

ROOFING

The trade magazine for UK roofing, cladding and insulation professionals

TODAY

Issue 109 November - December 2023



RIVERSTONE®



EXCLUSIVELY NATURAL SLATE

infinity

Framed RoofLight

Buy direct from
the UK's leading
glass rooflight
manufacturer
delivering
nationwide direct
to you

Fixed Flat Rooflight

QUICK DELIVERY ON STANDARD STOCK SIZES

500mm x 500mm	1000mm x 1000mm
600mm x 900mm	1000mm x 1500mm
600mm x 1200mm	1000mm x 2000mm
600mm x 1800mm	1000mm x 2500mm
	1000mm x 3000mm

Bespoke Sizes Also Available Quick & Easy Installation

- ✓ U-Value 1.2 w/m² – Double Glazed
- ✓ Quick and easy installation
- ✓ Glazed into an Anthracite Grey (RAL 7016) Aluminium Frame with thermal break
- ✓ U-Value 0.7 w/m² – Triple Glazed
- ✓ Toughened safety glass as standard
- ✓ Manufactured with a decorative border as standard

0345 3400 200
www.tuffxglass.co.uk

Editor's Welcome

CONTACT ROOFING TODAY

EDITORIAL

Editor

Dr Claire Griffiths

editor@roofingtoday.co.uk

Editorial Assistant

Emma Hardman

digitaldesk@roofingtoday.co.uk

ADVERTISING

Senior Media Accounts Executive

Brenda McNally

brenda@roofingtoday.co.uk

Media Accounts Consultant

Paul Fitzgerald

paul@roofingtoday.co.uk

ADMINISTRATION

Administrator

Jemma Daly

administration@roofingtoday.co.uk

CIRCULATION

Circulation Manager

Helen Threlfall

circulation@roofingtoday.co.uk

Roofing Today Magazine is published by
Construction Media Publishing Ltd



78 Mount Pleasant

Liverpool L3 5SL

Tel. 0151 708 0070

enquiries@roofingtoday.co.uk

www.roofingtoday.co.uk



© 2023 Construction Media Publishing Limited No part of this publication may be reproduced or published in any form of advertising or promotion whatsoever without written permission of the editor.



Dr Claire Griffiths, Editor

This edition, our last of the year, is one packed full of industry news, developments, new products, best practice guidance, and sector issues.

In good news for competition in the industry, we feature precast concrete manufacturer, FP McCann entering the roofing market with a new concrete tile range and take a close up look at the production process.

Clare Fenton, MCRMA Chief Executive discusses achieving the right team mix for delivering a construction project; while Kay Rose, CEO of the Institute of Roofing argues that we need to focus not just on technical skills but on 'human skills' to enhance young roofers' career prospects.

Congratulations go to The Rooflight Company which is celebrating 30 years and its evolution in that time from manufacturers of the original conservation rooflight.

The rooflight trade body is also evolving, from NARM to the Rooflight Association, and in this

edition Chairman, Ian Weakford explains the strategy behind the name change.

As the solar roofing sector ramps up a concerning issue is emerging of solar fires which has the potential to undermine confidence in the technology. Richard Williams, MD of Aztec Solar discusses the risks for roofing contractors.

Chief Technical Officer, Ian Harvey at the Lead Contractors Association shares practical guidance on avoiding some of the common installation faults; while John Lewis, Director of the Lead Sheet Training Academy reveals the most popular lead courses and the some of the most common challenges experienced by candidates.

As the latest count of schools affected by RAAC reaches 214, not to mention the material being identified in many other types of public buildings, Kyle Hargreaves, Chartered Surveyor Partner at Graham + Sibbald, provides technical guidance on identifying RAAC roofs.

Our heritage feature includes some beautiful roofing projects, including the roof of a church built in the 1300s, a Georgian Quaker Meeting House and the slate roofs of the 18th Century Bodmin Jail and a historic barn redevelopment.

Staying with the conservation theme, there's news from the Bat Conservation Trust on its Roost Partnership formed with the roofing industry to help protect the roofspace habitats bats rely on. And, we have a report on a roofing company prosecuted for breaking its bat licence terms, showing what can happen when duty holders ignore their responsibilities.

Lastly, there's an update on the waste wood rule change, and an important change to legislation coming into force next year will mean sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) requirements are set to boost blue and blue/green roofs. Neill Robinson-Welsh of Aco Building Drainage explores the implications for roofers. III



SSQ's Riverstone Ultra phyllite was used to renovate The Public Rooms, Camborne, part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and now includes 18 affordable rent apartments. Originally, the site was home to the Holman Brothers, inventors of an innovative rock drill used around the globe, making it especially historically sensitive.

Chosen due to its geological similarity to indigenous Cornish slate, the product also offered a generous labour-backed guarantee, particularly important given the property's existing roof had failed due to extreme weather. The result was a pristine new roof that offers outstanding performance while preserving Cornwall's heritage.

Every effort has been made by the publisher to ensure the accuracy of the contents of this magazine. However, under no circumstances does the publisher accept liability for any loss or damage which may arise or result from errors or omissions in any advertisement or editorial, its content or position.

All opinions and facts presented in editorial features are those of the companies and individuals submitting such editorial and are accepted and published in good faith by Construction Media Publishing Ltd and are not warranted to be correct in any way and the publishers will not accept any responsibility for, or any liability arising from, that content.



2023 UK Roofing Awards
Fully-supported Metal winner
Roles Broderick Roofing Limited

TAKE YOUR ROOFING BUSINESS TO THE NEXT LEVEL WITH NFRC

Technical advice, the industry quality stamp and fantastic profile-raising opportunities—for all roofing disciplines

NFRC sets the highest standards for work across all roofing and cladding disciplines. But we're much more than the industry's quality assurance stamp. Membership of the trade association offers contractors and suppliers a range of powerful technical and commercial advantages.

These include a profile on our website and directory listing, making your business easier for clients to find. Plus exclusive access to technical support and updates, an exclusive health and safety app, and advice on training provision.

For suppliers, key benefits include numerous opportunities to engage with roofing contractors all over the country.

And as the voice of the roofing sector, NFRC makes our members' views heard where it matters most. We work with government, standards bodies and training providers to promote the interests of the industry, and of the construction market as a whole.



Call 020 7638 7663 or visit nfrco.uk/RTbenefits to request our benefits brochure—and find out more about what NFRC membership can do for your business.

NFRC
LEADING ROOFING EXCELLENCE

NFRC GROUP ALSO INCLUDES



Competent Person Scheme: self-certify roof refurbishment to Building Regs



Roofing operatives competency accreditation



Promoting roofing as a skilled profession and offering career advice



UK's premier event for the roofing industry



Supporting hardship, training/upskilling, volunteering and environment



Contractors with knowledge, skills and experience of heritage roofing systems

Contents

INSIDE THE FACTORY: FP MCCANN'S NEW TILE FACILITY



16

THE RENOVATION OF THE QUAKER MEETING HOUSE



48

6 INDUSTRY NEWS

14 ROOF TRAINING GROUP NEWS

16 INSIDE THE FACTORY: FP MCCANN'S NEW £30M ROOF TILE MANUFACTURING FACILITY

20 ADDING STRENGTH AND DEPTH TO THE BUILDING ENVELOPE PROJECT TEAM Clare Fenton, MCRMA

22 WHY OVERLOOKING HUMAN SKILLS COULD HINDER PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS Kay Rose, Institute of Roofing

26 EVOLVING ROOFLIGHT DESIGN HAS KEPT THE ROOFLIGHT CO AT THE FOREFRONT FOR 30 YEARS

28 WHAT'S IN A NAME? Ian Weakford, The Rooflight Association

30 WHAT IS THE REAL RISK OF FIRE FROM SOLAR PANELS? Richard Williams, Aztec Solar Energy Ltd

34 THE USE OF LEAD SHEET IN CONSTRUCTION Ian Harvey, Lead Contractors Association

36 CORE LESSONS IN LEAD TRAINING John Lewis, Lead Sheet Training Academy

40 RAAC - WHAT IS IT AND WHY IS IT A PROBLEM? Kyle Hargreaves, Graham + Sibbald

44 HISTORIC ROOF SECURITY SET IN SLATE

48 THE RENOVATION AND RE-ROOFING OF THE QUAKER MEETING HOUSE

52 STRUGGLING TO SOURCE INDIGENOUS SLATE FOR HERITAGE BUILDINGS? Richard Cook, SSQ

54 THE ROOST PARTNERSHIP: WORKING WITH INDUSTRY TO CREATE HABITAT FOR BATS Jo Ferguson, Bat Conservation Trust

58 DEVELOPER PROSECUTED FOR BREAKING BAT LICENCE TERMS

60 WASTEWOOD RULE CHANGE - AN UPDATE

62 HOW SCHEDULE 3 AND THE NEW SUDS RULES IMPACT ROOFING CONTRACTORS Neill Robinson-Welsh, ACO Building Drainage

64 NEWS, PRODUCTS, PROJECTS & PEOPLE



20



22



54



34



62

LRWA Headline Sponsor for 2024 Awards & Gala Dinner Announced

The Liquid Roofing and Waterproofing Association (LRWA) has announced Sika as the headline sponsor for its Awards & Gala Dinner 2024.

Speaking about the sponsorship, Mark Gatrell Business Unit Manager for Roofing at Sika, said: “Having seen the LRWA Awards & Gala Dinner go from strength to strength over the years, we’re proud to be showing our support as a headline sponsor. The opportunity to recognise high-quality projects and workmanship plays a vital role in raising awareness of the benefits of liquid-applied membranes while helping to boost morale.

“As always, we’re looking forward to being part of another stand-out event and celebrating with all those that make our sector so successful.”

The LRWA Awards & Gala Dinner returns to the Titanic Hotel in Liverpool on 20 March 2024.

LRWA members seeking to win an award can enter four categories, including ‘Liquid Roofing Project of the Year over 1000m²’, ‘Liquid Roofing Project



of the Year under 1000m²’, ‘Liquid Waterproofing Project of the Year, and ‘Liquid Roofing Project of the Year in a Buried Application.’ Individual awards for ‘Trainer of the Year’ and ‘Student of the Year’ will also be revealed at the event.

Sarah Spink, CEO of the LRWA, said: “We’re incredibly grateful to Sika and our other supporters for helping us to launch our sixth LRWA Awards & Gala Dinner. Thanks to their backing, we’re set for another sell-out event bringing more than 300 contractors, clients, manufacturers, and suppliers together.

“Every year, the standard of entries gets higher and we’re confident that 2024 will be no exception, ensuring the awards remain a highlight in the roofing industry calendar.”

Sika Amongst First to Achieve CCPI Verification



Sika was amongst the first companies to have their construction products achieve verification by the Code for Construction Product Information (CCPI) in September 2023.

The company’s single ply roofing systems will carry the CCPI mark, giving confidence that product information is clear, accurate, accessible, up-to-date, and unambiguous. Dame Judith Hackitt’s Independent Review into Building Safety led to the CCPI scheme to help drive transparent product information.

More products are already in the verification pipeline. Companies working on product sets include:

Axter, Bauder, BTS Facades, CGL Systems Ltd, Euroform Products, Fire Protection Ltd, Knauf Insulation, Marley, PFC-Corofil, Recticel, Siderise, Soprema, Tenmat, Valcan and VJ Technology.

Amanda Long, CCPI CEO, said: “The CCPI assessment and verification is a robust process looking not just at the product set information for verification but also the company culture and management systems to support a high standard of product information management. Next, we will see the demand-side seeking out CCPI verified products as we roll out our Supporters Offer and our Merchants and Distributors Code”.

Stuart Wheeler Roofing Takes International Pitched Roofing Crown

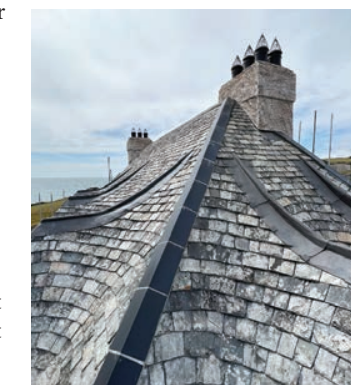
Stuart Wheeler Roofing Ltd, has been crowned the winner of the Pitched Roofing category at the International Federation of the Roofing Trade (IFD) Awards 2023, for his roof slating project: Yellowsands, Thurlestone.

This follows the project securing the Roof of the Year Award at NFRC’s 2023 UK Roofing Awards in May. Yellowsands also won in the Roof Slating category for Stuart Wheeler Roofing Ltd before attaining the top award.

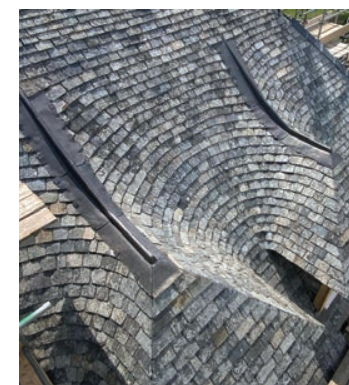
The IFD Awards took place in Bolzano, Italy, in the south Tyrol. NFRC CEO, James Talman, was in attendance and accepted the award on behalf of Stuart Wheeler Roofing Ltd, an NFRC member company.

The IFD has member roofing associations from all over the world. Other projects that were shortlisted in the pitched roofing category came from the USA and South Africa.

Stuart Wheeler, Director of Stuart Wheeler Roofing Ltd, said: “What a year it’s been! Firstly, winning the UK Roofing Awards was an incredible achievement for myself and my company, and something I had always set out to do — but



always thinking it was a dream! It’s an incredible feeling to have achieved this accolade.



“It was then brought to my attention that we are nominated for the international awards,

something that I wouldn’t have even dreamt of, and given the competition, was just happy and proud to be part of. But then to find out we won, that was extremely special to me.

“For my little roofing company in Cornwall to bring home the international award is truly remarkable, and I’m so proud of what my team have achieved on this project, and the recognition it has gained as a result.

“It’s an honour to have done this for the UK, and more importantly for traditional slate roofing. We love it!”

James Talman, NFRC CEO, said: “It was a pleasure to attend the IFD Awards in the South Tyrol and accept this award on Stuart’s behalf. This project displays excellent workmanship in roof slating and we are so pleased to see it receive recognition on the international stage, taking victory over other brilliant shortlisted pitched roofing projects from the USA and South Africa.”

“This is a testament to what smaller roofing companies, and younger people in our industry, can achieve through acquired professional skills and commitment to their trade.”

Brickability £45m Acquisition of Topek Holdings Limited

Brickability Group plc, the construction materials distributor, has announced its £45m acquisition of Topek Holdings Limited, a specialist cladding installation and remediation contractor.

The acquisition gives Brickability the entire issued share capital of Group Topek Holdings Limited.

Topek offers a range of services which Brickability says will complement its existing cladding portfolio. The portfolio includes Taylor Maxwell Cladding, SBS Cladding, and Architectural Facades.

Established in 1981, Glasgow-based Topek installs cladding and rainscreen systems. In the 12 months to 31 August



2023, Topek generated unaudited revenue of £21.2m and adjusted EBITDA of c.£8.0m.

Payment for the acquisition is an initial cash sum of £27.3m payable on completion, subject to final working capital adjustments to acquire the business on a cash-free, debt-free basis. This is followed by a deferred conditional payment of up to £17.7m.

The deferred payment is subject to performance over the next three years. To provide Brickability with future flexibility, it has the ability, but not the obligation, to settle deferred payments by issuing new ordinary Brickability Group shares.

John Richards, Chairman, Brickability, said: “This acquisition is the Group’s second largest to date, and a very exciting

one in our continued diversification strategy. The acquisition of Taylor Maxwell in 2021 delivered a significant increase in exposure to public and commercial end markets, and the addition of Topek further increases our presence in these markets.

Douglas Bryce, Managing Director, Topek, said: “We are excited to be joining the Brickability Group, adding our excellent product to their portfolio and allowing us the opportunity to provide our clients a broader offering of solutions. The team at Brickability has built a formidable operation and we look forward to working alongside them in exploring new opportunities.”

Varla Cladding Enters Administration Making 33 Staff Redundant

Varla Cladding Limited has entered into administration making all 33 staff redundant with immediate effect.

Varla Cladding Ltd appointed RSM UK Restructuring Advisory LLP as liquidators on 9 October 2023, after Roofing Today first broke the news on 26 September. The company reportedly was unable to pay staff to the end of September. It has also been disclosed that the business has not paid staff’s pension deductions accumulated during the past year, meaning the workforce will not benefit from the sums in their pension pots.

The York-based flat roofing and cladding subcontractor specialists installed zinc, copper, stainless



steel and aluminium roofs, as well as cladding, on both domestic and commercial projects. They also introduced working on pitched roofing in recent years.

Varla undertook some cladding remediation work and was supplied by many major manufacturers in the industry.

In the director’s statement lodged at the end of 2021, it states, “Although the current economic climate creates both cashflow and profitability risks for the company, the directors believe on balance that they have sufficient resources to enable trading to continue for a period of at least one year.”

They stated that while the company had net assets of £1,989, net liabilities were £336,434. Despite this, the directors were willing to support the company “for the foreseeable future”.

The company’s record shows investors Silex Management Ltd resigned as directors on 19 September 2023 after having supported the business since 2014. It is not yet known if the company will leave any unpaid debts.

Varla Cladding Limited was established in May 2012, after previous business Varla (UK) Ltd (V Realisations 2012 Ltd) was closed owing £2m. The company was eventually dissolved in 2019 after a 7-year liquidation process.

Re-launched Rooflight Association Sets New Goals



The Rooflight Association, formerly the National Association of Rooflight Manufacturers, held its first general meeting since its re-brand, at Swindon's National Self Build & Renovation Centre in September 2023.

The Association's goals for the coming years were discussed as the trade body has now opened its membership to contractors, installers, specifiers, consultants, distributors and other businesses or individuals involved in the rooflight industry.

Ian Weakford, Rooflight Association Chairman, said: "Our mission has always been to support best practice and to ensure growth and sustainability in our industry. Broadening our

membership base will enable us to address these goals more effectively, with a unified voice that represents and supports the whole sector. In addition to our ongoing close involvement with influential industry working groups, legislators and standards bodies, we are now also developing new initiatives to engage with and support our new membership groups".

Guest speaker Sarah Spink, LRWA CEO said: "We support the Rooflight Association and share a common mission to support excellence and professionalism in the roofing sector. It was a pleasure to share my experiences as a trade association CEO and to meet up with like-minded colleagues and friends."

SD Samuels Investigation Continues

SD Samuels (Special Projects) Ltd, roofing and cladding contractor business, has clarified that debts owing to creditors will not be paid.

In addition, Quantum Advisory, the joint administrators appointed to close the company, say that they are continuing to investigate the conduct of the directors in the lead up to the firm's closure.

In a statement the administrators confirmed that there were unsecured debts of £5,375,402 owing at the time of the company entering administration in December 2022. They explained that they carried out a review of the company's affairs after it closed, but the directors

were not required to provide the firm's books and records under the terms of the Asset Sale Agreement as they belonged to the purchaser (SD Samuels Ltd).

However, the directors of SD Samuels (Special Projects) Ltd completed questionnaires and the information has formed a confidential report on the directors' conduct, now given to the Insolvency Service.

In the Administrator's Progress Report, they add that they have revealed matters which they consider merit further investigation and the their enquiries are ongoing. They say they are unable to comment further as it may prejudice the investigations.

Company Prosecuted After Fallen Roof Slate Injures Small Child

A fallen roof slate fractured the skull of a three-year-old child leading to three companies being prosecuted in Bournemouth Crown Court with fines totalling £420,000.

The slate fell off the roof during a re-roof of the Moonfleet Manor hotel near Weymouth, Dorset, and struck the small girl on 13 June 2019.

The little girl had been leaving the hotel with her father and older brother after attending a swimming lesson. She received first aid and was later taken to hospital where she was put into an induced coma to stabilise her. She then underwent a two-hour operation to remove fragments of slate from her head.

The slate fell approximately five metres off the roof, which was being renovated by Rocare Building Services Ltd. The company had stacked slate on scaffolding around the roof, where one slate fell off.

Rocar Building Services had been appointed by Moonfleet Manor as the principal contractor.

Quadra Built Environmental Consultancy Limited had been hired by Moonfleet Manor as the principal designer. The company failed to properly assess the risks of objects falling from height. There was also insufficient consultation and collaboration between the duty holders, the court heard.

Health and Safety Executive (HSE) investigators found the scaffolding was not fit for purpose

because it did not have sufficient measures to prevent items falling, such as protective fans, covered walkways or, at a minimum, brick guards around the perimeter. Such measures are cheap and readily available, HSE says.

Moonfleet Manor ignored requests and failed to put in measures to address an obvious hazard of falling objects. Moonfleet Manor was more concerned about the convenience of the guests and preventing the hotel from looking like a building site, than the safety of their guests, the judge found.

At Bournemouth Crown Court on 24 October 2023 Rocare Building Services Ltd, Ringwood, Hampshire, pleaded guilty and was fined £160,000 and ordered to pay costs of £15,554.78.

Quadra Built Environmental Consultancy Ltd, of Lechlade On Thames, Gloucestershire, was found guilty and fined £60,000 and ordered to pay £25,000 in costs.

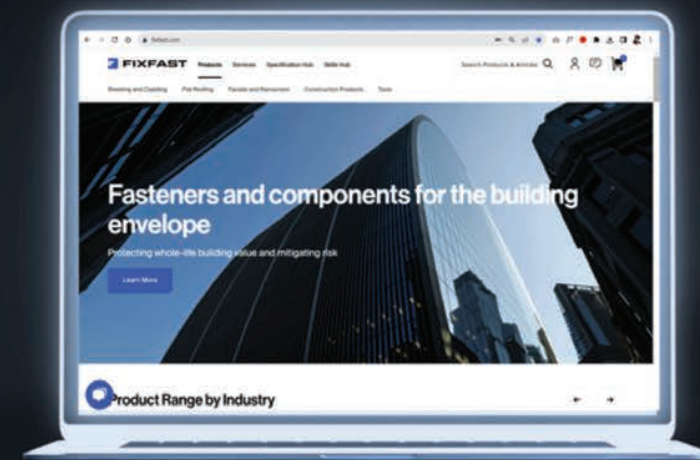
LFH (Moonfleet Manor) Ltd of London, was found guilty and fined £200,000 and ordered to pay £143,482.04 in costs.

HSE inspector Nicole Buchanan said: "This incident has caused significant injuries and extreme distress to a child and her family; and could have been fatal.

