



Jun/Jul 2013

# housebuilder & developer

- Bathrooms, Showers & Wetrooms
- Coatings, Sealants & Paints
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**Eco & Green Supplement**

inside this month's issue

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Bethnal Green scheme  
© Essential Living  
For more information go to the Housebuilder & Developer news blog, [hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk](http://hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk), and search ref: 16413



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# The UK's first eco town

By Steve Hornblow, A2Dominion project director for NW Bicester

Construction of the UK's first eco town at **North West Bicester (NW)** in Oxfordshire is due to begin in the autumn. This groundbreaking development will consist of 5,000 homes integrating cutting edge technology, economic opportunities and community engagement, with environmental integrity at its core.

The first phase, known as Exemplar, is led by developers A2Dominion. Exemplar will contain 393 highly efficient homes for existing and new residents of Bicester, built to be truly zero-carbon, meaning they will not contribute to climate change. These houses will enable lower fuel bills for residents and meet the demands of a housing market that extensive research shows will welcome these innovative homes for the future.

Constructed in four stages over the next five years, the Exemplar design fosters a community that is vibrant, resilient and sustainable and incorporates a school, district heating plant, eco pub and business centre.

The Exemplar phase will generate electricity from PV solar panels on every home, this is equivalent to the size of two and a half football pitches, making it the UK's largest residential solar array.

Heat and hot water will come from a gas fired combined heat and power plant (CHP). This is a very low carbon source of waste heat, essentially a by-product of the electricity that the plant generates. Excess electricity will be exported to the national grid.

It will also feature 40 per cent green space, specially designed cycle and pedestrian routes, plus a bus service with live timetable updates in each house, bicycle storage and charging points for electric vehicles. There will be a



bus stop within 400m of every home. One of the key aims is to reduce car usage to 50 per cent. Currently 67.5 per cent of trips in Bicester are made by car.

All homes will have triple glazing, rainwater catchment and water recycling and have been designed to cope with climate change of up to 10°C.

Homes will be built to Lifetime Home standards and community space will incorporate communal barbecue areas, herb boxes, allotments and seating and will be designed to encourage children to play in the street safely.

NW Bicester is committed to the original planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development known as Policy Planning Statement 1- eco-towns (PPS1). It is this set of eco credentials which makes NW Bicester unique and is also one of the reasons NW Bicester has been awarded One Planet Living status, one of only six developments in the world to achieve this coveted mark of progress in sustainability.

In order to secure this status, Exemplar has demonstrated methods to attain zero carbon, zero waste, sustainable water use and sustainable transport, as well as promote culture, community, equity, the local economy and the health and happiness of residents.

A funding award from the Technology Strategy Board will allow the Exemplar phase to become a working model that can define and improve construction techniques providing collective knowledge and lessons for wider adoption. NW Bicester intend to develop a set of detailed build system specifications that will meet environmental performance standards, be deliverable at cost and which can be reliably produced in high volume.



Easy to walk and cycle around

## REPORT

# Extra Care housing has potential to reduce loneliness

Extra care housing can play a vital role in reducing the isolation and loneliness of older people, but too few people benefit, warns a leading think-tank on ageing and demographic change.

A report by the **International Longevity Centre UK (ILC-UK)** entitled *What role for extra care housing in a socially isolated landscape?* for the Housing Learning & Improvement Network, has found that older people who move into extra care housing very often find this brings great benefits to

their social lives.

The report argues that the design of extra care housing plays an important part in helping to develop a community spirit. Extra care housing is designed so that each resident has their own self-contained home but with communal facilities. The degree of independence this offers combined with the communal areas, organised activities and specialist care enables extra care housing to create a lively atmosphere that helps foster new rela-

tionships and support networks.

The report finds however, that keeping the momentum of innovation, attracting an appropriate mix of residents and ensuring diversity in tenure are significant challenges for the sector.

ILC-UK argues there is a need to demonstrate to policy-makers the huge role that extra care housing can play in reducing the isolation and loneliness of older people to ensure that the right levels of funding for such schemes are made available.





#### DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

## Work begins on BRE Refurbished House

Scottish building contractor Cruden Building & Renewals will start work today on the BRE Refurbished House, one of ten demonstration homes being built on the BRE Innovation Park at Ravenscraig that will be used to shape future housing in the country.

Using historical design information and traditional materials, the builders will recreate a full-scale 'four-in-a-block' typical Scottish apartment dwelling, of which there 265 thousand in the country and 3 million of a similar design in England.

This type of dwelling, where there are two flats on the ground floor and two on the first floor, is one of the worst performing apartment building types both thermally and acoustically in the UK.

Each of the four compartments of the dwelling will be refurbished employing different retrofit approaches and using different materials and technologies. The units will then be monitored over time to provide real performance data on energy efficiency and thermal comfort, indoor air quality, acoustic performance and cost. The embodied energy of the materials used in the retrofit will also be considered.

The project, which is being delivered by BRE Scotland, Edinburgh Napier University and Historic Scotland will enable a robust assessment to be made on the cost effectiveness of fabric upgrades for this building style, for walls, windows, roofs and services. The adopted

methodology will also allow an upscaling approach to be developed, which can be rolled out to multiple dwellings making them more energy efficient, less costly to run and with minimum carbon emissions.

BRE Scotland director David Kelly said: "Scotland has a high level of fuel poverty, with approximately 25 per cent of homes spending more than 10 per cent of their total income on energy bills. This is a shocking and unacceptable situation and one which we aim to change with the host of new knowledge this project will generate. We are delighted to be working with Cruden Building & Renewals on this project. Their expertise and knowledge will be hugely valuable in informing the outcomes of this research."

Allan Callaghan, managing director of Cruden Building & Renewals, said: "We are pleased to be co-funding and developing the 'Refurbished' house at the BRE Innovation Park @ Ravenscraig. We have jointly created a unique project, which will not only provide design, specification and cost data for retrofit installation, but allow post completion monitoring of performance."

He added: "Ultimately we hope to achieve a measure of cost effective improvements for Scotland and the UK's existing housing stock that will improve the quality of people's lives, address the fuel poverty issue and reduce carbon emissions in line with government targets."

#### GOVERNMENT

## Mark Prisk challenges councils to find stable homes for families

Housing Minister Mark Prisk has called on all councils to reduce the number of families stuck in bed and breakfast accommodation. Figures show that of the 760 families placed in bed and breakfast accommodation for longer than six weeks, nearly 80 per cent came from 15 councils.

The minister said that while most local authorities ensured families at risk of homelessness were not placed in this unsuitable accommodation for longer than six weeks, a minority still needed to raise their game and use the support available from government to meet their legal duty.

To tackle the issue Prisk is offering councils nearly £2 million to address the problem and adopt the 'Gold Standard' approach to homelessness. Under this system councils will test new solutions and learn from neighbouring areas who have managed to turn the situation around. By sharing and spreading best practice, all councils can ensure that vulnerable families across the country can find a stable, suitable home as soon as possible.

#### SOCIAL HOUSING COMMENT

## Continued access to finance demonstrates financial strength of social housing sector

The social housing sector continues to access sufficient finance and manage its exposure to the housing market, according to the latest Quarterly Survey (2012/13 Quarter 4) published by the Homes and Communities Agency.

Jonathan Walters, deputy director of strategy and performance, said: "This quarter's survey results indicate that the sector as a whole remains financially strong – as demonstrated by the £3.8 billion being raised in the capital markets. However, the operating environment continues to be challenging. Individual providers must continue to focus on risk management and robust financial planning to meet their strategic objectives."

"Despite the challenging economic environment, asset sales for the current quarter appear strong and the number of Affordable Home Ownership homes that have been unsold for over six months has fallen. We continue to monitor this situation in light of an increased pipeline of new properties expected in the next 18 months."

The latest Quarterly Survey is available to download from the HCA website.

enq.601

## RIBA STIRLING PRIZE 2013

## Shortlist and winner dates

The shortlist will be announced on 18 July. Six buildings will be shortlisted. The winner will be announced on 26 September at an evening event at Central Saint Martins in London.

This year the prestigious RIBA Stirling Prize for the best building comes of age and celebrates its 18th year.

The UK's most important architecture award

is not merely a beauty pageant; the judges look for original, imaginative and well executed designs, which excellently meet the needs of their users.

The shortlisted and winning buildings reveal the pinnacle of current architectural talent – buildings that on all fronts and in every detail inspire those who use and meet them.

From the rule-breaking Evelyn Grace school in London by Zaha Hadid to a cutting edge sustainable housing development near Cambridge, past RIBA Stirling Prize winners illustrate the social and economic trends that shape our buildings and environment and show why UK design talent is famed around the world.

Full details on the RIBA Stirling Prize can be found at [ribastirlingprize.architecture.com](http://ribastirlingprize.architecture.com)

For more information including the shortlist, check the *Housebuilder & Developer* news blog after July 18, [hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk](http://hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk), search ref: 57243

## NEW DEVELOPMENT

## Pollard Thomas Edwards Architects set to design new mixed tenure housing development



Pollard Thomas Edwards architects (PTEa) has been chosen to design a new mixed tenure housing development at Lymington Fields in the Chadwell Heath area of Barking and Dagenham.

Contracts on the 20 acre site, which is one of the first to be released by the Mayor of London as part of his drive to unlock development on public sector land, were signed between the GLA and housing developer Lovell earlier this month.

Pollard Thomas Edwards architects' competition winning scheme will create 362 new homes on the site of the old Barking Technical College, comprising 213 for private sale, 104 for affordable rent and 45 for shared ownership through housing provider Home Group. All homes will meet the Mayor's new London Plan standards and Level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes.

The scheme starts on-site at the end of this year with the first phase of housing completing in 2016.

## GOVERNMENT

## Unlock thousands of new homes

Major schemes at 14 sites have been earmarked for government investment, so they can start building up to 38,000 new homes, housing minister Mark Prisk announced on 5 June.



## Charles Church North East launches self build scheme

A leading housebuilder is backing a national drive to encourage more people to build their own homes and double the UK's self-build sector.

Charles Church North East is about to release 39 serviced self-build plots at Newcastle Great Park for anyone looking to build their own perfect home.

This country has the lowest level of self-build homes throughout Europe, with more than 80 per cent of homes being self-built in Austria and 50 per cent in Scandinavia, Germany and Belgium.

Just last month Planning Minister Nick Boles challenged councils to find land for

people who aspire to self-build, saying he was determined to help families create their dream homes.

Newcastle City Council is leading the way and Charles Church North East is getting behind the initiative.

A spokesman for Newcastle City Council said: "The introduction of self-build plots at Newcastle Great Park is an exciting development in the local housing market.

"The self-build plots will provide individuals with the opportunity to explore creative methods of housing design and build, allowing people to build unique homes that reflect current lifestyles and personality.

"We have worked closely with Charles Church on this initiative and we hope this will provide some families with the opportunity to create their dream home while also extending the housing offer currently available across Newcastle city."

Newcastle Great Park is three miles north west of the city centre and the development is fast becoming one of the most sought-after residential locations in the area.

John Eynon, managing director for Charles Church North East, said: "We take great pride in being responsive to the market and have always expanded our range and choice to meet the needs and demands of a growing population.

"Our new self-build plots are an extension of that and we hope people will seize the opportunity to create something unique in a beautiful setting.

"When these plots are released it really will offer people the chance of a lifetime to create a stunning home that is absolutely perfect for them and their families."

## NEWS BYTES

The latest news for housebuilders and developers. Visit the news blog, [hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk](http://hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk), and enter the reference number for more information.

Development tax reform welcomed, but property industry warns of...

Ref: 74985

Building to become the tallest residential tower in the western hemisphere...

Ref: 99469

HCA publishes official housing statistics for 2012/13...

Ref: 62570

United House lands 2 new refurbishment contracts worth over £60 million...

Ref: 11502

Demand for housing in London will outstrip supply by 48 per cent...

Ref: 14819



The projects will now proceed to a due diligence process to receive a share of the Local Infrastructure Fund, which has a total budget of £474 million.

Prisk said the funding support will get spades in the ground and create thousands of jobs for local communities across the country.

The funding programme for planned, large-scale sites, administered by the Homes and Communities Agency, is being targeted at schemes of over 1,500 homes that could deliver real benefits to their communities, but are struggling to move forward.

For more, go to the *Housebuilder & Developer news blog*, [hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk](http://hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk), and search for ref: 65911

## GUIDANCE

# Design Council and the Good Homes Alliance join forces

The Cabe team at **Design Council** and the **Good Homes Alliance** have, this month, announced that they are collaborating to develop a community toolkit to support the development of 'good homes' – well designed, appropriately sized, more sustainable homes across England that meet the rising aspiration of local communities.

With the financial support of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the Design Council and the Good Home Alliance aim to create a resource that is accessible and easily understood by local communities. This collaboration will unite best practice on two key elements of good development – design and sustainability. The resulting toolkit will provide a richer, unified resource which will enable local communities to engage meaningfully with the development process. It will draw on the experience of the developer members of the Good Homes Alliance as well as wider best practise developments and provide a knowledge base from such projects that can be used to empower and inform communities on what is possible.

The Design Council and the Good Homes Alliance aim to encourage communities and developers to work together to achieve better standards in design and sustainability. The toolkit will help communities and developers to work collaboratively to meet each others needs and aims to empower and inform to create a level playing field.

## AWARDS

# NFB Awards 2013 winners announced

The **National Federation of Builders (NFB)** held its second awards gala luncheon in central London recently. In association with **NHBC** and **Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS)** the awards celebrate some of the best talent in the construction industry.

Welcoming guests, NFB national chairman **David Parsons** of **Pearce Barnstaple (Construction) Ltd** told guests: "It has been a tough year, but it has also been extremely rewarding to see our members not only manage to survive, but in many cases show remarkable resources and resilience. That is evident from the high standard of entries this year, as last year. The NFB annual awards are a showcase of all that is special about our industry. Each project has a real story behind it. A real vision. Real determination. And above all, a real desire to do the best with what is available, to find ways around the challenges and to keep on producing fantastic buildings, houses, schools, hospitals and even an entire indoor market! These awards give us, and you, the opportunity to celebrate those achievements, and to remind us all that the industry is alive and well – thanks to you all."

For more on the winners, go to the *Housebuilder & Developer news blog*, [hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk](http://hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk), and search ref: 33707

## FINANCE

# Housebuilder welcomes Nationwide mortgage launch



**Persimmon Homes** has welcomed news that **Nationwide** will now be offering its **Home Buyer mortgage** product range for **Help To Buy** purchasers, with rates from just 2.54 per cent\*.

**Persimmon Homes (Midlands)** deputy managing director **Judith Potter** said: "Help To Buy has been hugely popular with prospective house buyers, as it enables people to secure the keys to their perfect home with a deposit of just five per cent.

"Since it was announced by the Chancellor in this year's Budget statement we have seen hundreds of new homes reserved using the Help To Buy scheme across our Persimmon Homes and Charles Church developments nationwide, and we expect the greater availability of mortgages through the scheme will maintain its popularity.

"The news that Nationwide – one of the biggest lenders in the market – is now able to offer its mortgage products for this shared equity scheme will certainly prove a boost for buyers, giving them a greater choice of lenders and helping to ensure competitive mortgage rates."

Under the Help To Buy scheme, the government provides an equity share loan of up to 20 per cent of the purchase price, with the buyer paying a five per cent deposit and raising a mortgage for the remainder.

\*Rates and fees quoted are correct at time of going to press and subject to status

## NINE ELMS ON THE SOUTH BANK

# Nine Elms on the South Bank shows significant development progress

**Nine Elms on the South Bank** is the £15 billion opportunity area between **Lambeth Bridge** and **Chelsea Bridge** which includes **Vauxhall town centre**, the new **US Embassy** and **Battersea Power Station**. More than 20 interconnected development sites are either under construction or in the planning pipeline and major improvements are now being made to the area's infrastructure.

The development aims to create 25,000 new jobs, has planning consent for 16,000 new homes and 6.4million sq ft of commercial space. Five major development sites are now under construction – including the first 3,000 homes, and a further five are expected to be underway by the end of the year.

Residential milestones include **Embassy Gardens** selling out entirely of their current stock, more will be available in 2014. 824 of the 866 homes in **Circus West**, the first phase of **Battersea Power Station** development have sold, with a sales value of more than £650 million.

## NEWS BYTES

The latest news for housebuilders and developers. Visit the news blog, [hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk](http://hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk), and enter the reference number for more information.

RIBA Competition for new town house building with Kingston University...

Ref: 83041

Future of Built Environment Education – key new Voices join the campaign...

Ref: 83421

Derwent Living scheme in top 50 UK affordable housing developments list...

Ref: 14890

Westminster City Council give North Wharf Gardens in Paddington green light...

Ref: 77839

Royal Arsenal Riverside gets green light...

Ref: 29684

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

The  **Folding Sliding**   
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*Jack of one trade, master of one*



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Email: [sales@foldingslidingdoors.com](mailto:sales@foldingslidingdoors.com)



# Call for evidence on how best to unlock large scale housing development

The Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI), which represents 23,000 planners worldwide working in the private, public, education and charity sectors, and is the membership organisation of professional planners in the UK, has issued a call for evidence on how best to unlock large scale housing development, the first step in a piece of research aiming to suggest practical solutions that would allow communities to meet housing need in their area. While the research is limited to Scotland and England it is envisaged that it will be of wider use and interest.

Dr Peter Geraghty, President of the RTPI, said: "The conventional debate has focused on whether we need more houses: we will be looking at where this should happen and how it is possible to overcome the longer-term structural obstacles and ultimately come up with practical solutions to address housing need."

The RTPI is asking stakeholders in the built environment to answer the following seven questions by the 5 July:

- Do you feel that there is a need for large scale (thousands of units) housing developments – as opposed to expanding many areas by a little – and, if so, where in the country would these developments work most effectively?
- Should the focus for large scale development sites be on urban extensions, new separate conurbations or both? What would be the criteria for choosing

one over another and does their delivery require different approaches?

- From your knowledge and experience, what has worked well to allow large scale housing delivery? Case study examples are welcome.
- From a planning perspective, what are the most significant barriers to large scale housing development? What are the most important two or three things need to be in place to overcome these barriers?
- What changes to current planning processes and/or legal frameworks would you advocate to boost large scale housing development?
- How large is the 'NIMBY' issue and is it overstated?
- How important is the process of community engagement? Can you give examples where community engagement has worked effectively in the delivery of large scale housing developments?

Responses should be submitted to:  
[housingproject@rtpi.org.uk](mailto:housingproject@rtpi.org.uk).

There are three aspects to the research that the Institute is carrying out. The RTPI will explore how places that want to expand can do so, how places can deliver housing on a large scale, and will highlight how planners can shape new developments to ensure that they are sustainable and meet long-term housing need.

<http://www.rtpi.org.uk/knowledge/core-issues/large-scale-housing-development/>

## Cluttons' research, office to residential conversions



Property consultants and chartered surveyor, Cluttons, has issued research on the potential premiums which could be secured by converting commercial stock into residential in London.

