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Working together

New Shadow Housing

housing strategy

Minister outlines Labour

AIMC4 demonstrates how developers and their partner suppliers can create the sustainable communities of the future. Dr Elizabeth Ness sustainability director at Crest Nicholson PLC explains how AIMC4 has helped shape a template for tomorrow's new homes. *Page 8*

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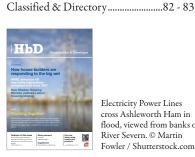
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Electricity Power Lines cross Ashleworth Ham in flood, viewed from banks of River Severn. © Martin Fowler / Shutterstock.com

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Editor's letter



David Mote, editor of Housebuilder & Developer

Hello, I'm David Mote and I have just joined the netMAG family as the new editor of HbD.

I have worked in and around the housing industry for over twenty years and some may remember me from my days at the then Housebuilders Federation. Back then, as the Federation's director of marketing and communications I enjoyed looking after the New Home Marketing Board and the Green Leaf Homes Awards.

Since those heady days I have held senior positions in both new homes PR and marketing comms agencies, written for numerous property publications and enjoyed working with a great number of folk who are now scattered around UK housing communications agencies.

Currently part of the Housebuilder Awards judging team I am keen to encourage the use of lessons learnt by the commercial construction industry within the housebuilding community.

I believe the housing sector is entering an exciting new era and I am very happy to be helping HbD bring news and examples of educational thought leadership to our growing readership.

I hope you enjoy reading our magazine and find the articles both interesting and possibly even educational.

All the best, David

National Planning Policy Framework supports CALA's ambitious growth plans

By David Mote

n a recent trading update CALA detailed its growth plans while announcing the launch of two new regional divisions, the North Home Counties and the South Homes Counties.

CALA chief executive officer, Alan Brown, explained: "We are the UK's major upmarket builder operating in the high value market. So the best place for us to grow is in the more affluent areas of England, and they are around London."

CALA believes that the effect of the National Planning Policy Framework is also starting to take effect. The company feels that 'responsible councils' are now introducing fiveyear housing plans and encouraging development on preferred sites, which is also making land easier to buy in these areas.

Alan Brown confirmed that trading conditions have been good in the latest reporting period, from July 2013 to January, but that, due to the high value of the company's product, 'Help to Buy' had not been a significant factor.

He concluded: "At the upper end of the market there is not so much need for a mortgage and the vast majority of our customers don't need 'Help to Buy'. The growth for CALA is therefore based on a better market generally. I truly believe that there is an underlying strength to the market."

By David Mote

Labour aim to assemble army of small housebuilders

"It's about time housing moved centre-stage"



Labour Shadow Housing Minister, Emma Reynolds MP

'n her first speech since becoming the Labour Shadow Housing Minister, Emma Reynolds MP, confirmed that housing is now at the centre of the political debate and will be a key priority for Labour at the next election. Speaking to the NHBC she explained that Labour recognised the country was in the midst of the biggest housing crisis in a generation and would take action to boost supply, if elected in 2015.

Confirming what many in the housing industry have believed for many years she stated that: "It's about time housing moved centre-stage."

The new Shadow Housing Minister did admit, that over the past 30 years, governments of both parties had not done enough to build the homes the country so desperately needs and by way of catch up a Labour government would be committed to building at least 200,000 homes a year by 2020.

However, Labour believes this can only be achieved by long-term planning and developing a housing strategy that has building more homes at its 'heart'.

To help develop this strategy Labour has asked Sir Michael Lyons, supported by a panel of experts, to lead its Housing Commission.

The Commission's task will be to set out a roadmap and long-term strategy that will ensure a future Labour government secures a significant increase in the number of homes being built.

One current issue Emma Reynolds suggests is holding back housing numbers in an uncompetitive building sector. She believes that as the number of small builders has declined and volume builders have grown larger, it has become easier for more dominant developers to increase the size of their land banks. This, Labour believes, has denied smaller builders access to building land, resulting in a vicious cycle of declining housing starts and increased property inflation.

However, Labour does recognise that for their housing strategy to succeed, and its long-term ambition to double housebuilding numbers is realised, there has to be a thriving housing development sector. This means that as part of their housing strategy volume housebuilders will still have an essential role to play, but in a world where there is greater competition and diversity.

As a first step she also announced Labour's 'Build First' package. This package will include

measures designed to assemble an army of smaller house, custom and self-builders that will help boost housing numbers, innovation and quality.

Concluding her keynote speech Emma Reynolds confirmed: "Our aim is to significantly boost the role of the smaller firms, and the self and custom build industry to help us reach our ambition of building at least 200,000 homes a year by 2020.

"Building those extra homes could bring up to 230,000 jobs to our construction industry and I want to see many of those jobs created by small and medium sized builders."

In response chief executive of the NHBC, Mike Quinton, said: "We welcome Labour's commitment to the continued growth of the housing market. Our figures show that while the UK new housing market is currently experiencing a broadbased recovery, we are still building well below the levels our country so desperately needs.

"We welcome Labour's pledge to support small builders, who have been particularly hard hit by the economic downturn."

APPOINTMENT

McCarthy & Stone announces new chief executive officer

etirement housebuilder McCarthy & Stone has appointed Clive Fenton as its new chief executive officer. Clive Fenton is currently chief executive of central London residential property developer Mount Anvil and will take the reins from Mark Elliott, who oversaw the £527 million refinancing of the company in August 2013.

The appointment follows McCarthy & Stone recently posting strong financial results, achieving a 21 per cent growth in revenue to £310.8 million in the year ending 31 August 2013 against 2012.

Fenton, who took up his post on 17 February, has an almost 30-year history with Barratt Developments, having joined the volume housebuilder in 1983. He worked through a number of finance and operational roles before his appointment to the group board in 2003. Responsible for all of Barratt's operations in southern England he also steered Barratt Strategic Land and its

Group Partnership Housing and Retirement Homes divisions.

McCarthy & Stone Chairman John White, said: "Clive has both extensive knowledge of all aspects of the housebuilding industry and a successful track record. His appointment is key to our growth strategy, which seeks to fulfill the opportunity presented by a burgeoning market for retirement apartments."

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AIMC4 -Creating a template for tomorrow's new home construction



By Dr Elizabeth Ness, group sustainability director at Crest Nicholson PLC, a leading UK developer

of sustainable communities. Reporting directly to the CEO, Elizabeth leads the Sustainability team, which forms an integral part of the business. Much of the role of the Team is focused on seeking innovative practical solutions to drive the group's response to the UK government's goal of zerocarbon housing



Conventional wisdom

Conventional wisdom once suggested that housebuilders who invest in sustainable forms of construction might not be as commercially viable as their more conventional competition. Crest Nicholson's position as one of the country's most sustainable and innovative housebuilders, linked to its excellent 2014 trading year end results, should finally bury that myth.

During the economic downturn of 2009 it was a brave and far-sighted decision by our Chief Executive Officer, Stephen Stone, to nail the Group's environmental colours to the mast and become part of the AIMC4 Consortium and to maintain our sustainability commitments through what has been the most difficult trading period in recent times. However, Crest Nicholson remains committed to an integrated sustainability strategy that we know will yield environmental, economic and reputational success.

We know that it is essential that we maintain our drive and continue to deliver a legacy of enduring value to the communities we create and the wider built environment while ensuring our commercial success. This is easily said but requires considerable focus and persistence to achieve. That is why we have adopted a sustainable approach to our business that strives to ensure that our everyday decision making achieves:

- Profitable growth through customer-led design and sustainability
- Respect for our environment by protecting and, where possible, enhancing biodiversity and creating sustainable lifestyle choices for our customers
- Customers and community by designing quality and sustainability into our homes and their surroundings.

It is pleasing to see from our successful re-entry to the London Stock Market and recent results that these key themes continue to underpin the long-term value of both the Crest Nicholson Group as well as the homes we build and the communities we create.

AIMC4

It was the need to put our commitment to customer-led design and sustainability into action that encouraged Crest Nicholson, in 2009, to join the Stewart Milne Group, Barratt Developments PLC, H+H UK Ltd and the Building Research Establishment (BRE) to form the AIMC4 Consortium.

The AIMC4 (Advanced Innovative Materials, products and process to meet the governments Code for Sustainable Homes, Level 4) project was established to help us understand how to create quality homes that were attractive, energy efficient, easy to run and cost-effective to deliver in volume using fabric-first solutions.

The project also anticipated changes to Approved Document L1A of the English Building Regulations expected in 2013, by:

- Building a minimum of 12 low-energy homes to the anticipated Part L 2013 Regulations for private or public sale
- Testing the market for this kind of home
- Energising the UK supply chain and

- developing new and existing products
- Developing two (possibly three) build systems and processes
- Understanding the performance of the homes and customer attitudes toward energy efficient homes
- Taking a significant step towards producing low-energy homes cost-effectively and in volume
- Achieving significant progress towards the government's goal of zero-carbon homes by 2016.

As one of the consortium partners Crest Nicholson was committed to developing robust technical and commercial solutions to meet the energy requirements of the then Code for Sustainable Homes, Level 4, using fabric-first solutions. The consortium members had all become increasingly concerned that the technical changes to home design resulting from government's regulatory pressure did not take into account the reality of consumers' views and the way occupiers actually operate their homes.

We have long believed that unless the lowcarbon homes of the future are occupier friendly the risk is that, in the real world of resident run homes, emission reductions will not be delivered in practice.

The AIMC4 project was, therefore, developed in three key stages.

Design development

Stage one involved development of the supply chain and design/technical specification. These had to be interactive and iterative processes which involved working with both committed supply chain partners and on-site construction teams.

We knew that key to the success of the project was to engage with both known and new suppliers at all levels. With the help of these supplier partners the consortium was able to develop design solutions and processes that could deliver homes that would meet the specified Code Level 4 energy requirements. What was special was that this was achieved through a variety of energy efficient fabric and building services solutions, without requiring the use of renewable technologies.

Although this was a real challenge we knew that achieving this goal would help meet the government's 2016 target of zero-carbon homes while:

- Reducing delivery costs
- Introducing new product suppliers and supply chains
- Creating new construction methods; and
- Ensuring that homes are designed to meet consumer needs without confusing or costly technologies.

Building the homes

The second stage was the construction phase and the actual creation of our 'exemplar homes'. To fulfil our part of the project Crest Nicholson built one detached and four townhouses at our Noble Park development in Epsom. One home was constructed using H+H UK's thin-joint Aircrete masonry system and the other four units were constructed using Kingspan TEK's Structural Insulated Panel (SIPs) system. Other consortium members delivered a mix of the thin-joint masonry system, and three types of timber-frame using SMG's Sigma range.

Evaluation

The third and final stage was an as-built performance evaluation followed by a 12-month post occupancy study.

These are areas of new home construction which need much more study to understand how low carbon homes perform and how they meet the lifestyle needs of the modern home occupier. Crest Nicholson has always believed that in order to understand how its homes perform we must conduct studies and then work with the findings from post-construction evaluation. Also, as important as technical data is to discover how the owners of our homes actually operate them, to get the best from their home, residents have to know how to use the systems that now form part of today's energy efficient property.

These areas of build and occupant evaluation therefore formed an essential part of the AIMC4 project.

The first stage of the evaluation exercise was an as-built energy efficiency evaluation of the AIMC4 fabric performance. In order to understand the actual thermal performance of the fabric, we conducted comprehensive thermal imaging and a limited number of co-heating and heat flux tests prior to occupation. A series of airtightness tests were carried out at differing stages during the build (weathertight, first-fix, secondfix and at completion).

How residents operate their homes

Crest Nicholson has always known that the overall success of the AIMC4 project in terms of mitigating carbon emissions depends not only on build specification but, significantly, on how residents operate their homes and how their behaviour affects expected reductions in energy and water usage (and therefore cost).

Therefore, the second stage of the evaluation, which started in 2012, and is still running, was the post-occupancy evaluation.

For the post-occupancy evaluation, all homes were subject to a comprehensive environmental audit to establish what equipment is being used and the potential energy use of that equipment. Electricity, gas and water sub-circuits are also monitored. Sensors establish indoor air quality, temperature levels and the opening and closing of windows to contribute to understanding of the overall energy analysis. A weather station was fixed on-site to correlate energy and ventilation use with real-time external conditions.

The consortium created clear user guides for the residents of each of the homes. This included quick-start guides for heating controls and the ventilation systems which themselves had

been modernised and simplified by working with the suppliers.

Everyone has a personal and very subjective approach to comfort, heating levels and ventilation requirements within their home and part of the AIMC4 study is how occupants react to energy display meters and whether they use these meters to adjust the way they operate their homes.

Measuring in-use energy performance and customer behaviour is a long-term exercise and information is still being gathered. However, we are already beginning to better understand our customer's lifestyles, living habits, motivations and how their behaviour affects a modern home's energy and water usage.

Applying the lesson learnt

In total, 17 AIMC4 homes have now been built by the consortium developer partners at five sites across the UK. To ensure the lessons learnt throughout the project are captured and communicated findings have been provided as a continuous process via technical papers, conferences, exhibitions, seminar presentations, press releases and visits to the AIMC4 sites.

The findings from the AIMC4 project will provide evidence to help us achieve the government targets, as well as determine which new home build products work best to meet the demanding energy efficiency standards that confront the whole industry.

There is still a way to go before we can introduce all the lessons we are still learning from our involvement with AIMC4 but we are proud to be a part of this market leading and pioneering industry consortium. The joint learning will be a huge benefit for our customers as we deliver the low carbon homes of the future.

Although not yet complete, key lessons learned from AIMC4 include:

- Early engagement between project partners is essential to build an effective and open collaboration with a clear project structure and clear roles, work tasks, communication and reporting channels.
- A phased approach with interactive assessment is essential to find the best suppliers, develop trust and to facilitate partnering.
- The commercial challenge of achieving cost-effective delivery of homes to the energy requirements of Code Level 4 outweighs the technical challenge of the project.
- Engagement with sector stakeholders including government, trade bodies and policy influencers is essential to ensure the results of the project will be relevant not only to the project partners but also to the wider industry.

Continued overleaf...

- Where projects are subject to external regulations and standards, some contingency allowance has to be made in order to allow for possible changes to them, e.g. the exact requirements of the Building Regulations some years ahead could not be known at the start of this project. This featured on the project's risk register, which was continuously updated.
- Research projects like AIMC4 and innovation throughout the sector would be considerably assisted if there were more consistency and certainty in government policy and regulations.

ABOUT AIMC4

AIMC4 is a £6.4 million project, with £3.2 million investment from the consortium partners, matched with £3.2 million from the government-backed Technology Strategy Board. The consortium comprises five members: developers, Stewart Milne Group, Crest Nicholson Plc and Barratt Developments Plc; plus H+H UK Ltd; and the Building Research Establishment.

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Celebrating the completion of affordable new homes in Ketley...

Ref: 41176

Minister sees new era of PRS homes...

Ref: 43349



ith £25 billion of extra savings being planned for the welfare benefit budget, the social housing sector is bracing itself for a growing focus on cuts in spending and delivering greater value for money.

It is difficult to predict how much each social landlord will lose financially, but many are already reporting increased rent arrears as a result of the bedroom tax (aka 'the under-occupation charge') and other cuts in tenants' benefits and income levels. The worry is that an even higher level of public sector spending cuts is looming after the next General Election, as promised by all of the major political parties despite the positive news of economic recovery.

The Homes and Communities Agency has signalled a change by toughening up the financial regulatory regime and declaring that grants for future house building will depend upon developers being able to demonstrate they are taking this whole topic seriously - in making real savings and reporting on how they are delivering value for money.

Housing associations who fail to impress the HCA face having their financial viability ratings downgraded. The new wording of its 'V3' and 'V4' ratings make it clear that landlords receiving these ratings are non-compliant with regulatory standards. Previously the judgements simply said viability was of 'concern' or 'serious concern' but did not mention lack of compliance - much to the irritation of MPs.

But with lower levels of grant (per home) and more strings being attached to the receipt of grant, it is unclear if housing associations and local authorities will bid for all of the £1.7 billion earmarked for the 2015-18 affordable homes programme.

It appears that being told you have to charge

Pressure growing to improve value for money



Patrick Mooney of Mooney Thompson Consulting comments

higher rents (at 80 per cent of private market levels), to focus on building more one- and two-bedroom properties and to sell off higher value properties is not terribly attractive. A number of associations have already shown they can build homes for rent without the input of grant and many commentators predict the numbers will grow. This has the potential for undermining the government's plans for building 165,000 new affordable homes.

Stashing the cash

However, this does not mean social landlords can or should ignore what the HCA is saying about value for money. With planned cuts affecting nearly every government spending budget through to 2020, housing associations and councils will increasingly have to look internally to generate cash for investing in improved services and new homes. What better way to do this than by becoming more efficient and in some cases stopping things you do, simply because you have always done them? Who can argue with the following possible outcomes?

- Savings are reinvested in service improvements, upgrading existing tenants' homes, providing training opportunities and in creating new jobs;
- The development of additional new homes can be funded, easing the pressure on waiting and transfer lists;
- Rents are kept at levels which tenants (in low wage jobs) can afford; and

• The Housing Benefit bill is cut and politicians stop demonising tenants while looking elsewhere for savings.

As a starting point, do social landlords know what it costs to provide their services? How they compare to other landlords' costs? Do they understand the reasons for differences? Do ten ants value their services or wish their landlord provided different services? Could services be delivered more cheaply by joining forces with others or employing more efficient contractors?

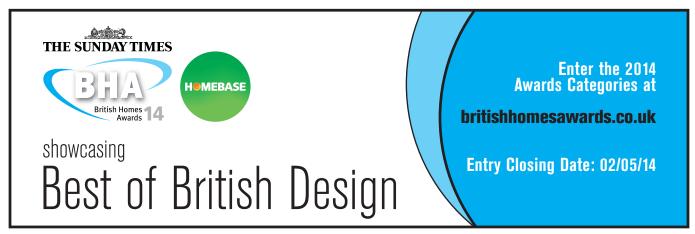
We have already seen a growing use of procurement clubs, of profit-sharing with contractors, the sharing of back office services (like HR, IT and even chief officers in some cases), simplifying governance and group structures, as well as tackling fraud. The list goes on but these examples are still not being used by all landlords and even where they are being used, it does not represent 'job done'.

How many landlords truly involve tenants and front-line staff to regularly review their costs and identify opportunities to make savings? This is not a 'one-off' exercise, or something to be done every two or three years – it needs to become part of the day job.

As one un-named source at the HCA was widely quoted as saying recently: 'Some organisations merely say "we have a VFM policy and we are a member of Housemark", this isn't enough.'

