

selfbuilder & homemaker

April/May 2011

FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE:

Heating, Plumbing & Renewable Energy
Lighting & Electrical
Stairs & Staircases
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DOORS, WINDOWS & CONSERVATORIES SUPPLEMENT

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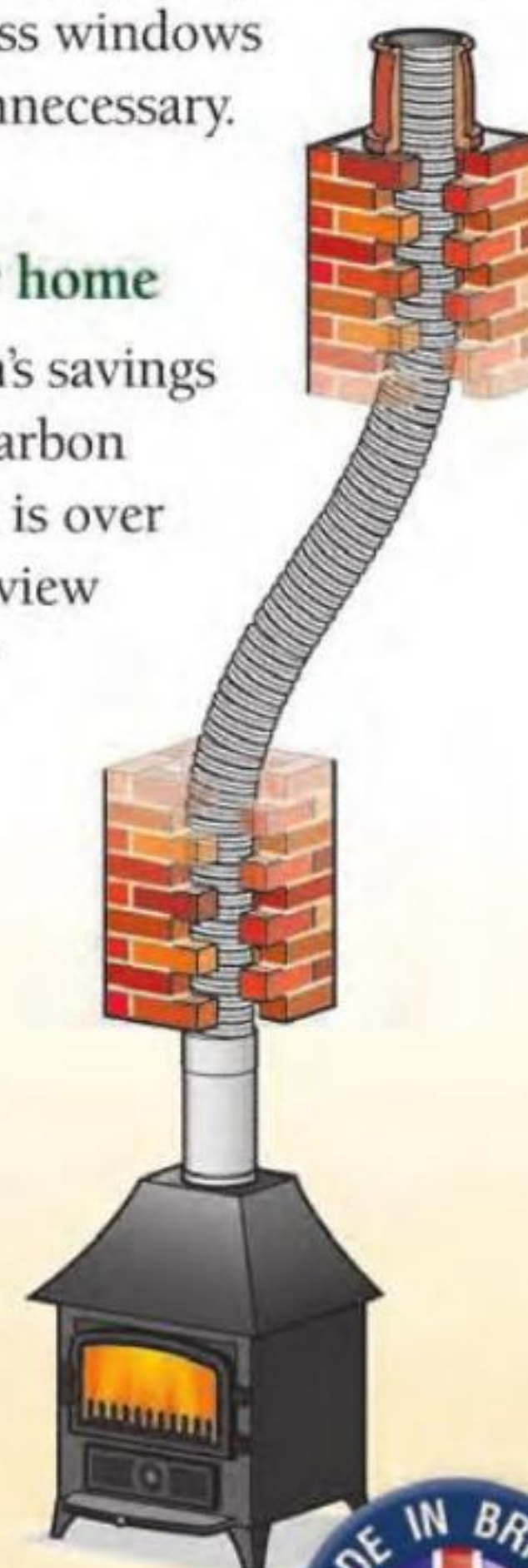
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april/may 2011

contents



features

6

BRIEF ENCOUNTER

The Hadley family's turn-key home came after years of deliberation, and a chance meeting with a nearby architect. Written by Mark Williams

18

A SELF BUILD WITH GERMAN PRECISION

In 2007 Daryl Clarke, a self employed business consultant, and his wife Sarah happened to watch the Grand Designs programme on the couple who built a Huf Haus in Surrey. The idea of a pre-fabricated and stylish house was appealing. Written by J. Espinosa

44

RISING HEAT

Looking at the benefits of installing an air source heat pump for off-gas locations, by Daikin Airconditioning UK Ltd.

52

GETTING THE GREEN LIGHT

Sally Storey, design director of John Cullen Lighting, helps self builders cope with the new energy efficient lighting regulations

59

DON'T FORGET THE STAIRCASE!

Complete Stair Systems Ltd. advises on choosing and installing a staircase within your self build project

62

A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Written by Ian Hunter, Hunter Architects & Planners

product round up

Basements	10
Bathrooms & Showers	10
Building Products	16
Building Services	16
Eco & Green Products	16, 20
Fires & Fireplaces	22, 24
Floors & Flooring	41
Groundworks & Sewage Treatment	41
Heating, Plumbing & Renewable Energy	41 – 49
Insulation	49
Insurance	50
Kitchens & Appliances	50 – 51
Landscaping & External Finishes	51, 53
Lighting & Electrical	52 – 54
News	54
Pools & Spas	54 – 55
Rainwater Products	55 – 56
Roofing & Cladding	56 – 57
Safety & Security	57
Smoke & Fire Protection	57
Stairs & Staircases	57 – 61
Stonework & Masonry	60
Sustainable Homes/Materials	60 – 63
Timber & Joinery	60, 64

also in this issue

8

SPECIALISTS Q & A ON THE USE OF
LIME PLASTERING

14

FUTURISTIC LOW ENERGY HOUSE –
STAGE 4

26

EDITOR'S FOCUS

27 – 40

DOORS & WINDOWS SUPPLEMENT

64

CLASSIFIED & DIRECTORY



Cover image supplied by Mark Williams. See page 6.



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comment

mvhr is the ideal choice



Ian Mitchell, residential product manager at Vent-Axia, outlines the benefits that mechanical ventilation and heat recovery (MVHR) ventilation systems bring to self build projects.

The consolidated Building Regulations introduced last year represent a key stage on the path to the UK's target of making all new homes zero carbon from 2016 and encourage the uptake of MVHR. Part L's (Conservation of Fuel and Power) new Target Emission Rate (TER) demands a 25 per cent carbon emissions improvement over the previous 2006 Building Regulations and is in line with achieving Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3, the requirement now for all private developments.

Ventilation can play an important part in reaching these targets. For a home to meet Code Level 3 it is necessary to reduce the air permeability of the building to the minimum consistent with health requirements. As a result changes to Part F publish guidelines for airtight properties with infiltration rates tighter than $5\text{m}^3/\text{h}/\text{m}^2$ at 50pa. For Intermittent System 1 and Passive Stack System 2 approaches in airtight dwellings the guid-

ance increases background ventilation rates by up to 50 per cent. This looks set to cause a move away from intermittent fans since the previous provisions in Approved Document F 2006 have already been difficult to achieve when using trickle ventilators in windows.

The changes to Part F and Part L favour continuous ventilation since it performs better in SAP, is easier to specify and easier to standardise as trickle vents are not required. For Continuous Mechanical Extract, System 3 approaches, the guidance removes the requirement for background ventilation in dwellings designed with infiltration rates above $5\text{m}^3/\text{h}/\text{m}^2$. It is likely that these factors, along with the Dwelling Emission Rate (DER) benefits of SAP Appendix Q, will combine to boost the adoption of whole house mechanical extract ventilation systems (MEV and dMEV) and mechanical ventilation systems with heat recovery (MVHR).

Supplied as single room, through the wall or as whole house, multi-room ducted solutions, MVHR combines supply and extract ventilation in one unit. Whole house systems can prove very effective at reducing the heat load in energy efficient homes since they recover heat which would have otherwise been vented outside and therefore lost. Single room systems are proving an increasingly popular choice for small scale renovation projects such as kitchen extensions. Both types of system tend to offer dual speed options, either continuous trickle ventilation or high speed boost extract flow, and the more airtight the property the more energy efficient the heat recovery system will prove.

Not only is heat recovery ventilation good at saving energy for your home, it brings other benefits as well including reduced condensation and much better indoor air quality.

outstanding u-value results

Recent industry testing has returned some great results for Kloeber UK Ltd.

Kloeber were delighted to see that their range of folding sliding doors, front doors, French and single doors and windows have achieved overall U-values well below Building Regulations requirements even with their standard double glazing. With triple glazing options containing Argon and Krypton gas filled cavities the results are exceptional and has firmly established Kloeber as a supplier of top performing thermally efficient products.

UK Building Regulations state that all new build projects should be fitted with doors and windows with overall product U-values of 2.0 or less. The whole of

Kloeber's timber range has surpassed this benchmark by a considerable margin with Kloeber's Funkyfront and Klassicfront doors achieving overall products values as low as 1.2, their folding sliding doors, French and single doors returning results as low as 1.1, and their flush casement windows attaining overall U-values as low as 0.9.

Kloeber's technical director Lee Green said, "We're thrilled with the results, especially as we've designed our products to return fantastic U-values whilst maintaining a very fair and sensible pricing structure; something that Kloeber has always considered important."

Enq. 100

government pledge more land for self builders

BuildStore has welcomed an announcement by minister for housing, Grant Shapps, in which he unveiled new measures to support people wanting to build their own homes, adding that self building "should be an option for all".

In a speech at the Grand Designs Live Show in London Mr Shapps said he wanted the UK's self build rates to catch up with Europe's and to become a mainstream housing option.

Further to his announcement about the Government's new 'Build Now, Pay Later' scheme, Mr Shapps said he wants public and private land to be made available for individual self builders and community self build schemes. He called on housing associations and local authorities to show more support for the self build sector, and private landowners and investors to release more land to the growing self build community. He said he would soon reveal the first publicly owned sites to be made available to housebuilders with plots exclusively for self builders.

Mr Shapps said: "Self builders deliver affordable, greener and more innovatively-designed homes, and make a big contribution to the number of new homes built in this country. Yet there is scope to significantly increase the number of self built homes in the UK – both for individual households and for community-driven projects.

"I want to turn around the fortunes of self builders by cutting the red tape and bureaucracy they often face, and make self

build a reality for many more people. I'm encouraged by the ongoing work of our self build working group, which is making good progress in developing an action plan to reduce the barriers that aspiring self builders often face. These efforts will help bring self build into the mainstream, and not simply be the preserve of the privileged few – meaning not just grand designs, but common designs.

"I can confirm that the government will lead the way to promote more self build housing by using the government's Build Now, Pay Later scheme to earmark public sector land, with plots available exclusively for self builders.

"This will sit alongside the efforts we are already making to reduce the burden of regulation on the house building industry, and through the Localism Bill to put power in the hands of communities up and down the country."

Raymond Connor, chief executive of BuildStore, has welcomed the measure: "Earmarking land exclusively for the self build community will be a massive boost to the industry, not only allowing more people to build their own homes, but also supporting the construction industry and local economies.

"BuildStore is already working with Local Authorities to develop new self build schemes and [...] we look forward to helping develop more policies and measures to further support the industry, including tackling the availability of finance."

counting up the cost



By Paul Joyner, director, Sustainable Building Solutions, Travis Perkins Plc

No one likes to talk about money, but the truth is that the 'make or break' factor of any self build project is planning, planning and more planning. You might think the main cost of your project will be the purchase of the land and building materials but there's a labyrinth of hidden extras to include in your budgets. For example, it's possible to purchase serviced plots of land, connections to gas, electricity and water drainage, but depending on the location of your build you

should allow at least £5,500 for these.

Location is key when it comes to costing your plot and it's vital to ensure you cost it accurately as this will be one of your biggest expenses on a self build project. Check out the Land Registry for an idea of what you should expect to pay and make sure your plot includes planning permission!

Whether it's legal fees or even labour costs be mindful to budget for essential professional services; these add significantly to any build cost.

Finally, always give yourself a realistic contingency budget. A guide figure is 10 per cent of your total, allowing for the unforeseen "extras" that will crop up throughout your project.

If you're unsure how to begin costing your project, online services such as Travis Perkins' Basic Project Cost Estimator or Estimating Service, provide a quick, cost-effective and accurate way to gain professional and thorough estimates for your self build.

competition

lafarge cement goes extreme!

Lafarge Cement has launched its 'Big Boys' Toys' competition giving builders merchants' customers the opportunity to win one of over 100 extreme experience days out.

Lasting until 29th July 2011, Lafarge Cement's 'Big Boys' Toys' competition gives Mastercrete users the opportunity

to win eight £100 vouchers for 'hands on' experiences each week, every time they purchase its Mastercrete cement.

The prizes include power boating, rally driving, paint balling and bungee jumping options amongst others.

The competition website is www.mastercretecement.com

calor offers £500 incentive to oil heated homes who switch to lpg

Calor has launched a scheme to offer an impressive £500* to customers who switch to Calor LPG (Liquid Petroleum Gas) from heating oil, solid fuel or electricity. The deal allows new customers to enjoy all the benefits of gas. The £500 credit can be claimed either on their first LPG fill or off their

boiler installation through Calor Force*.

Through December 2010's snow and ice, Calor's dependable delivery team made up to 40,000 LPG deliveries all over the UK thanks to its 200-strong tanker fleet which operates 365 days a year.

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securely and discreetly stored underground, ensuring that the aesthetics of a property remain unchanged. And the clever Calor Think Tank® technology makes LPG as convenient as being on the mains – it automatically notifies the local depot as soon as the gas level gets low and schedules a delivery, so

homeowners never have to worry about remembering to re-order more gas.

* Terms, conditions and restrictions apply.

See calor.co.uk/switch for full details.