"Clients and construction companies must always remember their legal duty to keep both workers and members of the public safe."



New brand. New website / Same great service.



You can now get quick quotes and place express orders online 24/7 at [Fixfast.com](https://www.fixfast.com). And with everything organised in a new dedicated 'projects' area, it's never been easier to get the support you need from us. **Try [Fixfast.com](https://www.fixfast.com) today.**



Roofing Apprentices Return from Vocational Trip of a Lifetime

Two Leeds College of Building students had an “incredible experience” after gaining places on an all-expenses-paid trip to northern Spain for three days.

The Roof Slating and Tiling apprentices travelled to the CUPA PIZARRAS quarries in Ponferrada to see first-hand where slate is excavated and manufactured for international distribution. The quarries are the largest tectonic natural slate reserves in the world.

Apprentices Andrew Addison (employed by Historic England) and Sam Edwards (from Swadlincote Roofing) were selected for their exceptional standard of work and commitment to their training over the last academic year.

College Partnership

The trip was made possible by the partnership Leeds College of Building (LCB) has with CUPA PIZARRAS. CUPA supports LCB’s roofing department and donates roofing supplies such as



its natural slate range through Burton Roofing Merchants Ltd.

Accompanied by LCB roofing lecturer Dale Yates, the apprentices saw for themselves the production of slate on a massive scale at the world’s largest slate quarry. They saw how stone is extracted from the ground, selected, and hand-split ready for transport to roofing markets around the world.

The pair visited the on-site showroom, toured the immense



quarry site, watched demonstrations, and tried out some of the techniques themselves.

Dale Yates said: “This trip was an unbelievable opportunity for our apprentices to see the impressive infrastructure needed for production and distribution of natural slate from the world’s largest quarry. Thanks to CUPA for making us all feel extremely welcome. Everyone involved had a fantastic time. Learners and staff (including myself) took away valuable knowledge, along with an experience we will never forget.

“It’s so rewarding to see apprentices benefit from inspiring experiences like this because of the College’s established partnerships. Many students never normally get opportunities like this, and they are truly life changing. It’s great to recognise and reward the hard work of roofing apprentices and show them what opportunities are available out there in a global industry.”

Roofer Jailed for False ID after Drink Driving with Children in Van

A roofer has been jailed after he gave a false ID to police when he was stopped and found to be almost twice over the alcohol limit when driving with a woman and two children in his van.

Shaun Hinchcliffe was jailed for four months by Leeds Crown Court on 3 October 2023 after pleading guilty to attempting to pervert the course of justice. Hinchcliffe had given a false name, date of birth and address to police.

Patrolling officers had pulled the van driver over in Wakefield, at around 8pm on the 8th May last year with the passengers in the van.

The court heard that the police checked the details Hinchcliffe provided through the system and they initially appeared to be correct. However, when his fingerprints were taken at the police station in Normanton around an hour later, his true identity was uncovered. A breathalyser test showed Hinchcliffe was almost double the

legal alcohol limit with 64 mcgs of alcohol in 100 mls of breath. The legal limit is 35 mcgs.

A serial offender, the 42-year-old, of Balne Avenue, Wakefield, has 16 previous convictions for 35 offences, the case prosecutor told the judge.

In mitigation, the defending lawyer said Hinchcliffe ran his own roofing business which employed five people. He said the defendant has been unable to work because of back and knee problems. He added that, should

Hinchcliffe be jailed, his roofing business could fold.

But Judge Simon Batiste queried how the business was still operating if Hinchcliffe is currently unfit to work, saying the defence “did not fit together”. He ordered that Hinchcliffe was jailed for four months.

Shaun Hinchcliffe was later dealt with by the magistrates’ court for the drink-driving charge. He received a 16-month driving ban and was fined £120.

Roofing Sheet Family Business Acquired

Dave Jessop Ltd, an industrial roofing and sheet metal fabrication business based in Hull, was successfully acquired by a private investor on 28 September.

Operating for three decades as a family-run business, Dave Jessop is experienced in the industrial,



domestic and agricultural markets. The firm manufactures and supplies bespoke sheeting, guttering and flashings.

The business’s owners, Dave and Davena Jessop sold to Pierce and Geddes after deciding to retire after more than 20 years in the business.



CHOOSE QUALITY

Choose Danelaw

DOWNLOAD NOW



Our latest product guide has been updated with new products and is ready to either collect from your nearest roofing merchant or download by scanning the code.



PITCHED ROOFING



FLAT ROOFING



ROOF LIGHTS

hambleside-danelaw.co.uk

Hambleside Danelaw Building Products

Winners of the 2023 Scottish Roofing Awards

The awards luncheon for the 2023 Scottish Roofing Awards was held on Friday 27 September at the Grand Central Hotel, Glasgow. The winners were announced across eight project categories as well as Young Roofer of the Year.

The winners are:

Roof Slating (sponsored by Onestop Roofing Supplies)

John Fulton Plumbing and Roofing, for Stirling Railway Station

Roof Tiling (sponsored by ICB Waterproofing)

MAC Roofing & Contracting Ltd, for Edinburgh Futures Institute

Fully Supported Metal

Ashton Building Systems (Scotland) Ltd, for Old Boroughmuir High School, Edinburgh



NFRC Scotland Awards 2023 Fully Supported Metal category winner: Ashton Building Systems (Scotland) Ltd, for Old Boroughmuir High School, Edinburgh.



NFRC Scotland Awards 2023 Single Ply category winner: BriggsAmasco, for Westburn Gardens, Westburn.



NFRC Scotland Awards 2023 Roof Tiling category winner: Edinburgh Futures Institute: MAC Roofing & Contracting Ltd



NFRC Scotland Awards 2023 Roof Slating category winner: Sterling Railway Station: John Fulton Plumbing and Roofing

Heritage (sponsored by CUPA PIZARRAS)

MAC Roofing & Contracting Ltd, for Edinburgh Futures Institute

Reinforced Bituminous Membrane (sponsored by Bauder)

Procladd (Scotland) Ltd, for Cadworks, Glasgow

Rainscreen (sponsored by Fixing Point)

North East Contracts Ltd, for Aurora Apartments, Aberdeen

Single Ply (sponsored by Sika)

BriggsAmasco, for Westburn Gardens, Westburn

Small Scale Project

Edinburgh Leadcraft Ltd, for Fettes College Cricket Pavilion

Young Roofer of the Year (sponsored by IRT Scotland)

Hamish Morgan, Hume Roofing and Property Maintenance

Immensely Deserving

Scott Miller, NFRC Scotland Chair, said: "We're very pleased to be able to recognise and celebrate the achievements of this year's winners, all of whom are immensely deserving of the accolade and beat impressive competition."



NFRC Scotland Awards 2023 Rainscreen category winner: North East Contracts Ltd, for Aurora Apartments, Aberdeen.



FLEECEBACK EPDM & POLYURETHANE LIQUID WATERPROOFING SOLUTIONS FOR FLAT ROOFS



National Library Wales

At Flex-R we believe that a quality roof is more than just the products that go into it - it's also the support and service that assist you throughout the entire process.

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

- ▶ Roof surveys and roof condition reports
- ▶ Assistance with the design process
- ▶ NBS specifications
- ▶ Product selection assistance
- ▶ Contractor technical support
- ▶ Network of registered installers
- ▶ Contractor training
- ▶ BBA certified systems

CONTACT FLEX-R TODAY TO SEE HOW WE CAN SUPPORT YOU

01494 448 792 | enq@flex-r.co.uk | www.flex-r.co.uk



Flat Roofing Upskilling Opportunities in the North West



Level 2 Vocational Qualification (NVQ) in Liquid Applied Roofing

The North West region is now able to offer several upskilling opportunities for contractors involved in flat roofing, which includes the LWRA Specialist Applied-Skills programme (SAP). This is a fully grant aided 18-month training programme that leads to a Level 2 Vocational Qualification (NVQ) in Liquid Applied Roofing. The course consists of 12 months' classroom and practical training followed by a 6-month period of on-site assessment. Once completed, each candidate will achieve an NVQ Level 2 qualification. The location is at Sika Preston.

10 Day RBM Upskilling

Also taking place at Sika, Preston, providing there is a commitment by at least 6 candidates, is a 10-day upskilling programme in



RBM which will take place over 5 months (2 days per month with the first 2 modules taking place 5/6 December). The cost is £800 + VAT. For eligible CITB employers, however, this amount could be part of an application for grant from the CITB Skills & Training fund, so, could finish up as a zero cost, apart from travel and time.

It's critical that places are booked now to ensure the training provider can make arrangements.

Specialist Applied-Skills Programme (SAP) in Single Ply

The Single Ply Roofing Association (SPRA) has recently announced that a Specialist Applied-Skills Programme (SAP) in single ply, with a start date of March 2024, will also take place at Sika in Preston.

Specialist Applied-Skills Programme (SAP) in RBM

Finally, CITB is considering approval for a Specialist Applied-

Skills Programme (SAP) in RBM. It is currently included as part of the two-year Waterproof Membrane apprenticeship, which includes RBM, Liquid, & Single Ply. However, feedback from several contractors indicates that they are not prepared to commit to the two-years training when their main roofing discipline is RBM and needs can be fulfilled in around half the time.

Contact NWRTG for more information nwrooftraining@gmail.com.

Considering the Value of Experience

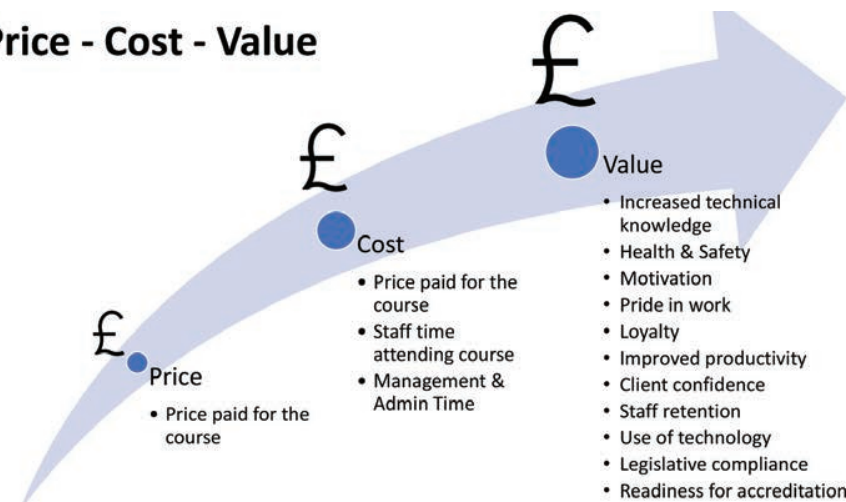
It's easy to look at the price of a training course, or its overall cost to the business, without considering the full value offered.

Training makes a real difference to a business and is fundamental to growth, directly affecting the safety, culture and morale of a business whilst increasing skills and profitability.

In these times of great competition between roofing companies to attract the very best, most qualified and skilled roofers, training can often be a real incentive which will support staff retention. If you are active on social media not a day goes by without seeing an advert for roofing operatives.

Regional Roof Training Groups offer a comprehensive service to roofing companies, covering all aspects of training, development, recruitment and retention.

Price - Cost - Value



Group training officers collectively have over 100 years of experience of sourcing, advising and providing training. Last year, NRTG member groups delivered over 7,000 days of training with a listed price of £678,245 – but, importantly, with a 28% saving to members.

Alongside grant eligible training, Groups also delivered an average of 50 apprenticeships and commissioned or delivered 300 NVQs each year over the past three years while collectively delivering excellence through experience, collaboration and expertise.

Check out www.nationalrooftraining.co.uk to find your regional roof training expert.



EJOT®

Colorfast®

Yet another mark of approval. ✓



Made in Yorkshire,
specified and trusted worldwide!

The EJOT Colorfast system provides the ultimate 'tried, tested and trusted' installation choice for profiled metal sheets.

Colorfast's integral nylon head is designed to transmit a consistent torque and aims to eliminate over-driving. And that's just the start! By creating a perfect seal between head, thread and sheet, Colorfast products provide the highest possible corrosion resistance, with over 30 years real-time data that continues to ensure lifetime product performance and confidence in application.

Now the reassurance of Colorfast standards and reliability has been recognised with the international FM mark of approval. Visit EJOT online to learn more, or go to www.roofnav.com for the full FM approved product range and data.

- Manufactured and supplied worldwide exclusively by EJOT UK for 30 years
- Proven long term protection
- Available in organically coated carbon steel & bi-metallic stainless steel A2 & A4
- Durable low profile nylon moulded head, discreet and unobtrusive
- Eliminates damage to the fastener head during installation
- Helps prevent thermal conductivity through the roof / wall
- Around 400 BS / RAL colours with bespoke colour matching available



EJOT Colorfast® Made in Yorkshire. Trusted worldwide.



Talk to your EJOT Sales Engineer
Visit ejot.co.uk
Email SalesUK@ejot.com
Customer Service 01977 687 040



Jonathan Pratt, FP McCann's National Roof Tile Manager is introducing the new products to the UK market.

Inside the Factory: FP McCann's New £30m Roof Tile Manufacturing Facility

Production is now ramping up at FP McCann's recently opened, state-of-the-art concrete roof tile manufacturing facility which will supply a range of concrete roofing tiles and accessories to the UK market. Roofing Today visited the facility to find out about the company's launch into the roofing sector.

FP McCann is the UK's largest manufacturer and supplier of precast concrete solutions and the company is still owned and managed by the McCann family. With a beginning as a small quarry and asphalt surfacing operation, FP McCann was established as a business by Francis McCann in the 1970s in Northern Ireland. The, now, £300m turnover business has 12 plants across the UK employing around 1700 people. Managed by a Board of five McCann brothers and a sister, Paul McCann steers the day-to-day management of the roof tile division, overseeing the new manufacturing site.

Fully Automated System

The brand-new, fully automated concrete roof tile production system, based in Cadeby, in Leicestershire, near Nuneaton, has the capacity to produce 60 million roof tiles each year. Just as impressively, because the factory is automated, its energy demands are comparatively low allowing it

to be 100% powered by solar panels.

Jonathan Pratt, FP McCann's National Roof Tile Manager, explained that the new facility is supplying a premium package of concrete tiles together with complementary accessories, all designed and tested to British Standard BS5534 and compliant with NHBC requirements. He said: "FP McCann is a company already well-known for its premium construction brands. We are committed to being the best, offering high quality products at competitive prices and want to become recognised for making the best quality concrete roofing tiles on the market."

FP McCann's 'Thin Flat' and 'Thin Flat Duo' tiles are thin leading edge, interlocking concrete roof tiles which give a slate-like appearance when laid half broken bond. The modern, low-profile tiles are available in Anthracite Grey, Terracotta and Brown, and feature a smooth

non-textured finish and bullnose edge. The 'Seawave' is FP McCann's profiled tile with a subtle soft-roll design. The classic double pantile lends itself to both traditional and contemporary architectural styles. Lead times are as little as 3-5 days.

Commenting on the new products, Jonathan said: "On the launch of our premium concrete roof tile range, we guarantee the highest standards of quality whilst also providing the market with a low-cost solution to all their pitched roofing requirements."

"Following thorough testing for wind uplift and water resistance, FP McCann can confidently confirm that all three tile formats are installable to a 17.5° pitch whilst maintaining integrity and water tightness when installed and fixed to BS5534 standards."

Jonathan added, "As part of our extensive package, we also have the 'Multi-Ridge' concrete tile which can be fixed on both the ridge and hip of the roof. This universal ridge tile can be used

with both the Thin Flat Tiles and the Seawave Tile and bonded using FP McCann's own 'FastDry Fix' systems, or alternatively, bedded with FP McCann Roof Tile Bedding Mortar in accordance with BS5534."

Roofing Accessory Range

FP McCann also boasts an extensive collection of quality roofing accessories chosen and designed to work with the full roof tile range, each compliant with BS5534 and NHBC guidelines.

The range includes dry fix solutions such as the Handed Dry

Right: Factory Manager, Michael Flammia brings decades of experience of commissioning manufacturing production lines. One of the innovations he's brought to the FP McCann operation is a factory-wide, 'kiosk system'. The centralised, paperless, daily communication system automatically emails to personnel's tablets keeping them updated on H&S, SOPs, and any faults needing attention. It stores all induction materials, toolbox talks, holiday records etc., so that everything can be accessed, monitored and recorded - and never gets lost!

Verge, Dry Ridge & Hip Kits suitable for ventilating FP McCann's 'Multi Ridge'; the in-line 'McCannVent' tile; Eave Ventilation Systems; 150gsm Vapour Permeable Membrane suitable for all wind zones; GRP Valley Troughs and Fixings and Clips. The FP McCann Roof offering is covered in its entirety by a 15-year guarantee which gives the client confidence that

the system can be installed with performance assured.

Concrete Tile Production

Michael Flammia (pictured bottom left) is the Factory Manager who has overseen installation of the up to the minute concrete tile manufacturing equipment in the new factory to produce FP McCann's premium concrete roof

tiles. With decades of manufacturing experience in the roofing industry, Michael has designed the Vortex technology lines and is working through the commissioning process. "We're taking the time to get it right", he says.

"Quality is our number one priority so we're ensuring that any problems are being ironed

out now to guarantee a premium product we can all take pride in as the market leader."

Michael explained that a continuous series of quality checks for weight, dimensions, strength and permeability are undertaken to ensure only roof tiles making the grade leave the factory.



FP McCann's site at Cadeby can manufacture up to 60 million roof tiles a year, making it the largest roof tile manufacturer in the UK.



The fully automated process is so energy efficient it can be driven by solar power.

11-



Quality is our number one priority so we're ensuring that any problems are being ironed out now to guarantee a premium product we can all take pride in as the market leader.

Left: a 50 row carousel racking system allows the paint to dry before the tiles are stacked in packs of 38.

Below right: The packs of tiles are relayed onto a strapping and palletising line and placed on wooden pallets. Extra protection is provided with a recyclable stretch hooding bag and a chain conveyor then transports the pallets into storage.

Below left: The robotised packing line takes tiles from the rotary dryer to the pallet in a fully automated process.



The fully automated process to make FP McCann's concrete roof tiles starts with the mixing of sand, cement, iron oxide and water in controlled measures in a planetary mixer to produce a semi-dry concrete composition.

The semi-dry tile mix is then conveyed to a hopper, where it is extruded onto aluminium moulds and cut to the precise tile lengths at a rate of 140 tiles per minute.

Each mould and tile is then automatically transferred at a rate of 140 a minute into a rotary curing system (akin to a kiln)

which is heated to between 40 and 500C. The chemical reaction in the tile's cement releases heat, and the air is regulated as it circulates by sensors to control humidity and temperature levels to achieve the optimum curing time and tile strength.

The second stage of the curing process sees the tiles loaded onto a large circular rack that slowly rotates for around 24 hours. Next, reaching an unloader, each roof tile passes through an automatic de-moulding machine that parts the tile from its mould. Because

the moulds are aluminium they expand as they heat and separate from the sides of the tile, releasing it. The mould is then returned to the first stage of the process, ready for its next tile.

The tiles continue on the production line to a paint booth where two coats of acrylic water-based paint are applied to seal the tiles. A 50 row carousel racking system allows the paint to dry before the tiles are stacked in packs of 38. The packs are finally relayed onto a strapping and palletising line and placed on wooden pallets. Extra protection

is provided with a recyclable stretch hooding bag and a chain conveyor then transports the pallets into storage. The curing process is completed after about four weeks of storage to allow moisture content to reduce to around 3%.

Kiosk System

An in-factory laboratory is planned and Michael explained there are a number of other technologies to optimise efficiency in the factory. Each line can make multi profiles and a centralised, bespoke kiosk system enables communication of daily operational information to be paperless, realtime and sitewide for all personnel. The whole factory is operating at zero waste and solar panels are producing all the power demanded (minimised by automation) as well generating some electricity for sale back to the grid.

Currently the factory is operating with one shift, but plans are already in place for phase two which will expand capacity to produce 100 million tiles per year, making FP McCann the largest roof tile manufacturer in the country. ■



CONCRETE ROOF TILES



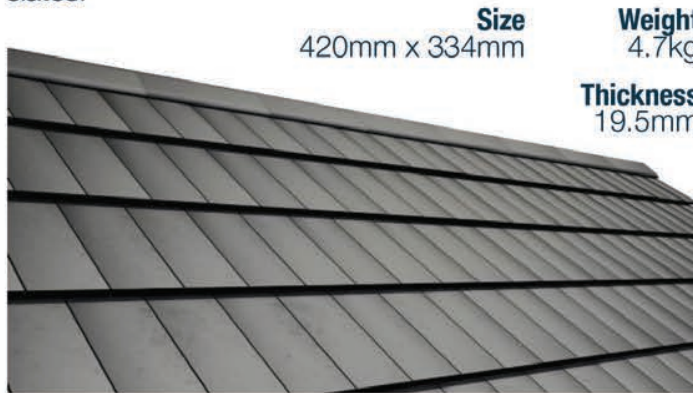
Introducing the brand new FP McCann range of high quality, machine produced Concrete Roof Tiles. Now available in a variety of profiles and colour options. FP McCann also boast an extensive range of roofing accessories, each specifically chosen and designed to work in cohesion with all aspects of the FP McCann Full Roof offering and are completely compliant with BS 5534 and NHBC guidelines.

COLOUR OPTIONS

GREY	BROWN
ANTHRACITE	TERRACOTTA

DUO THIN FLAT CONCRETE ROOF TILE

The Duo Thin Flat tile is a classic low profile tile which proves very popular in new build and refurbishment projects alike. The thin leading edge interlocking slate designed to look like and blend in with small format slates.



Size
420mm x 334mm
Weight
4.7kg
Thickness
19.5mm

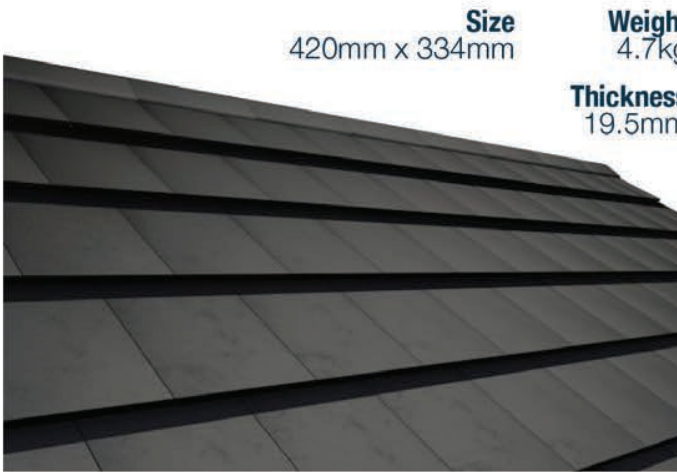
CONTACT JONATHAN PRATT
FP MCCANN NATIONAL ROOF TILE MANAGER
07740433860 | JPRATT@FPMCCANN.CO.UK



SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE OUR FULL CONCRETE ROOF TILE RANGE

THIN FLAT CONCRETE ROOF TILE

The Thin Flat tile is a thinner leading edge interlocking roof tile which gives a slate appearance when laid half broken bonded.



