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## HbD



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The manufacturer of the paper used within our publication is a Chain-of-Custody cer-tified supplier operating within environmental systems certified to both ISO 14001 and EMAS in order to ensure ustainable production

Subscription costs just £48 for 12 issues, including post and packing. Phone 01435 863500 for details. Individual copies of the publication are available at £5 each inc p & p.

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Printed in England



## Editor's letter

It was pleasing to hear in a



David Mote. editor of Housebuilder & Developer

HELP TO BUY

### 77,000 households created under Help to Buy



Minister for Housing and Planning **Brandon Lewis** 

The latest monthly breakdown of cumulative sales, under the Help to Buy (equity loan) scheme, show that the number of people joining the housing ladder continues to grow. The new figures show more than 77,000 homes have been bought under the government's flagship Help to Buy schemes since 1 April 2013. The released statistics show:

- 41,533 households were helped into new build homes under the Help to Buy (equity loan) scheme up to December 2014
- 83 per cent of these new households are firsttime buyers (34,419)
- Total sales of 94 per cent were outside London
- 30,269 households bought new and existing homes through Help to Buy: mortgage guarantee
- 5,588 households were supported into a new build home through the Help to Buy: New-Buy scheme

With the figures showing more people getting a home of their own through the scheme Housing Minister Brandon Lewis said: "The figures today show clearly that Help to Buy supports aspiring homeowners and is a key part of our drive to help hardworking people who want a home of their own.

To date, Help to Buy has helped over 77,000 households to purchase a home with just a fraction of the deposit they would normally require. The scheme has also helped get the country building again, with private house building up 20 per cent over the last year, and it's highest since 2007. Industry figures show 100,000 new house building jobs created in just the last 18 months, which shows clearly that Help to Buy is a success."

pre-election debate the shadow housing minister, Emma Reynolds, reveal that Labour plans to introduce an initiative to support smaller homebuilders. This often forgotten but essential part of the housing sector could certainly do with some help and the Labour, if elected, initiative would allow these homebuilders access to lower cost bank lending, backed by Treasury guarantees.

Already helping the housing sector, the Help to Buy (equity loan) scheme's latest monthly breakdown of the cumulative sales, showed that more than 77,000 homes had been bought under the scheme since 1 April 2013.

This may be responsible for a growing industry confidence, which has led to new private build registrations rising 13 per cent, to 110,403 homes against 2013.

The year certainly continues with a positive housing trend and I am sure we will hear even more as the powers that are, and could be, race towards the General Election in May.

(Xan Hotes

## And then there were two – Garden Town numbers grow



ast year the Department for Communities and Local Government announced it would offer financial support for local authorities who met the criteria of Garden Town status by providing affordable homes, schools and jobs, while preserving the countryside.

Now Cherwell's already established Bicester, has joined North Kent's Ebbsfleet, being awarded Garden Town status by the Government. As a result Bicester will receive a multi-million pound award to fund the delivery of 13,000 homes, 21,500 jobs and a new motorway junction.

To underline the importance of the government's Garden Town initiative the Minister with responsibility for Housing and Planning toured Bicester and described its proposed expansion as "hugely exciting".

In his first visit to the Oxfordshire town since his appointment as Minister for Housing and Planning and since Bicester was announced as a new Garden Town Brandon Lewis MP met with members and officers of Cherwell District Council along with representatives of the Homes and Communities Agency.

Achieving Garden Town status Cherwell had to demonstrate a genuine ambition for growth which would bring together homes, jobs, infrastructure and green spaces to create: "the advantages of the most energetic town life with all of the beauty and delight of the country secured in perfect combination".

Brandon Lewis explained: "The plans I've seen for Bicester are hugely exciting, providing the homes we need at the quality we want to see. I look forward to seeing how these plans are further developed to help create a whole new community in Bicester. It's impressive to see a local authority with the vision and determination to deliver homes for the future, but also a community that the town can be proud of." Cllr Barry Wood, leader of Cherwell District Council, hosted the tour, and said: "It was good to have the Minister here to see first-hand what we are trying to achieve for Bicester. Garden Town status will further enhance Bicester's credentials as a great place to live, work and play."

The announcement that Bicester, with its 13,000 new homes, is to be the second new Garden Town, is a reminder that the UK's housing shortage requires large-scale solutions. According to the Town and Country Planning Association's estimates, between 240,000 and 245,000 new homes are needed each year up to 2031 to meet the needs of the growing population.

Given the financial support the government is providing successful Garden Town applicants it will be interesting to see which local authority steps forward with the suitable large-scale, mixeduse project and how existing communities react.

#### AWARD

## Architect's home wins sustainability award

The Birmingham office of civil and structural engineers Thomasons has won a regional Structural Award from the Institution of Structural Engineers for its role in designing a highly sustainable family home – 'Home4Self' – in partnership with Axis Design Architects.

The winning project was the brainchild of Rob Annable, Director at Axis Design Architects, whose vision was to create a healthy, comfortable and low-energy house for his family, in Wolverhampton.

David Sharpe, an Associate at Thomasons was chosen as his project partner due to his experience in designing low energy homes. As one of very few UK engineers qualified as a Certified Passivhaus Designer, David incorporated some of the design approaches developed by Germany's Passivhaus Institute to create a house with outstanding energy efficiency. For example, the home targets a total heating demand of just 30kWh/m<sup>2</sup> per year, which equates to an estimated cost of just £275.

Rob Annable explained: "The support provided by Thomasons for this unusual and challenging project was excellent. They successfully helped to resolve numerous complex details using innovative materials, ensuring the



quality of the design and technical performance was achieved.

Working with an engineer who is a Certified Passivhaus Designer, and understands how to integrate robust design methodologies to achieve low energy performance, was invaluable."

The award, in the Sustainability category, was presented to David Sharpe, by Craig McFadyen, Regional Chairman of the Institution's Midland

#### Counties Regional Group.

Speaking about the award Craig McFadyen said: "We were very pleased to recognise Thomasons' project as part of our Midlands Counties Awards, which celebrate the range of skills that characterise the structural engineering profession in the Midlands. Home4Self was a worthy winner."

#### EVENTS

Ecobuild 3 - 5 March, London www.ecobuild.co.uk

CIH South East Conference & Exhibition 3 - 5 March, Brighton www.cih.org/eventsfinder

CIH Scotland Annual Conference & Exhibition 10 - 12 March, Glasgow www.cih.org/eventsfinder

MIPIM 10 - 13 March, Cannes, France www.mipim.com

National Homebuilding & Renovating and Home Improvement Show 26 - 29 March, Birmingham www.homebuildingshow.co.uk

Health and Housing 16 April, London 21 April, Manchester www.cih.org/eventsfinder

Housing Awards 21 April, London www.cih.org/awards

**Grand Designs Live** 2 - 10 May, London www.granddesignslive.com

**RESI Awards** 13 May, London www.resiawards.com

May Design Series: Furniture, kbb, Lighting, Decor, DX 17 - 19 May, London www.maydesignseries.com

Eco Technology Show 11 - 12 June, Brighton www.ecotechnologyshow.co.uk

CIH Conference & Exhibtion 23 - 25 June, Manchester www.cihhousing.com

RESI Conference 17 - 18 September, Newport www.resievent.com

100% Design 23 - 26 September, London www.100percent.co.uk



## Proving that Passivhaus has a place in UK new property construction

ocated in West London, Octavia's Sulgrave Gardens combines the most comprehensive standards of energy efficiency and stylish design. This new community comprises of 30 houses, apartments and maisonettes. Built using Passivhaus principles, Sulgrave Gardens is now the largest Passivhaus development in London.

As in many new developments, Octavia was faced with the usual planning and local contextual considerations. As an added complication, the site is located between two conservation areas. This coupled with the desire to build a mixed-tenure scheme, guided by the Passivhaus principles, required a new approach and innovative design.

By employing this sustainable method of construction, which is the world's leading 'fabric first' approach to energy efficiency, the 30 homes enjoy reduced energy bills of up to 90 per cent, compared to conventional homes.

Octavia's driving ambition was to create a truly sustainable community with homes that were available to potential homeowners on all incomes. As a result the socially seamless new neighbourhood offers a mix of tenures including eight private sales, thirteen shared-ownership and nine affordable rent properties.

The brick finish and careful detailing sets this development aside from other fabric-first ecohomes, which are commonly criticized for their clunky aesthetics.

## Reducing the project's carbon footprint

With energy savings of around 90 per cent, compared with typical central European buildings and over 75 per cent compared with other new home developments, Passivhaus standards easily surpass current UK building regulations. These energy savings are achieved by using exceptionally energy efficient building components and a quality ventilation system.

Each of the four housing 'blocks', which form the development, required a specialist design to meet planning requirements and Passivhaus standards. The resulting design included:

- Walls and roofs with structural insulated panels with an additional 90mm of insulation that wraps the house like a thick coat
- A continuous air tightness membrane using special tapes at all the junctions of the building elements that maintain this barrier and drastically reduces air leakage
- Triple glazed windows with a special glass coating and insulated frames are an integral part of the heating system, converting solar energy into heat, which is retained in the homes.
- External shutters that control the amount of solar gain for a comfortable internal temperature.
- Solar panels delivering most of the hot water











required to a cylinder or 'thermal store' and a small gas boiler, which tops this up when necessary.

• A Mechanical Ventilation Heat Recovery unit extracts stale air from kitchens, bathrooms and toilets and before discharging the air uses the heat via an exchanger to pre-warm the fresh air drawn from the exterior, providing a constant, comfortable temperature

Two 'blocks' have achieved readings of 92  $kWh/m^2/year$  and 80  $kWh/m^2/year,$  exceeding



Passivhaus standards of 120 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year. One 'block' also achieved an air leakage rate of 0.37-0.40 air changes per hour, improving on the minimum Passivhaus standard, which should not exceed 0.6 air changes per hour and all homes achieved Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4.

A Building Performance Evaluation project is under way to measure and analyse the efficiency and comfort of the homes, considering such aspects as humidity,  $CO_2$  levels, temperatures, heating bills and user experiences.

#### Recognition

Recognising the impressive innovative and eco sensitive nature of the industry leading Sulgrave Gardens the development has already won the National Housing Awards 2014 – 'Best Sustainable Scheme', was short listed in The Sustainable Housing Awards 2014 – 'Sustainable new housing project of the year' category and has now been short listed in the 2015 Housing Innovation Awards – 'Most Innovative Affordable Housing Scheme' category.

#### Other sustainable features include:

- Individual room thermostats allow different temperatures in different rooms
- The townhouses have a range of 'A' rated integrated appliances and internal recycling bins
- All new residents received a DVD and handbook explaining the Passivhaus principles and how to reduce their energy and water use
- A record of the electricity created by the photovoltaic converter and meter panels on the roof is provided

## Could the Private Rented Sector be the solution to the country's housing shortage?

In a recent breakfast seminar on the critical role of councils in build-to-rent development, attendees suggested that buy-in from local authorities is urgently needed to build the quality Private Rented Sector (PRS) properties needed to house the country's growing population.

The seminar, hosted by BLP Insurance and the British Property Federation, stressed that partnering is the key to unlocking the full potential of the Private Rented Sector. Brian Kilroy, BLP Business insurance's Development Manager, suggested: "The Private Rented Sector is a well assured model, particularly for developers and investors. There are an increasing number of schemes across the country currently in the negotiation phase and a real opportunity to bring more of these to fruition, particularly using institutional money, has to be the way forward."

It was agreed that when the Private Rental Sector is discussed, in terms of policy and strategy, all involved parties need to overcome their differing opinions of how these schemes will look and operate, both in terms of places to live and as vehicles for investment.

With housing enjoying significant cross-party support, local authorities, private developers and institutional investors need to work together to meet the political, investor and tenant demand.

The seminar agreed that it is essential that councils understand both the motivation and the benefits associated with the Private Rental Sector. It is also crucial that all local authorities are aware of the merits of build-to-rent as a concept. The attractiveness of the revenue model for PRS should not be underestimated. By turning a surplus site into an income stream, which could essentially provide revenue to support services in the local area, there is a longer-term benefit to local authorities. Revenue returns are a far more attractive model than capital release. Against a tidal wave of regeneration, there is also a critical role for PRS in accelerating a sense of place making in large-scale redevelopment projects.

However, discussions with local authorities must be evidence based, highlighting the benefits for all parties involved. With over 300 local authorities in England and the differing nature of every single project, there can be no single rule. What is required is a set of minimum standards around management to help drive the asset forward. To support the assets management standards should also include design. This would ensure the building was designed exclusively for private rental and help increase return on investment. It was felt these standards would help remove the stigma created by existing and conventionally designed homes being used for private rental properties and achieve a more level playing field between PRS and owner-occupied units.

With the government's support of new build there is an exciting opportunity to innovate and to use new methods of construction, such as offsite manufacture. These properties are much quicker and cheaper to build, as well as being more energy efficient. Questions about regulation and technical build standards in the PRS need to take into account these design and construction considerations. A careful balance must be struck so that regulation does not stifle or constrain this opportunity for new build innovation.

Brian Kilroy concluded: "This is not a discussion that could have taken place 12 months ago. But today, renting is no longer a second rate choice. A quarter of Londoners are already living in private rented properties and this figure is expected to overtake owner-occupied over the next decade. While the cogs are already turning, we need to address the outstanding issues as a collaborative partnership to keep the momentum going and create a credible and successful buildto-rent sector."

#### **CREST NICHOLSON**

## Sustainable market drives Crest profits

Aving achieved "strong growth in a sustainable market", Crest Nicholson has announced a 34 per cent increase in pre-tax profit during its financial year ending 31 October 2014, with a pre-tax profit of £116.7 million in the year to October 2013.

The initial volume target that the company set, to increase housing outputs to more than 2,500 homes a year, has been reached "well ahead of schedule," Crest said. Completions were up 16.5 per cent against 2013 at 2,530 homes and the average selling price of its open market homes climbed 15 per cent to £287,000.

Crest's sales revenues increased 21 per cent to

£636.3 million compared to 2013 and its operating profit margin rose from 18.5 per cent to 20.1 per cent.

With forward sales, as of mid-January 21 per cent ahead of the prior year at £399.8 million Crest's CEO, Stephen Stone, said: "Crest Nicholson entered 2015 in a strong position and we are encouraged by the strong start to the year. Improved access to mortgages and real income growth underpins our confidence in the market and in generating high quality returns. As we grow towards our natural scale, we maintain our Southern focus and commitment to building high quality homes where people want to live."





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## Labour sets out plans for smaller housebuilders

he Labour party plans to help smaller housebuilders by launching a "Help to Build" scheme.

Speaking at a pre-election debate, organised by the Federation of Master Builders, the shadow housing minister Emma Reynolds revealed that Labour would introduce an initiative for SMEs, which would allow them access to lower cost bank lending, backed by Treasury guarantees.

Reynolds announced the initiative alongside other measures that Labour would introduce to assist smaller housebuilders. These include encouraging local authorities to allocate smaller sites, and introducing fast-track planning for schemes of less than ten units. She explained: "25 years ago smaller housebuilders were building

#### ELECTION

### McCarthy & Stones manifesto for the 2015 Election

ith the political world stepping up its pre election activities it is worth remembering that in 2014 there were 11.4 million people over the age of 65 and by 2033 it is suggested that this figure could be 17.2 million. That is a lot of voters who will want to know how government will support their housing needs.

McCarthy & Stone has already posted their thoughts for the main political parties suggesting they include the following in their manifestos: "At a time of unprecedented demographic change, it is important that new housing supply recognises the needs of our ageing population. We support the delivery of new well-located, high-quality and well-managed specialist retirement housing across different types and tenures to help address a growing demand for this form of accommodation."

