storey low energy construction.

0114 275 5224 www.ancon.co.uk

ecobuild stand N1110

enq.161

BBA exhibiting at Ecobuild



Visit the BBA in the North Hall at Ecobuild this year to find out about their range of services. In addition to their industry renowned Agrément Approvals, they can also assess installers wishing to carry out Green

Deal installations and provide a raft of services aimed at those wanting to CE mark their products or systems. Find out more about their testing facilities too, which cover over 200 different product areas across the entire spectrum of building products. Finally, a prize for the best display of the BBA logo by our BBA approved exhibitors will be awarded on the last day of the show.

01923 665300 www.bbacerts.co.uk

ecobuild stand N1330

enq.163

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ecobuild stand N3325

enq.164

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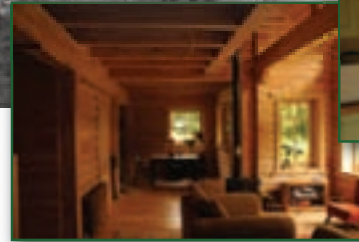
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ecobuild see us on Dores stand S1410

enq.168

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enq.169

Complete sustainable roofing solutions



Kemper System's stand (S1930) at this year's Ecobuild (5-7 March) will mark the company's return to the show for the second time building on the success of last year's Ecobuild with its Kemperol 2K-PUR solvent-free liquid waterproofing system and Stratex Warm Roof System. Kemper

System's innovative Kemperol 2K-PUR solvent-free and odourless system is the first solvent-free wet-on-wet cold liquid waterproofing system available on the UK market and remains the only product of its kind available.

01925 445532 www.kemper-system.com

ecobuild stand S1930

enq.170

Polypipe Ventilation heat recovery range



Following the successful launch of the Silavent Green Line HRX Mechanical Ventilation Heat Recovery (MVHR) appliance, Polypipe Ventilation will be adding to the range with a highly efficient and larger unit at this year's Ecobuild (ExCeL, London, 5-7 March). The new

HRX2 features market leading heat exchange efficiency and extremely low specific fan power (SFP) for optimal energy usage while still retaining full airflow performance, thereby helping to recover a home's waste heat and deliver a higher SAP rating. Suitable for larger properties, the high performance levels of the HRX2 make it ideal for installation in self build and premium private developments.

ecobuild stand N3530

enq.172

New generation sarking boards



STEICO has expanded its range of wood fibre sarking boards with new products for applications in both new build and renovation projects. STEICO universal dry is produced using a modern dry

process and has a thermal conductivity of 0.043W/m²K. With thicknesses available from 35mm to 160mm 'STEICO universal dry' is predominantly for new build projects. In addition STEICO has also expanded its range of sarking boards for renovation projects with STEICO special dry, which can be utilised for energy efficient roof renovations from the outside and is available in standard thicknesses up to 200mm and upon request a thickness of 300mm is available.

01727 515120 www.steico.co.uk

ecobuild stand S912

enq.174

Connecting the industry at EcoBuild



'Connect and Control' is the theme for Pegler Yorkshire's stand at this year's Ecobuild. The stand located at N2745 will display a range of market leading products and showcase how Pegler Yorkshire offers both systems and solutions for connecting and controlling

flow for both plumbing and heating applications. The stand boasts a range of the company's environmentally led eControl products that save energy, reduce water consumption and decrease installation time. The range includes; the revolutionary programmable radiator control the Terrier i-temp, TRV's, water saving taps, commissioning valves, Logotherm the thermal interface unit and TMVs.

ecobuild stand N2745

enq.171

Latest developments from Schöck



All of the latest developments relating to thermal break technology and connectivity involving concrete-to concrete, concrete-to steel and steel-to steel can be found on Stand N850. The type KST

Isokorb®, which among its many modular capabilities offers solutions for balcony renovation, is now partnered by the new type R, which is unique in the refurbishment sector. Members of the Schöck team will be on Stand N850 to discuss any aspect of these innovative solutions and offer advice on any project specific information.

01865 290 890 www.schoeck.co.uk

ecobuild stand N850

enq.173

Energy saving radiator star of the show



Stelrad's energy saving serial feed radiator, Radical, will be the star of the show at Ecobuild this year on stand no: N2720. With a 10.5 per cent independently assessed energy saving by using Radicals in a project – confirmed by KIWA – it's not surprising that

the new radiator has been generating significant interest. Stelrad has been giving a number of CPD seminars on the concept following approval by RIBA, generating enquiries from architects and building designers across the UK. The launch of Stelrad's free, online STARS radiator sizing and heat loss calculator has been phenomenally successful this year too. Pop onto the Stelrad stand for a demonstration.

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ecobuild stand N2720

enq.175

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ecobuild stand N1520

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enq.177



A hub for all things ECO

Home energy specialist **SIG Energy Management's** (part of the SIG Group) stand (N830, North Hall) at Ecobuild 2013 will be this year's main attraction for delegates wanting to discuss the Energy Company Obligation (ECO). Working in partnership with a range of suppliers, partners and customers, SIG Energy Management – now an accredited Green Deal assessor and installer – will be delivering a programme of seminars and live case studies. As well as ECO, the seminars will focus on a range of issues associated with energy efficiency and demonstrate key examples of where organisations have overcome these technical and legislative challenges. Seminar details can be found on SIG Energy Management's Ecobuild exhibitor profile at the Ecobuild website. SIG believes that with focus and specialisation it can provide a superior service offering to its customers.

0845 873 8612 www.sigpic.com

ecobuild stand N830

enq.178



Orange in colour, green by nature

Its components may be orange in colour but **Schlüter®-BEKOTEC-THERM** is definitely green by nature, thanks to the distinctive environmental benefits that this perfect underfloor heating system possesses. The unique design of this advanced system from Schlüter-Systems requires a 30 per cent thinner screed, which helps distribute heat faster and with evenness. This is because the thin patented structure of the ceramic thermal floor allows it to respond to temperature changes that much quicker, thanks to the connected air channels within the Schlüter®-DITRA membrane. This in turn uses less energy, making Schlüter®-BEKOTEC-THERM more efficient than other traditional underfloor heating systems. Schlüter-Systems will be attending Ecobuild (stand N840) where you see Schlüter®-BEKOTEC-THERM and Schlüter®-KERDI-BOARD.

01530 813396 www.bekotec-therm.co.uk

ecobuild stand N840

enq.179

Vectaire



Vectaire continues to develop low energy, high performance products reducing energy consumption and cost, and will be showing them at Ecobuild 2013. The 'Heatrec Mini DC', with multiple choice trickle speed, provides low level, continuous ventilation in 1/2 bedroom

apartments, hotel rooms or student accommodation, with up to 92 per cent heat recovery. The Elegance 'EL1003' is one of a range of stylishly designed, continuous running, three speed fans incorporating EC motors for economical efficiency. The trickle speed is set (from two choices) at installation. In both fans the boost speed can be activated by the user – or automatically via various remote switches.

01494 522333 www.vectaire.co.uk

ecobuild stand N3531

enq.180

Vortice exhibits at Ecobuild March 2013



Ventilation specialist Vortice will be returning to Ecobuild for the 2013 exhibition, which takes place from 5 – 7 March 2013. The company has several new launches planned for the first half of next year, all either responding to customer requests, or developing what Vortice believes are the next important innovations in the market-

place. There will be three new domestic heat recovery units – catering for all sizes of property, each SAP Appendix Q eligible and abiding by Energy Saving Trust best practice. In the hygiene product range a new wall mounted hand dryer ideal for energy efficient commercial use will be launched and within the general ventilation fan collection.

01283 492949 www.vortice.ltd.uk

ecobuild stand N2721

enq.182

Exceptional style and energy performance



VELFAC returns to Ecobuild, Stand S1120, to showcase its range of low energy windows. Proving that excellent thermal performance does not have to compromise style or quality, VELFAC glazing can deliver U-values as low as 0.8W/m²k in windows, which feature the stylish design expected from the company.

The uniform, slim composite frame maximises natural daylight while enhancing interior spaces with pine framing, complemented by a highly durable, low maintenance, aluminium exterior, or – in the VELFAC Helo system – an external frame in a new composite material of polyurethane strengthened with thin glass threads.

01223 897100 www.velfac.co.uk

ecobuild stand S1120

enq.181

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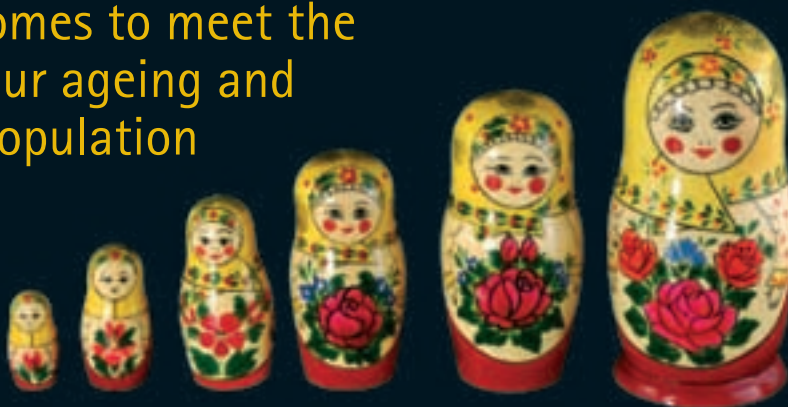
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Tarkett's portfolio available to 4D designers

Four years ahead of the UK government deadline, Tarkett has become the first flooring manufacturer in the UK to make available online its complete 4D Building Information Modelling (BIM) portfolio. In the construction industry 4D design is increasingly popular and will become mandatory for all UK government construction projects from 2016. Tarkett's BIM enables the company's flooring solution designs to be easily downloaded for use in 4D construction modelling. Already the portfolio has been downloaded nearly 500 times and Tarkett hopes this will reduce waste for contractors and designers using BIM. It does away with the often complicated 2D paper drawings and allows for easier to understand 4D computer generated models to be used by contractors and sub-contractors, speeding up delivery and eliminating unnecessary waste. The move to reduce waste adds to Tarkett's already impressive sustainability credentials.

enq.185



First acoustic, laminate flooring system

An entirely original flooring concept and the new alternative to wood and wood laminate products, Gerflor's Top Silence, is a pioneering, loose-lay, acoustic, plank flooring that couples the appeal of laminate with the advantages of vinyl in an innovative, new, all-in-one, flooring solution for residential housing. Top Silence's '4-tech' system construction combines the softness of cushioned vinyl with an integrated, 16db sound-insulating sub-layer to differentiate it from other types of flooring planks. The 9.5mm thick planks also incorporate a 23/32 wear layer, which is equivalent to AC4 in laminate, with a 0.35mm PureClean™ surface, and rapid-fitting, HDF board with glue-less, 4-sided Megaloc vertical clic locking for straightforward fitting at 12 m² per hour. The result is a high performing flooring that provides exceptional levels of durability, cushioning and warmth underfoot with up to 10 times more sound insulation than traditional laminate.