Converting offices in areas such as Chelsea and

Southbank could see investors increase assets' value by up to 90 per cent, however Cluttons has warned that the opportunity is not uniform, illustrated by the City core, which would deliver significantly less of an uplift.

enq.602

### EVENTS

**Eco Open Houses**  
15 - 16, 22 - 23 June, Brighton  
[www.ecoopenhouses.org](http://www.ecoopenhouses.org)

**London Festival of Architecture (LFA)**  
Until 30 June, London  
[www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org](http://www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org)

**netMAGevents' Evening Networking Event**  
4 July, London  
[netmagevents-networkingjuly.eventbrite.co.uk](http://netmagevents-networkingjuly.eventbrite.co.uk)

**Asset Management and Maintenance Conference and Exhibition 2013**  
4 - 5 July, Coventry  
[www.housing.org.uk/events](http://www.housing.org.uk/events)

**Housing Development Conference and Exhibition 2013**  
4 - 5 July, Coventry  
[www.housing.org.uk/events](http://www.housing.org.uk/events)

**The Energy Event**  
10 - 11 September, Birmingham  
[www.theenergyevent.com](http://www.theenergyevent.com)

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

**Annual Conference and Social Housing Exhibition 2013**  
18 - 20 September, Birmingham  
[www.housing.org.uk/events](http://www.housing.org.uk/events)

**100% Design**  
18 - 21 September, London  
[www.100percentdesign.co.uk](http://www.100percentdesign.co.uk)

**Open House London**  
21 - 22 September, London  
[www.londonopenhouse.org](http://www.londonopenhouse.org)

**The Property Show 2013 Europe**  
24 September, London  
[www.internationalpropertyevents.com](http://www.internationalpropertyevents.com)

**Timber Expo**  
24 - 25 September, Coventry  
[www.timber-expo.co.uk](http://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](http://www.energyefficiencyexhibitions.co.uk)  
[www.renewablesroadshow.co.uk](http://www.renewablesroadshow.co.uk)

**British Homes Awards 2013**  
18 October, London  
[www.britishhomesawards.co.uk](http://www.britishhomesawards.co.uk)

**Retrofit Roadshows**  
4 July, North West  
9 July, Birmingham and West Midlands  
5 September, North East  
17 September, Wales  
29 November, London & South East  
[www.retrofit-roadshow.co.uk](http://www.retrofit-roadshow.co.uk)

## COMMENT

## Construction new orders reflect the good and the bad

Construction new orders for the first quarter of 2013, released earlier in June by the ONS, fell 10 per cent compared to the fourth quarter and were 0.2 per cent lower than the same quarter one year earlier. Although most sectors showed little change, the key differences were a marked rise in private housing orders, offset by a significant fall in infrastructure activity.

Commenting on the ONS figures, Dr Noble Francis, economics director at the Construction Products Association said: "Recent GDP figures have pointed to signs of growth in the overall economy, but construction has continued to face very challenging conditions with output already 7 per cent lower than a year ago. The new orders figures reflect these continuing difficulties.

"Most encouraging were indications of growth in the private housing market. Government policies – particularly FirstBuy, Funding for Lending and the recently announced Help to Buy – are giving major house

builders the confidence to build. Because private housing has a short time-lag between orders and output, these new orders should lead to a further rise in housing activity this year.

"Of greater concern, however, is the 50 per cent drop in the infrastructure sector since the previous quarter and the 39 per cent fall compared to Q1 last year. This came despite the government's regular and enthusiastic pronouncements of support over the last two years, such as the Chancellor's £5 billion capital investment 'boost' in last year's Autumn Statement, £20 billion in new private investment in infrastructure and a further £5.5 billion capital investment 'boost' in December.

"As we have previously highlighted, the government must do better at translating such infrastructure announcements into new orders and real activity on the ground. Those aimed at housing are clearly delivering a beneficial effect; infrastructure must match this if we are to have a sustained economic recovery."

## Do forward plans show signs of growth?

Paul Graham, MD of cost-effective, bespoke project lead provider Planning Pipe (www.planningpipe.co.uk)

**PLANNINGPIPE**  
UK CONSTRUCTION PROJECT ALERTS

With a batch of surveys and reports in May suggesting further declines in current construction activity, does activity in the UK's Planning system suggest the future might look a little brighter?

Government planning reforms have taken centre stage with attention focused on the size of house extensions. Together with some loosening of the rules around city centre residential conversion projects, the reforms are aiming to kick-start more home renovations across England and Wales. The government expect a 15 per cent increase in home extension schemes – either new or accelerated. This future optimism is, to some extent, matched right now, by construction firms

operating at the other end of industry

Taylor Wimpey, Barratt, Persimmon and Bellway have recently reported both much healthier profits. They broadly see recent government initiatives (including the Help to Buy scheme) as supportive of the housebuilding and construction sector – without being necessarily game-changing. As ever, what remains crucial to construction investment is that word confidence.

What is in the planning pipeline that might shed further light on industry confidence? There are a few signs. The Home Building Federation recently reported housing unit planning approvals up 60 per cent in one year. Construction

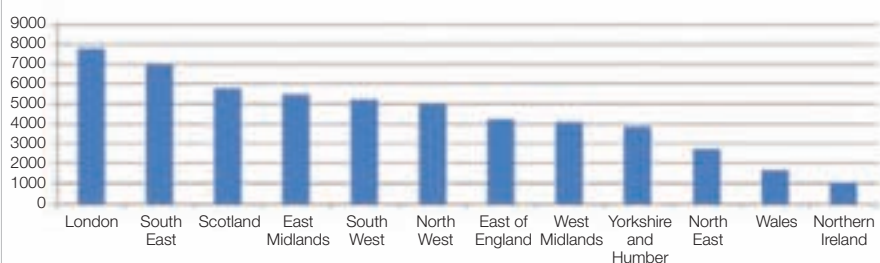
projects are being approved at a higher rate than ever – 87 per cent for all proposals – while nearly three-quarters of applications are processed within eight weeks – again the highest ever. Across the all construction sectors throughout the UK there remain no shortage of new plans but the picture remains mixed.

Over 8,200 detailed plans for new housing units were submitted for planning approval in the first three months of 2013 for nearly 54,000 housing units. London topped the regional league table for new housing units with plans for nearly 8,000 new homes at the detailed planning stage.

The consensus from the major house builders is that the government's new Help to Buy scheme will incentivise both housing supply and demand – although not as strongly as the government might suggest. The headline reform – a mortgage guarantee scheme headlining £130 billion of high loan-to-value mortgages – will not be implemented until next year. If, as forecast, this prompts a positive effect on housing supply (rather than simply on house prices) then those who will benefit most are the smaller developers – from whom over 90 per cent of plans for new construction projects originate.

enq.603

Residential Units: Detailed Plans Submitted Q1 2013



### NEWS BYTES

The latest news for housebuilders and developers. Visit the news blog, [hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk](http://hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk), and enter the reference number for more information.

Fall in Scottish house building prompts call to reverse capital spending cuts...

**Ref: 70368**

Micro-capsules and bacteria to be used in self-healing concrete...

**Ref: 28729**

A renaissance of London's suburban housing is key to growth...

**Ref: 91908**

Homes, jobs and training at new Telford development...

**Ref: 26269**

One Housing employees vote for strike action over pay cuts...

**Ref: 35696**





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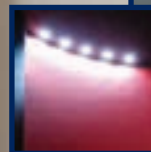
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The Lifestyle Lift will future proof your home for you and for your family.



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**103**

To find out more and request a brochure contact us on: **0800 247 1229**

email: **sales@lifestylelifts.co.uk** or visit: **www.lifestylelifts.co.uk**



## NHBC announces new partnership with BSRIA for cost effective air leakage testing

Housebuilders are now able to benefit from a more efficient, faster on-site air leakage testing service following the announcement of a new partnership between NHBC and leading consultancy and research organisation BSRIA (Building Services Research and Information Association).

From June, NHBC and BSRIA – an organisation with over 50 years' experience supporting and advising the construction industry, which has carried out 50,000 energy tests across the industry since 2006 – will jointly provide responsive air leakage testing as part of NHBC's overall Part L compliance package, which includes SAP and EPC's.

Richard Stockholm, NHBC operation manager, said: "The new partnership will result in a more cost-effective and streamlined Part L compliance solution for NHBC registered builders. A faster response time will be achieved through this new partnership, increasing capacity and resource, ultimately minimising disruption on-site.

"NHBC continues to lead the way in helping homebuilders meet their sustainability and energy requirements and we are confident that the new partnership will help us to reinforce this message further across the industry."

### AWARDS

## Code for Sustainable Homes Awards recognises green housing pioneers

St Edmunds Developments was one of nine organisations awarded for their efforts in delivering homes under the government's Code for Sustainable Homes (CSH) scheme at a BRE event on 3 June. The developer built the 100,000 home to the Code, which, when introduced in 2007, challenged the sector to design and build with significantly lower environmental impacts. Other award winners included, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Southern Housing, Fairview New Homes, Victory Housing, Leazes Homes, Stock Woolstencroft, Richard Hodgkinson Consultancy, Michael Axtell from Queensbury Design and Bill Dunster of Zed Factory.

The 2013 Code for Sustainable Homes Awards recognises the wide range of stakeholders across the housing sector that have made tremendous progress in delivering against the environmental, business and customer challenges in green housing provision. They range from private and social housing developers, planning authorities, specifiers and funding bodies, to architectural practices, engineers,

product manufacturers and Code assessors.

Alan Yates, technical director for sustainability at BRE, said: "The government is currently reviewing housing standards. Before the regulatory landscape changes we need to recognise the significant time, effort and investment of all the stakeholder groups, involved in delivering sustainable homes as well as appreciate the many tangible benefits that sustainable housing brings: householders can enjoy smaller utility bills, greater security, reduced flood risks, increased natural lighting, improved sound insulation, and many other benefits not currently recognised within Building Regulations. Furthermore, we must not forget that the houses we build today have to remain future proofed in order for them not to have a significant longer term, negative impact upon local communities, our economy and the infrastructure that supports them."

For more information and the list of winners, go to the Housebuilder & Developer news blog, [hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk](http://hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk), and search ref: 58231

enq.604

## EVENING NETWORKING EVENT

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## WIN a brand new van with BAL Micromax2



A brand new van is waiting to be won by a lucky tiler somewhere in the UK – and all they have to do is to let BAL know that they are using BAL Micromax2, the fabulous new universal grout. Every time they buy some, they simply go to [www.tilers-demand.com](http://www.tilers-demand.com) and log their purchases with the simple online form. They do need to register with the site, but only the first time that they use it, and the whole

process is completed in seconds. Each bag of BAL Micromax2 bought entitles the fixer to one free entry and there is no limit on the number of times that anyone can enter.

[www.tilers-demand.com](http://www.tilers-demand.com)

enq.104

## FACTA publishes information sheet

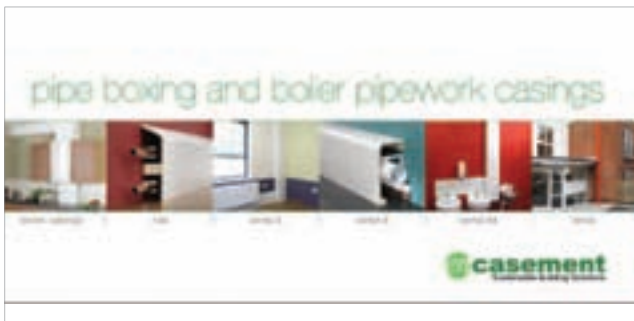


FACTA (The Fabricated Access Covers Trade Association) has published a fact sheet on the forthcoming Construction Products Regulation (CPR), which comes into force on 1 July 2013. From then on it will

become a legal requirement for any construction product manufactured under the Scope of a harmonised European Standard (hEN) to be CE marked in accordance with the CPR. The Fact Sheet explains, in simple terms how the CPR applies to man-hole covers, access covers and gully tops, highlighting the relevant standards. It is available for use by distributors and/or customers.

01827 52337 [www.facta.org.uk](http://www.facta.org.uk)

enq.106



## New pipe boxing and boiler casing brochure from Encasement

A new updated and expanded brochure has been launched by Encasement, which covers the company's complete range of market leading boiler casing, pipe-boxing and pipe protection products for social housing, private residential and education alongside a range of other key sectors. The new PDF brochure combines core information on key features and benefits for each product, as well as a range of project images and product specification data, which provides details on materials, finishes, sizes and fixings, as well as schematic diagrams and the available accessories. In addition to covering Encasement's pre-formed plywood products including Riva, Riva 'D' Versa 5, Versa 8 and Versa 8 'D', together with ex-stock and bespoke boiler pipe casings, the brochure also includes detailed information on the Arma metal pipe protection range, which is designed to protect external pipes from damage and vandalism. All of Encasement's pre-formed plywood products are guaranteed for two years and are fully compliant with the new EU Timber Regulations (EUTR), which ban the use of illegally sourced timber products in the UK.

enq.108

## Instarmac acquires finishing brand



Instarmac has announced its acquisition of the Wondertex brand – a well-established range of drylining, decorative texturing and coving products. Instarmac is an established manufacturer of high quality materials for the tiling and commercial flooring sectors, as well as a

renowned market leader in the urban regeneration and highway maintenance industries. The Wondertex brand will make the perfect addition to this portfolio. Instarmac's products boast a history of innovative research and development, while their reputation is constantly endorsed by award-winning customer service, deliveries and production techniques.

enq.105

## Wienerberger 23% global revenue increase



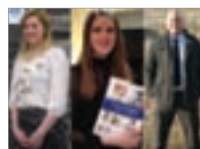
Wienerberger, the leading provider of wall, roof and landscaping solutions, has released financial details of a successful 2012, seeing revenues rise by 23 per cent to €2.4 billion and operating EBITDA by

two per cent to €246 million. Despite a bottom line loss, the results were mitigated by both a goodwill amortisation of €10 million in Croatia and Lithuania and the initiation of a restructuring programme that is set to save €50 million by the end of 2014. Furthermore, the company has seen free cash flow increase from €135 million in 2011 to €164 million in 2012. For more information on Wienerberger please call or visit the website.

0161 491 8200 [www.wienerberger.co.uk](http://www.wienerberger.co.uk)

enq.107

## Hat trick of new appointments



Designer Contracts – one of the UK's largest suppliers of floorcoverings to the new build sector – has appointed three new members of staff to service its expanding business needs. The company has appointed Louise Gay as assistant health, safety and HR

manager, joining the established team at the company's head office. Also joining the company are Simon Lovett and Ann Moore. Simon will help develop the recently opened Thames Medway region as sales manager and brings with him 17 years' worth of industry knowledge. Ann's role as contracts manager is based in the north-west where she will assist in this expanding region.

01246 854577 [www.designercontracts.com](http://www.designercontracts.com)

enq.109

## NEWSLETTER

### Housebuilder & Developer

Emailed on a fortnightly basis the Housebuilder & Developer newsletter is designed to provide housebuilders and developers with the latest information on products and services of interest, direct to their inbox. The reader can quickly gather a snapshot of information from 12 carefully selected companies and easily follow links through to further information on the [www.hbdonline.eu](http://www.hbdonline.eu), or go direct to the company's own website. Brochures and videos are also regularly available.



# How CE marking will affect your glass and glazing



The 1 July 2013 is a date of which everyone in construction should take note. It's the day when the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) is enacted and comes into force and could mean any company not complying, and therefore breaking the law, could be facing potential fines and even a custodial sentence. Giles Willson, deputy chief executive and director of technical affairs of the Glass and Glazing Federation (GGF), provides an overview of CPR and CE marking and outlines the GGF's activity to help GGF member companies, and the wider industry, comply with the new legislation from 1 July 2013

In 2010, the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) replaced the Construction Products Directive (CPD); if a product has a harmonised European Standard (a hEN) with an Annex ZA, the producing company needs need to make a declaration of performance and CE mark its product.

This is to enable the European Economic Area (EEA) to operate as a single market and to allow free trade between member states. Failure to comply with the CPR if within scope from 1 July 2013, could lead to a prosecution resulting in a fine and possibly even a custodial sentence.

In October 2012, to aid GGF members, the Federation launched a micro site called The Route to CE marking with exclusive flow charts mapping out the different routes to CE marking. This is fully accessible for GGF members on the GGF website [www.ggf.org.uk/ce-marking](http://www.ggf.org.uk/ce-marking) but the landing page is open to all companies and has key information including;

- Frequently asked questions on CE marking
- A list of harmonised European Standards
- A full glossary of terms found within the Construction Products Regulation.

The GGF is currently preparing to run a series of seminars nationwide to fully explain the requirements. These events will continue for the rest of the year and will be available for all in the industry to attend. Details of venues and times will be publicised soon. Any companies interested in attending the CPR/CE marking seminars/workshops, please contact the Federation on [info@ggf.org.uk](mailto:info@ggf.org.uk)

It is clear the GGF has been very busy on this huge issue and has now created the tools and measures to ensure GGF members and the wider industry (including every relevant small/medium sized business), are provided with accurate and factual information.

## Key points

- It should be noted that if a company buys in a product which is CE marked, they do not change it (including re-branding) they do not have to do anything else.
- If a company buys a CE marked product in and changes it then they are responsible for the declaration of performance and CE marking.
- If a company buys unglazed frames and sources the IGU separately then they are responsible for the CE marking for the window under EN 14351-1.



If a company fails to comply with the CPR they can be investigated by Trading Standards who can take the organisation to court. If found guilty there are fines (usually £5K per offence) and potential custodial sentences for the company directors.

## The general industry feeling about CPR/CE marking

From my experiences from meetings with many industry figures over the last year or so, there seems to be mixed feelings on CE marking – some companies are fully ready with all their evidence sorted, others appear completely

unaware that they need to comply with the CPR and CE mark their products.

I do not feel that the world will dramatically change on 1 July however, but if you are not ready, what will you say if challenged by your customers, competitors or Trading Standards?

## Future GGF activity

The GGF will continue with the seminars/workshops and highlight case studies to show examples of companies and how they are complying. They will also be updating their CE marking micro site to reflect any clarifications or good practice. The GGF will refrain from issuing printed matter, as that form of communication can easily become out of date and confusing very quickly, but will, however, continue to get their message out to the wider industry with articles in the trade press.

The GGF is primarily here for its members and will continue to help them in any way they can to ensure they fully comply with CPR and CE mark their products if required. For non-members, the GGF are always keen to engage with them and hope they can attend the CE marking seminars/workshops in the near future.

## The next move for companies and CE marking

Check to see if you need to demonstrate compliance with the CPR; if you do need to comply and you have not done anything yet, contact the GGF as soon as possible [info@ggf.org.uk](mailto:info@ggf.org.uk) or call 020 7939 9101 to get more information and provisionally book a seminar/workshop. The full schedule and locations of GGF CPR/CE marking seminars will be publicised soon.