Let's be honest. Finding and then delivering

Continued overleaf...



savings is not an easy or popular task, but the rewards can be significant. Perhaps one problem is that we do not properly incentivise our staff and service users. Too often the money saved goes into a central pot and is 'lost' rather than being reinvested. How often are tenants and staff being given authority to decide how even a portion of the savings are spent?

We ought to remember that housing associations reported a collective surplus of around £1 billion in 2012/13, with a higher level predicted for 2013/14. With this level of surplus, it is clear that there is plenty of room for cost reduction and reinvestment.

At the same time a growing number of people are using food banks as their household incomes take a significant hit. Many thousands, if not millions of tenants, are yet to benefit from the economic recovery and with planned public sector savings extending into the next decade, it is vital efforts are made to support them and their rent money is spent wisely and to good effect.

Meanwhile our national politicians continue to amaze us. They argue about the best way of delivering the extra 250,000 new homes required each year to meet the demand created by new households being formed.

Should it be by the creation of new garden cities, or should local councils be encouraged to resume major building schemes in their areas? Whatever the answer, we all hope the new homes are not built on the traditional flood plains after the recent floods in the West Country.

Fewer empty nests?

We hear that more young adults than ever are living with their parents and this news is preceded by the Prime Minister and Chancellor warning that under 25s might no longer be eligible for housing benefit. So where will they live and how will they afford their rent or mortgage?

The Office for National Statistics revealed in late January that 3.3 million 20 to 34-year-olds lived with their parents in 2013 - the highest number since records began in 1996. Over this period the number rose by 25 per cent despite there being no increase in the overall population of 20 to 34-year-olds.

David Orr, NHF chief executive, commented: "These figures show that England is becoming a country where young adults are struggling to spread their wings and be independent... And the situation will only get worse. Our research shows that by 2020 rents will rise 39 per cent and house prices will shoot up by 35 per cent. Unless we build more of the right homes at the right prices in the right areas, adult children will be stuck in their childhood bedrooms and parents will be unable to move on with their lives."

Government ministers are also looking to breathe fresh life into the Right to Buy scheme for council tenants wishing to purchase their home, by increasing the size of the maximum discount from 60 to 70 per cent, or £75,000 in cash terms.

A government spokesperson confirmed the government would continue to pursue a policy of one for one replacements for every home

sold under the scheme. But figures released in December last year showed in 2012/13 and in the year (13/14) to date, 10,954 council homes were sold through right to buy, but only 1,662 replacements were started – a ratio of almost one to seven.

Finally in a development which attracted little media attention, the Information Commissioner upheld a decision by the Department of Work and Pensions to refuse to publish its 'risk register' for universal credit. Universal credit is the multibillion project that merges a number of benefits into one monthly payment administered by a centralised IT system, but it has been be-set by delays and controversies over whether it will work.

Last year the Information Commissioner's Office received a complaint about the DWP's refusal to publish details of the register. The ICO has now ruled in the DWP's favour. The complainant had argued that universal credit will affect millions of people and therefore have a significant impact on the public and there should be transparency and accountability. Difficult to argue with that I would have thought.

Clearly the housing sector is facing huge pressures, particularly on its finances. These pressures are significant and they represent a huge risk, but there are also opportunities to take greater control of budgets and to work with tenants and staff to seriously look at what services are provided and how, and at what cost. The landlords who take this issue seriously and really engage with people are likely to be the ones that will emerge stronger from this period.

By David Mote

Countryside Properties merges with Millgate **Developments**

ountryside Properties, one of the south of England's leading residential developers, and premium housebuilder Millgate Developments have merged following the acquisition of Millgate by Oaktree Capital Management, Countryside's parent company.

Millgate's premium product range will be offered on new and existing Countryside sites under the Millgate brand. The merger, which fits with Countryside's growth strategy, will expand the geographic reach and product offering of both groups.

Executive chairman of Countryside, Ian Sutcliffe, said: "The compatibility of product, geography and culture of the two companies make this an outstanding strategic fit and a great opportunity to broaden our offering."

Countryside Properties is already a leading residential developer specialising in both greenfield sites as well as the regeneration of urban communities. The group develops both private and affordable housing and has long been recognised for its creation of sustainable homes and

Managing director of Millgate, David Simpson, who will join the Countryside board said of the merger: "The board and staff at Millgate are very excited about the outstanding strategic fit of the businesses. We have found an excellent partner and look forward to working with the Countryside team to expand the Millgate brand into new areas."

RICS UK Residential Market Survey, January 2014

ICS believe that a shortage of homes coming onto the market is seriously slowing growth and inflating property prices in many parts of the country.

During January, the number of properties placed on the market hit its lowest point since July 2012. This was despite the number of potential buyers in most areas. Although vendor numbers have not seen a sustained increase for some months, some surveyors note that supply is expected to increase as we enter the traditional 'spring bounce'.

However, with the gap between stagnant supply and rising demand not experiencing any considerable change, prices continued to grow in every part of the UK. According to RICS during January, a net balance of 53 per cent more respondents across the country reported growing prices (from +56 per cent in December). The cost of a home in the UK has now been rising for iust under a vear.

Across the UK, the biggest increases in activity have been seen in the South West, Yorkshire and Humberside where sales numbers jumped 50 per cent and 40 per cent respectively since January last year.

Looking ahead, a more positive outlook continues with a net balance of 32 per cent more chartered surveyors predicting an increase in transaction numbers over the coming three months, while expectations for future prices are also very positive.









How housebuilders are responding to the big wet



hen I bought my brand new home 17 years ago, based on expert climate advice I created a drought resistant garden - the majority of which has just drowned.

With large parts of the country currently still underwater the question of where and how we build new homes is more important than ever. The trouble is the general public is not always aware that developers only build where they are told to build. Council led local and neighbourhood plans have identified some challenging locations for new homes, including flood plains. If you were to believe many submerged homeowners this is why they are still busy bailing out their properties.

Building homes on flood plains is not the best of ideas but it has not caused the recent flooding. That is simply down to the monsoon conditions the country has recently endured. Which we are assured is not down to climate change. True it is not helped by water utilities insisting that rainwater falling on brand new homes should be drained from roofs and roads directly into the sewers. This is fine in normal conditions but given the rainfall since late last year, water flowing through the nice large drainage systems found in modern neighbourhoods simply backs up when it hits older homes' antiquated drainage systems.

The previous government's desire to see greater urban building density through the now defunct Planning Policy Guidance note 3 (PPG3) did not help when it reduced the size of gardens, and land between properties, which allowed the rainwater to soak away gradually.

It may be unfair to suggest councils have identified, often out of town, flood plains as potential development sites so that they do not ruffle the feathers of existing homeowners. But as a result housebuilders have and will continue to build on this allocated land.

However, as usual, housebuilders and their supplier partners are coming to the rescue by designing new neighbourhoods with innovative features that will help mitigate against the tragedy of flooding.

Recognising the impact of our apparently changing clime, architects, builders and planners are looking at ways of limiting the impact of rising water levels and prolonged, heavy rainfall on new homes. Sustainable urban drainage systems, that form part of a development's landscape, have been around for a while but their importance has now been re-emphasised and lessons are also being learnt from low lying countries, such as Holland. Some new apartment buildings are being designed with underground car parks, which can be used to collect and gradually drain floodwater away. But this is only one answer housebuilders have come up with to respond to the challenge of climate change.

Unfortunately flooding will still happen from time to time. But when it comes to pointing fingers, point up and not at housebuilders. After all - that's where the rain comes from.

NEWS BYTES

The latest news for housebuilders and developers. Visit www.hbdonline.co.uk and enter the reference number for more information

Work starts on UK's biggest Passive House development... Ref: 80904

Major initiative results in 230 warmer homes...

Ref: 34511

Construction begins on the UK's first eco town...

Ref: 78399

Housebuilding boost for third most expensive borough...

Ref: 29087

PegasusLife to deliver aspirational homes for the mature generation with 'Atlantic Rise' and 'Malt Yard'...

Ref: 24802

Housebuilding growth slowing... Ref: 94934

Residents move into Pilgrim Gardens - Award winning housing for older people...

Ref: 79220

Online debate tackles fabric first approach to building... Ref: 12238

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COMMENT

Social housing: What is a decent standard?

ver half of UK social housing tenants believe they live in a property which fails to meet Decent Homes standards, despite investment from landlords, according to new research from building, maintenance and refurbishment company FT Finley.

The standards prescribe that homes should achieve a reasonable level of thermal comfort but, of the tenants surveyed, 48 per cent felt their home lacked sufficient wall insulation, while a third believed their properties had little or no loft insulation. As a result, many are worried that their homes aren't energy efficient, which contributes to increasing utility bills.

"According to the Homes and Communities Agency, by the end of 2010, 92 per cent of social housing met Decent Homes Standards – a figure which has continued to rise. However, our research suggests that tenants don't feel the standard of their homes is high enough and landlords could be doing more to educate their tenants about the standards that have been set out," commented Jay Finley, senior executive director of FT Finley.

In addition to concerns that their properties lacked energy efficiency, many tenants suggested that their properties fail to meet other elements of the Decent Homes standards - the original deadline for which was December 2010.

"While homes may have kitchens and bathrooms which tick the box in terms of Decent Homes standards, this does not seem to meet tenants' current aspirations or expectations," added Jay.

"Some landlords are already going above and beyond - setting their own 'enhanced' standards, which through a structured investment programme, supplemented by regular maintenance and repairs, sees their properties exceeding the government's standards and tenant expectations.

"Bringing specialist contractors in to carry out planned investment and refurbishment programmes can reduce the pressure on both local authorities and registered providers' in-house teams, ensuring fewer repairs are needed in the future - driving down costs and improving efficiencies. However, communicating awareness of the standards, and how they are being exceeded, can go a long way towards increasing customer satisfaction."

By David Mote

On the Crest of a wave

nvironmental housing thought leader Crest Nicholson has marked its return to the public markets with a strong set of results for the year ending October 2013.

With pre-tax profit in the period up 40 per cent to £86.8 million and turnover up 29 per cent, and an operating margin at 18.5 per cent against 18 per cent the year before Chief Executive Officer, Stephen Stone said:

"These are an excellent set of results, which cap an exciting year for Crest Nicholson, in which the business returned to the public markets. Our extensive land bank has enabled us to deliver strong growth in volumes, bringing more families into home ownership, while continuing to drive good returns for our investors. We are pleased to mark our return as a listed company by declaring a final dividend."

Stone also confirmed that the Help to Buy scheme had boosted sales with almost 600 reservations completed under the scheme. This must have certainly helped Crest's housing legal completions increase 15 per cent to 2,172, of which private completions rose 35 per cent to 1,806. Crest has proven that being a leader in the world of sustainable housebuilding does not erode company profitability or operating margins.

Part of the AIMC4 consortium, which was created to research, develop and deliver affordable, desirable and energy efficient homes, Crest is now taking the lessons learnt



Stephen Stone

from the project into both their new homes and regionally based offices.

One example is their working with PhotonStar. Crest first partnered with the company during the AIMC4 project, and together they are now fitting energy efficient and bill busting LED down lighters into all Crest homes. Beyond the building site they are also refitting Crest offices with similar lighting systems.

With the LED refitting work now completed on their SW offices and the Chertsey headquarters next in line, Crest see this sustainable lighting solution as a positive example of a successful supplier partnership, which is reducing costs while providing customer, office and environmental benefits.

Zero carbon costs halve

new study from the Zero Carbon Hub has identified that the extra cost of building a zero carbon home has halved.

The study reviewed the additional cost of building to the proposed zero carbon standard compared to Part L 2013, finding that the additional cost of building a semidetached house to the zero carbon standard could be less than £5,000, at today's prices. The last time costs were calculated in 2011, and compared with 2010 regulations, the additional cost was almost £12,000.

The Hub suggests several reasons for the

reduction include more affordable solar PV, amendments to the zero carbon definition and new homes' greater efficiency when meeting air tightness standards.

Rob Pannell, Zero Carbon Hub managing director, said: "What this report shows is that the zero carbon policy, while ambitious, is becoming more cost effective. The challenge is to continue innovating to keep costs as low as possible."

The report suggests that by 2020 the extra cost to build a semi-detached home could be less than £3,000.

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NEWS BYTES

The latest news for housebuilders and developers. Visit www.hbdonline.co.uk and enter the reference number for more information

Coupdeville Architects start work on new residential project Zero Carbon House...

Ref: 58064

Green estates plan could reduce flood risk...

Ref: 58070

Energy efficiency changes to be tackled at NHBC's Building for Tomorrow roadshows...

Ref: 21608

Planning consent granted for two new residential developments in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea...

Ref: 57409

Developers and councils work hand in hand to tackle housing crisis...

Ref: 65464

Local Authorities risk undersupply of housing by over reliance on government data...

Ref: 43099

David Cameron welcomes new competition from PropertyMutual in monopolised online property market...

Ref: 60135

FMB backs Labour call for 'army of small builders' to boost housebuilding...

Ref: 93192

MOD awards £51 million contract for new homes for returning troops...

Ref: 27899

Countryside Properties strengthens Land bank during 2013...

Ref: 43174

300 new homes overlooking the Olympic Stadium launched by Lend Lease and LCR...

Ref: 75756

Kris Hopkins welcomes deal to release £500 million funding to build new affordable homes...

Ref: 94068

By David Mote



Are sales brochures worth the paper they are printed on?

ince internet property search portals and home search apps have become an essential part of the property pre qualification process, sustainable homebuilders have questioned the need to produce printed marketing brochures. As one of the country's only CarbonNeutral marketing communication companies, ISO 14001 accredited Ferrier Pearce felt this was a question that had to be answered.

They commissioned qualitative consumer research of three distinct focus groups, which had either bought a home in the last three months or were in the process of doing so. What emerged from the findings was how the differences between the identified target audiences must influence the marketing approach.

First-time buyers are now focused on work, play, personal aspirations and saving. They rely heavily on the internet and local press in their property pre qualification. Of all the groups researched they are least likely to want to talk to an estate agent or other sales staff about property.

Experienced homebuyers are the group most often squeezed by the pressures caused by their children growing up and their parents growing older. In terms of sourcing property information they are big consumers of print media after an initial search online.

Downsizers are in an age of change and are realistic, practical and philosophical about their home owning needs. They consult a larger range of property information sources, including talking to local residents. Their demands from advertising are also very different.

However, all groups were positive about the inclusion of a brochure in the overall marketing experience. They felt that there was a direct correlation between the quality of the brochure and the quality of the development.

When asked to expand why they wanted a printed brochure when everything was available online the feeling expressed, by all the surveyed groups, was about creating an overall impression of mood and quality as well as providing specific factual information. All the researched groups also felt that the brochure gives a 'touchy-feely' experience and provides a reference document that could be referred to at leisure. It formed a definite piece of purchase reassurance.

However, the research did identify that when marketing to the needs of these different target audiences 'one size does not fit all'. Connecting with different target audiences requires a segmented approach, with relevant property information and images to attract interest and ensure sales messages resonate effectively.

Despite the growth of online property marketing and property portals these still only form part of an integrated and segmented marketing approach. Ferrier Pearce's research suggests that hard copy marketing material still plays a significant role in the property purchasing process. It can trigger a desire, while communicating the benefits of the product and the strength of a brand.

New home registrations climb 28 per cent in 2013

▼he NHBC has reported that new home registrations in the UK climbed 28 per cent in 2013. This is a level of registrations not seen since the start of the downturn in 2007.

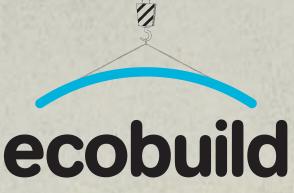
The NHBC said that the recovery in registrations was 'broad based' across England, with Scotland and Northern Ireland also seeing annual increases.

Throughout 2013, the UK saw 133,670 new homes being registered against 104,514 in the previous year. In the private sector registrations rose 25 per cent to 97,399, and public sector registrations increased 37 per cent to 36,271.

NHBC CEO, Mike Quinton, commented:

"Over the year, we have seen a genuine return of confidence to the industry as builders strive to meet the growing demand for new homes that the UK clearly needs. The government's Help to Buy initiative has been a shot in the arm to an industry that was slowly recovering.

"However, let's be clear that we're not popping the champagne corks just yet. As we have stressed throughout the recent upturn, this recovery has been from a historically low base. We also have the uncertainty of an election period approaching, but these are much better registrations than we have seen in a long while."



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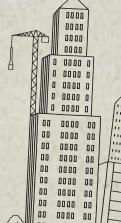
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Green report says London's housing policy is failing Londoners

By David Mote

ccording to the London Green Party's 'Crumbs for Londoners' report the city's unsustainable housing policy is failing potential homeowners, who are being priced out of the capital's overheating property market and into 'the clutches of unscrupulous investor-owners'. The report calls for a sustainable housing policy, which prioritises providing affordable homes for Londoners rather than creating financial opportunities for investor-owners.

The 'Crumbs for Londoners' report identifies that home hunters in the capital can only afford around 3 per cent of new homes currently on the market. This, it suggests is because many new apartments are built for the benefit of investors who can afford London's inflated property prices.

Green Party Leader, Natalie Bennett, explained that: "Years of bad policies from the Labour and the Coalition governments have benefited wealthy landlords rather than ordinary Londoners.

'With house prices now averaging a £441,000 - that's a whopping 16 times the average local individual income - far too few households have a chance to put down permanent roots in the capital. London will lose out in the long-term."

The Green Party is committed to massive investment in new social housing, more secure tenancies and smart controls to stabilise rapidly rising rents.

EVENTS

kbb Birmingham 2 - 5 March, Birmingham www.kbb.co.uk

Ecobuild

4 - 6 March, London www.ecobuild.co.uk

11 - 14 March, Cannes, France www.mipim.com

National Affordable Housing Conference 2014 18 March, London www.affordablehousingevent.com

London Resi Development 19 March, London www.londonresidevelopment.com

National Homebuilding & Renovating Show 27 - 30 March, Birmingham www.homebuildingshow.co.uk

Greenbuild Awards 7 May, Manchester www.greenbuildawards.co.uk

Greenbuild EXPO 7 - 8 May, Manchester www.greenbuildexpo.co.uk Grand Designs Live 3 - 11 May, London www.granddesignslive.com

British Homes Awards

20 June, London www.britishhomesawards.com

CIH Conference & Exhibition

24 - 26 June, Manchester www.cihhousing.com

Eco Technology Show

26 - 27 June, Brighton www.ecotechnologyshow.co.uk

International Festival for Business June - July, Liverpool www.ifb2014.com

100% Design

17-20 September, London www.100percentdesign.co.uk

National Home Improvement Show

26-29 September, London www.olympia.co.uk/whatson/ national-home-improvement-show



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Enq. 106



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Editor's Focus

1. Dura Composites UK

Dura decided to refurbish its factory and offices using Dura Cladding type 150 weatherboard in Barn Black (fixed horizontally on the gable) and type 200 flush in Pale Grey (fixed vertically on the offices). The natural timber effect of its composite cladding is an increasingly popular choice for finishing the outside walls of a range of buildings. Composite timber is UV stable, colour fast, eco friendly and will not splinter, warp or rot. Above all, it will never need treating or painting, a major advantage especially when working at height.