01926 622 600 www.gerflor.co.uk

enq.186

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enq.188

Contemporary comfort in listed property

Nestling in the beautiful Oxfordshire countryside, sections of this magnificent three-storey Grade II* Listed building date back to the 16th century. Among the many outstanding features are two imposing Tudor fireplaces and a beautifully preserved 1614 Jacobean staircase. The main part of the building, however, is 18th century and features long wide halls traversing each floor, helping to create a house of majestic proportion.

The house has been a family home for the past 42 years. With spiralling fuel costs, the owners felt the time had come to investigate ways of providing a warm and draught free environment. Serious consideration was, therefore, given to thermally insulating the windows.

The owners, as members of the Historic Houses Association, frequently attend Association sponsored conferences. "It was here we met energy consultant Jonathan Clarke, one of that day's speakers. Following the conference we engaged Mr. Clarke to produce recommendations on our behalf.

"The resulting report included particular reference to Selectaglaze's secondary glazing systems and their experience working with listed buildings. And, of course, secondary glazing is an option approved by English Heritage. Initially,



we had the windows on the ground floor treated and immediately realised what a difference secondary glazing made to our comfort. They are also very unobtrusive and beautifully tailor-made, so we decided to do the top floors as well."

A total of 47 sash and casement windows needed to be treated, many with existing wooden shutters, which were to be retained. It was also essential that the windows remained fully operational to facilitate cleaning and maintenance, without introducing additional

sightlines. To accommodate this exacting brief, Selectaglaze recommended a number of styles including its very slim sectioned Series 47 Hinged Casements – a range designed specifically for heritage buildings – together with its Series 20 Slimline Vertical Sliding units.

Several rooms feature 17th and 18th century oak and ash panelling with window frames painted to match. To blend imperceptibly with this internal décor, Selectaglaze supplied secondary glazing finished in a brown polyester powder paint. All units were glazed with 4mm toughened low emissivity glass to provide the very best thermal insulation.

Founded in 1966, Royal Warrant holder Selectaglaze has gained a reputation as one of the country's leading secondary glazing specialists and, as such, has led the way with innovative and informative literature, including the company's comprehensive Product Guide and Energy Conservation Guidance Notes. Selectaglaze's literature is free upon request.

CONTACT

01727 837271

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www.selectaglaze.co.uk

Vivo chooses Tarkett flooring



Buyers at the Vivo development in East London will be on solid ground when they purchase their new home – Tarkett has been selected to supply the wooden flooring for the 462 home development. In total, flooring specialist Tarkett will supply 16,000m² of its

22mm Professional Oak Nature and 13mm Rumba Oak nature for use throughout the new build apartments. The flooring being laid in the development comes from Tarkett's Rumba and Professional 3-strip engineered wood ranges.

01622 854040 www.home.tarkett.co.uk

enq.190

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The Housebuilder & Developer (HBD) website is an online provider of past and present products and news items for the housebuilder or developer. hbdonline.eu is a one-stop source for all the latest press releases providing any visitor with access to information about products and services that they may require for their project as well as news relevant to housing developments. From the website, you can find links to digital issues with live links to advertiser's sites, sign up to the fortnightly email newsletters, as well as a news blog that offers daily email alerts to keep you as informed as possible.

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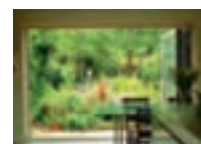
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enq.191



What to look out for at the Greenbuild EXPO

The latest exhibitors to sign up for Greenbuild Expo 2013 include UK Green Building Council, BASF, E.ON, Plumb Center, Jewson, Aggregate Industries and Ecopod. These companies will all be heading to Manchester for the 8 and 9 May this year, to take part in the fifth Greenbuild Expo, an exhibition and conference covering all aspects of sustainable buildings.

The event is completely free to attend and offers a packed schedule of debates, workshops and seminars, as well as exhibitors showcasing the latest green products and solutions. For the first time the 2013 event will also be home to CO₂t, an event dedicated to sustainable transport.

Following its success at the 2012 event, the Green Deal debate area will be at the heart of the show, giving visitors the chance to hear from key

organisations and government departments, including DECC and CLG, on what Green Deal means for the built environment and how we can all make the most of this flagship green policy. The debate area will also give Green Deal providers a platform to explain how the low-carbon retrofit model works, and how everyone from installers to local authorities can get involved. In addition, the themed seminar rooms will offer something for everyone, with sessions on everything from green materials and sustainable methods of construction, to low-carbon design and energy-saving refurbishment.

Another feature returning for 2013 is Ignition, the UK's only woodfuel event, which runs as part of Greenbuild Expo. With a dedicated seminar programme and exhibition area, Ignition13 will include advice on the Renewable Heat Incentive

The themed seminar rooms will offer something for everyone... from green materials and sustainable methods of construction, to low-carbon design



Green Deal help zone – an advice clinic run by UKGBC, answering all your Green Deal questions

(RHI), Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS), the various fuel types available and much more. There will also be sessions on how wood-fuel will work as part of Green Deal.

Other highlights of Greenbuild Expo 2013 will include:

- Sustainable Cities – green solutions for commercial buildings from schools to hospitals, as well as high-density housing, focusing on smart buildings
- Training Hub – find out the skills you need to get ahead and try out free taster training sessions
- Greenbuild Awards – all the finalists of the second awards will be on display, and many will be presenting their shortlisted projects, explaining how they have achieved impressive energy savings
- Seminar content covering newbuild, energy management, sustainable materials, methods of construction, zero carbon buildings, renewable energy, buildings as power stations, legislation and energy efficiency.



There will also be CPD-accredited seminars in various topics.

- A wide mix of exhibitors including University of Salford, BMF, Aggregate Industries, NHBC Foundation, CIBSE, Mitsubishi Electric, NAREC, Jewson, Zero Carbon Hub, Klover, Pegler, NAPIT, BRE and many more.
- Green Deal help zone – an advice clinic run by UKGBC answering all your Green Deal questions.

Greenbuild Expo is completely free to attend and takes place on 8 and 9 May at Manchester Central. The 2013 event is sponsored by Plumb Center, University of Salford and UKGBC. To register visit www.greenbuildexpo.co.uk and follow @greenbuildexpo on Twitter for show updates

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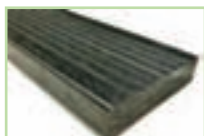
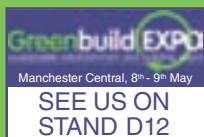
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<http://hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk>



Bison's biggest Porotherm housing



Bison Manufacturing Ltd is helping to complete an eco-friendly development from Clearview Homes in record time. Clearview Homes' new five-storey development features the innovative Porotherm Construction System – a system renowned for its outstanding environmental qualities and speed of installation.

The Bison team were also fully prepared to supply the 3,228m² of Hollowcore flooring in 100mm and 200mm depths, plus 19m³ of staircases, for use across the first, second and third floors of the development, and fourth and fifth floor roofs, in line with the fast-paced installation timeframes.

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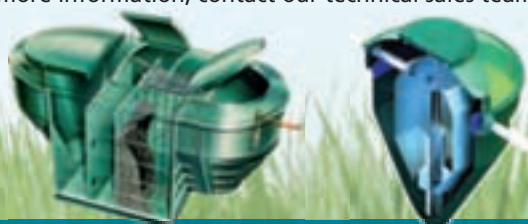
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Choosing the best solution to avoid pollution

If you are involved with a building project in the beautiful countryside of Great Britain, one issue you may encounter with a rural development is that properties may not be able to connect to the mains sewerage network. This is known as being 'off-mains drainage'. If this is the case there are a number of wastewater treatment systems available

Cesspits

A cesspit is a sealed tank, which stores wastewater from a property until it is emptied and taken away by a tanker. There is no treatment of the wastewater and tanks require frequent emptying. A three bedroom house (equivalent to five people) with a cesspit would need it emptied every 10-20 days, which can be costly long-term for the homeowner. They can smell and are generally used as a temporary measure or because the Environment Agency has not allowed the property to discharge.

Septic Tank

A septic tank stores, separates and minimally treats wastewater from a property and has an outlet pipe through which partially treated wastewater is discharged to a soakaway system. Tanks often have two chambers inside which separate the solid and the liquid waste. Sludge forms in the bottom of the tank, and the remaining liquid passes through the outlet to the soakaway where remaining impurities are eliminated in the soil.

The remaining sludge in the tank requires regular emptying by a tanker. A new, correctly sized tank may need emptying every 6-24 months depending on use. Another consideration is that a drainage field often requires a large area. This may not be possible for all developments.

Sewage Treatment Plants

A sewage treatment plant is by far the best method of wastewater treatment available for domestic properties and often preferred by the Environment Agency. It treats the wastewater from a property to a high enough standard (much better than a septic tank), so that it can be discharged directly to a watercourse, ditch or to groundwater without the need for a large drainage field.

Sewage treatment plants usually comprise of two or three parts – a primary settlement chamber, a biological treatment chamber (in some models these two are integrated), and a final clarification chamber. These are known as 'package' sewage treatment plants.

In some systems, the primary settlement chamber is where the solid waste and liquid waste separate out. This solid waste forms sludge at the bottom of the primary settlement chamber, and

needs to be periodically taken away by a tanker, which can be every 6-12 months. The liquid waste is then treated in the biological treatment chamber where 'aerobic digestion' occurs. Air is supplied and organisms grow, which consume the organic waste.