Size
420mm x 334mm
Weight
4.7kg
Thickness
19.5mm

SEAWAVE CONCRETE ROOF TILE

The Seawave tile is a standard profiled roof tile with a subtle soft roll design. This classic double pantile design lends itself to both traditional and contemporary styles.



Size
420mm x 334mm
Weight
4.5kg
Thickness
26mm

MULTI RIDGE CONCRETE ROOF TILE

The Multi Ridge tile is suitable for use on both the ridge and hip of the roof. It is primarily used on flat tiles or slates and can be fixed using McCannFast dry fix systems



Max Roof Pitch
45°
Size
457mm x 250mm
Weight
5kg



Adding Strength and Depth to the Building Envelope Project Team

Clare Fenton, Chair of the Metal Cladding & Roofing Manufacturers Association (MCRMA) explains why a variety of mainly small businesses providing specialist technical services are the unsung heroes of successful building envelope projects.



Key to the success of every building envelope project is, of course, the deployment of the right products and systems, designed, manufactured and installed in the correct way. However, a diverse range of skills, experience and expertise is required in projects of all sizes to meet client goals effectively, and this means creating a team that is not only capable, but sufficiently flexible to accommodate the inevitable challenges that are encountered along the way.

That's why the building envelope team selection, and indeed the squad that is available as a whole, is so important. Much like how a football manager preparing for the World Cup will need to consider the line-up of players needed to deal with a wide variety of situations, including the

To help roofing and cladding systems manufacturers and installers form their ideal building envelope team, the MCRMA has always welcomed members from a wide variety of 'industry support' businesses.

unknown, anyone responsible for delivering a construction project must have the right players available to maximise their chances of success.

Straight Into the Starting XI

To help roofing and cladding systems manufacturers and installers form their ideal building envelope team, the MCRMA has always welcomed members from a wide variety of 'industry support' businesses. Depending on the project, these businesses

may need to go straight into the starting XI if they are fundamental to the project, or they may be better placed strategically on the bench to provide an extra resource or specialism for the project should it be required.

Industry support members of the MCRMA include providers of building envelope design and detailing services, testing and accreditation services and consultants who can provide design calculations. The technically skilled disciplines

offered by these businesses are key to ensuring that a proposed building envelope system will meet the performance targets and comply with all legislative requirements, including the Building Regulations.

Equally crucial to the success of building envelope projects are independent inspectors. This is why the MCRMA membership includes businesses and individuals providing these services, not only to step in to assist when things go wrong, but also to work proactively with system designers, manufacturers and installers to reduce risk throughout the project.

There is also support for manufacturers and installers prior to the project through members whose specialism is in business development and technical marketing consultancy. Specialists

in these disciplines, who understand the dynamics of the building envelope sector, can play an extremely valuable role given their ability to help bring products and services to the market with a strong proposition and enable manufacturers and installers to win work as a result.

Insurance

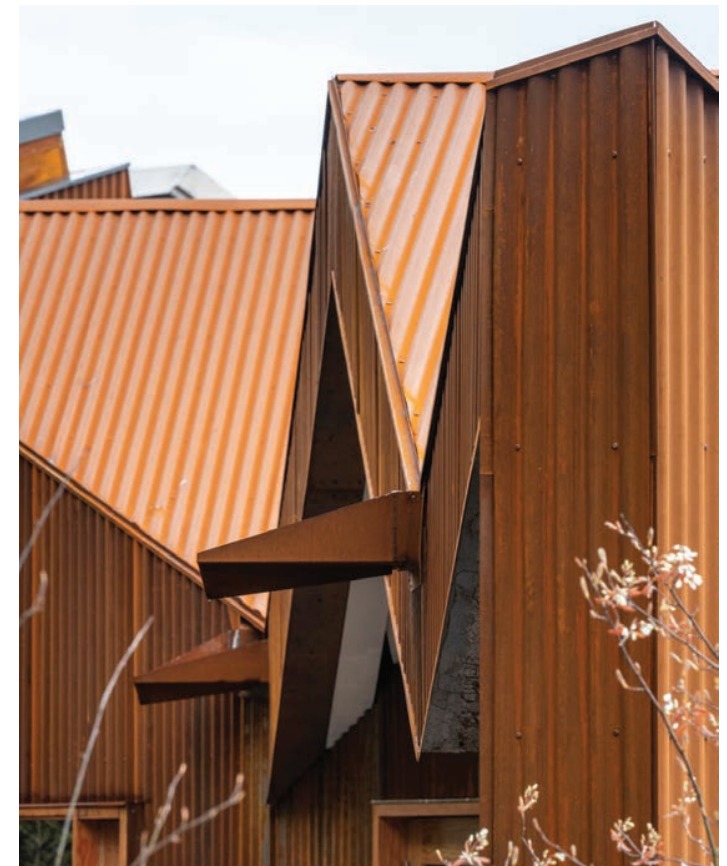
A final dimension to the MCRMA's industry support membership is insurance. Having a leading insurance provider available to support members is hugely important because they are able to advise on the necessary insurance and risk management procedures for all businesses involved in building envelope projects – helping them stay compliant and protected.

The depth and breadth of skills and technical expertise within our membership means we can support our mission to be 'the complete supply chain' – as we promote in the tagline next to our

logo. It also means our members are able to collaborate and access the support they need from early concept designs to post-installation inspection and maintenance in any roofing and cladding project which uses metal products or systems.

But there are broader benefits to the industry as a whole. Having a multi-dimensional membership is one of the reasons why the MCRMA has been able to develop extensive technical resources that are regarded as highly authoritative across the construction industry. This includes numerous technical whitepapers on different aspects of the metal building envelope, many of which are CPD certified, and training courses that are open to anyone looking to build their knowledge and skills in this important element of construction. III

To find out more about the support available from the MCRMA and to access its technical resources visit mcrma.co.uk.



SOPREMA
GROUP

CAMPOLIN FIBER SELF REINFORCED MEMBRANE WITH FIBER

We are pleased to introduce the new CAMPOLIN FIBER, a high-density acrylic resin that forms a waterproofing membrane, self-reinforced with fibers and without the need to add a reinforcement between layers. Suitable for a wide range of applications including:

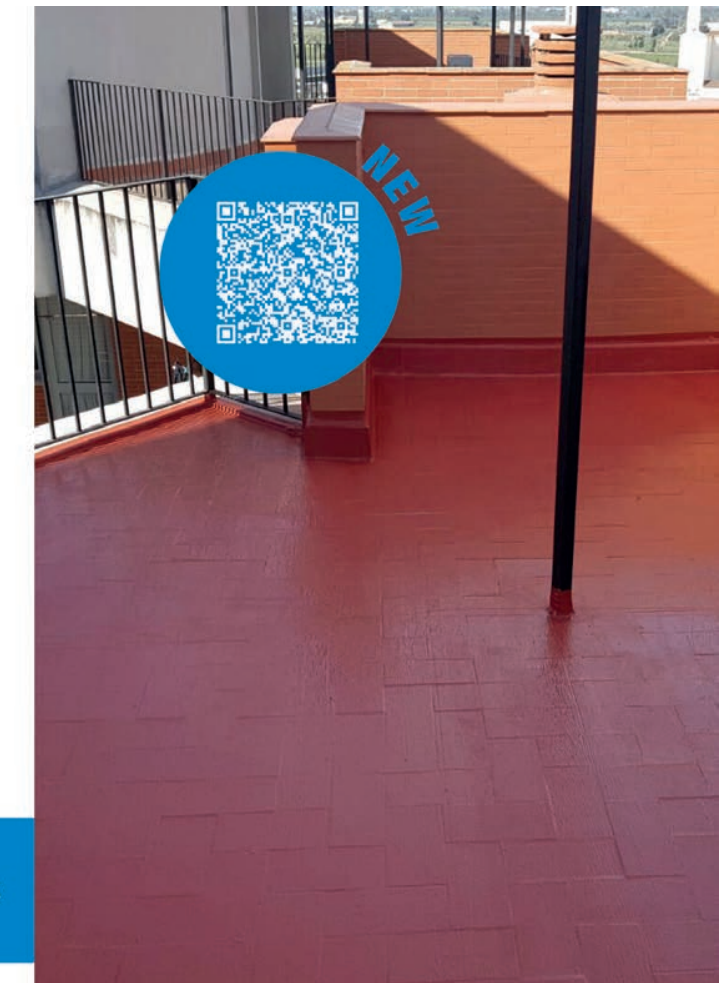
- ✓ Roofs with a minimum Slope of 2%
- ✓ Penthouses and terraces with pedestrian traffic
- ✓ Vaults
- ✓ Slab corners
- ✓ Parapets
- ✓ Partition walls
- ✓ Rain coatings

ADVANTAGES INCLUDE:

- ✓ Fully impervious to rainwater
- ✓ Great stretching capacity
- ✓ Age-resistant
- ✓ Weather-resistant
- ✓ High level of elasticity, including lower temperatures

CONTACT US TODAY

W: www.soprema.co.uk
E: techsupport@soprema.co.uk
T: 0330 058 0668



Why Overlooking Human Skills Could Hinder Professional Success

Kay Rose, CEO of the Institute of Roofing (IoR), explains which essential skills can help individuals enhance their career prospects, and why.



This year, I was once again invited to be on the judging panel of the BMI Apprentice of the Year event – an annual competition to find the UK's most promising apprentices and future leaders in roofing. Every year, the theme of the competition changes, and this time it was 'Skills for Life'. As part of the panel of judges, we examined a number of aspects of the apprentices' skills across the two-day event; from roofing expertise, to teamwork and business acumen, as well as presentation skills across both pitched and flat roofing categories.

The event for me, once again, was two of the most enjoyable days in my career. Watching the 20 finalists as they first arrive with the look of anticipation on their faces and not quite sure what the next few days held for them, it's fantastic to see them again at the end of the competition; beaming with confidence and already applying some of the skills they have learnt. The transformation is quite miraculous to see.

As a judge for the pitched roofing category, I collaborated with other industry experts to evaluate the finalists on various tasks set out for them. The exercises were designed to assess their critical thinking, communication and presentation skills, rather than purely testing their technical ability, which they had already proven by reaching the finals. One such task involved identifying roof defects and explaining their significance, and then proposing effective solutions. This exercise not only tested their technical understanding, but also emphasised the importance of customer service, developing their ability to speak to the client effectively and clearly.



I often think these soft skills can be overlooked when it comes to educating our younger generation. Should we not be teaching individuals skills such as how to deal with a crisis, effective communication skills and how to have difficult conversations in a professional setting?

Skills for Life

The beauty of the BMI Apprentice of the year event, I believe, is that these 'skills for life' are addressed in some capacity -

but more needs to be done across the wider sector and other industries if we are to effectively nurture and grow successful and skilled roofing professionals for tomorrow.

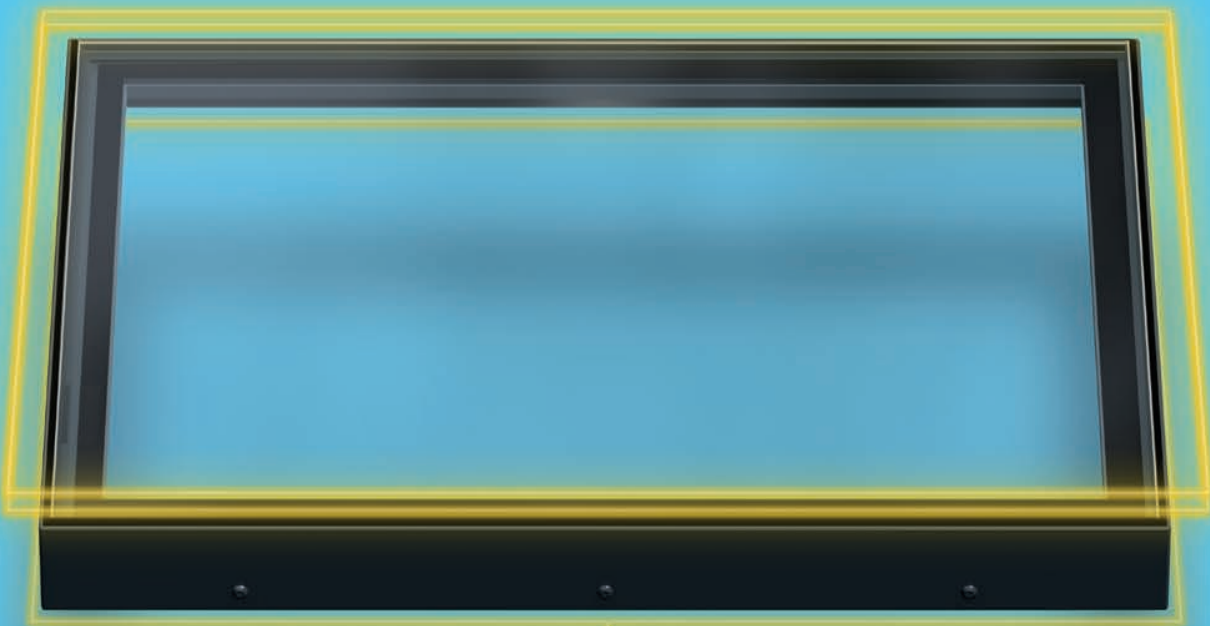
For a young individual fresh to the roofing industry, being able to present themselves and communicate with their clients generates a level of trust, which is invaluable in our highly competitive sector. I think many companies, although they may

I often think these soft skills can be overlooked when it comes to educating our younger generation. Should we not be teaching individuals skills such as how to deal with a crisis, effective communication skills and how to have difficult conversations in a professional setting?

invest heavily in the essential roofing skills training, knowledge and accreditations, can sometimes miss the bigger picture when it comes to nurturing and moulding ||-



Configure your way with the em.glaze Economy flat glass rooflight.



Premium Glass - CWCT CLASS 1

Non-fragile, tested to prevent falls and can be trafficked infrequently. Available in double or triple glazing.

Economy Glass - CWCT CLASS 3

Standard double glazed with toughened outer and laminated inner pane.



The budget-friendly em.glaze Economy is designed for choice.

With exceptional performance and a clean, minimal finish both inside and out, the **em.glaze Economy** is packed full of the latest innovations you've come to expect from Whitesales. All whilst economically priced to suit all mainstream applications.



Make the right choice; simply scan the QR Code or visit www.whitesales.co.uk/em-glaze

Features include:

- Flush glazed glass-to-edge design
- Thermally broken aluminium frame
- U-Values from 1.3W/m2K
- 3-5 days delivery for stock sizes
- Factory pre-glazed for easy installation
- Available in 11 stock sizes
- Any RAL colour



talent into well-rounded individuals. That is what we need to aim for in our work culture across all sectors.

Whilst watching the apprentices during the BMI competition, it was interesting to see which individuals were able to listen to others, communicate and collaborate well. These are skills, which even experienced professionals in roofing, may not all possess. Developing those vital relationships with peers, employers, future employees and clients is just as crucial as being awarded skill or exam-based certifications.

The Importance of Mentors

If you speak to anyone in our industry, we can probably all think of one particular person who we looked up to as a mentor. Having a knowledgeable, experienced and empathetic mentor to learn from at any stage in your career, is invaluable.

Every apprentice at the BMI event came with their tutor. The collaborative relationship between someone and their mentor helps to instil essential skills required for success - but being a mentor is an expertise in itself.

If you speak to anyone in our industry, we can probably all think of one particular person who we looked up to as a mentor. Having a knowledgeable, experienced and empathetic mentor to learn from at any stage in your career, is invaluable.

The IoR likes to encourage individuals to seek growth opportunities on how to effectively lead, and be open minded about accepting help and guidance from others, no matter what stage they are at in their careers.

Our online database of IoR courses cover many relevant topic areas in regards to developing mentor skills, such as Leadership Skills, Developing Teamwork, Negotiation Skills, Developing Good Employee Relations and Managing Meetings as just some examples.

A Positive Attitude

Having a positive attitude towards training will mean the industry is equipped with the skills and resources it needs to help keep us building in the future.

Whatever your job role, if you are looking for change, or if you are new to roofing; having the positive mindset to look for more is the first step to career progression - but it is down to the hard work and tenacity of the individual to go that extra mile.

As part of the IoR's commitment to promote continual upskilling and training, as well as personal growth, no matter what level you are working at, we have recently refreshed the Associate Course, which has been hugely successful already this year.

The Associate Course is designed for anyone considering a professional career in roofing, particularly with an eye to moving into a supervisory or management role.

The course includes a more interactive, presentation-led learning style. It provides essential skills and knowledge to enable candidates to progress in the roofing industry. The interactive learning element of the course focuses on those communication, inter-personal and presentation skills, and gives candidates an opportunity to put those into practice as well as learn from others.

Upon successful completion of the course, candidates will receive a Level 3 Award in Roofing Management from the Awarding Body of the Built Environment (ABBE).

A Bright Future

I am extremely grateful to BMI to have invited me once again this year to become a judge on the panel. As we collectively look towards the horizon of possibilities, it's these kinds of initiatives that fuel our optimism and drive for a thriving future within the roofing industry. We hope a confident and skilled workforce will lead the sector, with not only essential qualifications, but those vital skills for life. ■■■

Why Cedral slates are the solution for all your roofing needs

With decades of experience in the industry, Cedral has perfected the manufacturing of robust and resilient fibre cement building materials. Cedral is the UK's most experienced company in the fibre cement roofing sector and our slates are among the strongest in the market, with a minimum lifetime of 50 years.

How Cedral meets your building requirements

Strength

Cedral slates have more cement fibres and more fixings per square meter than any other roofing material and are designed to perform in the toughest weather conditions. Our slates can be placed on lighter trusses or frames without any additional reinforcement and work on low pitch options down to 20°.

Style

Slates come in a range of beautiful colours, textures and styles, making them exceptionally architecturally versatile. With a range of contemporary shades from classic greys to warm earthy tones, looks can be personalised using colour accents or elegant tone-on-tone effects. They are also the perfect complement to



traditional materials, such as brick, stone and wood, for stylish renovations.

Sustainability

Cedral slates have excellent environmental credentials, including an A+ rating, the lowest environmental impact as defined in the BRE's Green Guide to Specification. They have a low carbon footprint of 16 CO2e/m² and are rated "Very Good" by BES 6001 for responsible sourcing. They are produced through a clean, low energy production process and are an ideal low-maintenance roofing material.

Safety

Cedral products have an excellent fire classification of A2-s1, d0 to EN 13501-1:2018.

Support

Our commitment to housebuilders was amplified last year when we introduced a dedicated Business Development Manager focused on supporting individual construction projects from start to beyond finished. Get in touch to discuss how we can help with your bespoke requirements, from sample packs to specific documentation and certification. ■■■



Contact Cedral

Visit Cedral.world for more information, email us at info@cedral.co.uk or phone: +44 (0) 1283 501 555

Our products

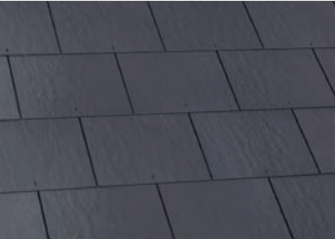
Rivendale is a premium choice with a natural slate appearance, beautifully textured surfaces and dressed edges.



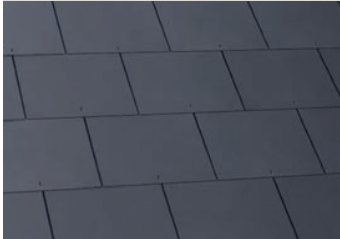
Birkdale offers a traditional slate finish at an affordable price, with smooth surfaces and dressed edges.



Thrutone Textured is a great-value low-profile slate with a natural textured finish.



Thrutone Smooth offers smooth surfaces and square cut edges that work particularly well with complex roof geometries.





Evolving Rooflight Design has Kept The Rooflight Co at the Forefront for 30 Years

This autumn marks the 30th anniversary of The Rooflight Co. To mark the occasion we look at how the company's offering has evolved beyond its Original Conservation Rooflight.

The introduction of Conservation Areas in the late 1960s was a response to public concern around the pace of redevelopment in towns and cities across the country. Designed to protect places of historic or architectural significance, the legislation imposes a statutory duty on local planning authorities to preserve and enhance conservation areas.

The design proved extremely popular with planners and conservation officers and was the beginning of a new era in rooflight design.

The company continues to develop new and innovative products and custom-designed top lighting solutions that have been utilized on a multitude of prestigious and award-winning properties.

Pitched Roof Solutions

The Original Conservation Rooflight is still the de facto choice for planners to uphold the existing character of a property. In 2007, the company launched their contemporary Neo[®] Rooflight and instantly created a timeless design that offers a minimalistic, frameless design with patented edge-to-edge glazing technology. The Neo[®] Rooflight offers a versatile solution for both conservation and contemporary applications.

Flat Roof Solutions

The Conservation Plateau encapsulates the same signature aesthetic as the Conservation Rooflight but for a flat roof. Whilst the Neo Advance[®] maximizes the versatile qualities of aluminium, using elegant lines and frameless finishes.

Alternative Roof Solutions

The Rooflight Co has also developed a comprehensive collection of solutions for alternative roofing styles.

Orangeries and garden rooms

Equally suited to contemporary or Victorian architecture, the Conservation Lantern Rooflight and Conservation Pyramid Rooflight provide a fine, aesthetically pleasing appearance with options to customize glazing, angle and size.

Ridgelight

The Ridgelight maximises glazing at the ridge and negates the need for a ridge beam in a sleek, contemporary rooflight solution that has almost limitless arrays and can be designed to suit any roof pitch.

High security

Approved for installation onto a concrete structural kerb for SR2 and SR3 and hardwood structural kerb for SR2, The Rooflight Co were the first company to have a rooflight to be Secured by Design certified to Loss Prevention Standard 1175.