Enq. 101





FROM THE MOMENT IT ARRIVED, THE DAN-WOOD HOUSE WENT UP AT LIGHTNING SPEED, INTO THE NIGHT, THANKS TO A HARD-WORKING CREW OF JUST FIVE BUILDERS

brief encounter

The Hadley family's turn-key home came after years of deliberation, and a chance meeting with a nearby architect

Written by Mark Williams.



GEORGE, JESSICA & KATIE HADLEY

A chance encounter between self-builders George and Jo Hadley and a neighbour set them on the road to their new home.

The couple had been thinking about self-building since 2002 after their first move from a property in Waltham Abbey, Hertfordshire. They'd owned their first house for five years before moving on and then wondered if their next move might be to a house they'd designed themselves.

"In a financial sense the idea seemed good," said George, an accountancy professional. "we liked the idea of designing our own living space." But just as the seed took root, two minor obstacles stood in their way.

The first was a nice surprise; the birth of their first daughter Jessica: "So we put the idea on hold," said George. Their second child, Katie, was born two years later in 2005 and, though the idea was still there, raising their new family rightly took precedence.

By 2007 the couple were planning again, and trying to decide how much of the site management to do themselves: "The self-build magazines had outline guides to build cost and, working within those guidelines, the original idea was for me to manage the build after the timber frame had been erected," said George.

The Hadleys nursed that thought and began searching for a plot. The Newhall project in Harlow, established by landowners Jon and William Moen, was in a perfect position to be within reach of family: "I was prompted to look at the development by an article in The Times in 2008," said George. "But we discovered that all the self-build plots had been sold." Luck was on their side though, when in 2009 a corner plot came back on the market. They went to see it.

"It looks out across parkland and woods, so we loved it," said George. Indeed, this phase of the Newhall Project is planned that way. All the

...continued on page 9



specialists Q & A on the use of lime plastering

By Joe Wild founder of Ecomerchant

and sticks well to laths. Hydraulic lime is fine as a hard wall plaster where there is no movement in the substrate.

coating to the plasterboard, when the PVA becomes touch dry but not fully cured skim over with a 3:2 fine lime plaster, adding 10-20 per cent gypsum at the point of use. Then control the drying process, by not working in extreme temperatures, ideally don't do this at the height of summer or when it's really cold and make sure you mist spray the surface to retard setting over the first day.

Q What are the advantages of using lime plaster?

A They allow buildings to breathe which is essential for older buildings that have been constructed with lime mortars and soft bricks or stone. Lime plasters reduce the need for gypsum plasters, which can fail in damp walls, cement based plasters, and renders which tend to be imperious and can trap moisture in walls. Lime plasters are best suited to any building built before the 1920's when most buildings were constructed using lime mortars.

Q Is it important to ensure the ready mixed lime plaster is more than three months old?

A Putty based ready mix wet mortars don't need to be aged, the putty itself needs aging over three months to gain a good sticky consistency; the mortar is most workable if a few days old. Hydraulic based dry mix mortars need to be fresh as they set chemically by exposure to water and usually have a shelf life of 6 months, assuming the sand was well dried before blending.

Q What protective clothing should I wear?

A Lime is similar to cement in its corrosive properties so gloves and goggles are recommended.

Q What is the difference between putty lime, hydraulic lime and hydrated lime?

A Lime putty is a wet paste and made by burning pure calcium carbonate such as chalk or limestone in a kiln and driving all moisture out of the stone making it highly reactive, which is commonly known as quicklime. Then the quicklime is added to water and a slurry is formed known as putty, which matures with age to become a sticky paste. Hydrate lime goes through a similar process but is then exposed to much less water making it less reactive but retaining its dry nature as a powdered product so it never matures to become a good binder in its own form. Hydrate is used as a plasticiser for cement mixes. Hydraulic lime is a powder and also burnt but the limestone is not pure calcium carbonate and contains impurities such as clays and silicates which change the reactive nature of the lime and allow it to set chemically when exposed to water.

Q To avoid shrinkage, should hair be added to the lime mix?

A Hair is added to help lime mortars bind or hold onto laths but can still shrink and crack if cured too quickly. Hair is always used on lath and plaster work but is not necessary on brickwork.

Q How do I store unused lime plaster?

A Wet mix lime plasters could last for years if the binder has no clays or impurities in the aggregate. If so, then ensure the surface of the plaster is fully covered with a layer of water for storage of a few weeks, however for longer periods place the plaster in a smaller container to reduce the risk of exposure to air and in all cases keep the plaster frost free, ideally in a garage or shed and in winter with hessian wrapped over.

Q How do I make a lime wash?

A Lime wash is simply lime putty, water and a mineral pigment, and for external use a water repellent such as linseed or tallow is added.

Q Are there environmental benefits to using lime?

A Lime is generally considered better than gypsum and cement due to the extraction and factory production methods, however, it is also worth remembering that lime allows a building structure to be fully recycled after the end of its life as the brickwork can be dismantled and the mortar and plaster crushed up and reused as a base for new mortars. Lime mortars should be softer than the brick or stone and allow moisture to escape from a wall, which extends the life of the structure and makes a building breathable – thereby reducing the relative humidity in a building and the risk of trapped condensation within a wall.

Q What type of lime should be used for lime plastering?

A Lime plaster can be made with lime putty or hydraulic lime but hydrate is too weak. Putty is best for ceilings and lath work as it has better flexural strength

Q Can lime plaster be applied to plasterboard?

A The only benefit to applying a lime plaster to plasterboard is the aesthetic look, however this same look can be achieved by adding a small amount of plastering sand to gypsum plaster. If you really want to use lime plaster on your gypsum board then there are a number of options but none are truly recommended as 100 per cent fail safe as the plaster tends to crack and can fall off, but a method I've used is as follows: Apply a generous PVA



TO ACHIEVE THE LOOK THEY WANTED AND STAY WITHIN BUDGET, THE HADLEYS CHOSE B&Q KITCHEN UNITS TO COMPLEMENT THEIR TILED KITCHEN FLOOR. THE DARK-STAINED CUPBOARD DOORS ARE ECHOED IN THE MAIN STAIRCASE

One of their neighbours-to-be, Alastair Howe, an architect who owns a self-build two doors up the street, offered to design their home and manage the build.

homes for sale at Newhall are designed by award-winning architects and every house or apartment is within 60 metres of a green space. Around 40 per cent of the development is dedicated to open spaces, which are often enhanced with public art. Subtle but effective traffic calming measures mean that children really do play safely on the streets.

"We'd been to see Potton homes in 2007 and liked them, but then we realised that the site management would just take too much of my time," said George.

"So we started looking at turn-key builds. It was a surprisingly small list. In terms of cost, a Dan-Wood house seemed very similar to managing the build ourselves, so it was really a no-brainer," said George. The re-release of the Newhall North Chase plot had pushed them into a tight time frame, with short-term house rental the only option so they could release their equity for the mortgage and start the build.

Then the Hadleys had a second stroke of luck. They had a chance encounter with one of their neighbours-to-be, Alastair Howe, an architect who owns a self-build two doors up the street. He offered to design their home and manage the build, and George and Jo went into action.

The 380m² plot was an awkward shape with out-of-square corners, but £140,000 seemed a fair price so George and Jo agreed to buy, sold up, moved to a small, rented house nearby and started the build process.

"Alastair proposed something quite different from most house designs, with three storeys at

...continued on page 11



TO MATCH THEIR VISION FOR MINIMALISM AND TO KEEP LIGHT FLOWING THROUGH THE HOUSE, THE HADLEYS WENT FOR AN OPEN-TREAD STAIRCASE, WHICH WAS DESIGNED IN AT DAN-WOOD

Enq. 103

Abtech Basement Systems

Wet Basement?

ABTECH Basement Systems

Abtech Basement Systems specialise in the installation of specialist water proofing systems to new and existing basements.

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guarantees, along with insurance backed guarantees, they consider your basement of the utmost importance.

Tel: 0870 801 0080 www.abtechbasements.co.uk

Enq. 104

AKW



AKW has once again proved that adapted bathroom products need not be stereotypically clinical in appearance with its launch of new stylish mixer shower Arka®. AKW has developed a new thermostatic bar mixer shower in a chrome finish proving that the company is fully in tune with modern interiors and understand well the importance of inclusive design. Developed especially for the mobility and care market, the shower is easy

to use and can be a great addition to any modern bathroom. Arka® holds TMV3 approval and features dual independently operated flow and temperature controls for safer use. An extended hose length of 2m provides carers and users with extra manoeuvrability.

Enq. 105

Fermacell



Fermacell Powerpanel H₂O is the complete solution to wet room applications including: bathrooms, kitchens, hospitals, hotels, laundries, leisure centres, and swimming pools. Historically, the wrong materials used in wet room applications can result in mould growth and tile loss. With no clear British Standards for internal waterproofing, Fermacell Powerpanel H₂O boards exceed the varying international standards for waterproofing.

H₂O boards can also be used for semi exposed external applications such as soffits. In wall construction tests, the product provides high acoustic and fire performance, exceeding those achieved by other similar products, whilst still remaining competitively priced.

Enq. 106

Tapworks



If you live in an area of the country that suffers from hard water, investing in a Tapworks water softener will see your heating bills drop by up to 20 per cent.

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many benefits are surprising.

Tel: 01494 480621 www.tapworks.co.uk

Enq. 107



British Ceramic Tile

A limited period promotion for the Buxton range of wall tiles is being run by British Ceramic Tile within their distributors and retailers. The 10 per cent off promotion applicable to the wall tiles only is effective from the beginning of March to the end of May 2011. The Buxton range has a softly structured, slate-like surface which fits one of the most popular trends in ceramic tiles for natural stone-effect products. The satin finish tiles are available in a 248 x 398mm size and in three colours: white, light beige and dark beige. The Buxton tiles can be purchased through British Ceramic Tile retailers or distributors nationwide. Please visit the mylocaltileshop website to find your local stockists.

Tel: 01626 834774 www.britishceramictile.com

Enq. 108

Roman



Roman has added a brand new and unique folding bath screen to their Embrace range, which is the perfect solution for when space is limited in the bathroom. The Embrace Folding bath screen features a unique dual folding mechanism so it can rotate through 180 degrees. This patented technology enables it to fully open outwards and also inwards towards the bath. This ensures you can have complete access to the bath for

cleaning and bathing. When not in use the bath screen can also neatly fold away.

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Enq. 109



THE HIGHLY MODERN LOOK OF THE HADLEYS' HOME MATCHES THE VISION OF THE DEVELOPERS, WHO CHECK AND APPROVE EACH BUILDING BEFORE THE PLANNING APPLICATION GOES IN



BALTERIO FLOORING LOOKS GREAT BUT IS ALSO PRACTICAL FOR A FAMILY HOME. RUGS ADD WARMTH BUT CAN ALSO BE USED TO RING THE CHANGES

the street corner of the house and two at the other. That met with Newhall's approval as the developers wanted the street corners defined by higher buildings," said George.

The North Chase phase of the Newhall Project, the brainchild of brothers Jon and William Moen, whose family farmed the land where Newhall's homes are being developed, is exclusively of non-traditional buildings, positioned around a core of retail units to create a 'village' atmosphere. The complex, angular home they had planned matched the Newhall vision perfectly.

There was a small glitch when the mortgage product the Hadleys had chosen was scotched due to the banking crisis, but Bath Building Society had a similar product, offered through Buildstore, which had a speedy, up-front payment to fund the turn-key build; "That did delay the build by two or three months," admitted George.

Alastair had come up with a design which followed the roadside plot boundaries, creating fascinating angles in the home, and stuck to the planning consent for a 2½ storey home.

"We wanted the follow the angle of the road

so this isn't a square house," said George. "We made a few changes to the original plans until we had a practical home we liked." The final plans were submitted to Newhall in August '09 and approved in November.

Four months of hard work followed. The Hadleys negotiated the interior with Dan-Wood and signed contracts with them in March 2010, with the intention of moving in at Christmas: "There were some changes to the specification later and we had a problem getting the windows built on time. They are aluminium-clad timber framed windows. When I look back, the blame for later delays were shared equally between me and Dan-Wood."

The Hadleys had to bear the cost of storing building materials on site, so the first structure to go up on the plot was the single garage: "The alternative was hiring a container so it made sense to build the garage and use that instead," said George.

The timber frame for the home didn't arrive until November last year, but what happened next impressed the Hadleys and architect



THE EN SUITE BATHROOM USES ROCA SANITARYWARE, AND EVERY BATHROOM FEATURES A WALK-IN SHOWER. QUALITY TAPS ADD AN EXTRAVAGANT TOUCH

Alastair: "The build was simply fantastic," said George. A team of five came from Poland with the timber frame, which went up, roofed, within three days. Two of the team then returned to Poland and the remaining three completed the build with an electrician and plumber.

"They had an incredible work ethic," said George. "They arrived at 7.15 in the morning and were rarely off site before 6.30pm. They took the house to first fix within two weeks."