Some plants do not require a separate primary settlement chamber, and wastewater enters directly into the biological treatment chamber where continuous aeration is used. The wastewater mixes with the air and is biologically treated; this reduces the chance of smells due to the lack of settled solids in the primary settlement chamber. This type of plant requires less tankering than those with a primary treatment chamber, up to three years in some cases. It is important to factor in tankering costs, as this is likely to be a

minimum of £120 per visit.

On larger developments, the type of wastewater treatment system is usually chosen at the planning stage and submitted as part of the planning process. The Environment Agency (E.A.) needs to be contacted to obtain an Environmental Permit (a licence to discharge) or an Exemption under the Environmental Permitting Program Second Phase (EPP2). This concerns the treated or partially treated wastewater discharged from a wastewater treatment system. To qualify for an exemption the discharge must meet certain criteria. If the criteria cannot be met, an application for a permit must be made.

Criteria for both Environmental Permits and Exemptions is normally expressed as a 'Consent Standard', stated as milligrams per litre for



...continued overleaf

On larger developments, the type of wastewater treatment system is usually chosen at the planning stage

Biological Oxygen Demand (B.O.D.), Suspended Solids (S.S.) and Ammonia (NH₃). An Environmental Permit may specify tighter discharge consents due to local environmental conditions, for example. Exemptions are normally available for small sewage treatment plants serving 1 or 2 three bedroom properties, meeting a consent of 20 mg/L B.O.D, 30 mg/L S.S. and 20 mg/L NH₃. For residential developments of groups of properties an Environmental Permit will almost certainly be required.

In Scotland and Northern Ireland the regulations are slightly different and advice is available from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (S.E.P.A.) and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (N.I.E.A.).

The British Standard for small sewage treatment plants up to a 50 population equivalent (P.E.) is BS EN 12566-3:2005; for example 50 P.E. could be a development of 10 to 12, three bedroom properties. Larger, shared package treatment plants are available for developments with higher populations, but due to the variable design and treatment options available there is no British

Standard specified.

However, when specifying any size of plant it is recommended to use the British Water Code of Practice for Flows and Loads, which specifies the criteria for sewage treatment plant sizing. This is important for developments, as there are variable factors to add into the calculations. For example the P.E. for a three bedroom house is five persons, however, for 10 three bedroom properties the calculation is $(5 \times 10) 50 \times 0.8$, giving an adjusted total of 40 P.E.. Any changes to a planned development must ensure that the sewage treatment plant specified can still cope with any change in population, flows and loads. It may result in a different size system completely, or if the plant has already been installed additional equipment may be needed.

For housing developments with a shared sewage treatment plant, consideration must be given to who will be responsible for the maintenance, emptying and the land it is situated on. Most sewage treatment plants also require power for blowers, pumps and/or moving parts so the electricity bills will need to be shared as well. This

has an impact on running costs and maintenance and should be checked with the manufacturer prior to purchase.

Until all properties on a development are sold the developer or housebuilder may be required to hold the Environmental Permit. Transfer of this could be to a company that is specifically set up (managed by the homeowners) to deal with the shared responsibility of the plant upkeep. If a housing association or private landlord owns the properties, then the responsibility is likely to remain with them for the maintenance etc. of the plant. In some cases, the local Water Company may be approached to adopt a sewage treatment plant if it meets their criteria. Alternatively, it may be preferable for each property to have its own wastewater treatment system if there is space on each plot.

It is also worth looking for systems with RIBA NBS Plus specifications at the planning stage, as these are useful to architects when putting together specifications. Furthermore, choosing a system that is L.A.B.C. registered (Local Authority Building Control) means that the system is fully compliant with all current building control regulations.

For any wastewater treatment system locating the tank on the property, or development, is another important factor. Consideration should be given to:

1. Size and shape of the tank and the excavation required.
2. Ground conditions. For example, a high water table may require a concrete backfill to keep the tank stable.
3. Tankering access.
4. Distance from the property/neighbouring properties.
5. Whether the site is on an incline. A discharge pump may be required; these can be separate or integral to the plant.

Under E.A. guidelines it is mandatory that all wastewater treatment systems are regularly emptied and maintained, as per the manufacturers' instructions to avoid pollution. This must be recorded and kept with the property, or by whoever is responsible for the plant's upkeep if it is a shared system or a rented property. These records will be requested if the property is sold in the future. If a specialist drainage company has installed the plant they also usually offer service contracts. Alternatively, British Water has a list of Accredited Service Engineers on their website.

Sewage treatment plant manufacturers will be able to advise further on all these issues.



enq.200



Two Castles starts work on affordable homes

Two Castles Housing Association is furthering its commitment to delivering affordable homes for those in the greatest housing need, after work started on a new £1.8 million scheme in Bowness-on-Windermere.

Built in partnership with developers South Cumbria Construction on a brownfield site on Biskey Howe Road, the development will see the construction of 12 high quality affordable homes to rent for local people with a connection to the town and its surrounding area.

Part-funded by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) with an investment of £324,000 and with support from South Lakeland District Council and the Lake District National Park, the scheme will include six, two bedroom and six, three bedroom properties and will be constructed using a timber frame as well as using traditional building materials in keeping with the local townscape.

The development, which is expected to be

completed by May 2013, will also be built to Level Three of the Code for Sustainable Homes Standards. Each property will be highly insulated helping to make each individual home even more affordable by reducing overall energy bills for tenants.

Paul Lewthwaite from South Cumbria Construction, said: "We're very proud to be working alongside Two Castles on this important affordable housing project for local people in Bowness on Windermere. The development also helps to provide employment opportunities for our local workforce of tradesmen and local sub-contractors who will be working on the site."

Andrew Smith, LDNPA planner, said: "We're delighted to see a local business (the Hydro) selling land to a local developer (South Cumbria Construction) who in turn has worked hard with Two Castles to deliver a 100% affordable scheme for Bowness.

AWARD

Rushlight Responsible Product or Service Award

Kebony AS, the innovative company offering sustainable alternatives to tropical hardwoods, has won the 2013 Rushlight Responsible Products or Service Award.

The Rushlight awards bring together the top organisations at the forefront of developing new clean technologies and innovations. The Responsible Products or Service Award is awarded to the product or service that has achieved the most impressive reduction in its environmental impact.

Kebony, founded in 1997, is a cutting edge Norwegian company offering a sustainable alternative to tropical hardwood and toxic-treated wood. Through the environmentally-friendly process of 'Kebonization', sustainable wood species are turned into Kebony, which has comparable if not superior properties to that of tropical hardwood. This new wood has been used in a number of internationally renowned projects in applications including decking, flooring, cladding, roofing, windows, furniture and other construction materials.

Kebony's international network of clients has allowed the company to make a substantial impact on the industry and demonstrates that there is a market for an environmentally-friendly, durable and aesthetic wood product. Kebony is fast becoming the material of choice for leading architects, designers, contractors and developers looking for high quality, durable and environmentally-friendly products. Recent high-profile projects include Kebony's first major UK residential build – 25 Hurst Avenue in London, the Oslo Boathouse, the Hackney Picturehouse and London's newest architectural landmark KREOD.

Jan Terje Nielsen, marketing director at Kebony comments "Kebony are delighted to be recognised as one of the leading clean technology companies and pride ourselves on our innovative approach to environmental sustainability"

enq.606

GOVERNMENT

£10bn private rented sector debt guarantee

The government has unveiled further detail of the £10 billion debt guarantee scheme that will give investors access to cheap finance to build homes for rent, a move welcomed by the British Property Federation.

The private rented sector guarantee will support both new-build and the conversion of commercial space with a minimum value of £10 million into homes for rent, that will have to remain in the private rented sector until the money is paid back.

AWARD

Winners of the Building Performance Awards

The Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) is delighted to congratulate all of the winners of the 2013 Building Performance Awards, which were announced at the Awards ceremony on 5th February 2013 at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London.

Building performance has taken on an increased significance as it focuses on enabling efficient energy consumption within the built environment. CIBSE President, David Fisk, said: "Since our buildings use nearly half our energy,

this should be a matter of national priority. The projects and products showcased tonight show us what can be achieved and raise the bar of best practice for all of us in the built environment."

As Carbon Champion of the Year, the Judges commented that British Land is an excellent example of how good building performance supports good commercial performance. Since 2009, British Land has achieved energy cost savings for its occupiers of £1.6 million.

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Arada Stoves are a truly economical, reliable and sustainable option for individuals wanting to use wood or solid fuel as an alternative to oil and gas to heat their homes. With stove designs from well-known and long established local brands, Aarrow and Villager, offering outputs ranging from 4kW – 14kW all styles and room sizes are catered for. For the contemporary designs and single door stoves, the Aarrow range is a must-see, with many stoves offering efficiencies of over 80 per cent while still being easy to control. Offering wood and multi fuel options, you are sure to find a stove to fit your home.

enq.313



Since 1987 **Clearview Stoves** has been designing and manufacturing environmentally friendly stoves entirely in the UK at its modern production facilities in Shropshire. These stoves, with heat outputs from 5kW to 14kW, come in a range of designs and colours to suit most situations and are considered by many to be the finest in the world. A Clearview woodburning stove needs nothing more than nature's bounty to create a roaring fire that will heat a room, and even an average size house. Wood is inexpensive, readily available, efficient and sustainable. Why don't you come home to the benefits of a Clearview Stove?

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The new range of power flue gas fires **CVO** features contemporary design, easy installation, up to 90 per cent energy efficiency and operated by wireless remote control with thermostatic function. There is no need for expensive flue systems as the unit operates by either 32mm or 54mm pipes with a maximum length of 15m. These can be routed in multiple directions even under the unit. By using small pipes the added benefit is that there is only a small disc shaped outlet on the wall or roof. There are many installation options including corner of room, against a wall or centrally located with the pipes going under the floor if required.

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matically restore the correct pressure. The two pumps alternate duty after every start to ensure even wear and pulse periodically to prevent seizure. The unit is controlled by the 2020 plus micro-processor for long term accuracy, reliability and full BMS interface facility.

enq.309

Vent-Axia expands UK manufacturing



Vent-Axia is delighted to have been supplying Mears Group, the UK's leading social housing repairs and maintenance provider in the UK, with its Lo-Carbon Centra fans for use in Brighton & Hove City Council's housing stock. During

the last two years Vent-Axia's dMEV (decentralised Mechanical Extract Ventilation) Lo-Carbon Centra fans have been installed in a variety of properties across the city as an energy efficient solution to help keep homes free of damaging condensation.