Non-fragility and Walk-on

Designed for maintenance areas, the Conservation Plateau Non-Fragile has been tested and certified to withstand impact from people or objects falling on it and can be linked to create an array or installed as a single unit.

Designed for domestic use, the Neo Advance Skywalk[®] provides a walk on wow-factor for any rooftop area or terrace whilst enabling light to flood into the space below.

Access and Egress

The Conservation Egress and

Access Rooflight maintains the same authentic traditional appearance as the signature Conservation Rooflight but with additional side-hinged functionality to allow egress or access to the roof.

Unique Designs

For those projects that require a tailored solution, The Rooflight Co's Bespoke Design Team, work with contractors, architects and specialist roofing contractors to create unique rooflight designs for a wide range of projects, including many that have gone on to win awards.

Many of the rooflines of some of our most interesting buildings feature rooflights from The Rooflight Co. Not only have they been an important contributor to the retrofit of heritage properties, but they enable natural light to be a key design feature in many cutting-edge contemporary builds.

To mark their anniversary, they have launched a new brand look and feel that reflects the company's heritage and provenance for superior quality. From the refined company name – The Rooflight Co, to the branding that pays homage to the Victorian rooflights that inspired founder Peter King.

Here's to the next 30 years of rooflight innovation. |||

Contact The Rooflight Co for more information: Telephone: 01993 833155. Or visit: www.therooflightco.com.

THE ROOFLIGHT CO. COTSWOLDS

Project Architect: Adrian James Architects



Celebrating

30
YEARS

of
the Rooflight Company



01993 833 155

hello@therooflightco.com

therooflightco.com

What's In a Name?

Why NARM is Now The Rooflight Association

Early this year, following consultation with member companies, the National Association of Rooflight Manufacturers board proposed rebranding as The Rooflight Association. In March 2023 at the Association's Annual General Meeting, the plan was approved and the Association re-launched in July. Here, Chairman Ian Weakford, explains the strategy behind the change.



Previously under the NARM banner, the Association's membership was only open to manufacturers of rooflights, components and ancillary products. Formed in 1998, the Association's mission is to support best practice in all aspects of rooflighting.

Over the years, we've played an important role commissioning, analyzing and publishing research to inform legislators and standards organizations. Our work in the field of daylight and energy saving has been put to use in Approved Document L of The Building Regulations. We have also been instrumental in driving improvements in safety for roof workers, through our close working partnership with ACR, the Advisory Committee for Roofsafety. As a member organization of European rooflighting trade association Eurolux, we've also maintained close ties with the European market for rooflights.



Wider Representation
Throughout our history, we've referred to the Association as 'The Voice of the Rooflight Industry'. However, more recently, the question has been raised amongst our membership: can we truly be the voice of the industry if we only represent one sector: manufacturing?
The rooflight supply chain also encompasses designers, specifiers,

distributors, contractors, installers, component and ancillary suppliers, consultants and others, so these groups should be able to contribute and have their voices heard, too.
Having taken the decision to open the Association's membership to businesses and individuals within these disciplines, the name change became a necessity and plans for the re-brand were set in motion.

So our re-brand is much more than just a new name and logo. It's the result of a strategic decision to make fundamental changes which will affect the future of the industry, as well as our members.

The construction industry is evolving - we must evolve too.
Legislation, standards and business practices are evolving at an increasing rate, due to political and technological factors. Wider representation among the different groups within our industry will strengthen our role in informing and influencing legislation and standards and help us to provide a lead on training and competency.

A stronger and more influential organization.
Until now, we have been largely dependent on our member volunteers. Our planned growth will allow us to:
○ Strengthen and increase support for our technical resources ||-



Get it Right. Double the Daylight.

Where there's space for one for window, there's often space for two.

Create brighter, more uplifting spaces with the VELUX 2in1 roof window.

The VELUX 2in1 roof window offers an enhanced sense of space, increased daylight and panoramic views. The roof window comes in solar-powered, centre-pivot and top-hung operations, providing flexibility in functionality. What's more, it's available in a range of sizes, allowing your customers to choose the dimensions that best suit their space.

The solar 2in1 roof window can be controlled from anywhere thanks to VELUX Intelligent Home Control. Homeowners can choose between VELUX App Control and VELUX ACTIVE.

One easy installation – two times the results

The 2in1 roof window has one frame and two sashes, and the same simple installation process but with fewer components to make achieving bigger and better results easy.

The straightforward installation of the 2in1 roof window can save you valuable time, making it easier to take on more projects. What's more, all that's needed is a single installation package and the roof window to carry out the installation, so ordering is effortless.

A range to suit every home

Top-hung

Transform a room with the 2in1 top-hung roof window for a balcony-like feeling and twice as much daylight. The top-hung roof window can be opened to 45° offering an uninterrupted view of the outside.

Solar-powered

The 2in1 solar roof window offers the additional advantage of remote control with the benefits of more daylight. It's single frame design and solar-powered motor ensures a straightforward



installation, and no additional wiring is needed. The automatic rain sensor closes the roof window when it rains and the battery charges even on a cloudy day.

Centre-pivot

The 2in1 centre-pivot roof window combines a single, openable sash with one fixed sash to enhance daylight and offer a



spectacular view. Its slim profile increases the amount of daylight that enters the room.

Symmetrical and asymmetrical designs

Some rooms might lend themselves better to the symmetrical design, while others might benefit more from the asymmetrical. Having both options ensures that every project can be tailored to meet the exact dimensions of each space.

A closer look: features of the VELUX 2in1 roof window

- One frame, two sashes, the removable sash allows for an even faster and easier installation.
- Extra-slim profiles maximise the amount of daylight entering the space.
- Smart control for convenience and automatic rain detection.
- Clean white painted finish which matches perfectly with modern interiors.
- Full control of light levels, as it's compatible with a range of blinds and shutters.
- Exterior heat protection thanks to anti-heat products.

VELUX Academy training and VELUX Reward members

Want to learn more about 2in1 roof window training? Visit the VELUX Academy website. There, you will be able to book both physical and online training sessions.

If you do choose to work with 2in1 roof windows, you can get double VELUX Rewards with every VELUX 2in1 roof window purchase with a VELUX Rewards account. |||

Find out more: www.velux.co.uk/2in1

What is the Real Risk of Fire from Solar Panels?

With recent reports of a domestic solar panel exploding on a roof at a West London council house, is there a hidden danger lurking? How does this impact confidence and the growth of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels across both domestic and commercial sectors?

Richard Williams, managing director of Aztec Solar Energy Ltd shares his views on safety issues facing the sector.

Last year, primarily due to the energy price crisis and a sustainability drive, the solar power industry saw a significant jump in solar PV installations. According to data from the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) - the standards organisation for solar energy and heating - 130,596 solar panels were mounted on UK roof tops in 2022.

This figure represented growth in one year which was previously only experienced in the three years between 2019 to 2021 combined, with the exception of those years following subsidy changes. These figures include all solar PV systems with a generating capacity of up to 50 kilowatts and registered with the MCS, notably therefore the figure is likely to be even higher, with an increasing number of installations in the UK not registered at all.

It does mean there are over 1.3 million registered solar power installations across the country, two thirds on the ground and the remainder on residential and commercial roofs, generating at least 15GW of solar power in the UK.

PV solar panels promise cost savings in terms of energy bills and are described as the clean and green electric energy. Seen in many a field and roof top, the growth of the solar PV panel has been significant and is changing the energy landscape.

But what controls are in place and who is monitoring safety?

Some may be shocked that PV installers are not legally bound to follow the guidelines or obtain accreditations from certifying organisations such as the MCS.



A Freedom of Information request by The Independent newspaper established that there were 66 fires related to solar panels in the six months to July 2023.

The big issue is that anyone can install a solar panel in the UK. Yes, work must be cleared by the local council and the government 'recommends' use of a registered electrician, but it's not the law.

Low Risk not Zero Risk

As with all electrical installations, electrical incidents may happen, which is why all electricians are qualified and must undertake regular competency training and on-going refresher training. Arc faults and faulty wiring can cause solar panels to catch fire and the risk of a solar panel catching fire is very low, but it is not zero.

Solar panel fires can be caused by improper installation or maintenance, and by damage from extreme weather events,

such as hail or lightning. Higher voltages can be prone to arcing and is a known common cause of fires, but through the installation of micro inverters connected to the panel to convert the output to a safer level they considerably reduce the risks. As does using reputable and registered PV installers and, like maintaining a car, checks need to be done on all PV installations regularly. PV panels are often forgotten about and left to deteriorate and with those systems come risks, as with any neglected equipment.

It's important to be up to date with the latest safety recommendations and regulations, and as with all things new, products evolve. Technologies continue to develop and with that have come new solar panels that are more resilient and offer an even greater reduction in fire risks. Understanding these products and their installation comes from experience and working in an

A Freedom of Information request by The Independent newspaper established that there were 66 fires related to solar panels in the six months to July 2023.

evolving sector and with experts who can recommend the most appropriate panels and systems for installation.

As a first step, roofing businesses considering expanding into installing PV systems and battery storage should register with the MCS. This will verify their competence as installers and impose a duty to use verified products, so ensuring safety and quality.

Installers should encourage their clients to look at a maintenance programme to ensure the system has been checked through periodic testing by a professional.

As with all technologies that have been installed effectively and are maintained and managed, be assured solar PV panels will deliver clean, cost-effective power safely. ■■■

Aztec Solar Energy Ltd advise, design, finance and install commercial solar photovoltaic (PV) and battery systems, creating bespoke solutions for organisations to reduce their commercial energy costs and CO2 emissions. Based at the University of Warwick and operating nationwide, Aztec Solar, has 30 years' experience. www.aztecsolarenergy.co.uk



- Develop additional services and member benefits
- Continue to enhance our position in regard of shaping legislation
- Raise awareness and grow membership further

Building on our achievements.

Work undertaken by us in the past has fundamentally shaped the industry's understanding of the role that natural daylight plays in improving sustainability through reductions in energy consumption for artificial

lighting, as well as its contribution to human health and wellbeing. In addition to providing data used in The Building Regulations, we have published a range of freely available specification documents on this subject - all of which are available on our website: www.rooflightassociation.org.

Our contribution to improving safety for roofworkers has also been significant. As an example, we collated extensive test data from member companies, to inform the ACR[M]001 'Test For Non-Fragility of Large Element

Roofing Assemblies to GRP Profiled Rooflight Sheeting'.

These and other important rooflighting-related issues remain at the core of our mission. Growth will allow us greater opportunities to contribute to a better, more sustainable and safer built environment.

What kind of businesses qualify for Rooflight Association membership?

Membership of the Association is open to manufacturers, installers, component and ancillary

suppliers, specifiers, distributors, consultants and other professionals involved in the rooflight industry.

Membership is dependent on meeting specific criteria in respect of quality; compliance with standards and legislation; and business practice. This means that choosing a Rooflight Association member as a supplier, carries a high level of reassurance.

Look for the RA logo for natural daylight with peace of mind. ■■■

For more information visit https://rooflightassociation.org.

Join The Rooflight Association

Rooflight Association membership provides recognition of high standards of quality and compliance, as well as a host of other valuable membership benefits outlined at: https://rooflightassociation.org/become-a-member/

Membership Categories

Full membership

Full membership is open to manufacturers of rooflights, roof windows & daylight tubes and wholly owned subsidiary companies operating in the UK.

Associate Membership

Associate membership is open to specialist distributors of rooflighting products, suppliers and manufacturers of rooflight components, raw materials, and ancillary products, and architectural/survey/inspection practices operating in the UK.

Contractor/Installer Membership

Contractor/Installer membership is open to roofing & building contractors and glazing installation businesses.

Individual Membership

Individual Membership is open to specifiers, inspectors and consultants.

ADESO
THE MOST INNOVATIVE BITUMEN
WATERPROOFING SOLUTION IN THE INDUSTRY.

- 100% SAFE APPLICATION
- EASY TO APPLY
- SECURE AND PERFECT OVERLAPS
- ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY
- WATERPROOFING

ADESO. The original, the first of its kind. The most reliable self-adhesive bitumen membrane provides the ultimate in waterproofing combined with total stability. It's all down to the dual APP or SBS compound and a highly self-adhesive blend on the underside. And between them lies the reinforcing carrier. So say goodbye to the torch and hello to superior performance and all the advantages this membrane offers!

POLYGLASS

f t y i n @
0121 508 6970 | mapei.co.uk

E **SPECIAL** LY FORMULATED WITH THE INSTALLER IN MIND

LIQUID ROOFING REVOLUTION



UNPARALLELED
STRENGTH

UNPARALLELED
WEATHER RESISTANCE

THE UNPARALLELED
ROOFING SYSTEM

SPECIAL 1

A solvent-free liquid,
eliminating the need
for safety training

SPECIAL 1

WHATEVER THE WEATHER



- Can be applied in wet conditions - no more lost days due to wet weather!
- Suitable for use on the majority of substrates
- Fully UV stable unlike other products on the market
- Simple & efficient one-coat system
- Can be applied on to damp surfaces - will resist standing water
- Single component liquid membrane - no need for additional accelerators, hardeners or catalysts
- Fast & simple installation process
- Once opened, the liquid will remain suitable for use if stored correctly - no more wasted liquid!

Easy-Trim Roofing & Construction Products Limited

Unit 12B, Metcalf Drive,
Altham Industrial Estate,
Altham, Lancashire,
England, BB5 5TU



Tel: 01282 930680

Email: sales@easy-trim.co.uk

Web: www.easy-trim.co.uk



NEW



SOLVENT FREE



ODOUR FREE



NON-FLAMMABLE

P2

POLYURETHANE
LIQUID ROOFING



- No odours and solvent free
- Can be applied to existing membrane
- Easy to use with excellent adhesion
- Quick curing & fully uv stable avoiding any yellowing and degradation with time
- Single component - aliphatic polyurethane liquid membrane suitable for waterproofing
- Resistant to standing water and root proof

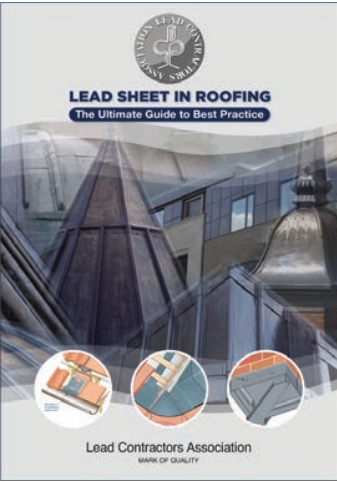
easy-trim
Roofing & Construction Products

The Use of Lead Sheet in Construction

Ian Harvey, the Lead Contractors Association (LCA) Chief Technical Officer discusses some common installation faults and practical guidance to avoiding problems.

The use of lead sheet in construction is popular due to its versatility, malleability and sustainability. Lead sheet is still the best weathering medium for the interfacing abutments of buildings, gutters and dormers or projections and slated, tiled, or membrane roofs. Lead is also used for total roof coverings for new build projects and the renewal of roofs on heritage buildings. As well as being extremely malleable lead has great sound attenuation properties. The malleability of lead gives the roofer the flexibility to deal with any situation requiring weathering and will provide incredible durability and longevity as a covering for roofing -some examples date back 250 years!

Lead sheet can be purchased as rolled, directly machine cast or traditionally sand-cast lead. Unlike rubber and plastic based alternatives, lead is the most recycled material in the world and can be used and re-used indefinitely. When comparing lead and lead-free alternatives' eco-friendliness, there's no question that lead takes prime



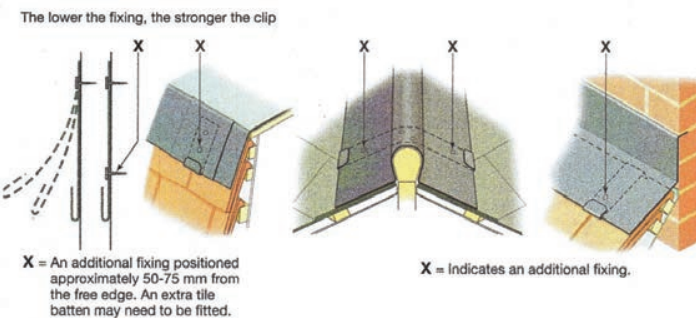
The LCA's Lead Sheet in Roofing, The Ultimate Guide to Best Practice.



Perfectly installed step flashing.

The LCA guide covers all aspects of using lead sheet, from its use as a weathering medium, to installing details for a full roof covering on new constructions, refurbishments and historical work.

position. However, to achieve the maximum benefit and longevity from lead BS 6915 should be followed. It is detailed and explained with easy-to-understand graphics and photographs in the LCA's *Lead Sheet in Roofing, The Ultimate Guide to Best Practice*. <https://leadcontractors.co.uk/lca-authorised-guides-form/>.



The LCA guide covers all aspects of using lead sheet, from its use as a weathering medium, to installing details for a full roof covering on new constructions, refurbishments and historical work.

You don't need to be a specialist lead worker to appreciate the guidance provided; even if you are involved with slating and tiling you will find installation advice on the sizing, fixing, clipping of abutment, hip and ridge valleys, chimney flashings and weathering on gutters and dormers. Specialists, such as architects and designers or installers of lead coverings, will find full and comprehensive solutions, with recommendations encompassing all aspects of major lead roofing in the guide.

Lead Codes

Slaters and tilers should be aware that often problems occur when

using the more economical code 4 and 5 thickness of lead sheet. For example, should the recommended lengths of the lead flashings for the specific code or thickness be exceeded, failure could occur due to thermal movement resulting in subsequent and sometimes catastrophic failure by fracturing and resulting in water ingress.

The correct and effective clipping and fixing of flashings must also be assessed considering the project's exposure to wind lift. The LCA Guide in Chapter 8 details the full range of flashings, providing some alternatives some readers may not have considered.



Ridge flashings blown off due to incorrect clips.

Correct Clipping

One of the most frequent failures is the incorrect clipping of hip or ridge flashing. This happens when the clip is fixed only to the hip or ridge roll. Unfortunately, this can have disastrous results due to the extended hinge or fulcrum of the clip having minimum resistance to wind lift. To inhibit this occurring, the clip must have a lower fixing through the slate hence shortening the fulcrum and giving the hip or ridge flashing good resistance to wind lift. The LCA Guide in Chapter 7 explains more on this subject.

Another common issue roofers need to be aware of occurs when carrying out lead work to dormer windows, such as in a loft conversion and concealed gutters. Lead sheet must be laid on a fully and cross ventilated substrate conforming to BS 5250 to avoid corrosion and ultimate failure of the lead sheet caused from rising humidity from within the building condensing on its underside.

Technical Recommendations

The LCA Guide also supports and assists the specialist lead worker with access to the latest technical recommendations. These help with the correct installation of lead coverings on more complex structures, such as flat, barrel vaulted and pitched roofs, as well as intricate spires, domes, towers and ornamental embellishments.

While it is common for carpenters or general builders to provide the base or substrate that lead is to be laid on and supported by, they may be unaware of ventilation requirements or even the correct timber to be used. It is important that roofers and lead workers check substrate constructions and ensure that full through ventilation complying with BS 5250 is provided. This is of paramount importance today, due to the increasing occurrence of moisture generated by modern day living in buildings. We receive many enquiries from architects and designers about recommendations and details of



Lead sheet must be laid on a fully and cross ventilated substrate conforming to BS 5250 to avoid underside corrosion.

ventilated substrate constructions to avoid the consequences of underside corrosion. LCA Guide Chapter 11 details correct substrate constructions.

Related to this, it is also very important for the correct design of the structure that specialist lead workers are consulted on the dimensional requirements of bay lengths, step heights and other details regarding the thickness of lead or code to be used. For more complex situations of length, the LCA Guide also provides guidance on the recommended

sizes for non-standard, thicker codes of lead which can be used, as well as their implications for manual handling and health and safety.

Energy Conservation

Energy conservation can also be a key consideration, especially when a warm roof is required with a vapour control layer in the substrate below. Care must be taken after installation, especially when an electrician may be asked to install downlights perforating the vapour barrier.

Lead has been used on some of Britain's most beautiful and renowned buildings as well as millions of ordinary houses.



Canterbury Cathedral spire inscription dating the leadwork to 1766.

The general construction industry consumes more than 70,000 tons of sheet lead each year with 90% being used on flashings and weatherings. Some 7,000 tons will be used by specialist lead workers on heritage refurbishments and commercial roofing projects.

Heritage projects can often raise questions of historical design and replication of traditional methods of installation. Consequently, there can be reluctance on historical grounds to change the original design in favour of current codes of practice in BS 6915 or the latest methods or recommendations. Typical examples of this are incorrect step heights, incorrect wood core roll profiles and oversizing of bays. Care must be taken as this may negate the lead manufacturers' material warranty.

Lead has been used on some of Britain's most beautiful and renowned buildings as well as millions of ordinary houses. It is well known for being a material that exquisitely improves with age, unlike most building materials, and requires virtually no maintenance over its life. However, architects and designers also use lead as the material of choice for many modern projects because it can be easily shaped and moulded to fit almost anything.

The Lead Contractors Association promotes and endorses the latest Codes of Practice ensuring that LCA members have their work regularly vetted by onsite inspections. These require physical access to the roof (not just a quick look up from ground level), and may even require leadwork to be lifted so that sizing and fixing details can be checked and verified. This enables all accredited LCA members to offer their clients the assurance of a vetted 25-year, insurance-backed guarantee of workmanship. III

The Lead Contractors Association has brought together the historic good practice and the ever-evolving modern practices required for today's construction industry. Further information can be found <https://leadcontractors.co.uk/>

Core Lessons in Lead Training

John Lewis, Director of Training and Operations at the Lead Sheet Training Academy discusses some of the lead and hard metal training courses proving most popular with contractors this year and some of the most common challenges experienced by candidates.



The Lead Sheet Training Academy has had an extremely busy year so far with numbers up on both Lead and Hard Metals courses. By far the most popular courses are the City and Guilds Accredited Basic Lead and Hard Metal courses which teach candidates the basic techniques required to either boss and weld lead or shape and solder hard metal. Not only are we delivering these courses at our training centre, but we are also delivering them UK wide, via mobile courses and at the LSTA Satellite centres:

- CoRE Hereford roof training (Lead)
- DMG Academy of Roofing (Lead)



Roofers perfecting their lead bossing skills at the Lead Sheet Training Academy.



Glen Bull shows off his remarkable lead work on this restored hopper.