To achieve the minimalist, modern look they wanted, the Hadleys had opted for self-selected sanitaryware, tiles and flooring: "We read a vast number of self build and home interior magazines and got many of our ideas from these."

"We love the look of plain white walls with dark, walnut flooring and saw photos in many magazines with this combination for modern houses, so we decided on this as the main interior focus for the house. I really wanted wooden stairs rather than having plywood covered in carpet and we decided to match the stairs to the walnut flooring and have glass panels in the reception area to open up the space," said George.

"For the bathrooms we wanted walk-in showers for both. We picked very modern sinks and matching toilets from Roca in keeping with the style of house. We invested in good taps. All decisions were based on a contemporary style house and we didn't deviate from this in any room or aspect."

"Selecting tiles was challenging. Again we wanted something with a modern look but we didn't want to go too bold or wacky as this could soon date or irritate," said George. "We decided on grey and black as we both liked this look and had read articles stating it will become the new beige and brown, 'future proofing' the bathrooms."

Selecting a kitchen was also challenging, said George: "We both had our favourite colours and look but we couldn't agree on a colour and design we both liked. We had many discussions and changes. Then one weekend we went to the Linden show home at Newhall; we both loved the kitchen in the show home so there and then we decided to match the look in our house with the B&Q units." A conservatory



A team of five came from Poland with the timber frame, which went up, roofed, within three days

– George Hadley

LEFT: THE DESIRE TO FOLLOW THE EDGES OF THE CORNER PLOT PRODUCED SOME ODD ANGLES IN THE ARCHITECTURE BUT A TRULY BESPOKE APPEARANCE

is planned to be added at a later date.

Unfortunately, a combination of earlier delays, Christmas and the terrible snowy weather of January 2011, meant a Christmas move became out of reach, but the Hadleys were able to move in in early February. They have loved almost every minute of the process, they said.

The Hadleys have several points of advice for self-builders: "First of all, don't underestimate the numbers of hours you'll spend on even a turn-key build like this. I've literally spent hundreds of hours getting the specification right," said George. "Secondly, don't underestimate your costs. I reckon that a 20 per cent contingency isn't too much for the extras which will surface, no matter how carefully you plan."

The result for the Hadleys though is a unique home, which has cost around £120,000 less than its current valuation. It provides a lovely environment in which they can bring up their two daughters who were responsible for delaying the build of their dream home!



EVEN THE SANITARYWARE AND TAPS IN THE FAMILY BATHROOM BORROW ANGULAR, NEAR-CUBIST NOTES FROM THE BUILDING

project costs

Cost of land: £140,000

Overall cost of project: £380,000

Value of property now: circa £460,000

What was the high point of the project?

Seeing the timber frame arrive in November and then seeing it all in place less than two days later. It meant that all the waiting was over.

The low point was: Discovering that the economic crisis had led to my mortgage product being deleted and having to find another mortgage. Then the delay caused by the windows not being ready [which] meant we wouldn't be in the house to celebrate Christmas.

Contacts

- Architect: Alastair Howe
www.alastairhowe.co.uk
- Main contractor: Dan-Wood House
www.dan-wood.co.uk
- Development: Newhall Project, Harlow
www.newhallproject.co.uk
- Flooring: Balterio
www.balterio.com
- Boiler: Vaillant
www.vaillant.co.uk
- Composite windows: Sokolka
www.sokolka.com.pl
- Sanitaryware: Roca
www.uk.roca.com

THE OP-DECK ROOFING SYSTEM USED ON THIS PROJECT IS MORE COMMONLY FOUND IN CAR PARK DESIGN.



futuristic low energy house

stage four – beginning to feel like a home



THE NEW KNAPPED FLINT FACADE VIEWED THROUGH THE WINDOW.

The recent prolonged period of good weather has allowed the contractor to gain momentum on the project with excellent progress being made.

The Nudura insulated concrete formwork system has now been fully installed and filled with concrete to create a fantastically smooth, sharp looking building which stands out from the crowd. Although currently a rather striking shade of blue, the Nudura ICF system is slowly being disguised behind a new knapped flint façade. This knapped flint aesthetic allows a traditional material to be re-born in a modern guise. The result will be a building of outstanding architectural merit mixing both industrial, modern building techniques with those more accustomed to traditional building. This switch in material signifies a new direction in construction methodology. All of the industrial techniques of the structure, such as the Op-Deck roofing system which is commonly found in car park design, is slowly being concealed with a more traditional palette of materials. The knapped flint elevations will be joined with a self coloured render to further help soften and transform this building into a 21st century home.

The mechanical ventilation and heat recovery (MVHR) system has now been installed by the Green Building Store. This has been installed at ceiling level using Lindab galvanised steel rigid ductwork. This type of ventilation system is recommended to be employed in airtight

Faceting the windows ensures the curvature of the building is followed

buildings with air leakage below 3m²/m³/hr. As we are aiming to have an airtightness below 1m²/m³/hr this form of system is ideal. The MVHR system is designed to extract warm moist air from bathrooms and wet areas and old stale air from the rest of the building. This warm moist air is then passed through a heat exchanger

where it is used to heat up fresh air, which is then re-circulated to the rest of the building. In the summer the MVHR unit has a summer time bypass, which allows hot air to be dumped outside the building and only cool fresh air to be re-circulated. All of this magic will be concealed behind a suspended ceiling system to produce a clean modern internal finish.

The Passivhaus Certified Optwin windows have now been installed by a group of expert fitters. This Passivhaus Certification process, carried out by the Passivhaus Institute, puts the windows through rigorous tests to check for high levels of airtightness and thermal performance. The installation of the windows has been made further more complex by the crescent shape of the building. This has lead to the windows having to be carefully designed to ensure that they do not detract from the smooth sleek curve of the building. The windows are faceted making standard straight windows look curved. Faceting is created by installing one window abutting the next, albeit at a slightly different angle in order to follow the curvature of the building. It is generally considered that the installation of the windows play a critical part in obtaining the airtightness, which is required on this build. Getting this right has required considerable attention to detail by the construction team on site.

Now that the windows have been installed the building has been transformed and is beginning to feel like a home. The large windows are starting to give a teasing insight into the feel of the internal rooms. Bright, crisp shadows are now evident on lovely sunny days with the windows helping to frame the fantastic panoramic views at every opportunity.

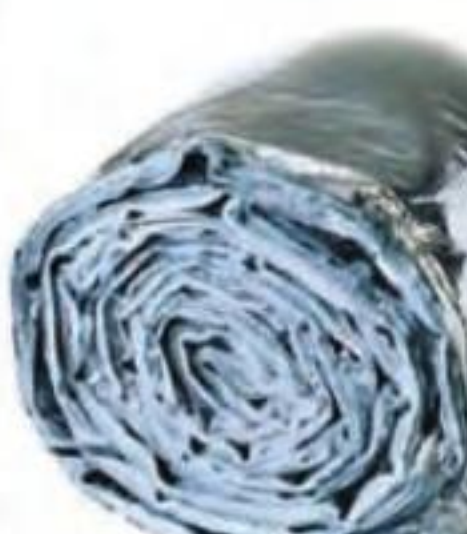
The core idea behind the building design is pushing the envelope whilst maintaining balance between energy efficiency and a high design concept. The building has been thermally modelled within IES, and shows that the curved design does not compromise the performance. In fact it is this specific design that actually enhances it.

By Jo Saady BA, founding and creative director of Ecotecture.



Enq. 110

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Enq. 111

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Enq. 112

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Enq. 115

Poppers Senco UK



Following the massive interest generated by the launch of the Senco F-15 Finish Nailer with Fusion Technology a brand new website has been developed that is dedicated exclusively to the Fusion family of nailers. On www.sencofusion.co.uk you can watch an amazing video that demonstrates just how Fusion Technology uses its own permanently built-in compressed air supply to drive nails quicker, cleaner and cheaper than other cordless nailers - without the need for a compressor or expensive gas cells. The website also describes the benefits of the F-15 Finish Nailer and brings you all the latest news on this remarkable new technology.

Pregis Protective Packaging Europe

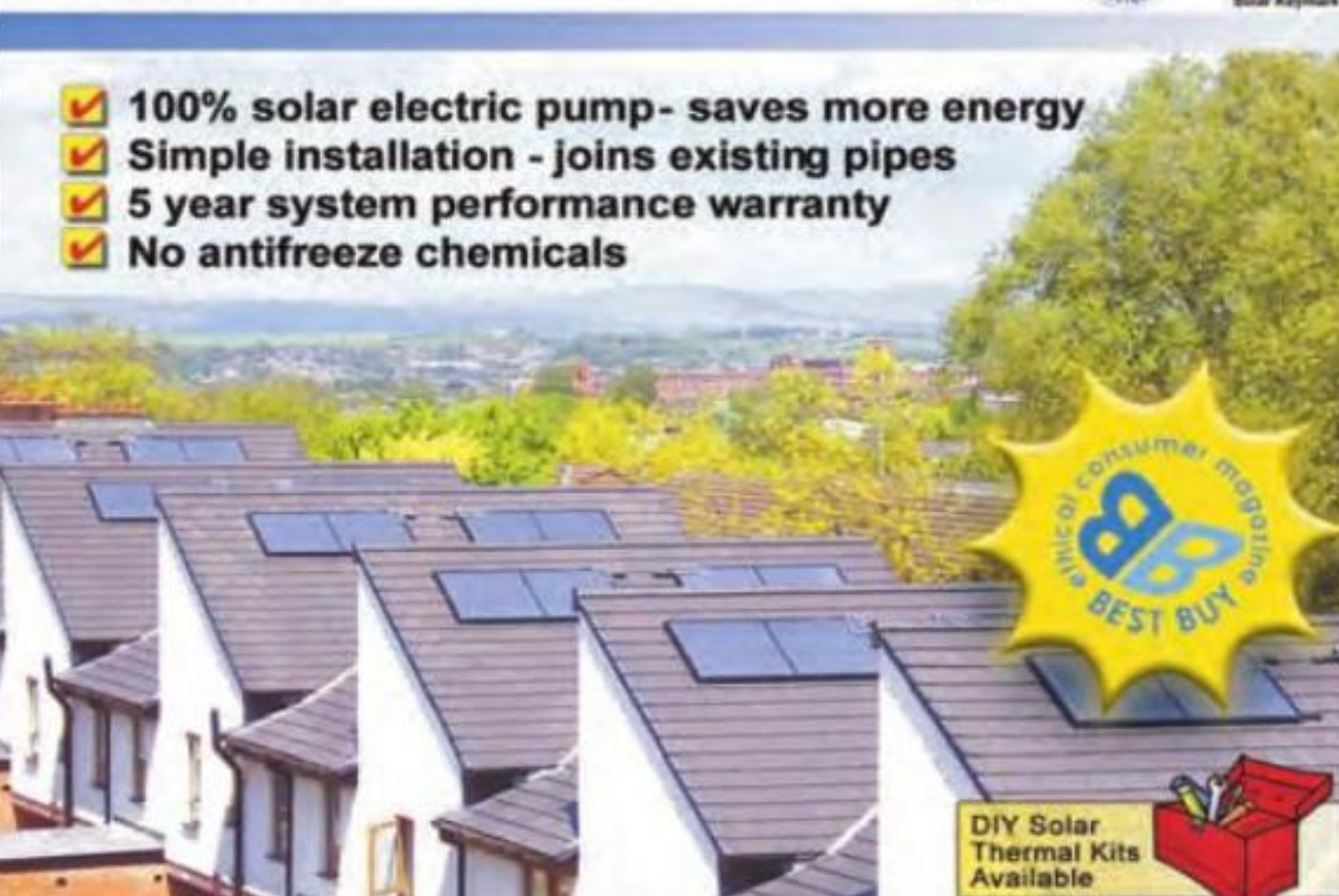


Pregis Protective Packaging has launched a black foam product made from recycled material that is being adopted as a cost-effective solution for solid floor underlay. The foam is manufactured entirely from the recycling of colour-mix and black regrind from manufacturing processes within Pregis factories. The resulting product delivers sound absorption properties that are similar to neutral white foam made from virgin material while also offering a valuable cost saving. Because black is a natural absorber of heat the foam is encapsulated in a layer of foil that reflects back the heat to protect the integrity of the product during transportation of the underlay solution. The foam also offers all the traditional benefits of effective underlay.

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Enq. 116



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a self build with german precision

In 2007 Daryl Clarke, a self employed business consultant, and his wife Sarah happened to watch the Grand Designs programme on the couple who built a Huf Haus in Surrey. The idea of a pre-fabricated and stylish house was appealing.

Written by J. Espinosa.



[“Huf Haus offers one of the most energy efficient builds available, and provides unparalleled light and spacious living,”]
- architect Peter Huf



“We thought: why not?” recalls Daryl. “We like modernist houses and we like the idea of it all being a stress-free deal.” So that very same night he started looking for a plot. And the couple got lucky. That weekend Daryl looked online at 10 o’clock on a Sunday. He found the plot and he bought it on the Monday.