For more information on CPR and CE marking go to <http://www.ggf.org.uk/ce-marking>

To gain full access to the flow charts you have to be a GGF member and log in to the members area.



# Editor's focus

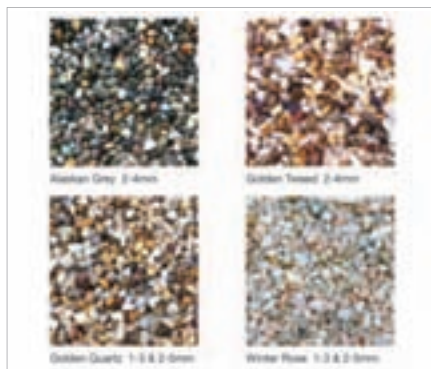
## LECICO



Lecico, one of the world's largest and fastest growing sanitary ware producers, is proud to launch its latest Atlas commercial brochure and new range additions. The brochure showcases today's comprehensive range of products designed with style, functionality and consistency of quality. Two of the many new product additions are Atlas Smooth and the Rimless pan collection. Atlas Smooth offers the same quality, functionality and value as the Atlas name has been built on and, as the name suggests, now combines modern, compact 'smooth line' aesthetics into its design. The Rimless collection is a range of pans designed with easy clean, cleanliness and maximum hygiene as core product features.

enq.111

## LONG RAKE SPAR



As the one of the UK's main suppliers of dried aggregate granules to the resin surfacing industry, Long Rake Spar are committed to sourcing and developing the most extensive product selection available in the industry. As part of this commitment they continually seek to introduce a selection of exclusive new products, all of which are supplied washed, dried and screened to the highest specification, to produce clean, closely sized granules. New for 2013 are four additions to the range; Golden Quartz, Winter Rose, Alaskan Grey and Angular Tweed. These products are suitable for systems used in applications for medium traffic use; further technical information or samples are available.

enq.112

## STORMGUARD



Designed by Armstrong Architects of Macclesfield, and constructed by Davenport Builders of Mottram St Andrews in Cheshire, April Cottage incorporates square straight lines in the design of the home and a custom made, easy fit box gutter was selected for roof water drainage.

Stormguard Aluminium soffit planks were used on the dormer roofs as weather boarding on the side panels.

Cleverly designed purpose made Aluminium Barge fascias have also been used together with a combined fascia soffit detail around the rest of the house.

enq.113

## UNITED TRUST BANK



Jonathan Nail, property development director at United Trust Bank: "Recent news that the construction sector had returned to growth was welcomed by the development finance team at United Trust Bank but we weren't altogether surprised. We've seen a significant increase in proposals for a diverse range of projects from all around the country and we're keen to hear from more developers looking for competitive, flexible funding from a development finance specialist. We have a very experienced team which we have continued to strengthen and we look forward to a busy second half of the year."

enq.114

## TBA TEXTILES



Firefly Titan Fire Barrier now achieves two hours' protection against the spread of fire and smoke and 60 minutes insulation. Offering excellent acoustic properties, and tested for both vertical and horizontal applications, Titan is an extremely versatile product. At only 15mm thick, it is quick and simple to install. It can be used for various applications including ceiling membrane systems, protected zones, under mezzanines, compartmentation, lift shafts and many more applications. When used with the Firefly Rapid Install System, the combined products offer structural stability to BS.476 Part 21. Firefly Titan x2 layers has been assessed to offer 120 minutes integrity and 90 minutes insulation.

enq.115

## QUOOKER



Quooker has launched the stunning new Nordic, a dedicated boiling water tap that is available exclusively through Quooker's kitchen dealer network. The Nordic comes in two models, the Nordic square and the Nordic round, each of which is available in either a chrome or brushed chrome finish. The new Nordic is packed with Quooker innovations. Each Quooker tap has full height adjustment and 360° rotation with both a push-and turn safety handle and a visual signal; a bright LED ring lights up when the tap is touched. Grooves on the handle provide a tactile alert and give extra grip. A matching Nordic mixer tap is also available, which dispenses hot and cold water.

enq.116

# eco & green

## supplement



SAiGE Longlife Decking,  
see page 28



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enq.301

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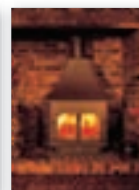


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enq.302





The growers of Enviromat sedum matting, from **Q-Lawns**, have produced a downloadable guide to creating a simple green roof.

The document, which is free of charge, explores optimum pitch, loadings and drainage before explaining, step by step, the build up for a small sedum green roof.

There is also a section on seasonal green roof maintenance. For your free copy, please go to [www.enviromat.co.uk/green-roof-installation-guide](http://www.enviromat.co.uk/green-roof-installation-guide)

enq.314



**Space Air Solutions** won the Product Innovation of the year – Ancillary Product Award for the unique Daikin Altherma Accessory Kit. Space Air has been designing and manufacturing ancillary components to optimise the efficiency of Daikin systems, for over 32 years. The kit was designed to ensure accurate installation, creating a uniform standard across all projects as well as fully optimising the efficiency of the system and extending operational life. Space Air was also presented with the special Recognised for Excellence Award for energy monitoring. Every Space Air supplied Daikin Altherma system comes complete with a consumer watt meter.

enq.342



Supplying the trade and public for over 30 years, **Wykeham Mature Plants** has an extensive range of trees, shrubs, hedging and conifers in large sizes for instant effect.

Staff at Wykeham are experts in providing customers with instant screening for privacy and security, whether the job requires carefully selected trees, mature hedging, or plants clipped or trained in some way specifically to address the issues on-site, and their professionally executed design and planting services are available to both private and commercial clients.

enq.307



**Swish Building Products'** unique low carbon rainwater system is made from 84 per cent recycled material. Tons of post-consumer PVC is bought back into use from old PVC window and guttering systems removed from buildings undergoing refurbishment. The Rainwater range is available in Round, Square, Deepflow and Ogee designs in white, black and brown. These have a two-tone appearance featuring a grey recycled core and a co-extruded outer skin of virgin material to enhance the external appearance and aid colour matching. There is a 70 per cent saving in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by manufacturing in this way.

enq.306

## Benefit of Reflectashield



The **A. Proctor Group** supplied Reflectashield TF 0.81 for the feature house of timber frame manufacturer Oakworth Homes at the National Homebuilding and Renovating Show last month at the NEC, Birmingham. Reflectashield TF 0.81 is a high performance breather membrane specifically

designed to enhance the thermal performance of timber & steel frame structures. Reflectashield TF 0.81 is now the highest performing thermal breather on the market, thanks to its new 0.81 R-Value. It also complies with the vapour resistance requirements set out by BS 4016, TRADA and NHBC.

01250 872261 [www.proctorgroup.com](http://www.proctorgroup.com)

enq.303

## Servicing valve & automatic flow limiting



**Arrow Valves Ltd** has introduced a quarter turn servicing valve with a ball capable of accepting an Automatic Flow Limiting (AFL) cartridge to limit the flow of hot and cold water. By limiting flow, the AFL cartridge can save energy, water and assist with balancing, thereby

preventing some appliances from consuming all the available water while other appliances at higher level or further downstream are starved of water. There are eight different colour coded flow limiting cartridges available, which can be inserted after installation, allowing the flow to be controlled from 0.07-0.43 Lt/s.

01442 823123 [www.arrowvalves.co.uk](http://www.arrowvalves.co.uk)

enq.304



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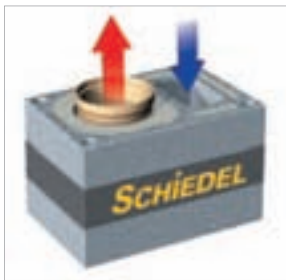
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**WarmCair**

enq.305



Modern heating technologies place enormous demands on a chimney system. Low flue gas temperatures from energy efficient appliances, including gas, oil and pellets, lead to condensate forming within the chimney, while chimneys used on solid fuel applications must also be capable of withstanding a chimney fire. With its GW3 rated ceramic profiled liner, Schiedel Absolut offers condensate resistance. Thermal performance is optimised through the provision of combustion air at the right temperature through the integrated shaft. Heat transmission between the warm interior and cold exterior of the building is avoided through the use of the thermal chimney block. (enq.315)



SAIge Longlife Decking are suppliers of environmentally sourced composite decking. Free from adhesives and toxins, this decking is made from 50 per cent recycled wood, 45 per cent recycled plastic and the remaining five per cent is colour pigments and anti-mould properties. Available in a choice of four colours and three finishes, SAIge Longlife Decking provides a full 10-year warranty for decking with an expected lifespan of over 20 years. It is easy to install with a stainless steel clip system and every board is consistent in size and shape. Contemporary looks and low maintenance requirements make SAIge decking a very attractive alternative. (enq.335)



Thousands of homes throughout the UK are set to benefit from upgrades using Parex external wall insulation (EWI) systems. Parextherm systems are being used for major Green Deal and ECO complaint projects, involving social housing and privately owned homes, to upgrade thermal performance and create long-term energy savings. Parex acrylic and mineral anti-crack renders are available in a wide range of colours and also offer the option of textured, smooth, brick slip effect or dash finishes. Parex renders combined with EPS, mineral wool or phenolic insulation to create EWI systems hold full ETAG or BBA approvals. (enq.311)



Normid is an ISO 14001 certified, British manufacturer of planfiling products. Its factory is modern and low energy. Materials are sourced from the UK, which means that the environmental carbon cost of a Normid product is kept down. Eco friendly production combined with an environmentally conscientious delivery network means that a Normid system is delivered with the minimum carbon footprint. The PRO wall rack can hold up to 500 drawings on a wall rack that is just 90 x 90mm, saving enormous amounts of space. Trading for over 40 years, Normid Simplifile has stayed innovative and progressive while remaining eco friendly. (enq.310)

## Contemporary Roofline • Rainwater • Cladding

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(enq.306)



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The difference between Wykeham instant hedging and plants supplied by other nurseries is clear to see.



Where a hedge or fence of a more usual height just isn't enough, such as where privacy has become a real problem or where there is an unsightly view, there is a range of evergreen or deciduous screening available, to provide cover at higher levels.

[www.wykehammatureplants.co.uk](http://www.wykehammatureplants.co.uk)  
01723 862406

(enq.307)



# Bespoke Isokorb solution for sustainable home

A contemporary new build four-bedroom house, with sustainable energy saving features, had to look sympathetic with its surroundings in the traditional town of Bühl, south western Germany. The house borders a monastery garden on the fringes of the Black Forest with a panoramic view across the Rhine to the Alsace region of France.

The solution was a minimalist, even-faceted concrete building, with an uncomplicated interior design styling. It features waxed concrete flooring throughout the ground floor, complemented by exposed concrete stairs that contrast with the simple white walls.

There is a particular design focus on a pool to the south side of the building. During varying daylight conditions the water reflects light and shadow onto the walls and ceilings through the room-high windows. The use of large glazed areas and terraces effectively merge the interior and exterior spaces and at night the water can be illuminated in different colours to create its own ambience.

One of the key criteria in the design is sustainable energy efficiency; achieved mainly by an air-to-water heat pump system, which supplies energy to heat the underfloor system throughout



the house. Integral to this is the foundation plate, which utilises concrete core activation.

Externally the house and garage appear to be a single architectural unit, however, the garage attaches directly to the building façade. In thermal bridging terms this was a potential problem as the 'cold' garage ceiling requires thermal isolation from the 'warm' residential area.

The optimum solution was a specially designed version of the Schöck Isokorb thermal break module type Q – a classic load-bearing connection for use with reinforced concrete slabs with thicknesses between 160mm and 250mm.

The Isokorb type Q not only provides thermal insulation protection, but transmits positive shear forces for full-length support. Consequently, by installing the units in the ceiling above the garage, they act as connectors to the outer wall of the house in the form of reinforced concrete binding beams.

enq.308

## CONTACT

01865 290 890  
www.schoeck.co.uk

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enq.309

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enq.310



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enq.311

## PermCalc free permeable pavement designs



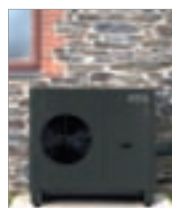
Landscapers, architects and developers can now create accurate, fully costed design suggestions for permeable paving solutions quickly and easily thanks to PermCalc, an innovative free-to-use online tool designed in-house by Brett Landscaping. PermCalc is ideal for any project that requires a

Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) and creates authoritative data to enable decision makers to make informed choices about the benefits of permeable paving. PermCalc users are taken through a step-by-step process, which is based on the current British Standard guidance for designing permeable pavements.

0845 6080570 [www.brettpaving.co.uk](http://www.brettpaving.co.uk)

enq.312

## Aerona HE air source heat pump



Grant UK has developed the Aerona HE range of air source heat pumps. The brief for the new range was simple – bigger single phase outputs, higher efficiencies at lower operating temperatures and quieter noise levels, while maintaining the tried and tested features of the existing Aerona range.

To achieve better COPs the Aerona HE was designed with larger evaporator surface areas,

increasing the amount of air through the unit. The fans run at lower speeds and this coupled with the improved internal insulation has successfully decreased noise levels. The HE models also use R410a refrigerant, allowing the unit to operate at lower ambient temperatures.

01380 736920 [www.grantuk.com](http://www.grantuk.com)

enq.313

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enq.315



Mitsubishi Electric's Ecodan® range of air source heat pumps has secured the 'Commercial Air Source Installation of the Year' category and been 'Highly Commended' for Training in the National Heat Pump Awards.

The installation of an 86kW Ecodan CAHV heating system into the showroom of agricultural machinery specialist P. Tuckwell Ltd, was praised as being "a well-planned and energy monitored project that utilises a low carbon and renewable technology to attain the client's criteria of reducing dependence on fossil fuel and reducing operating costs."

enq.301



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.

enq.322



Sometimes lead is perceived as merely a heritage building material but it is having a renaissance of late, driven by its green credentials. The Lead Sheet Association is delighted to announce lead's newly acquired BRE Green Guide rating. In most of the standard roofing and vertical cladding installations lead has a BRE Green Guide rating of A and A+. Rolled lead sheet to BS EN 12588 offers a number of other environmental benefits – it is 100 per cent recyclable and has the lowest carbon footprint of all roofing metals. It is also up to 50 per cent cheaper than most man-made flashing products over 40 years.

enq.309



Knauf Insulation's range of Earthwool DriTherm Cavity Slabs provide a thermally efficient solution for fully filling cavity walls. Full-fill glass mineral wool can deliver comparable thermal performance as like for like partial fill solutions, but at a significantly lower cost – making it a popular choice for housebuilders and developers. Earthwool DriTherm Cavity Slabs are BBA approved for use in all exposure zones and are backed by a 50-year performance guarantee. The slabs are friction fitted and flexible enough to take up imperfections in the internal block walls, leaving far fewer air spaces than some partial fill solutions.

enq.316

## Did you know?

By choosing to install a **Full-Fill** solution rather than a Partial Fill solution, you could be saving yourself...

**For the Full Facts and to find out just how much you could save visit:**

[www.knaufinsulation.co.uk/hbdf0413](http://www.knaufinsulation.co.uk/hbdf0413)



KINE1834ADV - V0413



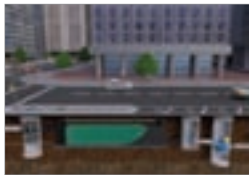
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enq.316



## New Hydro StormTrain™ Series



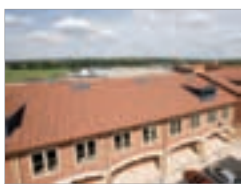
Hydro International is launching the Hydro StormTrain™ Series, a comprehensive toolbox of surface water treatment devices in anticipation of the growing need to remove silts, sediments and other pollutants from stormwater runoff. Hydro is providing an unrivalled

range of performance-verified and internationally-recognised technologies for surface water treatment. Four products, First Defense®, Downstream Defender®, The Up-Flo™ Filter and Hydro Filterra™, are Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) that can be used independently or in combination to meet the water quality stipulations of a site.

01275 337977 [www.hydro-int.com](http://www.hydro-int.com)

enq.317

## Metrotile lightweight steel roofing



Metrotile lightweight steel roofing is the ideal choice for projects where environmental considerations are paramount. Each Metrotile profile is pressed from the highest quality aluzinc-coated steel and is fully recyclable. Projects with a Metrotile roof installed benefit from

protection against extreme weather and vandalism and, when used alongside a vapour permeable layer, improve the insulation of the home, reducing energy bills in the process. In addition, each Metrotile roof is protected by a 40-year guarantee and is backed by the know how of our highly experienced customer care team every step of the way.

01249 658514 [www.metrotile.co.uk](http://www.metrotile.co.uk)

enq.319

## PDS choose Accoya® for sustainability



With the growing concern over deforestation across the world it is important that manufacturers think about the timber they are using and where it is coming from. Sustainability is key, which is why Performance Doorset Solutions (PDS), who are FSC certified, now offer their clients the option of products made from Accoya®. Described as a high technology long life wood, Accoya® is created via acetylated wood modification, using sustainably-sourced, fast growing softwood. The production process is non-toxic and creates a 'treated timber' that has the very best environmental credentials and offers the durability, stability and beauty of tropical hardwoods.

01706 370001 [www.pdsdoorsets.co.uk](http://www.pdsdoorsets.co.uk)

enq.318

## Rainwater harvesting from Polypipe



Polypipe Building Products has launched a range of new solutions into the rainwater harvesting marketplace, targeted specifically at the domestic and residential market, in response to the growing acceptance that the time has come to stop using high quality drinking

water to flush down the toilet. Installation of a Rainstream system from Polypipe will reduce mains water usage by around 50 per cent – a valuable saving particularly if you're on a metered water supply. The control panel is small and neat and the only evidence that a house has a rainwater harvesting system on the property.

01709 770000 [www.polypipe.com](http://www.polypipe.com)

enq.320



## Radial Drilling & Renewable Energy Specialist

Eco Friendly Installations are specialists in radial drilling and renewable technology. We offer a wide range of services, all completed in-house, which range from system design to bore hole installation. Please call our offices for more information.