Enq. 107

2. Marmox Specialist Building Products

Marmox Specialist Building Products will be exhibiting at Ecobuild this year on stand N1210. Well known as experts in insulation, Marmox will show a wide and diverse array of products. Especially featured will be the lightweight Multiboard range that is equally suited to wetroom applications and for sound insulation elsewhere. Multiboards are EPS coated with close-woven fibreglass finished in a cement polymer mortar that is completely impervious to water penetration. They are easily installed, very light yet strong enough to hold tiles up to 62kg/sq m.1

Enq. 108

3. Moody Venture Capital

Moody Venture Capital (MVC), is looking to break back into the market with the re-launch of its development finance product, which aims to plug the post £1 million funding gap. MVC offers loans of up to 65 per cent of GDV which equates to approximately 80 per cent of total costs – with all construction and fees covered within the overall loan. A self-funded lender, MVC has been in operation for over 10 years and is part of the Moody Group, a highly successful house building business with experience exceeding 60 years.

Enq. 109

4. Windmöller Flooring Products

Renovation with ceramic tiles is time-consuming, expensive and is nearly always a burden to clients due to the amount of dust and noise. A fast, quiet and dust-free alternative for modernising floors is provided by the high quality wineo® design floors CONNECT LAGUNA and BACANA stars in tile format, which also ensure a cosy atmosphere in all other rooms of a house. All wineo design floors have the DIBT building regulations approval, the CE mark and meet the quality guidelines of the TFI-TÜV ProfiCert and the A+ Certificate.

5. Glass and Stainless

Glass and Stainless Limited was born from a desire to combine extensive technical knowledge, high quality service with a premium quality product. Due to the expertise of its team Glass and Stainless Limited only specifies the highest quality architectural products to the most stringent safety regulations looking at each project individually. It prides itself on its ability to design, develop and deliver the requirements of your project within the timescale and budget you set. See more about what Glass and Stainless Limited can offer at the company's website.

6. The Zero Carbon Solution

Caplin Homes and Newform Energy have joined forces to launch a new limited company, offering a solar solution to zero carbon house building. The Zero Carbon Solution will provide an affordable out-of-the-box energy system for domestic new-builds and low-rise commercial developments. made up of three core technologies, hybrid PV-T solar collectors, a patented inter-seasonal energy store and a heat pump, the system can meet a building's full heating and hot water requirements all year round, using only solar power.

Enq. 112

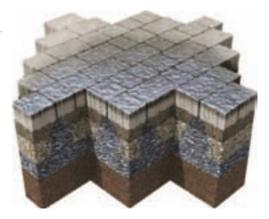


Enforcing current legislation critical to driving the adoption of SuDS

As communities across the UK continue to be devastated by floods, Marshalls asks why local authorities are not enforcing existing Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) legislation, and questions what is really causing the delays to the release of the National SuDS standards

nland flooding is occurring more often for two main reasons. Firstly, weather patterns are changing, meaning that rainfall events are happening more frequently, more intensely and for longer periods of time. In addition, as we continue to pave over porous green landscapes, rainwater is prevented from soaking naturally into the ground at source and instead accumulates and flows at high speed into water courses and drainage systems that were not built to cope with this deluge. In relation to the recent flooding Lord Smith, the chairman of the Environment Agency, was quoted as saying that we must make a difficult choice between protecting either "town or country" from the worst effects of flooding, as he claims that there is "no bottomless purse" to subsidise defences.

Chris Griffiths, Marshalls Water Management expert, said: "As a responsible landscaping manufacturer, Marshalls advocates good design to minimise flood risk in the first place. The 2010 Flood and Water Management Act has still yet to deliver any meaningful results, and the media focuses all too frequently on laststand defences rather than the long term solutions of mitigating flood risk. We would like to understand why, when the news broadcasts the devastating effects of floods on a daily basis, existing SuDS planning legislation is not enforced. We would also like to know why the release of the National SuDS Standards, which seem to be welcomed by everyone within the water management community, continues to face delays after more than three years."



Contact Marshalls today on 0870 241 4725, email customeradvice@marshalls.co.uk or visit www.marshalls.co.uk

Enq. 113



New catalogue from T-T Pumps



T-T, a UK manufacturer and supplier of pumps, controls, valves and ancillary equipment has launched a new 336 page catalogue. This comprehensive catalogue features all the standard products you come to expect from the company but also showcases a vast array of new products and more detailed information making product selection even easier for you. T-T has endeavoured to make the catalogue as user friendly as possible, reflecting its popular web-

site. There are 12 main sections covering submersible and surface mounted pumps for waste and clean water, accessories, pumping stations, valves and control systems. Eng. 115

William Murray joins NorDan UK Ltd



NorDan UK Ltd has appointed William Murray as Commercial Manager for its London division. William was formerly managing director of competitor Janex. He brings 25 years of experience in the construction industry and key skills in project management, supplier management, cost control and technical standards to the team at NorDan. His main focus is to concentrate on delivering large complex projects in the South East of England. NorDan is one of the leading

manufacturers of high performance timber windows and composite doors from Scandinavia to the construction industry in the UK.

01452 883131 www.nordan.co.uk

Enq. 116

Smart new website for Greenwood Airvac



It's destination ventilation with the launch of Greenwood Airvac's new website - www.greenwood.co.uk. For everything 'residential ventilation', the site revolves around the company's core principle of ensuring Guaranteed Installed Performance is achieved – because what's the point if the ventilation is not going to do its job? With products, services, support and technical information just a click away, it showcases innovative and unique solutions from the only adaptive intermittent extract fan on the market, to Passivhaus accredited heat recovery systems. Designed to be user-friendly and simple to navigate, the new site allows all users, whether familiar with Greenwood products or new to ventilation, to quickly find the content they are looking for and to readily source information. Marketing Communications Manager Michelle Sharp comments: "The site is a valuable resource for anyone involved in the specification and installation of residential ventilation products. Look out for exciting new developments - videos for installers on-site, product information, and our brand new Greenwood blog which will be covering topics across the board. 'Don't get seduced by SFP' is the first one on the topic of heat recovery." Visit the web's top ventilation destination today and register for regular updates and promotions. Eng. 117

Vent-Axia welcomes David Cameron



Sussex-based British fan manufacturer Vent-Axia was delighted to welcome Prime Minister David Cameron on a visit to its headquarters in Fleming Way, Crawley, West Sussex. Mr Cameron visited the successful Sussex firm to view its assembly lines that were brought back to the UK from China. The new production lines

create 35 new site jobs in a tough economic climate and increase the number of its assembly staff on site employed by 50 per cent compared to before the reshoring.

0844 856 0590 www.vent-axia.com

Eng. 118

NHF conference and exhibition



The National Housing Federation's Housing Development Conference and Exhibition on 7-8 July will provide an update on the challenges facing the development sector and plans for delivering new homes now and in the future.

Find out what government priorities are for housing in the run-up to the next election and get updates on the affordable homes programme. Key speakers include: Polly Toynbee, Guardian columnist and broadcaster; Terrie Alafat CBE, Communities and Local Government and Jonathan Walters, Homes and Communities Agency. Book your place using priority code DR0714HB.

020 7067 1010 www.housing.org.uk/development

Enq. 119



EnviroVent wins national award

EnviroVent has been named SME Manufacturer of the Year (over 125 employees) at the National Manufacturer Awards in Birmingham. EnviroVent scooped the award, demonstrating that it is a rising star in the world of UK manufacturing, at a glittering ceremony alongside an array of blue chip companies. What's more, EnviroVent is the first ventilation company to win this prestigious award, beating companies from the engineering and food industries. The company manufactures a wide range of energy efficient and innovative ventilation solutions at its Harrogate factory in North Yorkshire, which improve indoor air quality in hundreds of thousands of homes throughout the UK and beyond by providing a guaranteed and permanent cure to condensation and mould. Winning this award is a tremendous achievement for EnviroVent, not only will it boost the company's profile on a national level, it also highlights just how far EnviroVent has come over the past year in terms of improvements to production processes and methods.

01423 810180 www.envirovent.com

Enq. 120

How to specify the right ventilation system for your project



By Kevin Hippey, general manager at Vortice Ltd

What are the key issues facing housebuilders and developers with regard to ventilation systems in modern houses?

With regulations, legislation and products all driving up energy efficiency in modern homes, buildings are becoming increasingly air tight great for energy bills, but not necessarily so great for your health. The design and specification of a domestic ventilation system not only affects the performance of the product, but has a vital part to play in the health of occupants. Reaching optimum performance levels from today's fans and heat recovery systems depends largely upon the design of the system, in particular the ductwork and its installation.

The 2013 regulation changes will soon come into play and part L is the one specifically relating to ventilation. In the meantime, the NHBC has put its best practice guide out for consultation to the FMA, the RVA and housebuilders and includes a whole section tackling the pet problems facing the industry - incorrect system design (ducting and valves) and insufficient quality of ducting specified. It may cost more to put the control valve far away from the door but you get far fewer dead areas and better cross ventilation in the room thereby helping any issues of damp and making the air in the room healthier.

The implication of not following this best practice, for example by using ducting that's been inappropriately specified, is that the property might not receive its 10-year NHBC certificate. There have been many instances where, in an attempt to cut costs, builders have used bendable ducting (designed originally for the tumble dryer market) which degrades and splits in a short time - this will not be acceptable under the new best practice guide.



"The design and specification of a domestic ventilation system not only affects the performance of the product, but has a vital part to play in the health of occupants"

What lessons are there to be learnt?

- Ensure that system restrictions, like bends in ductwork, are avoided. This will mean that the ventilation fan can work at its optimum level and achieve its energy efficiency ratings.
- Choose the right ventilation product for the requirements of the building – generally selecting the product on the basis of how many 'wet rooms' there are will help to specify the fan or heat recovery system that's up to the job.
- Scrimping on the quality of the ducting will cost time and money.

Over the last few years, the key area of development has been heat recovery units. These take stale air from the wet rooms of a building, remove the heat and replace that heat into the fresh air that they bring back into the building from outside.

Heat recovery units come in different shapes and sizes and are usually selected based on the number of wet rooms they need to extract from - a wet room is a bathroom, WC or utility room.

These heat recovery systems now have pretty impressive performances, with thermal efficiencies already achieving the low 90 per cent range and with excellent specific fan power ratings, so the trend is in designing them to fit within smaller spaces. They can be designed to fit within a roof space, a kitchen cupboard space or, where space is at a premium, some of the newer units are designed specifically for ceiling voids in apartments.

The market's not all about heat recovery systems of course, there are still many excellent continuous running fans out there which will provide good air movement and quality to a new home. Look out for energy efficient SAP Appendix Q eligible products for the best results.

Even the humble 4" bathroom fan will probably

be included in the changes to the upcoming 2013 regulations. The bathroom, utility room and kitchen will require a fan consuming no more than 0.5w/l/s but still meeting the required air changes to comply with regulations, thus further reducing the energy consumption of the whole house when compared with existing intermittent extractor fans.

With ventilation systems for housebuilders and developers, what's left to improve upon?

System design, specification and installation.

Many of the reputable ventilation system suppliers offer a design service at a cost which is refundable against a product order - this is well worth the investment and can ensure that problems are avoided and energy savings are made right from the word go.

More and more improvements are being seen when volume housebuilders select contractors who they ensure have BPEC accreditation for ventilation systems. The BPEC course is the only one out there planned to train installers and contractors to ensure that both the ducting and

"Heat recovery systems now have pretty impressive performances. with thermal efficiencies already achieving the low 90 per cent range and with excellent specific fan power ratings"

ventilation system are designed and set up to work to their optimum capacity.

As in all things, the time invested in specifying reaps benefits in the longer term, in terms of energy efficiency, fewer snagging issues and quality of life for the occupant of the property. For the ongoing reputation of a housebuilder or developer the benefits are immeasurable.

Eng. 121

Leading HVAC Ancillaries from Bostik



Bostik offers a range of high quality adhesive, sealant and coating products for the HVAC industry. Bostik Idenden T303 Self-Adhesive Bright Foil Tape is an industry leading product for lap sealing foil faced insulation materials, metal and duct sealing. Bostik Idenden Sprayable Vapour Barrier Coating

ET-150 is ideal for applications in the thermal insulation industry as a vapour barrier coating for internal and external insulated piping equipment and air conditioning ducting. Bostik Idenden High Velocity Solvented Duct Sealant 40-113 is a quick-setting synthetic rubber based sealant, designed for sealing longitudinal and flange joints in high velocity air conditioning and ventilation systems. Eng. 122

LE155 ventilation units defeat damp



It's a fact that inadequately ventilated and tightly sealed properties can suffer from mould and condensation, leading to problems for the occupiers. A block of flats in south London was saved with the installation of Johnson & Starley's LE155 ventilation systems with heat

recovery. Not only does the LE155 ventilate the property, but it also removes cooking smells and other pollutants from the air - all with minimal heat loss. The units are designed to be installed conveniently on walls, in cupboards or above cooker hobs, with the addition of the optional cooker canopy. The LE155 units are SAP Appendix Q listed and incorporate energy efficient EC Fans. Enq. 123



Enq. 124





With the most versatile range of BBA-approved liquid applied roofing systems on the market, Polyroof can tailor a solution to meet your exact requirements. To find out how our flat roofing expertise can benefit your project, contact the Polyroof Technical Team on:

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technical@polyroof.co.uk









Eng. 126





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Pioneering for You





Building for the **future**

This year marks the 10th anniversary for Ecobuild, the world's largest event for sustainable design, construction and the built environment. Taking place this year from the 4 - 6 March. Ecobuild will bring together some 40,000-plus industry professionals, 600 speakers – including ministers, professors and academics - and a vast array of exhibitors at London's ExCeL

A cleaner, greener, efficient and more sustainable built environment at Ecobuild 2014



What's on

Ecobuild 2014 will feature an unrivalled information programme. At the heart of it is debate, learning and information exchange, led by internationally renowned academics, ministers, industry leaders and celebrity speakers. All speakers will now appear on the show floor and there will be two spectacular arenas to house the conference programme.

The three-day programme will cover a wide range of issues from energy policy and the future of our cities right down to the right way to deliver zero carbon homes and buildings that work as designed.

As well as the education programme, Ecobuild is set to host the most comprehensive showcase of sustainable construction products in the world. Visitors can see innovative solutions and get practical advice with dozens of inspiring and interactive attractions. Plumb Center is returning with its hugely popular Practical Installer, which offers live demonstrations and advice on how to take advantage of the emerging renewable technologies market.

New for 2014

A three-day event allowing industry professionals to network, discover new products and explore innovative solutions has the potential to be overwhelming so for 2014 Ecobuild will introduce

three core sections to the event to make the show experience better than ever before.

The Sustainable Design and Construction zone focuses on the topic that has been at the heart of Ecobuild since it launched a decade ago. Here, visitors can learn about the latest design ideas, future construction materials, lighting and technical solutions to sustainable construction challenges. New and existing innovations, such as the role of Building Information Modelling (BIM), will be a central feature of the 2014 show.

The Future Cities zone will incorporate a range of topics from biodiversity and greening cities to infrastructure, water and waste, technology and transport - all of which are crucial to creating a sustainable future for an ever changing global population.

The Energy zone addresses another hot topic for Ecobuild 2014, championing key energy issues and providing guidance and practical

Continued on page 31...





Don't let ventilation be an afterthought...









Speak to the award winning experts in home ventilation

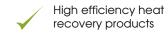


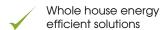


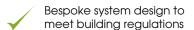


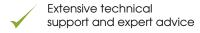
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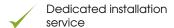


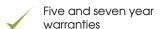




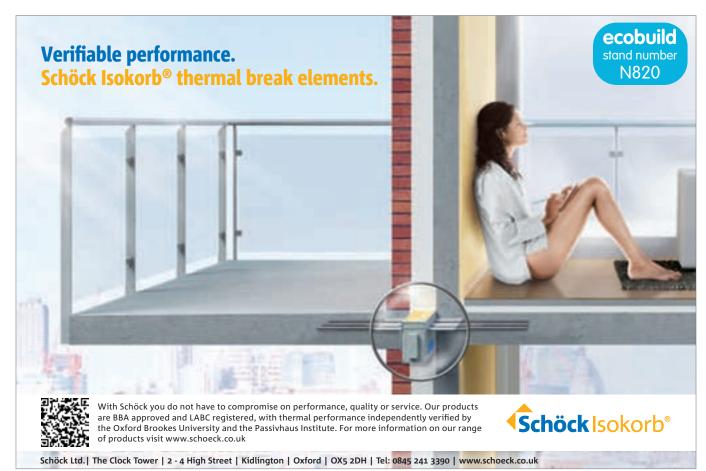








Enq. 128





advice on policy and legislation. This area will include a range of features on renewable energy, resource management and energy efficiency.

Hosted within the Energy section of Ecobuild 2014, visitors will be able to discover the hugely popular feature, Solar City in association with SMA Solar. Formerly known as the Solar Hub, Solar City will feature seminars and practical demonstrations covering all aspects of the solar PV market in the UK. Visitors can listen to live debates and practical case studies from industry experts.

Exhibitor innovation

Richard Osbourn, Concreate says: "We are looking forward to meeting crowds of enthusiastic eco home builders and developers at 2014's Ecobuild as we think we have a product that will tick many of the boxes on sustainable building as well as offering a completely new eco-approach to interior decorative surfaces."

EcoLED is launching an extension to their ZEP series of LED up and down lights at Ecobuild, by introducing the new miniature ZEP 3 and 6.

James Cadisch from EcoLED says: "Although the price of LED has been a stumbling block in recent years, LEDs in general are becoming more affordable. LEDs have become so advanced and reliable that pay back periods can be gained in some cases in under two years."

EcoCurves, Egoin Timber and Steico are among the exhibitors showcasing timber products at the event so if you are currently considering using timber in your project, a trip to Ecobuild will allow you to hear the latest thinking surrounding the versatility and sustainability credentials of timber. Builders and developers will see new timber structures, wood windows and doors, glulam and cross laminated timber.

To register for your free **Ecobuild ticket** visit the website www.ecobuild.co.uk



Schöck on stand N820 at Ecobuild



The Schöck Isokorb range of thermal break elements guarantees fully certified performance standards. All products are BBA approved and LABC registered, with thermal performance verified by Oxford Brookes University. In

addition, the advanced technology of the Schöck XT range offers such a high level of insulation that balcony design can be incorporated into even the most demanding Passivhaus projects. Members of the Schöck team look forward to meeting you and offering advice on any aspect of these innovative solutions.