The most challenging aspect of leadwork for course candidates tends to be lead bossing. This is because there is a huge amount of technique required for bossing different codes and details of lead.

- Southwest Roof Training Group (Lead)
- South Coast Roof Training Group (Lead)
- Metal Solutions (Hard Metal)
- West College Scotland (Lead)

Retention on our courses is very high with the majority of our candidates going on to sign up for the City and Guilds Accredited Traditional Intermediate craft courses, which encompass all lead work and hard metal details for example, cladding, wood roll roofs/hollow rolls, box gutters, dormers etc.

The CITB Specialist Applied Skills Programme level 2 & 3 in Lead

and Hard Metals has again proved to be very popular with 100% take up so far this year. The level 3 has been very popular as it is fully funded. It is a great way of bringing new entrants into the lead or hard metals industry and ensures they get the right training from the off, with industry qualified and experienced tutors. At the end of the course, they can also apply for the CSCS Skilled workers card, which we know is changing at the end of December 2024 when the CSCS card rules change.

The most challenging aspect of leadwork for course candidates tends to be lead bossing. This is because there is a huge amount of technique required for bossing different codes and details of



25 YEARS

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

Proudly made in the UK, Don & Low's innovative synthetic roof, wall, and floor membranes move the construction industry forward.



Don & Low
MEMBER OF THRACE GROUP

The Creators & Manufacturers of Roofshield®

BS EN 12588 identifies a range of six thicknesses defined in millimetres. For easy identification, these thicknesses have code numbers: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. Thus the substance of lead sheet is specified by its BS code number or, alternatively, by its thickness in millimetres.

Table 3. General guidance and recommendations for specifying thickness of lead sheet for various uses

When specifying thickness also make allowances for the anticipated life of the building concerned - The longer the life, the heavier the code.

Type of application	Sheltered to moderate exposure BS EN 12588 code no	Moderate to severe exposure BS EN 12588 code no	Listed or pre-1919 buildings BS EN 12588 code no
Flat roofing	5 or 6	6 or 7	6, 7 or 8
Parapet, box and tapered valley gutters	5 or 6	6 or 7	6, 7 or 8
Pitched roofs	5 or 6	6 or 7	6, 7 or 8
Vertical cladding	4 or 5	5 or 6	6 or 7
Dormer cheeks	4 or 5	5 or 6	5, 6 or 7
Dormer roofs	4 or 5	5 or 6	6, 7 or 8
Chimney flashings: back gutters, front aprons	4 or 5	5 or 6	5 or 6
Lead slates	4 or 5	4 or 5	5 or 6
Hip and ridge flashings	4 or 5	5 or 6	6, 7 or 8
Pitched valley gutters	4 or 5	4 or 5	6 or 7
Weatherings to cornices, parapets walls and projections	4 or 5	5 or 6	6 or 7
Damp-proof courses (DPCs)	4 or 5	4 or 5	4 or 5
Apron and cover flashings	4 or 5	5 or 6	5, 6 or 7
Soakers	3	3	3 or 4

Note - Situations may arise whereby the thickness of lead sheet will need to be increased to cope with thermal movement, exposure and longevity. Please refer to the various Tables within this manual for further clarification.



Learning the skills of detailing with hard metals is important to achieve a watertight finish.



—|| lead. This requires a lot of practice, not just at the training centre but also practical, on-the-job experience, as what happens in a controlled environment such as a training centre is very different to being onsite, with factors such as weather, access to the job, time constraints, codes of lead etc.

Why are Lead Codes Important?

Each code has been specifically classified for different purposes. The most important reason for this is that for lead to function at the highest standard it is known for, it must be installed correctly. If the incorrect code is used, rather than outlasting the building it is put on, the lead could be made vulnerable to influences that will make it deteriorate extremely rapidly.

What can Happen If I Choose the Wrong Lead Code?

Incorrect Installation

When installing lead flashing, it is more than likely it will need to be folded and worked into place. If the wrong code is used, this process could very possibly cause the lead to split and crack. In the best-case scenario, where you spot this damage, the lead will become unusable, and you will have wasted money. However, in the worst case, if the damage is not found, and the incorrect installation is completed you will

have exposed your building to water ingress and the mould, mildew and rot that goes along with it on the buildup of the roof.

Lead Sheet Specification

Lead sheet for all purposes should conform to BS EN 12588 *Rolled Lead Sheet for Building Purposes*. This specifies thickness and chemical composition to produce a consistent microstructure that provides the required resistance to creep and thermal fatigue.

BS EN 12588 identifies a range of six thicknesses defined in millimetres. The specified thickness should not vary by more than $\pm 5\%$ throughout the sheet.

For easy identification, these thicknesses have code numbers: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. Thus the substance of lead sheet is specified by its BS code number or, alternatively, by its thickness in millimetres.

The standard range of thicknesses, uses and maximum recommended sizes are shown in Table 3 (above top left). This Code of Practice only applies to fitting of the Rolled Lead Sheet manufactured to BS EN 12588. If you are using any other type of lead sheet, please refer to the individual manufacturer for guidance on the installation or bay sizing. |||



Making Industrial Gutters Since 1945

The Refurbishment Gutter Solution

- ✓ Roof Drainage Calculations
- ✓ Contractor Training & Development
- ✓ Project Management
- ✓ Site Surveys

- ✓ 25 Year Product Warranty
- ✓ Factory Mutual Approval
- ✓ BBA Approved Membranes



All Enquiries:
E: sales@cglsystems.co.uk

RAAC – What Is It and Why Is It a Problem?

Kyle Hargreaves, Partner and Building Surveyor at Graham + Sibbald Chartered Surveyors explains what Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete is, why it was used and the key information needed when trying to identify it.

At the last count, before this edition went to press, there were 214 schools, 42 hospitals and numerous theatres, leisure centres and other public buildings identified to have roofs made of RAAC. So, what is RAAC? Well, RAAC is an acronym for Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete. It is an aerated, lightweight cementitious material with no coarse aggregate, which is generally formed in planks or panels and was typically used in the construction of structural roof decks.

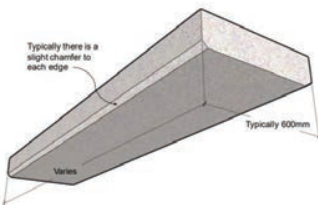
The panels were constructed in factories, with the concrete mix provided with steel reinforcement bars. Chemicals were then used to create gas bubbles within the concrete, which gives a similar appearance to the inside of an Aero chocolate bar.

The material properties and structural behaviour of the RAAC differs significantly from 'traditional' reinforced concrete.



This is mainly due to the fact that it contains no coarse aggregate and instead uses only fine aggregates.

Panels are typically 600mm wide and come in varying lengths, up to several metres.



The make-up of the concrete panels differ significantly from traditional reinforced concrete panels due to the lack of the coarse aggregate...This, combined with some other key factors, leaves the panels liable to sudden and complete failure.

The planks also have trade names such as Sipporex, Durox, Ceclon or Thermalite and are estimated to have a 30-year life span.

Where Was it Used?

Tens of thousands of these structural panels exist across a broad cross-section of buildings, which were mainly constructed in the 1960's and 1970's.

RAAC elements are not thought to have been incorporated into buildings before the late 1950's, or in significant quantity in the 1980's. However, examples of buildings constructed in the 1990's have been found to contain certain RAAC elements (which potentially increases the scope of buildings that could require surveying for the presence of RAAC).

The vast majority of RAAC panels form the structure of a flat

roof and are therefore generally difficult to access, survey, maintain and replace.

Fifty- to sixty-year-old buildings, in particular those that have not been adequately maintained, are of the largest concern. This is especially the case when you consider estimated life spans of circa 30 years (so in all instances, their life expectancy is deemed to have expired).

RAAC was predominantly used in large scale public buildings, such as schools and hospitals. The pre-cast nature of the panels, in addition to their light-weight nature, vastly increased construction speeds. They are also fire resistant and have good thermal properties, and as such was a popular choice at the time.

The make-up of the concrete panels differ significantly from traditional reinforced concrete

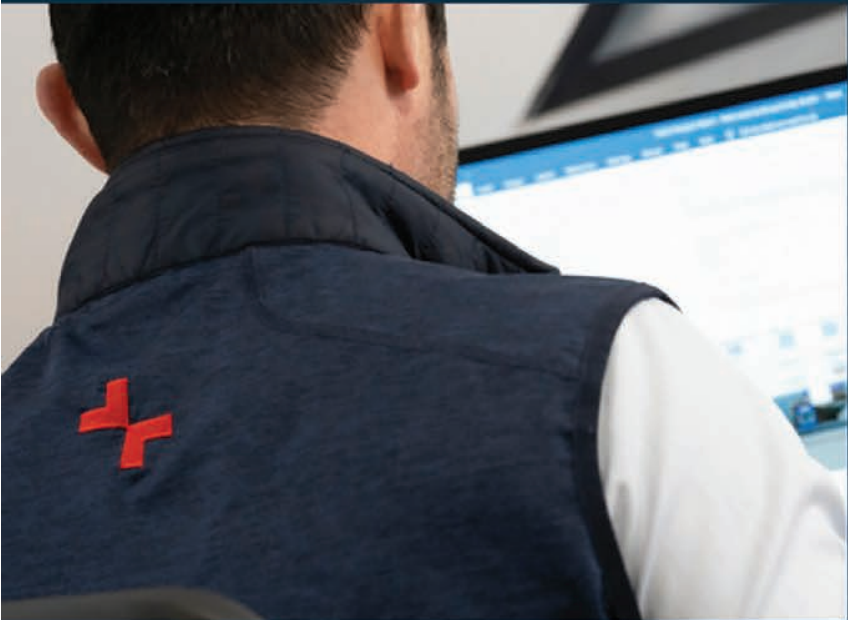
panels due to the lack of the coarse aggregate. This has two key effects to the panel:

1. Reduces the weight of the panel significantly, to approximately 20-30% of a standard reinforced concrete panel.
2. It also reduces the strength of the panel by a similar ratio.

This, combined with some other key factors, leaves the panels liable to sudden and complete failure, such as the case in a couple of recent and highly publicised instances.

These issues can generally be split into three main group however:

1. Manufacturing Defects
2. Construction Workmanship / Damage
3. Performance Defects



At Graham + Sibbald we are proud to be at the forefront of an ever-changing property sector. Operating in Manchester and across the UK, we are committed to the provision of safe, reliable and trusted advice and support.

Our Building Surveying service offering includes:

- Full Building & Roof Condition Surveys
- Technical Due Diligence / Pre-acquisition Surveys
- RAAC Inspections
- Drone Surveys
- Thermal Imaging Surveys
- Moisture Map Surveys

* All undertaken by MRICS / AIOB Qualified Building Surveyors



Get in touch direct (manchester@g-s.co.uk or 0161 302 5312) or visit our Manchester office, to discuss your specific property needs with a member of our friendly, local team.

Find out more
g-s.co.uk

Manufacturing Defects

Misplaced Transverse Reinforcement – the reinforcement within the panels relies on two areas for its strength: The longitudinal steel, which runs the length of the panel and also the transverse steel, which effectively ties the lengths of the longitudinal steel together at each side of the panel.

Steel Reinforcement Located Too Close to the Face of the Panel – which combined with the permeability of the panels (due to the aerated nature of the RAAC), makes the steel vulnerable to corrosion. Said corrosion, of the transverse end anchorage is of particular concern, as damage to the welds could lead to a loss of strength and sudden failure.

Furthermore, in normal concrete, if steel reinforcement corrodes, it generally pops off the face of the concrete, giving a visual sign that there is an issue.

However, again due to the aerated make-up of the panel, the corroded steel will just crush the bubbles, with no evidence of decay to the outer face.

Construction and Workmanship Damage

Short Bearing Lengths – The regulations at the time of install required only 45mm of bearing on the steel or concrete supports, which is a very short length and vastly increases the vulnerability to misplaced reinforcement at the time of manufacture, resulting in the transverse bars not sitting over the bearing edge (latest guidance states that the bearing should be no less than 75mm).

Cutting of Panels Post-Manufacture – The cutting of components was known to have occurred where panels were made to a certain length, however, were subsequently cut prior to installation to suit the position of the panel in the building.

Structurally Damaging Builders Works – Many instances have been found where building refurbishment has resulted in holes through panels, reducing the strength by alarming amounts.

A regular monitoring procedure will need to be adopted in order to determine any change or deterioration in the condition. The frequency of these inspections should be determined by the structural engineer.

Overloading – Due to the limited strength of the panels, they are not designed to hold any substantial weight. If new items of plant are installed on the roof, this could result in deflection of the panels and potentially lead to failure. High loading associated with regular maintenance of roof top plant can also accelerate deterioration and the development of cracking.

Point Loading – Similar to overloading, this is where there is a load on the roof and it isn't spread over several panels and the weight is as a point load above one or two panels, then this could again lead to deflection.

Deflection – The panels may naturally deflect and sag over their serviceable life, however this could result in water ponding to the roof, which would again add to the loading and potentially over-stress the panels and lead to collapse.

Prolonged Water Ingress - due to the failure of waterproofing membranes, which most know is not uncommon on old flat roofs. This can lead to corrosion of the reinforcement, alongside water ingress by services failure, or by interstitial condensation.

What to do if you Suspect RAAC

If you suspect that you have RAAC in one of your buildings, or want to confirm that there is none present, then the first step would be to appoint a Chartered Surveyor or a Structural Engineer to undertake an inspection. It is important that the person inspecting is suitably qualified and has experience with the material as things can be incorrectly diagnosed otherwise.

Any inspection may need to be disruptive in order to fully confirm or rule out RAAC, so this will depend on the individual building constraints and potential asbestos risks.

If RAAC is Confirmed

If the presence of RAAC panels is confirmed in your property, a Structural Engineer should be appointed in order to determine the condition of the panels and advise if any remedial works are required.

In general, it has been observed that there is a high degree of variability between panels, even where they were part of the same contract and installed immediately next to each other. Therefore, caution should be

taken when assessing the results from discrete sampling.

A regular monitoring procedure will need to be adopted in order to determine any change or deterioration in the condition. The frequency of these inspections should be determined by the structural engineer conducting the initial inspection.

How can Risks be Reduced?

- Adopt good roof maintenance practices – keep outlets clear and free flowing etc.
- Where appropriate, remove the dead load on roofs
- Ensure that those responsible for day-to-day management of RAAC:
 - Know that RAAC is in the building and where it is used
 - Check regularly for visual signs of cracks, water penetration, deflection and ponding
 - Are instructed to immediately close off any part of the building if defects appear
 - Ensure that all other staff know to report any new cracks or defects

Remediation

Depending on the findings of the condition survey, the Structural Engineer may recommend further monitoring for the remaining serviceable life of the panels. Alternatively, they may recommend replacement of either individual panels (with an alternative lightweight solution), or entire full-scale replacement, which would remove any ongoing liabilities or risk.

Where perhaps full-scale or partial removal and replacement isn't immediately practicable, they may suggest either remediation or strengthening works. Possible options could involve emergency propping, Positive remedial supports and Passive failsafe supports. ■■

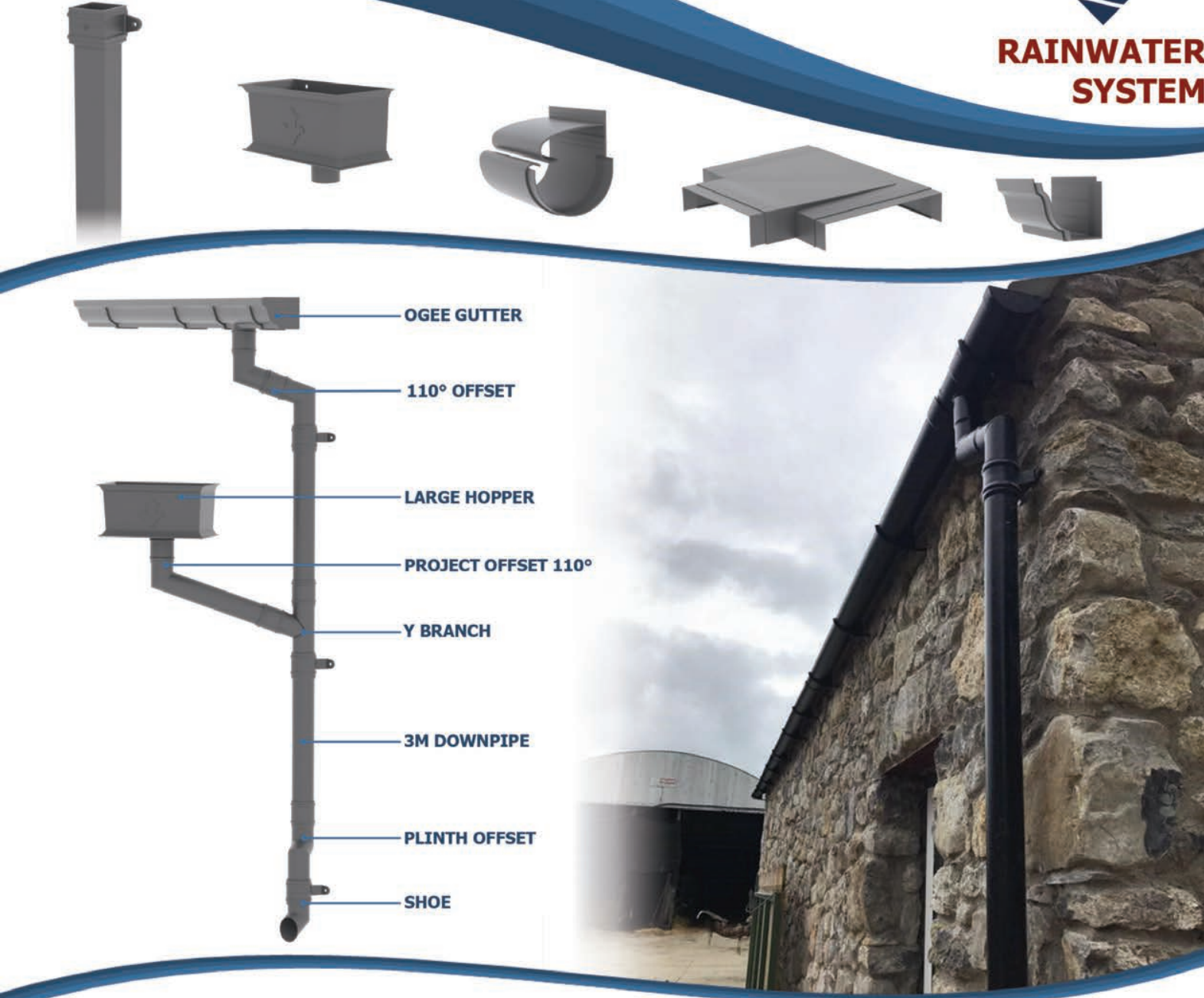
If you need help with a survey contact Graham + Sibbald at Manchester@g-s.co.uk or call 0161 302 5213. The firm can assist with your enquiry locally, or put you in touch with one of its other 20 offices located throughout the UK.



Intermediate supports.



End bearing strengthening.



MANUFACTURER OF ALUMINIUM RAINWATER SYSTEMS SPECIALISING IN BESPOKE PRODUCTION

GUTTERS	DOWNPIPES	FASCIA	SOFFIT	COPING	SILLS	CLADDING
• EXTRUDED AND SEAMLESS GUTTERING • EXTRUDED DOWNPIPES • SMOOTH OR CAST EFFECT • OGEE GUTTERING • HALF ROUND GUTTERING				• BOX GUTTERING • BESPOKE GUTTERING • ROUND DOWNPIPES 63MM 76MM 100MM 150MM • SQUARE DOWNPIPES 63MM 76MM 100MM 150MM • RECTANGULAR DOWNPIPE 76*100MM		

Seamless Aluminium International Ltd
Unit 6b, Solihull Building Trade Centre
Olton Wharf, Olton, West Midlands B92 7RN

+44 (0)121 765 4355

Info@seamlessaluminium.co.uk

www.seamlessaluminium.co.uk



Historic Roof Security is Set in Slate

Every cloud has a silver lining, they say. And so, it seems above St Andrew's Church in Wanborough, Wiltshire, where the lead roof that was stolen has been replaced with Welsh Slate, making it future- and thief-proof for decades to come.

The St Andrew's Church scheme was delivered by specialist contractors AC Nurden, and used Welsh Slate's 7mm-thick 500mm x 250mm Cwt-Y-Bugail Dark Blue Grey slates.

Largely rebuilt in the early 14th Century with rubble and stone slate roofs, the church is an important landmark with a distinctive (and rare) arrangement of two separate towers – the eastern one with a spire – and has been a place of worship for the village for 900 years. It not only lies within Wanborough (Upper) Conservation Area but also sits within the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

AC Nurden director, Andy Nurden, first received a call from a church warden at Lyddington and Wanborough Parochial Church Council. The Warden explained their Grade I listed church had fallen prey to thieves who had stolen all the lead from the south side of the upper nave roof as well as a large section from the north facing slope.

There was also considerable damage to the walls and gutters, and subsequent rain had soaked the pews, carpet and kneelers inside the church. Even the graveyard had been damaged where a large section of lead and tools had fallen and been left behind, indicating the thieves may have been disturbed. In the weeks after, the entire community rallied around fundraising efforts and collected a sufficient sum to begin the roof repairs.

These included overlaying the remains of the existing roof with oak rafters to raise the level of the nave roof by 100mm to ensure an adequate step into the parapet gutters. The roof had been lowered in the 15th Century (and the nave walls raised) to form a clerestory but capillary action



I like that it is something local to us, that it has been dug out of the ground, and that it is nice to work with. It really does look beautiful. And the people we have been dealing with at Welsh Slate have been brilliant.

meant rainwater was seeping through this junction.

This meant the pitch of the roof was shallower (approximately 25-30°) which required the head lap/gauge of the slates to be increased from the usual 50mm to 65-70mm. AC Nurden had to drill the fixing holes in a different position due to this.

Quality and Availability

Andy Nurden said: ““The best thing is we can still get good quality Welsh Slate and the quality coming through is really great. Where you get some of the imitation slates, they just look false.

“I like that it is something local to us, that it has been dug out of the ground, and that it is nice to work with. It really does look beautiful. And the people we have been

dealing with at Welsh Slate have been brilliant.”

He added: “The Welsh Slate combined with the oak ensured that the finished project was not only ethical but also preserved the rich heritage and aesthetic value of St Andrew's Church and Wanborough parish.