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enq.321

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enq.322



Kedel's trade only website – [www.kedeltrade.co.uk](http://www.kedeltrade.co.uk) – has just been launched to supply recycled plastic building materials. Besides government legislation, increasing use of recycled plastic in the industry is driven by persuasive practical benefits and substantial lifetime cost savings. Recycled plastic lasts at least five times longer than treated wood. It will never rot or require annual maintenance, preventing housing stock from developing that depressing 'run down' look. "We've given construction professionals an online 'one-stop-shop' for everything recycled plastic, at discount levels they expect," says MD of Kedel Limited, Dermot Walch.

enq.336



Johnson & Starley's QuanTec gas fired condensing boiler range includes six models. The QuanTec HR 28c features integral passive flue gas heat recovery for additional energy efficiency. The range provides a robust and cost effective solution to domestic heating and hot water delivery and are available in combi and regular versions from 16kW-28kW. All models feature a Giannoni isothermic stainless steel heat exchanger and, for the HR 28c model, full condense technology with its in-built passive flue gas heat recovery. This increases energy savings of up to 26 per cent over a typical water heater in the market.

enq.305



**Ice Energy:** Embracing renewable energy now could pay dividends in the future. With recent warnings the UK is on the brink of an energy crisis and energy companies posting huge profits following large price increases, renewable energy systems such as heat pumps are becoming increasingly more attractive. With potential savings of over 50 per cent on running costs, installing heat pumps could also provide you with substantial annual payments via the Renewable Heat Incentive in 2014, so there has never been a better time to embrace renewables and protect yourself from spiralling energy costs.

enq.343



When it comes to heat recovery, good installation is the key. Even the most energy efficient appliance will fail to perform if it has been poorly fitted. **EnviroVent** has developed the **energiSava 380**, a whole house heat recovery system, designed as an easy installation. This lightweight and compact system has been developed in a unique modular format, which allows it to fit through a standard loft hatch. This practical unit also incorporates simple push-button commissioning and performs to the highest efficiency on SAP Appendix Q, achieving a low Specific Fan Power (SPF) of 0.40 W/l/s and thermal efficiency of 93 per cent.

enq.330



- Featuring the most efficient multi fuel stove on the UK market
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enq.323



## When performance is everything...



Greenwood Airvac, is pleased to announce the launch of Samika, the latest development in intermittent ventilation technology for kitchens and bathrooms. Designed for social housing Samika introduces the unique and innovative concept of adaptive extraction.

This means Samika can be adapted at the point of installation for any application to enable it to meet guaranteed installed performance (G.I.P) first time and assure Building Control sign-off. By focussing on GIP and adaptive extraction, Samika provides peace of mind that the ventilation installed performs as it should.

01903 771021 [www.adaptive-extraction.co.uk](http://www.adaptive-extraction.co.uk)

enq.324

## Scolmore leads with SMD technology



Having last year launched one of the most efficient replacements for the 60W incandescent with its Energetic SMD LED 11W A60 lamp, Scolmore has continued to develop its SMD technology and latest advancements means the company is now able to offer new dimmable options. There are SMD

LED dimmable versions of the 60W and 40W replacement lamps with more to come. The new 60W replacement dimmable option offers 806 lumens with a 12W lamp and the 40W replacement dimmable lamp offers 470 lumens with a 7.5W lamp. Scolmore has also added a 4.5W dimmable version of the existing 4W SMD LED – 35W replacement – and has plans to further develop the range.

01827 63454 [www.scolmore.com](http://www.scolmore.com)

enq.326

## Vent-Axia joined Dwelle at Grand Designs



Vent-Axia showcased its Sentinel Kinetic MVHR within a Dwelle Micro Building at Grand Designs Live from 4 - 12 May. Dwelle, the Manchester-based architects, presented a new range of micro buildings; 'dwelle.ing', 'little dwelle.ing' and 'mobile dwelle.ing'. Dwelle's stand featured a scaled-down slice through one of their timber framed structures, showing all

of the components that create a dwelle.ing, including Vent-Axia's Sentinel Kinetic MVHR. Manufactured in the UK, the unit is a whole house heat recovery system. This SAP Appendix Q range combines supply and extract ventilation in one unit.

0844 856 0590 [www.vent-axia.com](http://www.vent-axia.com)

enq.325

## Beko built-in appliances for the quieter life



As well as wanting eco-friendly, high performance, appliances offering low energy usage/running costs, an increasingly significant trend is that consumers are now more noise-level conscious in the home. It's an important consideration for housebuilders and contractors when selecting their built-in appliances for properties – and can be a key

selling point too. Beko offers the lowest noise level available for its integrated dishwashers – giving a quick, clean, quiet performance. With the noise level reduced from 54dBA to 44dBA, Beko dishwashers are 68 per cent quieter than other models.

01923 810801 [www.beko.co.uk](http://www.beko.co.uk)

enq.327

## BDA Sustainability Report reveals Wienerberger's brick production credentials



As one of the major contributors to the Brick Development Association's (BDA) Brick Industry Sustainability Strategy Progress Report 2012, Wienerberger has taken the opportunity to see how it measures up to industry averages. Released to coincide with the BDA Innovation Day 2013, the report data has been compiled over the last decade (2002-2012), and the figures show Wienerberger's brick site performance to be extremely positive. Key areas where Wienerberger has proved to be ahead of the industry include the percentage of production covered by ISO 14001 and BES 6001 standards (100 per cent of production for Wienerberger) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. While the BDA found the industry average to be 27.6 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup>, Wienerberger has succeeded in cutting this to just 24 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup> – a reduction of 12.5 per cent. Likewise, the company is also leading the way in terms of recycled water usage and the use of recycled raw materials (classified in the report as Materials from Alternative Recycled and Secondary Sources (MARRS) materials), increasing both by over 50 per cent above the ten year industry averages.

0161 491 8200 [www.wienerberger.co.uk](http://www.wienerberger.co.uk)

enq.328

## Specflue and MCZ set for the future



The recently announced exclusive distributorship of the famous MCZ brand by Specflue in the UK has been tangibly underwritten by the 4th Carbon Budget target of 100,000 biomass boilers in the UK by 2020 and rising to one million by 2030. This relates to the sector's meaningful and positive collaboration with government on the decarbonisation of domestic heating in the UK by 2030. Biomass boilers generate heat for space and water heating through the combustion of organic matter. Domestic installations, with efficiencies of over 90 per cent, are typically fuelled by wood pellets – a carbon neutral fuel. To achieve legally binding CO<sub>2</sub> reduction and decarbonisation targets the 4th Carbon Budget recommends the deployment of one million domestic biomass boilers by 2030. Solid support under the domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) scheme is now necessary to kick start the domestic biomass boiler market and enable that potential to be realised. This is vital if the environmental agenda is to reach the full range of housing types and heat needs in the UK. Biomass boilers are particularly suited to large properties, which form a substantial proportion of the housing stock in rural off-grid areas. Notable and relevant MCZ product portfolios include advances in the popular Compact range and the unique 'Still' concept, which ensures total operating silence for maximum relaxation.

enq.329



**Eco friendly Installations** are one of the few companies who are able to offer a complete service for all your renewable needs; from system design, to installation – even drilling their own boreholes using the innovative Radial system. What gives the radial method an advantage over other systems is the unique way in which the boreholes are installed. Not only does the design allow for the most efficient heat capture, but the disruption to the property is kept to a minimum. This makes the radial system ideal for retrofitting and installations where the customer does not wish to damage existing gardens, lawns or driveways.

enq.321



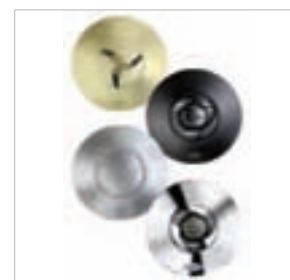
Now is the time to ensure your warmest winter ever by installing a **Clearview Woodburning Stove**. It takes around six to eight weeks from choosing a stove to its installation, so plan ahead and beat the rush. The company's stoves combine stunning styling and exceptional quality. Designed and manufactured in Shropshire to the highest possible specifications, in a range of sizes to suit most installations. A Clearview woodburning stove will save you money and bring you great pleasure, not only lifting the temperature but also lifting your spirits. Come home to the benefits of a Clearview Stove.

enq.302



The overwhelmingly popular **EcoburnPlus** range of stoves from **Aarrow** now offers even more to catch your attention – a hugely impressive net efficiency of 86.3 per cent. Not only is the EcoburnPlus 4 stove the most efficient stove in the Aarrow range, it's the most efficient multi fuel stove in the UK market today. Each EcoburnPlus stove features Aarrow's innovative new Flexifuel System, which offers stove users the flexibility of burning wood or solid fuel without compromising on heat output or efficiencies. Aarrow has been at the forefront of stove design technologies and innovations for 30 years.

enq.323



Stylish, Discreet, Extractor Fans **iCON** extract fans from **Airflow**, have become the benchmark for elegant design and quiet, reliable extraction in toilets, bathrooms and kitchens. Combating condensation, they remove steam and odours and conform to Building Regulations.

The unique iris shutter operates silently preventing back draughts and heat loss while noise ingress is also reduced. There is a choice of controls and four stylish coloured covers – Silver, Anthracite, Sandstone and Chrome.

enq.344

## The most flexible installation around

energy efficient

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High efficiency, modular MVHR system

### energiSava 380

EnviroVent have listened! We've taken the complexity out of MVHR installation to launch the **energiSava 380**, a one-man installation to fit easily through a standard loft hatch with left or right hand configuration and simple push-button commissioning. Not only that, it performs at the top of SAP Appendix Q with a low specific fan power of 0.40 W/l/s and thermal efficiency of 93%.

Making life easier.



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[www.envirovent.com](http://www.envirovent.com)

enq.330



## Timbmet cladding for Linden development



Timber specialist, **Timbmet**, has been instrumental in supplying a unique look to one of the key developments in Harlow, Essex – be:Newhall. Each property has been designed to combine local and sustainable materials, so the architects turned to Timbmet for advice on the best species to meet the aesthetic and practical requirements. The specification of black cladding required a timber that could be coated to provide a consistent

appearance, and be fire retardant treated to meet exact fire performance standards. Timbmet's experts were assigned to supply large quantities of their Larch weatherboard cladding.

01865 860303 [www.timbmet.com](http://www.timbmet.com)

enq.331

## Green MP impressed with specialist



**Mitsubishi Electric:** Caroline Lucas MP, has praised the work of specialist renewable energy installer, Venus Property Solutions as she recently toured the revamped St Albans Road Traders Association in Watford. "Independent renewables businesses such as Venus Property Solutions are at the heart of the new green economy –

creating local jobs, reducing carbon emissions and boosting the country's reputation as a great place to invest in the green industries of the future," she said. The home improvements company was established to specifically help homeowners and businesses understand how to improve all aspects of their property.

enq.333

## Take control with Panasonic



**Panasonic** has extended the connectivity and control options across its full range of heating and cooling solutions. Via a cloud-based monitoring system, users now have a range of flexible and intelligent solutions to monitor their air conditioning or heat pump units. Customers

can use an iPad, iPhone, any Android device or a PC with internet access, to control their heat pump or air conditioning systems away from their homes at the touch of a button. The new connectivity options are fully compatible with the PACi, ECOi, Aquarea, PKEA server room solutions and Etherea PKE ranges.

enq.332

## New intelligent heat recovery with Vireo



**Greenwood Airvac** announces the launch of Vireo – the next generation of intelligent heat recovery ventilation. Vireo is all about guaranteed installed performance (G.I.P) and has housing provider and tenant satisfaction high on its agenda. The result is an easier, better and smarter application of heat recovery ventilation in new

homes, with the correct ventilation being installed from the outset to Building Regulation requirements. Loaded with additional Greenwood Apps, Vireo continues to assist in the delivery of G.I.P beyond the installation stage and throughout the lifetime of the product. Vireo requires no adjustment from tenants.

01903 771021 [www.fresh-intelligence.co.uk](http://www.fresh-intelligence.co.uk)

enq.334

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[www.kedeleducation.co.uk](http://www.kedeleducation.co.uk)

enq.336

## VEKA records 2208 tonne carbon saving



Minimising environmental impact has always been of the utmost importance to **VEKA**, and even though the company already has a string of environmental awards under its belt, the system supplier is constantly looking for new and innovative ways to be as energy efficient as possible. This dedication has certainly paid off, as sales and marketing director, Colin Torley,

explains: "Since 2008, we have worked tirelessly to develop and introduce energy-saving measures that will massively reduce our carbon footprint. Through the implementation of these measures we have managed to save a massive 2208 tonnes of carbon from being emitted, something we are obviously very proud of."

01282 716611 [www.vekauk.com](http://www.vekauk.com)

enq.337

## Texture, the third dimension



Inspired by European trends, the Axiom® by **Formica Group** range provides designers and specifiers with a wide variety of stylish and contemporary kitchen worktop options to create the latest looks in kitchen design. Texture is a key consideration

when it comes to selecting a worktop. It can add another sense to the surroundings, enhance a simple plain colour surface and add an extra dimension to a design. A textured woodgrain can create that timeless, rustic look so sought after today; while a premium texture combined with a colour or pattern adds additional interest and depth to a room. Formica Group recently introduced two new textures to the Axiom® range: Scovato and Puregrain.

enq.339

## Warmcair sets warm air heating standards



**Johnson & Starley** has incorporated the latest proven cutting edge technology into its new range of WarmCair condensing warm air heaters. They have been designed to offer low running costs, exceptional reliability, unrivalled efficiency and warmth as well as low carbon and NOx emissions with the added benefit of low operational noise levels. The heaters are suitable for both new build and for replacement heating upgrade installations. A WarmCair heater can replace any existing warm air heater with

minimum disruption and with replacement installation times generally less than one day.

enq.305

## Vortice launches BPEC course



Burton on Trent based ventilation systems supplier, **Vortice**, launches its new BPEC training courses this month. The two day course aims to provide ventilation contractors with all they need to know to make best use of today's energy efficient ventilation products. The two day course will cost £295 + VAT per delegate exclusive of accommodation and will be run by the Vortice technical department at their Burton on Trent training centre. Courses will take place on the last

Thursday and Friday of each month from June 2013 onwards.

01283 492949 [www.vortice.ltd.uk](http://www.vortice.ltd.uk)

enq.340

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enq.341

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enq.342





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enq.344

## Edenhall restarts Darlstone production



Edenhall has restarted production of Darlstone, a popular walling stone used continuously by housebuilders for over 30 years. Darlstone is regularly offered as an alternative to quarried stone and is approved as such for use in national parks and conservation areas. Darlstone

is simple and economic to use and is able to create a random coursing aesthetic to masonry as well as contributing scale, colour, texture, a sense of permanence and that all important kerb appeal. Both national and regional housebuilders frequently use Darlstone, often incorporating architectural cast stone as a complementary detailing product.

01633 612 671 [www.edenhall.co.uk](http://www.edenhall.co.uk)

enq.117

## Ibstock's tradesman brick range



Ibstock has seen its recently expanded Tradesman range increase market share over the past twelve months. Sales of the range have grown by 45 per cent over the past year, bucking market trends and demonstrating its growing appeal to merchants and end users alike. The range

offers a strong option for merchants, who can take advantage of a superior brick range that provides extensive performance, appearance and cost benefits. Merchants can order mixed loads from the entire Tradesman range, making the Tradesman ideal for when a full load of a single colour is not required.

0844 800 4575 [www.ibstock.com](http://www.ibstock.com)

enq.119

## BaitSafe™: The best kept secret



P and L Systems would love to tell you all about BaitSafe's recent installation in a prominent five star London hotel, targeting severe rodent issues in the walls and ceilings of the kitchens and reception areas... And about BaitSafe's use in the kitchens of a high profile entertainment facility, targeting pest issues safely and securely out of the reach of employees... But you won't find them making headlines any

time soon – They've all chosen an ultra discreet solution, protecting their customers and staff from the negative attention that pests can create. BaitSafe offers the flexibility to target a wide range of pests, keeping the secrets of your pest control needs well and truly hidden!

0800 0851 451 [www.sxenv.com](http://www.sxenv.com)

enq.121

## Toolstation slashes another 1,300 prices



With the launch of its 50th catalogue, Toolstation is lowering prices on another 1,300 products, cementing its reputation as Britain's low cost trade supplier. Headlining the front cover is a fantastic deal on an SIP 24 litre compressor with accessory kit at £99.98. For outdoors, Liberon's decking oil is down 20 per cent plus price drops on paints, irrigation and landscaping tools. For all the latest prices and new products, pick up Catalogue 50 from one of Toolstation's

130 plus sales counters or contact Toolstation freephone on:

0808 100 7211 [www.toolstation.com](http://www.toolstation.com)

enq.122

## HIPPOBAGS to feature on TV



Striking yellow HIPPOBAGs™, from HIPPO™, are being used to provide the waste clearance service for the second series of ITV's garden makeover show *Love Your Garden* with Alan Titchmarsh. HIPPO was selected for use on the programme

because it offers a nationwide network for efficient collection, 90 per cent waste recycling and on-site space saving. For the building and gardening trades HIPPO not only offers cost savings over the use of skips. The flexible material takes more waste than the equivalent sized skip, saving money too, typically between 15 per cent and 30 per cent.

0870 880 2430 [www.hippobag.co.uk](http://www.hippobag.co.uk)

enq.118

## Lanes complete chute reline on tower block



Lanes Group has used its innovative drainage technology to carry out the first ever reline repair of a refuse chute in a residential tower block in England. Its engineers reached for the skies instead of going underground to refurbish two chutes at the 13-storey Devonshire Tower in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear. The technique, pioneered by Lanes' Scottish drainage operation, Castlebrae, is also used to reline drain stacks on listed buildings. Paul Matthews, area development manager for Lanes for Drains in Tyne and Wear, said: "Relining waste chutes rather than replacing them takes less time, is less disruptive, is more cost-effective and creates a robust, long-term repair."

0161 788 2261 [www.lanesfordrains.co.uk](http://www.lanesfordrains.co.uk)

enq.120

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enq.124



### Tarkett launch new Luxury Vinyl Tile range

Flooring expert Tarkett has launched an innovative new range of Luxury Vinyl Tiles (LVTs) for the home – iD Inspiration 70. The company has used its years of experience developing LVTs for the commercial sector to produce the range that will sit alongside its iD Selection 40 collection. The ranges retain commercial specifications meaning that they're extremely hard wearing. But Tarkett has designed these new collections for the smaller room sizes and interior aesthetics of consumer homes. Both ranges are 100 per cent recyclable and include a minimum 48 per cent recycled content. Tarkett's LVT range is also the only product on the UK market that is manufactured and designed in Europe. This means both products have a carbon footprint lower than those manufactured in the Far East. VOC emissions are also below quantifiable levels, contributing to an optimal indoor air quality.

01622 854040 [www.tarkett.co.uk](http://www.tarkett.co.uk)

enq.125

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enq.126

# Showering trends

David Osborne, managing director of UK shower manufacturer Roman, talks us through the latest trends in design, as well as giving a brief rundown of some important changes to CE mark legislation that we should be aware of

**T**he bathroom has now become a key focus for homeowners and it is becoming more and more important for architects and housebuilders to create a space that will be appealing to homeowners.

## Design trends

A real trend that has emerged over recent years seems to be to create a hotel inspired bathroom space. More of us are now experiencing luxury showering and bathing in hotels, with indulgent weekends away, and luxury holidays overseas. This has encouraged a real trend towards boutique hotel inspired bathrooms, and there is a range of showering products available that can create the feeling of hotel chic in your own home.

Wetrooms offer both practicality and style that helps recreate this boutique feeling of luxury. However, true wetrooms are still very much niche due to the lack of experience and therefore confidence with the trade and the perceived installation costs. However, simulated wetrooms with low-level shower trays have become increasingly popular. There has been an obvious shift towards wetroom panels or walk-ins being installed onto a shower tray, rather than a tanked and tiled floor.