“Huf were saying it would probably take you two years to find the plot, but we found a bungalow that was being sold for planning permission for a bigger house than we wanted so we managed to secure that pretty quickly,” Daryl says. “Then we changed the planning permission to a Huf house. The process of getting the plot was very quick.”

He was en route to becoming the owner of a Huf house. The German company is known for

its stylish designs and energy efficient buildings. There are now about 170 Huf houses in the UK. “Huf Haus offers one of the most energy efficient builds available, and provides unparalleled light and spacious living,” architect Peter Huf told Selfbuilder & Homemaker.

The couple bought the plot in November 2007 yet they had to wait for about 6 months for the council in Berkshire to approve the planning, plus the 6 weeks it took to buy the house and change the existing planning permission to a Huf house. Only then did Huf put them in their schedule for a self build.

But there were challenges. Daryl and Sarah met with Peter Huf in the UK and then he produced the plan of the house. “Peter has very strong views on what the house should be like

...continued on page 21

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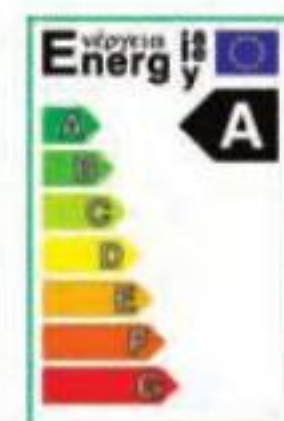


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Enq. 118



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GRUNDFOS 

Enq. 119

The Clarkes were very keen on having their kitchen in the middle of the house, which is very unusual

so we ended up having quite a row about where the kitchen should be," Daryl says.

Most Huf houses follow a similar pattern with the kitchen in the front right hand corner room. But the Clarkes were very keen on having it in the middle of the house, which is very unusual. Daryl's wife wanted to be able to see both the front and back garden from the kitchen and to stand on the balcony and be able to look onto the kitchen.

"We had quite a fight about it. At some point Peter said 'I don't want to build the house' and I said 'Well we are paying for it. Surely we can choose what goes where?' But now he really likes the design and he's used it in other houses afterwards," he says. "We were also pretty happy with the design otherwise."

Once they agreed on the design it was a case of the planners re-submitting the plans to Maidstone Borough council. From then it took about four months to go through their planning. The council had no objections. "When we said we were going to build a Huf Haus they were all delighted," Daryl says.

Euro headache

Although planning was not an issue the weakening of the pound came as an unexpected challenge for the couple. The planning and building of the house was done from November 2007 through to the early part of 2009, a period in which the euro rose against the pound quite dramatically. "We were paying in Euros and that was a problem. We started the process when the euro rate was at 1.4 to the pound but then it moved towards parity," Daryl explains.

How did they deal with this problem? "We hedged quite a large number of euros and I'm glad we did because I kept thinking it won't get any worse but it [did]. We hedged at 1.25, which was a fantastic rate in comparison with what was available when we finished. We would have probably had to cancel the build had we not hedged."

Others like Daryl should consider this when signing up to a Huf house. "This should not be a problem as Euros can be fixed at the early stage of the design process, hence there is no need for unforeseen surprises," Peter Huf says.

But the rise of the euro did impact on the house. In the end they had to scrap their plans of building a swimming pool because the garden landscape budget kept rising.

Although the house was finished by May 2009, Daryl and Sarah didn't move in straight away because they had to then fit the kitchen and the bathroom, which they decided to



DARYL CLARKE



HUF HAUS

...continued on page 23

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DARYL CLARKE

source elsewhere due to budget restraints.

"Whilst Huf are very easy to deal with they have strict boundaries. They are not keen on other work being done on site while they are still working on the house," says Daryl.

Alongside the planning process the couple visited the Huf Haus factory in Germany for two days where they specified all the fixtures and fittings for the house. They walked around with a huge list of things to sort out, from the style of door handles to the type of lights.

The couple were extremely impressed with the speed and precision with which the project was carried out

Daryl is extremely pleased with the result, "There isn't a single switch which is in a position I think I'd like to [change]. Patrick Muller, Huf's fitting specialist, was very good."

Slick operators

The couple were also extremely impressed with the speed and precision with which the project was carried out.

In late November and early December 2008 they couldn't get out of London because of the heavy snow. In just that week Huf built the house from scratch.

"It was unbelievable. They first excavate a massive hole and fill it with concrete. Once the time slot is signed off they have the whole house up in 7 days. I came down the week before and there was no house at all. Then I came down the following Friday and the house was up," Daryl recalls.

...continued on page 25



HUF HAUS

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Enq. 123

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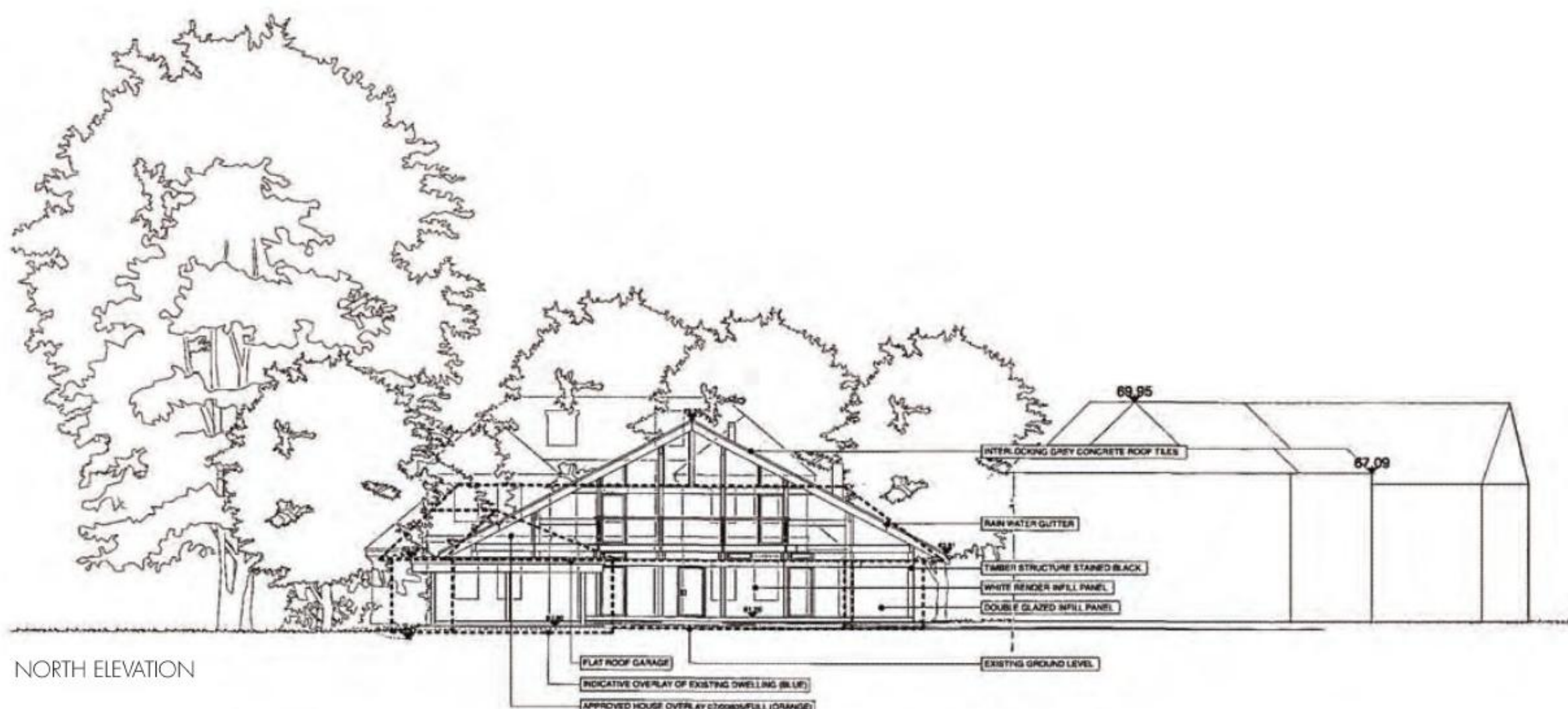
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MONIER

Enq. 124



Following the construction of the house Huf would then send different crews to do different jobs, from electrical work to plumbing. This all took place from December to mid May, as there were some gaps between crews arriving.

Huf provided the Clarkes with a full service, from building the outside of the house to doing the ceilings, putting in the under floor heating, tiling and painting. "It was pretty pain free," Daryl says. "It is certainly more expensive than a traditional self build but you get a Rolls-Royce style product."

The interior of the house couldn't be more different to the couple's old Victorian house in London. Every room has a door that opens onto the balcony and a window overlooking the patio. The back of the house is almost entirely glass.

They made a conscious decision to have an open-plan design. The style of the house is all monochrome (white walls and black wood). "We like modern designs and we have lots of colourful art to break it up," Daryl says.

He says that thanks to this open space, his children - Harry and Eva - have a big play area where they can scoot around.

Fine tuning

While they weren't that involved in the actual building of the house they were more involved in fitting the kitchen. They used their friend's company in Birmingham - über kitchens - and hired a local person to install it. "We got a very modernist kitchen with grey and white that goes

very well with the whole theme of the house," Daryl says. They also got the bathroom from a discount store and got a plumber to fit it in the house.

Would he recommend a Huf house after all? "Absolutely. We have friends who have built their homes and they go through a lot of stress and hassle. Cost aside, Huf made the experience almost painless."

What advice would Daryl give to those considering building their own homes? Make sure you do your research beforehand. "I didn't realise, for example, that you have to wait 12 weeks for an electricity supplier to cut off the electricity when demolishing a house, or that the local council won't automatically add you to the postal register once you have asked for permission to demolish a house and build a new one."

And what about that swimming pool? "I am not convinced but my wife is very keen so we will see."

project costs

Cost of land: £1.14 million

Overall cost of project: £985,000

Value of property now: est. £2 million

What was the high point of the project?

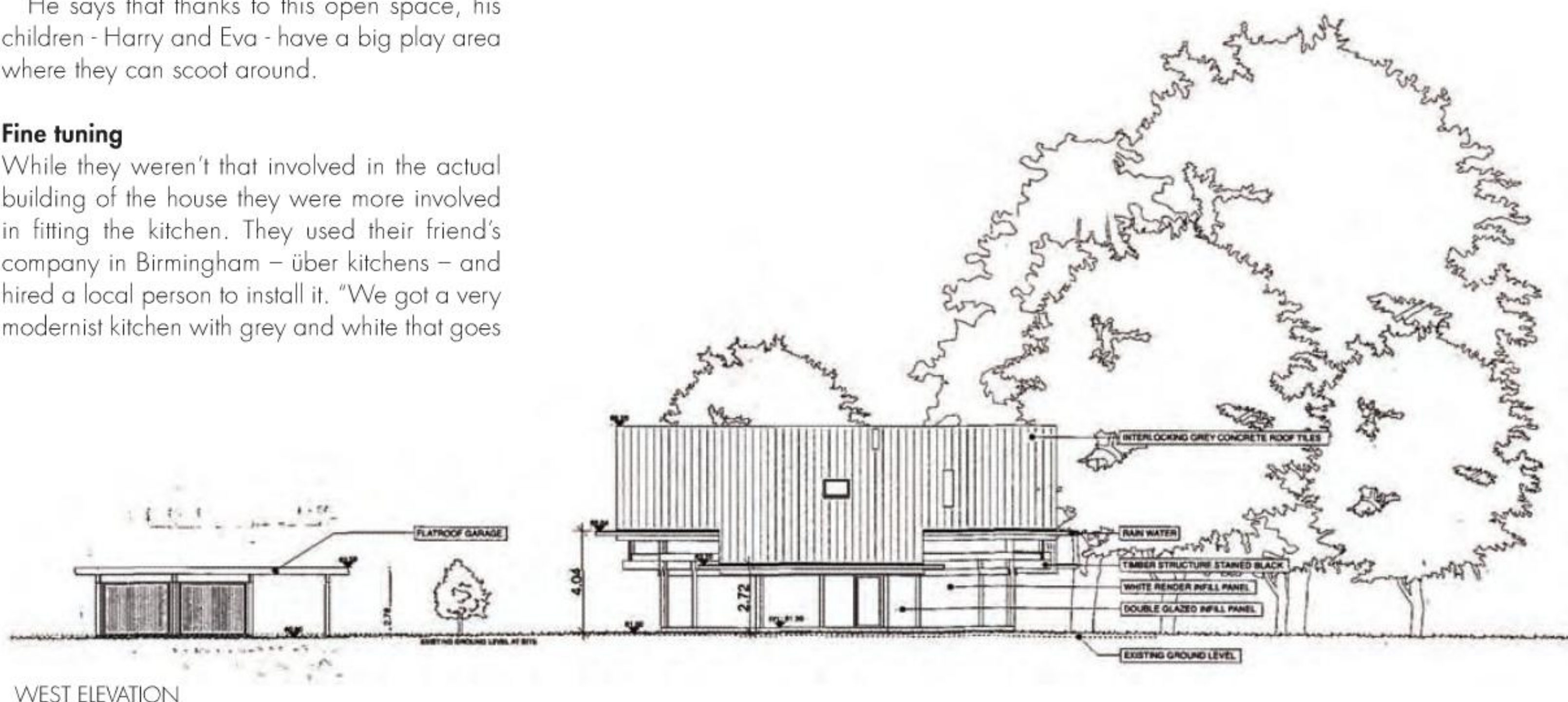
Finding a plot pretty quickly and getting planning permission almost hassle free.