They have made six specific policy recommen-

dations to encourage growth in this sector:

- Publish a national strategy on encouraging retirement housing across all types and tenures
- Require local authorities to develop policies to support retirement housing across all types and tenures in their Local Plans
- Ensure the new development tax, the Community Infrastructure Levy, properly considers the viability issues associated with retirement housing
- Exempt older people downsizing from Stamp Duty, increasing tax income by £644 million through new housing chains created and other taxable income generated
- Assign retirement housing special planning status akin to affordable housing
- Support the development of a new industry assurance scheme, known as ARMA-Q to raise standards across leasehold properties

two thirds of the homes in the country, now they only build a third. The contribution of small housebuilders is so important."

On the general housing shortage she believes that it is important for the society of the UK to get housing right by providing homes and ensuring they are both affordable and accessible to everyone.

#### **News Bytes**

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500,000 social rented homes by 2020... **Ref: 37421** 

House deposits at highest point in 14 months... **Ref: 95175** 

New homes coming to thriving market town Chorley... **Ref: 55167** 

Communities rewarded for saying yes to new homes... **Ref: 65095** 

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100 new homes coming to Framingham Earl from Charles Church... Ref: 86392

We must build 200,000 homes a year by 2020, says FMB... **Ref: 75384** 

Peab to build 344 apartments... Ref: 99142

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## London's landmark Centre Point: revival begins

ondon's landmark Centre Point has begun its revival at the east end of Oxford Street. Property development and investment company, Almacantar, will create 82 exclusive residential apartments and a new destination for London. This will be an innovative retail and restaurant space centred on a new public piazza with an open air terrace overlooking the piazza and New Oxford Street.

Developed by property tycoon Harry Hyams in 1966, Centre Point has been a focal point for London since. The Richard Seifert–designed landmark can be seen from all corners of the capital and is one of London's original skyscrapers, standing amid the city's most historic and dynamic neighbourhoods.

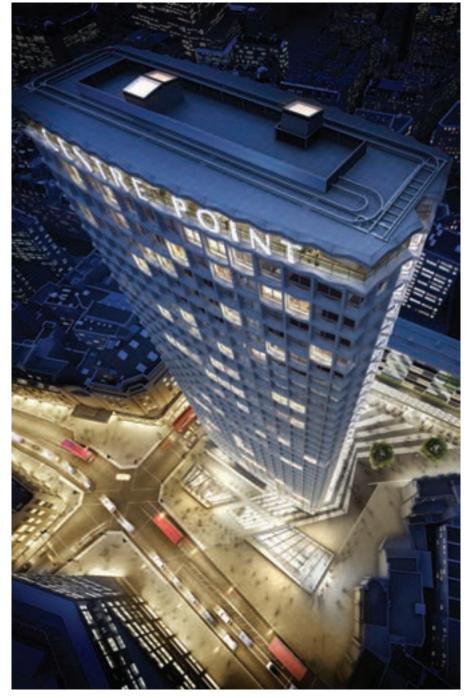
During construction, the Grade II listed building will be wrapped in prints inspired by Centre Point and designed by Eley Kishimoto. Eley Kishimoto's designs, which have featured on some of the world's most famous catwalks for the likes of Louis Vuitton and Alexander McQueen, will encapsulate Centre Point's 1960s design and architectural flare. The eye-catching creation, will take six months to erect and a further six months to take down.

Kathrin Hersel, Development Director, Almacantar, comments: "The start of construction at Centre Point is a pivotal moment for a scheme which has been more than three years in the making. The project will breathe new life into this landmark, giving it a sustainable and exciting future for the benefit of all Londoners and visitors to the capital. The two and a half-year build programme will come to fruition in time for the arrival of the new Crossrail station at Tottenham Court Road and we are delighted to be able to play an important role in accelerating the rebirth of this central London hub."

As well as the tower's rebirth, the development of a retail and new public square is set to go ahead, delivering 41,780 square feet of new retail space. A series of retail outlets, restaurants, bistros and open space will be built at lower levels and inside the bridge link – a walkway that connects Centre Point tower to Centre Point House. The bridge link, with its floor to ceiling windows, and an open terrace will overlook New Oxford Street, Oxford Street and St Giles Circus from above ground level.

The route to Covent Garden from Centre Point will be pedestrianised, with Centre Point being the natural 'hub' between four of London's most dynamic neighbourhoods: Soho, Covent Garden, Bloomsbury and Fitzrovia.

Contractor Brookfield Multiplex started work



on site on 26 January 2015 and works are expected to finish in the second quarter of 2017. Centre Point is being transformed by Rick Mather Architects and Conran and Partners who will revive its sixties design appeal alongside cutting edge design and technology.

Kathrin Hersel continued: "Centre Point is now the focus of Crossrail which will trigger an explosion in visitor numbers to this part of the West End. We will give a much needed new lease of life to the area and turn Centre Point into a destination Londoners can be proud of, and providing a lasting legacy. We are delighted that Camden Council, English Heritage, Transport for London and Crossrail Ltd have come together to forge a future for Centre Point and the surrounding area."

## Eco Technology Show building on a proven formula for success

Barighton's Eco Technology Show is back on 11-12 June, and will be moving to the American Express Stadium to cater for the growing number of visitors in search of the most cost-effective solutions for saving energy.

It will showcase the latest innovations in technology and low carbon solutions, and provide the information, tools and latest legislative updates to assist the development of energy efficient buildings.

This year will see a new Innovation Zone, a showcase of innovative products and solutions in low carbon and environmental technologies helping developers to add value to their properties at a time when buyers are increasingly energy and resource efficiency conscious.

The show offers free keynotes, panels, talks and networking opportunities; spread across three seminar areas, five meeting rooms and a communications hub where visitors can get free advice from experts. Setting the scene will be Lord Rupert Redesdale, Founder of the Energy Managers' Association who has once again chosen the Eco Technology Show as a platform for his campaign to transform the energy management profession in the UK and will undoubtedly have some forthright views on how and where most wastage happens.

Using and reusing expensive resources efficiently is a subject close to any developer's heart and is another key theme of the Eco Technology Show. Andy Lewry, Principal Consultant at the Sustainable Energy Team, BRE, will discuss the latest solutions for energy management during the build process. The show's free seminar sessions will once again include informative sessions for builders and installers, and the event will provide an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with other developers. Both show and seminars are free to attend. Register for fast track entry by visiting the website.





www.ecotechnologyshow.co.uk

#### NHBC



## Key industry issues announced for NHBC's Building for Tomorrow roadshows

changing technical requirements and NHBC's experiences from site will all help shape a number of presentations from industry experts at this year's Building for Tomorrow roadshows.

The agenda for the 2015 roadshows, now in their 24th year, is entitled Getting Behind the Detail – Meeting Today's Challenges and will include talks from leading sector professionals on changing CDM responsibilities, air leakage testing, ventilation, ensuring that concrete used on site is fit for purpose, the latest from the NHBC Foundation, a focus on timber frames and much more.

Commenting on this year's agenda, Nick Cunningham, NHBC Regional Director for the Central Region, said: "Building for Tomorrow 2015 is the ideal event to hear about the latest innovations, technology and solutions to tomorrow's industry changes. Some of the sector's most distinguished and knowledgeable figures will be joining us to talk through the most pertinent challenges affecting the industry in the near future. Building for Tomorrow is also the perfect platform to showcase your latest products and network with industry leaders, home builders and housing associations."

The date and venue listings are as follows, with specially tailored agendas for Scotland and Northern Ireland:

- Thursday 26 February, Shendish Manor, Hemel Hempstead
- Thursday 5 March, Thistle Haydock Hotel, Haydock

- Tuesday 10 March, Leigh Court, Bristol
- Thursday 12 March, Sandown Racecourse
- Tuesday 17 March, York Racecourse, York
- Tuesday 24 March, Westerwood Hotel, Cumbernauld
- Thursday 26 March, Cambridge Belfry, Cambourne
- Tuesday 14 April, National Motorcycle Museum, Birmingham
- Thurday 16 April, Hilton Templepatrick Hotel, Belfast

For further event details, and to find out more about the special three for two offer on all delegate bookings, please visit www.nhbc.co.uk/bft, contact buildingfortomorrow@nhbc.co.uk or call 0844 633 1000.

#### APPOINTMENT

## **Redrow appoints Sir Michael Lyons**

Having recently led the Labour Party sponsored Lyons Housing Review, which examined ways to increase the country's housing supply Sir Michael Lyons has been appointed as a non-executive director by Redrow Homes.

Sir Michael is also chairman of the government's English Cities Fund, which concentrates on sustainable urban regeneration, as well as being chairman of SQW Group and a strategic adviser to CBRE.

Speaking about the appointment Redrow's chairman, Steve Morgan, said: "I am delighted to welcome Sir Michael to the board. His extensive knowledge and understanding of the housebuilding sector and large scale sustainable regeneration will be extremely useful for the business, as will his many years of experience in local government, running some of the country's largest local authorities."

Sir Michael responded to Steve Morgans comments saying: "I am looking forward to working with Steve and the rest of the Redrow board to continue the excellent progress the company has achieved in recent years, and to play a part in delivering the increased housing output this country badly needs."

#### PLANNING

## Plain English Guide to the Planning System

ommunities in England will now have information about planning at their fingertips thanks to a new *Plain English Guide to the Planning System*.

Produced by the Department for Communities and Local Government the guide explains how the planning system in England works. However, it is only intended to give an overview and does not set new planning policy or guidance. Planning guidance can still be accessed online via the Planning Portal.

The guide offers a quick and easy explanation of how the planning system works, how local

and neighbourhood plans are written and adopted, and how to go about obtaining planning permission.

This could prove very useful for communities wanting to have their say over the future development of their local area as the guide clearly explains the opportunities for local people to get involved in the debate over what is built in their neighbourhood.

The guide forms another part of the government's wide-ranging reforms of the planning system, which has included abolishing Regional Strategies and giving local people a greater say over future building in their area.

Housing and Planning Minister Brandon Lewis explained: "The previous system of topdown targets left residents powerless in the face of local development – our reforms have reversed this, and put people back in control.

"People are already voting with their feet, with 1,200 communities involved in neighbourhood plans, and 80 per cent of authorities have published a local plan – this plain English guide gives all the information anyone would need to get involved in the local decision-making process."

#### LONDON HOUSING

## Croydon is key to London's success

ondon Deputy Mayor, Richard Blakeway, in a keynote speech at the Develop Croydon Conference, stated that if London is to prosper, Croydon's housebuilding programme is critical.

Boris Johnson's deputy confirmed: "If London is to meet its housing challenges, Croydon has to be at the forefront. Sustaining population growth is critical to London's success. When cities' populations decline, their economies stutter. The suburbs of London have vast potential to contribute to the type of housing that Londoners want."

Mr Blakeway said that rapid transport links

were critical to Croydon's appeal and that he was "struck by the links to the city" as it was faster to get to the city from Croydon than from Paddington or Hammersmith.

His sentiments were echoed by Alison Butler, deputy leader of Croydon Council. Confirming that the town's housing strategy was to focus investment where it has most impact she explained: "We have many distinctive district centres in London's largest borough, with a diverse population which is one of our greatest assets.

"Ensuring people live in decent homes is top of our list. A lack of decent housing affects life chances, and we're determined that a fair share of new homes are affordable."

Pressed by BBC News home editor Mark Easton, who chaired the day-long conference, to say whether a high proportion of so-called affordable housing was achievable, Cllr Butler was adamant it was, saying: "30 per cent affordable housing is realistic. Developers think it can be done. It can be achieved and it is being achieved."

She also pledged to retain Croydon's place as London's greenest borough, and said the council was determined to develop its cultural position.

## Post-recession building costs – the return of the sellers' market

By Chris Noon, director, CBRE Building Consultancy

onstruction is one of the largest sectors of the UK economy. According to government figures, it contributes almost £90 billion to the UK economy. In all it comprises over 280,000 businesses, accounting for some 2.93 million jobs, which represent about 10 per cent of total UK employment.

The construction sector was affected disproportionately in the recession of 2008. In 2007 construction accounted for 8.93 per cent of the UK's Gross Value Added (GVA) but by 2011 the sector contribution had decreased to 6.7 per cent.

According to Building Cost Information Service (BCIS) published data it has taken until the 2nd quarter of 2014 for the construction industry to recover the level of pricing last seen in the 1st quarter of 2008. Construction output bottomed out in 2010, 20 per cent below its peak in 2008. This reduction reflected the major trading difficulties during this period with contactors' margins being eroded as competing businesses reduced their tender prices in an attempt to win contracts and maintain turnover levels. On average, 10 companies a day failed during this period.

The construction industry began to show the first signs of recovery at the end of 2013, London in particular leading the way. Contractors have continued to report positive trends in their order books for 2014. The lack of capacity in the industry caused by so many businesses failing during the recession meant that the slightest upturn in activity would allow the industry to increase its prices.

As the level of competition for work has fallen margins are set to rise. The surge in demand for construction work has pushed up the price of both materials and labour which has resulted in



the BCIS increasing the tender cost inflation forecast for London to approximately 4.5 per cent -6.5 per cent for both 2014 and 2015.

The increased volume of work and decreased levels of competition has also meant that contractors are able to be selective about the projects they tender for. CBRE have experienced contractors turning down opportunities to tender for work in the capital because they are less willing to accept the transfer of risk, or poor quality design information. It is now much harder to procure projects on a single stage basis because contractors are increasingly unwilling to bear the costs involved. Outside London, there is still enough capacity across the UK to meet demand and this continues to subdue price increases.

How should property owners respond? Larger construction clients can offer repeat business and 'partner' with a few contractors, creating long term relationships valued by all sides. Clients with smaller portfolios or with one off projects should work with project managers, cost managers and architects who can offer contractors scale and repeat business across their existing client base. All clients need to ensure that their projects are attractive to the construction market; it is essential that the tender includes well prepared designs, an optimal balance of risk sharing and a procurement strategy designed to make pricing easy and clear.

The recession forced contractors to operate under intensely challenging conditions, facing fierce competition for limited work, and exposing them to levels of commercial risk that took many to the wall. Now that market activity has resumed, contractors with a choice will tend to favour the clients and consultants who stuck by them in the tough times as well as those with whom they carried out successful projects in the past.



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slington Council has granted planning permission for a flagship residential development by Telford Homes on Caledonian Road.

Designed by Jestico + Whiles, the scheme will provide 156 homes, including 56 social rented houses, and will aim to be Code for Sustainable Homes Level 5. It will regenerate a challenging railway site which occupies 1.9 hectares at the north-eastern tip of the King's Cross masterplan. The derelict site is bounded by the East Coast mainline and the London overground on the

## Jestico + Whiles secures planning for sustainable housing scheme

west and north side respectively.

Formerly used as industrial land, the site was compulsory purchased in 1996 to allow the construction of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link in St Pancras, which runs in a tunnel underneath the northern part of the site. The remainder of the steeply sloped site includes a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and a vacant end-terrace plot in a conservation area along Caledonian Road.

Jestico + Whiles' proposals comprise seven new residential buildings, ranging from three to six storeys, in a linear configuration which runs parallel to the railway. The scheme also includes a series of stand alone pavilions integrated within the enhanced (SINC) area.

A landscaping scheme designed by the landscape architectural practice Standerwick Land Design includes the eradication of widespread Japanese Knotweed infestation, the planting of 2,408 new trees and shrubs, and the creation of a nature trail to be used by local schools. A new end-terrace at the site entrance building containing commercial space, flats and an energy centre will complete the scheme.

Heinz Richardson, Director at Jestico + Whiles, commented: "This development will provide high quality sustainable homes integrated into an enhanced Site of Importance for Nature Conservation."

The buildings feature cross-laminated timber panels and are composed of interlocking forms, clad in brick and glazed ceramic tiles with metal patterned fretwork detailing, which invokes the wrought-iron railings found in the conservation area. Climbing plants, green walls and green roofs, which feature throughout the scheme, serve to integrate the landscape and built form.

The construction works are set to start in 2015, with completion expected in mid-2017.