In terms of more traditional enclosed showers, to fit in with this hotel feel, minimal framing and thicker glass is a must to achieve a designer finish. Although often referred to as frameless, truly frameless is still very much niche because

of limitations created by site conditions – this is a made to measure service. To install a truly frameless enclosure the walls must be exactly vertical. Therefore, due to building tolerances and the need for a speedy installation, frames are often a necessity. However, designers and manufacturers of shower enclosures are developing products that give a frameless finish, but that can be installed within the typical UK bathroom. Semi-frameless is very much where the mainstream shower enclosure specifications lie – this is certainly increasing as the look moves through all market sectors.

When specifying at the higher end of the market, alongside the overall look, the movement of the enclosure door has also become a key factor – it should be totally smooth and almost silent. Uniquely, within the bathroom the shower enclosure is one of the only bathroom items that which contains moving parts and receives impact constantly, following installation. It is also expected to be watertight and act like a fish tank. Therefore it should be one of the most considered parts of the bathroom design.

## Small bathrooms

With new build housing, if multiple bathrooms are offered, they are usually added within smaller spaces. Just because a bathroom has been squeezed into a small area, this doesn't mean you have to compromise on both style and performance. With the rise in multiple bathrooms there is the opportunity for one main family bathroom and then multiple shower rooms presented in an ensuite situation. Many shower enclosures are available in 800 and even 760mm footprints – this allows them to be squeezed into these tight spaces. Choose an inward opening door to avoid other fixtures and fittings, such as a bi-fold door.

For the main family bathroom, if space won't allow for a separate showering and bathing facility, you can add an additional showering facility positioned over the bath. There is a wide range of bath screens available, which will look stylish and contemporary with minimal framing and thicker glass. They can also come power shower approved so the homeowner can still enjoy that powerful and refreshing shower, while showering over the bath.

*Continued on page 35...*

**A real trend that has emerged over recent years seems to be to create a hotel inspired bathroom space**





## Grundfos SOLOLIFT2 – a cut above



The SOLOLIFT2 range of macerators from Grundfos is continuing to build an enviable reputation. This could be because the family comprises of just five models that, through the flexibility of their design, their adaptability and performance,

provide the solution to handling wastewater for any combination of WC, bidet, sink, shower and washing machine or dishwasher. Another reason could be the fact that they are capable of dealing with a range of application demands. Whatever the reason, the message is clear the Grundfos SOLOLIFT2 family are a cut above.

01525 850000 [www.grundfos.co.uk](http://www.grundfos.co.uk)

enq.127

## Redring gets active with new shower range



As part of its ongoing product development programme for 2013, Redring has announced the latest addition to its shower offering with the launch of the new Active range of instantaneous electric showers. The new range has been restyled with a modern and sleek new look, while remaining affordable. The range consists of the Active and Active Plus. Both models are available in 7.2kW or 8.5kW options for a wide range of installation

applications. The Active and Active Plus both feature separate rotary power selection and flow/temperature controls, ensuring end users can easily choose the settings to suit their needs.

0844 372 7750 [www.redring.co.uk](http://www.redring.co.uk)

enq.129



## Wet room wonders from Schlüter-Systems

Schlüter-Systems' extensive range of wet room products offers simplicity, reliability and easy installation within the home. Incorporating the very latest innovations for floor-level showers and wet rooms, Schlüter-Systems provides a fully integrated product suite, including top of the range waterproofing sets, drainage systems, and uncoupling and waterproofing membranes for tiling the walls and floors. Products including Schlüter-KERDI-LINE are linear drain channel systems, which are perfect for the construction of floor level showers and offer a particularly low assembly height. The Schlüter-KERDI-SHOWER range are pre-sloped shower bases making tiling straightforward and there are a number of different sizes and dimensions available, providing an ideal substrate for an excellent finish with tile or natural stone.

01530 813396 [www.schluter.co.uk](http://www.schluter.co.uk)

enq.131

## Abacus Direct keeps it simple



Abacus Direct Ltd, has revealed its latest complete bathroom solution from renowned fashion and home-ware designer Ben de Lisi. 'Simple' is an elegant range of sanitaryware that offers effortless chic and streamlined design with Nano Tech easy clean coating and a choice of products that includes a wall hung basin, back to wall and wall hung WCs and wall hung bidet.

For the ultimate in hygiene and easy cleaning, the ceramic collection is coated with transparent Nano particles, which provide excellent water/dust repellent and anti-bacterial properties. The range forms part of a brand new collection for 2013.

enq.128

## BSRIA tests for part 'F' failure



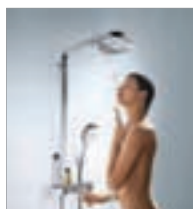
Testing of domestic ventilation systems under Approved Document F of the Building Regulations has been compulsory since 2010. Unfortunately it has proven to be a nightmare for the construction industry with a ridiculously high percentage of failures. BSRIA Compliance lays the initial blame for these shortcomings on poor design, but mainly a poor standard of installation. BSRIA maintains that

there is a domestic ventilation testing procedure that is simple, quick and accurate, using a Power Flow Hood. The Hood contains a fan that rotates at a controlled speed allowing the unit to achieve a zero pressure balance usually within 4-20 seconds when placed over inlet or outlet.

0800 5871000 [www.bsria.co.uk](http://www.bsria.co.uk)

enq.130

## Raindance Select E300 3jet showerpipe



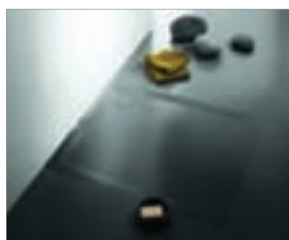
The innovative Raindance Select collection from Hansgrohe offers the choice of spray modes with a simple push button 'select' operation. The new Raindance Select E300 3jet overhead shower (shown here on the shower-pipe) features a new third style of spray called RainStream. Rows of cascading shower nozzles project the water in a uniform curtain,

which keeps its shape all the way down to the ground. This is switched on and off by a button on the thermostat. There are two new designs for the Raindance Select showers: SoftCube, which is square with softened corners, or a timeless cylindrical design.

01372 465 655 [www.hansgrohe.co.uk](http://www.hansgrohe.co.uk)

enq.132

## Secure Plus shower surface from Kaldewei



In a constant effort to harmonise design and functionality, Kaldewei takes innovation to a whole new level. Secure Plus is the new anti-slip surface finish for enamelled shower surfaces that is virtually invisible. Available in the selected matt colours of Kaldewei's Coordinated Colours Collection,

it is made of a quartz sand mix that is permanently fired onto the shower surface including outlet cover. The resulting seamless surface ensures durable safety and comfort underfoot.

0800 840 9770 [www.kaldewei.co.uk](http://www.kaldewei.co.uk)

enq.133

## In terms of more traditional enclosed showers, to fit in with this hotel feel, minimal framing and thicker glass is a must to achieve a designer finish

### CE marking

The most critical change to legislation, which housebuilders, architects and specifiers need to be aware of, is that all products used within construction must carry the CE mark as from 1 July 2013. Whereas previously this has been prominent on electrical items, it now applies to all products – including bathroom items such as the shower enclosure and shower tray. The CE marking indicates that a product complies with EU regulation, but as a self-certification scheme it is the manufacturer's responsibility to ensure their products conform to the relevant regulations. However, as the reseller of the product, it is important that you ensure the showering products you specify from the 1 July 2013 are conforming to this new regulation.

Checking whether a product carries the CE marking is fairly straightforward. The manufacturer will most likely include the CE marking on the product itself, and in marketing material, but it is also the manufacturer's responsibility to make the declaration of performance readily available. Where this information is not readily available, housebuilders, architects and specifiers should be cautious. Speak to your suppliers and ensure they have conformed to the scheme.

enq.134



### Lakes Bathrooms expands the Coastline



Shower specialist **Lakes Bathrooms** has expanded its Coastline Collection of 8mm walk-in enclosures, adding 24 new sizes to the range. The contemporary, sleek and minimalist collection of shower enclosures has proven so popular that new sizes have been added to each style to maximise consumer choice. The entire collection has almost doubled and now includes 46 designs and sizes. The range is designed to look stunning and be straightforward to fit, with discreet, silicon-free profiling providing for a high level of adjustability, with all the 8mm enclosures coming with a lifetime guarantee. Suitable for a range of situations, the two metre high enclosures are designed to fit with low profile tray mounting or in a wet room environment. The various styles work in alcove, corner, straight wall-mounted and free-standing situations. Lakes Bathrooms' stay-clean AllClear treatment is applied to both sides of the glass to help the enclosure retain its crystal showroom finish, saving on both cleaning effort and expense, while supporting improved hygiene and minimising environmental impact for real eco appeal. Retail prices for the 8mm Walk-in range in the Coastline Collection start from £263 plus VAT. The new enclosures are now shipping on the company's normal 24-48 hour delivery.

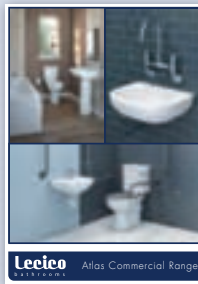
01684 853870 [www.lakesbathrooms.co.uk](http://www.lakesbathrooms.co.uk)

enq.135

### Atlas Smooth

Lecico's innovative Atlas Smooth close coupled pan and cistern includes a 6 and 4 litre flush system (that can be set to a 4 and 2.6 litre flush), which enables you to save both water and money whilst also helping to protect the environment.

Specification manual available upon request for specifiers.



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enq.136



## Vent-Axia Lo-Carbon LED Vent-A-Light



Vent-Axia has upgraded its popular Vent-A-Light shower fan with an energy saving 3 watt LED lamp. The Lo-Carbon LED Vent-A-Light is a highly energy efficient shower light fan designed to be a positive addition to any

shower or bathroom. By incorporating LED technology the Lo-Carbon Vent-A-Light's lamp uses a significant 90 per cent less power than a standard Dichroic lamp, while boasting a low specific fan power of 0.21W/l/s. Combined these features offer a significant energy saving for cost conscious households.

0844 856 0590 [www.vent-axia.com](http://www.vent-axia.com)

enq.137

## Kinedo Moonlight from Saniflo



Saniflo offers a range of effective and stylish showering solutions for housebuilders. With its understated elegance and neutral styling, the Moonlight, from the prestigious Kinedo brand, will blend into any setting, whether classic or contemporary. Great for those who want the convenience of fitting a shower cubicle but still want the freedom to influence the look of their bathroom, it allows you to

accommodate the choice of your own shower control. The brushed aluminium effect panel can be easily drilled for any fixings. Moonlight is perfect for those who want flexibility as well as great functionality. Easy to install and maintain and available in three sizes.

020 8842 0033 [www.saniflo.co.uk](http://www.saniflo.co.uk)

enq.138

## Aqata hinged panels



The stylish Spectra SP446 Walk-In Screen with hinged panel in particular has become a best-seller for Aqata since it was introduced in 2011. Offering clean lines and a spacious contemporary showering space, the 1,950mm high corner walk-in has a practical 350mm hinged panel to keep overspray to a minimum. This allows easy access and also

maximum freedom of movement as the shower space is not fully enclosed. The model is also available with a side panel as the Spectra SP446C to create a complete wet room style enclosure, while maximising the sense of space in the bathroom.

01455 896500 [www.aqata.co.uk](http://www.aqata.co.uk)

enq.139

## Individuality from Mereway



With today's consumer household owning an average of 100 cosmetic and cleaning products, it's easy to see why all bathroom designs should include storage, and why Mereway Bathrooms' collection of iconic fitted and modular furniture has real style flare and individuality – a 'must have' in any bathroom space. Offering stunning finishes and hundreds of cabinet

designs, not to mention reduced depth and ultra slim options – there's a storage solution for every taste and budget.

0800 028 4466 [www.merewaybathrooms.co.uk](http://www.merewaybathrooms.co.uk)

enq.140

## Solus & Duo from Ellis Furniture



Solus and Duo from Ellis Furniture are available in four widths, 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 and beautiful natural wood grains mean you can mix and match door and

carcass colours and finishes for a truly individual design. Solus and Duo are available with the Ellis minimo push to open technology. Use the free Bathroom Styler App or go to [www.bathroomstyler.co.uk](http://www.bathroomstyler.co.uk) and experiment with a wide choice of unit sizes, doors, carcass options, handles and splashbacks to create life-like, on screen images.

01484 514212 [www.ellisbathrooms.co.uk](http://www.ellisbathrooms.co.uk)

enq.141

## New England style development



Marley Eternit's fibre cement Cedral Weatherboard has helped to create a New England style development at Valley Park in Rye, Kent. Entire properties as well as a large number of feature walls on the development have been clad in Cedral Weatherboard.

Aroncorp, the client for this development, was initially drawn to Cedral Weatherboard because it provided a visually authentic, low maintenance method of creating the popular New England style of architecture. Cedral Weatherboard has a textured surface that echoes the aesthetic characteristics of timber. It has an installed life expectancy of at least 50 years and will not warp or shrink.

enq.142

## Freefoam launches new cladding literature



Freefoam Building Products is pleased to announce the introduction of new literature for the Fortex embossed external wall cladding range. The brochure illustrates the technical features of the products and highlights the benefits to both installers and consumers. PVC cladding has come a long way in the last ten years, with Freefoam leading the way with UV resistant cladding manufactured with an environmentally friendly lead-free formulation offering an excellent thermal conductivity of between 0.06 and 0.1 W/mk, depending on profile thickness.

Consumers like the consistent, stable low maintenance long life board, which qualifies for a 20 year guarantee on white and, using Freefoam's patented Colormax™ technology, a 10 year guarantee on each of the seven subtle 'heritage' style colours. Designed for installers Fortex is fast and easy to fit with a complete range of accessories to give a professional, long lasting finish. Weighing in at four times less than cement fibre board and requiring no specialist storage or fixing equipment it's a product that makes sense for any building professional.

01604 591110 [www.freefoam.com](http://www.freefoam.com)

enq.143

# Flame retardant paints – a safer solution

Following the introduction of the RRFSO Regulatory Reform (fire safety) order (2006) Housing Associations, more than ever, have a legal duty of care to minimise fire risk in its premises and prioritise the safety of the occupants. Here, Tony Walker, technical manager – specification at Johnstone's, looks at how the development of flame retardant coatings is increasingly helping housing associations meet ever-changing legislation

Approved Document B of the Building Regulations states that 'internal linings in buildings should adequately resist the spread of flame over their surfaces and have, if ignited, a rate of release which is reasonable within the circumstances'. The document also states that walls and ceilings in common access areas of buildings of multiple occupancy, such as social housing, should be finished with materials that contribute to this. Although within the current legislation guidelines there is very little mention of paint, they do relate to areas that are usually treated with decorative materials, such as the internal linings.

The main classifications used for testing the compliance of materials within the requirements of the building regulations are BS476 Part 6 and 7. BS476 Part 6-Fire Propagation measures contribution to the growth of fire, while BS476 Part 7-Surface Spread of Flame measures the distance that the flame travels across the surface. The level of flame classification required for commercial and residential buildings, as laid down in the Building Regulations, is usually Class 1 or Class 0. Class 0 is generally required for ceiling and wall finishes in public areas including circulation areas and escape routes.

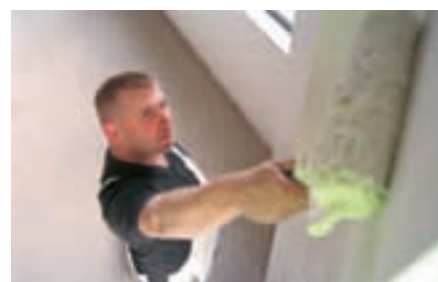
By working closely with specifiers for many years and fully appreciating the often conflicting demands of meeting legislation without compromise to aesthetic or performance requirements, a number of the leading paint manufacturers offer systems specially formulated to inhibit the surface spread of flame. These systems help simplify the specification process for newly painted surfaces and help reduce the uncertainty surrounding the specification of paint for redecoration over multiple layers of paints.

Some manufacturers offer flame retardant decorative top coat systems, which have achieved a Class 0 rating. There are paints available, tested in accordance with BS476 Parts 6&7, that are ideal for application onto unpainted, non combustible surfaces and also for painting over sound existing paint with up to approximately 10 existing paint layers. Paints that have achieved the highest standard Class 0 under test, enable

surfaces, which over the years have been painted on numerous occasions and are now deemed Class 4, to be reverted back to a non-combustible Class 0 surface.

While the ability to protect against the spread of flames is clearly the primary consideration when specifying flame retardant paint, it does not need be to the detriment of aesthetic appeal. For example, technology has advanced so much in the coatings industry that we're now at a stage

*Continued overleaf...*



**While the ability to protect against the spread of flames is clearly the primary consideration when specifying flame retardant paint, it does not need be to the detriment of aesthetic appeal**





where these two-coat systems can be tinted to over 16,000 colours. The sheer availability of colours means that tenants can be given relative freedom to choose the colours they want for their properties and can move away from neutrals if they desire, all of which can have a significant impact on tenant satisfaction.

It's not just colour options where flame retardant coatings shine however, as the durability they provide ensures they are the perfect fit for social housing environments. The robust and durable nature of modern flame retardant coatings can help to significantly extend maintenance cycles and ensure that minimal disruption will be caused to tenants, as the need for potentially intrusive redecorating programmes will be lessened.

There is little doubt that establishing whether the existing substrate is sound for redecoration can be both complex and potentially onerous on the person responsible for the duty of care; which is why many manufacturers offer on-site inspections. These comprise of a series of assessment-based tests, including a microscopic flake test to ascertain the number of layers on a substrate and secondly an adhesion test, which establishes whether existing coatings have good adhesion to the substrate and is therefore suitable for the application of flame retardant paints. In the case of existing coatings being deemed to have poor adhesion they will necessitate stripping back to the original surface.

enq.144



## Polyseam awarded prestigious ISO 14001



Polyseam, a leading manufacturer of own brand sealants and adhesives and developer of the award winning IPT sealant, has become one of the first companies to achieve ISO 14001 certification. "We are delighted that our hard work has been recognised and that our

customers, staff and other stakeholders can now be confident in our commitment to the management of our environmental responsibilities," commented managing director Andrew Sutulic. "By achieving this recognition Polyseam is not only helping to enhance its own reputation and credibility but also that of UK manufacturing."