0844 856 0590 www.vent-axia.com

enq.310



Sense and safety with conservatory flues

With many people adding a conservatory to their property, rather than move, there has been an increase in the questions relating to stove and flue installations within these extra rooms. David Ebbs, technical manager at Specflue, offers these simple answers to the common questions. The question arises is the home owner happy to look out of the window at the flue? The very purpose of the flue is to remove the smoke and products of combustion. There will be times when, with the wind direction, the smoke may blow towards the house and windows. Is the stove large enough? Will the conservatory area even be used in the winter? A larger stove will require air vents, resulting in more cold air being drawn into the room. If it is simply to keep the chill off the room during the spring and autumn evenings, a smaller stove could be sufficient. Most flue systems, can free stand around 2.5m, (with structural locking bands).

enq.311



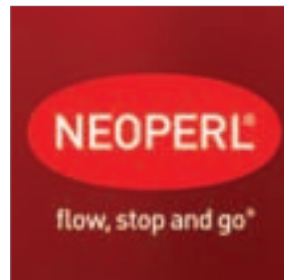
If you are looking for a heat recovery system to fit into a small space, the **Envirovent energiSava 280** could be the ideal solution for you! Small but mighty, the energiSava 280 performs exceptionally well in SAP with a low Specific Fan Power (SFP) of 0.58 W/l/s and a high thermal efficiency of 89 per cent. Easy to install within a loft or at high level in a utility room, it also fits into the space envelope of a standard kitchen cupboard. Manufactured in the UK, the energiSava 280 comes with an automatic integral summer by-pass and intelligent humidity tracking as standard, both operate automatically and require no user intervention.

enq.333



Flamewave Fires, manufacturers of Tortoise and Cleanline open convector fireboxes. The range includes both contemporary and traditional built-in and freestanding units in many sizes and styles for use with wood, coal or gas. Being 'locally' made, they can even offer a unique made-to-measure service. Call for details, they are very happy to discuss individual requirements. The clever box-within-a-box construction means that their fireboxes are at least twice as efficient as ordinary open fires and often three or four times better than some larger open fires.

enq.312



With many areas of the UK facing water shortage issues, it is up to home and business owners alike to change their attitude towards water consumption and to start implementing water efficient measures. We live in a world where global warming, carbon footprint, climate change and the greenhouse effect are all well known phrases in our day to day lives, but water saving is still not generating enough attention. **Neoperl UK Ltd's** products provide a valuable contribution to climate and environmental protection by conserving water and helping to reduce the associated energy consumption in the production of hot water.

enq.318



A new study by De Montford University shows **Passivent's** new, energy efficient, intelligent MVHR system can use up to 18 per cent less fan energy than traditional heat recovery. Unlike traditional MVHR, Gen-Airation uses its humidity sensitive extracts to boost, meaning the low power fan continues to operate at a constant speed. This not only results in less energy usage, but as Gen-Airation only increases extraction in the required area only, it prevents unnecessary heat loss from other wet rooms. Over the whole building, Passivent GenAiration can reduce the dwelling energy consumption by up to 6 per cent.

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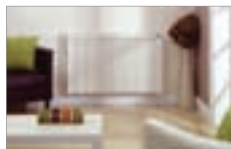
- Fully automatic - no user interaction required to boost.
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quality of heat. There will be no maintenance or inspections required. Each radiator has its own room thermostat and programming system ensuring that energy usage is always kept to a minimum and every room is exactly the temperature required. The radiators are rated 100 per cent energy efficient. Being electric, this heating system is fully compatible with all micro-generation and renewable technologies.

0844 479 0055 www.electrorad.co.uk

enq.315

Biomass for buildings large and small



With the take-up of biomass soaring 2012 was a good year for Euroheat. 2013 looks set to offer yet more success for this leading wood-heating specialist, not least due to the introduction of the long awaited domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI). At Ecobuild this year, Euroheat will be showcasing its range of boilers and stoves, including the latest in domestic pellet power, the K10, an

automatic boiler, which offers outputs of 10kW – 26kW – perfect for the average-sized family home. "The K10 is a great choice for many homeowners considering moving away from fossil fuels; our most competitively priced pellet boiler, it presents an excellent alternative," said Euroheat co-founder Simon Holden.

enq.316



Envinox work hand in hand with E.ON

A major regeneration currently taking place at Myatts Field North in Lambeth will transform the area into a new mixed and sustainable community. The project consists of the regeneration of a large-scale new residential development, a replacement community centre, a new retail unit, refurbished residential & retail units and associated open space, to provide a more vibrant, welcoming, and greener environment for locals. E.ON are providing the district heating network using an 'Energy Centre' located in an existing 'submarine' structure, which will supply heat in the form of low temperature hot water for space heating and domestic hot water. From this network, Envinox ModuSat heat interface units contained in each dwelling will convert the heat generated by the 'Energy Centre' into independent, fast recovery hot water and high efficiency heating for each residence.

01372 722277 www.envinox.co.uk

enq.317



The biomass industry is seeing huge growth but there is a lack of trained installation engineers. Building on 45 years of industry experience, **Schiedel Chimney Systems** offers both HETAS approved courses: the H005 biomass installer course and H005BR biomass building regulation and standards course. Taking place at Schiedel's HETAS accredited training centre, the courses combine theory and practical work and include a site tour and the opportunity to get hands-on with state of the art biomass appliances and ancillary equipment. Schiedel also offers free of charge half day Biomass awareness seminars.

enq.305



Being able to remotely control your heating system is a very useful thing for many people. Maybe you have a second home, or perhaps your work means that you use your house in an unpredictable way? Wouldn't it be nice to save energy by turning the heating down when the house is not in use, but still be able to walk in to a warm, comfortable home when you arrive? This is particularly important with underfloor heating, which may take many hours to reheat a property from cold. **Sensible Heat's** telephone interface allows remote control of the heating, hot water system and other systems using a standard voice telephone line.

enq.304



If you require an automated heating and hot water system, and like to save money and have a real fire, then a Klover wood pellet stove is the solution. Running at more than 90 per cent efficiency, and with the same level of automation as an oil or gas boiler, they are a reliable, low carbon heat source that will effortlessly take care of all your heating and hot water needs. Whether it's a designer model for the living room, a utility model for the garage or a Smart 120 cooking range for your kitchen, it takes you off the grid and onto automated. Low cost wood heating from **Stoves Online**.

enq.306



With the increasing need for efficient new homes few are built with chimneys and therefore bio ethanol fires are a great alternative to provide a real flame focal point within your property. At **Prestigious Fires** they offer a number of fire designs / styles and can also provide a tailored design service to create your own bespoke fire without the need of a permanent flue or ventilation. Their automatic bio ethanol burners are approved to the AFNOR standard and include built in carbon monoxide (CO) detectors, removable fuel tanks, and the prevention of refuelling when hot, providing those all important safety features.

enq.303



Sponsored by the Eco Technology Show and in association with the British Homes Awards and the Building Centre, netMAGevents is delighted to announce a networking event to be held at the Building Centre, 26 Store Street, London. Join us on the evening of Thursday 28th February 2013, 18.30 - 21.30.

Please contact Lesley Mayo on lesley@netmagmedia.eu for further details, and for tickets please visit <http://netmagevents.eventbrite.co.uk/>



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Issues with concealed flues? EHC has the solution

CONTACT

01698 820533

www.electric-heatingcompany.co.uk

The introduction of fan-flued gas appliances in the mid 1990s allowed gas central heating boilers to be installed away from external walls. This meant that builders could design new-build and refurbishment properties with boilers being installed on internal walls to make better use of the available space. The flues to these boilers were, in some cases, routed through voids in the ceiling space (and through stud walls) between properties above.

On 2nd October 2008, the Health & Safety Executive issued a safety alert to raise awareness of the potential dangers from certain types of flues connected to gas-fired central heating installations in some properties (particularly, but not exclusively, a large number of flats and apartments completed since 2000) that may not have been installed properly, or may have fallen into disrepair.

To comply with The Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations (GSIUR), a flue must be visibly inspected throughout its route, but if built into a ceiling void, the ability to do so is impaired unless inspection panels are part of the construction. In November 2010, the Health



and Safety Executive issued new guidelines and a landlord had until 31st December 2012 to arrange for inspection hatches for such flues. After 1st January 2013 any gas engineer working on a system where the complete flue is not visible will advise the landlord that the system is 'at risk' in

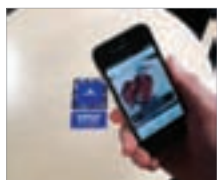
accordance with the Gas Industry Unsafe Situations Procedure (GIUSP) and, with the owner's permission, will turn off the gas supply to the boiler so it cannot be used.

Although the gas boiler and flue may be condemned this does not mean that the system needs to be condemned. By installing an electric boiler the homeowner will benefit from the same controllability and flexibility that their gas heating system offered.

As electric boilers are silent in operation and do not require flueing it can be located in almost any room within the property. Furthermore, as there is no Annual Safety Inspection required on electric boilers, there will be significant cost savings to private and social landlords. With electric boiler outputs from 4kW to 14.4kW on single phase electricity and 3-phase 24kW and 36kW outputs, the Electric Heating Company (EHC) can offer a central heating solution to most properties. There is a misconception in the market that electric heating is expensive to operate however, EHC offers impartial advice on the best electricity tariffs within the UK to ensure that running costs are kept to an affordable level.

enq.319

Grundfos pumps ARE ready



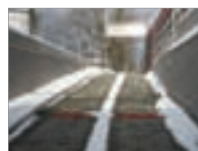
It seems that hardly a day goes by without a new acronym being introduced – especially in relation to new technology. Augmented Reality, or AR as it is commonly called, is a new method, which uses a combination of 3-D animation and a camera or smart device to enable interaction with a virtual

product. Reflecting the innovation in its products, Grundfos has embraced this technology to help explain the installation and features of their new UPS2 pump head. Designed to meet the strict energy requirements of not just EuP 2013 legislation, but exceeding those due in 2015.