#### ECO HOMES

## Eco-friendly homes performing better than the average home

wo years on from the completion of the innovative Cross Street development in the centre of Gainsborough, a series of results was published on 6 February demonstrating the true difference that eco-friendly features make to residents' household bills.

Properties at Cross Street were the first built to Code level 5 in the West Lindsey District and were designed using 'fabric first' principles to improve the Fabric Energy Efficiency. The collaboration between Longhurst Group, L&H Homes, West Lindsey District Council, construction firm Robert Woodhead and Innovate UK, resulted not only in an exceptional scheme providing sustainable homes for residents but also a range of findings that can be utilised when building eco-friendly homes in the future.

Extensive research conducted by the project team looked at various factors, such as energy usage and residents' lifestyles to understand how energy efficient properties perform over time. Their findings show that eco-friendly features bring massive savings for residents with 65 per cent reduction in heat demand, 70 per cent and 30 per cent reduction in gas and electricity bills respectively and 20 per cent reduction in water consumption compared to an average home in the UK.

One of the main findings of the project group was that educating residents about benefits of the systems installed in their homes was key to the success and as residents became more aware of how and when they are using energy compared to their neighbours, an improvement in energy use has been noticed.

Positive results recorded by the project team have been echoed by residents. One of them commented: "The Solar Panels do help with the electricity and the water harvester is good too. As far as I am aware, my bills are cheaper than my family and friends." Another resident added: "Heating works well and warms quickly, although we haven't had much need for it."

Craig Pygall, construction director from

Robert Woodhead Ltd said: "We are delighted that the scheme has performed so well, it will help tackle the growing issue of fuel poverty by providing simple but highly energy efficient homes."

Mike Hardy, L&H Homes managing director commented: "L&H Homes are committed to tackling fuel poverty and I'm really pleased that our residents can benefit from high quality sustainable homes delivered as a part of this innovative project."

Andy Patchitt, development and new business manager at Longhurst Group added: "The Fabric First approach has proved to be really successful, we knew we wanted to build homes to help tenants live for less so started thinking about how to achieve that through the buildings themselves rather than relying on the over-provision of technology. The monitoring project has shown fantastic results that will hopefully influence construction choices on other sustainable projects across the UK."

#### New design and mobile website



Axim Architectural Hardware, continues to maximise without compromise with the launch of a new website which guides users through the process of selecting the correct door hardware solution for concealed overhead, surface and floor mounted door closers, panic exit devices, flush bolts, handles and locking products

For users on the move Axim's responsive content aims to deliver optimal viewing together with easy and fast navigation; the site is fully compatible with mobile, iPad, android devices. To keep Axim followers up to date the new website also includes a news blog.

0208 685 9685 www.axim.co.uk

Enq. 105

#### **News Bytes**

Visit www.hbdonline.co.uk and enter the reference number for more information

Sovereign, Knightstone to deliver affordable homes... **Ref: 85835** 

Planning approved for 44 new homes in Ipswich... **Ref: 66526** 

Little movement in home insurance premiums: AA index... **Ref: 33886**  We must build 200,000 homes a year by 2020, says FMB... **Ref: 88667** 

HSE Asbestos Safety campaign gains momentum... **Ref: 97174** 

NPPF "risks unsustainable development"... **Ref: 79279** 



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Enq. 106

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## Ladders – not such a simple piece of equipment

adders can seem like such a simple piece of equipment, but there is plenty of evidence that they are not used and understood properly by people within a surprising range of industries. Myths about ladder use are nothing new – just a few years ago false rumours about them not being fit for use on construction sites meant the message that "ladders are not banned" had to be heavily promoted.

The cost of this type of misinformation is high. Not only are falls from height the number one reason for deaths in the workplace, they are also a leading cause of injuries. RIDDOR statistics have shown that a major proportion of these falls are from low level work.

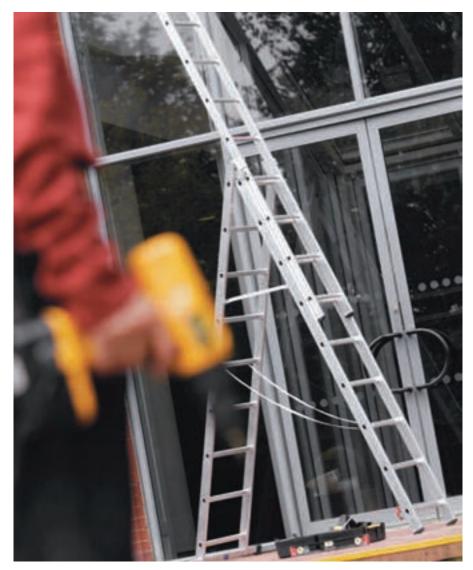
All ladder users, then, can be just as much at risk of a life-changing fall as those using equipment at higher levels. It is for this reason that updated guidance is vital, and that the latest guidance mentions training as a solution.

After a rigorous review of work at height, the HSE established that any issues were not connected with the regulations themselves but with the supporting guidance. It is from this review that the new guidance, *INDG401: Working at height – a brief guide* was developed.

The most important fact the guidance starts off with is that ladders "can be a sensible practical option for low-risk, short-duration tasks". A good guide to what types of tasks this actually applies to is the half hour rule – if the task would require someone to stay up either a leaning ladder or a stepladder for more than half an hour at a time, different equipment is recommended.

Before thinking about the time, however, risk should be the first thing to consider when deciding whether to use a ladder. Most importantly, ladders should only be used if the conditions allow them to be used safely – in a place that will keep them level and stable and, typically, where they can be secured.

When actually using the ladder, the most important rule to bear in mind is that three points of contact should always be maintained – typically two feet and a hand – except for very brief periods such as when knocking in a nail. Longer



periods without a hand hold mean other methods should be in place to prevent or minimise the consequences of a fall, such as securing a leaning ladder or using a stability device.

The guidance also emphasises that the person using the ladder must be competent to do so. Those regularly using ladders may be best served by a half-day training course. Specifically, it says, ladder users should "have had instruction and understand how to use the equipment safely", and "appropriate training can help".

Finally, prior to using the ladder at the start of the working day a pre-use check should be carried out. This involves the person using the ladder checking its stiles, feet, rungs and any locking mechanisms. If a stepladder is being used, the platform and steps or treads must also be checked. All of this should also be done when something changes, like the ladder being moved from a dirty area to a clean one, or being dropped.

All of these are simple tips and, while training is an excellent way of demonstrating competence, familiarity with the guidance is an excellent first step to ensure ladder users and managers are safe and on the right side of the law. Further details about guidance, training and regulations are available from ladderassociation.org.uk



#### Helifix new responsive website



Helifix has re-launched its website to make it fully accessible to the fast growing number of visitors accessing the site via a smartphone or tablet device. The website now features an innovative responsive design, meaning that the layout and

format automatically resizes and shifts to provide optimised viewing, irrespective of the screen size and definition used. Helifix website users are now guaranteed the same user friendly experience and high quality content every time they visit, whether at work on a desktop, at home on a tablet or on-site via their smartphone. The website gives roundthe-clock access to the Helifix range. Enq. 108

#### The Ecademy clicks with installers



The new Grundfos Ecademy recently relaunched and is bigger and better than ever. This UK branch is proving to be very popular with a wide range of installers, heating engineers and merchant counter staff. The internet based training and information platform now offers the opportunity for interested parties to learn

more about a wide range of topics including pump theory as well as different pump designs and technologies. You can also find out more about energy friendly and cost saving pump solutions. Whatever is selected, each topic is divided in bite sized sessions.

01525 850000 www.grundfos.co.uk/ecademy

#### Vent-Axia shortlisted for award



Leading British ventilation manufacturer Vent-Axia is proud to announce that it has been shortlisted for a prestigious Heating and Ventilation News Award 2015. The Sussex-based company has been recognised in the Building Services Project of the Year category for the

Waste House project at the University of Brighton that features a Sentinel Kinetic Plus Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery (MVHR) system, which Vent-Axia donated and installed. The MVHR system offers whole house heat recovery combining supply and extract ventilation in one unit.

0844 856 0590 www.vent-axia.com

Eng. 112

Eng. 110

#### Elta concentrates on IAQ



For Elta Fans Residential Division, part of the Elta Group, Ecobuild has taken on added significance following major investment in the company, the appointment of Colin Hone as UK Sales Manager and a new sales team. Colin, who will head Elta Fans

Residential, is clear on the message that will be at the heart of the Elta Fans stand. "Our company is all about providing exceptional indoor air quality in the most cost effective way for the health of the nation. The focus at Ecobuild will be on our latest range of decentralised mechanical extract ventilation units (dMEV) which complement our extensive range of residential products." Enq. 113

#### **Designer Contracts strengthen team**



Designer Contracts - one of the UK's largest flooring contractors - has announced a raft of promotions and new appointments to support its continued success. Jason Doyle, who has worked for the company for eight years, takes on the role of area manager covering the North East, following his success as senior contracts manager. The company has fully staffed offices and warehousing in 12 regions across the UK.

As well as flooring, the company supplies curtain, blind, furniture and lighting packs and has a full show home interior design service. 01246 854577 www.designercontracts.com

Enq. 109

#### New excellence awards for 2015



Leading sustainable building envelope specialist Schueco UK has announced that, in conjunction with RIBA Journal, it is again running the Schueco Excellence Awards for Design and Innovation. The 2015 awards will be presented at a special event in June at the Saatchi Gallery. The winning and commended entries will be published in a special supplement accompanying the July issue of RIBA Journal. Launched in 2014

to celebrate the best in UK building design, the awards have nine categories covering every sector of the industry. The only stipulation for entry is the building submitted should include a Schueco system. Eng. 111

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ecobuild stand no N1050

## The market place for green building innovation





Housebuilders and developers keen to procure the latest building materials should head to Ecobuild 2015 (3 - 5 March 2015, ExCeL London) where the latest innovations will be on display from over 800 leading companies across the sustainable built environment

From future construction materials, lighting and technical solutions, to solar, low carbon, resource management and energy efficiency and generation, Ecobuild is the marketplace for green building. Get your complimentary ticket today by visiting www.ecobuild.co.uk.

Innovation is set to be at the forefront of Ecobuild as it signs a new partnership with retail giant Marks & Spencer (M&S) to highlight innovative products and solutions from across the sustainable built environment.

Following overwhelming feedback from Ecobuild's visitor community that innovative new products and solutions are a key reason to attend the event, Ecobuild 2015 will incorporate a curated innovation exhibition around one of the arenas.

Continued on page 23...





ecobuild stand no N3040

Enq. 116

wilo



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- showing actual consumption > Easy adjustment when replacing an
- uncontrolled standard pump



All on the market for less than six months, with many actually launching at the event, whether you're keen to procure sustainable design, construction or energy solutions, this guide has got you covered.

Ecobuild regular Celotex (Building Performance Seminar) will be introducing its latest innovation – Celotex RS5000, a new premium performance PIR insulation solution specifically designed for rainscreen cladding applications. The new insulation product meets BR 135 requirements and has a BRE A+ Green Guide rating. Celotex staff will be on hand to offer expert information and advice on recent changes to Building Regulations.

Kemper System is showcasing Kemperol 2K-PUR, the only odourless solvent-free, cold liquid applied waterproofing system available in the UK. Some 80 per cent of the applied polyols (resins) are obtained from the seeds of the tropical castor plant, a renewable resource. Bauder will be launching their state-of-the-art VIP Insulation at this year's Ecobuild. Bauder offer a bespoke specification and supply process for UK Bauder VIPs.

GeoPet Aluminium is proud to present the SlimLine Frame system of sliding windows, inspired by the panoramic windows used by architects such as Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Le Corbusier. Fully panoramic windows are now possible, without intrusive lines or sills between the interior and the exterior.

Ecobuild firstimer KBI UK Ltd has a growing reputation for its innovative Flexi-Pave material. The porous paving solution manufactured from recycled car tyres.

Ecobuild's highly regarded conference pro-



gramme has now been revealed and plays host to sessions with Sir John Armitt, former Chairman of the Olympic Delivery Authority, and Lord Deben, Chairman of the Committee on Climate Change; and Green leader Party Natalie Bennett.

For housebuilders and contractors, esteemed construction magnate James Wates, Chairman of £1 billion contractor Wates and chair of the CITB will discuss – 'are we up to the job of delivering sustainable buildings that work?'

For further information or to register for your free ticket to Ecobuild 2015, please visit www.ecobuild.co.uk. To keep up-to-date on the latest show news, follow Ecobuild on Twitter (@Ecobuild\_Now) or join its LinkedIn Group (Ecobuild) or Facebook page (Ecobuildnow).

#### For further information or to register for your free tickets to Ecobuild 2015, please visit www.ecobuild.co.uk





#### Specflue to launch next generation of heating interface units



**Specflue** will be launching the next generation of heating interface units (HIU) on stand N6140 at Ecobuild 2015. Manufactured by Thermal Integration and distributed by Specflue, the new, intelligent HIUs have been designed for better performance and ease of use, while delivering all the same benefits of the traditional heating interface unit. Built using the latest technology in embedded electronics, full features will be revealed at the show, where visitors will also have the opportunity to preview one of the new units.

The units include a range of innovative digital functions for improved control of hot water and central heating in properties connected to a district heating system using a central boiler. The new tools will enable greater efficiency and management of a unit's functions, such as temperature, pressure and flow rates.

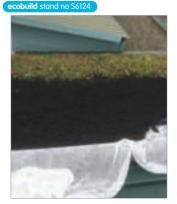
As well as the opportunity to talk to representatives from Thermal Integration, developers and specifiers visiting stand N6140 will also be able to chat to the technical team behind Specflue's renewable heating range, which includes thermal stores, solar panels and pellet stoves, boilers and cookers.

For further information visit the website or call today.

0800 902 0220 www.specflue.com

Enq. 118

#### Want to make green roof systems more successful? Use Aquaten



Aquaten Living Roof Plus – the new stormwater management and water absorption product from Wallbarn – is an ultra-hydrophilic polymer is manufactured as a textile, for use in a range of water management applications. It captures more water, keeping the substrate hydrated longer, increasing the amount of water available to root systems. This extends the time between irrigation, reduces the amount of irrigation required and leads to less wasted water. The fabric is lightweight, safe and easy to handle. It does not swell when it becomes saturated; changing its composition to become gel-like. The water is drawn out of the structure when the soil / substrate becomes drier. It is ideal for very hot climates.

Aquaten Living Roof Plus is excellent as a stormwater management product, holding over 2,000 per cent of its mass in water. It reduces and slows down rainfall run-off significantly, putting less pressure on drains. Aquaten Living Roof Plus makes green roof systems more viable and successful. It can be used in green roof systems and ground level landscaping. It is available worldwide from Wallbarn.

0208 916 2222 www.wallbarn.com

Enq. 119



ecobuild stand no N2120



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#### ecobuild show preview 25





Clerkenwell Architectural Showroom 11-12 Great Sutton St. London EC1V 0BX

Ecobuild 2015 Exhibition Stand S4026

Enq. 124



Eng. 125

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#### Synseal anticipates successful show



**Synseal** will be exhibiting for the third year in succession at this year's Ecobuild. The objective will be to demonstrate the diversity of Synseal group window and door product solutions with a focus on true innovation and also brand solutions following the recent acquisition of Sheerframe and Masterdor.

Featured at the show on stand N3000 will be Synseal's latest WarmCore folding sliding door, which incorporates a radically different product design approach to create a new high performance fenestration framing solution: "warm aluminium".

01623 443200 www.synseal.com

Enq. 127

Eng. 129

#### Technology plays an important role



Technology continues to play an increasingly important role for developers and contractors and a successful website can make the process of sourcing products simpler and more instantaneous. In January Long Rake Spar launched a new

trade only website building upon its experience as an aggregate supplier to some of the UK's largest projects, further strengthening its customer focus. The new site has been specifically engineered to make materials easier to locate as well as providing succinct technical data and performance values on all of the products.