01484 421036 [www.polyseam.co.uk](http://www.polyseam.co.uk)

enq.145

## Sanitary sealant gets stylish makeover



In line with current trends in bathroom design and fashion, sealant specialist Geocel is launching a new colour for its market-leading Dow Corning 785 Sanitary Silicone Sealant. Now available in Jasmine to complement natural stone tiles and

fittings, Dow Corning 785 is the undisputed tradesman's favourite with millions of cartridges sold thanks to its reputation for reliability, quality and tough, watertight seal. Professional tradesmen always ask for Dow Corning 785 because they know that it is completely reliable and will never be the cause of a call-back. Now this reliability and consistency is available for fashionable bathrooms everywhere.

enq.146

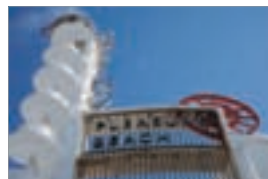
## NEWS BLOG

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The Housebuilder & Developer news blog is accessible from your Mac or PC, laptop, mobile or tablet, 24/7 and provides interaction through commenting, discussion and social network sharing. Housebuilder & Developer prides itself on offering housebuilders, developers and housing associations a wealth of up-to-date, informative content, from the most recent industry news, to the latest products and services. Now we've made it even more accessible with the launch of the HBD interactive news blog, supporting our already widely recognised magazine, website and newsletters. <http://hbd-news.blogspot.co.uk>



## Blackpool pleasure from Bradite



One of the most famous amusement parks in the UK is being kept in tip top condition thanks to products from the Bradite paint and primer range. Blackpool Pleasure Beach amusement park is located along the Fylde coast in Blackpool, Lancashire,

and with millions of visitors a year, it is essential that the most visited tourist attraction in the United Kingdom is maintained on a rolling basis. As part of the park's rolling maintenance programme, the rides are being spot primed with Bradite EP92 and then coated with two coats of PG77 polyurethane gloss finish.

07867 305626 [james@bradite.com](mailto:james@bradite.com)

enq.148

## New website & app for decorators



A new website that provides a place for decorators to share their top trade tips, amusing work stories and photographs of projects in progress has been launched. **Dulux Trade Paint Expert** offers entertaining blog posts from the Secret Decorator, on-the-job anecdotes, life stories, the latest industry news, product reviews, business advice and helpful tips, with most of the content coming from those who know the trade best – decorators. The website – [www.dulux-trade-paintexpert.co.uk](http://www.dulux-trade-paintexpert.co.uk) – also brings together all the useful information that an applicator might need quick access to, from colour guides and handy product videos, to a list of stockists. Expert career and training advice is also available.

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.

## 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.

0845 373 0103 [www.remmers.co.uk](http://www.remmers.co.uk)

enq.149

## Mapei celebrates BBA certification



**Mapei** is delighted to announce that they have been awarded British Board of Agreement (BBA) certification for their Mapetherm EPS External Wall Insulated System. The Mapetherm System is an external wall insulation system that utilises EPS sustainable alternatives to conventional insulation materials.

Consisting of adhesive, insulation, base coat, mesh, primer and thin coat render finish, it aims to limit heat loss and guarantees significant energy savings, and is already achieving great success in very demanding climatic conditions worldwide.

0121 5086970 [www.mapei.co.uk](http://www.mapei.co.uk)

enq.150

## The total solution for tile fixing



The advancement in construction methods, materials and tile technology have put increased demands upon the specifier to recommend the best preparation and fixing products for ceramics, porcelain, mosaics and natural stone tiles to ensure a successful installation. To meet this demand **Norcros** has created a total package

solution including technical site visits and NBS M40 specifications, which support a comprehensive range of professional products for surface preparation, fixing, grouting and finishing. The full system is covered by the Norcros Lifetime guarantee. The Norcros adhesives have been developed to conform to BS EN 12004, and allow tiles to be fixed to a wide range of backgrounds.

enq.152

## Clearly the best!

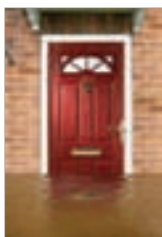


**Clear Fix**, by **Everbuild**, is a clear hybrid polymer grab adhesive that has the ability to bond just about everything in both interior and exterior applications. It is a versatile product that can be used in almost every application imaginable – particularly for jobs that require an invisible finish – even when immersed in water! **Clear Fix** comes in a completely clear cartridge, which illustrates the true clarity of the product and offers something unique to the industry. Quick curing, resistant to temperature extremes, over paintable and totally water and weatherproof, **Clear Fix** has been specially formulated with added UV stabilisers to ensure the product doesn't yellow over time.

0113 240 2424 [www.everbuild.co.uk](http://www.everbuild.co.uk)

enq.153

## DuoGuard against floods with Bowater



As the threat of flooding in the UK increases, **Bowater Doors** has unveiled an improved design for its flood defence door. The DuoGuard range is being relaunched following enhancements to its design. The superior appearance of the DuoGuard range is matched by the security it provides, as it meets or exceeds all current British standards, including PAS23, PAS24 and Secured by Design. As well as the 12 locking points

securing it to the frame, it also has high security hinges and a six pin anti-drill/ anti-bump euro cylinder, and its steel reinforced PVC-U sub-frame is braced with steel corner supports.

01282 716611 [www.system10aluminium.co.uk](http://www.system10aluminium.co.uk)

enq.154

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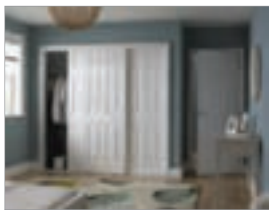
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enq.155



## SPEEDROBE – speed is of the essence



SPEEDROBE from Premdor is a unique, recently launched sliding wardrobe system that will become an instant success with the builder or trade installer who will benefit from the speed and ease of installing additional wardrobes using the SPEEDROBE system. Ideal for the

smaller new build bedroom where swinging or folding wardrobe doors can become a space issue, the SPEEDROBE sliding doors utilise limited space to create maximum visual effect. The fixing kit contains everything except the doors.

0844 2090008 [www.premdor.co.uk](http://www.premdor.co.uk)

enq.156

## Garador on tip of fingerprint technology



Garador is proud to announce the launch of a new range of BiSecur Accessories, including a state-of-the-art fingerprint scanner for the ultimate in technologically-advanced remote operation. The BiSecur finger sensor allows operators to open automatic garage doors and entrance gates without the hassle and expense of additional handheld transmitters. The newly developed, BiSecur encryption protocol in the latest range of accessories, produces an ultra-secure radio signal, which cannot be tampered with or intercepted.

01935 443791 [www.garador.co.uk](http://www.garador.co.uk)

enq.158

## Bowater's high-end read for door ranges



Bowater Doors has boosted its marketing support for fabricators and installers with a number of comprehensive and detailed brochures that outline the benefits homeowners can gain through fitting a Bowater composite door. There are three

brochures and an in-depth commercial spec guide to support the newly relaunched Bowater collection. The three ranges include: the standard 'Mono PLUS' Bowater composite door, the highly-specified 'DUO' double rebate range and the premium 'DUO Diamond' range of doors with decorative triple-glazing options. Along with the Bowater 'DUO Guard' flood defence door.

01282 716611 [www.system10aluminium.co.uk](http://www.system10aluminium.co.uk)

enq.157

## Swish windows and doors impress



Residents of Redrow's prestigious new housing development in Lytham St Annes are enjoying attractive and warm homes, thanks to Swish Window and Door Systems. Swish's 'A' rated casement windows were used for the family homes and villas in the development,

while curtain walling was also used for the villas, plus the apartments. Beck Brown coloured foils were utilised for the curtain wall and windows, in order to create a modern, aesthetically appealing finish. Some of the larger properties on the development also feature sliding patio doors, which adhere to Secured by Design specifications.

0808 178 3040 [www.swishwindows.co.uk](http://www.swishwindows.co.uk)

enq.159



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enq.160



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enq.161

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enq.162

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enq.163

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enq.164



## JB Kind advises vigilance with fire doors



A number of customers have contacted **JB Kind**, concerned about the validity of fire doors purchased from other door suppliers, where the certification supplied has been for an entirely different door. There seems to be confusion as to the standards that a fire door should

reach and how to check they have been met. Specifications may require the door to be a different size, perhaps with glazing or ironmongery that is not as tested. These variations can only be allowed if covered by an Assessment report issued by the approving body and JB Kind advises to request a copy as a matter of course.

01283 554197 [www.jbkind.com](http://www.jbkind.com)

enq.165

## Supply and install service for windows



**NorDan Uk Ltd** is the biggest supplier of timber alu clad windows to the social housing market in the UK and the firm is currently expanding its supply and install service to customers. With project management

offices located close to the customer, NorDan has always strived to be customer focussed and to offer complete de-risked solutions. Gloucester and Ipswich offices have a long track record in installing product as well as supplying windows and doors from the eight factories in Norway Sweden and Poland.

01452 883131 [www.nordan.co.uk](http://www.nordan.co.uk)

enq.167

## Litchfield Group: Sheerframe Bi-fold door



**The Litchfield Group**, a market-leading manufacturer of PVC windows and external doors, has launched a pioneering bi-fold door system with a 0.8W/m<sup>2</sup>K U-Value. The Sheerframe Bi-fold door

achieves industry leading thermal performance and energy efficiency thanks to a unique four-seal design. This promotes unbeatable air and water tightness, for lasting durability and weather resistance. The high performance system also features Sheerframe's five-chambered PVC profile, which improves strength while minimising heat loss. Ideal for use in both commercial and domestic settings.

enq.166

## Vicaima breaks the mould – again



Having broken the mould of contemporary door design with the original foil-faced door – Dekordor, **Vicaima** has now expanded its range of doors with the launch of another innovative new product. Dekordor



White Woodgrain uses a textured polypropylene based finish, which provides an attractive woodgrain effect while at the same time offering high resistance to wear and tear. The doors, which are available from stock for rapid delivery, are designed for use within high volume housing and as such are ideal for housebuilders and distributors supplying this market.



01793 532333 [www.vicaima.co.uk](http://www.vicaima.co.uk)

enq.168

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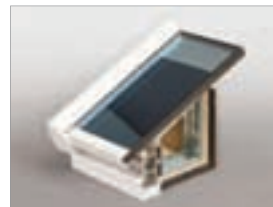



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enq.169

## K2 Capella a complete modular proposition



When it was launched in 2011 K2's Capella, by Synseal, fulfilled the simple promise of providing a single integrated internal bracket and aluminium gutter. Since then it has become a firm favourite and is now installed in hundreds of conservatories throughout the UK. Now K2

designers have evolved Capella to provide a number of internal and external options, while maintaining the inherent simplicity for which it became so popular. Internal options now include single and double bracket PVC-U soffits, which offer a highly cost-efficient solution to giving a conservatory an authentic orangery look.

enq.170

## New range of luxury vinyl sheet flooring



**Polyflor** has announced the launch of Secura, its first multi-width luxury vinyl sheet flooring range. Manufactured at the Teeside plant, which has long been recognised by retailers and consumers as producing the highest quality printed vinyl flooring, the Secura collection has been developed to enhance interiors with designs that reflect the natural beauty of wood, stone and stylish abstract finishes. The collection of 26 colours is available in 2, 3 and 4 metre widths

and features a 0.35mm wear layer and R10 slip resistance making it suitable for both heavy domestic and light commercial applications.

0161 767 1111 [www.polyflor.com](http://www.polyflor.com)

enq.171

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# Better to be safe than sorry

Andy Dix, chairman of the Precast Flooring Federation reports on the latest safety code

**M**ention health & safety to an average man on the street, and it is quite likely that he will see it as a good idea, which has occasionally been pushed too far; e.g. when playing conkers is labelled as unsafe. However, the reality is that construction sites involve far more dangerous hazards.

The Precast Flooring Federation (PFF) has spent many years putting a considerable amount of time and effort, in conjunction with the Health and Safety Executive, into publishing and revising its Code of Practice for the safe installation of precast concrete flooring and associated components. The third revision was launched on Thursday 23 May at the British Precast Awards luncheon at the King Power Stadium, Leicester, by Judith Hackitt, chair of the Health and Safety Executive. Members of PFF believe this code is of such importance that they have voted that adherence and independent audit to the code is a mandatory condition of membership of their federation.

In general, industrial safety has improved over the past 20 years, with significant reductions in the number and rate of injury to workers in the UK. However, construction remains a high-risk industry and continues to see more deaths than any other sector. Although it represents only about five per cent of the employees in Britain, construction accounts for 27 per cent of fatalities and nine per cent of major injuries. In 2011/12, there were 49 fatalities – a rate of 2.3 deaths per 100,000 workers. This compares to an average of 59 deaths in the past five years and a decrease from the 50 recorded the previous year.

Falling from height continues to be one of the most common causes of fatalities and major injuries, with more than five incidents recorded every day. The Work at Height Regulations require suitable and sufficient practicable steps to be taken to prevent falls. Where they cannot be prevented but only minimised, measures must be taken to mitigate the consequences of any fall

and where the potential fall could lead to injury, the regulations lay down a hierarchy of control measures to be taken. Top of the hierarchy is the planning of the work so that work at height is prevented, followed by the use of working platforms. The use of collective protection systems is next in the hierarchy as they are designed to minimise the consequences of a fall, while fall arrest systems are at the bottom of the hierarchy.

Since its launch, the PFF Code – which details the measures mentioned above and more – has been acknowledged as a best practice document

**Construction remains a high-risk industry and continues to see more deaths than any other sector**

for the industry, covering planning, organising, managing and carrying out work safely. It provides useful and often vital information for architects, structural engineers, main contractors and subcontractors as well as for managers, supervisors, foreman and operatives of the precast flooring specialists. This edition of the Code has been several years in preparation assisted throughout by members of the Health and Safety Executive. The new 106-page Code is available as a free download from the PFF website.

Most of the revisions in the new Code involve aspects not previously covered. For example, the manual handling operations regulations have been expanded to incorporate noise at work (with figures on limits for exposure levels in dB) and vibration at work. Hand-arm vibration transmitted from work processes into workers' hands and arms can typically be caused by hand-held



power tools such as portable disc cutters. Another introduction is a reference to the regulations for silica dust, the reader being referred to the HSE guidance publications CIS 36 Silica dust and CIS 54 Dust control on concrete cutting saws.

With regard to design, there are now specific provisions for installing precast concrete flooring onto steelwork. In addition, the installation of precast concrete floors on masonry now includes guidelines for thin joint construction.

Section 10 has been considerably modified with regard to lifting equipment. Responsibilities of contractors, employing organisation and the crane owner are all detailed in the revised Code. There are now requirements for planning the lifting operation – including risk assessment and method statements – and the selection and duties of personnel are clearly defined.

Section 10.7 presents guidelines for selecting cranes and, as documentation for cranes is now required, the specific information called for is set out in Section 10.8.5.3. The siting of cranes is also dealt with and there is a new requirement for the principal contractor to confirm the hard-standing bearing capacity and for a 'Permit to lift' confirmation.

Operating machinery near overhead cables is always a danger and the Code now includes consideration of such proximity hazards. In particular, distances when working near electricity lines and in the vicinity of aerodromes/airfields are stated. Of course, crane designs vary enormously and so guidelines for different types of crane have been added. The new Code also covers the new Notification of Conventional Tower Cranes Regulations 2010.

In comparison to the previous code, there are now notes on other lifting devices, along with additional guidelines on barring and jacking when moving components and materials.

Finally, regarding additional on-site works, the use of in-situ concrete has been changed from the

previous Code to include further details along with provisions for cutting units on-site.

The updated Code is perfect for the training of erectors, foremen and supervisors to ensure that all have the skills and competence to carry out their roles in a safe manner. The PFF grate-

## With regard to design, there are now specific provisions for installing precast concrete flooring onto steelwork

fully acknowledges the help and guidance provided by the Health and Safety Executive in the preparation of this Code and has also received support and comment from the Major Contractors Group. For further information please visit: [www.precastfloors.info](http://www.precastfloors.info)

enq.173



Judith Hackitt CBE chair of the HSE and Andy Dix president of British Precast signing the PFF's Code of Practice

### Quality floor repairs with Cempolatex



**Cementone** has announced the launch of Cempolatex Floor Repair Compound, featuring a market first 'mix-in-the-pouch' format. Ideal for smoothing damaged or uneven surfaces prior to laying decorative floor coverings, the new format of Cempolatex Floor Repair Compound removes the need for mixing paddles and buckets. Water is added directly to the pouch which means it takes just a few short, easy steps to prepare – helping to save time without compromising

on quality. The product also offers important health and safety benefits by removing the need to handle dry powder.

enq.174

### Safety and silence outside



Frontrunner XT slip resistant matting has been installed on all exposed walkways at a housing development of 4 blocks of apartments on 3 levels. Manufactured in the UK by **Plastic Extruders Ltd** and supplied by French flooring distributor Socofra Ubo, the matting has solved the dual problem of the occupants slipping on the passageways when wet and also reducing the echoing from pedestrian traffic. Frontrunner XT is the perfect choice for exterior walkways, balconies and decking. Manufactured from 100 per cent vinyl, it has a highly slip resistant deeply embossed surface, which is safe, permanently weatherproof and comfortable to stand on.

enq.175

### Forbo supplies Novilon cushioned vinyl for social housing scheme



Yorkshire Housing recently specified **Forbo's** Novilon cushioned vinyl products for kitchens and bathrooms as part of a refurbishment project to ensure that its 20-property social housing scheme met the Decent Homes Standard.

The comprehensive portfolio of styles and designs available met the housing provider's aesthetic needs while Novilon's Diamond Seal and Noviclean features, which help guard against scratches and scuff marks, met requirements for easy cleaning, low maintenance and long term durability.

A selection of designs were specified from the contemporary Novilon Viva and Viva Fusion ranges, which comprise a sophisticated mixture of metallic tiles and modern style wood effects. Novilon's Aquagrip lacquer, delivering R10 slip resistance, provided Yorkshire Housing and its tenants with peace of mind, reducing potential slip and trip hazards.

"We were thoroughly impressed with Forbo's range of colours and designs," said Andy Kelham, investment programme manager. "It is critical to specify floor coverings that would have long lasting performance as well as being hardwearing and easy to maintain – and the Novilon products easily met these needs."

enq.176



# EGGER launches an attractive cost effective solution for loft spaces

Wood panel manufacturer EGGER UK has launched a new range of decorative floor panels specifically designed to make boarding out loft and attic spaces a simple job for DIY enthusiasts

**E**GGER Decorative Protect Loft Panels are easy to fit and feature an attractive decorative oak wood-grain finish. They are manufactured to a P5 grade making them moisture resistant and structural and they also provide the opportunity to span up to 600mm between joist centres.

The panels are simple to install, hard wearing, and the unique decorative oak-effect finish means no additional floor covering, such as carpet or vinyl, is required, which offers the benefit of saving on project costs and installation time.

Previously, boarding out loft and attic spaces was usually limited to a non-structural, raw 18mm, P4 grade, tongue and groove panel, which cannot be walked on and only spans up to 400mm joist centres.

EGGER specification manager Daniel Clarke said: "Increasingly, households are seeking to add value and create more usable space within the home by converting loft, attic or utility spaces as

a cost effective alternative to moving house.

"Our new Decorative Protect Loft Panels have been designed to add value to the home by offering an attractive, simple solution which is both



durable and versatile so it will fit through standard domestic loft hatches."