The low point was:

Having to scrap plans to build a swimming pool as a result of the depreciation of the pound against the euro.

Contacts

- Architect: Peter Huf
- Kitchen: über kitchens



editor's focus

3

ELECTRIC HEATING COMPANY

EHC will be showcasing their full range of products at the forthcoming Greenbuild Expo at Manchester Central. The spotlight products will be their Fusion E10 Solar Combination unit, which works in conjunction with their duoSOL and triSOL Solar Thermal Packages. To complete their Renewables solution system the Mercury Low Water Content radiators will be on show. Also featured will be the Ecosave Gas Condensing Boiler, Fusion Electric Boiler, EHC Electric Radiators and a range of Instantaneous Water Heaters. They also intend to launch a range of Pre-plumbed Electric Boiler units, which are designed to minimise installation time. Visit stand E44.

Enq. 127



4

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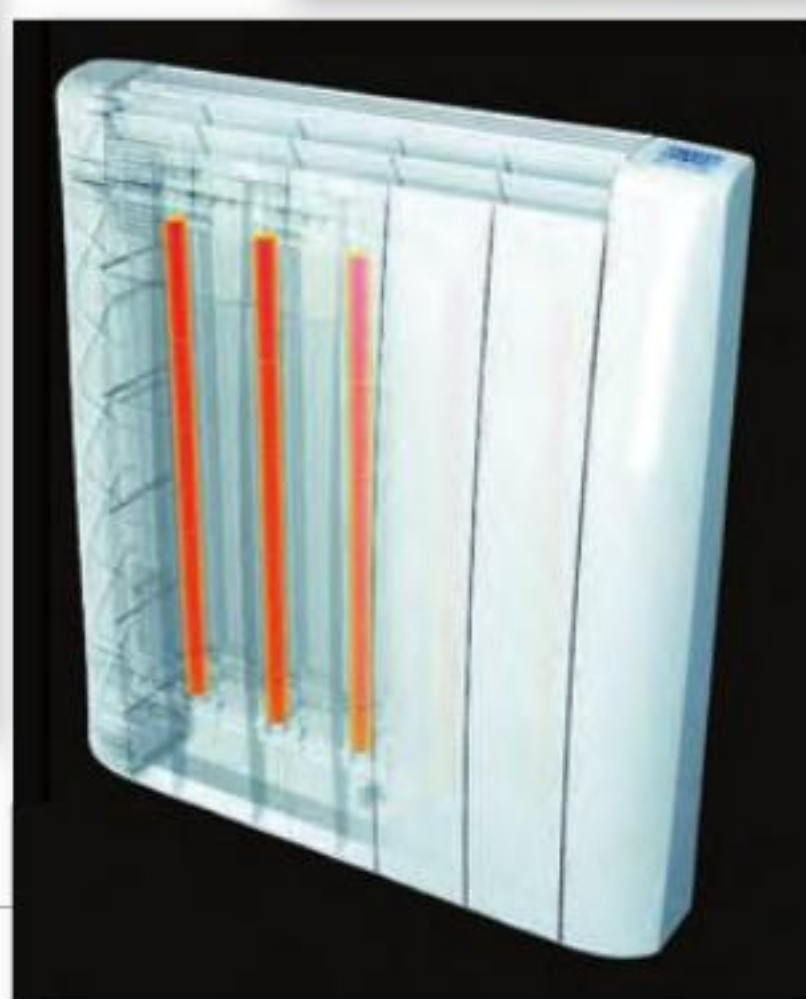
Enq. 128

2

Q LAWNS

Green roofs have been in existence since Viking times but it's only in the last decade or so that UK architects and builders have really begun to appreciate the value of putting plants on top of buildings. A living green roof not only benefits biodiversity, it can save money on heating and air conditioning, reduce rainwater runoff, insulate against noise, and improve the efficiency of photovoltaic cells. Enviromat can supply advice and components for DIY green roofs and they have an installation service available.

Enq. 126



5

NU-HEAT

Underfloor heating works by pumping a controlled flow of warm water from any heat source through plastic tubing embedded in the floor. Because the emitting area is large, sufficient warmth is provided even on a cold winter day with no need for supplementary heating. Nu-Heat supplies a complete package of high quality components including award-winning installation manuals and a full system design with bespoke CAD drawings showing all mechanical pipework and valves, as well as electrical connections. Tailored manuals are provided to suit the heat source whether conventional boiler or heat pump. Nu-Heat currently has over 60 different floor constructions, from solid beam and block to specific acoustic variations and timber-joisted floors. Whatever the project, they have a floor construction that will fit perfectly, and if they don't then they'll develop one.

Enq. 129



1

COMPLETE STAIR SYSTEMS

Complete Stair Systems offers a stunning range of kit and bespoke staircases for new builds and refurbishments. The majority of models are designed with 'passage of light' in mind and therefore have a floating, open feel. Manufactured in spiral, straight flight, quarter turn and half turn configurations, all are available in a variety of materials such as timber, glass and stainless steel. All staircases are supplied nationwide.

Enq. 125



6

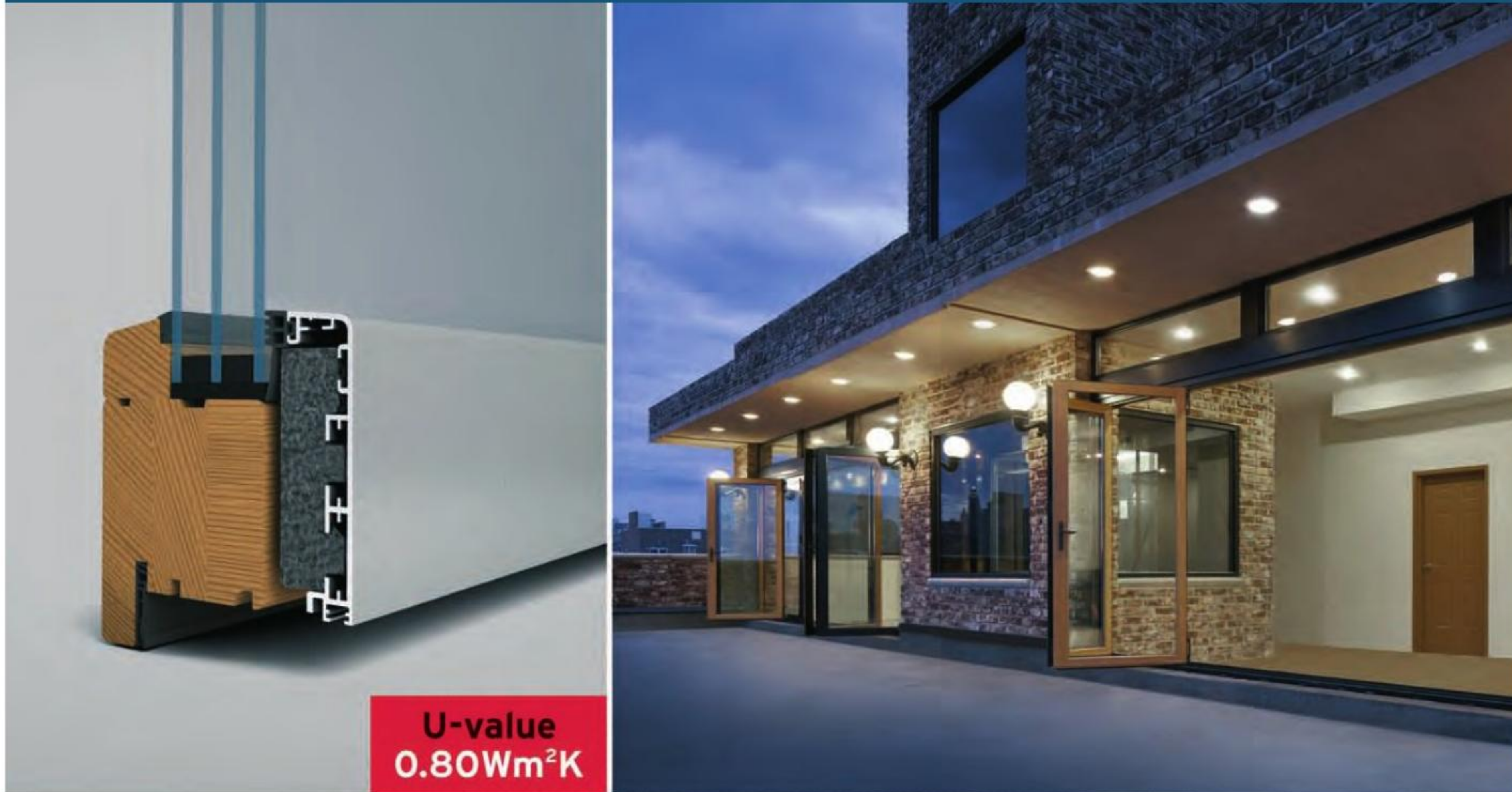
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Enq. 130

april/may 2011

doors & windows supplement



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ClearSpan's windows are now even slimmer thanks to the continuing hard work of the company's design team. The slender windows now offered by ClearSpan measure just 43mm to the outer frame. Furthermore, despite their slim style, they still meet strict criteria to achieve an 'A' rating for energy efficiency – the highest standard possible. The innovative design of ClearSpan's windows is achieved via an advanced system that incorporates a high-specification aluminium structure with a complex glass product. They work together to maximise both the energy efficiency and glazed area of the system, whilst all the time ensuring that the windows are tough and durable. ClearSpan's products also include aluminium folding sliding doors and rooflights. The quality and price of ClearSpan's products are hard to beat.

Enq. 332



Door Fittings UK offer one of the widest ranges of high quality ironmongery. They specialise in the sale of handcrafted, British made door furniture and window fittings, to both trade and private builds and refurbishments. With an "easy-to-use" website, you can browse the full range of different types of products they sell. Including door handles, door knobs, door knockers, letterplates, pull handles, finger plates, hinges, thumb latches, bolts and hooks, window furniture, locks. Available in a range of both traditional and contemporary styles. Door Fittings UK sell ironmongery in a truly massive range of premium quality finishes, including a choice of solid bronze ranges: real bronze metal, antique, polished bronze (gun-metal), tudor bronze, polished brass, satin brass, antique brass, distressed brass and many more.

Enq. 316



Looking for something different? Whether you are an architect, specifier, or involved in construction, **Dresser Mouldings Rochdale** have the products and services to meet your business needs.

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Dresser Mouldings is also set to launch a new range of curved radius to complement a number of its standard handrail components.

Dresser Mouldings products are manufactured from a variety of materials including softwood, ash and oak, and they have a policy of using materials from renewable sources.

Enq. 327



Duration Windows have been manufacturing windows and doors in Essex for over 25 years. MD Brian Chelton says their success is due to the broad range and continuous development of products. Duration Heritage Windows benefit from bespoke profile related butt hinges and class leading security, while maintaining super-slim sightlines. Security has been improved with the unique Chelton locking system. Their wide range of Chelton handles include old monkey tail styles to ultra modern slim flush designs. Brian has further developed the Chelton system so that the Chelton locking and handles also fit the Smarts Alitherm 47 & Beaufort Advanced systems. Duration also offer a new aluminium bi-fold door – the DuraFold 1000. These doors have a variety of textured paint finishes available.

Enq. 318

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Enq. 303

Enq. 304

Carlisle Brass

A new 'Doctor Knocker' design has been introduced to the Carlisle Brass range of Victorian-style interior and exterior door fittings. Doctor Knockers were popular in Victorian times and were reputed to have been used to identify easily doctors' doors in order to generate custom. The new knocker complements the other door furniture including letter plates, bell pushes, door knobs and other highly crafted architectural ironmongery products.

Supplied in two parts the knocker and strike plate come complete with screw covers for the inside of the door. It is manufactured from hot forged brass, to a size of 186mm x 34mm, and comes with a fully comprehensive 25-year guarantee. Four finishes are available.