01629 630133 www.longrakespar.co.uk

#### Wilo at Ecobuild



While visitors to the impressive Wilo stand at Ecobuild will be able to get up close and personal with a wide range of the company's products, the emphasis at Ecobuild will be on providing support to its customers – helping them to select the right pumps easily, to access straightforward information on replacing

pumps and raising awareness of the servicing capability that Wilo offers to calasted Wilo as their proferred portroor

customers that have already selected Wilo as their preferred partner. Go to the website for more information.

#### 01283 523000 www.wilo.co.uk

Enq. 131

#### **New Building Physics Handbook**



Pick up a free copy of the new Building Physics Handbook on Schöck's Ecobuild stand. It deals with various aspects of thermal bridges in buildings; the product solutions available and how they

meet demanding codes and regulations. All based on independent performance testing, it guarantees you "verifiable thermal break technology you can trust". Schöck features its unique Cool Fridge Model. See and feel a thermal break in action by simulating the effects of thermal break elements in a realistic environment. Products on show are the KXT and the tried and trusted Isokorb types K, KS and KST.

01865 290890 www.schoeck.co.uk

Enq. 128

#### Nu-Heat showcases acoustic UFH



Nu-Heat, the UK's largest supplier of underfloor heating and integrated renewables, will be showcasing its range of acoustic UFH solutions at this year's Ecobuild. The company offer several acoustic UFH systems that have proved popular in the commercial sector, helping housebuilders and developers

to comfortably meet acoustic requirements with minimal height buildup that also incorporates a luxurious and efficient heating system in one single solution. To find out more about Nu-Heat's acoustic underfloor heating systems, visit the company on stand N1174.

01404 549770 www.nu-heat.co.uk/acoustic

#### Enq. 130

#### **Roofing Pavilion returns to Ecobuild**



The National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC) will be returning to Ecobuild to host the Roofing Pavilion for the second year running. Following the success of last year, the Pavilion has increased in size and will feature more of its Supplier Members. It

will be supported by 22 companies surrounding an NFRC networking lounge. Attending Ecobuild has become the ideal opportunity main contractors to speak to the most influential UK roofing trade association and its members face-to-face in one location. Head to N5031 to find the NFRC lounge.

0207 448 3187 www.nfrc.co.uk

Enq. 132



## Dura Cladding Timber Composite Cladding



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#### **Connect with Pegler Yorkshire**



**Pegler Yorkshire**, the market-leading manufacturer of plumbing and heating products, will be exhibiting at Ecobuild. 'Connect and Control' will be Pegler Yorkshire's theme as it displays a range of technologically advanced products and showcases how the manufacturer offers

both systems and solutions for connecting and controlling flow for plumbing and heating applications. "Our stand this year will demonstrate, how, via the right connections and controls, you can not only save time and cost on a project but ensure the building's performance is fully optimised in both user comfort and energy efficient terms," said Phill Jackson, business development and marketing director. Eng. 135

#### Polypipe's wholehouse ventilation



Following the recent launch of a number of innovative new products, **Polypipe Ventilation** will be exhibiting its full range of energy saving Domus and Silavent ventilation products for the domestic and light commercial markets at this year's Ecobuild event. Products being want Samphire intermittent extract

launched at the show include Silavent Sapphire intermittent extract fans and Decentralised Mechanical Extract Ventilation (dMEV) units plus two new patent pending additions to the company's Domus range of ducting systems in the form of high efficiency Green Line 90° bends and a plenum with integral flow control device. Enq. 136

#### Saint-Gobain's birthday celebrations



Saint-Gobain, a world leader in sustainable habitat, will be celebrating its 350th anniversary at Ecobuild 2015, as well as launching its Multi-Comfort concept. Multi-

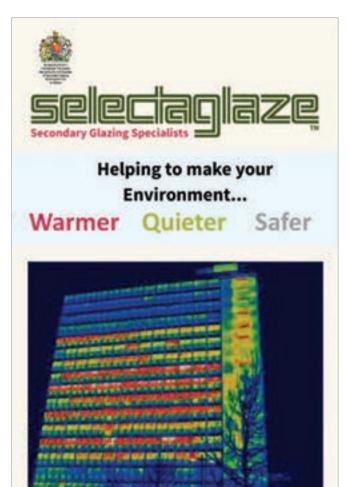
Comfort buildings not only save energy but can improve your health, wellbeing and productivity. Visitors will be able to experience Multi-Comfort first hand at the stand, which will feature experience pods, allowing guests to feel the individual elements that contribute to comfort – indoor air quality, thermal, audio and visual comfort. A dedicated website and brochures will accompany the launch, while experts for each comfort dimension will be on hand. Eng. 137

#### Timber models are top draw



BM TRADA will be showcasing its timber expertise to the masses at this year's Ecobuild with an interactive stand featuring two timber models to showcase its timber credentials. Visitors to the international testing, inspection, certification and compliance body

will be able to find out information on its wide range of services. With everything from timber technology to timber frame, investigations to condition and structural surveys, there'll be plenty of opportunity to gain the knowledge of BM TRADA's wide-ranging service provision. 01494 569600 www.bmtrada.com Eng. 138



Thermal Image of Great West House

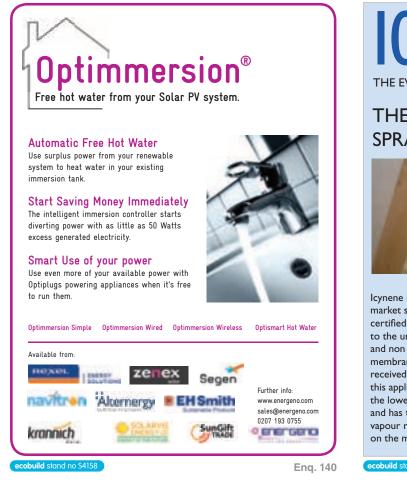
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lcynene is the only foam on the market successfully tested and certified for applications directly to the underside of breathable and non breathable roof membranes and felts and recently received BBA certification for this application. Icynene absorbs the lowest amount of moisture and has the highest level of vapour resistivity of any soft foam on the market.

ecobuild stand no N3018

The lcynene Insulation System is a series of soft, flexible spray foam insulation products that delivers up to 50% greater energy savings when compared to other insulation products. Icynene is perfect for loft insulation, cavity wall insulation, drylining insulation, sound insulation and more.



Eng. 141



#### Ecodhome to debut at Ecobuild



One of the UK's newest home automation providers will be showcasing its innovative MyVirtuoso Home system at this

year's Ecobuild. Following a successful launch in Italy, which saw supply deals with Italy's major energy provider and DIY chain, Ecodhome is targeting the burgeoning UK market and sees Ecobuild as the ideal platform to showcase its offering. The MyVirtuoso Home system allows users to remotely monitor heating and energy use. Alongside these core features, though, Ecodhome's system offers a host of additional applications such as security and remote IP camera controls. To find out more, visit stand N5131.

01449 615117 www.ecodhome.co.uk

Enq. 143

#### Epwin Group steps back in time



**Epwin Group** will be proving the diversity of low maintenance building products at Ecobuild with a display of housing through the ages. Products from the group will be used to recreate property styles from the post-war, Victorian and Tudor eras. In contrast, a modern facade will represent a typical 21st century dwelling. Both thought-provoking and informative the stand (N2080) will feature

four 'houses', each designed to emulate the style and finish of a bygone era while showing how the products can be used in the refurbishment and renovation of period buildings.

01952 209919 www.epwin.co.uk

Enq. 145

#### Kaldewei – Ecobuild preview



Kaldewei will exhibit a selection of its latest bathing and shower solutions at Ecobuild, all made from its unique and sustainable 3.5mm steel enamel. Appealing options for low level shower surfaces include matt organic colour finishes, virtually invisible anti-slip and a new

model, Scona. The popular Puro bath is shown as an 170 x 75cm ECO model with reduced water capacity, while still offering superb levels of design and bathing comfort. For high-end projects, the Meisterstücke collection of three baths with seamless enamelled panelling provides the ultimate expression of luxury for freestanding bathing.

01480 498053 www.kaldewei.co.uk

Enq. 147

#### Ancon launches 'Acoustic Range'



Ancon, a specialist in the design and manufacture of high integrity steel structural fixings, will introduce its new Acoustic range of cavity wall ties and shear load dowels at Ecobuild 2015. Having tackled various causes of cold bridging with innovative fixings that improve the thermal performance of a

building and reduce energy use, Ancon has now turned its attention to improving the sound resilience of structures. Visit stand N3090 to see examples of all new products and to speak to a technical advisor about your projects and performance specifications.

0114 275 5224 www.ancon.co.uk

Enq. 144

#### Johnson & Starley at Ecobuild 2015



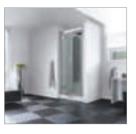
Exhibiting on Stand N3092 at Ecobuild 2015, Johnson & Starley will highlight its comprehensive range of highly energy efficient heating and ventilation solutions. The company has been at the forefront of some of the industry's most significant recent innovations and Ecobuild 2015 will give visitors the opportunity to see all these products "under one roof". The company is now a major force in the field of ventilation

products for local authority, social housing, private residential and commercial applications.

01604 762881 www.johnsonandstarley.co.uk

Eng. 146

#### Saniflo unveils new Kinedo website



Saniflo has unveiled a new website for its popular range of Kinedo shower cubicles. Available at www.kinedo.co.uk, the easy to navigate website includes information about the new Kineprime and the new Kinemagic designs of Serenity, Style and Design. Other features of the website include a new testimonial section, which shows recent

case studies for Kinedo, installation manuals and a section which compares the time to install a Kinedo cubicle versus the time to install a shower enclosure with tray and tiles.

0208 842 0033 www.saniflo.co.uk



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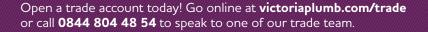


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- Oakley Basin & Pedestal
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Eng. 150







## Saniflo talks cubicles

Ann Boardman, marketing and customer services manager at Saniflo UK, talks about how cubicles can really help make the lives of housebuilders – and their customers' – easier

e all want bathroom fittings to be stylish, original, modern and attractive. None more so than our shower – a place for calm reflection or vibrant invigoration. And the pressure on housebuilders to construct more rapidly without compromising the quality and finish of the installation is greater than ever before.

The benefits and beauty of shower cubicles are often overlooked as many people misunderstand the benefits of cubicles over enclosures. Cubicles offer a swift and efficient showering solution for any shape or size of bathroom. In some cases, you can have a watertight space, complete with the shower, controls and doors fitted and ready to enjoy in less than a few hours.

For housebuilders, this means installers can do a great job in very little time, leaving room for margin and time to get on with other jobs. For the end user it means a beautiful shower with minimum hassle and mess. Purity of lines and elegant fittings are important, but the essence of true design is in the detail. Look for well-conceived products with clever assembly and high quality materials, where no silicone is needed and there is no requirement for tiles or grouting.

Manufacturers who design, manufactured and test in Europe have complete control over the process and they can maintain the highest standards of quality and service.

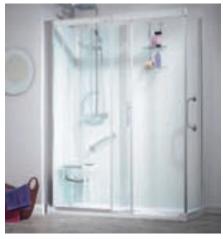
Also ensure that all glass panels and doors meet the European standard EN12150 for toughened safety glass and choose manufacturers who supply products flat-packed for ease of manoeuvrability.

Depending on our circumstances, some cubicles have the option for you to choose your own shower fittings, and others feature an integrated thermostatic control.

Look for cubicles that don't require silicone. In the humid environment of the bathroom,

silicone can deteriorate and discolour without constant maintenance. If no silicone is required, the wall panels of the product are cleverly designed to fit snugly within the shower tray.

Continued on page 35...





#### Sanifloor plumbs another possibility

The experts at **Saniflo** have created a smart showering solution that allows you to create a wet room facility anywhere a water supply can reach. The new Sanifloor is a shower waste with a dual function suction pump and sensor that sucks waste from the gully and pumps waste water away up to 3m, enabling the installation of level access showers and wet rooms in situations where gravity drainage is not an option. In today's modern bathroom of high output rainfall and power showers, the Sanifloor has been designed to cope with a large deluge of water at any time. The discharge pipework is 32mm wide and the flow rate of the suction pump is compatible with the latest waterfall and rainshowers. There are three models available, each with an integrated non-return valve to ensure water never backs up in the pipes, and a sensor, which is activated when water in the waste/gully reaches a certain level. This automatically starts the pump to discharge the waste water.

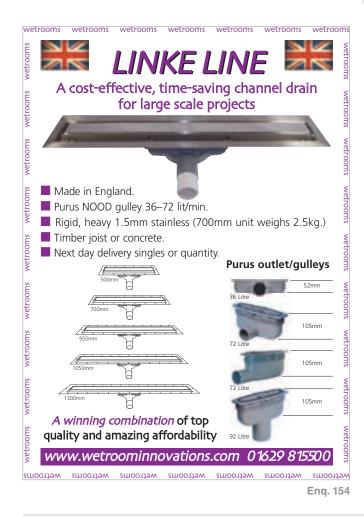
Eng. 152

#### 0208 842 0033 www.saniflo.co.uk



#### No more movement with Sit Tight

Finding that the toilet seat has come loose could now be a thing of the past - thanks to the pioneering design from bathroom accessories specialist, Croydex. The Sit Tight toilet seat comes in a variety of styles and uses a glue and screw fixing system to secure its hinges into place. "Whether caused by use or incorrect fixing, we've designed Sit Tight to deal with the age old problem of toilet seats working themselves loose over time," says Peter Pegden, product and procurement director at Croydex. The Sit Tight toilet seat is incredibly straightforward to fit – by simply positioning the hinges and glue them into place before 'double-fixing' as tightly as possible with screws. Once secured into place, the seat can be used straight away. Sit Tight gives peace of mind that your toilet seat will never come loose yet can be removed easily. Sit Tight seats are available in a choice of finishes including the Hygiene 'N' Clean anti-bacterial treatment; soft close; and Rainforest Alliance Certified ranges. Eng. 153





#### "Installing a shower cubicle really is as easy as A, B, C... Assemble... Bolt together... Connect to waste and water and add the doors"

Choose cubicles with a leak free promise. If you choose wisely, from a quality manufacturer you should find that water simply runs down the inside of the shower with no chance of escape. And as there's no need for tiling or grouting, your shower will stay looking as pristine as the day it was installed.

Look for cubicles that use a permanent, antilimescale coating that minimises the build-up of calcium deposits and dirt on glass, reducing the need to clean. This transparent chemical treatment is resistant to hot water and UV rays, encouraging water to run off the glass without leaving streaks or water marks.

Installing a shower cubicle really is as easy as A, B, C... Assemble... Bolt together... Connect to waste and water and add the doors.

As with fitting any shower there are just three main considerations: floor construction; waterproofing, and drainage. The quality and reliability of the products used are essential.

The rest is down to choosing a quality manufacturer.

Enq. 156





#### New 2015 luxury shower brochure



Containing a host of innovative and exciting new additions, the 2015 Luxury Shower Enclosures brochure incorporates **Aqata's** entire product portfolio of shower enclosures, screens, walk-ins, thermostatic showers and quality shower trays in a clear and user friendly format. Fresh

additions for 2015 include three new bath screens to Aqata's frameless Spectra range, providing a multitude of space saving design solutions for over bath showering. From March ClearShield ECO-GLASS<sup>™</sup> protection will be standard on all Aqata shower enclosures and screens. 01455 896 500 www.aqata.co.uk Enq. 159

#### Systemline S7 installed



New multi-room audio system **Systemline** S7 has been installed in a high-profile showroom at the Design Centre Chelsea Harbour. S7, which is discreetly built into the fabric of a building, was primarily targeted at domestic settings, but in this case it was chosen for the substantial new showroom of high-end bathware manufacturer Victoria + Albert Baths. The location in the Design Centre makes

it a highly visible showcase, being an international destination for interior designers.