01865 290 890 www.schoeck.co.uk

Enq. 130

Johnson & Starley's all round strength



Johnson & Starley's participation at Ecobuild 2014 (stand N1211) will underline the company's commitment to the provision of highly energy efficient heating and ventilation solutions, meeting the needs of homeowners, specifiers and installers. Renowned for its warm air heating technology, the company's recently launched range of WarmCair condensing warm air heaters offer high efficiency combined with low running costs, low NOx emissions and low operational noise levels. A full range of models is available including three models with integral Domestic Hot

Water. The range now extends to the larger 36kW and 46kW versions which are suitable for commercial sector applications. Enq. 131

Connect with Pegler Yorkshire



Pegler Yorkshire, manufacturer of plumbing and heating products, will be exhibiting on stand N1750 at this year's Ecobuild. 'Connect and Control' will be Pegler Yorkshire's theme as they display a range of technologically advanced products. Connect helps to improve building

installation processes for contractors and installers and Ecobuild 2014 will see the unveiling of INSIGHT, Pegler Yorkshire's innovative new online selector tool designed to help them identify the most effective way to join pipe work in any given situation. Control, on the other hand, features products that are especially aimed at improving building performance through energy and water management.

Marble & Granite Centre at Ecobuild



The Marble & Granite Centre Ltd (MGCL) will be showcasing its revolutionary new hard surface material Lapitec at Ecobuild on stand \$1366/67. It will be meeting architects, builders and contractors to explain the benefit of using Lapitec as an innovative, sustainable

sintered stone product in building and design projects. MGCL Managing Director Stephen Pike said: "Lapitec's numerous features and benefits make it an incredibly versatile product; being full bodied it is highly workable and application opportunities are endless, making it an architect or designer's dream."

01895 820883 www.themarbleandgranitecentre.co.uk Enq. 133



DANLERS new range of switches



DANLERS energy saving, multi-selectable time lag switches are ideal for the control of electric lighting, heating and air conditioning loads. Pressing the button selects each time lag choice in turn and switches the load on - they automatically turn the load off after the selected time period has elapsed. The switches are manufactured by DANLERS in the UK and are

ideal for use in social housing, back of store areas and warehousing etc. Meet the DANLERS team at Ecobuild on stand S241 and see firsthand its award winning range of Energy Saving Controls.

01249 443377 www.danlers.co.uk

Enq. 135

Vectaire to exhibit at Ecobuild



Vectaire continues to develop efficient, high performance Whole House Heat Recovery Units, a variety of which will be showing on stand N2313. All have EC motors with multiple choice trickle speeds, sophisticated control features and various options to provide low level, continuous and economic ventilation. The

WHHR Mini DC (for one/two bedroom apartments, hotel rooms or student accommodation) and the WHHR 100/90DC-Plus are for inline installation. The WHHR Midi and WHHR Maxi are for vertical installation into lofts or cupboards. All products have a heat exchange efficiency of well over 90 per cent, with low SFPs.

01494 522333 www.vectaire.co.uk

Enq. 136



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Enq. 137 Enq. 138



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www.thermaflowheating.co.uk EMC WAS WHONSFLM

















Ancon's low energy focus at Ecobuild



Ancon, a UK manufacturer of stainless steel masonry support and restraint fixings, is to team-up with the country's largest brick manufacturer, Ibstock, to present a range of sustainable and low energy construction solutions at this year's

Ecobuild exhibition. Due to be launched at the show is a new version of the company's ground-breaking ultra-low thermal conductivity TeploTie which features a stainless steel L-shaped upstand for connecting to steel, concrete or timber frames. This new tie will be displayed alongside the original TeploTie and other stainless steel wire ties from the company's extensive range of thermally efficient cavity wall ties.

0114 2755224 www.ancon.co.uk

Enq. 140

Cress Water Solutions at Ecobuild



Cress Water Solutions will be back at Ecobuild this March on stand S1867 in the Biodiversity Pavilion. Visit the stand and discuss how Cress Water Solutions can help you with one of its reed-bed and constructed wetland systems. It has natural ecologically friendly solutions for treating sewage

and other wastewater effluents for all off-mains drainage situations. Cress Water Solutions can also help you with an integrated approach to surface water run-off management using SUD Systems, rainwater harvesting, water recycling and aquatic landscape features.

01884 839000 www.cresswater.co.uk

Eng. 141

Ecobuild launch for Elta Fans



Ecobuild 2014 will be the platform from which Elta Fans launches its brand new residential product range: a range of fans, and whole house systems specifically developed to meet the ventilation needs of the residential buildings of today and tomorrow.

Elta is taking its extensive knowledge in fan designing and engineering forward into the residential market with a range which not only offers excellent performance but which also recognises the importance of aesthetics in meeting the requirements of modern interior design.

01384 275800 www.eltafans.com

Enq. 142

Epwin Group raises the standard



Restricted by your supply chain? Feeling the pressure of reduced capacity? Margins not what they used to be? Epwin Group understands the importance of partnerships, and the critical role they play in the future and long-term success of a business. So as the recovery builds momentum,

it's time to re-think, re-evaluate and re-consider this vital element. Join the Epwin Group (Stand N1110/1) to hear why 'standard' just isn't good enough in 2014, and learn why its sector specific, niche and specialist products and services set it apart from the competition.

info@epwin.co.uk www.epwin.co.uk

Enq. 143



Visit Nu-Heat at the Ecobuild Show London, stand number N2103



Helping you hit your energy efficiency targets

SIG360 Helping you deliver energy and cost efficient, sustainable building projects

SIG360 are specialist energy efficiency and building experts that will help you to reduce the cost of your build and navigate the regulations to meet the standards required. Our unrivalled technical expertise draw on over 50 years of insulation distribution to provide expert support and services throughout the entire project, including:

ecobuild

stand number N730/830

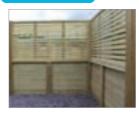
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360enquiries@sigplc.co.uk or visit: www.siq360.co.uk

Multi tasking flood defence barrier



Jacksons - a leading British designer, manufacturer and installer of perimeter security/access control solutions launches a revolutionary long lasting timber flood fence that combines effective flood defence qualities with essential perimeter protection at Ecobuild. Flood Defence is a perma-

nent 750mm high structure (effective height of the barrier is 600mm) that has been designed to protect a property from occasional floodwater. In test conditions, Flood Defence has been proven to be successful in providing effectual protection against flooding, with leakage of less than one litre per hour per metre of the length of the barrier. Eng. 146

RHI will drive heat pump interest



Mitsubishi Electric is inviting anyone who wants to know more about the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) and understand the role heat pumps can play, to visit stand N2210/11 at Ecobuild. The heat pump manufacturer will be promoting the advantages of the Ecodan

range, whether for domestic or non-domestic situations, in both old and new-build properties. The Ecodan range qualifies for the RHI scheme, which has been designed to reduce the payback period for commercial and domestic heat pumps. Ecodan heat pumps are available in individual units from 4kW to multiple systems up to 688kW.

01707 282880 www.heating.mitsubishielectric.co.uk Enq. 147

Polypipe to display range at Ecobuild



This year's Ecobuild will see Polypipe Ventilation display its full range of energy saving ventilation products, including the Silavent Green Line range of centralised mechanical ventilation appliances, alongside the next generation of Domus Radial duct systems and a

new stylish Silavent axial fan offering. A section of the stand will also showcase other Polypipe group products in the areas of carbon efficiency and water management. These will include Polypipe Building Products' geothermal piping solutions and 'Rainstream' domestic rainwater harvesting systems. Eng. 148

Altecnic showcases at Ecobuild



Following the success of Dirtmag IQ, the industry's first triple dirt and air separator with external removable magnet, Altecnic will be

launching another UK first on its stand N1920 at Ecobuild. Drawing on international research and development, Altecnic will be unveiling the next generation of dirt and air separator which will offer enhanced technology to provide even greater system efficiency and performance. Alongside side this UK first, Altecnic's double-award winning heat interface units will also be on display. The SATK20, SATK30 and SATK40 have been recognised for their outstanding contribution to the area of renewable energy and rational use of energy. Eng. 149



Minus 7 exhibits at Ecobuild 2014

 $\mathbf{Minus} \ 7$ is exhibiting at Ecobuild, stand N2100 at ExCeL, London. The Minus 7 hybrid energy harvesting system is an innovative renewable energy system that provides hot water and heating for homes using endothermic roof tile planks, a solar energy processor, a water to water heat pump, heat transfer units and a thermal store. The system is classified as a solar-assisted heat pump technology and the NCM (SAP) identifier for the product is Minus 7 SEP3G10 1/2/3. It is designed to keep a five bed house at a comfortable temperature of at least 21°C even in the worst case scenario of mid-winter. However the system is capable of servicing up to three dwellings at once making it highly suitable for housing associations. Several elements of the system will be available for visitors to inspect including the solar energy processor, the heat transfer unit and the endothermic tile planks.

01922 419405 www.minus7.co.uk

Enq. 150

Newsletter



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 up to 12 carefully selected companies and easily follow links through to further information on www.hbdonline.eu, or go direct to the company's own website. Brochures and videos are also regularly available.

Kaldewei at Ecobuild



On stand S110 at Ecobuild, Kaldewei will exhibit a selection of latest bathing and shower solutions all made from its unique 3.5mm steel enamel. Offering unrivalled sustainability, Kaldewei is the first bathroom manufacturer to hold ISO 14025 certification in recognition of the eco properties of this 100 per cent recyclable material and its green manufacturing processes. Example Eco models of baths with reduced water

capacity will be on display along with level-access shower products, all of which help specifiers conform to current building regulations, while still providing superb levels of design and comfort.

0800 840 9770 www.kaldewei.co.uk

Enq. 152

Ritec's new 'One Stop Shop'



Ritec International, who have recently been awarded the title of US Product of the Year 2013 for its new ClearShield Eco-System[™], will be exhibiting at Ecobuild in London in March. Ritec will be exhibiting on stand S948 and showcasing its new 'One Stop Shop' service for the residential market and

launching its recruitment of applicators for the new initiative. This service will see trained Ritec applicators offering residential customers renovation, protection and maintenance of all or any of its glass, ceramic, metal or painted surfaces in and around the home.

020 8344 8210 www.ritec.co.uk

Enq. 153

Polyseam to exhibit Graft™ at Ecobuild



Polyseam will be exhibiting Graft, its own new range of sealants and adhesives on stand N520 at Ecobuild. The new Graft range bears the strap line 'Hardworking products for hardworking people', and incorporates a range of adhesives, sealants and fillers to meet the demands of the end user and the widest range of tasks. Dave Oram, marketing at Polyseam, said: "We have made significant investment in the development of this range and are confi-

dent that the wider construction market will recognise both the quality and environmental credentials of the various products."

0208 596 5061 www.graft.co.uk

Eng. 154



Housebuilder & Developer

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



Specflue exhibiting at Ecobuild

Attendees at Ecobuild this year will be able to visit Specflue on stand N1935 and find out how to take full advantage of the RHI roll-out to domestic properties this year.

As well as viewing the products, builders and developers will be able to talk to the technical team behind Specflue's renewable heating range which includes thermal stores, solar panels, pellet stoves and boilers. There will also be a chance to see the new heating interface unit (HIU) that has been devised for district heating schemes.

Members of Specflue's dedicated training facility will also be on the stand to give advice on training to prepare for the expected business growth in domestic renewable installation work.

Jed Smith, head of business support services commented: "Specflue is a bit of a one-stop shop when it comes to renewables. Visitors to our stand can come with absolutely no knowledge at all and walk away with a plan of action that not only gives them advice on training, but also gives then an excellent idea of the range of renewable products available and their cost."

0800 9020220 www.specflue.co.uk

Enq. 155



HL Plastics' Liniar brand at Ecobuild

HL Plastics Ltd, manufacturers of plastic piling since 1994, will be at Ecobuild (stand N524) featuring its own Liniar brand. Plastic piling is eco-friendly, made from recycled PVCu, with a huge range of benefits:

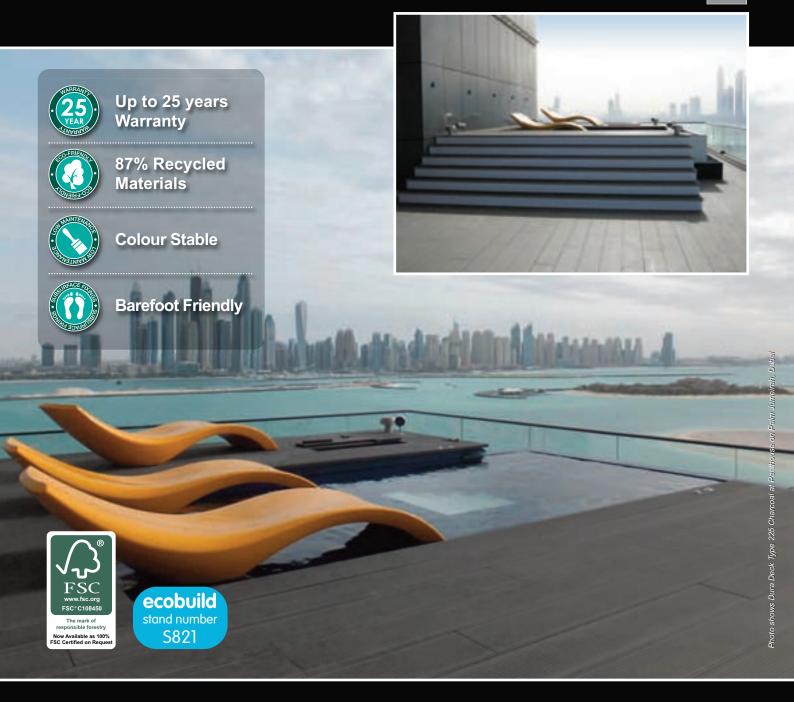
- British manufactured
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- Resistant to the majority of chemicals
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01332 883900 www.liniar.co.uk

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2014 brings fresh blood to kbb Birmingham

Taking place at the NEC Birmingham from 2 – 5 March will be kbb Birmingham, the UK's largest gathering of professionals from the kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms sectors. With hundreds of the biggest names already confirmed to be exhibiting, this is a must-attend event for anyone in the industry

diverse collection of British and international brands will be exhibiting at the ▲show – some of which are returning to kbb Birmingham, some of which will be making their debut - giving visitors plenty of choice and solutions to fit every budget.

On the kitchen side of things, award-winning appliance specialist Caple will be launching a selection of new, high performance appliances, details of which are closely under wraps until the start of the show. This will include the first launch of the Sense Premium collection of white glass and stainless steel appliances which have never been seen in the UK by national retailers.

Visitors will be invited to the stand to experience Caple's appliances first-hand where Michelin-starred Chef Josh Eggleton will be joining them to demonstrate how well the Caple Sense Premium cooking appliances perform as he creates a whole host of culinary delights in the cooking arena.

For the first time in 10 years, kbb Birmingham is set to welcome bathroom giant Ideal Standard back to the exhibition. The brand has taken a 200 sq m stand where it will be showcasing brand new product ranges including SoftMood, a range of bathroom furniture characterised by its soft and rounded design with high tech solutions, while its reliable product features help to create a warm and comfortable bathroom experience with a personal touch.

Keith Boad, MD of Ideal Standard, commented: "The show enables us to reach a broad cross section of retailers, to present our plans and line-up of



"This year's kbb Birmingham will welcome a whole host of brand new names, plus plenty of familiar faces"

new products, but to also listen to our customer base, and understand how Ideal Standard can be an even better partner moving forward."

Another big addition to the 2014 edition of kbb Birmingham is British Ceramic Tile, who will be joining the line-up for the very first time



in March, and promises to arrive in style. The brand will be designing their stand around the theme 'The House of British Ceramic Tile', which will see a series of themed rooms set up to showcase the best that the company has to offer. Launching at the show will be new additions to the HD and Impact ranges, as well as two brand new collections: Feature Floors and Statement, as well as a capsule range of mosaic tiles.

German kitchen manufacturer Leicht is also new to kbb Birmingham for 2014, and will be giving a host of new collections their UK launch. Interior+ is one such range; sleek kitchen units based around a warp-resistant frame, integrated into 50cm or 60cm wide wall units into which all kinds of organisational elements can be docked. Leicht will be introducing a further two ranges at the show, giving visitors a unique opportunity to be among the first to purchase the latest Leicht designs.

This year's kbb Birmingham will welcome a whole host of brand new names, plus plenty of familiar faces. Joining the line-up are Franke, Sensio, JJO and Nolte to name but a few.

In addition to a fantastic exhibiting line-up, visitors to kbb Birmingham will be treated to a series of insightful seminars from top industry experts, adding to an already packed line-up. Already confirmed to be imparting valuable pearls of wisdom at the show are Hannah Malein of Global Colour Research who will be speaking about Key colour & material trends for Autumn Winter 2014/15, Jane Blakeborough of bathroom marketing consultancy J.M.Blake who will be discussing Bathroom Trends, and John Lennon of PWS who will be giving a talk entitled How to maintain market share and grow your business as an independent specialist.

For more information and to register for your complimentary pass to kbb Birmingham, please visit www.kbb.co.uk



JIS Europe at kbb 2014



JIS Europe will be displaying its extensive Sussex range of stainless steel heated towel rails at the kbb exhibition on stand number G84, together with new rails on show for the first time. All towel rails are manufactured to exacting standards and JIS Europe offers an extended range of sizes. The towel rails are manufactured in 100 per cent stainless steel and are available in brushed satin or polished

finish, making these radiators durable, easy to clean and hygienic. They come with a 25 year guarantee and the stainless steel is produced from 90 percent recycled metal and is 100 per cent recyclable itself.

01444 831200 www.sussexrange.co.uk

Eng. 158

Ellis Furniture HI-MACS® Reflection



Available from Ellis Furniture, the curved HI-MACS worktop with a gloss white handless drawer from the new Reflection range of bathroom furniture provides ample storage space for bathroom essentials. Hand crafted using a double layer of Alpine White HI-MACS material, the stunning

worktop is polished all round to create a beautiful smooth touch finish. Also available are the gloss white decorative wall panel; the new curved mirror which can be hung vertically or horizontally; the new Sigma sit on basin; and the new Lazer basin mixer.

01484 514 212 www.ellisbathrooms.co.uk

Enq. 159

Dallmer drainage products at kbb 2014



Dallmer will be showcasing several new products at the kbb exhibition at the NEC 2-5 March 2014. As acknowledged leaders in 'wet-room' drainage, Dallmer will be exhibiting the latest variations on CeraLine channels. Now available with 'Flex' and 'Pronto' connectors, these

make quick, reliable installation even easier in solid, beam and block or timber floors. The Tisto brand is also extended, an even larger range used for complete security when waterproofing a level access shower. TistoStone allows the floor finish to be incorporated in the surface over the drain, but without the restriction of flow.