Enq. 305

ATB Systems

Casement windows in the Taurus Max range of commercial aluminium windows from ATB Systems have passed enhanced security testing to BS7950 by Exova Warringtonapt, making them some of the most secure standard aluminium casement windows on the market. The casement window is the most usually specified window in the aluminium industry, but tests to BS7950 mean that the Taurus Max Casement Window has achieved the highest level of security testing for this type of aluminium window, providing end users with added reassurance. Part of the ATB Secure Products portfolio, the Taurus Max Casement Window is available in both top hung and side hung options.

Enq. 306

**Roto Western Europe**

Window Master (Scotland) Ltd has become the first fabricator in the UK to achieve a successful BS 7950 test result with windows made using the newly-introduced Rehau Geneo profile system. The Glasgow-based fabricator secured its triple-glazed tilt & turn sashes with the well-established Roto NT 'R' concealed hardware. The result has been a pass without incident at Chiltern Dynamics. Window Master markets its products with the phrase, "Windows for the future, today", and emphasises a commitment to providing the highest possible standards of energy efficiency and sound insulation along with minimal maintenance. "The Rehau Geneo profile combined with the Roto NT 'R' system provides us with all these qualities," says Managing Director Jim Brogan. "The exceptional performance of the Roto hardware not only gives us break-in protection to all current standards, but we know from Roto's testing results in Germany that their products are more than capable of enabling windows to meet all the EN security and weather testing standards that may be introduced in the foreseeable future. This is how we are able to give our clients high levels of investment security and help ensure long-term value for their property".

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Enq. 307

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Enq. 308

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Enq. 309



Eclisse pocket sliding door systems are a stunning alternative to traditional hinged doors and are increasingly being used by architects and designers to create more usable space and a light ambience without compromise to reliability and strength. Adaptable for use in both new buildings and refurbishments, the Eclisse system is a practical and beautiful way to increase the available space and give the overall design a very contemporary look. The Eclisse steel framework becomes part of the wall allowing the doors to slide effortlessly into the wall offering the maximum opening without encroaching upon room space. The patented Eclisse system is designed to make installation easy. A fully extractable track, unique to Eclisse, allows the removal of the door and running system at anytime without damaging the wall.

Enq. 333



Leeds based bi-folding door company **Express Bi-folding Doors** has been selected by Solarlux to become one of only two UK companies chosen as Active Partners for their folding door range. Steve Bromberg, managing director and owner of Express comments, "We are absolutely delighted to have been chosen to be one of only two UK partners, however, I believe our philosophy of offering our customers the best possible products and unparalleled service is in line with Solarlux's own and is one of the reasons why we have been selected." Express is experiencing a period of extraordinary growth, and have opened a new state of the art showroom in Redhill Surrey. Covering an area of over 1,700 square feet the showroom is the only place in the UK where the Solarlux SL82 folding glass door can be seen in operation.

Enq. 321



The **Folding Sliding Door Company** prides themselves in being a specialist manufacturer solely concentrating on folding sliding doors. Within their organisation there is over 25 years knowledge and experience and this is why they thrive year on year. They ensure their doors meet all the necessary accreditations i.e. Pas 23 Weather and Pas 24 Security, along with them being CE compliant in accordance with BS EN 14351 - 1:2006 and with Building Regulations Document L 2010. As a company they are pleased to be celebrating their 10 year anniversary this year. They can offer a solution for most openings with their highly skilled technical sales team. The Folding Sliding Door Company invests in thousands of pounds on a yearly basis to ensure they keep on top of new door requirements.

Enq. 302



Garador in Yeovil is the home of one of Europe's most advanced production facilities for garage doors. Its advanced technology produces an array of doors every day and one of the special features of the Yeovil facility, and one of which MD Simon Hipgrave is particularly proud, is the ability to be able to offer bespoke doors of all sizes. "A fundamental difference with our doors [...] is that our technology allows us to build our panelled doors horizontally instead of vertically, this gives us much more scope and flexibility with made to measure doors without the need for unsightly make up pieces." Anything is possible in terms of size of the Garador range of Georgian, Beaumont, Cathedral, Horizon and Carlton. The doors are available from 6ft 6in x 6ft 0in, right up to 16ft 4in wide by up to 8ft high.

Enq. 310

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Enq. 310

join·er·y |'joinəre|
noun

the wooden components of a building, such as stairs, doors, windows and conservatories, viewed collectively.



Input Joinery Ltd was established in 1979 to produce all aspects of bespoke joinery. The company is based on the outskirts of Andover, Hampshire in a purpose built factory equipped with state-of-the-art computer controlled machinery operated by traditionally skilled craftsmen.

Our product range is virtually limitless, but includes; high performance doors and windows, staircases, conservatories, orangeries, lantern lights, sliding folding doors...just ask. Give us a call on:

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house and purposes. We make windows too!

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Enq. 313

Network VEKA



Network VEKA is stepping up the industry's plea for a Government green window subsidy by proposing a double initiative. Network VEKA MD, John Ogilvie said: "We fully support all those who are already lobbying the Government for energy-efficient window subsidy but so far their pleas have come to nothing. At the same time, we urgently need to promote recycled products to the consumer, so it would make perfect

sense for the Government to marry the two environmental factors in a single scheme and offer incentives to homeowners choosing both."

Tel: 01282 473170 www.networkveka.co.uk

Enq. 314

Fakro GB



Fakro has a permanent exhibit at The National Self Build & Renovation Centre. Fakro is among over 200 exhibitor stands in Trade Village where visitors can now examine the critical aspects of quality that set its roof windows, loft ladders and accessories apart. Managing director Noel Shanahan said, "Consumers are taking an increasing interest in what differentiates manufacturers from one another. Exhibiting at Swindon

provides the ideal opportunity to encourage visitors to examine our quality, product range and designs."

Tel: 0845 021 3030 www.fakro.co.uk

Enq. 315

Remmers Wood Coatings



Remmers has launched their top quality exterior joinery coatings in the UK. Remmers' Induline range of opaque and translucent exterior coatings offers excellent durability, elasticity and blocking resistance giving a 10 year maintenance free guarantee. Opaque coatings are of high opacity and build and are available in RAL, NCS, BS4800 and many more, while the translucent coatings offer excellent clarity and feel and are presented in

more traditional 'timber' finishes. Brian Priestley, national sales manager, UK, says "The Induline Exterior products are of the highest quality".

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Enq. 316

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Enq. 317



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Enq. 318

Enq. 319



Solarlux

The launch of a super efficient folding glass door marks a significant development. Solarlux have launched their most efficient glass door to the UK market. Combining four core elements that enable the door to achieve a U value of $0.80\text{Wm}^2\text{K}$, the new SL97 wood/aluminium folding glass door is specially designed with the demands of energy saving in mind.

By using wood internally and a combination of insulating material and protective aluminium externally as well as triple glazing, the SL 97 has been able to combine the advantages of four materials. Inside, the wood panels create a natural warm atmosphere and, on the outside, the fully insulated rear-ventilated aluminium facing sheets guarantee permanent protection from the elements with only minimal maintenance.

The company envisages applications both in luxurious private homes and multi-storey high-quality rented and owner-occupied flats.

Tel: 01707 339970 www.solarlux.co.uk

Enq. 320



Garador

As demand for timber garage doors has increased, so has the range available from Garador, which has added no less than six new styles to its range; the Horizontal Cedar, Ashton, Ashton Chevron, Rochdale, Hinton and Sunrise. It has also been possible to add timber side hinged doors to the range in vertical and horizontal cedar, Kingsbury and Seymour designs offering even greater choice due to recent changes to the manufacturing processes. Simon Hipgrave, MD explained: "All timber doors from Garador are supported on our rigid galvanised steel chassis, which is then powder coated using the same precision engineering methods of the Garador steel doors. These doors will last for years with the right care and attention along the way. Now also with the option of fully finished doors in Light Oak, Dark Oak and Mahogany colours, yet another task that many consumers don't enjoy, staining the door, is no longer required upon installation". As expected from Garador all doors are manufactured with a high degree of craftsmanship. The company uses traditional methods of construction to create a traditional look for their doors.

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Enq. 322



Glass and Glazing Federation

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Enq. 326



Input Joinery Ltd was set up in 1979 to supply bespoke joinery including sliding sash windows, traditional casement windows, doors and staircases to home owners. Input Joinery Ltd was one of the first Joinery companies in the UK to supply fully finished double glazed windows and doors, complete with locking systems for added security. They now have three main production areas; general joinery, high performance windows and doors, and staircases. From these areas they are able to produce bespoke conservatories, windows and doors, sliding sash windows, french doors, lift and slide and sliding folding doors, special staircases, and many more products.

Enq. 311



With UK building regulations stating that all new-build projects should be fitted with doors and windows with overall U-values of 2.0 or less, **Kloeber** is delighted that recent testing on their whole timber range has surpassed this benchmark by a considerable margin. Kloeber's Funkyfront and Klassicfront doors have achieved overall product values as low as 1.2, their folding sliding doors, French, and single doors returning results as low as 1.1, and their flush casement windows attaining overall U values as low as 0.9. Kloeber's technical director Lee Green said: "We're thrilled with the results, especially as we've designed our products to return fantastic U-values whilst maintaining a very fair and sensible pricing structure; something that Kloeber has always considered important."

Enq. 317



Fenestration through the ages, or windows from bygone days. Today **Lattice Windows** are a company that caters for all your needs. Their traditional design supplies all types of windows, with authentic leaded lights in rectangular or diamond panes to match those in country mansions to village cottages throughout the country. They can revitalise your property or create individual character to new, whether small or large. If you care how your property is to be preserved in a sympathetic way, they are the company to help you. They can fulfil all requirements to meet current rules and regulations set by the British Standards Institute and still deliver beautiful windows with a traditional appearance. They are large enough to cope but small enough to care.

Enq. 329

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Enq. 323

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Enq. 326

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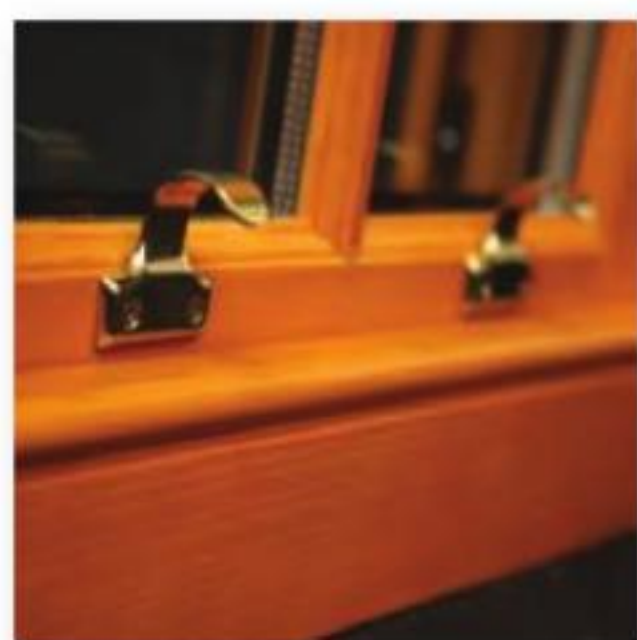


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Enq. 327



National Plastics, the specialist suppliers of building plastics to trade & DIY, are determined to keep their reputation as a one-stop-shop and are extending their range yet again with the introduction of timber windows to their already impressive choice of products. With a large range of uPVC frames, doors, and more, the company are keen to stress they don't just sell plastics! The new timber windows range is the product of a new venture with West Port – manufacturers of quality timber windows in the UK, and looks set to bring the company even more success. Says group director Geoff Foster: "We've had a very good start to the year and are excited to be able to offer yet another solution to our customers, who expect nothing but the very best products, at the best possible price."

Enq. 328



Old Manor Cottages have designed their windows and doors to replicate those that have been in use for centuries. They aim to provide their customers with precisely matching period windows, yet having the benefit of modern features and comfort. All windows are hardwood timber construction to period designs in use from around 1750 through to the early 20th century. Narrow 19/20mm glazing bars are used throughout matching the Georgian/Victorian periods with through glazing bars and double glazed panes. The Box sash range uses traditional lead balance weights and all the expected period features. Case windows are styled using traditional profiles and flush face sashes with discrete modern features for storm protection.

Enq. 323



Old Time Timber have been carefully selecting timber and preparing hand finished doors, floors and other timber products for many years. Every piece of timber has its own individual characteristics and it is their careful selection of the timber that they use that makes their products unique. Their range of designs has been inspired both by traditional models, and also by modern styles, and are all manufactured according to traditional joinery methods and techniques. Over the years they've come to understand the importance of being able to offer expert and sensitive advice as well as making items to the highest quality on which their reputation has been built. They use a variety of different timbers and also a considerable amount of reclaimed timber. All their doors are individually handmade to order.