01279 501111 www.systemline.co.uk

Enq. 161

#### **Cavanna Homes select Aspire**



British Ceramic Tile's newly launched Aspire collection has been selected by Cavanna Homes. Selected for their British designed and manufacture, British Ceramic Tile was commissioned for the Boathouse Project, a new build development of 56 homes. With

the majority of tiles being specified from Aspire's High Definition Lifestyle three package, Cavanna Homes were able to replicate expensive materials such as stone, wood and marble but at a fraction of the cost and associated preparation with using these materials.

01626 831370 www.britishceramictile.com Enq. 163

#### New thermostatic shower ranges



One of the leading bathroom and shower manufacturers, **MX Group**, has unveiled an impressive new range of thermostatic mixer shower valves offering its usual combination of incredible quality, great looking product, excellent warranties and keen pricing. There are 22 showering choices in the Atmos and Options ranges with most Atmos options complying with

TMV2 regulations. Full details of the new ranges can be found on the excellent MX website.

01684 293311	www.mx-group.com
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Enq. 165

#### Hansgrohe launches Axor Citterio E



Designed by Italian architect and designer, Antonio Citterio, the new Axor collection of bathroom fittings from **Hansgrohe** exude elegance, high quality and worth. Axor Citterio E is characterised by a balanced contrast of smooth shapes, clean lines and precious surfaces and offers exceptional ease of use. Soft and slender mixer handles characterise the entire collection's design,

as in the single lever mixer with its modern and upright joystick handle, or in the 3-hole mixers with their classic cross-handles. All 37 products share a visually appealing and harmonious look that complements a variety of styles, from art nouveau to modern urban. 01372 465655 www.hansgrohe.co.uk Eng. 160

#### Unique modular wet-floor system



The unique Modular Wet-Floor System from **CCL Wetrooms**, one of the UK's leading wet room specialist, allows any size or shape of wet room to be quickly and easily created on a timber floor. The key to the system is its design flexibility,

allowing a stunning linear drain to be situated in almost any position within the shower area. The Modular Wet-Floor system has been particularly well received by housebuilders and developers, as the system allows a wet room to be easily created on a timber floor, with a Linear Drain situated in almost any position.

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

Eng. 162

#### Abacus Elements wet rooms



Create the ultimate luxury wetroom with Abacus Elements wet floor systems and installation guides. Abacus Elements is a range of easy to install, tileable wet floor systems for domestic and commercial applications. Made by specialist manufacturer and distributor, Abacus Manufacturing Group, the waterproof structural foam boasts high insulation

properties and high compressive strength. Added benefits include a lightweight, easy-to-handle structure which is easy to cut, fire retardant and made without CFC, HCFC, HFC or CO<sub>2</sub>, so it can also help reduce the carbon footprint of a building. Eng. 164

New Einhell 2015 catalogue



The new **Einhell** 2015 catalogue is now available and features the latest DIY and garden tool innovations. The Einhell range, established in 1964, has maintained its position as the range of choice – offering quality tools at affordable prices – and this price guarantee is assured again with the latest innovative products in 2015. The catalogue features the new Power X-Change range. Other innovations include the latest

woodworking tools including the scroll saw, a selection of table saws, wet and dry vacuums, (Briggs & Stratton powered) petrol lawnmowers and a range of readily available spares & accessories.

0151 649 1500 www.einhell.co.uk

# Scruffs 3D expert floor laying trouser



Workwear brand Scruffs is launching a new 3D Expert Floor Laying Trouser from the 2015 catalogue. Designed especially for floor layers, the trouser is made from a hardwearing polycotton fabric. They include bottom loading, longer length knee pad inserts, with an adjustable design to help keep the knee pad secure with added EVA foam padding above the knee to provide even more protection and comfort. The 3D Expert Floor

Laving Trouser has a convenient Cordura knife pocket, a 4 way stretch panel for ease of movement, reinforced self fabric gusset and an adjustable waistband that is triple stitched to support stress areas. sales@scruffs.com www.scruffs.com

Enq. 167

# Fitting a Gemstone worktop?



You will need the brand new Trend Polycrystalline Diamond Tipped router cutter that has been specially designed for routing Gemstone worktops by Trend Machinery & Cutting Tools. Did you know that gemstone is made of 85 per cent recycled material including glass and shell? The solid upper surface is extremely abrasive and requires diamond

tools to cut it. A conventional Tungsten Carbide Tipped Cutter will not cut the top surface. To find out more about the PCD Gemstone router cutter please visit the Trend website.

01923 249911 www.trend-uk.com

Eng. 169



# **Snickers XTR Shield**



Snickers have 40 years' experience of designing and manufacturing market-leading working clothes for professional tradesmen and women. That's why every new product it launches continues to raise the bar on standards of functionality and quality. The pioneering XTR Shield jackets, trousers and kneepads are superlight working clothes that act as a lightweight protective shield around your body, allowing you to move seamlessly between indoor and outdoor work. With advanced technology

fabrics, these clothes deliver great comfort and limitless functionality. For superior protection all day, every day, all year round! Eng. 168

# **DuPont Corian rain-screen cladding**



In one of the major applications for DuPont<sup>™</sup> Corian<sup>®</sup> –distributed by CD UK – architectural practice USE has created a distinctive new residential building. Formed entirely from DuPont<sup>™</sup> Corian<sup>®</sup>, which is fast becoming a favoured facade material

for discerning developers, this high-performance weather screen promises to maintain its subtle and sophisticated beauty for the long term. DuPont<sup>™</sup> Corian<sup>®</sup> is the solid surface with the broadest range of international certification for facade applications and has passed a series of fundamental tests for its exterior application.

0113 201 2240 www.cdukltd.co.uk

Eng. 170



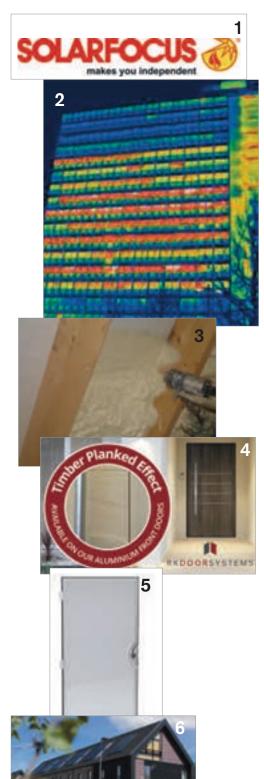
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# **Editor's Focus**



# SOLARFOCUS

With long experience in the field of biomass Technology and solar technology, SOLARFOCUS is manufacturers of biomass boilers with the highest efficiencies as well as solar collectors available on the global market. As the only one, SOLARFOCUS uses downward combustion technology, which allows maximum efficiency. It is firmly rooted in the UK market through its well-developed network of trained and experienced partners over the country. Take the chance to have a chat for your needs at Ecobuild and assure yourself of the advanced quality. Eng. 173

# Selectaglaze

The thermal efficiency of our buildings and the energy we waste have become important topics both on an environmental and financial level. Selectaglaze Secondary Glazing systems, using low emissivity glass, can reduce heat loss across a window by more than half and achieve a U-value of around 1.9. With sealed unit glazing this is further reduced, and a figure as low as 0.8 can be achieved. Bespoke manufacture and high performance seals ensure the tightest fit, reducing air infiltration and almost eliminating drafts. Enq. 174

# Greentherm Solutions Ltd

The Icynene Insulation System is a soft, flexible, breathable, foam insulation and air barrier system. Sprayed as a liquid Icynene expands to 100 times its initial volume in seconds. Icynene's unique formulation sets it apart from other insulation products offering many advantages over traditional insulation materials and more modern alternatives. While all materials of equal thermal resistance perform identically under laboratory conditions the same is not true in real life. Icynene contains Eng. 175 no HFCs, CFCs HFA or HCFCs.

# **RK Door Systems**

RK Door Systems specialises in the supply of highly insulated aluminium entrance doors that offer exceptional performance and low maintenance. There is a stunning range of styles from ultra-modern to traditional designs, all of which far exceed current recommended energy efficiency regulations and security requirements, even offering finger scan technology for added peace of mind and convenience. There is a choice of finishes including timber effect planking which unlike wood is guaranteed not to Eng. 176 warp, bow or expand and so avoiding costly call backs.

# **Demon Designs**

Demon Designs Architectural Glass is now offering bespoke, flush bonded, double glazed doors to expand on its wide range of products on offer. The doors have glass bonded to a metal frame, providing a complete flush detail, with a minimal 25mm border. They can be incorporated into most door frames, and can be retrofitted into existing timber frames. As the doors are bespoke, Demon Designs can modify the design to suit your exact requirements, providing a stylish, acoustic solution. Contact Eng. 177 the company for more information on any of its architectural glass products.

# **Ochil Timber**

Ochil Timber supplied its innovative SpaceStud and SpaceJoist engineered timber system to leading developers CCG, providing offsite construction for 208 terraces, 24 flats and five houses for the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games' Athletes' Village. Completed within a remarkably short build period of 15 months, the development achieved specific design objectives, including a 60 per cent carbon reduction on 2007 levels; an EcoHomes "Excellent" rating; and complied with 2013 building Eng. 178 regulations - an industry first.

## 2

3

### 4

# 6

5

# Heating & Renewable Energy Supplement

# HbD

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



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302

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#### heating & renewable energy supplement 41



Housebuilders and developers seeking an efficient, stylish and - most importantly - extremely dependable boiler need look no further than Potterton Promax from Baxi. The Potterton Promax range has a record of exceptional reliability and has been designed using high quality components, for durability and reduced maintenance. It is also very user friendly. Its simple controls have dials and live gauges, rather than a digital display, and a prominent reset button, so choosing the right settings couldn't be easier for the householder. The sleek, modern design means it will fit in with all interior styles. Eng. 302



**REHAU's** new Easy Heat 'radiator in the floor' underfloor heating system proved the perfect solution for developer Nick Sergent. Nick opted to include underfloor heating because of its appeal to potential buyers. Throughout the property, the underfloor heating system is being controlled using REHAU's Easy Control. Used in conjunction with a simple and familiar wall thermostat and a remote sensor, this automatically regulates the flow of water into the floor heating system and gives homeowners all the comfort and responsiveness which they demand. Find out more on REHAU's website. Eng. 303



Capital Fireplaces has been established for over 20 years and is one of the UK's leading trade suppliers of fireplaces, fires and stoves. Its Umbrian stone is sourced from the Mediterranean coast and is carefully selected. Each piece is then hand sculptured into a product that combines supreme craftsmanship with style. Umbrian stone is rustic yet sophisticated. The honed finish is smooth in its appearance and silk like to touch. As a natural stone it will feature occasional fossils and veins that add character to this beautiful material and make your fireplace unique. For more information, visit the website. Eng. 304



A new homes builder has turned up the heat with Stelrad Radiators. Merchant Homes. based in Glasgow, is the latest new homes builder to form a warm relationship with Stelrad Radiators. The company has specified the Compact with Style radiator models in its impressive new apartment development – The Gantocks at Gourock, overlooking the River Clyde. Stelrad promoted the range options which they could offer to the developer – a much wider and more impressive range than the developer had associated with the Stelrad brand. For more information, contact the company directly or visit the website.

Eng. 305





Airflow's DUPLEXVENT range of Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery units save energy by recycling over 90 per cent of otherwise wasted heat lost through extraction from the wet rooms in the home by using an exchanger to warm up, fresh, filtered incoming air which is then distributed to the living spaces. Passive House approved and complying with SAP Appendix Q the range of units are suitable for small, medium and larger dwellings. Featuring 8 speed control. 100 per cent summer by-pass and triple filter design they ensure a healthier, more comfortable indoor environment. Find out more on the company website. Eng. 306



The new Econoplate "H" Series interface unit from Stokvis has been developed in response to the expanding use of district heating schemes and centralised/satellite plant rooms. This allows simpler, effective and flexible integration of low to zero carbon technology at the central plantroom and overall energy efficiency can be increased. Director Paul Sands explains: "Where you are looking at flats, sheltered schemes or student accommodation, it is a lot simpler and safer to have a district boiler, rather than individual units requiring annual gas inspections and servicing." Eng. 307



Arada's Stratford Ecoboiler range provides a highlyefficient, economic and sustainable alternative to traditional heating systems, producing 50 per cent more heat to water than comparable stoves and raising water temperature far quicker than the average boiler stove. Handcrafted in Arada's purpose built factory in Devon, the Ecoboiler's large fire door glass, soft curved lines, discreet thermostatic control and three bar operating pressure, makes it the ultimate heating companion. The Stratford Ecoboiler Wood is available with a choice of optional coloured doors. Eng. 308



Poujoulat UK's Therminox TI and ZI chimney system is "the only HETAS listed metal twin wall chimney that is soot fire tested using a solid fire stop in the room of the appliance in domestic houses" which, the company says, makes it an "ideal internal metal chimney solution for houses built post 2008 (Airtight)". During testing of the Therminox TI and ZI, the soot fire test took the cooling air for the enclosure shaft down from the roof space and avoided taking air flow from the living room and this was sufficient to achieve a distance to combustible materials of 50mm. For further information visit Poujoulat's website.

Eng. 309



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Reader Enquiry 305

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Choose from a wide range of sizes and colours and specify a designer radiator from the UK's market leading brand.

Our dedicated team will work closely with you to advise and design systems for your new build project.







facebook.com/stelradradiators

# Double digit growth in UK market



Vortice has recorded double digit growth once more in its UK turnover for 2014 resulting in a record year for the UK. Further growth is forecasted for 2015 and 2016 driven by the expansion of its product range and excellent

customer service. General Manager Kevin Hippey says: "Our customers have rewarded us with excellent order levels as a result of the new product development strategy we put together five years ago." Vortice has an exciting year ahead with new products launching in the heat recovery sector and it continues to deliver BPEC training for installers. 01283 492949 www.vortice.ltd.uk Enq. 310

# **Electric radiators from Electrorad**



Electrorad is one of the leading manufacturers and suppliers of Electric Radiators in the UK. With styles to suit all tastes, the AeroFlow<sup>\*</sup>, the Digi-Line<sup>\*</sup> and the Vanguard are fantastic heating solutions for all circumstances and budgets. Up to 30 year guarantees

and no maintenance. Being 100 per cent energy efficient, Electrorads' Research and Development team continuously work hard to ensure its Electric Radiator range leads the way in this ever evolving marketplace. There's no better time to make the switch.

0113 2746799 www.electrorad.co.uk

Enq. 312

# **Clever biomass for the home!**



Natural energy company Euroheat has unveiled a new range of high performance pellet boilers for domestic properties, which qualify for tariff payments under the government's Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI). The PNA Thermocomfort features four

models designed for maximum efficiency and minimal user maintenance. There is a choice of pellet storage systems located on the side of the boiler, to a variety of different bulk storage solutions featuring either vacuum or auger transfers.