“The job was completed on time and within budget despite inclement weather early on. The PCC were extremely happy with the finished product and the service provided and have since been back in touch to book more repair work.”

Third Generation Firm

AC Nurden are a third-generation roofing and building company specialising in luxury new-build homes and barn conversions using a complementary mix of

Welsh Slate for the roofs and Cotswold stone for the facades/roofs. They used a roofing apprentice on St Andrew's – the son of a master roofer who has been with them for more than 20 years.

The AC Nurden team also had to ensure that the inside of the church was safe for the congregation who still needed to use the building during construction. Residents of the parish and visitors were understandably upset by the theft, and AC Nurden staff often needed to offer support and words of kindness while their place of worship was closed to the public.

Prior to the works, a Heritage Impact Statement (HIS) was prepared by Andrew Townsend Architects (ATA), historic

||-



Solar



Ventilation



Condensation Control

Supplier checklist

APPROVED

- Broad range of roofing underlays, ventilation and accessories ✓
- UK manufacturing sites ✓
- Accredited to ISO 9001 quality standard ✓
- Accredited to ISO 14001 environmental standard ✓
- Independent third party certification ✓
- Compliance with British Standards BS5534, BS5250, BS8612 ✓
- Products suitable for wind uplift zones 1 to 5 ✓
- UKCA and CE marked ✓

Choice is everything

With one of the most comprehensive ranges of **roof underlays and ventilation solutions** available in the UK and Ireland, Glidevale Protect offers tried and trusted performance for any project. When you're creating better buildings and healthy homes, choice really is everything.



glidevale
protect

building
product design



Glidevale Protect is a specialist UK producer, offering ventilation solutions, condensation control and energy efficiency across the built environment.

For technical guidance contact us on +44 (0)161 905 5700
email info@glidevaleprotect.com
or visit glidevaleprotect.com/choice

Heritage buildings consultants who, as inspecting architects, have assisted the PCC with the care of St Andrew's for more than 30 years. ATA also prepared the specification for the works, assisted with applications for planning consent and faculty permission as well as administering the contract on behalf of the PCC.

The Heritage Impact Statement considered the feasibility of the three possibilities for re-roofing the nave - lead sheet, terne-coated stainless steel sheet, and Welsh Slate.

The standard approach advocated by Historic England and SPAB is to carry out essential repair work on historic structures on a like-for-like basis. So, in normal circumstances, lead sheet would have been considered best for the nave roof at St Andrew's. However, because lead was stolen off St Andrews' roof three times in the past three decades, a lead roof could only be partially insured. The cost of a lead roof and the parish's limited financial resources, also meant that this option was ruled out.

In these cases of frequent theft, Historic England normally advises replacing lead church roofs with terne-coated stainless steel - a sheet metal with a coating of tin which dulls its appearance to resemble lead. It can be laid using jointing details imitating



leadwork, is thought to be durable and has low attraction for theft.

However, as the nave roof pitch is above 20° it allowed the alternative of Welsh slate to be considered. The Heritage Impact Statement set out the benefits of using Welsh Slate in preference to alternatives:

- Welsh slate is quarried in the UK.
- Wanborough is located near Swindon where the local vernacular, since the arrival of the railways, has included the extensive use of Welsh Slate.
- A Welsh slate roof is relatively easy to repair as slipped or

damaged slates can be simply replaced but repairing terne-coated stainless steel is more difficult.

- Detailing of junctions between a Welsh Slate roof and e.g., masonry parapets/upstands is often more straightforward than for stainless steel roofs.
- A Welsh Slate roof is just what it is and is not attempting to imitate another material.
- The appearance of a Welsh Slate roof and the way it weathers may be considered to work well in the context of a historic building such as Wanborough church whereas the hard/crisp lines of terne-coated stainless steel feel less appropriate in this context.
- The cost of a new Welsh slate roof covering is roughly comparable with terne-coated stainless steel.

Andrew Townsend concluded: "This case demonstrates that, where there is a threat of repeated theft of lead sheet roofing, Welsh Slate can be used successfully in its place instead of the increasingly ubiquitous (and, in my opinion, unsympathetic) terne-coated stainless steel."

The St Andrews project is through to the finals in the "Best use of a heritage roof" category in the 2023 Pitched Roofing Awards which will be announced on 24 November. ■



Onduline – Helping Customers to Hit the Right Pitch on a Heritage Roof

Working on a project within a conservation area generally means adhering to extra planning controls and considerations to protect the historic and architectural elements which make the location special. This was the case for Wigwam Architecture and Build when the company was undertaking an extension development within the historic town of Helmsley.

The company needed a low pitch roofing solution for a small rear extension on a very old property situated directly behind the beautiful ruins of historic Helmsley Castle. The design to complete the build had been approved by planning with stipulations that the roof had to be in-keeping with the local vernacular and to match the existing roof which was fitted with old clay pantiles. As reclaimed pantiles cannot be used on a pitch lower than 25° a sub-roof system to achieve the waterproofing element of this roof was required.

Shallow Pitch Solution

Stuart Simpson, Senior Project Manager at Wigwam Architecture and Build, said: "As the roof of the extension was at such a shallow pitch compared to the rest of the house, we had to find a solution that would enable us to use the reclaimed pantiles at a 12° pitch. We had previously used a flat roofing product on a project such as this, but this was just not cost effective in this case. Although it wasn't a large roof there was a lot going on in quite a small area, so we needed to find a different solution for the waterproofing element of the roof.

"Through our research we came across Onduline's ISOLINE® LOW LINE sub-roof system and as it ticked all of the right boxes; significant cost savings that didn't

affect any aesthetics or compromise the build, allowed us to use the tiles at a low pitch, simple and easy to fit, we decided to give it a go. It was the first time that we've used the product and the roofers and joiners that installed it learned about the product as we went along.

"It's now in-situ and is doing a great job and I would say that there is definitely a market for it. Since completing the project, I have spoken to a lot of people about it within the industry and would recommend it to any contractor looking to undertake a low pitch project.

"If we have any other projects that require a low pitch sub-roof then this is absolutely what we will use, as it was so simple and stress-free to fit and does exactly what you need it to do."

Secondary Line of Defence

ISOLINE® LOW LINE is the only system in the UK to be BRE tested and BBA Accredited to as low as 10° with a 30-year guarantee. Designed specifically for use on low pitch roofs, this lightweight bituminous underlay sheeting has been rigorously tested.

With a corrugation height of just 24mm, ISOLINE® LOW LINE is fixed below the primary tile or slate roof covering, acting as the primary waterproofing layer of a



As reclaimed pantiles cannot be used on a pitch lower than 25° a sub-roof system to achieve the waterproofing element of this roof was required.

roof. Thus, making roof tiles a secondary line of defence enabling the pitch of the roof to be much lower than the minimum as recommended by the tile manufacturer.

Not only does this help to meet the demand for maximising living space, as the low pitch means the roof void can be minimised, it also enables traditional tiles to be used in situations where they wouldn't have been able to be utilised previously, such as extensions or large roofing projects, greatly enhancing the aesthetic quality of a property.



Easy to carry, handle and fix, the non-slippery sheets are simple to cut with vertical overlaps embossed into the sheet. This makes installation even quicker and easier as it takes away the need to measure and it also removes confusion when it comes to knowing how much to overlap.

Due to the corrugations, ISOLINE® LOW LINE allows increased ventilation and airflow both above and below the sheet and tile battens positioned above the corrugations allow moisture to drain to the eaves which, with the enhanced ventilation, maintains excellent moisture control within the cavity.

The material is also in line with the growing awareness of 'green' issues and the need to offer sustainable solutions as ISOLINE® LOW LINE sheets are made of a minimum 50% recycled cellulose fibres, contain no asbestos and do not release any hazardous substances. ■

For more information on the ISOLINE® LOW LINE roofing system, and Onduline's other lightweight, eco-friendly and durable roofing solutions visit www.onduline.co.uk.



The Renovation and Re-Roofing of the Quaker Meeting House in Kendal

When it came to re-roofing and renovating the historic Georgian Quaker Meeting House in Kendal, Hodgson Sayers as main contractors worked closely with the architect and structural engineer to overcome a series of set backs and discoveries only revealed during the works.

The wonderful Georgian Grade II* listed Quaker Meeting House, in Kendal in the Lake District, opened in 1816. The building comprises an entrance lobby, stone staircases and a large room occupying the whole of the ground floor.

An upstairs gallery runs round three of the walls and, together with the ground floor, provided seating for around 750 friends when the building first opened. Special events used the large room, such as visits by travelling ministers, large Quaker gatherings, weddings and funerals. Today, the building, with some internal alterations, is the home of the Quaker Tapestry, illustrating the history of Quakerism from the 17th century to the present day. It continues to be used by Kendal Quaker Meeting, as well as the local community.

When the historic building needed renovation, County Durham-based, Hodgson Sayers, was appointed as main contractor, working alongside architect, Anna Williams Associates, SIG Distribution and local suppliers Kendal Building Supplies and JT Atkinson the local branch of the builders' merchants. The contract to carry out major roofing works

and external building repairs, was valued at £500,000.

Before starting the project, investigation works with the architect were undertaken to determine current levels of condensation, causation and mitigation plans. Due to the existing roof construction it was not possible to install proprietary eaves ventilation, therefore, a

series of lead ventilation units were installed to increase air flow, alleviating condensation, while allowing for additional insulation to improve the thermal efficiency of the building.

The Quaker Meeting House, which is situated within the heart of Kendal, presented a few challenging obstacles to overcome to ensure the project was undertaken with minimal disruption to traffic, adjacent businesses and the operation of the building itself. Specific requirements to enable the works to be undertaken included -

- Access points for material deliveries, planned outside the most congested traffic periods
- Protection of the burial grounds located on the Meeting House property
- Spanning and protection of surrounding fragile roofs



KEMPEROL®

The first choice for liquid membranes



With over 60 years' experience, there's not many challenges we haven't faced, confronted and overcome.



Developed to compliment a variety of roof designs, KEMPEROL® has a range of cold applied liquid membranes to suit every application.

visit www.kemperol.co.uk

To find out more about the KEMPEROL® range of products

Tel: 01925 445532

Email: enquiries@kempersystem.co.uk





An area of concern was the original, oversized lead gutters to the front, rear and internal elevations. Following an intrusive survey, Hodgson Sayers designed a new lead gutter into specified bay sizes using Code 7 & 8 lead to comply with building regulations.



included inadequate columns constructed almost on top of the internal ceiling to support roof timbers. The construction of these were a mixture of brick and blockwork, slate or timber packers and rubble or concrete infill. This was putting enormous strain on the existing structure internally with the potential of structural failure that could have resulted in collapse.

Team Collaboration

“Collaboration with the project delivery team and stakeholders enabled us to contribute to the design using a practical approach. We firstly made areas safe and reduced the weight imposed onto the ceiling structure; we then repaired existing timbers using traditional methods of splicing or replacement; then applied treatment, where applicable, to these areas. We then manufactured and installed bespoke steelwork to existing structural members, then tied into the perimeter stonework detail to spread the weight evenly from the roof covering loading.

“Throughout each stage of the project, tasks were broken down to highlight critical quality inspections or hold points before other works could proceed. The site management team would produce and sign off areas, as work proceeded, with the input of the senior site tradesman. This ensured quality was maintained at all times ready for further approval from the architect and client. The experience and knowledge of our tradesmen on site, has been gained over many years and shows their commitment to best practice in the interest of each and every project they are part of.

“They continued to invest themselves into this very interesting project showing a strong commitment to providing solutions, ideas and knowledge to support the project delivery. Even though the project suffered substantial delays which altered the original plan, they were never deflated or defeated and the end goal was always to produce a quality installation to increase the future lifespan of the building and allow many others to enjoy a visit for years to come.” ■■■

regulations. This included a redesign of the lead bay geometry. Using BIM technology, the team specified the exact quantities of materials in a simplified format to be sent to suppliers helping to reduce wastage.

Another focus was the sequence of tasks, which was critical to the delivery plan. This included the stripping of the existing Westmorland slate carefully, numbering, sizing, cleaning and sorting neatly, ready to be reinstalled without overloading the temporary scaffold structure or reducing access for other tasks, such as the lead gutter replacement.

However, there were still many other challenges along the way. Once Hodgson Sayers began to

remove areas of the existing roof covering, structural areas of concern were exposed. The team reported this immediately, accompanied with photographic evidence showing the weak areas. Once the project team had reviewed and shared the findings with the architect and principal designer a structural assessment was decided on. The areas of concern were defective and deteriorated timbers built into the stonework perimeter and floating timbers unsupported by the structure which were at risk of uncontrolled movement or failure.

Peter Condren, Operations Manager at Hodgson Sayers, explained: “The inspection revealed that previous repairs

The experience and knowledge of our tradesmen on site, has been gained over many years and shows their commitment to best practice in the interest of each and every project they are part of.



- No ties to the building were permitted, so as to reduce the damage to the existing façade
- Fully tented weatherproof design to allow works to proceed without risk of water ingress
- Access to all properties maintained at all times ensuring all are operational throughout works

Supporting Scaffold

Once the designs were reviewed and approved, the first task was to create a compacted hardstand to the front and rear elevation to fully support the design scaffold. Due to the history of the building and the known burial grounds, this meant excavation without mechanical aids to ensure the historic remains were not disturbed. The removed spoil was bagged for the duration of the work and put back when the scaffold came down.

As the scaffold roof was constructed, the team gained access to the roof level to accurately measure areas and carry out an intrusive survey of the roof build-up. They took the information back to head office to create a BIM model showing the existing and proposed details to accurately specify the sequence of removal and installation.

An area of concern was the original, oversized lead gutters to the front, rear and internal elevations. Following an intrusive survey, Hodgson Sayers designed a new lead gutter into specified bay sizes using Code 7 & 8 lead to comply with the building

Catalao - A Name You Can Trust, For Now and the Future

European Slate Company (ESCO) are constantly working behind the scenes to give our customers peace of mind when sourcing natural roofing slates. With traceability and conformity now at the forefront of our industry we have been looking at ways to offer the specifier, contractor and merchants a clear and easy solution.

Whilst doing extensive research into legislation we noticed most of the Brazilian slate being offered was showing test results produced by quarries in Brazil that failed to provide an exact date of sampling, testing or source. This in turn meant traceability would be next to impossible and the use of a UKCA mark questionable.



So, we decided to fund an independent BSEN test here in the UK using a UKCA approved testing house. Celtest, based in Trefelin, near Bangor in North Wales, are highly regarded as one of the leading laboratories in the UK and work very closely with Welsh Slate.

Following excellent test results, we can confidently declare that Catalao is now one of the most accredited, traceable Brazilian slates supplied in the UK. It also means, in light of changing legislation, we can proudly display the UKCA approved stamp, elevating Catalao slates to a new height within the ever-growing Brazilian market.

Further to this, we are also delighted to announce that all Catalao roofing slate pallets supplied by European Slate Company will display a label with a QR Code. This QR code when scanned will immediately take you to the Declaration Of Performance Certificate (D.O.P), Accompanying Commercial Document (ACD) and site registration on our website: www.europeanslate.co.uk.

CATALAO SLATES

Benefits at a Glance

- 75 year Guarantee
- UKCA approved
- Smooth, flat, no twisting
- Available in two attractive colours - Graphite and Grey/Green
- Larger sized slates available for Low roof Pitches
- Slate and a half only 2.5 times the slate price
- Good Availability

In today's digital world this makes all the information immediately accessible to everyone, giving full transparency and peace of mind that the product they have chosen is fully accredited. ■■■



ESCO SPANISH SLATE RANGE

- Merayo
- Esco9
- Esco100Q15
- Esco402
- Esco17
- Esco100Q11
- Esco5
- Esco115
- Esco101

UNDERCLOAK

- 3.2mm
 - 4.5mm
- Available in a range of widths and lengths.

OTHER PRODUCTS

- All UK Slates +
- Vents
 - Nails
 - Hooks
 - Ridges

Struggling to Source Indigenous Slate for Heritage Buildings?

Richard Cook, SSQ's Technical Director discusses the benefits of considering an alternative.



For hundreds of years, people have been roofing buildings with slate. Of the materials around today, only thatch has been in use longer. That staying power isn't surprising. Slate is strong, long-lasting, naturally abundant and attractive to look at. As a roofing material, it ticks every box.

But for roofers, architects and tradition-conscious homeowners, it presents one big problem – naturally abundant isn't the same as readily available. There's still plenty of slate in the ground. But especially if you're set on having indigenous slate – that is, slate from Britain and Ireland – getting hold of it can be extremely challenging.

It's easy to see why indigenous slate continues to appeal. If you're replacing an indigenous roof, it's only natural you want to honour the building's heritage, and ensure it's 'in keeping' with its surroundings.

For many, there's almost an emotional attachment to it – the idea that a roof might be made of materials quarried just a few miles away.



Barteliver Farm, situated within an early medieval village first recorded in 1337, is a piece of Cornish agricultural history.

However, sourcing it can be challenging – there are fewer indigenous slate quarries than there once were, and their waiting lists tend to be very long. Fortunately, there's an alternative – phyllite.

Preserving Listed Buildings

Phyllite, like slate, is a type of foliated metamorphic rock – but phyllite is subjected to even greater temperatures and pressures in the ground. What

makes it such a fantastic alternative is that it's both aesthetically and geologically similar to many types of indigenous slate.

For an excellent example of how phyllite can contribute to the preservation of a piece of Britain's heritage, we can look to Bodmin Jail – the Grade II-listed Cornish prison originally built in the late 1700s.

The project's managers wanted a roofing product that could emulate the aesthetics of the 600 x 300 dry-laid Cornish slate that made up the original roof, but that was more readily available.

That led them to consider phyllite – both for its similarity to Cornish slate in terms of its strength, colour and geological profile – and its long track record of approval by Cornwall Council's Historic Environment and Planning Team.



In October of 2022, Ilex Construction Ltd set to work converting these historic barns into residential properties.

The Grade II-listed Cornish prison Bodmin Jail was originally built in the late 1700s.



The installation itself took place over a period of four months, using a similar dry-laid method to the one that had been used on the site's original roof.

The slates were laid using a 200mm gauge. They were copper nailed twice onto 500 x 200 factory-grade treated counter battens, which were fixed to a ply roofing deck using a Permavent Apex Air breather felt.

Access was a challenge throughout the project, which, combined with the height of the roof, meant the slates themselves had to be graded and sorted on the scaffold board.

They were separated into three different thicknesses – thin, medium and thick – and then laid, with the thicker slates at the

eaves course, and the thinner slates cut and dressed under the lead flashing.

The slating was set out using true chalk lines at a regular 200mm gauge. Perpendicular chalk lines were set at 1015mm centres to ensure that an average tolerance of 3-5mm was retained between slate side joints, to allow for minor movements in the roof sub structure.

Slates at all hip and valley junctions were laid using a close mitred detail to ensure the clean lines of the glazed apex weren't interrupted when adjoining the slate roof areas.

The mitred valley and hips were weather proofed using lead soakers treated with patination oil, which were interleaved with

the slates and fixed so that they extended to a minimum of 150mm down each side.

The finished result is a roof that is seamlessly integrated with the modern design of the renovated buildings' roof structure, in a way that protects the centuries-old building underneath, and honours its historic aesthetics.

Protecting Cornwall's Heritage

However, that's not to say that phyllite is purely suited for large-scale renovation projects. It can equally excel on smaller scale heritage buildings.

Barteliver Farm, situated within an early medieval village first recorded in 1337, is a piece of Cornish agricultural history.

When the roofs of several Grade II listed barns on the farm needed replacing, the search began for a material that would protect both the structural and historical integrity of these buildings.

In October of 2022, Ilex Construction Ltd set to work converting these historic barns into residential properties.

When work began on reviving the barn roofs, the team discovered that the roofs had been previously

repaired using different sizes and gauges of slate – this had done more harm than good and hastened the need for repairs.

Firstly, the existing roofing was carefully removed and the timber structure inspected and repaired.

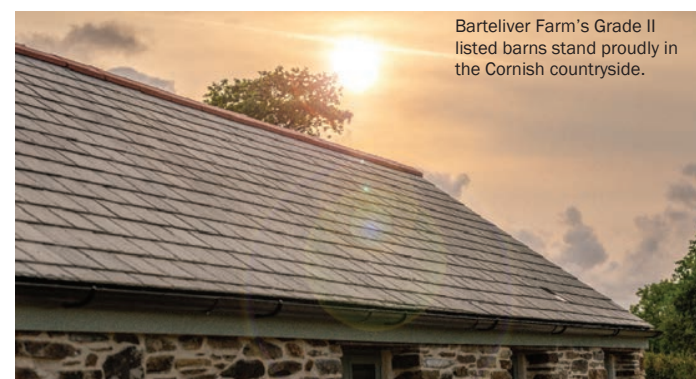
Riverstone 500mm x 250 mm Ultra-grade tiles were then laid using a blend of modern and traditional construction techniques in a celebration of both the old and the new.

The thinnest possible phyllite that still retains its superior strength, Ultra-grade Riverstone was chosen to recapture the charm of the roof's original aesthetics while ensuring that it remains weathertight in even the strongest of coastal storms.

While access to the site was a challenge due to ecological concerns, the project was completed both on time and on budget.

Now fully restored, Barteliver Farm's Grade II listed barns stand proudly in the Cornish countryside. III

For more information on how phyllite could transform your next project, contact SSQ today. For more information email info@ssq.co.uk, or call 020 8038 2675.



Barteliver Farm's Grade II listed barns stand proudly in the Cornish countryside.



The Roost Partnership: Working with Industry to Create Habitat for Bats

Jo Ferguson, Built Environment Manager at the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) explains how the organisation is working with roofing manufacturers to help roofers to play your part in making sure these remarkable animals have the spaces they need to thrive.



All 17 bat species that breed in the UK have been recorded using buildings to a lesser or greater degree, however for some species their very survival may depend on roosts in roofs.

Features of roofs mimic natural, but sadly now increasingly scarce, roosting sites. If you are a bat, lifted roof tiles provide similar roosting habitat to lifted bark, and roof voids may provide space equivalent to the inside of a hollow veteran tree.

The loss of natural roosting sites coupled with factors such as intensive agriculture, farming and increasing urbanisation, including greater light pollution, have all had a dramatic impact on our bat populations, which have suffered

serious declines in the last century. This matters because UK bats are Indicator species; changes to our bat populations can indicate changes in other aspects of the environment on which we all ultimately depend. All UK bat species eat insects and as such can play an important part in suppressing pests that damage crops and gardens – a single bat can eat thousands of insects each night.