01525 850000 uk.grundfos.com

enq.320

Preventative winter safety solutions



Water authorities have received emergency calls from customers with frozen and burst water pipes. Heating companies have received thousands of call-out requests to defrost outlet pipes from condensing boilers, and heat tracing suppliers have been called to provide

solutions to the almost annual problem of ice and freezing temperatures. But the message remains the same: Prevention is better than cure!

Pentair Thermal Management manufactures a range of Raychem frost protection and ice and snow prevention solutions that have been designed specifically with winter safety in mind. These include: Self-regulating frost protection systems for sprinklers and snow and ice prevention systems for roofs, gutters, and drainpipes.

enq.321

Green hybrid van will deliver Ecodan®



Mitsubishi Electric is using a new DAF-LF hybrid delivery truck to carry its Ecodan® renewable heating systems to installers around the country and has created a bespoke livery for the vehicle to highlight both its green credentials and the low carbon heating products it is delivering. Ecodan has led the

growing market in residential air source heat pumps for the past four years because of its performance, ease of installation and use, reliability, and the comprehensive technical support offered by the company. It is also the only air source heat pump to be endorsed by the Noise Abatement Society with its prestigious Quiet Mark.

enq.322

Eco lodge uses Polypipe heat recovery



Mill Meadow Eco-Homes, a luxury, self-catering, eco lodge holiday development situated on the edge of Somerset's Quantock Hills, has opted for Polypipe Ventilation's Heat Recovery and Domus Radial Duct System for its latest property. Mill Meadow provides bespoke, high-end holiday

properties to rent or buy. Built using a traditional Scandinavian log house system with timber sourced from sustainable Finnish forests these very efficient houses have a carbon neutral footprint. Flycatcher, the latest Mill Meadow property in development, is being installed with a Polypipe Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery (MVHR) appliance ducted using a Domus Radial System.

enq.323

Education, education, education

Stuart Gadsden, heat pump specialist at Daikin UK explains why the correct set-up of air-to-water heat pumps helps ensure customers maximise the benefits from their new heating and hot water systems

Air-to-water heat pump systems are an efficient, practical and proven solution for providing heating and hot water in both new build and refurbished housing. Developers, social landlords, homeowners and tenants are sold on the fact that these systems can dramatically reduce carbon emissions and cut utility bills, when compared with traditional systems.

However well a renewable heating and hot water system is designed and installed, it is vital that the end-user understands how their system works and how to maximise its energy efficiency. Not only does the system need to be set up correctly during commissioning, the controls also have to be as user-friendly as possible and the end-user must understand how a heat pump system operates differently to a conventional fossil fuel boiler.

Some end-users can be sceptical about the concept of “free heat from the air around us”. So, despite the fact that air-to-water heat pumps can keep a house warm all winter with high levels of comfort, while reducing heating bills, some customers still need convincing that they will work



in UK conditions. A simple experiment, for example asking a customer to take a bicycle pump outside on a cold day, to pump it a few times and then touch the end – can demonstrate that even ‘cold’ air has latent heat in it.

The Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) Microgeneration Installation Standard, MIS 3005 v3.1a, may also help to reassure end-users. Under this standard, installers must keep the end user fully informed throughout design

and installation. System designers have to provide a full explanation of the running cost estimates, including system pumps, cylinder losses, use of immersion heaters for hot water and so on. They also have to show the Heat Emitter Guide to the end-user to help explain the impact of emitter selection and design flow temperature on the estimated heating system efficiency.

When commissioning any heat pump system, the controls should be set up to maximise efficiencies. For example, the heat pump should be set-up to deliver the lowest possible water temperature to the heat emitters while still maintaining comfort levels. This can typically be achieved by using weather compensation so that there is a higher water temperature when it is cold outside and a lower water temperature when it is warm. It is important to explain this to the end-user so that they understand why, for example, the temperature of the radiators changes throughout the year.

Customers also need to adjust to the idea that running their new system at a lower temperature for longer periods is more efficient and effective than if it is on for short bursts at higher temperatures – particularly important if heat emitters have changed from traditional radiators to under-floor heating.

As heat pump systems are typically designed to give hot water priority over space heating, hot water timer periods should, wherever possible, be set during times when the space heating demand is likely to be low, for example in the early hours of the morning. This will ensure the heat pump is available for space heating when required.

Where there is a back-up heating source, for example an electric heater or boiler, this should also be programmed only to come on when absolutely necessary. More advanced heat pumps can include a bi-valent control option and can be programmed to limit the back-up heater to only operate below a certain ambient temperature.

When it comes to user programming, it is

...Continued overleaf

When commissioning any heat pump system, the controls should be set up to maximise efficiencies



important that controls are clear and simple – using text rather than symbols on an easy-to-read screen. A controller that also displays energy usage, such as the new controller for Daikin Altherma's improved Low Temperature Split air-to-water heat pump range (see box), is a good choice.

An energy usage display can help the end-user optimise the settings of the system to achieve higher efficiencies. However it is worth considering restricting end-user access to the controller to just a few key functions. This will avoid unnecessary tampering which could result in inefficient operation of the heat pump.

Most heat pump manufacturers provide technical support and training to customers. Daikin UK, for example, understands that switching to renewable energy requires a change of culture and has run a number of workshops for social housing providers and their tenants to ensure that systems are set up correctly and explained properly.

Renewable energy's profile has increased over the last few years but many customers still do not understand fully the new technology and how it might work for them. Open dialogue throughout design and installation, user-friendly controls and a clear explanation of how the system works can only help improve the performance of systems and enhance their reputation. This should also help convince others to choose renewable energy for their homes in the future.



**When it comes to user programming,
it is important that controls are clear
and simple – using text rather
than symbols on an easy-to-read screen**

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and Valor brands have an unrivalled pedigree, and are renowned for their quality, reliability safety and energy efficiency. These attributes are reflected in a comprehensive range of gas and electric fires and electric suites that are widely specified by local authorities, housing associations and registered social landlords.

enq.325

Energy efficient pumps star at ecobuild



The four Wilo stars at Ecobuild – stand N2145 – will be the Wilo-Yonos PICO, the Wilo-Stratos GIGA, the Wilo-Helix Excel and the Wilo Assistant. Drop onto stand N2145 to see them all for yourself. Wilo-Yonos PICO is the most energy efficient small circulator on the market. Using the Yonos will see all installations 'future proofed', meeting the ErP requirements. Wilo-Stratos will see emissions

savings of approximately 8,000 kg CO₂ per year and energy savings of up to £70,000 per pump installed, over a 15 year lifecycle. Wilo-Helix Excel is a new series of high-pressure multistage centrifugal pumps.

01283 523 000 www.wilo.co.uk

enq.326

Editor's focus

PLANET 14



Plastic piling: Planet 14 uses an innovative plastic pile system which is made from 100 % recycled plastic.

It is also manufactured solely in the UK.

The product is non-degradable and lends itself perfectly to the reinstatement of river banks, ponds, lakes, moats, jettys and marinas or where water erosion may occur.

This product is strong and very eco-friendly – no wildlife can be affected by this product.

Planet 14 is able to supply the plastic pile system or supply and install.

enq.327

COOKE BROTHERS



Complimenting the company's extensive range of architectural hinges, vision panels and flush pulls, master hinge maker, Cooke Brothers, has now introduced two popular sizes of stainless steel commercial letterplates and inner tidy plates into the company's growing portfolio of high quality Architectural hardware products. Utilising the company's latest Laser Punch Press technology, the new UK manufactured letterplates are available in two standard sizes 300x100mm and 400x125mm, while special sizes and unique designs can be produced to suit individual requirements.

enq.328

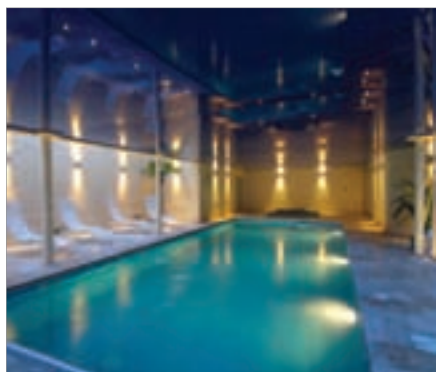
PX PARTNERSHIP



The PX Partnership provide a fully funded and risk-free part exchange scheme for developers. Their flexible scheme allows builders who don't offer Part Exchange the chance to do so, but it can also enhance a developers own in-house scheme, providing extra scope to consider additional properties when required. They can consider most types of residential property throughout England and Wales even if the property has a higher value than the new home being sold. They purchase the part exchange property directly from the owner, meaning the builder achieves a guaranteed, quick and easy sale of their plot, without risk and without having to use any of their own funds.

enq.329

AQUA PLATINUM PROJECTS



Aqua Platinum Projects specialise in the design and delivery of luxury leisure areas in the home, including specialist basement construction and swimming pool consultancy.

This company comprises of a focused team of designers, consultants and contractors with a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Offering a complete design and build service Aqua Platinum provide a turnkey solution for their clients that includes all areas of the building process from the initial design and planning stage to adding the finishing touches.

Aqua Platinum's offer swimming pool consultancy to a large number of their clients and specialise in swimming pools and spas.

enq.330

SOLARCENTURY



Solarcentury, founded in 1998, is one of the UK's most experienced solar energy companies.

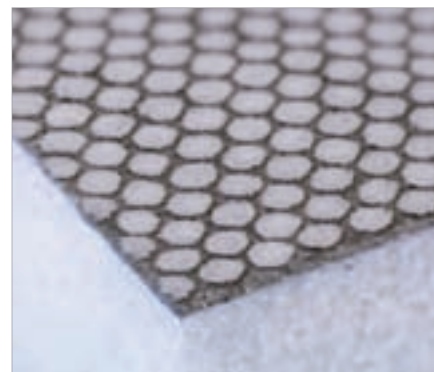
Solarcentury has considerable experience supporting national and regional housebuilders incorporate solar into their developments, in order to meet the Code for Sustainable Homes and deliver meaningful energy savings to home buyers and social landlords.

They offer market leading solar products, including C21e, the Queen's Award winning range of solar tiles and slates, designed and tested by us in Great Britain.