01885 491100 www.euroheat.co.uk

Enq. 311

### **News Bytes**

Visit www.hbdonline.co.uk and enter the reference number for more information

Save on heating bills with Wallrock thermal liners... **Ref: 91296** 

Off-grid bungalow reaps the rewards of renewable heat... **Ref: 51795** 

GAIA provides ultimate heat control for Sussex houses... **Ref: 14856**  Heat your home for less this winter... **Ref: 45507** 

Energy efficient homes linked to asthma... **Ref: 90325** 

Electric Heating Company's Electric Radiator Handbook... **Ref: 31712** 

Create a healthier indoor environment with fast, effective ventilation From a quiet, stylish extractor fan to a whole house solution



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Enq. 313

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With 40 years of proven on-site performance, Knauf Insulation's Earthwool DriTherm Cavity Slabs are the built-in insulation of choice for fully filling cavity walls. This glass mineral wool solution has been a favourite of bricklayers for many years. The slabs do not require any additional fixings, and can be easily cut with a trowel. What's more, the BBA approved slabs can also be used in all exposure zones. Only in severe exposure zones do the NHBC require that fair-faced masonry is rendered or cladded. As a high quality, noncombustible material it achieves the Euroclass A1 reaction to fire rating. Eng. 315



Intergas Heating manufactures a domestic high efficiency combination boiler unlike any other. Its intelligent design means there is no need for a diverter valve, valve motor, hot water plate heat exchanger, air vent or air pressure switch and, with fewer parts (there are only four moving parts and 12 components in total), there is less to go wrong. In fact its revolutionary two-in-one heat exchanger has never had a mechanical failure since its launch 18 years ago, making the Intergas range of boilers one of the most reliable on the market. Contact Intergas directly or visit the company's website for more information. Eng. 316



Schiedel Isokern DM block system is a high quality system chimney, which maintains flue gas temperatures while preventing heat transferences to the outer casing. The separation of the inner and outer components allows for thermal movement, reducing the risk of cracking and subsequent leaking or staining. Some of it USPs are: quick and easy to assemble, lightweight materials, easy to handle, highly insulating pumice for better draw and minimum heat loss, staggered joints for maximum safety and stability, air gaps between outer casing and flue prevents surface staining and good temperature variation resistance.

Eng. 317



The Klover Smart 120 wood pellet cooker from Stoves Online Ltd has always been known for its highly contemporary styling but it is now available with a more traditional look. All the Smart 120s are totally automated and do the central heating and hot water for a whole house but the Traditional will fit perfectly in a cottage or farmhouse setting. Wood pellets are clean and easy to use and, as well as being a green fuel, work out cheaper than oil. The Smart cookers will soon join the rest of the Klover pellet range in being eligible for the generous grants given by the Renewable Heat Incentive. Visit the website for more.

Eng. 318

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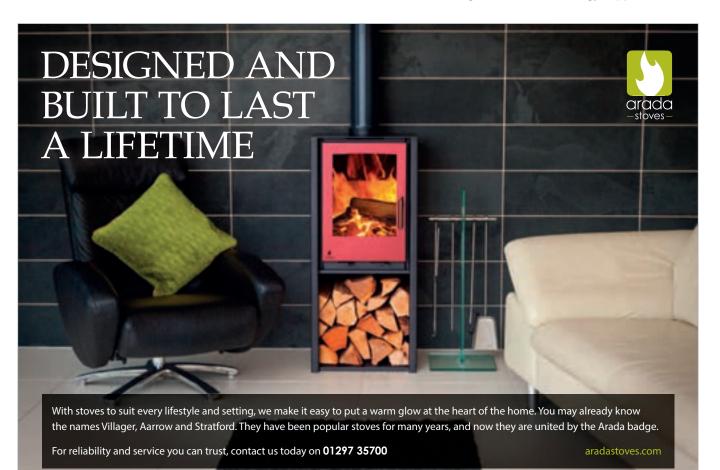
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Eng. 308

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# Evinox Energy packaged plant is the perfect fit at Unity Place



Evinox Energy are working with Bowmite Electrical & Mechanical on a new mixed use development in Walthamstow that features a communal heating system serving 80 dwellings. Unity Place is located in the Blackhorse Lane regeneration area of Walthamstow. Evinox engineers provided design support and liaison with Bowmite Electrical & Mechanical and CHP suppliers to provide an energy efficient and cost effective solution for the LTHW system at Unity Place. The bespoke pre-fabricated skid for the central plant was designed and supplied, tailored to the project requirements and limited plant room space. This new scheme benefits from the installation of ModuSat FS heat interface units with integrated hot water tanks in each apartment, and a prefabricated skid for the central plant, which feeds the communal heating system. The prefabricated plant room skid includes Evinox ADI CD boilers, which feature excellent seasonal efficiency performance and extremely ecological combustion. The skid is also fitted with a Matic-Pro pressurisation unit, expansion vessel, circulating pumps, heat meters and other accessories. Evinox engineers provided a full backup support including liaison with all relevant consultants and subcontractors during the course of the project. 01372 722277 www.evinoxenergy.co.uk Enq. 319

# Kingston Heights open water community heating recognised with award



The pioneering Kingston Heights project, which sees 137 apartments and a hotel get renewable heating and hot water from the River Thames, has received further recognition by securing the 'Commercial Project of the Year' award at the National ACR Awards 2015. Developed by NHP Leisure Developments in the heart of Kingston upon Thames, the £70 million, mixed-use development harvests renewable, low grade heat from the Thames and transfers it 200m from the river to the apartments, 142 bed hotel and conference centre where it is utilised to provide all the development's heating, hot water and cooling requirements. Mitsubishi Electric's advanced heat pump technology boosts the river water's low grade heat provided by the solar energy naturally stored in the river (and every open body of water) to the temperature required to provide all the heating and hot water for the flats and the hotel (as well as providing its cooling requirements too). Electricity required to run the system is provided by Ecotricity's wind turbines, making the entire installation Zero Carbon – saving in excess of 500 tonnes of carbon that would have been emitted by the combustion-based system. Kingston Heights has already received acclaim across different industries

111

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Eng. 320



The Smart 120 wood pellet cooker. Central heating, cooking and domestic hot water, all from one appliance



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# **Editor's Focus**

# **Purus**

Purus Limited's Purusline Living linear drainage channel for wetrooms has proudly been selected and installed at 65 brand new luxury apartments at Argyll Place, Pangbourne Avenue, London W10. The stainless steel linear channels were selected for the prestigious development's wetrooms, and are all complete with the elegant Tile Insert Grate, which allows a continuous installation of tiles up to 10mm across the wetroom floor for a sleek and stylish finish. Channel lengths of 600mm and 800mm were used alongside the Low outlet gully for a shallow-depth drainage solution. Eng. 179

# Polarwall

Polarwall Insulating Formwork is unique among ICF systems, using Hi-density XPS insulation rather than EPS. Polarwall is without any dimensional modularity thus allowing total design freedom of build simplicity and efficiency. Now Polarwall is launching its "Flying Factory" concept of high speed construction using either on-site or off-site methods of extra-large panel construction. It is ideally suited for multi-unit housing, apartment blocks and commercial developments and provides lowenergy structures that are airtight, quiet and highly cost-effective. Eng. 180

# Systemair

Systemair was founded in 1974 and has grown into a leading ventilation company in 40 countries around the world. It provides the complete service of design, supply, installation, service and aftercare. Whether you are building your dream home, renovating or developing a number of houses, Systemair's specialist team will help you select the best system for your project from its comprehensive range, including heat recovery, central extraction, air conditioning and swimming pool ventilation. Eng. 181







# Chartwell Green window trims

Freefoam, a leading manufacturer of a wide range of innovative products for the building industry, announces the launch of another new colour to its foiled range, Chartwell Green. Due to the increasing popularity of colour window frames, conservatories and orangeries, Freefoam has introduced window trims and accessories in this attractive heritage style colour. Manufactured to last using market leading Renolit Exofol MX foil that features built in UV protection to reduce heat absorption, temperature and expansion. The new colour is available in quadrant window trims and cloaking fillet offering suppliers and installers the products to capitalise on opportunities in a growing market. These additions to its range further underlines Freefoam's position as the colour specialist. In addition to foiled products Freefoam manufactures the leading range of co-extruded fascia, soffit and trims using its patented ColormaxTM technology. 01604 591110 www.freefoam.com Eng. 183

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Warmcore stands up to testing times



Synseal's new WarmCore aluminium folding sliding door system has been undergoing extreme weather testing in Portugal along with structural strength and enhanced security testing which has been carried out by UKAS testing laboratories, with both tests regimes

yielding excellent results. A 5-sash WarmCore unit was installed in an outdoor location back in July 2014 and this continental climate exposure testing programme will continue indefinitely to prove the technical performance of the aluminium framing.

01623 443200 www.synseal.com

Enq. 184

# Simonswerk extend hardware range



One of the leading manufacturers of architectural ironmongery and hardware SIMONSWERK UK have introduced a comprehensive range of solid brass edge pulls. With its simple modern design these new edge pulls are ideal for

use on drawers, cabinets and various door types and will complement any style of furniture and room. The edge pull series is available in standard or bespoke lengths in a wide choice of finishes including an abrasion and tarnish resistant PVD. Edge pulls are the latest addition to an already extensive selection of hardware.

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Eng. 185



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Enq. 186

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# Multi-chambered options available



Multi-chambered options for outer and sash frame profiles are now available for all three of Synseal's market-leading 70mm PVC-U window systems - Legend, Shield and SynerJy - to extend customer choice. These new frame profile configurations are thermally efficient and can achieve A-rated WERs when glazed with 28mm DG units without the need for low iron glass. Synseal has invested in design and extrusion of multi-

chambered sash profiles to complete the offerings for the company's chamfered Shield and sculptured ovolo SynerJy systems.

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Eng. 190

# **News Bytes**

Visit www.hbdonline.co.uk and enter the reference number for more information

BRE recognises wood window alliance's green credentials... Ref: 39755

Research opens the doors on double size dreams for buyers... Ref: 44337

Marlin Windows feature in redevelopment project... Ref: 28197

A cost effective alternative to traditional steel windows... Ref: 70997

Membership of Door & Hardware Federation hits high ... Ref: 12304

Using box rooflights for communal outdoor space... Ref: 73524

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# **NBB Booster Box from DAB Pumps**



The solution to low mains water pressure issues in residential buildings has been developed as a complete, compact modular package thanks to leading pump manufacturer **DAB Pumps**. Known as the NBB Booster Box, it pressurises potable water in residential applications and can be set up and installed in a variety of ways to suit the needs of the building and its occupants. Its installer friendly, modular components

include a WRAS approved 280 litre tank, choices of a submersible or surface mounted pump, both of which can be fixed speed or more energy efficient variable speed pumps. The range also includes a twin pump duty standby option and a tank extension kit. Enq. 194

# Made For Trade expands



Following rapid expansion in 2014, conservatory roof and aluminium bi-fold door company **Made For Trade** are now bringing its products into Scotland in its bid to become one of the UK's fastest growing trade suppliers. Having established a database of over 700 customers mostly in England, Made For Trade has now finalised a deal provide glass to Scotland, allowing

the company to start delivering north of the border. Having grown on average by over 60 per cent year on year since 2010, Made For Trade has seen a busy 2014, with a significant increase in factory space for the manufacturing of aluminium bi-fold doors, the addition of 18 new employees to the team, and the release of a new brochure. Enq. 195



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Eng. 196

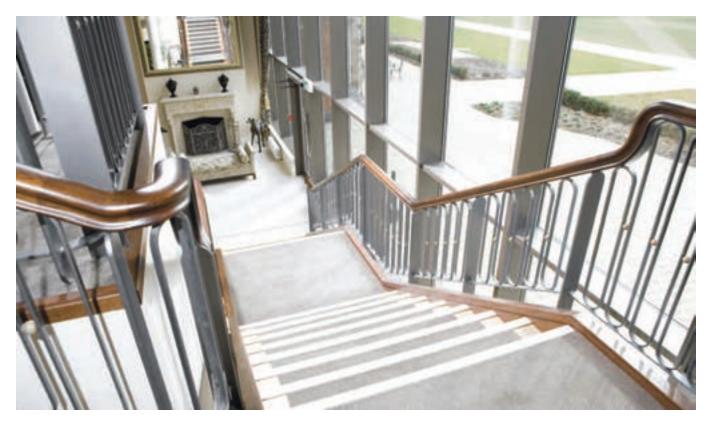








# Steps towards accessible and adaptable housing



With an increasing older population, it is crucial that housebuilders and developers make housing adaptable to meet older residents' needs in the initial stages of a build. These needs may arise as a result of reduced mobility, debilitating illnesses and becoming more prone to domestic accidents.

Recently, British Standard, BS 9266:2013, has been put in place to provide a Code of Practice for the 'Design of accessible and adaptable general needs housing', offering an essential guide for anyone involved in the design and construction of residential accommodation. Here Anthony Roberts, product manager for contract interior solutions specialist, Gradus, highlights some examples of how it may affect stairs, floor coverings and barrier matting

Figures from the Office of National Statistics show that for the first time in Britain, there are more people of a pensionable age than children under 16. A recent survey by The Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) showed that 97 per cent of respondents agreed that it is important to adapt and improve the built environment for the elderly. 25 per cent of those who acknowledge this importance are already incorporating designs appropriate for the elderly into their projects and, in general, respon-

dents felt that accessibility is the most important aspect of adapting the built environment.

In order to meet the elderly's changing requirements, both temporarily and in the longer term, homes need to be accessible and adaptable. BS 8300:2010 and Approved Document M of The Building Regulations 2010 provide guidance on accessible design for all aspects of public buildings, including public areas in residential buildings. These guidelines were traditionally applied to student accommodation, residential care and nursing home environments. They typically have not been widely applied to the design of public areas within other types of residential developments. Consequently, BS 9266:2013 was developed to ensure that best practice is applied to all new general needs accommodation, including residential housing.

BS 9266:2013 was established following research into demographic trends regarding the ageing population. It gives recommendations for the design of accessible and adaptable general *Continued overleaf...* 

#### "As many people with a visual impairment can perceive light and dark, Light Reflectance Values are an ideal method to measure contrast"

needs housing, whether in the form of flats or individual houses. It covers car parking, external access routes to blocks of flats or individual houses, common circulation areas in blocks of flats, circulation areas within dwellings and the provision of key rooms and facilities.

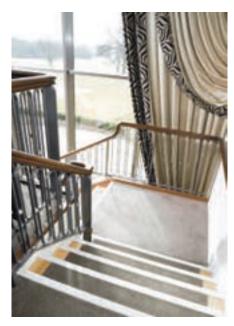
When it comes to flooring products and accessories, the standard covers a number of areas that are relevant to those involved in the planning and development of residential housing. These include internal, external and stepped access routes and entrances. The advice for stepped access states that the stair edging used should be 50mm to 65mm on the tread and 30mm to 50mm on the riser. The guidance also states that the whole width of the tread and the nosing should incorporate a slip-resistant material, starting as close to the front edge of the nosing as possible and extending the full width and depth of the tread.

Another requirement is that all step nosings should incorporate a permanently contrasting continuous material for the full width of the stair, contrasting visually with the remainder of the tread and riser. This visual contrast can be achieved between stair edgings and surrounding floorcoverings using differences in Light Reflectance Values (LRVs).

LRV is a value given to a surface to denote the amount of light reflected. LRVs are marked on a scale of 1 to 100 depending on the percentage of light reflected. Dark, matt and/or textured surfaces absorb a large amount of light and therefore have low reflectance values. On the other hand, light glossy and/or smooth surfaces reflect the majority of light that falls on them and have high reflectance values.

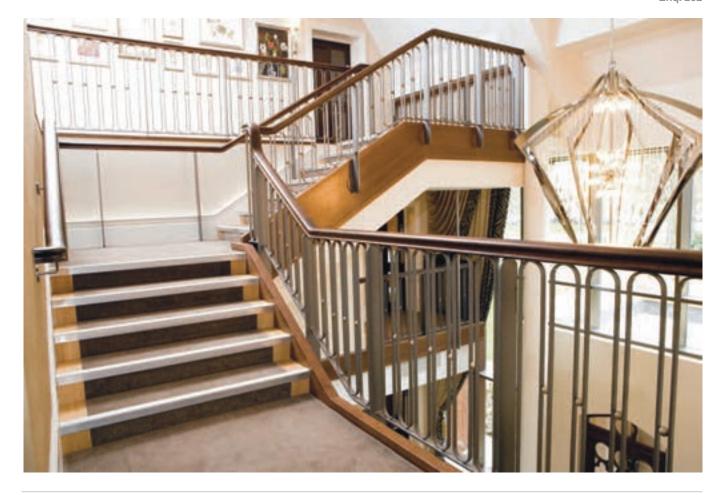
As many people with a visual impairment can perceive light and dark, LRVs are an ideal method to measure contrast. In order to achieve a suitable contrast between different surfaces, such as stair edgings and floorcoverings; floors, walls, doors and ceilings; and differences between key fittings, fixtures and surrounding areas, it is recommended that there is at least a 30 point difference in the LRVs of the two surfaces to help people with a visual impairment appreciate the extent of the stair and identify individual treads.