Because of their key role in our ecosystem and the population declines, all species of bat and their roosts are protected by law in the UK. This means it is illegal to damage, destroy or disturb any bats or their roosts. Statutory Nature Conservation Organisations (SNCOs) can issue

Bats will use a cool, humid roost to hibernate (go into 'torpor') in the winter months but they require a warm, dry place to have their young in the summer months and roof spaces frequently fulfil this latter need.

advice, along with a special licence where required, to enable work to continue while taking necessary precautions.

Roof Space Roosts

It is important to note that roosts are protected even when bats are not present, such is the essential part each roost plays in a bat's life cycle. For instance, bats will use a cool, humid roost to hibernate (go into 'torpor') in the winter

months but they require a warm, dry place to have their young in the summer months and roof spaces frequently fulfil this latter need. Bats do not use the same roosting sites throughout the year, which means licensed works may take place when bats are not present but the roost is retained.

With the advent now of well-designed green roofs, the industry has the potential to

ll-

**GREAT
WITH
SLATE**

**TILE
WITH
STYLE**

**BRE tested
to PD CEN/TR
15601
Test B & D**

NEW HERITAGE VALLEY

The unique, dry-fix, invisible valley trough, for a heritage aesthetic that's cost-effective and simple to achieve!

- Unique S-profile design
- No valley roof tile required
- No special eaves closures required
- Far less tile-and-a-half or slate-and-a-half required
- BRE weather resistance tested

www.filon.co.uk

Telephone 01543 687300 Email: sales@filon.co.uk

FILON®

|| provide great feeding habitat for many insects, which in turn benefit other wildlife including bats. However, it is actually roof structures themselves that can prove key in providing homes for our bats. Maternity roosts of many UK species, often found in buildings, are particularly important since bats are a slow breeding species that only have one baby (called a pup) a year. When a roost is destroyed, damaged, or made unusable, an alternative suitable roost may not be readily available. This potential loss can impact the whole local breeding population.

A combination of legal protection along with conservation action has resulted in encouraging signs that bat populations are starting to recover. We still have a long way to go to make up for the massive historical declines but everyone can play a part in this positive wildlife conservation story. This includes awareness of these unique and fascinating creatures and some practical steps to ensure their survival, such as enhancing roof structures with bat access products.

Roost Partnership

To this end, the Bat Conservation Trust, as a science based organisation, set up the Roost Partnership scheme that seeks to develop evidence based bat roosting products with



BCT's job through the Roost Partnership is to enable the roofing industry to contribute to the conservation and protection of bats as part of every day working practices.

manufacturers, including those making products for roofers. [\[https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/buildings-planning-and-development/roost-replacement-and-enhancement/partnerships\]](https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/buildings-planning-and-development/roost-replacement-and-enhancement/partnerships)

Guided by the latest academic research and feedback from ecology and roofing professionals, we are developing products for a variety of bat species that also work for practitioners fitting them. Currently the Roost Partnership scheme has three partners:

- **Just Lead**, which produces two types of bat access

product in the form a of Bat Tile: [\[https://www.justlead.co.uk/product/bat-access-tile-weathering/\]](https://www.justlead.co.uk/product/bat-access-tile-weathering/) and Bat Tube [\[https://www.justlead.co.uk/product/bat-tubes-for-slatted-tiled-pitched-roofs/\]](https://www.justlead.co.uk/product/bat-tubes-for-slatted-tiled-pitched-roofs/)

- **Wildcare**, that sells the integrated BatBlock [\[https://www.greenandblue.co.uk/products/bat-block-bat-brick?utm_source=Partnerships&utm_medium=Roost+Partnership&utm_campaign=BCT+Roost+Partnership+Page\]](https://www.greenandblue.co.uk/products/bat-block-bat-brick?utm_source=Partnerships&utm_medium=Roost+Partnership&utm_campaign=BCT+Roost+Partnership+Page)

- **Manthorpe Building Products** is developing a brand new bat roosting product for the market due for release in Spring 2024, so watch this space...!

Ultimately BCT's job through the Roost Partnership is to enable the roofing industry to contribute to the conservation and protection of bats as part of every day working practices. This could be through the use or recommendation of Roost Partnership products in line with ecologists advice. However it could also be through raising awareness with clients and even producing internal guidance on what to do if bats are found during roof works.

There are many opportunities to build-in spaces for urban species that need our help whilst still complying with all the necessary regulations, including those for low and zero-carbon buildings, enabling new roosts to be established and playing an important part in the recovery of these remarkable animals. |||

For further information on the Roost Partnership: <https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/buildings-planning-and-development/roost-replacement-and-enhancement/partnerships>.

For further information on how to consider bats during roofing works: <https://www.bats.org.uk/advice/im-working-on-a-building-with-bats>



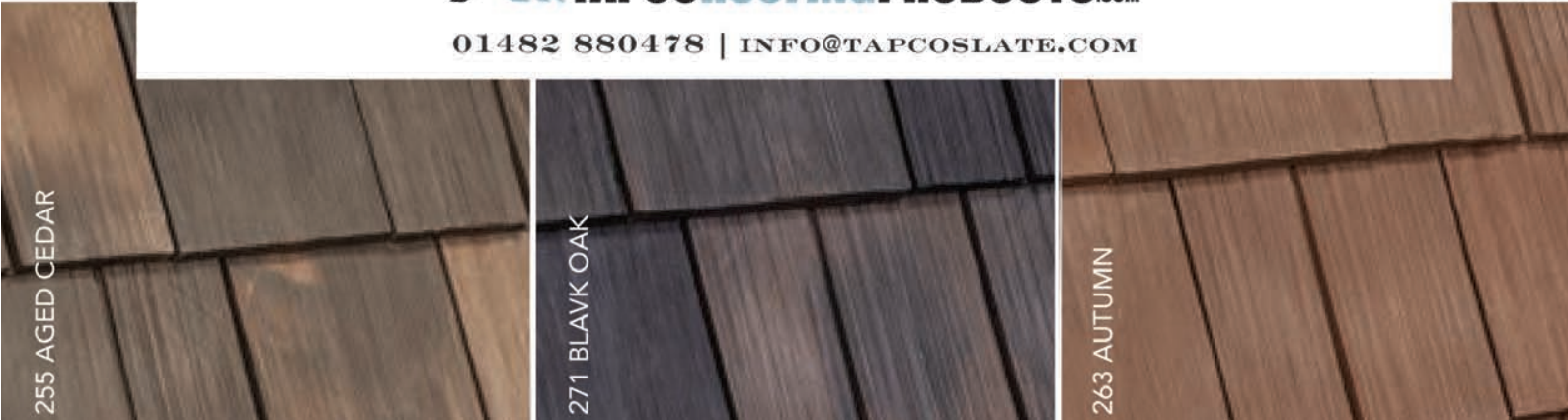
THE BEAUTY OF NATURAL CEDAR
Without the maintenance!

It's only natural to want a roofing tile that looks just as good as traditional cedar shake roofing... but performs even better! That's why DaVinci Select Shake is moulded from real wood to ensure an authentic appearance. And why it's manufactured with our proprietary composite formula to create beautiful, weather-resistant tiles that provide exactly the look and color you want for years to come... without the hassle of maintaining natural wood!



DaVinci Select Shake composite cedar roofing is available exclusively at:

TAPCO ROOFING PRODUCTS.COM
01482 880478 | INFO@TAPCOSLATE.COM



Developer Prosecuted for Breaking Bat Licence Terms

A property developer was fined for stripping a roof where bats roosted, installing the wrong roof underlay and failing to install bat access tiles.

Derbyshire house builder, Patrick Weekes, aged 55, of Radbourne Construction Limited, Vernongate, Derby pled guilty to four offences at Southern Derbyshire Magistrates’ Court.

At the 4 September 2023 hearing, Patrick Weekes was prosecuted for four offences relating to a housing development in Harehill, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

He was ordered to pay £14,435.17 after the prosecution was brought by Natural England for breaking the terms of a European Protected Species Bat Mitigation Licence.

He was fined £3,200 plus a victim’s surcharge of £1,280 and ordered to pay full prosecution costs of £9,955.17.

The court heard that a Bat Licence was issued to Patrick Weekes in October 2020. The licence allowed the capture, disturbance, transport, and damage of resting places for Brown long-eared (Plecotus auritus) and Common pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pipistrellus) bats. It also permitted the damage of a breeding site for Brown long-eared bats.

Breaking Bat Licences

The court was told that Natural England’s Wildlife Licensing Service became aware of potential breaches of the licence issued to the defendant in October 2022. They decided to prosecute because the breaches affected the welfare of the bat species, leaving brown long-eared bats with no suitable maternity roosting place within the site. The breaches also significantly reduced the suitability of roosting opportunities for common pipistrelle bats, as well as endangering the welfare of both species.

Natural England’s Enforcement Team led a multi-agency site visit in February 2023 which recorded that the defendant had breached the conditions of his licence on four counts:

Failed to install Bitumen type 1F roofing felt with hessian matrix as agreed in the licence. This roofing felt is designed to be non-breathable which mitigates the risks to bats. Breathable roofing membranes can cause bats to become entangled in the loose fibres and result in their injury or death.

Failed to install the compensation and mitigation measures as agreed in the licence. Measures are included in licences to reduce the harm to bats,



Photo credit: Hugh Clark / Bat Conservation Trust. A brown long-eared (Plecotus auritus) bat.

Where individuals or companies place the welfare or Favourable Conservation Status of protected species at risk, we will not hesitate to take targeted and proportionate enforcement action.

mitigate for any impacts, and where impacts cannot be mitigated then compensation is designed to maintain the Favourable Conservation Status as required in legislation. In this case, the agreed compensation in the form of various specific ridge crevices and access tiles to allow bats to roost within the roof were not installed, and the loft space set aside to compensate for the loss of a Brown long-eared maternity roost was unsuitable.

Failed to complete post-development monitoring as agreed in the licence. Monitoring is vital to understand whether the impacts of bats have been successfully mitigated and compensated for.

Stripped the roof of a property containing a Common pipistrelle day roost without direct ecological supervision, as agreed in the licence. Ecologist supervision is required wherever there is a risk that bats can be encountered, such as stripping a roof with a confirmed bat roost present. This is to ensure that works are done in a sympathetic way towards bats and if any bats

are found during the process they can be safely transferred to a suitable bat box on site.

Acted Against Advice

In sentencing the defendant, the court noted that he had acted in contravention to the professional advice provided by both the developer’s own ecological consultant and Natural England.

Additionally, the defendant did not carry out work to mitigate the harmful impact on bats when instructed to do so by Natural England.

Steph Bird-Halton, Natural England’s National Delivery Director, said: “Natural England does not take the decision to prosecute lightly. However, where individuals or companies place the welfare or Favourable Conservation Status of protected species at risk, we will not hesitate to take targeted and proportionate enforcement action.

“I would like to thank the Bat Conservation Trust’s Wildlife Crime Project for the assistance they provided in this case.” III

Why Glenvale Park Schools Opted for Soprema’s One-Stop Shop

Counting about 3,000 residential properties, Glenvale Park is a brand-new neighbourhood in the north of Wellingborough. To cater to the local community’s educational needs, the project includes a new nursery school and primary school. Together with single-ply specialist Rock Roofing and main contractor Lindum Group, Soprema took care of the pitched and flat roofs of the educational facilities, waterproofing 3,000m² with the aesthetically stunning FLAGON membranes.

One Site, Two Projects

Soprema secured the Glenvale Park project in October 2022, providing its developers with a significant commercial advantage over competitor solutions. Construction of the Glenvale Park nursery school started in January 2023, soon followed by works on the primary school.

Soprema not only supplied the waterproofing and insulation solutions: our expert team was also responsible for interim site inspections, thermal calculations, and other services – always in close collaboration with Rock Roofing.

Leon Horobin, Soprema’s Technical Sales Manager, greatly values the longstanding relationship with Rock Roofing: “We have worked with the company founders, with Contracts Manager Steve Hatcher and other team members for almost a decade. The level of collaboration has always been outstanding.”

Overcoming Challenges

Steve Hatcher stresses that the quality of roofing works benefited massively from the strong partnership between Rock Roofing and Soprema. Steve said: “We relied on Soprema’s valuable on-site assistance and leveraged the expertise of their technical professionals to resolve the issues



we encountered – and there were quite a lot of them, making the project all the more engaging and interesting for the team.”

Design challenges

The first challenges arose from the fact that we were not working on a flat but on a pitched roof, requiring careful thought and planning. The detailing becomes more complex as the angles of the profiles change, and working on a slope makes installing the sheets and products trickier.

Challenging weather conditions

Snowfall and rain made the roof wet and slippery and low temperatures delayed work, increasing deadline pressure. However, we were able to overcome these setbacks and make up for lost time when it became warmer.

Benefits of Working with Soprema

Incredibly wide range
Both fully adhered and mechanically fixed systems were used for the Glenvale Park schools, testifying to Soprema’s extensive product range and showcasing our ability to tailor solutions to the most diverse roof situations. We can select multiple products from our range to meet client needs and cover cost considerations. Moreover, the roofs being highly visible and their aesthetics a major selling point, we ensured that our

solution added to their visual appeal.

Cost-effective alternative to metal roofing

For the visible roofing areas, we used single-ply membranes while adding profiles to make them look like standing seam roofs. The result looks as stunning as a metal roof yet is much more durable with a product life exceeding 35 years. In addition, our synthetic roofing membranes are recyclable, easier to install, more cost-effective and much lighter than aluminium, lead or copper roofing. The lower permanent load results in additional cost savings because the roof structure can be lighter as well.

Fully adhered system

On the pitched areas, which are very visible, we used fully adhered membranes to obtain a beautiful flat appearance. More specifically, the build-up is FLAGON SB, our



fleece-backed membrane composed of flexible PVC, on top of SOPRATHERM G, a glass tissue-faced PIR insulation. The self-adhesive SOPRAVAP STICK ALU 16 membrane served as a vapour control layer, and the metal deck was primed with ELASTACOL 600 primer.

Mechanically fixed systems
For areas that were not visible, we opted for two mechanically fixed systems for quick installation and cost-effectiveness.

The first mechanically fixed area consists of FLAGON SR DE, SOPRATHERM F insulation and a VAPOR FLAG vapour control layer.

Solar PV and roof lights

Rock Roofing integrated solar PV panels into the roofing system and installed remote and temperature controlled roof lights. Steve Hatcher said: “It really is an all-encompassing package you get. Only a big supplier like Soprema has the different products you need for optimally waterproofing and insulating multiple roof areas.”

One-stop shop and warranty

An additional advantage of having one supplier for the entire build-up is the reassurance that all products, which are designed as a system, are fully compatible with a single-point warranty. For the Glenvale Park schools, we even extended our standard 20-year Sopracover warranty to 25 years. Finally, all the fire requirements of B_{ROOF(t4)} are of course covered.

Exciting Projects Ahead

Employing a complete system tailored to unique installations was crucial to overcoming the complexity of this project. And more exciting collaborations between Rock Roofing and Soprema are in the pipeline. III

Interested in our one-stop shop approach for your own project? Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions by visiting <https://www.soprema.co.uk/en/contact>.

Protection for Bats

All bat species are afforded legal protection as a European Protected Species under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

It is a criminal offence to contravene or fail to comply with any condition of a licence issued by Natural England, pursuant to Regulation 60(1) of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

The Favourable Conservation Status of a species refers to the situation in which a habitat or species is thriving throughout its natural range and is expected to continue to thrive in the future.

Ensuring that Favourable Conservation Status is maintained after any licensable actions is key to all European Protected Species licensing decisions made by Natural England.

Change to Waste Wood Disposal Rule RPS 250 - Update

An important development in rules surrounding the disposal of waste wood was announced by the Wood Recyclers' Association (WRA) in early November.

The trade body said that, following extensive discussions with the Environment Agency on behalf of industry, a new regulatory position statement for waste wood will make it more practical to meet regulatory requirements while still ensuring compliance.

The new rule, RPS 291, allows, in the short term, for potentially hazardous 'amber' waste wood items removed from domestic premises, demolition sites or other building types to be stored and processed as non-hazardous, provided the material is tested at least quarterly and the results are shared with the WRA.

It means that producers still need to test amber material, but will no longer have to test every item or consign them as hazardous in order to achieve compliance.

Test for Compliance

Importantly, those who do not share their test results with the WRA and receive a submission report will not be compliant under the RPS. Furthermore, the RPS 291 is short term and if testing does not happen, it could be removed at any time.

Other conditions of the new rule include that material must be destined for Chapter IV biomass plants or panel board manufacture and must be moved under a waste transfer note.

The RPS will expire on 1 October 2024 and could be withdrawn before then if sampling and testing is not forthcoming.

The other UK environmental regulators are supporting all of the WRA guidance, so the same rules will apply in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.



The new rule, RPS 291, allows in the short term, for potentially hazardous 'amber' waste wood items removed from domestic premises, demolition sites or other buildings to be stored and processed as non-hazardous, provided the material is tested at least quarterly and the results are shared with the WRA.

Skip Access Concerns

The development of the RPS, driven by the WRA, follows concerns raised over the last few weeks about ongoing confusion over the removal of RPS 250 on 1 September 2023 and what it means for those handling waste wood from household refurbishments.

In particular, some housing associations, roofers and window installers have not been able to access skips for the disposal of waste wood due to the requirement to test or consign as hazardous every amber item.

After 1 September, roofing contractors began reporting that skip hire companies were suddenly charging in the region of an additional £200 per skip to cover the disposal of what was now regarded as hazardous waste.

Some skip companies refused to hire to roofing companies

altogether, while others expected roofers to pay for testing. Higher up the waste disposal supply chain, some waste processors were charging more to take waste wood from home refurbishments. In other cases, some processors have refused to take it altogether, according to the WRA.

"We welcome the launch of RPS 291 which is the result of us raising concerns about those collecting waste wood from households and some very long discussions with the Environment Agency on behalf of industry", commented Vicki Hughes, Technical Lead on the WRA Board.

"Testing still needs to happen but this short term RPS will mean it is less onerous and ensure that waste wood can continue to be processed with minimal disruption and cost."

"We would like to thank the Environment Agency for listening to us and for building the requirement for testing into the regulatory framework. However, we need to stress that this has only been agreed for a short period on the basis that testing continues and that the results are shared with us."

Trade Bodies Need to Engage

Vicki continued: "We also need the other trade bodies impacted to engage with their members and encourage testing to ensure that everyone is ready for when the RPS is withdrawn next year."

The 'amber list' items of waste wood that need testing are from buildings built between 1950 and 2006 and are:

- Roof timbers
- Tiling and cladding battens
- Timber frames and joists

Other 'amber list' items of waste wood also from buildings built between 1950 and 1995 include:

- barge boards, fascias and soffits
- external timber cladding
- external doors
- external windows

To help industry understand the new RPS, the WRA have produced a new video and updated its Frequently Asked Questions document to explain the changes.

These will be available on the WRA website (<https://woodrecyclers.org>) as part of its updated Toolkit on the withdrawal of RPS 250, which contains resources to help operators be compliant. It includes detailed guidance on how to take samples of amber wood items and send them for testing. |||



- Advertising Feature -

CPL's Aerial Platform Range Offers New Opportunities for Roofing Sector

The CPL 20 metre, is now available in the UK with stock ready for demonstration. This model is particularly sought after within the roofing sector due to its fast speed of set up, ease of operation and front mounted basket.

The entire range of CPL's aerial platforms are easily accessible to anyone for 'basic' use as well as for more 'sophisticated' or specific manoeuvres.

They are equipped with easy-to-use controls to enable personnel to operate and handle them safely, and to position the work platform precisely at the desired height.

This platform has a space-saving front basket attachment, that makes it easy to position the basket at height.

CPL 20m Chassis Mount

The CPL 20m Chassis mount also has a high load capacity: the articulating aerial platforms are designed to carry two operators and equipment, making them ideal for construction and maintenance work where tools

and equipment need to be transported to working height.

This model is also equipped with electro-hydraulic controls and its articulated boom has an outreach of 8.4m. Unlike telescopic platforms that do not have double articulation, they offer a greater degree of freedom than their

competitors. This makes them more suitable for working at heights that are difficult to access. This articulated design offers great versatility and mobility in tight spaces. However, the articulated arm, which offers smoother movements, requires additional cylinders.

Recommended for Roofing

The chassis range of aerial work platforms provided by CPL offer a variety of practical and efficient machines and are recommended for use in construction, roofing and building maintenance, as they offer greater flexibility.

The arm, which folds out, makes it possible to reach areas over obstacles rather than under them. It also allows you to work on the same point and move horizontally or vertically with ease.

CPL has a range of platforms suitable for all work at height. Contact CPL to find out about their solutions for your work at height. |||

Telephone 01536 529876 or visit: <https://cpl-uk.com/>.



How Schedule 3 and the New SuDS Rules Impact Roofing Contractors

2024 is set to be a significant year for the construction industry. That's because the implementation of the Flood and Water Management Act Schedule 3 will come into force, meaning sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) will become mandatory in England for many new and retrofit development schemes. Here, Neill Robinson-Welsh, Consultant at ACO Building Drainage, discusses what this means for roofing contractors, especially with regard to blue and blue/green roofs.



As unbelievable as it sounds, it's nearly 2024. With the new year rapidly approaching, it is vital that those involved in property development understand Schedule 3 and the impact it will have on their day-to-day work. Schedule 3 itself is a set of requirements concerning sustainable drainage from the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. It will make it mandatory to incorporate SuDS into new construction projects and is expected to impact both new developments and renovation work on multiple dwelling units or properties over 100m².

As a result of Schedule 3, there will no longer be an automatic right to connect to public sewers. Before permission is granted, appropriate SuDS must be put in place and signed off by the SuDS Approval Body (SAB), who ensure that a drainage proposal meets the standards created by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

How Roofing Contractors are Affected

With Schedule 3 so near, it is expected that there will be a

greater call for blue and green roofs. They provide solutions for many dense urban drainage projects so contractors may well be familiar with them already.

For roofers working in urban areas, the impact of Schedule 3 to their work is already clear. We know that in any redevelopment in highly urbanised areas such as cities, the developer will be asked to show how the scheme will be implementing SuDS. One of the major challenges for contractors will be projects where there isn't room for a surface-level SuDS solution. This is likely where blue and green roofs will be most in demand.