Get in touch to find out how we can help you meet the Code, without compromise.

enq.331

MARMOX



Marmox Specialist Building Products will be exhibiting on Stand N1210 at this year's EcoBuild in London's Excel centre between the 5 and 7 March. Well known as experts in insulation – waterproofing, sound minimising, thermal insulation and fireproofing – Marmox will show a wide and diverse array of products including several recent additions to their range.

Especially featured will be the lightweight Multi-board range that is equally suited to wetroom applications and for sound insulation elsewhere in the home. Multiboards are EPS coated on both sides with close-woven fibreglass finished in a cement polymer mortar that is completely impervious to water penetration.

enq.332

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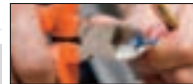
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EnviroVent has launched a new and exciting technology called Dynamic PIV, a whole house ventilation system tested by BRE to specifically comply with Jablitz's Dynamic Insulation. It works by using the heat energy escaping from the building envelope to pre-warm incoming air through the insulation layer, effectively turning it into a heat exchanger - raising the temperature of the incoming air by as much as 8°C.

Achieving a Specific Fan Power as low as 0.2 W/l/s along with significantly improved U-Values and Psi-Values, Dynamic PIV controls humidity levels and ensures all year round good indoor air quality. To find out more about this new energy-saving technology and how it could significantly benefit your project call EnviroVent now.

Contact

0845 27 27 810

Website

dynamicpiv.com



**dynamic
piv**

enq.333

Can a heat pump reduce costs and help meet planning legislation?



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The Code for Sustainable Homes is just one of the challenges that new technologies need to overcome.

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enq.334

Achieving greater insulation values with polyurethane

By Leonie Onslow, executive director, British Urethane Foam Contractors Association

Housebuilders and developers will need to meet superior thermal targets when designing and building new homes with Building Regulations Part L due to be revised in April 2013. These reduce the allowable level of carbon dioxide emissions by 8 per cent over 2010 regulations, in a move towards zero carbon nett output in 2016 for new housing.

New properties must also comply with The Code for Sustainable Homes (CSH) whereby it is awarded a star rating from 1 to 6, with 5 and 6 star ratings being a zero carbon home. To achieve Level 3, a home needs to be 24 per cent more energy efficient compared to Part L 2006; the Level 4 requirement is 44 per cent; and Level 5/6 – zero carbon. As an added incentive or marketing tool, zero carbon homes may be entitled to no, or reduced, stamp duty on their sale.

Builders are required to meet certain levels of fabric energy efficiency performance under the tightened Building Regulations. In order to achieve high levels of fabric insulation housebuilders, developers, and other specifiers may consider the use of spray or injected polyurethane foam. This is a versatile medium

used within many applications, for instance under roof tiles and within cavity walls, and can be applied to most other building substrates, including areas that may be hard to reach, for instance within voids.

Spray applied or injected polyurethane may also be used for retrofit applications to bring existing housing up to higher levels of thermal performance. It can be installed as part of a package of insulation and renewable measures to achieve lower energy usage with minimal carbon output.

Sprayed or injected polyurethane foam is chemically modified polyurethane foam, which is able to reach superior U-value and air permeability requirements. Once applied as a seamless coat of insulation this prevents cold bridging, which is common via building substrate and insulation

joints. Thermal bridging is also being taken into consideration within the Building Regulations.

Low energy housing can achieve higher market values in comparison with existing housing. Environmentally conscious purchasers may also opt for housing that attains the lowest practically achievable levels of energy output.

Builders can incorporate a package of insulation and renewable measures within their corporate social responsibility (CSR) planning to address their social, environmental and economic impacts of their operations to meet sustainable development goals. Building contractors involved in this may achieve an enhanced reputation for building the most energy efficient properties with low running bills.

The British Urethane Foam Contractors Association (BUFCA) is the national trade asso-

...continued on page 67

Low energy housing can achieve higher market values in comparison with existing housing



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There is, potentially, a huge market for installers under the Green Deal scheme as the funding barrier is being removed

ciation representing the spray-applied and injected polyurethane foam industry. It aims to promote high standards among its membership with installers operating under the Code of Professional Practice. This sets out good practice and encourages sound relationships between a member and its customers.

The association has a network of contractors skilled in the installation of sprayed or injected polyurethane foam. When choosing a member specifier can be assured of the highest standards of quality and service.

Sprayed and injected polyurethane foam systems, used to insulate and/or strengthen building structures, can be installed with confidence, as the industry is able to offer a 25-year insurance-backed guarantee. The warranty, which is administered by The Insurance Partnership, of Hull, on behalf of the British Urethane Foam Contractors Association, may be used for both domestic and contract work undertaken by BUFGA members using an approved product.

The guarantee scheme covers major defects arising from the design, workmanship and material used, in the unlikely event of a failure and can be transferred to subsequent property owners at no charge. When obtaining insurance cover a pre-installation assessment is made, followed by a technical audit on completion, prior to inception.

A legislative framework to radically increase the UK's energy efficiency is starting to roll out this year. The government recognises the urgency to decrease the nation's dependency on the importation of fossil fuels, and reduce carbon emissions into the atmosphere. The proposed strategic plan

for achieving an energy efficient nation will primarily be achieved through the Green Deal scheme. This will provide funding upfront for building occupiers to upgrade their homes or businesses with insulation and renewable measures in order to conserve (or produce) energy. This will bring more stability to the energy infrastructure in the future, with a decrease in requirement, coupled with more domestic energy produced here. The loan will be re-paid out of subsequent savings via energy bills attached to the property.

There is, potentially, a huge market for installers under the Green Deal scheme as the funding barrier is being removed. Only accredited insulation installers offering an insurance-backed guarantee will be able to access the scheme – this will provide scheme, and insulation, credibility to consumers.

A series of technical datasheets are freely available on the association's website to meet current Building Regulations and the Code for Sustainable Homes at www.bufoa.co.uk with recommended depths of insulation for various building applications. These provide guides to ascertain U-value calculations, construction detailing and dew point analysis, etc. However actual calculations must be carried out on an individual basis.



Trade body highlights January deadline

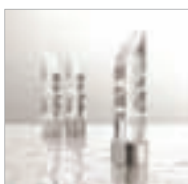


The newly-formed Construction Glassfibre Manufacturers Association (CGMA) is alerting contractors, specifiers and merchants about the need to conform to a January 2013 requirement that glass-reinforced plastic (GRP) components, such as dormers and chimneys, must have CGMA or third party certification in order to satisfy

NHBC requirements as detailed in the organisation's July 2012 Technical Extra publication. The deadline for compliance with the standards comes as a result of the CGMA's work to bring together manufacturers to establish a process to raise standards and establish an accountable body, which would assess, test, manage and audit companies and their products.

enq.203

Silent Gliss Metropole Range



Silent Gliss is introducing some sophisticated and stylish new additions to its popular Metropole range. Grove and Shard, two new finials that will add a touch of elegance. Groove Ball a contemporary with a twist of tradition – the Groove Ball range of finials successfully adapt to both styles. The Groove

Cylinder is simple yet stylish. Clean lines combined with design detail. Both Groove are available across a wide range of sizes and colours. Shard: clean lines of glass form the basis of the Shard range. Choose between a sharp clear design or select a more eye-catching and unique appearance with the etched glass option.

01843 863 571 www.silentgliss.co.uk

enq.205

Syrofoam for subterranean eco house



A retired couple from Northumberland who built a house of their own to be efficient to run, comfortable and carbon neutral have turned to **STYROFOAM-A** extruded polystyrene insulation to help them achieve their dream. Planning restrictions in an Area of Outstanding Beauty demanded a design that would have minimal visual impact – and the sloping site was turned to advantage by opting for a subterranean house. **STYROFOAM-A**

extruded polystyrene materials are highly durable with proven moisture-resistance and compressive strength, enabling the insulation to perform outside the waterproofing envelope.

enq.204

The face of Beko's FA Cup activity



One of the UK's leading home appliance brands **Beko plc**, has announced Jamie Redknapp as its ambassador to help drive awareness of its exciting new status as an Official Supporter of The FA Cup. Beko, Official Supporter of The FA Cup, is partnering with the ex-professional footballer and Sky Sports TV pundit for the remainder of the season. Father to two young sons, Jamie will drive awareness of the brand's activity among its key target audience of busy

mums and families, through national and women's consumer media as well as the Beko Mums United Facebook page.

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enq.206

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enq.207



Compliance with loft insulation guidance

New requirements on loft insulation are reinforcing the importance of ventilating the loftspace to ensure optimum energy and CO₂ savings are achieved. Through developments at **Glidevale**, one of the UK's leading roof ventilation suppliers, contractors have a simplified solution to achieving the demands, which are laid out in 'General Requirements & Guidance for the Installation of Loft Insulation', published by CITB-Construction Skills. **Glidevale's** range of fascia, eaves and ridge ventilation systems and slate and tile ventilators offer contractors the most comprehensive choice of compliance options. The company carries a large selection of tile ventilator profiles, and uniquely offers the ability to produce and colour-match even single units, all of which are AA fire-rated enabling unrestricted use regardless of the proximity of neighbouring buildings. **Glidevale's** range of ventilators are detailed on its website.

enq.208

Next generation integrated LED downlights



Scolmore has launched the industry's most sophisticated integrated LED downlight to date. One that will provide contractors and installers with a high light output, high performance product that can be fitted into the shallowest of ceiling voids. Inceptor is a fire-rated, integrated LED downlight with pre-wired driver and flow connector. It combines a number of key features, which sets it apart from competitor products. Unique to

Inceptor is the innovative flexi-driver element,

which means it can be fitted into a recess depth of just 60mm – making it one of the most flexible fittings currently available.

enq.209

Wandsworth's sleek Penthouse range



Pioneer of the flat plate wiring accessory, **The Wandsworth Group**, has made sockets and switches sleeker than ever with the launch of its Penthouse range of screw-less, flush-fitting plates.

Engineered to remove the need for the

plastic grids or intermediary sections usually required for screw-less plates, products in the Wandsworth Penthouse range fit directly to a metal grid via a patented clip and bush system. This holds them neatly and discretely to the wall, enabling a flush-mounted and screw-less finish while providing a secure and robust mounting method that is hidden from view.

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enq.210

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A solution to flushing clean water away...