BS 9266:2013 also states that suitable entrance matting should be used in blocks of flats to help collect moisture and debris from the soles of shoes. According to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), up to 90 per cent of all slip injuries in public buildings result from wet floors. By removing dirt and moisture from pedestrian and wheeled traffic at the point of entry, barrier matting can reduce the risk of slips, trips and falls to create a safer and more accessible environment.



It is recommended in BS 9266:2013 that any matting should either have its surface level with the adjacent floor finish or, if surface laid, be of a type that has a slip-resistant backing and chamfered edges.

BS 9266:2013 outlines recommendations for design features, which can be incorporated when the dwelling is first built, or have provision made at the outset for their future adaptation. This helps reduce the need for expensive or disruptive alterations or substantial adaptations in the future. Eng. 202



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look beautiful whether they are used individually or combined with other designs from the range. With the flexibility of water jet cutting there is virtually no limit to the shapes, patterns or designs that they can create for customers using Polyflor's high performance flooring. 0161 767 1111 www.polyflor.com Enq. 204

# Redbacks shell strapped kneepads



Redbacks Cushioning Ltd, the manufacturers of the World's only 'leafspring', non-foam or gel kneepads has introduced a new shell strapped product as an alternative to its big selling version for pocketed work trousers. The hard face is a semi-transparent, penetration resistant, protective shell which has a flat spot to

prevent rocking or instability with smooth sides to allow for ease of movement without causing the kneepad to shift or dislodge. Low profile 'hook & loop' fastenings which are resistant to dust and particle build-up fix the waterproof-coated nylon hinged-top and calf straps. Eng. 206

#### 01327 702104 www.redbackscushioning.com

# Gerflor double finalist



Current holder of the Housing Innovation Awards' 'Most Innovative New Product' award, Gerflor is defending its title with the opportunity, as a double finalist, of scooping further prestigious wins in two categories at the 2015 awards ceremony in London on 18 February. The global vinyl flooring manufacturer is not only shortlisted for a product award for its Gerflor Fibre Technology (GFT) Griptex flooring but also for 'Most Innovative Supplier' having smoothly

supplied over 2.7 million sq m of its innovative, residential vinyl flooring solutions for social housing in the UK. 01926 622600 www.gerflor.co.uk

Enq. 205

Eng. 207

# Kawneer helps lift a royal landmark



Kawneer's AA°3572 lift/slide door was used at Redrow London's stunning £46 million Kingston Riverside development in the Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames alongside the manufacturer's flagship AA°720 single-action door, AA°543

tilturn windows and AA°100 curtain walling. The technology behind the AA®3572 lift/slide door provides effortless operation and enables maximum panel sizes of up to 3m x 3m to give large, uninterrupted areas of glazing. It provides an ideal space-saving solution where safety is a priority and projecting swing doors undesirable.

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Enq. 209

# Acoustiwall goes into production



As the new home for Karma Acoustic products, CMS Danskin's Refurbishment Division has now started manufacturing Karma Acoustiwall at its Warrington facility. Karma Acoustiwall is the

ideal solution for reducing airborne sound transmission through the walls of existing properties. It is particularly applicable where original block, brick or stud walls have been converted into party or separating walls. Karma Acoustiwall has a total thickness of just 30mm, meaning it provides exceptional acoustic insulation without encroaching significantly into the footprint of the property.

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Eng. 210

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> > Enq. 211



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# Adobe Estimo



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with European Water Regulations and are manufactured to WRAS or other applicable European standards.

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Enq. 213

Eng. 215

# Define your development



Moores Furniture Group has launched Definitive, a contemporary new kitchen range, ideal for housebuilders and property developers looking for a quality British-built kitchen solution. Designed to exceed the high expectations that have come to be

associated with Moores kitchens, Definitive combines style, substance and flexibility. The new units are available in the latest colours and the range is made up of three collections Horizon, Modern and Classic, ensuring it appeals to the majority of homebuyers.

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The MAX Dumper<sup>w</sup> can carry 800Bs/8cu foot and will climb a 30<sup>4</sup> slope fully loaded. The machine is fitted with the Honda GXV Commercial grade 5.5hp engine. The Tecumish drive axle has 4 forward and 1 reverse grans.



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Enq. 217

# Shaws' classic double bowl sink



For a typically traditional style kitchen the Shaws' fireclay Classic double bowl sink comes with a central dividing wall and is available in both white and biscuit finishes. Each bowl has central 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" waste outlets for basket strainer or waste disposer and traditional style round overflows. Available in two sizes, 800 and 1000, these distinctive heavyweight, English made double bowl sinks require bespoke cabinetry due to their weight.

Visit the Shaws of Darwen website to view the complete range of sinks and complementary taps.

01254 775111 www.shawsofdarwen.com

Eng. 214

# Series A sinks steal the show



The new Series A sinks, from GEC Anderson, are available in no less than 17 stock sizes and combinations and are suitable for inset, undermount and flushmount fixing. With their distinctive 15mm corner

radius and 20mm flat flange, Series A sinks are sleek and contemporary and are of the absolute highest quality, in terms of materials and workmanship. Sizes range from 18 to 70cm in single, double and combination formats. All models are available from stock and represent excellent value for money. Now there is no need to compromise.

01442 826999 www.gecanderson.co.uk

Eng. 216

# Hultafors Tools new catalogue



The **Hultafors** new full colour brochure is now available free to professional tradesmen. It's packed with details of innovative hand tools and accessories for working effectively wherever you are on-site. Everything you find in the Hultafors Tools range bears the hallmarks of a companies 100 years experience in knowing what it takes to get a job done efficiently, effectively and safely. Proof of Hultafors' quality and innovation can be found in every hand tool.

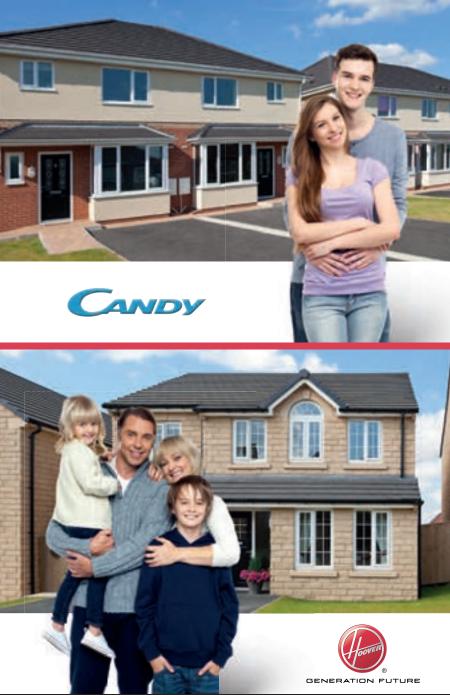
Ergonomically crafted with built-in Fisco technology, there's a host of tools for a variety of jobs. Enq. 218

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# **NEW** QUOOKER INTRODUCES THE NORDIC DESIGN SERIES



# HISTORY

When engineer Henri Peteri was working on the development of instant soup for an international food company thirtyfive 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.

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Extensive multi-platform marketing is creating significant consumer demand and Quooker's impactful advertising campaigns engage with consumers across television, print and online media. The UK has over 55,000 Quooker users some of whom you will see on Television in shows such as Masterchef and Saturday Kitchen to name but a few. That's why all boiling water taps are not the same. Be a part of it!

# 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.

# **0808 102 2027** www.quooker.co.uk



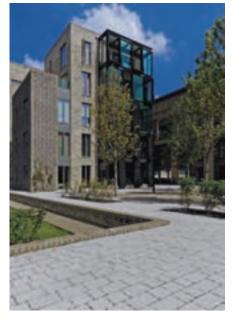




# All change for SuDS

In an about turn, the government has announced an alternative approach to implementing SuDS using the planning system amidst a growing realisation that it can deliver far more than just drainage as a fundamental part of development design – as architect and consultant to Interpave Chris Hodson explains

ithout doubt, sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) and techniques such as concrete block permeable paving are essential to help fight flooding and pollution – particularly with overloaded sewers, urbanisation and climate change. There is ample research to demonstrate the link between growing urbanisation and flooding, notably the Pitt Review into the summer 2007 floods. Here, over two thirds of the 57,000 homes affected were flooded not by swollen rivers but by surface water runoff or surcharge from overloaded drainage systems.



Concrete block permeable paving used extensively, with other SuDS techniques, at Proctor & Matthews' Abode housing, Cambridge – Winner of the Housing Design Awards 2014. © Chris Hodson

# Act by-passed

The 2010 Flood and Water Management Act – resulting from the Pitt Review – was set to make SuDS mandatory. But a ministerial statement at the end of 2014 confirmed proposals that by-pass the Flood and Water Management Act. Instead, the planning system will form the basis for encouraging SuDS on developments with national and local planning policies. Amended planning guidance – probably based on the latest draft SuDS National Standards - will bolster existing National Planning Policy Framework encouragement for SuDS. The proposed changes will now come into force this spring – applying to schemes of 10 or more houses.

#### "Over two thirds of the 57,000 homes affected were flooded not by swollen rivers but by surface water runoff or surcharge from overloaded drainage systems"

Once implemented, it is proposed that planning conditions, 'Section 106 Agreements' or other measures will be used to ensure that SuDS are maintained for the lifetime of the development. The government proposal points out that this should not increase costs, adding: "All the available evidence is that sustainable drainage systems are generally cheaper to build; and maintaining them will be cheaper (or need be no more expensive) than the same cost as is required to maintain conventional drainage at present." However, it is important to understand the principles of SuDS to keep costs down and make the most of them. The latest guidance for developers and designers can be found in a Code of Practice, BS 8582:2013. It aims to integrate SuDS with urban design in delivering amenity and community value as well as enhancing landscape and/or townscape character. It also stresses the importance of linking surface water management and development planning from the very start with aims to:

- maximise opportunities for using space in a multi-functional way to avoid additional land take
- enable water storage and conveyance to form part of the character of the development
- provide the greatest opportunity for the drainage system to deliver multiple planning and environmental benefits.

# On or near the surface

The Code also looks for permeable surfaces and surface-based conveyance and storage wherever possible. As the latest draft SuDS National Standards Guidance states, SuDS: "should aim to manage surface water within sub-catchments, close to source and at or near surface as reasonably practicable". This is essential to keep costs down by avoiding the deep excavation and material removal needed both for conventional drainage and overly large, on-site water storage.

Conceptually, a SuDS scheme comprises a 'management train' of interconnected features. SuDS manage surface water by attenuation and filtration with the aim of replicating, as closely as possible, the natural drainage from a site before development. That is not to say that all SuDS features have to be vegetated – for example, concrete block permeable paving is a well-used

Continued overleaf...

#### "Water sells homes – SuDS and permeable paving can help make the most of it"

SuDS technique – or that urban projects need to take on a rural character with lower housing densities. But it does mean working with the site characteristics and integration of SuDS within the overall scheme.

# Popular with home-buyers

Permeable paving is uniquely placed to help meet the latest requirements. Concrete block paving has proven its popularity with homebuyers as well as planners. This is matched today by the growing choice of permeable paving products available with numerous shapes, styles, colours and finishes – including natural aggregates. They can also be used in conjunction with conventional precast concrete paving products, sharing the same impressive performance, including slip and skid resistance, durability and strength – often with matching colours and finishes.

Permeable paving proves popular with the public for other reasons as well. It can provide completely level surfaces and is well-drained,



firm and slip-resistance without the need for cross-falls, channels, gulleys or other interruptions. Rainwater 'ponding' is eliminated, reducing the risk of ice forming on the surface and preventing splashing from standing water. But its real strength is an ability to remove water-borne pollution offering the important – and often missed – opportunity of a gradual supply of treated water for use within attractive landscape designs enhancing kerb appeal. Water sells homes – now, SuDS and permeable paving can help make the most of it.





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**Bespoke FAKRO roof windows** 

# Antique texture



Arbour Mews, an exclusive housing development built on the edge of one of Britain's largest town parks, the 164-acre Harlow Town Park, has used Marley Eternit's Acme Double Camber clay plain tiles in

Antique to create textured roofs that reflect the vernacular architecture and also meet conservation requirements. Acme Double Camber clay plain tiles are unique because they have both a longitudinal and latitudinal camber, giving designers the opportunity to create highly textured roofscapes with accentuated light and shade. This design potential was an important factor in the specification.

01283 722588 www.marleyeternit.co.uk

Enq. 228

# 'The Poppies' benefit from Zeeland



Zeeland fibre cement slates from Cembrit have been installed on an interesting development in Kent, which sees the natural appearance of the slate complement the external weatherboard and brick finish. Built by Hillreed Homes, the two-, three-, four- and five-

bedroom properties form part of 'The Poppies', a housing community in Kings Hill, West Malling. Kent-based contractors, Russell and Russell Roofing specified blue/black Zeeland slates to provide an attractive finish to the residential properties. Zeeland slates are manufactured to the highest European standards. Eng. 230

FAKRO roof windows are being used at St Andrew's Park, a Charles Church development on the site of RAF Uxbridge. 71 openings were involved in 26 homes, with FAKRO EL flashings used to provide a low profile for

windows in the natural slate roofs. FAKRO was the only manufacturer able to meet bespoke requirements for the project in the required time frame, among which were special flashings to meet planning requirements. Varying sizes, combinations and styles were supplied including L-shaped windows to extend the glazing area into the wall. 01283 554755 www.fakro.co.uk Enq. 229

# Wallbarn M-Tray



All the preparation has been done – installation could not be simpler. The sedum and wildflower plants are pre-grown into portable tray units, clicked together to form a seamless green roof. All required drainage and filtration elements are contained in the trays meaning installation is faster, uniform, less messy and a one-person job. It can be taken up at any time in the future. M-tray from Wallbarn is ready to go... and ready to grow.

Eng. 231

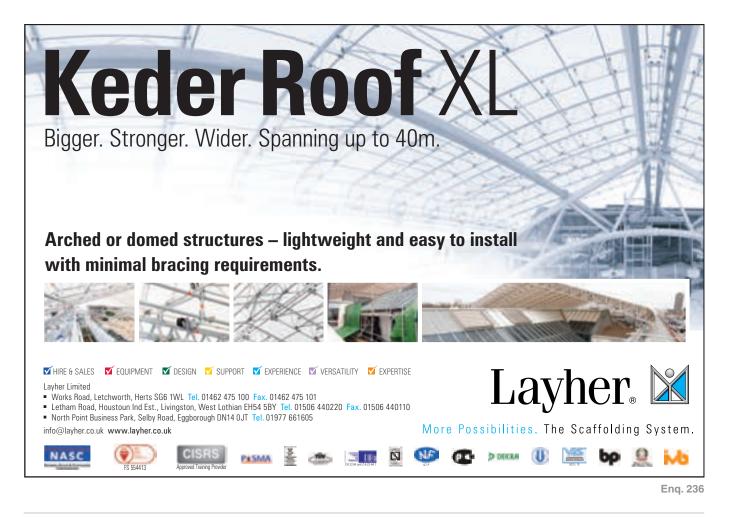
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Eng. 234



# Benefits of the new lightweight roofing trend

John Cunningham at Metrotile UK explains how lightweight roof tiling is beginning to become mainstream

ightweight steel roofing is nothing new – it has been used on commercial premises, leisure and educational facilities and for social housing for many years.

But as technology and social trends develop, the potential for lightweight roofing – which can be up to seven times lighter than some traditional roofing methods – to become mainstream is beginning to be realised and new market opportunities are developing all the time.