01787 248244 www.dallmer.com

Enq. 160

Segreto leads the way for Mereway



Taking the lead spot this season, Mereway Bathrooms is delighted with the success of Segreto handleless design from its collection. Building on the success of this popular J pull door style for Mereway Kitchens, Segreto joined its bathrooms portfolio, creating a

sleek handleless feel in a new part of the home. Segreto - Italian for 'secret' or 'hidden' - comes in top selling finish White Gloss which presents a fresh, sleek look. The Segreto door profile is carefully calculated to provide the perfect ergonomic shape for fingertips to grip, easily giving enough leverage to pull doors open with ease.

0800 026 4466 www.merewaybathrooms.co.uk

Innovative drainage solutions



CCL Wetrooms has a range of popular Linear Screed Drains including a wall drain option and a stunning new Stone-Infill Grill, which offers architects and specifiers a sleek, contemporary finish to wetroom installations. At a height of only 67mm, the drain ensures that even

the highest of water flow rates can be achieved and managed effectively on concrete floors, which are widely used in the construction of modern houses. With the shallowest trap available in the UK, the Linear Screed Drain is ideal for the upper floors of a building where the insulation and concrete screed is much shallower in depth.

0844 327 6002 www.ccl-wetrooms.co.uk

Enq. 162

Space saving with Aqua Cabinets®



Aqua Cabinets has ingenious solutions that make the most of a limited bathroom floor area, giving every home owner the chance to enjoy the benefits of modern bathroom design. Wall hung and back to wall WCs are growing in popularity and are perfect for smaller spaces as there's no bulky cistern occupying wall space. One of the problems with these has been the need for either a

furniture unit or a false wall to conceal the cistern. The Tablet solves the problem neatly and efficiently with a back to wall or wall hung WC mounted on a slim line glass fronted cabinet that conceals the cistern.

0845 539 0055 www.aquacabinets.com

Enq. 163

Get flushed away with style



The newly extended Multikwik range of flush plates offers a design solution for any bathroom - from infrared sophistication to stylish glass and wood materials. The range extends from colourful bright designs for schools and nurseries to muted earthy tones and finishes that wouldn't be out of place in

the most luxury of spa bathrooms. With a choice of over 50 flush plates and many buttons, it offers a flush plate for any bathroom backdrop. Most Multikwik flush plates are dual control to allow for a small or bigger flush - a boon for households and establishments keen to make a contribution to water conservation and save money on utility bills.

01622 852654 www.multikwik.com Eng. 164

En-suites and studios love Draks



Creating a contemporary design-led look, the new UK-made stylish aluminium room dividers from Draks are ideal for all sorts of beautiful bathrooms, bedrooms and dressing rooms. Draks uses a spring-loaded, bottom-weighted track system so even large doors have great stability. Draks' aluminium room dividers are available with a wide choice of mirrored, laminated and coloured glass infills. Frame finishes can be brushed anodised or powder-coated, with RAL colours available, allowing the frame exactly to match individual interiors. Eng. 165

The new Bathroom Switch



Feature bathroom lighting is becoming more desirable, but until now the choices of switching have been severely limited. Sensorbility has therefore developed the new Bathroom Switch controller, with dimmer and timer variants, allowing bathroom designers

far more flexibility when it comes to lighting design and operation within bathrooms. The variations of the new controller include simple on/off switching, ramp-up dimming, ramp-down switch-off and time delay switch-off. It can be wired to the company's Bathroom Switch Sensor Pads, which can be placed behind most materials such as ceramic tiles, wood, plastic, glass, and even metals. Enq. 166

Quick installation electric showers



MX Group has unveiled its new 'QI' electric shower range, a 'quick installation' range of electric showers that sets new standards for simple installation. Featuring eight entry points for water and electric, these showers are the simplest yet and one of the most effective electric shower installation option in today's marketplace. Ideal for new build or retrofit opportunities, these sleek design showers are up to 30 per cent slimmer than other units on the market. The new models come with an easily removable filter that can be serviced quickly and easily without the removal of any parts.

01684 293311

www.mx-group.com

Eng. 167





"Water saving and energy efficiency are now key influences for consumers as they look to cut costs on utility bills"

Peter Pegden, Croydex product director Innovative ways to save water and money with Croydex Bathroom accessories specialist and Water Label pioneer, Croydex, is at the forefront of water-saving technology and offers its innovative Eco Function as standard with its latest shower handsets and heads. Reducing water usage by up to 50 per cent, the flow regulator is simple to fit. It is inserted into the handset or shower head during installation and can be removed as and when required. It can be used in conjunction with most systems, excluding electric showers. A simple gadget that controls water flow rates on high pressure systems without compromising on the overall performance of a tap or shower, the regulator can be added to existing fittings. It is also available in a range of ratings – from two to eight litres.

Eng. 169

For stockists

call **01264 365881**

email info@croydex.co.uk,

or visit www.croydex.com

Eng. 170

croydex

Think bathrooms



Edenhall used in winning project



Edenhall facing brick has been extensively used by Bellway Homes and Mace for an award-winning housing development beside the River Thames at Barking. Designed by Sheppard Robson, Barking Riverside has been

awarded Development of The Year in the The Sunday Times 2013 British Homes Awards design competition. Edenhall contributed to the striking aesthetics of the elevations with their high quality facing bricks: Midnight Blue finishes were supplied to the Bellway sites and Leah Valley smooth-faced buffs to Mace.

01633 612 671 www.edenhall.co.uk

Enq. 172

New brochure from Helifix



A new brochure, now available from structural repair specialist Helifix, has been produced to help those undertaking window replacement or external wall insulation programmes to avoid potentially expensive and time consuming structural problems. The brochure focuses on the structural preparatory works frequently required

when undertaking improvement projects of this type and explains the cost-effective well proven systems offered by Helifix to repair and strengthen the structure. Also available online are technical datasheets for the full product range and over 100 standard repair details covering all common masonry faults.

020 8735 5200 www.helifix.co.uk

Enq. 173

Rapid-Mat cuts costs and saves time



Anyone specifying tiling onto problematic floor substrates will welcome BAL Rapid-Mat, the latest innovation from the market leader. Designed for floors which may be subject to lateral movement stresses, it is ideal for use with underfloor heating, timber substrates and other challenging backgrounds. It delivers major cost benefits over cavity-based uncoupling mats through needing less adhesive and being much faster to install. BAL Rapid-Mat reduces overall

project costs and duration significantly because it requires around 20 per cent less adhesive than cavity-based uncoupling mats.

01782 591100 www.see-it-for-yourself.com

Eng. 174

Don't suffer in the cold



Snickers' three layer work clothes principle is unique in the workwear industry. It's about dressing right from the inside and out, selecting garments according to workload and the temperature on site as well as giving individuals the option to regulate temperature themselves through the clothes they wear. While our bodies can adapt to warm conditions, they can't acclimatise to cold weather. Keeping the body warm by

storing warm air close to the body is the primary task of the middle layer. Working clothes like Snickers combine insulating and windproof micro-fleece fabrics with high moisture transportation material to keep you warm and comfortable on site. Eng. 175





Enq. 176 Enq. 177



Heating & Renewable Energy Supplement

This annual Heating & Renewable Energy Supplement showcases the latest products and innovations from the last year



FORM AND FUNCTION WITH TRUE SCANDINAVIAN STYLE.

Following the great success of the S10 we are proud to introduce our first wall hanging stove in the UK – the Morsø S10-70. A highly attractive, contemporary stove with a large viewing area, it creates a stunning visual feature for any living room whilst providing a rated output of 5kw. The S10 is approved to burn wood in smoke controlled areas.

The new S10-70 is our most exciting model to date and demonstrates the future of stoves to be both functional and attractive.





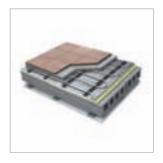






Enq. 302





Nu-Heat is delighted to be exhibiting at Ecobuild again this year; the exhibition offers a great platform for experienced underfloor heating and renewables providers like Nu-Heat to talk to a wide range of customers, including architects, housebuilders, contractors and installers about cost-effective, realistic and achievable energy efficient options.

Nu-Heat has designed and supplied commercial warm water underfloor heating, heat pump and solar thermal systems to national housebuilders and RSLs for many years. Visit Stand N2103 at Ecobuild to find out more.

Enq. 329



Morsø has been a leader in quality design and innovation for more than 160 years. Fusing tradition with contemporary style, Morsø produces a multitude of cast iron solid fuel stoves along with a steel range created to meet the demand for progressive functional furniture pieces.

Founded in Denmark in 1853, Morsø's highly skilled designers continue to employ the best in time-honoured manufacturing techniques updated with modern innovations. It is this discerning ability to create classic looking stoves that reflect current trends which makes Morsø's wood burning stoves so popular.

Enq. 301



A Stratford Ecoboiler stove from **Arada** offers an attractive and stylish focal point for any living area.

Designed with high performance, dependability and ease of use in mind, it is sure to become the heart of the home.

Recently updated to operate at a 3bar pressure, Stratford Ecoboiler stoves continue to retain their renowned compact space saving design.

Produced in the heart of Devon, this range of British designed and built boiler stoves include a five-year guarantee on the stove body as standard.

Enq. 302

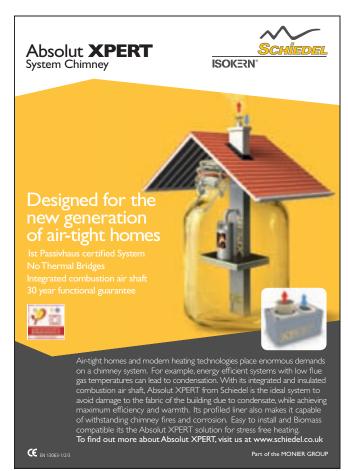


Two pilots – husband and wife John and Chrystyne Karman – are enjoying the experience of replacing the heating system in their beautiful Sussex home, incorporating the latest energy saving options including the award winning Radical radiators from Stelrad.

The new serial feed radiators from the UK's leading radiator manufacturer offer a wide range of benefits over traditional parallel feed radiators including an independently assessed 10.5 per cent energy saving.

Stelrad Radical radiators that have been installed across the upper floor. Full details of the Radical can be found at the Stelrad web site.

Enq. 303





Enq. 304 Enq. 305

Retro-Fit PaySmart[™] – pre-payment energy billing for communal heating



Evinox understand the importance of integrating the most suitable energy metering and billing system in a communal heating scheme to ensure the right solution is provided for residents and the building owner or operator. With that in mind, it is excited to announce that its PaySmart technology is now available as a retro-fit system that can be installed in connection with any other manufacturer's heat interface units or communal heating system. Already widely used in its ModuSat communal heating systems for private and social housing schemes, Evinox PaySmart technology provides a facility for residents to pay for their energy in advance, making budgeting easier. The retrofit kit consists of an attractive PaySmart enclosure that is fitted inside the dwelling with a shut-off valve and heat meter installed on the pipe work. The Evinox PaySmart debt free metering solution enables residents to be in control of their own energy bills by pre-paying 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.

01372 722277 www.evinox.co.uk

Enq. 306

Encasement protects external pipework at new affordable housing development



The Swallows, a new residential development, by the Affinity Sutton Group in Purley, Surrey is using more than 100 metres of Arma pre-formed aluminium casings from Encasement to protect external gas pipework from vandalism and accidental damage. Locating main supply pipework on a building's exterior and connecting it to each individual apartment is a practical and cost-effective method of delivering gas into multi-storey developments. However, this can leave them exposed to accidental damage or even unwanted attention from vandals, which is why Affinity Sutton chose to securely conceal and protect the pipes with Encasement's Arma casing. Arma is manufactured from 3mm thick aluminium as a jointless 'U' shaped channel, which is available in a range of different sizes and incorporates fixing flanges that enable it to be secured to an exterior wall with tamperproof fittings. The Swallows' Arma casings measure 200mm wide by 100mm deep and are finished in two PPC coatings of RAL 1014 'Dark Ivory' and RAL 2001 'Red Orange' to help them blend with the brickwork. Encasement's MD, Martin Taylor, commented: "We originally developed Arma precisely for projects and applications such as this, where external services and pipework might be vulnerable to damage, either by accident or intentionally."





Enq. 308 Enq. 309



Designed for the new generation of air-tight homes, Schiedel Absolut XPert is the first Passivhaus certified chimnev system worldwide. Air tightness is built into the system. Suitable for use on all fuel types, with its GW3 rated ceramic profiled liner, it offers condensate resistance even after a soot fire. Thermal performance of the appliance is optimised through the provision of combustion air at the right temperature through the integrated insulated shaft. Heat transmission between the warm interior and cold exterior of the building is avoided through the use of the thermal chimney blocks.

Eng. 304



The FARAL Tropical 95 from AEL was the first die cast aluminium radiator in the world to be manufactured and sold in the UK. The FARAL range of aluminium radiators have been the choice of many for over 50 years, providing the highest heat output achievable from one of the most energy efficient low water content aluminium radiators available. The radiators are available in many sophisticated styles which are very light in weight and provide easy handling and installation. They are ideal for low temperature geothermal and solar systems and have a maximum operating pressure of 1,000 Kpa (10 bar).

Enq. 305



We live in a world where global warming, carbon footprint, climate change and the greenhouse effect are all well known phrases in our day to day lives, but water saving is still not generating enough attention.

Neoperl UK Ltd's products provide a valuable contribution to climate and environmental protection by conserving water and helping to reduce the associated energy consumption in the production of hot water.

Trading for over 50 years in the global market, Neoperl offers innovative solutions for drinking water. Its products shape water streams, regulate flow rates and protect water from contamination.

Ena. 309



Mitsubishi Electric has launched a dedicated Ecodan selection tool to coincide with the government's announcement that heat pumps are now included in the non-domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI). The Ecodan selection tool allows anyone with an interest in heat pumps to get an insight into what this technology could deliver to any building, whether it is a single domestic dwelling or a large commercial project.

Details are available at the following address: http://heating.mitsubishielectric.co.uk/eco danselectiontool/Pages/default.

Eng. 310





Air Conditioning | Heating Ventilation | Controls

or visit heating.mitsubishielectric.co.uk

email heating@meuk.mee.com

Renewable Heating Technology

For information on attending one of our free Ecodan Seminars please contact us at heating@meuk.mee.com

Ecodan animations from Mitsubishi



Mitsubishi Electric has launched two new online videos to highlight the benefits of renewable heat pump technology for both homeowners and landlords. The first animation focuses on how the Ecodan range can offer reduced running costs, ease installation and lower carbon emissions for social housing providers and

landlords. The second video looks at the issues from a homeowner's point of view and highlights how renewable Ecodan can provide a viable, cost-effective alternative to the escalating price of oil heating.

01707 282880 www.heating.mitsubishielectric.co.uk Eng. 311

Docking stations boost performance



DAB Pumps has launched single and twin docking stations for its low water pressure pump, the e.sybox. Known respectively as the e.sydock and the e.sytwin, both docking accessories are designed to further enable a 'plumb and play' connection to the pump. The products are further innovations in design from DAB Pumps' e.sy range and feature a quick coupling base from which the pump can be simply connected or disconnected. This system allows installers to

create the pumping system quickly and on-site, saving time and money. The pump and docking stations are also extremely compact, saving on space and giving more flexibility when siting the units.

Training on your doorstep



Introducing a brand new training initiative for ventilation installation training, Greenwood Airvac launches the first mobile ventilation rig that brings BPEC accredited training courses to your doorstep - BPEC2U. The first of its kind, the mobile rig is

part of the fully accredited BPEC training to provide practical training for their Domestic Ventilation Installation training course. Comprising a fully functional heat recovery system, semi-rigid ducting, plus the facility for power testing and balancing as required by BPEC, the rig gives installers hands-on experience in the installation, inspection, testing and commissioning of ventilation systems. Eng. 313

SolarWall® shines on domestic market



Building envelope specialist CA Group Limited has announced the successful introduction of its SolarWall Transpired Solar Collector (TSC) on the £1.2 million groundbreaking 'Solar House' - the UK's first domestic application to utilise this solar air heating technology. The building

features 24m² of SolarWall split over two collectors, capable of delivering energy reductions in the region of 7,300kWh per annum. SolarWall is a solar thermal technology, which is used to pre-heat fresh, outside air before it is drawn into a building's heating and ventilation system, reducing a building's reliance on fossil fuels by as much as 50 per cent.

01388 834242 www.cagroupltd.co.uk Eng. 314

The best of bio-fuel technology



This year-round multi-fuel condensing boiler from Atlantic Boilers has been developed and installed since the year 2000. There are now many hundreds of boilers burning natural gas, light oil, low pressure gas and kerosene. The boiler can now burn B100 bio-fuel, transformed from waste oil and rape seed oil. Atlantic has also installed many dual-fuel condensing boilers burning natural gas and B100 bio-fuel or natural gas and light oil. The

boiler bridges the gap between gas condensing boilers and bio-liquid boilers with efficiencies between 92 per cent and 97 per cent GCV, a range of 10kW to 625kW and a SEDBUK "A" rating.

0161 621 5960 www.atlanticboilers.com

Enq. 315

Live action from Greenwood



Greenwood Airvac launches its own, dedicated YouTube channel - it's lights, camera, action all the way. Giving installers the opportunity to see product installations and set-up in real time, the channel is currently showcasing the latest Greenwood CommissionSMART[™] technology, as used

in its recently launched Vireo heat recovery unit. Demonstrating the ease of set-up and commissioning, Greenwood Technical Services Advisor Barbara takes installers through the eight simple steps to delivering Guaranteed Installed Performance. You can also see details of its new BPEC2U training course, as well as the configuration of its safe and secure intermittent window fan installation kit. Enq. 316

New X100 from Sentinel



Water treatment specialist Sentinel has launched its new improved strength formula X100 Inhibitor. One of the industry's leading system inhibitor and protection products is now even more effective, providing the best ever heating system protection. The new X100 inhibitor still provides the same benefits it has always delivered: Outstanding scale and corrosion protection for all system metals, in tandem with robust sta-

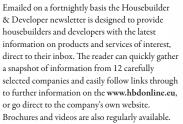
bilisation of system water pH, which together ensure optimum boiler protection. The product reformulation upgrade to X100 Inhibitor has seen overall product effectiveness increased by almost 10 per cent.