Enq. 307



Solarlux's contemporary Wintergarden structure made from aluminium can be added to any part of the house, creating an exciting, light-filled living area. A glass roof and thermally insulated folding glass doors allow the light to fill the room. The doors can be folded back to open up the room creating a seamless transition between the house and the garden, and also the 'wow' factor. Solarlux manufacture the wintergarden and doors, which are thermally insulated and have multipoint locking systems providing high security and a choice of double or triple glazing, all designed to maintain heat inside the house in winter or reflect heat from the house keeping it cool in summer. The folding glass door systems are made from aluminium (to any RAL colour), wood/aluminium or a choice of triple laminated wood to ensure stability.

Enq. 301

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Enq. 329




a one stop shop for your glazing requirements

Kloeber UK Ltd is a manufacturer of innovative bespoke and set size glazing solutions, and a market leader in timber and aluminium folding sliding doors. They are able to supply a complete package of external glazing customised to your specifications and offer a nationwide fitting service if required.

In addition to their folding sliding doors, Kloeber's extensive product range includes a complimentary range of windows in both timber and aluminium – traditional casement, Euro tilt and turn inward opening windows and round windows which are all available in the same finishes as the folding sliding doors.

In addition to the folding sliding doors and window range, Kloeber can also supply glazed panels, French doors and entrance doors being a one stop shop for your glazing requirements.

Funky Front, Kloeber's bespoke entrance door system, offers an infinite choice of design combinations and stylish ironmongery options. Simply use the online door design tool to choose your door panel style and add the desired frame option to update your property façade. For more traditional properties the Klassicfront range will compliment period homes in a more classic style.

Newly launched this year Kloeber also now offer the Euro Funkyfront set size entrance doors; a budget conscious product based on their most

popular Funkyfront door options. It comes with three frame options and a choice of stains and paints with the same high security multi point locking system, laminated high performance and thermal glass.

Conscious of the challenging economic market, Kloeber also offer value for money set size folding sliding doors in both aluminium and engineered timber. The Eurofold doors achieve the same sleek Kloeber styling to your project without compromising on quality.

With UK Building Regulations stating that all new-build projects should be fitted with doors and windows with overall product U-values of 2.0 or less, this is a particularly important aspect of a build. Recent testing documented that the whole of Kloeber's timber range has surpassed this benchmark by a considerable margin. With Kloeber's Funkyfront and Klassicfront doors achieving overall product values as low as 1.2, their folding sliding doors, French and single doors returning results as low as 1.1 and their flush casement windows attaining overall U-values as low as 0.9, their doors and windows are able to meet the stringent requirements of Building Regulations.

Kloeber has a policy of continuous improvement and listening to client feedback which is how the Eurofold range of folding sliding doors and Eurofunkyfront both evolved. In keeping

with this policy they have also introduced three new contemporary timber colours to their range based on feedback this year – Pale Oak, Limewash and Storm Grey. Not only do the new shades look stunning, each timber product is factory finished in Sikkens microporous paint giving a highly durable surface requiring minimal maintenance.

Kloeber's products are designed to return fantastic U-values, reliable quality and stylish design whilst maintaining a very fair and sensible pricing structure backed up by great service; all aspects that Kloeber has always considered important.

Whether you require just one window, a new front door, a whole house of glazing or a set of folding sliding doors to give your house the 'wow' factor, they'd like to give you the benefit of their experience and customer service. Based in Cambridgeshire Kloeber has an extensive showroom with a full range of products on display. They also have nationwide agents throughout the country who also have showrooms. Please call their head office to find the nearest location to you with the Kloeber products you would like to view.

For further information on the Kloeber product range and to discuss how they can assist with your project, call their experienced sales team on 01487 740044.

Enq. 330

contact details

Kloeber UK Ltd

Tel: 01487 740044

Fax: 01487 740404

www.kloeber.co.uk

info@kloeber.co.uk





Sun Paradise has launched a new collection. The Bali 60 is an aluminium framed, sliding glass door system that provides access to external decks, extending living areas and bringing the outside in. Unlike other sliding doors, the Swiss engineered Bali 60 'lift and slide' mechanism enables very large and heavy sheets of glass to be effortlessly moved by lifting the panel onto rollers for a smooth glide across the opening. When the mechanism is dropped again, an excellent weather seal is created as the weight is taken off the rollers – this in turn eliminates door jarring. Incorporating electrically operated internal Venetian blinds sealed within the double glazed units, which offer the homeowner privacy as well as being able to light each room differently at any time of day. These blinds can be remote operated, and even solar charged!

Enq. 303



Internorm have been manufacturing window for the past 80 years and are the number one manufacturer in Europe, and their windows are now available from **Tradeplas**. These new windows are high performance timber windows with aluminium exterior or a uPVC window with aluminium exterior. All Internorm windows are high performance low energy windows with six of our windows being Passiv Haus certified. The benefit of having aluminium on the exterior is that it becomes low maintenance and you can have any colour, coupled to the timber or uPVC interior the windows become very thermally efficient. Visit Tradeplas to learn how you can save money on your heating bills by installing these new windows and order before Christmas to make the most of an offer to save on the VAT increase due in January.

Enq. 325



Urban Front have launched their new double rebated doors. These offer enhanced weather sealing and performance. This new feature is now standard on all of their 3D hinge door ranges. Urban Front has also introduced three new front door designs. Each is contemporary, stylish and unique. The new Linea door design has simple lines with narrow horizontal boards and a single strip of stainless steel running through it, giving it a clean minimalist feel. Each Urban Front door is hand made to order and made using the highest components: a steel-reinforced core to prevent from warping, high security locks, security keys, and 3D and pivot hinges, which offer performance and security no other door can give. Urban Front doors come in a range five different woods and now come fully finished from the factory.

Enq. 322



Snooker legend Steve Davis called in on Network Veka fabricator **Glazerite Windows Ltd** to find out about recycled PVC-U windows. The six-times world champion had set out to learn hands-on every step of the recycling process for a consumer DVD and dropped in on Glazerite's North West division in Bolton to help make a window from Veka's unique Infinity recycled profile. Steve was filmed through every stage of fabricating the frame before declaring it: "a new kind of window for a new generation of homeowner." Recently, Glazerite made the first ever recycled window to go into a UK private house. In the final DVD, produced by Network Veka, Steve will be seen helping to install that window before following the journey of one old frame all the way through VEKA Recycling.

Enq. 331



Roof Lights Folding Sliding Doors Slimline Windows

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Enq. 332



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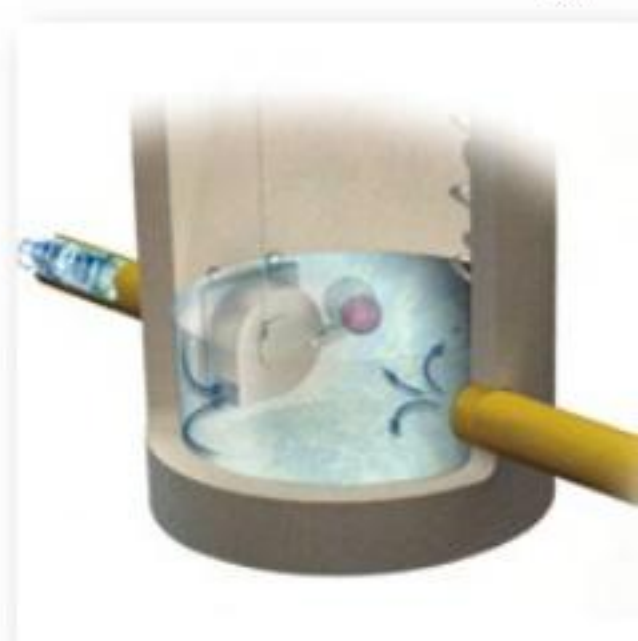
Enq. 333



www.eclisse.co.uk | Tel 0845 4811977

Enq. 131

ACO Water Management



By exploiting the hydraulic characteristics of a forced vortex, the new ACO Q-Brake Vortex stormwater discharge flow controller allows up to a 10 per cent cost saving in upstream surface water storage infrastructure. Developed by ACO Water Management, the efficient mechanism, which has no moving parts, allows an outlet cross section 4-6 times larger than traditional flow controllers making it less prone to blockage, easier to maintain and, by permitting higher flows at lower head pressures, significantly reduces stormwater storage volume requirements. Each ACO Q-Brake Vortex is individually sized and manufactured to the requirements of a specific project.

Enq. 132

Purmo



Purmo provides a Type 33 version of its popular compact radiator for the UK market, especially for those wishing to make use of renewable energy sources and technologies. The compact is an easily controllable and highly responsive heat emitter. The Compact Type 33 is an excellent choice for heating systems operating at lower temperatures, providing significantly more BTU heat output than a double panel radiator of comparable height and width. Despite its three panels the Compact Type 33 still lives up to its name with as slight a profile depth as possible for its output, neatly streamlined with side panels and top grilles supplied as standard.

Enq. 134



NCC Streetscape

The owners of this courtyard garden at Bracknell in Berkshire wanted the whole area paved to falls, using top quality random sized, cut Black Limestone slabs. To contrast with this strong black colour, the owner also required that the jointing was to be made in a durable light colour shade, to add to the overall aesthetics. They were also concerned that the jointing mortar must be non-staining, so that it did not adversely affect the stunning stone surfaces, as cement based jointing mortars can frequently do and which then require extensive and repeated cleaning and washing to remove them from the surface. The specialists from Buds Landscaping selected vdw 800 Paving Jointing Mortar from NCC Streetscape, in a contrasting sand beige, to ensure that they met all of the owner's strict requirements. GfK's vdw 800 Paving Jointing Mortar is non-staining and contains no cement as it is based on water dispersed epoxy resins. Additionally, it is installed quickly by slurry application, even in wet weather, and then it rapidly hardens, ready to put the areas into use quickly and provide a durable surface for the long-term.

Tel: 01257 266696 www.nccstreetscape.co.uk

Enq. 133



NCC Streetscape

The owners of this private residence at Camberley in Surrey wanted to create attractive patios and pathways extending all around the main house and its detached annexe, which holds a large indoor swimming pool and gymnasium. The paving specialists from Buds Landscapes used Raj Green Indian Sandstone slabs together with additional natural stone setts, and to provide the optimum aesthetics and ensure long-term, weed free durability, all of the paving was pointed and jointed with vdw 800 Jointing Mortar in a sand beige colour. Buds also prefer to install high quality paving with this advanced grouting material from NCC Streetscape, because its slurry application is extremely fast and self compacting into the joints, which saves considerable pointing time on site. Additionally, as it is non-staining and not cement based, the cleaning requirements for the paved surfaces on completion are also greatly reduced and as a result there is no contaminated water run-off, nor any potentially damaging cement blockages in any adjacent drainage system.

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Homefloors



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Litecast Homefloors 02476 - 356161

www.litecast.co.uk

Email: sales@litecast.co.uk

Enq. 135

Enq. 136

Amica



Amica is delighted to have set a new standard with the introduction of OptiGas™. Amica's OptiGas™ is an innovative gas burning system, which optimises gas usage by increasing heating efficiency and lowering gas consumption by as much as 12 per cent. Developed by and unique to Amica, all of its 50cm and 60cm free-standing cookers with gas hobs are now equipped with the OptiGas™ system, with burners designed for

direct and precise contact between the crown of the flames and the bottom of a pan, heating the pan and not the room, burning and wasting less gas while cooking is unaffected. Amica's OptiGas™ burns less, optimising gas usage to help save money and care for the environment.

Enq. 137

Broseley Fires



A new highly efficient woodburning stove, which incorporates a boiler to generate hot water for central heating and can be connected directly to a sealed heating system as well as plumbed conventionally on an open system, has been launched by Broseley Fires. The eVolution 8 combines eco friendly features with a contemporary design and the latest in stove technology. But what makes it particularly suited to 21st century living

is the fact that it incorporates the Safety Cold Water System (SCWS) which was pioneered by Broseley Fires. SCWS enables Broseley's solid fuel boilers to be fitted onto new or existing sealed central heating systems without the need for additional pipework and controls to vent the boiler.

Enq. 138

Dimplex



Thousands of storage heater users have 'tuned in' to a series of easy to follow on-line video guides created by Dimplex which explain how to operate the heaters for maximum comfort and efficiency. Available via links from the Dimplex website and on YouTube www.youtube.com/user/dimplexinfo. The user guide videos combine animations, friendly narration and subtitles, to provide short and simple, step by step guides which are ideal for tenants and all types of domestic end users. The most popular storage heater ranges feature in three video guides, with troubleshooting tips and an explanation of the best ways to set the controls. There is also a general guide to storage heaters which explains how they work.

Enq. 139

Electric Heating Company



The versatile EcoSave Gas Condensing boiler offers the highest levels of energy efficiency and provides one of the most economical and reliable combination boilers on the market. The EcoSave boiler has been designed to incorporate a stainless steel heat exchanger which maximises condensing performance and minimises energy consumption, two stage frost protection and in-built weather compensation. Other features include

internal cabinet insulation which reduces heat loss and noise and due to the integral APS system extended flueing of up to 20 metres can be achieved. As you would expect from an EHC product the boiler a SEDBUK A appliance and is one of the most efficient on the market.