The panel sizes are 1,200 x 350 in a 22mm thickness, which will cover a maximum span of up to 600mm centres, three panels are supplied per

pack for easy transportation and lifting and will cover approximately 1.26m<sup>2</sup>.

Each panel has a precision tongue and grooved interlocking profile on the two long sides of the board to make panel installation quicker and easier when used in conjunction with EGGER's D3 Adhesive. Step-by-step fitting instructions are supplied with every pack.

EGGER Decorative Protect Loft Panels are also suitable for use in structural applications when used in conjunction with structural floor timber or I Joist. This makes them ideal for use in a variety of settings such as cloakrooms, conservatories, utility rooms and garden buildings.

## CONTACT

0845 602 4444  
building.uk@egger.com  
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enq.177

## Knee pads save injury, time and money



An award winning, non-foam based, pocketed safety kneepad, which maintains its maximum cushioning effect throughout consecutive or prolonged use, "can help prevent up to six months down time and subsequent loss of earnings through knee injury in the workplace". The claim

comes from Cliff Lockyer, CEO of CL-7 Limited, the Daventry, Northamptonshire based manufacturers of the new, UK designed, 'Redbacks' cushioning kneepads, which are winners of the '2012 SATRA Best Innovation in Occupational PPE Award'.

01327 702104 [www.redbackskneepads.co.uk](http://www.redbackskneepads.co.uk)

enq.178

## SterlingOSB Decorcoat



Norbord has opened up a world of new design possibilities with the launch of SterlingOSB Decorcoat flooring panel. Made from Norbord's tongue-and-groove SterlingOSB3 in 15mm and 18mm thicknesses, Decorcoat is finished with a tough, high gloss coat of deep lacquer so that it is both a structural and a finished floor. The attractive multi-layered texture of wood flakes that makes up OSB has always appealed to

designers and architects. Yet OSB flooring is traditionally known solely for its structural properties and a conventional floor finish – such as carpet – is laid on top.

enq.179

## Cementone floor levelling compounds



Cempolay floor levelling compounds from Cementone offer excellent performance and a selection of products for a range of different flooring jobs. The range includes Cempolay Deep, which has been specially formulated for the direct laying of vinyl, ceramics and textiles at depths of up to 50mm. It is a high strength, fast setting deep self levelling compound, which can be used for raising floor levels and levelling uneven sub-floors

in light to heavy duty internal applications. What's more, it will dry to accept foot traffic in just 1.5 hours. Also available is Cempolay Ultra – Cementone's strongest self-levelling and resurfacing compound. Cempolay Ultra is ready for foot traffic after two hours.

enq.180

## Evolution Insurance Solution Ltd



Evolution Insurance Solutions Ltd is an Insurance Broker authorised and regulated in the UK by the Financial Services Authority under FSA number 472438. Evolution Insurance Solutions Ltd is one of the UK's

a leading brokers in the 10 Year Structural Warranty market. If you are undertaking a self build project in the near future then you are likely to require a mortgage compliant warranty and site insurance. Evolution is a specialist in this market and will source the right product at competitive rates for your project.

01799 512 031 [www.buildingwarranties.com](http://www.buildingwarranties.com)

enq.181

## New shallow dig septic tanks



Kingspan Klargestar, the global-leading specialists in the design and manufacture of off-mains drainage solutions, has launched the Sigma shallow dig septic tank – a cylindrical shaped tank with a lower-profile for quicker, cheaper, off-mains installations. The new design of the Sigma tank means that it requires a

shallower dig and less excavation, as well as far less peashing or concrete backfill to secure it in place. Sigma septic tanks are also ideally suited to rocky strata conditions where deep digs are not be possible. The range is fully approved to EN12566 Part 1 standard and is 99.7 per cent efficient at retaining solids in the tank.

enq.182

## Lanes: another accreditation at Slough



Lanes for Drains' super depot at Slough, has done it again. The team at the Berkshire hub, which handles one of the largest wastewater network service operations in the UK, has achieved BSI OHSAS 18001:2007, after demonstrating its adherence to occupational health

and safety standards. John Glover, Lanes Group's health, safety, environment and quality manager, said: "Safety has always been at the core of our operation. We already have award-winning health and safety systems and RoSPA gold awards, but gaining OHSAS 18001 is the icing on the cake."

0161 788 2261 [www.lanesfordrains.co.uk](http://www.lanesfordrains.co.uk)

enq.183

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# The tide of change hits roof windows

Steve Mascall at FAKRO GB comments on the future of roof windows

**T**he use of roof windows as an intrinsic element of interior design owes much to greatly improved functionality but also to the growing choice of styles. The days when a loft conversion routinely involved fitting a single top hung or centre pivot window either side of the ridge have long gone.

## Airtightness put to the test

Design sophistication has reached the point where roof windows can make a major contribution to airtight construction. Standards such as those set by the Passivhaus Trust, most recently with the EnerPHit® Refurbishment Standard, have prompted demand for levels of thermal performance, which have left some manufacturers behind. As part of plans to upgrade their three-bedroom, 1952 detached home to incorporate Passivhaus components, architects Tina Holt and Richard Middup opted to use EnerPHit principles for a retrofit and loft conversion. Their aim was to achieve a whole house heating usage of less than 40 kWh/sq m/year. Sourcing roof windows proved more difficult than anticipated but they found a quadruple-glazed roof window, which could make the required contribution to super-insulated airtight construction.

Tina Holt commented: "Passivhaus requires windows to be triple-glazed and have a minimum installed U-value of 0.85 W/m<sup>2</sup>K. We used the Fakro FTT U8 quadruple-glazed window as it has a U-value of 0.58. In the initial airtightness test of the house we achieved a figure in the region of 1.1 ACH at 50 Pascals. Though we have to reach around 1.0 ACH, no air flow was detected through the window seals. The product therefore looks to be highly suitable for houses with MVHR."

One of the key unseen differences is the use of seals made from thermoplastic elastomer (TPE), a material with exceptional elasticity, which is widely used in the medical, automotive and industrial sectors.

## Flat roof window performance

Windows for flat roofs have been available for some years but none have claimed particularly impressive thermal characteristics. The ability to design roof windows offering similarly high thermal characteristics as those designed for

passive construction might be considered to be overdue. Using glazing units with a U-value as low as 0.3 W/m<sup>2</sup>K is just part of the design change, however, multi-chamber PVC frames also enable highly efficient insulants to be incorporated. Specifiers have also long demanded scope to order bespoke sizes to match old skylights and this is now a reality.

## New standards in electronic operation

Windows including those for flat roofs are now available as standard with 'Z-wave' technology. 'Z-Wave' is a wireless protocol for communication between appliances so lighting, alarm, air conditioning, blinds and roof windows can be controlled from the same remote. Over 200 man-

ufacturers including Apple, Intel, Panasonic and GEC already use it in addition to those in construction, such as Danfoss and Osram. The programmable remote has a virtually unlimited range.

## Hinge and lock technology

The thought of roof windows providing an easy point of entry for burglars has only recently attracted media attention. However, as the number of multi-occupancy buildings has grown, so too has ease of access to roofs. Intruders have found that some sashes can be forced under foot pressure without breaking the glass, in situations where often there is little risk of being seen. The absence of a standard by which safety and secu-

*Continued on page 51...*

**'Z-Wave' is a wireless protocol for communication between appliances; lighting, alarm, air conditioning, blinds and roof windows can be controlled from the same remote**





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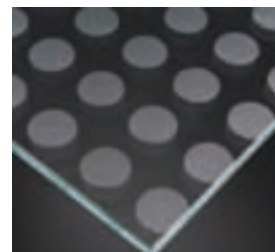


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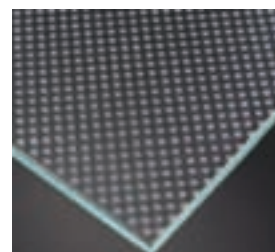
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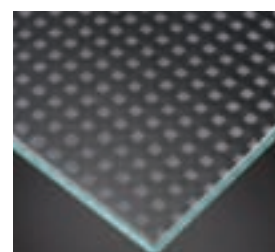
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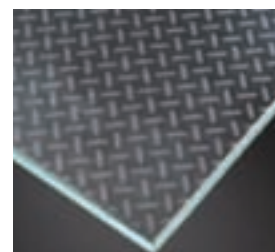
COMFORT  
R10



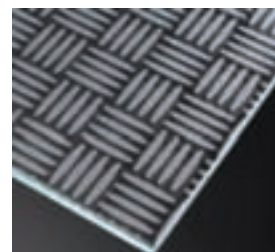
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rity could be measured didn't help but despite publication of EN13049, there is still a marked absence of performance data from many manufacturers. To put the level of security into some perspective, fulfilment of EN13049 Class 3, for

example, should enable the sash and glazing unit to withstand the weight of an individual jumping on the glass. Many roof windows achieve no more than Class 1.



**Making up ground on Europe**

With single storey extensions in particular, many home owners have commented that noise from rain on roof windows creates what is often referred to as 'the conservatory effect'. This has led to growing adoption of external awning and roller shutter blinds to reduce such noise. They also provide added thermal efficiency in cold weather while protecting against UV and solar gain.

Other ways in which design diversity has developed include use of roof windows in combination with in-roof solar thermal panels of the same size. Utilisation of the same flashing and sourcing products provides a neat appearance on the roof while also giving added assurance of efficient weatherproofing. Panels can be used in a way which also makes the most efficient use of the roof area and shape.

**The new generation of designs**

Encouraged by the pace of design developments, many architects are now seeking to specify bespoke elements of performance. This may be something as simple as windows fixed closed for installation above a covered walkway or a defined level of performance, for example in relation to acoustics, thermal performance or smoke ventilation. The scope for such specification has certainly never been greater and as the demand for higher performance grows so too will the pace of design development.

enq.188

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enq.190



## Tectite technology from Pegler Yorkshire

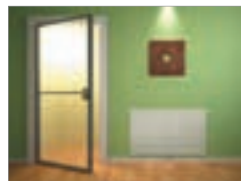


As a continuation of product development by renowned plumbing systems manufacturer **Pegler Yorkshire**, the company has launched a new valve. The Tectite TMV series combine the latest in metal push-fit technology with the ultimate protection against hot water scalding and thermal shock. The Tectite

TMV utilises the latest innovations in metal push-fit technology and will provide connectivity to copper, stainless steel and PE-X and PB. It also benefits from additional push-fit advantages such as installed cost savings, as joints are made in a fraction of the time, heat free therefore no requirement for a hot works permit and rotatable joints.

enq.191

## Radical wins awards



**Stelrad Radiators** is celebrating winning not one but two impressive accolades for its new energy saving serial feed radiator, the Radical! The first award it won was in the national H&V News Awards 2013 where it picked up the award for Best Domestic H&V Product of the

Year. It was just 'coming down off the ceiling' from winning that award when it found out it had also won the Best Retrofit Product of the Year in the Greenbuild Awards 2013 as well. The Radical Radiator is fully assessed by KIWA as offering a 10.5 per cent energy saving over traditional radiators.

0870 849 8056 [www.stelrad.com](http://www.stelrad.com)

enq.192

## Taking commercial contracts to Infinity



VEKA customer S&A Developments has been busy completing a number of commercial contracts lately, all while promoting the benefits of recycled PVC-U. The Darwen-based company has manufactured 1,000 windows, using VEKA's

renowned Infinity recycled profile system, which have been fitted into two different social housing projects in Wigan. The intention was to make the properties more energy efficient and VEKA's Infinity profile system was chosen for the replacement of all 500 windows.

01282 716611 [www.vekauk.com](http://www.vekauk.com)

enq.193

## Polypipe Ventilation's Silavent MVHR unit



Polypipe has launched the brand new Silavent Green Line HRX2, a highly efficient Mechanical Ventilation Heat Recovery (MVHR) appliance with the highest available heat exchange performance on the SAP Appendix Q register. Featuring a heat exchange efficiency of up to 95 per cent and a full

summer bypass option, the HRX2 offers the homeowner a year round ventilation solution. The unit operates by transferring the heat from the waste stale air extracted from kitchens or bathrooms to fresh filtered air drawn in from outside, which is then distributed to the living rooms in the home.

enq.194



## Intelligent glass systems intrigue

Essex Safety Glass (ESG Ltd) certainly injected intrigue at this year's Grand Designs Live as visitors watched in amazement while the technical glass manufacturer unveiled its full range of Controllable Intelligent Glass Systems. Aptly referred to as the next generation of 'intelligent glass products', the Controllable range particularly appealed to visitors researching ways to use glass as a truly 'responsive building material'. ESG Switchable™ LCD Privacy Glass was incredibly popular with those considering privacy glass as a practical and elegant design feature. Visitors witnessed the unrivalled quality of ESG Switchable™ first-hand, which is available in sizing up to 1,800mm x 3,500mm; making it the largest sized privacy glass on the market. Similarly, ESG Solarchromic™ Climate Control Glass also appealed to those seeking the best way to minimise solar heat gain during the summer months yet maximise it during the winter.

01376 520061 [www.essexsafetyglass.co.uk](http://www.essexsafetyglass.co.uk)

enq.195



## PaySmart™ debt free energy billing

Historically, many landlords and housing associations who manage housing schemes with communal heating have been required to maintain a debt fund to cover any shortfall in energy payments. This is used in circumstances where residents fail to pay for the energy they have consumed and often leads to an increase in the tariff rate for all residents of the scheme to cover the debt fund. Evinox can eliminate the requirement for a debt fund by providing a system where residents pay for energy in advance, which keeps the tariff rate down due to less administration and less debt management service being required. The PaySmart™ debt free metering solution enables residents to be in control of their own energy bills by paying for energy in advance and therefore removing any burden of building up unpaid bills or debt. This system also takes away the collection of money by the managing agent or housing association and provides residents with flexibility and choice over how they pay for their heating and hot water. Unlike traditional pre-payment systems, the process of adding energy credit to the PaySmart™ system is automated so there is no requirement for the resident to insert a card for activation.

01372 722277 [www.evinox.co.uk](http://www.evinox.co.uk)

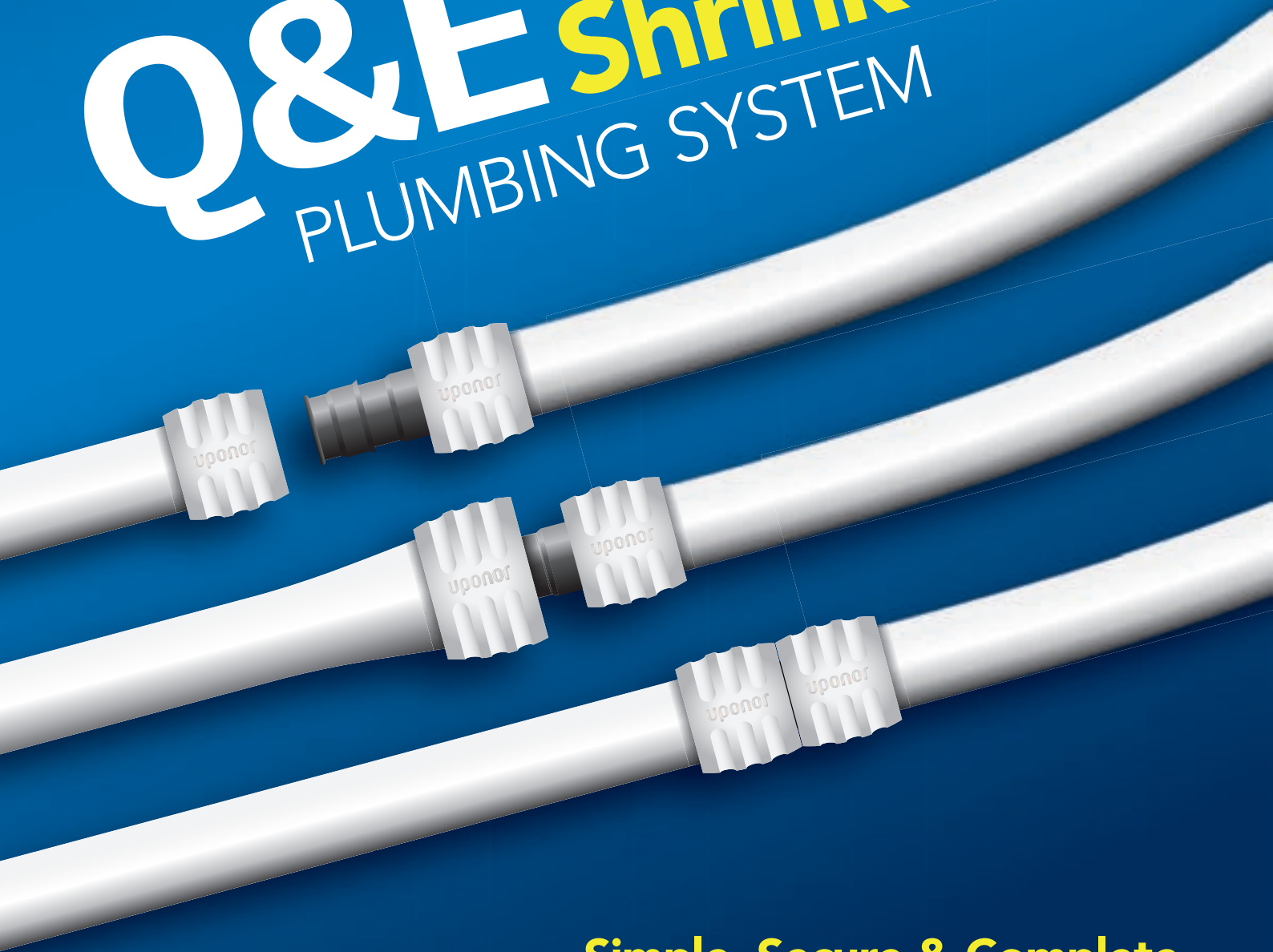
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## London scheme use Polypipe heat recovery



Polypipe Ventilation's HRX Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery (MVHR) systems are being installed into new properties in South Kilburn, London as part of a massive £700 million regeneration scheme. Construction company Denne, working in partnership with L&Q, is responsible for phase one of the project, building 286 new homes across two sites. Polypipe's Silavent Green Line HRX MVHR appliances and Domus Supertube 204x60mm duct system will be installed by mechanical and electrical contractors Box and Charnock across the Carlton Vale site.

enq.198

## Marmox multiboard warms cottage



During the purchase of a delightful cottage in a rural location in Rutland the new owner noticed that the property seemed extremely cold. After considering the options available he decided that Marmox Multiboard fitted the bill. Multiboard is manufactured from extruded polystyrene with both faces of the board covered with close woven fibreglass mesh embedded in a cement polymer mortar. This creates a board that is lightweight yet extremely strong with a high degree of thermal insulation a conductivity of 0.03 watt/mK and is totally impervious to any water penetration from outside.