01928 588330 www.sentinel-solutions.net

Enq. 317

NEWSLETTER

Housebuilder & Developer









Schlüter provides perfect formula

The University of Oxford's Mathematical Institute has factored in a top supplier of essential tiling protection, Schlüter-Systems, during its £220 million development of new facilities – adding up to a first-class installation of the very best degree. With such heavy pedestrian traffic in the new building, movement joints from the Schlüter®-DILEX range along with stair nosing profiles from the Schlüter*-TREP have been installed to provide the ultimate in flooring protection. Thanks to the innovative profiles, trims and stair nosing products from Schlüter-Systems, the new flooring at the Mathematical Institute will remain sturdy and firm even under the feet of thousands of students. Carl Stokes, Head of Marketing and Customer Service said: "Not only do these profiles and edge trimmings provide crucial support under the high demands of this facility's use, but products such as Schlüter®-TREP are also designed to provide a decorative finish, whilst still providing protection for exposed tile edges for wall corners, skirting, stair nosings and tiled edges."

01530 813396 www.schluter.co.uk

Eng. 318

The future of central heating today! Daikin Altherma air to water heat pump range available in Split, Mono and Multi type systems.



Changing your Gas or Oil boiler to a Daikin Altherma air source heat pump system from Space Air, will be the biggest move towards protecting the environment and reducing energy costs that you can make.



Contact **Space Air Solutions** for more information! altherma@spaceair.co.uk www.spacealtherma.co.uk









Nobody knows Daikin better

Enq. 319

LEARVIEW STOVES

Britain's leading manufacturer of clean burning wood stoves

The complete solution for Selfbuilder's and Homemaker's

We are the UK's largest dedicated manufacturer of clean burning wood stoves. designing, manufacturing and distributing from our ten acre site in Shropshire.

With installation and product knowledge unequalled in the industry, we can provide all that is necessary for a trouble free installation

Some of our benefits include:

- Money saving.
- Certified for use in smokeless zones. We were the first ever company to achieve this.
- A heat source that is 70% efficient, most open fires are only 10%.
- Very easy to light and maintain. They burn for long periods unattended and the ashtray only needs to be emptied every
- You are in control of your fuel supply, no longer dependent on the big energy companies
- A satisfying and pleasurable way to heat your home.
- Reduced dependence on fossil fuels.
- Thousands of accessories and flue components in stock.



STOCKISTS THROUGHOUT THE UK www.clearviewstoves.com Brochure Line: 01588 650 123 Dinham House, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 1EJ. Tel: 01584 878 100



The new and improved Daikin Altherma LT split range of air to water heat pumps, from Space Air Solutions of Guildford, is not only more efficient than the range it replaces but has achieved accreditation in Appendix Q of SAP. SAP assessors can now use actual equipment performance figures rather than default ratings when assessing the performance of a building. Daikin Altherma's SAPQ accreditation applies to the complete 4kW to 16kW Split LT range. For social housing providers these systems not only reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions but also reduce fuel bills.



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

Eng. 320



Flamewave Fires are the manufacturers of Tortoise and Cleanline open convector fireboxes. The range includes both contemporary and traditional built-in and freestanding units in many sizes and styles for use with wood, coal or gas. Being 'locally' made, Flamwave Fires can even offer a unique made-to-measure service - just call for details, a member of the team will be very happy to discuss your individual requirements. The clever boxwithin-a-box construction means that the fireboxes are at least twice as efficient as ordinary open fires and often three or four times better than some larger open fires. Eng. 330



Insulation, is a flexible, easy to fit, multilaver insulation that offers tremendous thermal benefits. Thermal testing to EN16012 confirms high core thermal resistance of 1.52m²K/W. Due to the special composition of multi-layers of insulation SuperQuilt effectively deals with all forms of energy transfer. SuperQuilt works most effectively by reflecting infra-red radiation. This means that not only is SuperQuilt effective during winter by reflecting heat back into the building and cold out, but during summer SuperQuilt is a very effective solar over heating barrier.

Eng. 331

Ecodan wins at NHIC Awards

Eng. 319



Mitsubishi Electric's fourth generation of Ecodan air source heat pumps has just been recognised as 'Best Home Energy Solution' at the National Home Improvement Council Awards. The judges praised the system for providing: "a sustainable way of reducing the

burden of energy costs for tenants and those struggling in these tough economic conditions." Ecodan units have now been installed in thousands of homes right across the UK and the system remains the only air source heat pump to receive the prestigious Quiet of the Noise Abatement Society.

01707 282880 www.mitsubishielectric.co.uk

Enq. 321

DAB Pumps make peace easy to find



Following the launch of its e.sybox low water pressure boosting system, DAB Pumps says it has gone one step closer to creating complete peace of mind by introducing a three year guarantee and a wall mounted bracket system, making installation even easier. The e.sybox can be fitted vertically or horizontally on anti-vibration mountings bringing choice and flexibility to

where and how it can be plumbed in. Now there is a third option, a wall mounted bracket system called 'e.sywall' that allows the pump to be installed directly onto the wall in locations where floor space is minimal. The addition of the three-year guarantee means not only will there be peace within the building but peace of mind too. Eng. 322

Specification at your fingertips



Greenwood Airvac launches its first app to support architects, specifiers, and developers in the specification and installation of its products. Quick and easy to navigate, the new app brings together a complete library of Greenwood literature including product brochures, installation guides, Building Regulation documents and

homeowner operation and maintenance handbooks. A comprehensive source for everything Greenwood, the brochure app puts the world of domestic ventilation at your fingertips, and with regular updates and additions it's an invaluable tool for anyone involved in the specification, design and installation of ventilation systems. Eng. 323

Lunar - a new frontier in radiators



The softly curved profile of the Lunar radiator from Hudson Reed offers a stylish and sophisticated heating option for any room. Available in a choice of contemporary finishes, the radiators provide exceptional heat output of over 5,000 BTU/hr – perfect for those cold winter days. This compact, curvy design provides a touch of elegance and with a width of just 355mm it can be used in an alcove or between

two windows. Manufactured from heavy duty aluminium, extrusion techniques enable the creation of the contemporary 'half-moon' shape and design - making them a simple yet effective heating solution.

01282 418000 www.hudsonreed.co.uk





Spirit Solar supplies bespoke solar photovoltaic roof systems.

A typical four bedroom roof will generate up to 6000kWh of electricity per year, earning up to £900 in feed-in tariff income for 20 years and provide free electricity to the occupier.

With its integrated design. the solar roof will sit flush with the roof covering to minimise the visual impact of the panels and give a modern and contemporary feel to any new build property.

Spirit Solar can fit to any roof using this highly customisable system.

Eng. 325



With exceptional build quality and stunning design, Klover, supplied by Stoves Online, offer the widest range of MCS accredited wood pellet stoves in the country. From utility boilers, inserts, combination wood and pellet stoves and pellet cookers to a full range of elegant in-house boiler models. With stock, training, spares, technical back up and dealer support all UK based, the Klover wood pellet range is perfectly positioned to take advantage of the RHI grants. At Ecobuild Klover will be giving advice on choosing a model, designing the installation and how best to take advantage of the grants available.

Eng. 326



Stokvis Energy Systems is continuing to receive keen interest from across the residential sector for its H-series heat interface units, after launching them to specifiers and M&E specialists at the 2013 Sustainability Live exhibition in April of last year. Available in single plate and dual plate versions to suit different options within a dwelling, the heat interface units have been developed by Stokvis specifically to meet the rising demand for communal or 'district' heating systems. This approach to the provision of heating and hot water is ideal for apartment buildings, student accommodation or sheltered housing schemes.

Eng. 327



The Underfloor Superstore is one of the UK's leading suppliers of wet underfloor heating systems and components, providing a wide range of high quality products at truly competitive prices. As wet underfloor heating specialists it is the perfect partner for any project ranging from single zone extensions to multi-story commercial developments. Builders, developers and end users all benefit from The Underfloor Superstore's commitment to excellent customer service. It prides itself on offering a complete design and supply service combined with expert product and industry knowledge.

Eng. 328



The widest range of MCS accredited wood pellet stoves & boilers available in the UK



0844 332 0969 www.firepowerheating.co.uk

ECONOPLATE H SERIES

Heat Interface Units

Providing heat and hot water for private apartments, housing association homes, student flats and sheltered housing.

- Compact
- No multiple gas assembly
- No flues
- Cylinder space not required
- Rapid/accurate response through plate heat exchanger and control technology
- · Renewable energy implemented easier in central/communal plant room
- Central boiler house
- Can install facing into landlord areas
- Meter reading and energy bills can be carried out remotely from a central location





THE CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS CHOICE.

For further information or to receive a technical guide tel: 0208 783 3050 or email: info@stokvisboilers.com www.stokvisboilers.com





Enq. 179

Hultafors Tools new catalogue



Hultafors Tools' new Product and Price Catalogue is now available with details of many innovative hand tools and accessories for working effectively wherever you are on site whatever your trade. The proof of Hultafors' quality and innovation can be found in every hand tool. Ergonomically crafted with built-in Fisco technology, there is a host of tools for measuring and marking, chopping, striking and levelling. There's even award-winning wrecking

bars that act as multi-purpose workmates on site. whatever the job in hand, the Hultafors Hand Tools System provides the ultimate solutions for making everyone's workday easier. Enq. 178

Dickies showcasing at NMBS



Dickies, the internationally renowned workwear brand, is exhibiting at the 2014 NMBS exhibition at the Ricoh Arena on the 9th April on stands 50-54. It will be showcasing some of its fantastic new products for 2014, the Dickies 22 range and Personal Protective Equipment

(PPE). Dickies have over 100 new lines in the 2014 catalogue including the Eisenhower Max Trouser and 20 new safety footwear styles including the Graton boot and the Crawford boot. From pallet deals to new starter packs there is something for everyone. All members placing orders on the day will also qualify for an extra five per cent rebate.

01761 419419 www.dickiesworkwear.com

'Cushioning Technology' kneepads



Within just 18 months of operation, CL-7 Limited, the Daventry based company which developed 'Redbacks Cushioning Technology' to produce the award winning Redbacks Safety kneepads, is now enjoying unprecedented success throughout many trades and industries. Over 25,000 pairs have

been sold with Redbacks being described as the most technically advanced knee pads currently available in the world. Redbacks are widely available in 13 countries across Europe with on-going discussions to distribute in the USA, South Africa and Australasia.

01327 702104 www.redbackskneepads.co.uk Eng. 180

Snickers' foul weather workwear



Snickers' waterproofing technologies are woven into in a range of foul weather working clothes that combine style and functionality hallmarks with different types of fabric to deliver specific garments for different conditions. This unique Active Climate System workwear from Snickers allows you to choose from three different types of rainwear: GORE-TEX jackets, PU fabric rain suits or jackets with A.P.S (Active System Protection). Wherever you're

working, whatever the conditions, Snickers will keep you well protected from the elements. Enq. 181

Everbuild's Caulk Once and Fill Once



Caulk Once and Fill Once are the latest products to take centre stage at Everbuild Building Products. Created using the very latest technology, the Caulk Once and Fill Once double act set a new standard in decorating fillers. Caulk Once is a premium quality acrylic caulk which has been formulated to outperform all other conventional decorating caulks using an advanced high

quality polymer. Fill Once is a ready mixed filler created with Expanded Micro-Sphere Technology (EMT) making it the perfect product to use for filling any sized hole in just one application.

0113 2403456 www.everbuild.co.uk

Enq. 182

Think safe – think warm!



The soft wicking polyester in Snickers' first layer underwear keeps your body warm and dry, while the second layer garments will insulate your body by creating a pocket of air around it to keep you warm. Over and above these superb working clothes, Snickers' third layer jackets and trousers deliver reliable weather protection against rain, wind, hail and snow along with advanced ventilation plus in-built

functionality to control and regulate the heat from your body. These waterproof, breathable, strong and durable outer garments will keep you working in comfort, at your best, whatever the working environment or weather conditions. Enq. 183

The environmental credentials of tiles

No matter what size your project, The Tile Association points out that professional high-quality tiling will add a beautiful, long-lasting and eco-friendly finish to your installation. Tiled finishes provide a hygienic environment for many years and allow thorough cleaning without any deterioration of appearance, preventing the build-up of allergenic material. The use of tile can help lower a building's energy footprint, reduce operational costs and serve as a valuable strategy in meeting energy consumption reduction targets specified by green building standards and rating systems. By their very nature, tile products have exceptional thermal mass. The incorporation of heavy and dense ceramic and cement-based materials into floor, wall, and ceiling installations allows for the storing and slow release of heat. The Tile Association has strict membership criteria which makes a TTA retailer, contractor or fixer a good starting point for professional help on your project.

info@tiles.org.uk www.tiles.org.uk



Cladding creates coastal look

Located in Paignton with just a two minute walk from both the town centre and sea front, the Pier Sands development of eight new semi-detached three bedroom town houses features Freefoam Fortex® cladding. Built by Torquay based developers McCarthy Contractors, the Colonial Blue cladding forms an attractive feature on the upper two floors creating a clean crisp contrast to the bright white render. Fortex has an attractive textured wood effect and comes in a range of seven subtle contemporary colours, available in weatherboard and double plank formats. Fortex cladding panels are designed to make storing, handling and fitting the range quick and easy. With weatherboard cladding weighing just 3.15kg per five metre board, it is four times lighter than cement fibre board. Fortex also comes with significant environmental credentials, with the Building Research Establishment's (BRE) Green Guide to Specification giving PVC cladding an A+ rating when fitted with standard insulation products. Quantity Surveyor James Hill commented: "We're delighted with the cladding, it's given the properties a real coastal feel, and added an attractive, distinctive look to the development."

01604 591110 www.freefoam.com

Eng. 185

Cedral Weatherboard chosen in Kent



The Wheeler family in King's Hill, West Malling, Kent, have become the latest in a series of households in the neighbourhood to choose Marley Eternit's fibre cement Cedral Weatherboard. It retains the traditional appeal of timber but because it is made from fibre cement it won't

warp, shrink or need re-painting or re-staining. That means it offers a durable, low maintenance solution with an installed life expectancy of at least 50 years. Cedral Weatherboard is offered in 23 colours and four woodstain finishes. As well as traditional weatherboarding, it can be used for a wide range of other exterior applications. Enq. 186

Hunter Douglas takes central role



50 new buildings, 2,000 new homes, 20 new streets and 10 new public squares spread across 67 acres make up the King's Cross regeneration programme in London. Hunter Douglas has taken centre stage in providing eye-catching and innovative, sliding, louvered shutter

systems for the ArtHouse apartment complex. A total of 435 sliding shutters with manual and motorised systems were installed, along with soffits with linear ceilings and bespoke aluminium fin centres. The project also presented design and installation challenges, such as double height shutters of over 6m for the ArtHouse's duplex apartments.

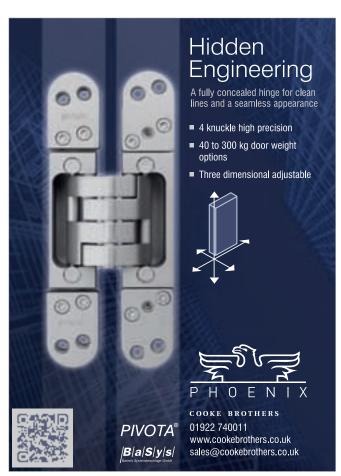
01543 275 757 www.hunterdouglas.co.uk

Eng. 187





Enq. 188 Enq. 189



Enq. 190







Surviving the revival

John Whalley, managing director of Nationwide Windows Ltd discusses the importance of how the right fenestration partner with the right products and experience can help new build developments

ccording to figures released at the end of 2013 by Housing Minister Kris Hopkins, the last three months of the year saw the fastest rate of housebuilding since the recession began. This is not contained within the private sector, as Nationwide Windows witnessed through the course of its work with numerous social housing providers and housebuilders. In fact, the number of new homes being built in the public sector is on the increase too.

Whatever the project, any new build necessitates stringent future planning in order to proof it for any legislation which may hinder you at some point along the build process. For added peace of mind, it makes sense to choose a partner company that can offer proven expertise in meeting and exceeding regulations, as well as a product range that ensures compliance alongside that all-important kerb appeal.

Nationwide Windows supports some of the UK's leading housebuilders and developers including Barratt Homes, David Wilson Homes, Persimmon, Miller Homes, Lovells, Redrow, Taylor Wimpey and Kier; as well as smaller regional companies.

The ability to offer choice and proactively plan in order to stay ahead of the market's demands is essential when working with developers looking to source fenestration solutions for the mix of both private and affordable housing required on every site.

Nationwide Windows' strong history in new

build has also allowed the company to keep up with the trends exhibited, and it's fair to say that energy efficiency is still key for new build properties. The glass specification changes demanded by lower U-value requirements has undeniably had an effect on the kind of products used in these projects. But it's not just the windows, efficiency is just as vital in all design aspects of a property, and Nationwide Windows are ideally placed to help.

Contact **Nationwide Windows today** on 01788 569 228 or visit www.nationwidewindows.co.uk

Enq. 193

Getting to grips with door hardware



The Guild of Architectural Ironmongers (GAI) has introduced an innovative new development in its respected education portfolio: the Foundation Module in Hardware. The new module - with online learning and examination so it can be completed at

any pace - is aimed at anyone who wants to get a basic grasp of door hardware quickly, simply and at an attractive cost. The course comprises 12 sections with 'test yourself' questions at the end of each. It is intended to provide an insight into many of the aspects of architectural hardware. Success in this exam provides a Certificate of Competence in 'The Foundation in Hardware'. Eng. 194

greenteQ pulling power from VBH



Hardware distributer VBH has added stainless steel pull handles to the greenteQ hardware range. The series was developed by VBH in Germany, where doors are commonly fitted with key operated (wind-up) locks and pull handles have long been used in place of a lever handle set. The range consists of nine designs,

many of which are available with options of 90° or 45° projection, and with standard or extended legs. VBH advise that, depending on the design selected, the handles are available from 300mm-1800mm high and can be used either singularly or in pairs on many door materials including composite, PVCu, timber, aluminium and glass.

01634 263300 www.vbhgb.com

Eng. 195

Stand out with Mistral



New for 2014 and exclusive to JB Kind, the eye-catching Mistral door design has been developed with the housing market in mind. JB Kind has sourced a new construction technique that gives the Oak Mistral an incredible price advantage. Based on the fashion for flush groove designs, the Mistral's distinctive pattern gives a three panelled effect. The doors are also available in Walnut and White primed and FD30 fire doors, glazed designs, metric sizes and bespoke options are all available.

01283 554197 www.jbkind.com

Enq. 196

You can't fit quicker



HOPPE's door handles with Quick-Fit plus connections certainly live up to their name. They are easy to fit in double quick time and are so stylish and sleek they will complement any interior decor scheme. HOPPE's patented Quick-Fit plus connection is the next step on from the

company's tried and tested Quick-Fit system. It comprises stylish handles plus flat roses and escutcheons which are just 2mm thick and come in round and square versions. There is no need for tools or fixings to complete the job as the handle, rose and escutcheon are simply pushed together into position in a matter of seconds with a satisfying click.