Polypipe Building Products has launched a range of solutions into the rainwater harvesting marketplace, targeted specifically at the domestic and residential market, in response to the growing acceptance that harvesting rainwater makes

sense! Polypipe offers Rainstream – a range of rainwater harvesting options designed for everyone – with three straightforward options. Ideal for new build, for retrofit and already seeing major interest from the self build marketplace, Rainstream is a very simple straightforward rainwater harvesting 'package'.

01709 77 00 00 www.polypipe.com

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BBA Microgen Certification



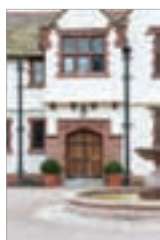
The BBA has been accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) to provide certification to MCS012, which outlines the requirements for pitched roof installation kits. The document addresses three aspects of

performance: resistance to wind loading, reaction to fire and resistance to water penetration. From 16 September 2013 it will be mandatory for all pitched roof installation kits to be approved to MCS012 by an accredited Certification Body such as the BBA. Contact BBA as soon as possible to beat the deadline.

01923 665300 www.bbacerts.co.uk

enq.216

Derelict property back to its former glory



Yeoman Rainguard, one of the market leaders in rainwater systems, were brought in to help bring a derelict property back to its former glory. Yeoman Rainguard 125 x 100 MOG Aluminium XL Gutters and 100 x 75 XL and 75 x 75 XL pipes (which matched the originals) in Black were supplied for the house and also for a lodge and refurbished garage located in the grounds. Anita Mitchell explained: "There were also some

decorative ear bands with a flower motif on the original fall pipes, which at one time had been an attractive external feature and we were keen to replicate, which Yeoman Rainguard did successfully and we were pleased with the end result."

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FAKRO white roof windows set standards



FAKRO manufactures 13 sizes of both white polyurethane-coated, close-grain redwood pine and uPVC roof windows. Both are ideal for high humidity areas such as bathrooms, kitchens and wetrooms or simply to match existing white windows and doors. All have sleek frames in a

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Condensing the right approach to roofing

Alun Price and Jenny Deacon, of Glidevale, look at roofing issues in modern build techniques



As we increase levels of insulation, and build increasingly airtight homes, the need for adequate and appropriate roofing ventilation is even more important. Even a building needs to breathe, and if you create a sealed box, it can't!

Logically, as insulation levels increase, so does

the temperature difference between warm, occupied areas and cold, unoccupied areas, thereby increasing the potential for moisture in the internal air to condense unless controlled, bespoke air passages exist for that moisture to escape to the outside atmosphere.

The key is to construct the roof in such a way

that heat retention is optimised but any moisture can be effectively removed, in an efficient and cost-effective way, that minimises snagging and remedials: a 'fix and forget' solution. But, as with any aspect of building, the efficiency of the techniques is dependant on the quality of workmanship in the first place. Indeed, a new document published by CITB-Construction Skills, emphasises the need to check materials are properly installed, so they do not adversely impact on either their performance, or the performance of related materials – for example, insulation should not be laid so it covers/obstructs roof space ventilation.

Building component suppliers are bringing to market products that utilise latest technology, such as low resistance (vapour permeable) and high resistance (non-vapour permeable) underlays, and ventilators for eaves, roof and ridge. Many help the builder by reducing or removing the requirement for a high level of skill – for example, dry fix and mechanical fix. 'Multi-tasking' continuous aluminium dry fix ridge ventilation systems, for example, will last the lifetime of the building, while ventilating the ridge at high level in accordance with both BS5250 and the latest NHBC requirements, and overcoming the need for skilled mix and application of mortar.

Firstly, however, the builder needs to decide his construction process, and achieve it in such a way that it optimises airtightness while complying with Regulations, yet still allows moisture to escape in a controlled manner.

BS5250 is the main means of compliance with regulatory requirements throughout the UK. In Scotland, Northern Ireland and Eire, BS5250 has

...continued on page 75

Building Regulations require roof space ventilation of equivalent to a 10mm continuous gap at low level or 10,000mm²/m



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always been the means of compliance in their respective Building Regulations. Approved Document Part C in England and Wales does not make any specific recommendations to control condensation in roofs but refers to BS5250 as a means of compliance with the Regulations.

Building Regulations require roof space ventilation of equivalent to a 10mm continuous gap at low level or 10,000mm²/m. The solution being opted for in many cases is the use of a breathable (vapour permeable) roofing membrane, with ridge, and perhaps eaves, ventilation. The recent cold winters have prompted the NHBC to update its Standards in line with BS5250, and specify 5,000mm²/m of high-level ventilation is included in cold roofs.

The only situation where ventilation is not required is in warm roof construction, and then

only when using a vapour permeable (low resistance) underlay. Such constructions require a well-sealed ceiling and a separate vapour control layer with sealed laps.

Well-sealed ceilings have been a consideration since the introduction of BS5250: inevitably, a well-sealed ceiling minimises the risk of any moisture entering the roof space in the first place. The stricter airtightness levels make the creation of well-sealed ceilings even more important.

Inclusion of an airtight membrane at ceiling level is an effective solution, but so often, we find the loft trap compromises the ceiling airtightness.

Figures from the Building Research Establishment have shown that 50 per cent of vapour transfer from the warm home to the cold loft space occurs around the loft hatch cover, especially if the hatch is a conventional unsealed version.

The loft trap needs to incorporate integral closed cell seals and insulation, to provide continuity of thermal insulation at ceiling level. They virtually eliminate heat loss by air movement around the trap door and water vapour migration into the loft space.

And as insulation levels in the roof space increase, there is a growing trend to use 'drop down' loft traps instead of traditional 'push up' ones. Under natural laws of physics, the weight of 'hinge down' loft traps can encourage the hatch to react to gravity and drop away from its frame, negatively impacting on the airtight seal. Thus care needs to be taken on product choice, as manufacturers have become aware of this issue and are now engineering traps to overcome it.

It is not a case of 'build tight, ventilate right', but 'build tight and right'.

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any time, supplying four different profile styles – the largest variety for the lightweight steel roofing industry – and a variety of colours. If you have a different specific colour in mind for a project than the standard range? Don't worry – they can supply the colour with additional lead time.

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Glidevale's low-down on rooflighting



One of the UK's leading suppliers of tubular rooflights, **Glidevale** has introduced a new, low profile glazing unit for its Sunscop™ tubular rooflight. As a result, the new-look Sunscop is more unobtrusive on the roof, enhancing the overall roofline aesthetics. The new profile is

the latest tubular rooflight innovation from Glidevale. Unlike competitive tubular rooflights, the Sunscop glazing and flashings are all AA fire rated, enabling use without restriction in number, spacing, position or proximity to neighbouring buildings. Glidevale's Sunscop can be fitted to pitched or flat roofs, and incorporates a range of roof flashings in a choice of colours to optimise ease of fitting and blending with the roof fabric.

enq.228

Fortex cladding used for energy efficiency



Freefoam Building Products is delighted to report that the Fortex Cladding product is offering considerable benefits to those who want to improve the energy efficiency of their home. Experienced property developer Mr Vic Drake recently used the Fortex Weatherboard in Pale Gold to create a

stunning thermally efficient home. Mr Drake undertook a detailed investigation into a variety of systems including wood, cement composite and PVC comparing insulation properties, manufacturing processes, cost, long term maintenance issues and finishes.

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Wunder-ful housing transformation



A new development of modern and energy efficient housing is set to bring properties in Cumbernauld into the 21st Century. A key element towards City Building being able to deliver the quality and cost-efficiency required for the project has been the utilisation of **Glidevale's** innovative Protect Wunderlay second generation roofing membrane. Protect Wunderlay is a modern, lightweight alternative to traditional Type 1F felt. It is part of Glidevale's comprehensive Protect range of high performance impermeable and vapour permeable roofing underlays, breather membranes for timber frame construction, cladding membranes, air barriers and vapour control layers.

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Win 'free time' experiences with Keylite



Keylite has launched a 'Free Time' promotion offering installers the chance to win £100 vouchers for adventure activities when they buy Keylite's innovative fast fitting roof windows. The 'Free Time' Promotion highlights the fact that Keylite Roof Windows are now faster fitting and more installer friendly than ever thanks to the pre-fitted flick fit brackets and several additional new features. Installers should

look out for the special 'Free Time' merchandising in merchants between January and April 2013 where they can also access special promotional pricing on a range of selected windows.

enq.232



Getting it right with smoke alarms

With a growing choice of domestic smoke alarms available, specifiers and installers need to be careful when selecting the right type to use – particularly with the appearance of confusing information and irrelevant claims about some products. All new homes, extensions, changes of use to dwellings and alterations such as loft conversions must comply with Part B of the Building Regulations. And Part B clearly demands mains, interconnected smoke and heat alarms with back-up power. Battery-only alarms are not permitted. Therefore, specifiers considering using battery alarms claiming capability for interconnecting dozens of units should think again about whether they are really appropriate for their project. Kidde's innovative TEN-4 smoke alarm achieves all these requirements with a full 10-year guarantee.

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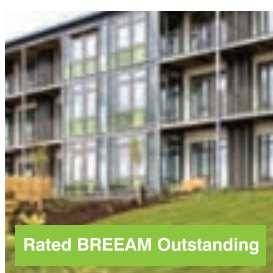
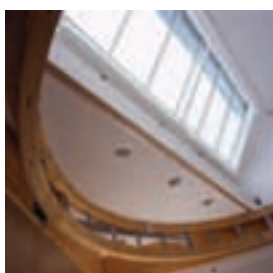
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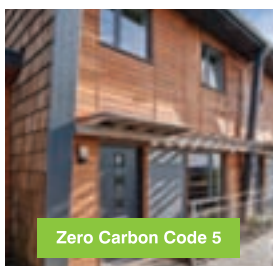
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Home grown sustainability

Tony Pell, windows product manager at JELD-WEN comments on the battle for sustainability



Housebuilders and manufacturers have never been under more pressure to hit sustainability targets. While housing associations have an array of building performance and aesthetic criteria to meet, tenants battling rising utility bills are also demanding attractive properties that are economical to heat and, ultimately, more energy efficient. With increasingly stringent Code for Sustainable Homes requirements and the government's deadline for 'zero carbon' properties also on the horizon, the need for innovation and collaboration within the building sector has become paramount.