The variety and improved aesthetic appeal of the many tile profiles has given lightweight steel roofing a versatility which makes it a genuine option for solutions possibly not considered until now.

Combine this versatility with significantly reduced transport costs, sustainability benefits, great security and durability, and lightweight steel roofing could rival more traditional roofing methods.

This may sound ambitious, but the technology can revolutionise building methods altogether.

# **Construction methods**

Steel roof tiles can be so light that, rather than involving risky assembly at roof height, the covering can be assembled at ground level and hoisted into place. Scaffolding costs and health and safety risks can be greatly reduced as a result.

Because the steel tiles can be 15 per cent of the weight of traditional alternatives, they place significantly less weight and stress on supporting structures and foundations. This means foundations can be shallower and the structural materials can be lighter too.

# Sustainability

Architects and developers can differentiate themselves by embracing these benefits. Sustainability is the growing watchword throughout our society and customers are looking to minimise their carbon footprint wherever possible. Truly forward thinking housebuilders are already recognising



that sustainability is a selling point. Those which market themselves accordingly will steal a march on their competitors.

The reduction in materials required for a structure with a lightweight roof is one aspect to the sustainability benefits of steel tiles. Another is the reduction in carbon emissions through more efficient transport costs. You can pack an entire roof's worth of lightweight steel tiles on to one lorryload.

The steel tiles are also 100 per cent recyclable and, as a side benefit, there is no noise pollution either – rainfall makes no more noise on a lightweight roof than it would do on one made from traditional materials.

# **Durability and quality**

Most steel tile manufacturers will provide a guarantee on the life span of their products, potentially for up to 40 years. Pressed from high quality steel, they have excellent strength and are also tested to withstand the most extreme weather conditions – not necessarily a benefit attributed to traditional alternatives.

This security extends to anti-vandalism measures as well, as the installation methods make the tiles impossible to remove.

Continued overleaf...



# Cost

The cycling manufacturer Keith Bontrager's famous aphorism was "Strong. Light. Cheap. Pick Two." Lightweight steel roof tiles are a rare exception to this rule, being no more expensive than traditional alternatives once reduced transport costs and other construction expenses – such as installation times, scaffolding, reduction in materials – are factored in.

"Sustainability and cost are two key drivers. Customers want to know that they are doing their bit to minimise their impact on the environment and if this can go hand-in-hand with reducing construction costs then it becomes something of a no-brainer"

Companies have seen profits rise in the last 12 months, in part due to growth in the conservatory market as homeowners realise that a summerhouse with lightweight tiles on top becomes something they can use all year round,



rather than effectively being a greenhouse which can only be used for the two or three suitably warm months we have each year.

But we are also finding that other markets are rapidly developing and opportunities are opening up which simply had not been an option until now.

Sustainability and cost are two key drivers. Customers want to know that they are doing their bit to minimise their impact on the environment and if this can go hand-in-hand with reducing construction costs then it becomes something of a no-brainer Architects and developers are beginning to recognise that lightweight steel roofing is an attractive option for domestic residences as well as housing association work, non-trade housing, commercial facilities and industrial units.

And it is from these construction professionals that major change will be driven. It is a matter of fundamental perception, of changing the status quo and recognising that there is another way of doing things. It's an alternative which will take time to permeate mainstream consciousness but which can make a massive impact on the entire housebuilding industry.

Enq. 237



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

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of so-called traditional roof materials such as slate or clay, Metrotile roofing takes traditional aesthetic cues and applies them a product that outperforms standard roof tiles.

01249 658514 www.metrotile.co.uk

Enq. 239

# New SL Rainwater Systems



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Yeoman Rainguard has launched its new SL Aluminium Rainwater Systems to the builders merchants and construction markets. Manufactured from 2mm thick aluminium, the new SL gutters and downpipes offer a wealth of advantages to the builder

including longevity, ease of fitting and style. Finished in a polyester powder coating, SL Aluminium system is long lasting and robust, which once installed will not require any repair, replacement, repainting or maintenance. This all adds up to being the perfect choice when sustainability is being considered

0113 279 5854 www.rainguard.co.uk





Enq. 243

# Amina invisible loudspeakers



The most recent innovations in cinema audio technology are fully immersive, three dimensional sound systems, the main proponents of this being Dolby Atmos<sup>®</sup> and Auro-3D<sup>®</sup> which uses additional height layers of speaker channels. Amina Technologies has

developed DMLs to a point far beyond peoples' expectations for hidden loudspeakers. By using flat, lightweight, rigid vibrating panel technology their speakers are designed specifically to be flush mounted and plastered directly onto with standard 2mm thick trade finishes. 01480 354390 www.amina.co.uk

Enq. 240

# Aico launches Centre of Excellence



As part of its 25th anniversary celebrations Aico, a market leader in domestic Fire and Carbon Monoxide (CO) protection products, has launched a new sophisticated training and demonstration facility at its premises in Oswestry, Shropshire:

the Centre of Excellence. A standalone building, the Centre of Excellence has been built to demonstrate Aico's comprehensive product range and provide customers with the latest training and meeting facilities. The Centre of Excellence was officially launched on 14 January at a major event. Eng. 242





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# Paving the way for zero carbon construction

By Mark Stevenson, managing director of Kingspan Timber Solutions



ood may be the oldest building material known to man but it is now viewed as one of the most sustainable – being championed as the optimum solution in paving the way to achieving zero carbon construction.

According to the findings of a recent survey 74 per cent of the UK's construction professionals plan to increase specification of structural timber due to benefits such as thermal, acoustic and sustainability performance, together with increased speed of build programmes.

Following the government calls for increased sustainability, faster delivery and lower costs from the construction industry, engineers have warned that attaching so called "eco-bling" such as wind turbines or solar panels to buildings will not help the UK cut carbon emissions fast enough to meet the government's ambitious targets – hence the focus on making the structural fabric do the work.

# So what are the main challenges to achieving zero carbon construction and how can these challenges be overcome?

Achieving the design performance as detailed in the build specification can present challenges.

Closing the gap between design and as-built performance is now being recognised as a key issue and the recent report identifies a general lack of understanding across developers, designers and local authorities about the potential impact they can have on energy performance and buildability. Understanding and addressing the performance gap is an industrywide issue.

By taking a holistic approach to construction – involving designers, engineers, manufacturers and installers – we can build a more sustainable future. This is underpinned by maximising Fabric First and Passivhaus principles – which are based on the tenets of super-high insulation, absolute airtightness and harvesting the sun's energy through south-facing windows. In essence this means that the building does the work, rather than relying on bolt-on renewable energy devices.

As the demand for more energy efficient homes grows, some principles are now being widely adopted, particularly within the structural timber solutions arena. The positive impact of this construction approach, is delivering lower whole life costs – both from a maintenance and energy consumption perspective.

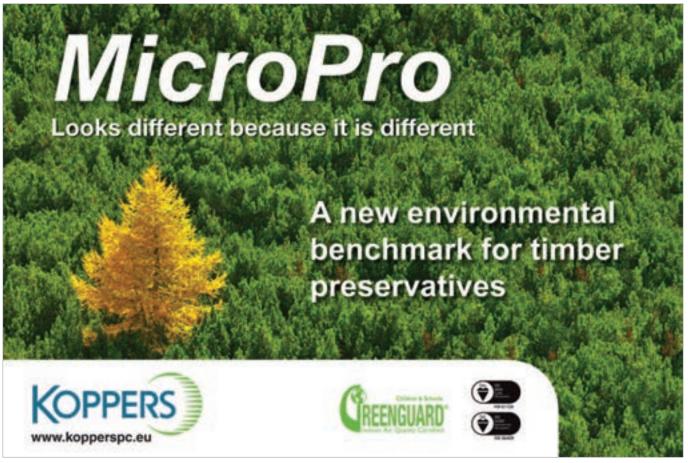
Numerous structural timber technologies looking to maximise offsite manufacture have

### "By taking a holistic approach to construction – involving designers, engineers, manufacturers and installers – we can build a more sustainable future"

embraced the building principles, which are now gaining traction with the end users – home owners and residents. This is particularly obvious in the self build, care home and social housing sectors, where sustainability and 'whole life costs' of the building are crucial to the specifying decision process.

Housing developers are 'missing a trick' here and they should make better use of the wealth of information contained within the Energy Performance Certificate – instead of leaving it languishing at the back of a sales pack. This is becoming increasingly important in the purchasing decision to both the socially aware and cost conscious consumer.

There are multiple housebuilding delivery routes and creating the optimum housing solu-*Continued on page 79...* 



Enq. 248

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tion is not a 'one system fits all' approach. It is not always about economies of scale – that is, bulk purchasing of one system to keep costs down, but selecting the right system to deliver the optimum performance at the right price.

As timber engineered systems have been developed, we have more options available in our building solutions 'tool box' and a combination of engineered timber systems deliver best performance and value – whatever the brief. This essentially means selecting the most effective combination of systems to meet the specification which will deliver best performance and value.

Hybrid timber systems, as they are known, can be a combination of two or more solutions – timber frame, CLT, SIPS or glulam beams and by using the optimum integration of systems, not only will the design performance specification be met but in some cases – exceeded.

"As timber engineered systems have been developed, we have more options available in our building solutions 'tool box' and a combination of engineered timber systems deliver best performance and value"

The ultimate sustainable home has to be a Certified Passivhaus dwelling, however as building starts on the first Certified Passivhaus show home in the UK – we understand the complexities of such an undertaking. Built according to principles developed by the Passivhaus Institute in Germany, with meticulous attention to design and construction detailing – Passivhaus can be certified through an exacting quality assurance process. The position of the house within the plot in relation to the sun, the type of glazing systems and size of windows, eliminating areas of cold bridging and designing the ultimate high performance building envelope all have to be taken into consideration.

With further changes to Part L on the horizon, in the UK's roadmap to achieving zero carbon by 2016 – to get anywhere near realising the governments ambitious targets – we have to ensure that our build systems are future proof and future Timber technology is not only paving the way but is the only effective way to achieve zero carbon construction.



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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 the front door, extends time between maintenance and adds value. Eng. 252

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Made for Trade Tel: 0844 335 1226 www.madefortrade.co

#### DECKING

Saige Longlife Decking Tel: 01789 721576 www.saigedecking.com

#### DOORS & WINDOWS



www.sashwindowlock.com TEL: 0844 482 20 34 FAX 01708 768 825

Enq. 502 Marlin Specialist Glazing Solutions

#### Tel: 01535 603909 www.marlinwindows.co.uk

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#### FIRES & FIREPLACES

Opies Tel: 01245 468977 www.john-opie.co.uk

Clearview Stoves Tel: 01588 650401 www.clearviewstoves.com

Specflue Tel: 0800 9020220 www.specflue.com

#### FLOOD CONTROL

CPLC Water Tel: 01249 750709 www.floodandwatermanagement.co.uk

#### FLOORS & FLOORING

IVC Group Tel: 07799 896522 www.ivcgroup.com

FOLDING SLIDING DOORS

Folding Sliding Door Company Tel: 0845 644 6630 www.foldingslidingdoors.com

#### FINANCE & INSURANCE



Enq. 503

#### FINANCE & INSURANCE

Business Lending Group – BLG Development finance Tel: 0845 465 6500 www.business-lending.co.uk

**Trade Direct Insurance Services** Tel: 01635 37844 www.tradedirectinsurance.co.uk

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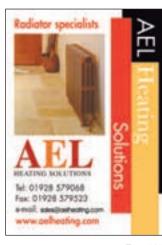
Selectaglaze ltd Tel: 01727 837271 www.selectaglaze.co.uk

#### GROUND INVESTIGATION



Eng. 504

#### HEATING, VENTILATION & PLUMBING



Enq. 505

#### www.hbdonline.co.uk

#### INSECT SCREENS

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 Flyscreen Systems for Windows & Doors

Insect Mesh for Cladding & Ventilation

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#### INSULATION

Cellecta Tel: 08456 717174 www.cellecta.co.uk

Celotex Ltd Tel: 01473 820850 www.celotex.co.uk

Kingspan Insulation Tel: 01544 388 601 www.kingspaninsulation.co.uk

Knauf Insulation Tel: 0844 8000135 www.knaufinsulation.co.uk

Rockwool Tel: 01656 862 621 www.rockwool.co.uk

#### IRONMONGERY

Ironmongery Direct (Essex Fittings Ltd) Tel: 0808 168 28 28 www.ironmongerydirect.com

#### KITCHENS & APPLIANCES

Indesit Company Tel: 08000 921 922 www.indesit.co.uk

#### **KITCHENS & APPLIANCES**

Shaws of Darwen Tel: 01254 775111 www.shawsofdarwen.com

#### LIGHTING & ELECTRICAL

Eaton Electric Limited Tel: 0121 685 2100 www.eaton.com

Mitsubishi Electrical Tel: 01707 276100 www.mitsubishielectric.co.uk

Panasonic Electric Works Tel: 01908 231555 www.panasonic-electric-works.co.uk

#### NATURAL STONE LANDSCAPING PRODUCTS

Husqvarna Tel: 0844 8444 570 www.husqvarnacp.com

Jacksons Fencing Tel: 01233 750393 www.jacksons-fencing.co.uk

#### OAK PRODUCTS

**Courtyard Designs** Tel: 01568 760540 www.courtyarddesigns.co.uk



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#### PART EXCHANGE SERVICES

Enq. 507

Quick Move Properties Tel: 01793 840907 www.quickmoveproperties.co.uk

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#### POWER TOOLS

Robert Bosch UK Ltd Tel: 01895 838847 www.boschprofessional.com

#### PRODUCT APPROVAL & INSPECTION

British Board Of Agrement Tel: 01923 665300 www.bbacerts.co.uk

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Renault UK Ltd Tel: 0844 335 0000 www.renault.co.uk

Robust Details Ltd (NHBC) Tel: 0870 240 8209 www.robustdetails.com

**Sky** Tel: 020 7705 3000 www.sky.com

#### PUMPING STATIONS

**J T Pumps** Tel: 0844 414 5800 www.jtpumps.co.uk

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#### RAINWATER PRODUCTS

Aluminium Roofline Products Tel: 0116 289 44 00 www.arp-ltd.com

#### RENEWABLES

SCHOTT UK Ltd Tel: 01785 223166 www.schott.com/uk

#### **ROOFING & CLADDING**

Euroclad Tel: 02920 790 722 www.euroclad.com

Eurocell Profiles Tel: 0300 333 6525 www.eurocell.co.uk

Freefoam Building Products Tel: 01604 591 110 www.freefoam.com

Marley Eternit Tel: 01283 722588 www.marleyeternit.co.uk

Monier Redland Tel: 08705 601000 www.monier.co.uk

National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC) Tel: 020 7648 7663 www.nfrc.co.uk

**Steadmans** Tel: 016974 78277 www.steadmans.co.uk

Steni UK Ltd Tel: 01978 812111 www.steni.co.uk

#### SAFETY & SECURITY

Charter Specialist Security Tel: 020 8507 7717 www.charter-security.co.uk

Fibregrid Ltd Tel: 01440 712722 www.fibregrid.com

Safetyworks & Solutions Tel: 01487 841 400 www.safetyworksandsolutions.co.uk

#### SEWAGE TREATMENT

TT Pumps Ltd Tel: 01630 647200 www.ttpumps.com

#### SMOKE & FIRE PROTECTION

Kidde Fire Protection Tel: 0800 917 0722 www.kiddesafetyeurope.co.uk

#### STONEWORK & MASONRY

Worcestershire Marble Tel: 08454 503300 www.coolgranite.co.uk www.coolsurfaces.co.uk

Haddonstone Ltd Tel: 01604 770711 www.haddonstone.com

Sytex Uk Ltd Tel: 01483 234 885 www.sytex.co.uk

#### TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION



Enq. 508

#### TIMBER PRODUCTS

Hoppings Softwood Products PLC (Q-Products) Tel: 0800 849 6339 www.hoppings.co.uk

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