01902 484 400 www.hoppe.co.uk







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With DESIGNine CONNECT kingsize Windmöller is offering the first country style single plank collection with extrawide and long planks for private or commercial application for gluing and clicking. Kingsize planks are suitable for laying in damp room and on all traditional hot water underfloor heating systems. Like all wineo CONNECT floors, they are conveniently laid without adhesive and therefore can bear loads immediately, are extremely durable and with their tangible wood textures meet the requirements for a natural look and thus a high degree of authenticity. Particularly in large premises, the generous plank format with the bevelled edges achieves a markedly aesthetic area effect.



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FENSA says 2013 ends on a high



2013 saw the first year on year growth in notifications of installation of replacement windows and doors in domestic properties since 2007 – up 4.5 per cent on 2012, says FENSA. The last quarter of

the year was up 5.7 per cent on the same period last year after a flat October (+0.5 per cent) and decline in November (-3.3 per cent). This was the third consecutive quarter of growth - the first time this has been achieved since FENSA began collating installation numbers. Eight months saw increased installations in 2013 over the same month in the previous year compared to just four in 2012.

020 7645 3700 www.fensa.org.uk

Enq. 199

Evolution structural warranties



Can Evolution help with your structural warranties? 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 development project in the near

future you will require a mortgage compliant warranty. Evolution is a specialist in this market and will source the right product at competitive rates for your project. The company is an insurance broker authorised and regulated in the UK by the Financial Conduct Authority under FCA number 472438.

01799 512 031 www.buildingwarranties.com

Enq. 200

Keep property watertight



Flexseal, a Fernco company and a UK leading coupling manufacturer, is now distributing the Floodbreaker range of flood defence products which offers comprehensive protection for domestic properties. The threat of flooding in the UK is sig-

nificant, with over 5.5 million properties classed as at risk, according to assessments across the country by government bodies. The products in Flexseal's Floodbreaker range all offer flood resistance measures, keeping floodwater out of the property. The Floodbreaker range is available through builders' merchants.

01226 340 222 www.ferncoenvironmental.com

Enq. 201

Porcelain Paving range expands



Greensquares has introduced two new colours to its successful Refin Porcelain Paving range. An appreciation of this alternative flooring material has seen Refin being adopted extensively in domestic, commercial and public projects. Adding a sense of

style and elegance, Refin porcelain tiles and paving are available for both indoor and outdoor use with a thickness of 10mm or 20mm as appropriate for the application. A key advantage of Refin's porcelain is their low porosity of less than 0.05 per cent, meaning they are effectively impermeable to any moisture, preventing them from staining.

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Enq. 205

Enq. 206



Enq. 207

egardless of the water pressure, geography of a site or its previous use, polyethylene (PE) pipe is the ideal solution for residential water infrastructure projects. Durable, flexible and abrasion resistant, it has a service life of at least 100 years and is suitable for installation by either open cut or trenchless methods. However, this does not mean that PE pipe is a one-size-fits-all solution; far from it. The right type and size of pipe must be specified for the installation and there are numerous considerations and calculations that come into play.

Size matters

The required flow rate and the minimum and maximum water pressure should be considered when determining the size of pipe required. The size of pipe used will also affect the price, as larger diameter or thicker walled pipes require more raw materials which increases the cost of manufacture.

As a general guide, where water pressure is low, a larger diameter pipe will be required to maximise flow rates but the low pressure will normally allow a thinner pipe wall. This is usually expressed as an SDR (Standard Dimension Ratio) and where the SDR is lower the pipe wall is thin relative to the pipe diameter. Where the water pressure is high, a smaller pipe diameter will be sufficient for the required flow rate but the pipe wall will need to be thicker to withstand the water pressure, which will lead to a higher SDR rating.

Coping with contaminants

Where there is no risk of development land being contaminated, a standard PE 100 pipe will provide the ideal solution for the main drinking water feed and the pipe supplier should be able to provide technical support with specification of the right SDR for optimum flow rate and service life.

If there is any risk of contamination, it is important to establish whether the chosen pipe will provide a sufficiently robust barrier.



Picking the perfect pipe

Jon Briafield at PE pipe specialist, GPS PE pipe Systems, advises on the considerations for pipe specification and the types of pipe required for different elements of a water installation



Large Diameter pipe being installed in Huyton (Nr Liverpool)

"Specifiers should look for a proven barrier pipe system that is kitemarked to WIS 4-32-19, the **Water Industry Specification** standard for barrier pipe systems determined by Water UK"

However, soil sampling can be very expensive and often the most cost effective approach is to specify a PE barrier pipe that provides a proven impermeable barrier against all recognised organic and inorganic contaminants, even in their maximum reported concentrations. In this way, identification of the type and level of contaminants is no longer required reducing the potential for delays on the project and cost implications that soil sampling may incur. Specifiers should look for a proven barrier pipe system that is kitemarked to WIS 4-32-19, the Water Industry Specification standard for barrier pipe systems determined by Water UK, the representative body of the UK water and wastewater service suppliers.

Continued overleaf...

The eco-friendly challenge

As we get ever closer to the deadline for zero carbon homes, the challenges of incorporating eco-specification into deliverable and sustainable projects increase. In terms of water infrastructure, water re-use and rainwater harvesting are key elements of the drive towards environmentally responsible specification but



with these innovations come new specification and installation challenges.

Developers must ensure that there is no risk that a rainwater or grey water supply can be confused with a drinking water supply on the pipe network, either during the build programme or during maintenance at a later date. To be certain of this, a PE pipe designed specifically for re-usable water supplies should be specified and the Water Regulations Advisory Scheme (WRAS) and the National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG) recommend a black PE pipe with a green horizontal stripe at each quadrant. As with all types of PE pipe, specifiers should expect their supplier to offer a wide range of sizes and fittings to ensure an easy to install and maintain, leakfree solution.

Supplier support

For wastewater and sewage pipes, specifiers should select a black PE 100 pipe in an appropriate size to cope with the required demand. Once again, it's important to select a pipe system with a wide range of fittings that can help to underpin length of service life not only of the pipe itself but of the complete installation.

Whatever the specific water infrastructure considerations on an individual site, it pays to

understand the different integrity and colourcoding requirements of the varied aspects of an installation. However, it's important to remember that the pipe supplier is the expert and, whether the pipe materials are bought direct from the manufacturer or from a merchant, tapping into that expertise by accessing the manufacturer's technical support team can help to ensure the most durable, easy to install and cost effective specification.



Enq. 208





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Enq. 209 Enq. 210

NEW QUOOKER INTRODUCES THE NORDIC DESIGN SERIES



Quooker launches new Nordic Series

History

When engineer Henri Peteri was working on the development of instant soup for an international food company thirty-five years ago, he realised that soup would never be 'instant' without boiling water on tap. From that moment on he was captivated by this idea. He left the company he was working for and – working out of the cellar in his own home – started developing an appliance that would dispense boiling water instantly.

The world's first

The Quooker is the world's first 100°c boiling-water tap and holds global patents. The Nordic series marks a significant development in the history of the company and is only available through kitchen retail showrooms and is not available via any online dealers.

New Nordic Series

The new Nordic series, packed with new innovations. Each Quooker tap has full height adjustment and 360 degree rotation with both a push-andturn 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.

Kitchen showroom line only

The new Nordic series has been launched as a kitchen showroom line only. It's not available online demonstrating Quooker's commitment to its kitchen dealer network.

Contact us to find out more on the Nordic Design Series.





Distinctly Abode Apex sink



The Abode Apex sink is designed to suit any space, kitchen style, décor and budget with minimum fuss but maximum usefulness. Large deep bowls complement the expansive barcode styled draining areas. The Apex inset brushed stainless steel sink is available

in 1.0 and 1.5 bowl formats with drainer which are both reversible. All Apex sinks come complete with the unique Abode Orbit waste, overflow, blanking plug, fixing and pipework kits. The Abode Specto single lever tap perfectly matches the Apex sink and is available in chrome and brushed nickel finishes.

01226 283434 www.abode.eu

Enq. 212

Repeat order sits pretty with DMMP



Five years ago, a care home organisation took delivery of PolyWood tables and chairs for its Margate site, and has just taken delivery of more PolyWood garden furniture for its new Brentwood residence. DMMP, which imports the weather-proof PolyWood furniture and is the UK distributor, is delighted with this vote of confidence. Proven over time, PolyWood is unaffected by adverse weather. As it is non-porous and uses

stainless steel fixings, the furniture can be left outside all year round; washing with a mild detergent will keep it clean.

0845 643 9776 www.dmmp.co.uk

Enq. 213

New unit with USB power/charging



New from Contactum is an innovative combined USB connection power/charger with 13 Amp Switched socket in one unit. Exceptionally convenient and space-saving, the new unit can be used to

directly charge or power up to two USB devices simultaneously while also offering access to a 13 amp British Standard 3-pin socket. The unit is equally suited for new installations or for retrofitting to replace any existing 2G socket. The twin USB outlets are ideally suited for use with most mobile devices such as mobile phones, touch screen tablets, MP3 players, digital cameras and hand held game consoles. Enq. 214

Brett Landscaping's new offerings



The centrepiece of the Brett Landscaping product offer for homeowners in 2014 is an enhanced choice of natural stone paving, offering long-lasting, high-quality solutions to suit every budget. The new natural stone range is just one of several new products and services showcased by

Brett Landscaping in its 2014 Gardens & Drives catalogue, available to order or download free of charge from the company's website. The new catalogue also sees the launch of Alpha TRIO, an extension of the successful TRIO concept which is designed to make life easier for the smaller contractor or DIY enthusiast when installing a driveway.

0845 6080570 www.brettpaving.co.uk



National press boost for DeckSafe



DeckSafe Solutions has received a huge boost thanks to having its Anti-Slip Convex Decking Strips nominated as 'Product of the Week' by The Daily Mirror's DIY expert, Donny Sheridan. DeckSafe's Convex Decking Strips provide an excellent alternative to the high maintenance and upkeep of timber

decking. Designed to fit directly onto existing timber decking, the unique chamfered edges ensure a low profile fit, thereby removing any trip risk. The anti-slip properties are created by a hard-wearing Silicon Carbide Grit, applied to the top surface of the strip. This outperforms conventional aluminium or rubber material.

Enq. 217

Maintenance-free decking

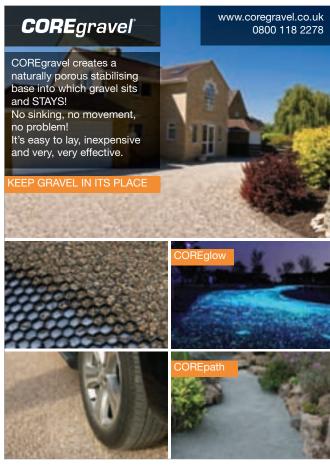


Reliaboard is the latest composite decking to be launched in the TimberTech range by Greensquares. With an authentic wood grain look, Reliaboard carries all the advantages of TimberTech composite decking but at a budget conscious price level. Reliaboard decking is perfect for modern life as

it doesn't need painting, sanding or sealing. All it needs to keep looking good is regular sweeping and a very occasional jet wash, leaving time to enjoy the garden rather than working on it. As a composite material, Reliaboard is a blend of wood and polymer meaning that it won't split, crack, warp or fade. It is also algae and slip resistant.

029 2037 1584 www.timbertechuk.co.uk

Enq. 218



Enq. 219

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Mapei restore 19th century farmhouse



Mapei's Mapetherm external wall insulation (EWI) system has been used to restore a 150-year-old farmhouse. A BBA-certified Mapetherm system was installed by Worcester Plastering and Insulated Renders to improve both the thermal performance and property's

aesthetics. In addition to providing an immediate solution – in terms of the energy regime and reduced CO₂ emissions – the Mapetherm system dramatically improved the comfort levels for the occupants. Mapetherm is a fire-resistant, breathable system fully compliant with, and certified to, the BBA's stringent inspection procedures.

0121 508 6970 www.mapei.co.uk

Enq. 221







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SIPs – The third method of construction

Tony Millichap, technical manager of Kingspan Insulation Limited

onventional construction methods such as brick and block have two distinct disadvantages: programmes can become unpredictable in our wet climate, and walls are having to become thicker and thicker in order to accommodate the high levels of insulation needed to meet thermal performance requirements. Switching to timber frame can help to speed things up, and will also reduce the carbon footprint of the build if that is a consideration, but for a reliable fast track, highly energy efficient and versatile approach why not consider using Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs), which can now be considered to be the third method of construction.

SIPs have been used for decades in North America and Canada, and have become increasingly popular in the UK as a proven way of constructing very airtight and thermally efficient buildings, both for housing and non-domestic projects. They have been used in some of the most ambitious and cutting edge developments in the UK, providing a reliably energy efficient building envelope for rigorous standards such as Passivhaus, and Level 6 of the Code for Sustainable Homes.

Benefits

SIPs can offer a number of clear benefits over more traditional methods of building, including fast track construction, space saving characteristics, reduced waste, design flexibility and reliable thermal performance.

An example of a typical SIP construction would be two 15mm OSB3 (Oriented Strand Board) facings with a 110mm rigid urethane insulation core, providing a thermally efficient, structurally strong, rigid panel. SIPs can provide a whole wall U-value no worse than 0.20 $\mathrm{W/m^2}.\mathrm{K}$, and U-values of 0.10 $\mathrm{W/m^2}.\mathrm{K}$ or better can easily be achieved with the addition of an insulated lining.

The panels are factory cut to the design of the building, ready to slot together using special jointing systems that provide very high levels of airtightness. Finished constructions can produce air-leakage rates as low as 1 m³/hour/m² at 50 Pa. SIPs can also help to avoid problems which may



be associated with other common construction techniques, such as air-leakage through poorly sealed sockets or switches, at floor zones through masonry cavity walls, under skirting boards and through poorly sealed loft hatches and top storey ceiling light fittings.

As thermal Building Regulation requirements tighten, and we approach the stringent targets of zero carbon by 2016 for all housing, issues such

"SIPs can offer a number of clear benefits... including fast track construction, space saving characteristics, reduced waste, design flexibility and reliable thermal performance"

Continued overleaf...



as thermal bridging become more significant. As well as providing an effective air seal, the jointing arrangements in SIPs mean that the insulation layer is typically interrupted by less repeating studwork than in a timber frame, greatly reducing repeating thermal bridging.

For example, in a property constructed with traditional timber frame the repeating thermal bridges caused by timber studs in the walls and rafters in the roof means that you could typically expect 15 per cent of the walls and six per cent of the roof to be uninsulated. By comparison, in a property constructed with SIPs, as little as four per cent of the walls and one per cent of the roof may be uninsulated.

Because the panels are pre-cut ready to assemble there is very little on-site waste, the risk of defects is greatly reduced and installation is extremely simple. Panels can be 1.22m wide by up to 7.45m tall, and the single fix installation format reduces construction time and is less labour intensive. A quality weatherproof envelope can be constructed in considerably less time than if using some traditional methods of construction, and tasks such as drylining the walls can be carried out at the same time as finishing the roof, making project completion times more reliable and keeping costs down.

Where space is at a premium, the highly efficient integral insulation helps to make the most of the available footprint, keeping wall constructions much thinner than traditional methods such as brick and block, without loss of strength or thermal performance. Using SIPs for the whole construction also generates an intrinsic warm roof space, which can easily be designed as an additional room, or to provide a safe, dry storage area.

From an aesthetic point of view, SIPs also provide a blank canvas to which the desired finish can be applied, from traditional brick to modernist cladding, colourful render to warm timber. This allows huge flexibility and choice in the overall design and appearance of the finished building.

Because the buildings can be so air tight, good, controlled ventilation is an essential part of the



"Because the panels are pre-cut ready to assemble there is very little on-site waste. the risk of defects is greatly reduced, and installation is extremely simple"

design. By introducing MVHR (Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery), heat can be recovered from the old air being expelled and used to warm the incoming airflow, further reducing heating demands without impacting on the end user's level of comfort.

The very high levels of thermal performance mean that the size of any heating systems can be greatly reduced, keeping both capital and running costs down. SIPs also lend themselves easily to achieving the levels of performance needed to meet the Passivhaus standard, which requires almost no heating.

Reliable solutions

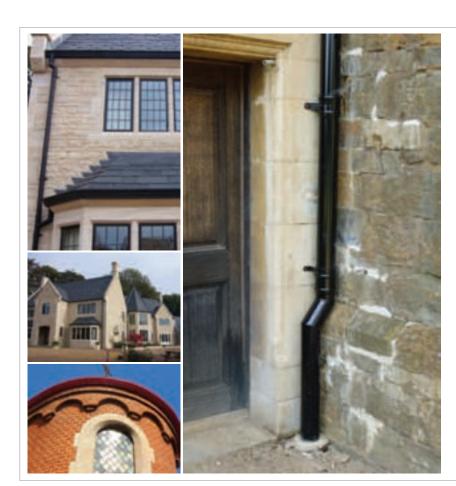
Building with SIPs can bring many benefits to the housebuilder and developer. It reduces reliance on wet trades, which are so heavily weather dependent, and helps to make sure that projects are kept on track, allowing earlier sales, predictable return on investment or an extra month's rent through timely completion. The factory engineered panels reduce the risk of the finished building not meeting the designed performance and help to maximise space and minimise waste. The results are highly energy efficient dwellings that are equally at home looking like traditional country cottages, suburban semis, or modern urban apartments.





Eng. 225

Eng. 226



When it comes to choosing Aluminium Gutters & Pipes, it's as simple as

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High praise for Yeoman Rainguard



Damaged Victorian down pipes on the Leeds Methodist Mission have been replaced with a Cast Iron rainwater system from Yeoman Rainguard. Yeoman Rainguard supplied four replacement stacks to match the original design in 100mm Dia Cast Iron, pre-painted black. Trevor Parker, Leeds Methodist Mission property and conference manager commented: "We were delighted with the quality of products and prompt service we

received from Rainguard. Its specialist skills were very impressive and we were kept advised of progress at every stage of the job." Enq. 228

Westerland solution at Otters Brook



A new housing development in the picturesque town of Buxton, Derbyshire, features Westerland fibre cement slates from Cembrit. Otters Brook is a new housing development that has built to blend seamlessly into the surrounding countryside. The Westerland slates are BREEAM A+ rated ensuring a sustainable choice that combine traditional looks with mod-

ern performance. They have a similar appearance to natural slate but require no sorting and are easy-to-cut and fix, making them the ideal choice for a large volume housing development. Enq. 229

Trusses from Pasquill in luxury homes



Two interesting roofs have been handled by Pasquill at a very exclusive development of homes at the village of Aspley Guise in Bedfordshire. Pasquill designed and supplied attic trusses for the properties, and in some areas the trusses span up to 12m. Pasquill developed drawings for the scheme on

behalf of builders' merchant, Gibbs & Dandy. Following preliminary drawings completed, Pasquill's senior design office manager for its Stoney Stanton site visited the development to assist in improving the buildability of the properties' roofs. This included discussing and agreeing the support of the trusses from the steel beam. Enq. 230

New website from Metrotile UK



Metrotile UK is proud to announce the launch of a brand new website at www.metrotile.co.uk. Designed to be a content-rich experience that is as accessible for existing customers as it is for newcomers to the Metrotile brand, the site features details about all of its products, including specifications, a

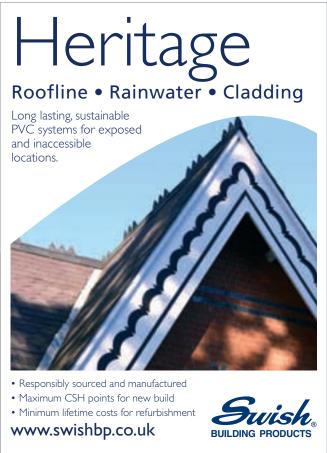
full CAD library, case studies, downloadable eguides and a full image gallery. Metrotile is also very excited to announce its brand new series of installation guide videos that will go live very soon. Metrotile manufactures lightweight roofing systems with a 40 year guarantee.