Along with facilitating safer drainage, blue and green roofs can be applied to boost biodiversity while being amenable – two of the four SuDS pillars. Becoming familiar with the solutions currently available and how they help biodiversity will help roofing contractors better navigate the incoming Schedule 3 landscape.

Blue Roof Specification

There are a number of elements that must be kept in mind when discussing blue roofs, including

hydraulic capacity, flow rate and attenuation. It's also important to account for those 1 in 100 rainfall events.

Rainfall is one of the most significant and difficult aspects involved in the design of blue roofs. As they are technically flat roofs, blue roofs must therefore be installed in compliance with BS EN 12056-3:2000, the British Standard for gravity drainage on flat roofs, as well as BS 6229:2018, for flat roofs with continuously supported flexible waterproof coverings.

The question here is, how can contractors make sure they provide good SuDS and meet all the necessary standards? The answer is by understanding the solutions. A blue roof, for example, is not a 'roofing system' per se, but an attenuation solution that sits on top of a roof. Contractors can simplify the task at hand by considering the design features as fulfilling entirely separate functions. In this way, they can better avoid leaks or other failures.

The end result is an attenuation system that functions independently from the roof,

providing slower drainage, and storing water from heavy rainfall incidents. Essentially, this guarantees that roofers can follow BS EN 12056-3:2000 and other planning rules even while dealing with two seemingly incompatible requirements.

Next Steps

It can be daunting when regulations change, though it doesn't have to be. Contractors can take steps now to prepare for Schedule 3. As the new requirements will have a significant impact on many roofers' day-to-day activities, it's important they get ready now, so the changes don't disrupt their ability to provide high quality work that meets all relevant building regulations.

Ensuring familiarity with blue and green roof solutions will also stand contractors in good stead. It will allow them to take advantage of the growing number of blue and green roof projects that will be available once Schedule 3 becomes a higher priority for many developments and renovations. ■■

For more on blue roof specification visit [ACO.co.uk](https://aco.co.uk).



First is the flat roof.



The attenuation system.



The finished blue/green roof.

Can you help to build a picture of hope and comfort?



Your piece matters.

As an industry, you have the power to make an impact with every donation to the CRASH Christmas card appeal.

Your donation is like a jigsaw piece that builds hope, security and dignity for people experiencing homelessness, and children and adults receiving hospice care.

Donate now and get your company e-card at crash.org.uk/christmas

It is only when all the pieces come together that CRASH can make a difference.



CRASH is your industry charity. Be proud of it. Be part of it.



CRASH is a registered charity in England & Wales No. 1054107
T: 020 8742 0717 • fundraising@crash.org.uk • www.crash.org.uk



EJOT Colorfast Fasteners now FM Approved

EJOT has secured the globally renowned FM approval for all the most widely used products in the Colorfast range of colour-matched self-drilling fasteners. It provides specifiers and contractors with another independent stamp of approval for the suitability of the range's key products when used for fixing sandwich panels, or built-up envelope systems designed to the same standard. Whilst Colorfast's original metal parent product has long been FM Approved, this latest approval classifies the products in their own right to an international standard that applies to fully tested systems. Every element of the building envelope is assessed down to the smallest fasteners, representing a gold standard. Achieving the FM Approved mark for Colorfast screws supports EJOT UK's increasing export market. It is recognised and required by specifiers and building inspectors in countries including the US, Australia and south east Asia, where Colorfast sales are growing.



Now onto its third generation, Colorfast outperforms other colour-matched screws thanks to its over-moulded nylon head and the high quality of the washers and screws, which are carbon steel or stainless steel for enhanced corrosion resistance. [Details of all EJOT's FM Approved fasteners are available on RoofNav. Find out more: https://www.ejot.co.uk/Colorfast_FM_Approval.](https://www.ejot.co.uk/Colorfast_FM_Approval)

Cool Roofs Solutions with Soprema – Choosing the Right Materials Matters

Soprema offers a complete range of cool roof solutions with our bitumen, liquid and synthetic (PVC/TPO) full system build-ups. Whichever waterproofing system has been specified, we can deliver high-quality, robust, reliable and fully compatible systems, as well as extensive technical services and support throughout the project, and a single point warranty. The correct cool roof material will depend on the climate, budget and desired aesthetics.



At Soprema, we offer complete waterproofing system build-ups specially designed for cool roofs. For a bitumen waterproofing system, we offer, Sopralene Optima 4 GF C3 FR CRW – a white bituminous felt solution with a value of +/- 70. Our ALSAN liquid waterproofing system offering includes ALSAN 970 CR – a fast curing and highly flexible white reflective layer with the SRI of 108, specially designed for the ALSAN PMMA ReflectRoof system, which can reduce the temperature of the roof surface to 35°C. We also offer synthetic (PVC/TPO) cool roof solutions with our range of FLAGON ENERGY PLUS membranes. [If you would like to discuss our complete cool roof solutions, please contact our technical experts at techsupport@soprema.co.uk, call 0330 0580668 or visit www.soprema.co.uk.](mailto:techsupport@soprema.co.uk)

The Work Trouser and Kneepad System to Fit Your Job

It's said that hard-working craftsmen and women put more pressure on their knees than many top athletes. That's why the risk of knee injuries is higher among trade professionals and manual workers than other occupations. One of the best ways to avoid knee problems is to wear Snickers Workwear trousers with their innovative knee protection, KneeGuard™. Snickers Workwear has 86 types of work trousers in multiple sizes to suit a host different trades and jobs on site, plus 8 different types of kneepads. Together they deliver hundreds of work trouser and kneepad combinations to effectively deal with different types of knee impacts; the amount of time working on knees; and individual needs for personal protection. The work trousers and kneepads are designed to deliver flexibility when you walk and close around your knees when you kneel down to prevent your knees from sliding off the kneepad when moving around on the floor.



So, when you're seriously considering long-lasting knee protection, look for the Snickers Workwear KneeGuard™ system - tested and certified for performance, efficiency and protection to deliver comfort and wellbeing day in, day out. [Download a digital catalogue at www.snickersworkwear.co.uk.](http://www.snickersworkwear.co.uk)

Engineered in the UK to Shape a Sustainable Tomorrow

With the market being flooded with cheap imports, an increasing number of architects are opting to bolster the UK economy by specifying domestically-produced products and brands. West Fraser has been a respected and trusted provider of OSB, particleboard, and MDF to the UK architecture and construction markets for several decades. Every engineered wood panel, produced in Scotland, is net carbon negative and meets rigorous standards, ensuring quality and compliance.



The product range includes: SterlingOSB Zero, the first and only UK-made OSB with zero-added formaldehyde which has been trusted by the trade for over 30 years for its structural capability and aesthetic prowess; CaberFloor, the most popular P5 flooring range in the UK, and CaberMDF, the original MDF brand in the UK. The panels are net carbon negative, meaning they lock up more carbon than is released during manufacture. In addition, West Fraser is committed to responsible supply chains specifically to ensure the legality, traceability and prohibiting products associated with deforestation & forest degradation. All UK-manufactured products are FSC® certified (FSC® C012533).

[For further information, call 01786 812 921 or visit https://uk.westfraser.com/.](https://uk.westfraser.com/)

EPD Insulation Group Build Board to Grow Business

EPD Insulation Group (EPD) has appointed its first full board of Directors. Taking the business forward to new levels of success, the new board consists of Steve Boon, CEO, Tony Brown, MD, Lloyd Frith-Robinson, Finance Director, Steve McMillan, Commercial Director, Ben Popple, Sales Director and Neil Farrow, Marketing Director. Steve Boon said, "As we see the business going through a record growth period it was evident that we needed the right skills and personalities to take charge of their respective departments and manage that growth in the most effective way."



Servicing its customers from a 90,000Sq/ft central distribution hub based in Peterborough, and a 46,000Sq/ft hub west of Cambridge via a large and diverse fleet of delivery vehicles, EPD has put in place the next phase of its growth. With its stock holding in excess of £3.5million, and the large delivery radius, EPD can supply stock items from their warehouses on a next day basis if required. Additionally, they have invested in a brand-new digital delivery system, which ensures you are able to track your order in real time via your phone or email.

Samac Fixing's Solarguard Pro: Keeping debris and birds from Solar Panel installations

A growing number of households are turning to solar panels in a bid to reduce their environmental impact and slash soaring heating bills, but maintaining solar panels can be a challenging task. Samac Fixings has launched the Solarguard Pro, a roofing solution designed to keep debris and birds from getting underneath the solar panels, while removing the need for drilling and the potential for damaging the array and voiding the warranty.



The framework supporting solar panels are inviting perches for birds which can result in a build-up of debris and corrosive droppings beneath the panels. Easily retrofitted, Solarguard Pro is the ideal solution which is easy to install and safeguards up to eight solar panels. Simply affix the two corner pieces to the highest row of panels, position the guard sections between them and secure them in place with a mounting clamp. Each pack includes 20 guards, four corner guards, and 108 mounting clamps, suitable for use on all solar panels with a U-profile. It also comes with a 10-year warranty, offering installers and homeowners genuine peace of mind. [For more details on the Samac Fixings range visit: https://www.samacfixings.co.uk.](https://www.samacfixings.co.uk)

Introducing New Langley PU Liquid Waterproofing

Langley has been supplying high-quality systems for more than 50 years. As part of our commitment to sustainable and long-lasting systems, the Langley PU liquid waterproofing system has been developed to the same exceptional standards which can be expected from us. Offering guarantee lengths of 20 and 25 years, our new liquid technology allows the application of a 25-year system in just two coats. This decreases install time compared to many other liquids in the market where a 3-coat system is required.



Langley PU is a solvent free, polyurethane coating system comprised of primers and liquid-applied membranes and is compatible with the range of accessories, rooflights and sustainable solutions on offer. Perfect for sensitive or occupied sites, the low-odour liquid can be used on buildings such as schools or hospitals. As with all liquid systems, the practicality and flexibility of installation by brush or roller solves problems associated with long-term waterproofing, where there is significant plant or complex detailing. You can also be assured that the accreditation and testing are to the highest standards, as the Langley PU system is approved by the British Board of Agrément, with a durability statement of 30 years. [Visit: www.langley.co.uk.](http://www.langley.co.uk)

Blade Roofing Reaches New Heights with BigChange Job Management Software

Blade Roofing has rolled out a job management and mobile app system to reduce administration and eliminate paperwork. The cloud-based system from BigChange has also helped boost operational efficiencies, improve customer service and has given management real-time visibility of all work. Real-time vehicle tracking and fleet management tools are also helping Blade better respond to emergency call outs, monitor fleet security and improve workforce health and safety.



Based in Bradford, Blade Roofing is entrusted by numerous FTSE 100 companies to maintain their property portfolios as well as delivering projects in the new-build and refurbishment sectors. Using the BigChange job management system, which incorporates a mobile workforce app, customer relationship management (CRM), job scheduling, live tracking, financial management and business intelligence tools, has eliminated paper from Blade's operational processes including initial data entry, work allocation, site reporting and invoicing. The system's advanced analytics and newly introduced 'dashboards' are also helping Blade to better understand a variety of performance indicators, for example quote conversion metrics and 'turnaround' time statistics in addition to comparing job data details with other data such as rainfall or wind conditions. [Visit: www.bigchange.com.](http://www.bigchange.com)

CUPA PIZARRAS Natural Slates Provide a Striking, Sustainable and Fully Warrantied Solution

CUPA R12 Excellence was installed as part of a roof refurbishment project at Parkstone, an Edwardian residence converted into five luxury apartments in Leeds. The natural Spanish slate was specified as it's a high-quality product with more than 100 years of lifespan. The original plan to reuse the existing tiles wasn't feasible as the 100-year-old tiles had incurred too much wear and tear so roofing contractor Ian McCarthy from Yorkshire Heritage Roofing recommended CUPA R12 Excellence roof slate. Tested and certified to T1 (thermal cycling), S1 (sulphur dioxide) and W1 (water absorption) levels, CUPA R12 won't discolour, split or crack, offering excellent piece of mind for the building's residents. The slates feature thin laminations and a smooth matt surface split to an average thickness of 3.5mm, 5mm and 6mm.



The re-roofing work was a complex challenge. Although all CUPA slate comes pre-cut and pre-holed, there were areas where the slate had to be cut to size to accommodate dormer windows and chimneys. While initially sceptical about Yorkshire Heritage's proposal to introduce a striking red clay ridge to contrast the grey slate, the apartment owners all agree that the aesthetic blend is fantastic. [Visit: www.cupapizaras.com/uk/.](http://www.cupapizaras.com/uk/)

Gribben Solar Roofing and TaperedPlus Deliver Customised Roof for Eco-friendly London Library

The new Northcote Library in London is one of the country's most energy efficient public buildings partly due to a customised roofing system delivered by Gribben Solar Roofing Ltd in partnership with TaperedPlus. Main contractor McLaughlin & Harvey tasked Gribben Solar Roofing with installing a high-quality, durable and energy efficient roofing system.



It engaged TaperedPlus to design and supply the flat roofing system and insulation, incorporating its ROCKdeck product, a non-combustible and robust insulation system designed for balconies, terraces, and areas requiring roof mounted equipment, including solar panels and air conditioning units. TaperedPlus created a customised system to meet the demands of the project, comprising individual areas of flat roofing, solar panels, and several eco-friendly 'living' roofs. ROCKdeck combines the non-combustible and dual density properties of ROCKWOOL insulation with 12.7mm coverboard providing long term point load and permanent load capabilities, tested to BS/EN 1606-2013. Aman Chahal, CEO of TaperedPlus said: "We are pleased that our ROCKdeck system, which plays an integral part in the new flat roofing system, is already proving a success – providing the library with a durable, non-combustible, and energy efficient roofing solution that will last for many years to come."

Get it Right. Double the Daylight.

The VELUX 2in1 roof window offers an enhanced sense of space, increased daylight and panoramic views. The roof window comes in a range of sizes with solar-powered, centre-pivot and top-hung options and can be controlled from a VELUX App. The 2in1 roof window has one frame and two sashes, and the same simple installation process but with fewer components in a single installation package.



Options in the VELUX 2in1 range include: **Top-hung:** The 2in1 top-hung roof window creates a balcony-like feeling and twice as much daylight with an opening to 45°; **Solar-powered:** The 2in1 solar roof window offers remote control and its single frame design and the solar-powered motor ensures a straightforward installation with no additional wiring needed. The automatic rain sensor closes the roof window when it rains; **Centre-pivot:** The 2in1 centre-pivot roof window combines a single, openable sash with one fixed sash and slim profile to enhance daylight and offer a spectacular view; **Symmetrical and asymmetrical designs:** Having both options ensures that every project can be tailored to each space.

Visit the VELUX Academy website with both physical and online training booking. Plus, double VELUX Rewards with every purchase: www.velux.co.uk/2in1

SFS Rainscreen Subframe Systems – More Than Just a Helping Hand

Rainscreen cladding solutions feature on many different property types and with this need for multi-functionality, industry specialist SFS has developed its rainscreen cladding support systems to deliver the required thermal, structural, fire and other performance targets in a safe and economic manner. The manufacturer's NVELOPE range supports concealed and visible fastened systems to meet most project's aims while SFS Thermal Solutions ensures the closing of the 'performance gap'. This demands precise thermal modelling of the subframe to minimise point loss thermal bridging compromising the overall energy performance of the system.



SFS's David Fraser said: "Specifiers and installers need expert guidance if project energy design standards are to be achieved in practice. Our Thermal Solutions service and dedicated project managers can assist from the concept stages through to final delivery." The systems within the NVELOPE Thermal Solutions range offer a choice of performance points and the NVS+Thermal system is certified Passivhaus. The NVELOPE VB and HB ranges are produced in aluminium. The NVELOPE NVS and NVS+ ranges offer the lower thermal transmittance characteristics of 316 Stainless Steel, with a non-compressible thermal pad included to achieve the optimum U-values. Call 0330 0555888 or visit <https://uk.sfs.com/>

Wraprite Airtightness for New Self-Build House

A new self-build house in County Monaghan, Ireland, was built incorporating the high-performing Wraprite air-barrier from the A. Proctor Group. The project, designed by McGuigan Architects, consists of a 250m² detached private residence developed by client Mark Skinnader. He explains, "In the early stages of the project, the A. Proctor Group technical representative visited the site to identify a suitable airtight system. As there is no cavity in the proposed wall build-up, we chose the Wraprite breather membrane to act as a vapour permeable and airtight barrier at the sheathing board layer."



The house design is a load-bearing Lightweight Steel Frame Construction. The steel frame system's exterior finish is formed of a 12mm Y-Wall Sheathing Board, the Wraprite Airtight Breather Membrane, and a 150mm Sto EPS Insulated Render System. A. Proctor Group carried out U-Value and condensation risk calculations. The membrane provided both a damage resistant air barrier layer and weather protection, allowing internal trades to proceed earlier. It is the only self-adhering vapour permeable air barrier certified by the BBA. Its high vapour permeability allows the substrate to dry quickly and moisture vapour to escape and reduces the likelihood of mould, mildew, condensation, timber distortion and metal corrosion. Visit: www.proctorgroup.com

Don & Low: Pioneers of Roofshield and Complete Building Envelope Solutions

With a legacy dating back to 1792, Don & Low, the UK's renowned vertically integrated manufacturer and creator of Roofshield, has established itself as a market leader, transforming the construction landscape with its product range. Don & Low's journey in technical textiles and nonwovens production spans over two centuries, with 35 years of expertise in nonwovens alone. Don & Low has been at the forefront of manufacturing construction membranes, while the Roofshield legacy reflects its deep-rooted expertise. Industry tried and tested, Roofshield has gained widespread acclaim for its exceptional performance and reliability. Made in the UK, Don & Low's construction membranes meet performance, energy efficiency, and compliance demands while also being environmentally friendly.



Don & Low is committed to keeping pace with the dynamic needs of the market, and as a result, will begin direct distribution of Roofshield, Reflectashield and Frameshield to the UK and Ireland on November 16th 2023 in response to the growing demand for a leaner supply chain. Leveraging its technical know-how and bolstered by its sales and construction experts team, Don & Low takes this step to provide greater flexibility, efficiency, and customer satisfaction. Find out more at <https://www.donlow.co.uk/>

Cedral Launches The Cedral Collections

Cedral, the UK's leading provider of fibre cement cladding has launched a new and refreshed collection of colours for its facade range: The Cedral Collections. Cedral has refreshed its palette to keep up to date with changing tastes and lifestyle trends, to provide the variety that homeowners want.



Gianfranco Apicella, Head of Exteriors – Europe, says, "We've done this with lots of feedback from our customers to ensure that we keep on trend. We've simplified the range to ensure that we have the right colours to meet customers' needs. We spoke to homeowners and installer businesses across eight European cities and seven countries with focus groups and curation workshops."

Cedral worked with award-winning colour consultants, IVISUAL, who brought in colour science as well as an understanding of trends in lifestyle for instance, research showed that natural colours are gaining popularity and muted colours are less popular now. Cedral's new colour families are: **The Design Collection** – a monochromatic palette aimed at modern, urbanites; **The Natural Collection** – a palette guided by nature with colours such as cocoa brown, sand yellow and ocean blue; **The Classic Collection** – With elegant chalk white, pebble grey and tea green; **The Expressive Collection** – A rich palette with metal green, brick red and pewter grey.

To find out more, visit cedral.world.

Freefoam Awarded EcoVadis Silver Medal for Sustainability

Freefoam Building Products has achieved the prestigious EcoVadis Silver medal in recognition of the company's commitment to sustainable business practice. EcoVadis is the world's largest trusted provider of business sustainability ratings. Freefoam's Silver sustainability rating puts it in the top 25% of companies assessed globally by EcoVadis in 2023. EcoVadis awards recognise companies that have completed its rigorous assessment process and demonstrated a robust management system to address sustainability. The medals rate companies relative to other businesses assessed by EcoVadis and provide an actionable roadmap for improvement. To earn an EcoVadis medal, companies must meet a minimum score on environment, ethics, labour and human rights, and sustainable procurement.



Freefoam scored significantly higher than the industry average on its environmental performance. Freefoam's Colin St John said: "Our approach to sustainability is anchored in the principles of the Circular Economy, carbon reduction, and continuous improvement. We're enabling the re-use and circulation of resources, retaining economic value, and eliminating waste. The EcoVadis Silver medal shows our commitment to Building a Sustainable Future for our business and our supply chain." Learn more about Freefoam's sustainability initiatives at freefoam.com/professional/sustainability-archive. For more on Freefoam's products, service and support, visit www.freefoam.com or call 0800 002 9903.

Tata Steel Updates Colourcoat Guarantee for Solar PV



Tata Steel has further extended other pre-finished steel product guarantees in the Colorcoat® product portfolio, to cover the use of clips and fix photovoltaic (PV) modules. Previously, many pre-finished steel product guarantees had restrictions around the use and attachment of PV modules, rendering the warranty invalid. However, recognising the renewed sustainability commitment and the influence of Part L regulations and cost of energy, other pre-finished steel products from Tata Steel have now had their guarantees updated for the UK market – reflecting industry's new needs.

The photovoltaic addendum is now a key part of high build pre-finished steel products manufactured at Tata's Shotton site. It includes Tata Steel's Colorcoat LG and Colorcoat GP pre-finished steel products, covering use under PV frame modules on a new roof or wall. Available when registered through the system manufacturer or distributor, the product guarantees will allow PV frame modules to be installed at any point in the guarantee period. This a huge advantage for Tata Steel's Colorcoat products for roofs now being 'PV ready'. It will provide confidence that installing a PV array will not have a detrimental effect on the performance of the pre-finished steel.

Find out more: www.colorcoat-online.com.

HOT MELT COOKER HIRE



GAS HEATED
Thermostatically controlled, air-jacketed mixers available in 2 sizes:

- 1.5 drum, 110 volt, caster mounted with lifting point
- 3 drum, 110 volt, caster mounted with lifting point



ELECTRIC HEATED
• 1.5 drum, silent-running with portable generator or site power
• For sites that prohibit liquid propane gas

For further information or a hire quotation call **01858 412 100**
Email: sales@cookerhire.com
www.cookerhire.com
COOKER HIRE Ltd

Fully serviced prior to delivery. Full operator training available.

TRADCAST

by Guttercrest

Traditional Cast Aluminium

GUTTERS | DOWNPIPES | HOPPERS



All the look of Cast Iron
with all the benefits of Aluminium

MANUFACTURED TO BS 8530 : 2010

IT MATTERS