Chasing the U-value

The Code for Sustainable Homes rates a property on its entire energy efficiency and carbon emissions, rather than focussing on its individual elements, so for housing associations to understand how they can develop the most energy efficient properties, they need to appreciate that every

stage of the construction process is critical to the whole building's performance. Historically, the industry has focussed on the distinct elements of a property but understanding how these components work together can have a huge impact on a property's overall U-value performance.

From selecting the doors and windows to considering the glass and thresholds that operate alongside these, developers need to be aware that the arrangement of these separate components is essential in meeting performance targets. The junction between a window's frame and external fabric, a crucial element when striving for higher performance standards, is often overlooked but considering this relationship at design and specification stage can drastically improve a property's energy efficiency. Housing associations are now recognising that timber windows are manufactured from the only truly sustainable material, so specifying these alongside the latest triple glazing technology can achieve the very lowest U values.

As the thermal performance they are capable of achieving is also equal and, in some cases better, than many other materials, they can even reach extra low U-value specifications of zero carbon properties.

A common misconception in the industry is that, as walls have a significantly lower U-Value than windows, developers need to choose between energy efficiency and natural light. However, the latest developments within timber window manufacturing have produced ultra slim frame, resulting in lower U-values and greater light transmittance, therefore achieving a harmonious balance between natural light levels, insulation and cost.

A beautiful future

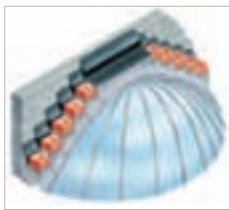
In the current climate, cost is a primary consideration in any buying decision but the lower tooling costs associated with timber windows means they can remain competitive while still achieving a high thermal performance. As the high cost of an energy efficient window is down to the price of premium performance glass, the differential reduces between timber and other materials, particularly when considering the life expectancy of a window. Evolution in the manufacturing process means that premium suppliers also offer life-long guarantees to meet the needs of the industry,

...continued on page 81

Housebuilders and manufacturers have never been under more pressure to hit sustainability targets



Avoid problem with BS 8215



Adherence to BS 8215 can result in a structure suffering dampness as unfortunately the British Standard contains some errors. An example being stepped and staggered gable abutments where damp protection is shown every third course up the slope, which can allow water to permeate in between those courses and

affect parts of the structure that should be kept dry. The NHBC suggests the use of cavity trays be considered. Approved Type X cavitray manufactured by Cavity Trays of Yeovil are specifically designed for use with stepped and staggered intersections and avoid the BS 8215 problem.

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Premium wood protection from Remmers



Whether skin or wood – protection is important and what counts is the sun protection factor. **Remmers** has developed a new product called Long Time Stain UV that provides considerably better and longer lasting protection from UV-Rays that

destroy wood. Whether fences, façades, windows and shutters, doors or garden furniture, the solvent based, medium solid, translucent coating is designed for universal use on wood outdoors and is a joy to apply. It is drip inhibited and therefore makes overhead work a lot easier. The silk gloss finish repels soil, is easy to maintain and, as the name indicates, the coating protects for a long time.

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Woodex® – the engineered answer



Timber importer and distributor **James Latham**, is seeing sales soar of its engineered hardwood and softwood, WoodEx® as the versatile timber product is specified in more and more joinery projects. WoodEx®, which is made from laminated oak, sapele and European redwood offers numerous features and benefits. It has two high quality, clear faces for use in joinery applications and is ideally suitable for use in timber doors and windows as the product offers greater dimensional stability. In addition, WoodEx® is made from finger jointed lamells, which are glued together, and Lathams can supply the product either as finger jointed or as one piece. James Latham's Group product sales & development manager for WoodEx, Paul Leach, commented: "We introduced WoodEx® to the market last year and have had a fantastic reaction from the joinery sector due to the options it offers. "In line with growing demand, our stock now covers a wide range of sizes and species and provides a versatile addition to our already extensive timber range." WoodEx® is available ex-stock in lengths of 0.8m to 3m, and in sizes ranging from 48mm x 95mm to 72mm x 120mm. Special sizes and lengths are also available to order.

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Sponsored by the Eco Technology Show and in association with the British Homes Awards and the Building Centre, netMAGevents is delighted to announce a networking event to be held at the Building Centre, 26 Store Street, London on the evening of Thursday 28th February 2013, 18.30 - 21.30. The evening will give you an opportunity to network and view a gallery display showcasing the six shortlisted schemes from the 2012 Sunday Times British Homes Awards design competition for Tomorrow's Smart:Home. You are invited to join the organisers of the Awards, meet the architects behind the successful designs and network with other building professionals. The proceeds from the evening will be donated to the Architects Benevolent Society. Please note that this is a networking event only; an opportunity to socialise over drinks and canapés (included in the price of the ticket) and there will be no seminars or speakers.

Join us on Thursday 28 February 2013
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including safeguards against rot and fungal attack. Increasing these lifetime values means that developers can significantly reduce 'whole life' costs for housing associations and landlords by minimising maintenance and retrofitting expenditure during a property's lifetime.

A new study by Dr Gillian Menzies of the Institute for Building and Urban Design, Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh, shows that in buildings with mild to severe exposure wood windows manufactured to Wood Window Alliance standards have an expected service life of 56-65 years.

A long-term approach to property development has added benefits when hitting targets for sustainable developments. The Lifetime Homes requirements, which counts towards Code for

Sustainable Homes level achievement, provides a model for building accessible and adaptable homes that support the demands of a household through life. From raising small children to coping with illness or dealing with reduced mobility later in life, the choice of windows and doors can be fundamental in ensuring people's lives are easier to manage. Low thresholds on doorways are a good example of this adaptation – ensuring that properties are easily accessible by parents with pushchairs or wheelchair users.

Focusing on sustainability doesn't mean that developers need to compromise on design or aesthetic appeal. Another advantage of timber windows is that they can be machined to match specific architectural styles, meeting design aspirations and providing attractive homes for tenants

to move into. There has also been a notable increase in the rise of aluminium clad windows, which marry the natural benefits of timber with the weathering advantage of aluminium. As aluminium clad windows are also available in a range of colours, developers can provide windows with both extremely low maintenance costs and an attractive finish, which makes them appealing to both housing associations and tenants alike.

Properties that appeal to tenants, keep costs low for housing associations and meet all of the government requirements, are the holy grail for builders and manufacturers. The latest, pioneering developments in timber window and door manufacturing are ultimately paving the way to providing these appealing, life-long homes with a sustainable future.

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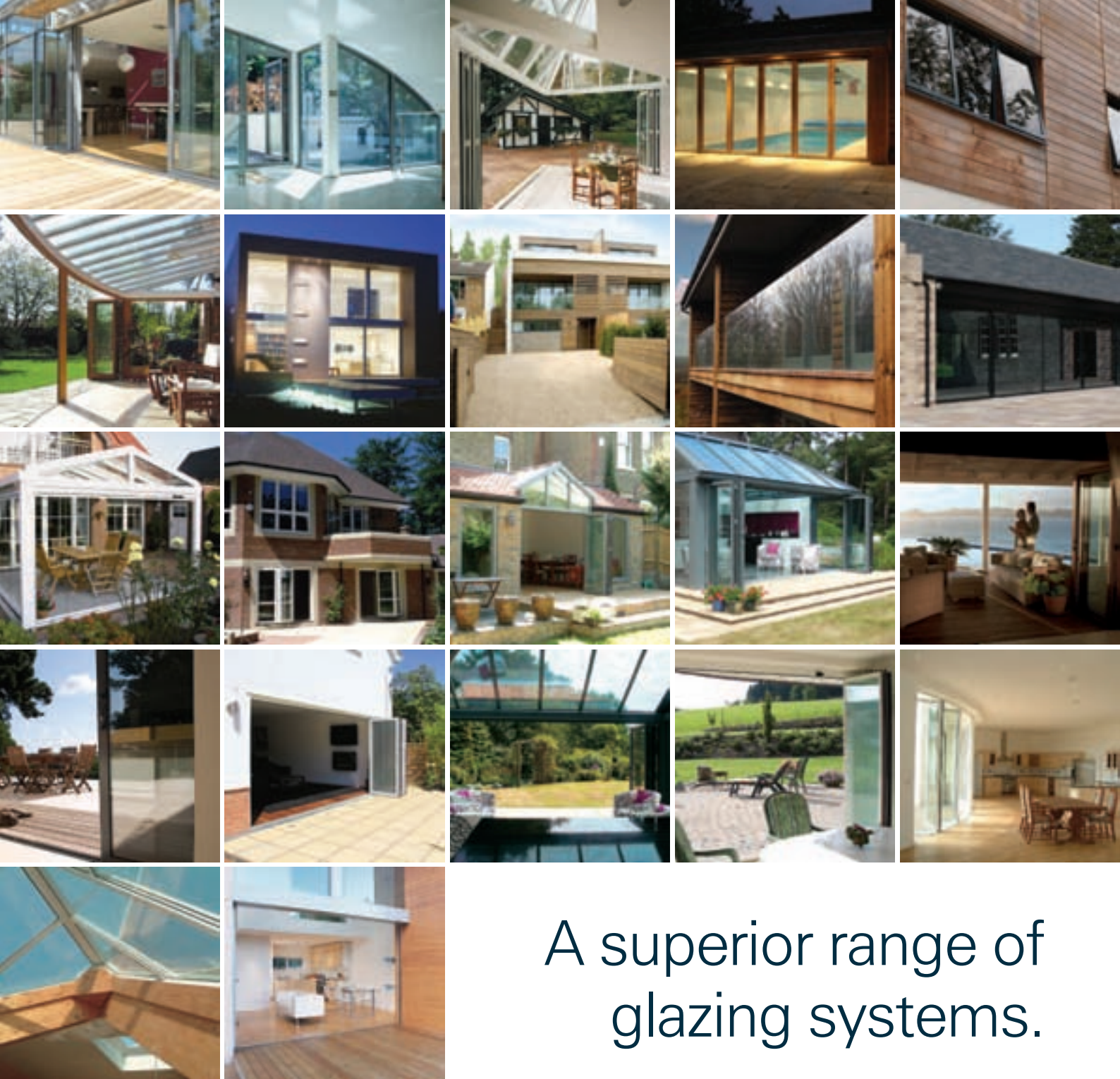
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