01634 835290 [www.marmox.co.uk](http://www.marmox.co.uk)

enq.199

## Best external wall insulation testing



The BBA has made substantial investment in both personnel and equipment for the testing and assessment of external wall insulation /ETICS (External thermal insulation composite systems) in accordance with European Technical Approval Guideline (ETAG) 004. The BBA's UKAS accredited hygrothermal rig tests the performance of these systems by subjecting them to a series of extreme temperature cycles in accordance with ETAG 004. This is an accelerated ageing test and is designed to assess how these systems react over time to changes in moisture (humidity) and temperature.

01923 665300 [www.bbacerts.co.uk](http://www.bbacerts.co.uk)

enq.200

## ROOFMATE SL-A insulation



Dow Building Solutions has been awarded BBA accreditation for its STYROFOAM ROOFMATE SL-A extruded polystyrene (XPS) insulation, designed for insulating inverted flat roofs. The product has high compressive strength and offers excellent

moisture resistance thanks to its closed cell structure, resulting in low water pick-up over time despite rigorous conditions. Designed and installed correctly, ROOFMATE SL-A will also maintain its thermal conductivity performance for the expected lifetime of the building: tests show that even after 300 cycles of freezing and thawing, ROOFMATE SL-A will absorb less than 1 per cent of moisture by volume, supporting long term performance demands.

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# Eco necessities met by modern SuDS

Phil Allen, technical sales manager for Fiberweb's Terram product range, comments on the industry's prompt response to modern ground drainage needs

Recognition of the necessity for Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) came slowly but once the need to restore or even enhance natural ground drainage instead of using fast run-off piped drainage for concreted areas was fully appreciated, the power of the industry's R&D resources produced fast and innovative results. Grass and ground reinforcement systems, temporary and permanent, heavy or light load-bearing, have proliferated and offer varied but effective solutions to what was, and still is, a major environmental problem. Retaining natural drainage patterns can be a particular problem in new build estates where a combination of house footprints and the necessary infrastructure that goes with them, such as drives and roads, creates, at worst, potential flood areas; at best, fast dispersal to main drains.

There is no doubt that trafficable, reinforced, porous pavements are a most desirable alternative to hard-paved surfaces when they allow surface water to infiltrate naturally into the underlying subgrade soils at source. However, the various parking and access needs of commercial and industrial areas contrast with the more aesthetic and discreet requirements of private parking, which are sometimes in rural or perhaps heritage settings. Therefore product designs have, out of necessity, developed in many different configurations using diverse raw materials and performance criteria.

In considering the lighter weight usage sector of the market first, there is a constant need for permanent or temporary access routes for pedestrians, wheelchairs and light vehicles, including occasional-use overflow car parks, where the protective layer helps to distribute the load, reduce surface compaction and minimise wear. Clearly the lighter weight mesh requires a firm, well drained surface to be successful and the proposed areas are often existing paths, small roadways, lawns and established paddocks or fields where there is seldom a problem. A natural grassed appearance is the most usual requirement and this can be quickly achieved if the mesh is installed during the growing season. The mesh structures are simply fixed down with small steel u-pins (about the size used for carpet croquet) or with plastic pegs and there are also similar mesh products for temporary uses such as fetes, and small



Permanent retained-gravel surface for car parking

**Retaining natural drainage patterns can be a particular problem in new build estates where a combination of house footprints [...] creates, at worst, potential flood areas; at best, fast dispersal to main drains**

events where a lay and lift scenario is required.

Moving up the load-bearing scale, the most commonly used option in housing areas and public spaces is a permanent grassed or retained-gravel surface. This employs an open-celled plastic paving structure capable of handling cars, occasional coach and truck parking or even daily usage by HGVs when the heavy-duty cellular paving product comes into play. The finished surface must be suitable for traffic of all types and frequencies, such as overflow or daily car parking, emergency vehicle service routes, truck loading yards or even permanent paths for golf buggies. The grid structure in the permeable



Mesh for grass protection

## Grass and ground reinforcement systems are here to stay and are vitally important in preserving natural drainage

Heavy-duty cellular paving



pavement layer must of course also provide a SuDS-compliant open-structure for significant water infiltration.

Some products covering this grade consist of HDPE pavers, interlocking to prevent excessive movement or shear, with 92 per cent open areas, but there are many other effective formulae available in the market place. One of the problems inherent in the design of cellular paving for permanent use is the flexibility required for accommodating slopes, preventing the use of large area mats unless jointed and with good connectivity.

Naturally for these more onerous uses, a structurally sound, well-drained base is essential and must be considered in the design and specification before any porous paving is installed. However, this need not be a problem in planned areas such as estates and commercial developments. Increasing ecological awareness of falling water tables, despite more frequent and severe periods of rainfall, go hand in hand with the perception that extreme weather patterns are here to stay. Under these circumstances the increased use of SuDS pavements instead of impermeable

concrete and asphalt seems inevitable, as does official recognition of their necessity for many applications. We certainly need to improve the way in which we control and manage surface water in the UK in domestic, commercial and rural applications and government standards must play a part in taking this seriously.

However, grass and ground reinforcement systems are here to stay and are vitally important in preserving natural drainage, safeguarding our land and in protecting our homes and the world, which we live in.

enq.206

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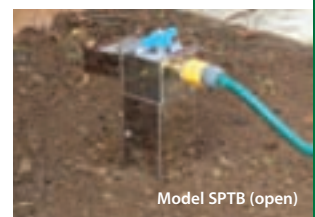
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### New five-in-one water aeration system

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enq.210

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enq.211

# Energy saving with LEDs

PhotonStar LED Ltd, award-winning UK designer and manufacturer of interior LED lighting, look at the Lighting Industry Liaison Group annually published, an up-to-date guide, which aims to communicate LED lighting standards to specifiers

**L**ED lighting for new and existing homes is fast becoming the most popular technology choice. Typically LED solutions are selected, either to meet energy saving regulations (such as Part L /Section 6 in Scotland), or reduce energy and maintenance costs. But how does the specifier identify products that will deliver performance to ensure that all regulations are met, and last long enough to achieve sufficient payback? Once a quality specification is agreed, how is this then communicated to the installer to prevent them from choosing cheaper, inferior products?

The Lighting Industry Liaison Group (LILG) recognises that an LED luminaire is more complex than a traditional lighting fixture, requiring high quality manufacturing procedures to provide optimum performance. There are many good quality LED products in the market; however some manufacturers make inflated claims about poorly engineered fixtures, leading to disappointing and often costly surprises. The guide, developed by major UK industry bodies such as the LIA and SLL, outlines the key metrics and industry standards that specifiers should consider when looking for a good quality LED luminaire.

Specifiers should initially consider that over time and in varying temperatures, LED luminaires will perform differently. Time and temperature are the key influences of LED performance and directly affect the overall life of the product. The latest LILG guide also emphasises that an LED luminaire is a complete system, so manufacturers should be testing how the whole LED system (luminaire and driver) performs at a specific temperature, for a certain length of time. Be aware that if they have tested the luminaire as a complete system, they can provide accurate data for the overall system power in circuit watts and the initial delivered lumens (expressed at L100); not just the source lumens.

Photometric data, which shows how a luminaire's light is delivered, varies from fitting to fitting and is dependent on many influencing factors, such as the bezel type used, beam angle, reflector/optics included, as well as any accessories fitted. Therefore, specifiers should ask the manufacturer if the photometric data supplied is



Pencreek House – LED luminaires, which are fully Part L compliant, were specified for this luxury home in Cornwall, providing energy savings, excellent light quality and a modern appearance

**Some manufacturers make inflated claims about poorly engineered fixtures, leading to disappointing and often costly surprises**

specific for the products selected. Most good manufacturers should be able to provide the full data as IES files.

Regarding performance, it is important to know what you can expect from the luminaire from the first day of installation. The guide advises that product performance should be

tested in accordance with an industry standard IES (Illuminating Engineering Society) document LM-79-08. Interior luminaires are commonly tested at 25°C ambient temperature (15°C for exterior) across the industry; specifiers should be aware that if they are installing at a different temperature, there may be some differences in performance. Most quality international manufacturers will also test at 40°C to provide data for projects in warmer temperatures.

The CRI (Colour Rendering Index) rating of a product is crucial concerning the luminaire's ability to reproduce the colours of objects faithfully in comparison with an ideal light source e.g. the sun. CRI is commonly tested on eight test colour samples and the rating is expressed as an average over these eight swatches (Ra). Quality manufacturers provide CRI ratings for a further six high saturated colour samples, particularly red (R9) and skin tone. Ask your manufacturer what the CRI of all 14 test samples is; a CRI of Ra80

*Continued overleaf...*



## It is important to delve into manufacturer data and challenge, check and contemplate it to ensure that the products being specified will fully meet the project aims

or above (100 being the best possible rating and equal to natural light) is generally considered as good colour rendering.

Specifiers should also consider the correlated colour temperature (CCT) of a luminaire. Expressed in Kelvin, CCT describes the colour of the light emitted from a white light source. Check with the manufacturer what it is; industry standard colour temperatures are 3,000K and 4,000K, however 2,700K is becoming increasingly popular for homes. It is important to check how close the colour temperature of one luminaire is to another, because visually there should not be a perceptible difference. This tolerance is measured in Macadam Ellipses and this should be stated, along with the CCT, in manufacturers' data.

In addition to initial performance, it is crucial to look at how the luminaire will perform over life. Typically, the industry accepted rated life of an LED product is 50,000 hours to a 30 per cent depreciation in light output. Testing is usually carried out for 6,000 hours, or at 25 per cent of the rated life of the product. The LILG guide lists common standards (IES LM-80 and TM-21) that most manufacturers test their products to, so be sure to check.

Lumen maintenance is a key factor indicating what percentage of the initial delivered lumens specifiers can expect to see after 6,000 hours of testing (or 25 per cent of life). Products are categorised, with the highest (Category 1) expressing that a product will still deliver 90 per cent or more of the initial delivered lumens.

Specifiers should also ask about the maintained CRI and CCT of the luminaire after the same period of testing.

Where the lifetime of a luminaire is concerned, it is important for specifiers to ask what the manufacturer defines this as. LED luminaires should not catastrophically fail like conventional light sources; instead they shift and reduce in intensity over time. The LED industry typically class lifetime as L70, which means that end of life is when the luminaire is producing 70 per cent of its initial delivered light output. It is also important to challenge the manufacturer over their failure fraction claims; some fittings will fail during installation and over life, usually due to the driver failing. Manufacturers generally quote a 10 per cent failure over 50,000 hours, resulting in lifetime being defined as L70 F10 at 25° ambient temperature. Ask your supplier for the data specific to the product you have selected.

To ensure a quality specification, which satisfies regulations or lowers energy costs, various accurate data is required. Be sure to look at initial light output and the light output depreciation after 6,000 hours and ask for the initial and maintained CRI and CCT of the fitting. Luminaire life and failure fraction should be clearly and accurately defined and the data should be presented as a complete system in accordance with the LILG guide and standard industry documents. Accurate data is not only key to lowering energy usage and achieving payback, but also imperative when considering compliance with regulations such as

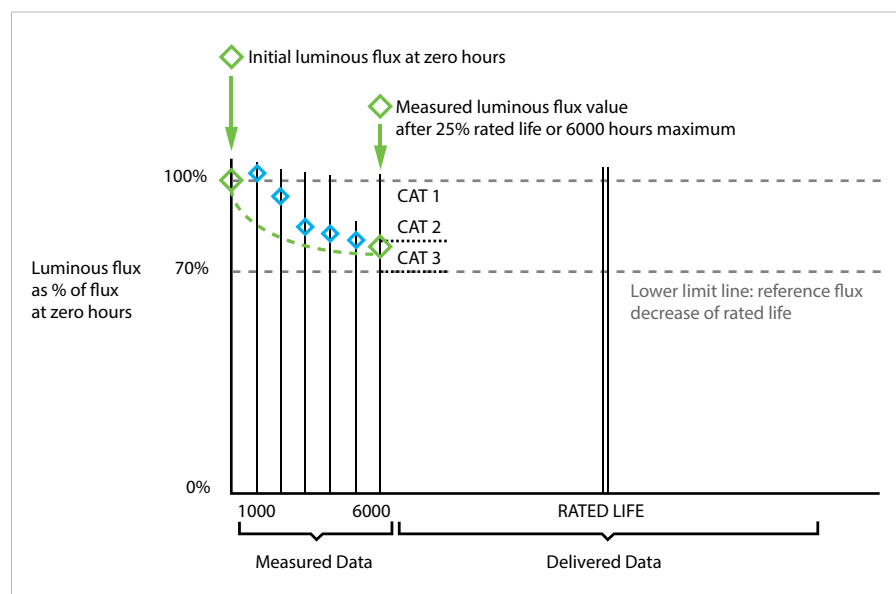
Part L1a, Code for Sustainable Homes. As LED lighting has become the primary choice in new and existing homes, whether for building regulation compliance, rapid payback or lower energy bills, it is important to delve into manufacturer data and challenge, check and contemplate it to ensure that the products being specified will fully meet the project aims.

enq.212



Quality LED products on test for 6,000 hours at an ambient temperature of 25°C

Graph shows the delivered lumens over lifetime



### What you should be checking with your manufacturer:

- Initial luminaire output
- Photometry
- Light output depreciation category (1,2 or 3)
- Luminaire lifetime
- Failure fraction
- Initial and maintained CCT
- Initial and maintained CRI
- Luminaire Electrical characteristics

## Universal dimmer is product of the year



The Universal Dimming Actuator from KNX UK member Theben is the KNX UK Association Product of the Year 2012. It has solved the problem of designing LED lighting systems in a world where there is no agreed standard for LED drivers. One of the key challenges for KNX systems designers at the moment – and indeed for any lighting designer – is the dimming of LED lights.

The new Universal Dimming Actuators provide step less dimming using optimised dimming curves included in the KNX ETS configuration software, and new dimming curves can be imported via the ETS as they become available.

enq.213

## Hand axes from Hultafors Tools



Hultafors Tools is fast becoming a favourite brand among the UK's professional tradesmen for pioneering hand tools with unique product features. Its range of hand axes are typical of the robust, top-quality tools that are making thousands of tradesmen's jobs easier on-site. There's the Trekking Axe, with its dense, steel head and hickory handle, it's a highly durable tool that's a handy addition to your toolbox.

The Carpenter's Axe is a classic – hand-forged, tough and rugged, it has a thin, long and straight knife-ground edge and is highly durable. The Felling Axes are made from blasted and clear-lacquered ironwork.

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## Snickers' workwear for tradeswomen



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enq.217

## Dickies sponsors Tog Studio



**Dickies**, the internationally renowned workwear brand, have joined forces with **Tog Studio** who host live-build projects that teach practical construction skills, by donating clothing essential for safety on-site. **Tog Studio** gives practical hands-

on skills to people who wouldn't normally get involved with the act of making so they can help deliver contemporary architecture and engineering projects. The project that **Dickies** donated to involved building a 'sitooterie' (an outdoor seating area) with service users of a Salvation Army Lifehouse in Edinburgh. The team built a crisp rectangular pavilion over the course of a weekend.

01761 419419 [www.dickieseurope.com](http://www.dickieseurope.com)

enq.219

## Architectural practice votes Yeoman



With over 20 years' experience and a passion for stunning architectural design, **Sutton Coldfield** based Practice, **Janes Architectural**, has specified **Yeoman Rainguard** rainwater systems on many of its award win-

ning projects. **Simon Janes**, from **Janes Architectural Practice**, explained: "We first used **Yeoman Rainguard** seven years ago, as its products were the perfect solution for our projects, many of which are bespoke designed houses at the 'high end' of the market. We didn't want to fit standard, plastic rainwater goods and **Yeoman Rainguard's** XL Aluminium range really fitted the bill providing a high quality product with the traditional appearance required."

enq.218

## Coppa Gutta a perfect fit for Yeoman



**Yeoman Rainguard**, providing quality rainwater systems for over 30 years, has joined forces with **Coppa Gutta**, a UK's leading manufacturer of copper, zinc and stainless steel systems. **Yeoman Rainguard** director, **Phil Christopher**, said: "We pride ourselves on the quality

of our products and are delighted to be working with **Coppa Gutta** whose products are a perfect fit with **Rainguard** and complement our rainwater systems." **Alan Gingell**, MD of **Coppa Gutta**, agrees: "As a British company manufacturing metal rainwater systems we are proud that **Yeoman Rainguard** has chosen to partner with us to offer an unrivalled product range and customer service."

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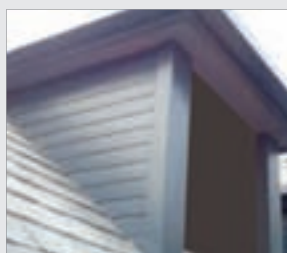
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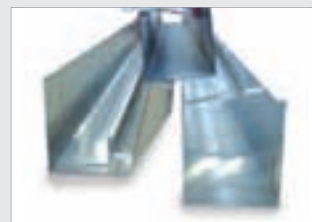
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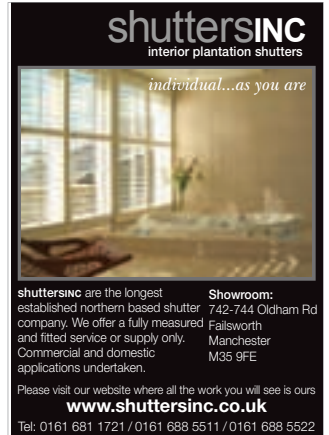
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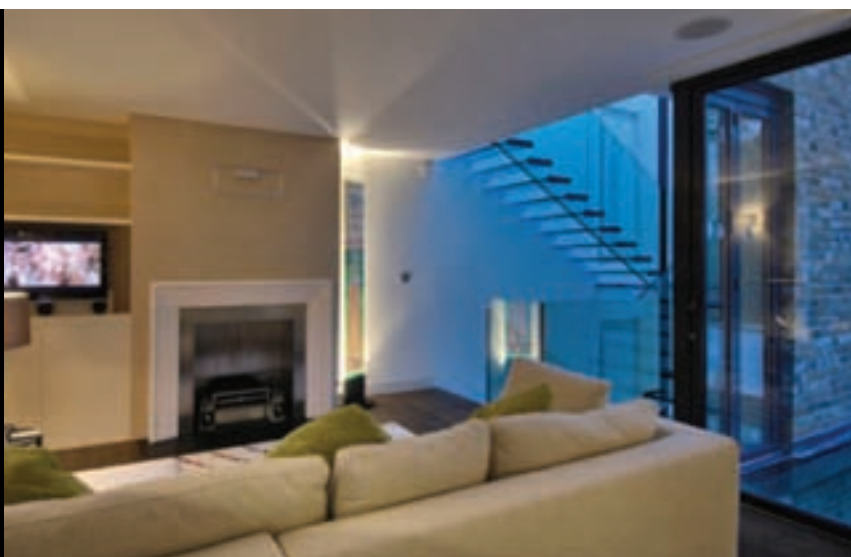
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