01249 658514 www.metrotile.co.uk

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Ap-ply-ing a different pitch to roofing

By Martin Shave, business development manager for domestic roofing at Protan

hy do we build dwellings with pitched, tiled roofs? There is no law saying we have to; it is tradition, and a bad reputation for flat roofs. Yet a move away from the traditional would create a more interesting vista, give housebuilders greater profit potential, and go a long way to major reductions in the £2.5 billion we spend repairing roofs damaged by weather.

Twenty-three per cent of Britain's existing dwellings already have at least some part of the roof that is flat/low pitched. Current consumer demand is for maximum natural light and open plan living. As a result, housebuilders are responding to the consumer demand by incorporating bifold doors into properties, often under a low pitched roof. These low-pitched structures, in effect, give consumers the ready-made extension they would probably add anyway (instead of a conservatory). It meets the demand for more light within, and has an 'added value' benefit in that should they want to add more upstairs space, the base is already there.

People also want something different: choosing an alternative to a conventional pitched, tiled roof gives architects massive scope to let their imagination flow.

We are experiencing a spate of windier, colder winters. Research shows that when we suffer high winds, domestic roof damage exceeds £2.5 billion, as tiles lift under wind loading; in winter weather, roof damage is the most common insurance claim as tiles crack from the cold or give way under snow loading.

If we constructed roofs with 'softer' lines, and used different roofing materials, such as single ply membranes, much of that weather damage could be eliminated.

Historically, flat roofs in the domestic sector have been avoided, based on their reputation for problems and failures. Admittedly, too often



they have failed largely because of a tendency to go for as low a cost as possible – meaning inferior materials, often poorly installed.

The reality is that if properly designed to modern standards, using decent materials, flat roofs covered with a membrane will perform as well as – if not better than – pitched, tiled roofs. They will also compare favourably in terms of material costs and significantly reduce labour costs.

The minimum quality of roofing for built-up roofs on habitable buildings is Bs747 Type 5. Today's single ply membranes are a world apart

from traditional rag, wood-fibre or asbestos based felts. PVC membranes, for example, have overcome their main problem from the 1950s of becoming brittle, helping ensure their longevity in practice. Today, there are PVC roofs that have been in place, without detriment for 35+ years.

To go beyond flat roofing, single ply membranes help deliver the energy efficiency requirements laid down in Approved Document L, and, under the Green Guide, achieve a A+ rating. Properly installed there will also be fewer potential site remedials/snagging than with a tiled roof with mortar-bedded ridge and eaves.

Continued overleaf...



The National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC) and Single Ply Roofing Asssociation (SPRA) have both published guides on designing a built-up roof, both of which reiterate that message: good quality installation by reputable contractors will give a dependable, long-lasting roof.

A single ply roof can be warm or cold in its construction. It does not have to be flat. The roof is the fifth elevation of a building, and should give as much architectural and aesthetic interest as the supporting walls. The nature of the beast with single ply membrane is that it is a flexible material. As a result, it is ideally suited to almost every roof. It can be more easily fitted into valleys and gutters. It can be manipulated through all dimensions, enabling curves, barrels and angles to be formed almost seamlessly. It can be manufactured in almost any colour. It forms the basis of a green roof.

So I go back to my original question. Why do we build pitched, tiled roofs? Follow the lead of Avant Group, Wandle Housing Association, Selco Eco Village and a myriad others: go the single ply route.

Eng. 234



The LSA is spear-heading the development of a new dormer window that could bring a range of benefits to your development:

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www.leadsheet.co.uk/dormer

Northern exposure for Marley



Marley Contract Services has completed yet another award winning roofing project on ten luxury properties in the Cults area of Aberdeen. The standard of work carried out by Marley Contract Services, where houses are priced up to £1.175 million, resulted

in the company winning the 2013 NFRC (National Federation of Roofing Contractors) Scottish Contractor of the Year Awards. A key requirement set by the developer was that the roof should complement the light grey stone exterior of the properties. Marley Contract Services used Edgemere tiles with a single-lap flat interlocking design in smooth grey to achieve this. Eng. 236

RoofSpace solutions hits new heights



RoofSpace Solutions' (part of Avonside Group Services) innovative RoofSpace I-Roof™ system has been awarded Robust Details approval, Part E, achieving an impressive 60 decibel sound

reduction; the mandatory requirement is 45. The fully insulated, costneutral system achieves U/values as low as 0.08W/m²K within the panel and the wall panels achieve U/values as low as 0.22W/m²K. RoofSpace Solutions is working towards BM-TRADA Q-Mark Product Certification for its system which allows installation teams to encapsulate the roof-spaces of up to six 2.5 storey dwellings per day.

0800 731 5982 www.avonsidegroupservices.co.uk Enq. 237

Get MCS Approval with the BBA



The Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) published MCS012 Product Certification Scheme Requirements: Pitched Roof Installation Kits on 16th March 2012. This is a new requirement for mounting kits used

with solar heating and solar PV installations intended for installation on pitched roofs. Roof installation kits must be tested and a certificate issued by an accredited Certification Body such as the BBA by 31st March. To ensure that it was ready for the introduction of MCS012, the BBA recently invested in a new test rig so that the weathertightness and resistance to wind uplift tests could be performed.

01923 665300 contact@bba.star.co.uk

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Regeneration project uses Thrutone



Marley Eternit's Thrutone fibre cement slates have been used to create a distinctive roof aesthetic for an imaginatively designed regeneration project in Mill Hill, London. Developers Countryside Properties and Annington Homes specified the Marley Eternit Thrutone fibre cement slates to complement the distinctive sandstone, terracotta brick and cedar cladding used on

the houses, as well as to blend in with the surrounding countryside. As part of Marley Eternit's fibre cement range, Thrutone boasts industry leading sustainability credentials.

01283 722588 www.marleyeternit.co.uk

Enq. 239



New portable noise monitor launched

Cirrus Environmental is leading the way in outdoor noise monitoring for 2014 with the launch of its new Invictus portable noise monitor. After more than two years in development, the Invictus has been designed specifically for environmental noise applications with all new functions, making it the most comprehensive noise monitoring device on the market today. The Invictus allows simultaneous measurements of all parameters and can be controlled remotely via 3G, GPRS, Wi-Fi Ethernet or radio modems. Its flexible programming allows the user to set different measurement periods and alerts for different times of the day/different days of the week for a comprehensive system that meets every noise related challenge. It can also deliver data with audio recordings, SMS, email and Twitter alerts to ensure the information can be gathered and delivered virtually in real time - ideal for site managers who need to be alerted to breaches of pre-set limits as soon as possible.

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Enq. 240



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Jersey Island receives an architectural facelift

ver the past few years the residents of Jersey have used its beautiful landscape for the backdrop to their homes. There has been a visible increase in property development across the island from residential new build to commercial refurbishments. CANAL Architectural, a division of Canal Engineering Ltd, has been privileged enough to be part of the new developments on the island having worked closely with the client and the contractor producing results that are second to none.

CANAL has recently completed the interior and exterior of a multimillion pound house featuring three matching floating staircases, glass staircase and balcony balustrade, and many metres of architectural stainless steel handrail.

For the interior of the property, CANAL produced the cantilever staircase metalwork at its manufacturing site in Nottingham, UK; the secret to the staircase's success. On site in Jersey, the first fix involved mechanically fixing a structural steel stringer to the wall with protruding, welded cantilever channels. The stringer



was then completely hidden by the wall finish and prepped for décor. Throughout the project the steel cantilever channels provided access to the next floor to complete the remaining structural metalwork process.

Unlike many timber floating staircases that use stainless steel fixings for the balustrade, this Jersey home hosts unique solid American Walnut box treads, which were specially manufactured slightly longer than usually necessary. CANAL used this extra length to design an end piece to secure the glass balustrade in place. To the keen eye, you will notice that the grain of the timber flows through the glass balustrade producing clean lines and a high quality finish.

Exhibiting in March this year at Ecobuild, you can visit CANAL Architectural at stand S657 and browse the range of new feature staircases on display. If Ecobuild does not fit into your diary, contact the Architectural Sales Team today to discuss your bespoke requirements; +44 (0) 115 986 6321, canal@canalengineering.co.uk Enq. 244

Sleek features and stunning good looks demand admiration: That's why the architects and specifiers chose CANAL as their partner for this bespoke architectural metalwork project in Jersey.

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Eng. 246

5,000+ homes upgraded with Aico



Trent & Dove Housing has recently completed a major smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarm installation programme using solely Aico mains powered alarms and accessories. Aico 160 Series smoke alarms were originally fitted throughout the 5,200 properties

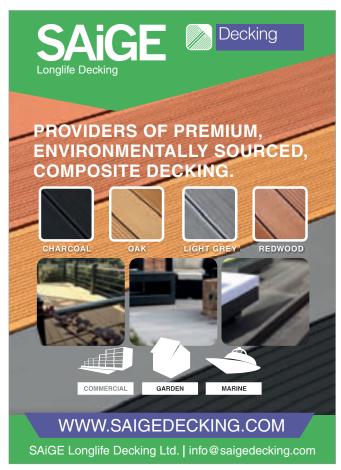
located across East Staffordshire. To reduce installation times and costs, Trent & Dove Housing has kept the existing Aico 160 Series Easi-fit base plates for the alarms fitted upstairs, while installing the ground floor alarms on RadioLINK bases. RadioLINK allows Aico alarms and accessories to be wirelessly interconnected by Radio Frequency (RF) signals rather than cabling.

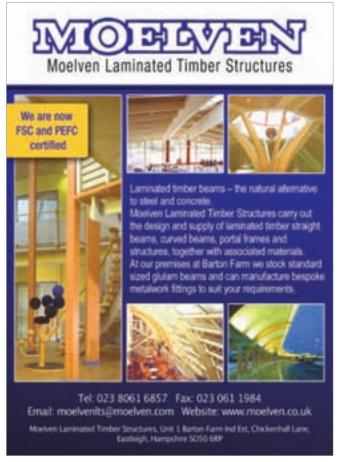
Timber door canopies by George Woods



George Woods UK manufacture a large range of door canopies, all hand made in timber from sustainable forestry. It always holds a large stock of its standard size canopies, which enables it to offer a next day delivery service. A bespoke design service is provided for both timber door canopies and barge boards, which can be crafted from your

own design. Beautifully crafted porch canopies are available in soft wood and include an extensive range of barge boards (fascia boards), all of which are manufactured on-site by hand. Having a canopy prolongs the life of your front door, extends time between maintenance and adds value and appeal. Enq. 248





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Why timber frame could be the solution for the UK's housebuilding industry

ast year was a good year for UK housebuilding. The sector has experienced a fairly remarkable rise in activity in the past year. In fact, during November of 2013 it grew at its strongest pace since 2003, according to UK Construction PMI data.

Estimates from NHBC suggest that registrations of new homes were 30 per cent higher in the quarter September to November 2013, compared to a year previously. The industry body registered 34,356 new homes during this period compared to 26,420 last year. In November alone 11,409 homes were registered - 20 per cent up on the same month last year when there

For the housebuilding industry to grow in a sustained manner, the pace of recovery has to be maintained through 2014. Achieving this will require favourable market conditions, a regular supply of labour and a steady source of building materials.

One of these, however, is threatened by a national issue that has been ongoing since the summer of 2013. This is the current brick shortage which has been causing severe delays and rising cost implications for housebuilders, as well as impacting on build programmes.

"Using timber frame offers important speed of build advantages that can reduce the build programme of a house to just nine weeks, with the knock-on benefits of improved cash flow and additional project cost efficiencies"

According to figures released by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, brick production is around half of what it was at its height in 2000. This points to a vastly reduced supply base, brought about by the diminished housing and construction markets between 2008 and 2012, and the resulting decline in demand.

So, as developers are striving to meet consumer demand and maintain the pace of the upturn As the economy recovers and demand for new homes is rising, the ongoing brick shortage presents a challenge to a construction sector which is working hard to meet demand.

Here, Alex Goodfellow, group managing director of Stewart Milne Timber Systems, comments on how timber frame is in a position to support the UK property market's growth prospects



in construction activity, many are turning to other build methods which will enable them to meet targets.

A similar scenario unfolded in Texas in 1990 and, rather than delay projects, construction firms adapted to alternative building materials to speed up build programmes and realised a faster return on investment. This led to a transformation in the way buildings were constructed, as firms adopted more efficient techniques and materials.

One of these alternatives is timber frame and, as a result of the current brick shortage, timber frame enquiries have risen substantially compared to the previous quarter.

There are good reasons for developers choosing this material. Using timber frame offers important speed of build advantages that can reduce the build programme of a house to just nine weeks, with the knock-on benefits of improved cash flow and additional project cost efficiencies.

Continued on page 81...



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WoodEx® - the engineered answer

Timber importer and distributor James Latham, is seeing sales soar of its engineered hardwood and softwood, WoodEx as the versatile timber product is specified in more and more joinery projects. WoodEx, which is made from laminated Oak, Sapele and European Redwood offers numerous features and benefits. It has two high quality, clear faces for use in joinery applications and is ideally suitable for use in timber doors and windows as the product offers greater dimensional stability. In addition, WoodEx is made from finger jointed lamells which are glued together, and Lathams can supply the product either as finger jointed or as one piece. James Latham's Group Product Sales & Development Manager for WoodEx, Paul Leach, commented: "We introduced WoodEx to the market last year and have had a fantastic reaction from the joinery sector due to the options it offers. "In line with growing demand, our stock now covers a wide range of sizes and species and provides a versatile addition to our already extensive timber range." WoodEx is available ex-stock in lengths of 0.8m to 3m, and in sizes ranging from 48mm x 95mm to 72mm x 120mm. Special sizes Enq. 252 and lengths are also available to order.





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As timber systems are manufactured off-site and erected in a series of panels, they can increase speed of build significantly and homes can be delivered four to five weeks quicker than by using traditional build materials, all the while ensuring quality and energy efficiency.

It's possible for a timber systems manufacturer to supply and erect the timber systems for its customers which helps to decrease build time, construction waste and health and safety risks on-site. Equally, thanks to these off-site manufacturing processes and prefabrication, using timber frame means build programmes remain unaffected by any forthcoming poor weather.

Indeed, the use of timber systems also provides shorter call-off times for projects, as low as three weeks, and the associated cost savings on construction time, site services, labour, and waste removal can considerably help housebuilders'

Likewise, its inherent energy efficiency means it is the go-to material from a sustainability perspective. With government legislation setting increasingly ambitious sustainability targets, developers will need to find housebuilding methods that meet the increasing demand for housing that can deliver energy efficiency quickly and cost effectively.

This all adds up to a readily-available, costeffective build material that can help developers and contractors stay on track as the market improves, while increasing profitability and keeping up with the rise in demand.

We should all be pleased to hear the UK timber frame market is forecast to be the fastest growing sector of the industry over the next five years and it's no coincidence that this coincides with improving conditions in the housing market. It can help housebuilders achieve costeffective, flexible routes to shorter build programmes and reduced carbon outputs, while helping the industry meet demand for both housing and energy efficiency.

In that sense, it can help maintain the momentum of housebuilding and enhance the sector's ability to meet future challenges.



"As timber systems are manufactured off-site and erected in a series of panels, they can increase speed of build significantly and homes can be delivered four to five weeks quicker"



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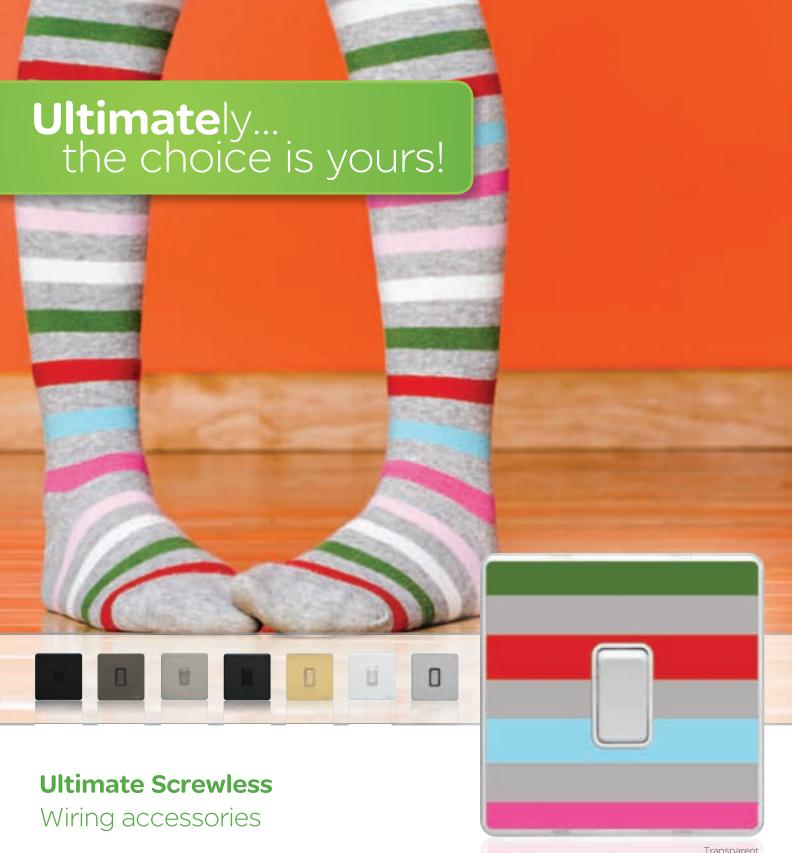
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