At Sensible Heat we believe that HVAC should be controlled properly. By using Hometronic, manufactured by Honeywell, we can make sure each room is at the right temperature, at the time you need it – you can save energy and be more comfortable too!



Honeywell

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Sensible Heat are sole distributors of Honeywell Hometronic in UK and Ireland

Enq. 140

Enq. 141



Greenwood Airvac

Achieving 0.47W/l/s, with an exceptional 93 per cent heat transfer, and incorporating new, innovative Greenwood SMART Technology, the new Fusion HRV2HT takes one of the UK's best performing heat recovery product to the next level. Assisting in the delivery of G.I.P (Guaranteed Installed Performance), new Greenwood CommissionSMART™ technology provides a fuss-free method of commissioning. SMARTer thanks to wireless technology, one single and simple to operate LCD controller can be used to set up, adjust and commission numerous units on-site, helping save valuable time, as the installer does not need to keep going back to the unit to make adjustment. Moreover, 100 per cent variable airflow settings ensure Fusion HRV2HT meets Building Regulation requirements on-site first time. Ensuring year-round comfort for homeowners Fusion HRV2HT also boasts Greenwood SummerSMART™ and Greenwood WinterSMART™ technologies. Providing an intuitive response to seasonal variations they sense the outside temperature and automatically make changes to the way in which the supply air is delivered into the dwelling to create the perfect indoor climate all year round.

Tel: 0870 900 1880 www.greenwood.co.uk

Enq. 142

NIBE

A huge stone built barn situated near Holmfirth was converted into seven dwellings in 1997, one of which has been made into a beautiful and spacious home with only one major problem, the cost of heating. The owner called in Warmway of Dewsbury, expert in renewable energy methods and a registered NIBE VIP installer. Being MCS registered, Warmway were able to access Government funded grants and were therefore able to design a system that is affordable and ecologically sound as well as extremely fuel efficient.

Tel: 0845 095 1200 www.nibe.co.uk

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Enq. 143

Enq. 144

Grundfos Pumps

The Grundfos Alpha2 pump isn't just a domestic circulator, it's not just A-rated, it also has the unique AutoAdapt feature. AutoAdapt automatically delivers perfect comfort at the lowest possible energy level. Developed and patented by Grundfos the AutoAdapt function ensures the optimum combination of performance and energy consumption. All you need to do is plug it in. The unique Grundfos electronics take care of everything else. The AutoAdapt setting continually finds the setting where optimal comfort meets minimal energy consumption.

Tel: 01525 775402 www.a-ratedpumps.co.uk

Enq. 145

Electrorad

Electrorad are the sole UK importers of two electric heating systems; AeroFlow® and Digi-Line. AeroFlow® is a German manufactured radiator with elements encased within fireclay heat plates. The fireclay provides a storage capability but also heats up very quickly and so is able to respond to thermostatic control requirements. Each radiator has an integral digital thermostat and seven day timing system. Digi-Line is a Swedish manufactured thermal fluid filled radiator. Designed to look just like a central heating radiator and available in single panel and double panel models.

Tel: 0844 479 0055 www.electrorad.co.uk



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Enq. 146



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Enq. 147



ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE HEATING SOLUTION WAS FOUND FOR
THIS 16TH CENTURY HOME

rising heat

Looking at the benefits of
installing an air source heat
pump for off-gas locations, by
Daikin Airconditioning UK Ltd.

When Gareth and Emma Jordan and their three young children bought two virtually derelict cottages in the heart of the Kent countryside, they assumed they would have little choice but to heat the property with an oil-fired central heating system. It wasn't until someone suggested using an air source heat pump that they realized there was an environmentally sustainable and cost effective solution to heating their 16th Century dream home.

The two cottages, which were originally a bakery and the baker's cottage, had been unoccupied for two years and had never had any form of central heating. Situated at the end of a private track in the beautiful rolling hills around Cranbrook, and close to the mill which would have provided flour for the bakery, the potentially idyllic cottage had no gas supply. It looked as though the family would have to install an oil fired system, which would not only have been expensive to run with the additional hassle of having to order the heating oil, but would also have had a high carbon emission impact, something they were keen to avoid if possible.

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Enq. 148



This option was disappointing for Gareth, who runs an office design and build company in the heart of the West End of London, as he and Emma had envisaged the move to this beautiful setting would allow them to lead a more environmentally friendly lifestyle.

Gareth explains: "I just assumed that we would have to have oil fired central heating. I didn't think there was a realistic alternative. I was chatting about it with Paul Worth who is the MD of 360 Engineering, a company I use to install air conditioning on my work projects, and he instantly recommended we use an [...] air source heat pump system.

"I was taken by surprise as we were not really aware that there was an alternative to oil here. When we moved in there was no central heating at all and there was just an immersion heater for hot water. However, Paul explained that we could use the air source heat pump in conjunction with a conventional radiator system to heat the house and provide hot water. I was also impressed with the fact that it is such a straightforward system to install. It combines with standard radiators, just like a traditional central heating system, so there was no impact on the refurbishment of our home"

Air source heat pumps work by taking heat from the outside air and transferring it indoors even at cold temperatures down to -20° C. They require a small amount of electricity, but because

we could use the air source heat pump in conjunction with a conventional radiator system



DURING THE INSTALLATION THERE WAS NO IMPACT ON THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE HOME

they take free heat from the air they are extremely cost efficient and produce comparatively low carbon emissions. In fact the heat pump used in the Jordan's house produces more than three units of heat for every unit of electricity used; even the most efficient gas boiler only produces 0.93 units of heat for each unit of gas it requires.

The UK is committed to reducing the amount of carbon emitted from our homes by one third over the next ten years, and to producing 15 per cent of our energy through renewable technologies such as air source heat pumps. The Government is currently developing a Green Deal for homeowners to help improve the energy efficiency in our homes, which it will roll out over the next parliament. In order to qualify for the funding available, renewable products used must usually be accredited under a programme called the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) and the company that installs the product must also be MCS accredited. The MCS scheme gives consumers the assurance that products and companies comply with a set of rigorous standards.

The Jordan's system works with a conventional radiator system, which was installed by a local plumber, then 360 Engineering simply fitted the air source heat pump to the system. The system comprises an outdoor unit that can be situated up to 70 metres away from the house, plus an indoor unit, which is usually fitted where a conventional boiler would be. In addition, a hot water cylinder is needed for hot water provision.

For Gareth and Emma, as well as Kitty, 9, Jamie, 7, and 18 month-old Alexander, the most important fact is that their home is beautifully

warm, has plenty of hot water when they need it, and they are not producing unnecessarily high carbon emissions.

"The most amazing thing is that the heat pump worked beautifully throughout last winter," said Gareth. "Kent experienced the coldest winter for 30 years and even in the deep snow we had, the house was beautifully warm. We didn't experience any problems whatsoever."



THE CENTRAL HUB OF THE HOME IS THE HEATING AND HOT WATER SYSTEM

Enq. 149

Enq. 150

Ultraheat



Sofi's elliptical vertical columns create a look that can combine with classic or contemporary interiors in any room of the house. Offered in white or chrome Sofi is available in four heights and 14 widths. With single or double rows of oval-section heating bars, this pleasingly-shaped radiator can accommodate heating requirements between 444W and 2072W. All sizes are suitable for electric, hot water and dual fuel systems and carry a five-

year warranty. Prices start at just £133 (+VAT) for a 600mm x 352mm size in white and £175 (+VAT) for a 1500mm x 232mm size in chrome.

Tel: 01908 271155 www.pitacs.com

Enq. 151

Icynene



Icynene is one of the pioneers of the Green Building Movement and inventor of water blown soft foam insulation. Soft foam is the fastest growing insulation material in the world today and Icynene's spray-in-place products give off no harmful emissions. Applied as a liquid, Icynene expands in seconds to fill every crack and crevice while remaining flexible. At a recent nursing home project in Lancashire Icynene's insulation enabled a 40 per cent reduction in boiler size as well as reducing traffic noise and providing better indoor air quality.

Tel: 01380 730668 www.icynene.com

Enq. 152

Stelrad



When Sarah Beeny's now famous refurbishment of Rise Hall in deepest Yorkshire was endangered by a failure to show of radiators Stelrad played the white knight to her restoration project's crumbling dragon! When a lorry load of radiators didn't arrive, the shooting schedule, not to mention the heating system, seemed to be in total disarray. A phone call to Stelrad was followed by a rapid response who provided, from stock, a sensational mix of their

classy Planar and Classic Column radiators in ten different sizes to meet the very specific needs of Rise Hall and Ms Beeny!

Tel: 0870 849 8058 www.stelrad.com

Enq. 153

Pegler Yorkshire



Less than 12 months since the launch of the innovative i-temp programmable radiator control (or PRC), Pegler Yorkshire announces not one, but three additions to the i-temp range. Designed to give users even more ways to control and personalise the system, these new products deliver enhanced simplicity while helping to further reduce heating costs in the home. The development of an i-temp remote control is a natural progres-

sion and allows users to control the PRC temperature without leaving the comfort of their seat.

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Enq. 154

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PS SYSTEM INSTALLATION

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Enq. 155



PlumbNation

Looking for a new boiler but don't know which one is best? Baffled by the choice of radiators on the market? Or don't know where to look for your new bathroom fittings? Heating and plumbing ecommerce website www.plumbnation.co.uk sells tens of thousands of products directly to consumers including bathrooms, boilers, radiators, heaters, showers, air conditioning and renewable energy. And it is proving a massive hit with homeowners – registering more than 1.4 million visitors last year. Among its current best selling products are Worcester and Vaillant boilers, Ideal Standard and Roca bathroom fittings and Stelrad and Myson radiators. www.plumbnation.co.uk offers its customers the PlumbNation Price Promise which means it won't be beaten on price. It also features online customer guides, product video demonstrations and a sophisticated online heating calculator which allows you to match the most appropriate products to your home's needs. Unlike many other ecommerce businesses, www.plumbnation.co.uk also has a team of skilled technical staff on hand six days a week to answer any product or order enquiries.

Tel: 0844 800 3460 www.plumbnation.co.uk



Specflue

Specflue has announced the launch of the new TT20 stove as part of their contemporary Termatech range. Combining the latest technology with high quality manufacturing and a typical clean Scandinavian design, all the Termatech stoves exceed the strongest European standards and burn at over 83 per cent efficiency. It is available in four styles with square or rounded sidepanels and a steel or soapstone finish. All stoves are delivered with the option of top or rear outlet as standard and can be easily altered at the point of installation. It is a simple process to change the panels from steel to soapstone or vice versa without disconnecting the stove from the chimney. The air into the stove and the combustion process is managed by a single lever just below the door, giving owners precise control of the heat and the speed that the fire burns at. The deep chamber guarantees the flames are in the centre of the flame picture and provides a great view of the fire. Inside the fire chamber, the base plate is cast iron to give the stove a long lifetime. Also available for the TT20 is a turntable log store door on the rear of which can hang the TT20 fireside accessory set or firelighters. The fins beneath the door can also be interchanged from black or grey to stainless steel.

Tel: 0800 90 20 220 www.stovesandchimneys.co.uk

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**MITSUBISHI
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Enq. 159



BASF Polyurethanes UK

The recently opened Green House Project, based in Huntingdonshire District Council, has proven that carbon emissions can be reduced by 75% through easily affordable improvements. Working with the Building Research Establishment (BRE), as part of their 'Rethinking Refurbishment' campaign, Huntingdonshire District Council has transformed two existing homes from the 1960s and 1970s in St Neots and St Ives into eco-homes. Instrumental in dramatically reducing the carbon emissions is the use of Walltite® cavity wall insulation and Walltite® spray foam insulation from BASF Polyurethanes UK, which have been used to form an airtight thermal efficient solution in both properties. Durable and sustainable Walltite® cavity wall insulation provides permanent adhesion over the whole surface area of the walls and overcomes wall tie failure, weak mortar joints and other related structural problems. The foam seals the cavity, does not shrink or allow air to pass through it, therefore air leakage through the cavity is reduced to zero. In addition the existing loft insulation was replaced with 60mm Walltite® spray foam insulation between the rafters and 150mm of mineral wool at ceiling level, to achieve a u value of 0.16W/m²k.

Enq. 160

JIS Europe



JIS Europe of Haywards Heath has a new heated towel rail named the Alfriston. The towel rail is manufactured in an elegant round section shape with nine horizontal rails giving an appearance of refined luxury, together with a stylish 90 degree angle on the top rail. The new Alfriston rail is 650mm high and 1000mm wide. It can be used in central heating, electric or dual fuel formats, which will allow the rail to be heated when the central heating is turned off. The Alfriston towel rail is manufactured in 100 per cent stainless steel pressure tested to 12 Bar.

Tel: 01444 831200 www.sussexrange.co.uk

Enq. 161

Heat Electric



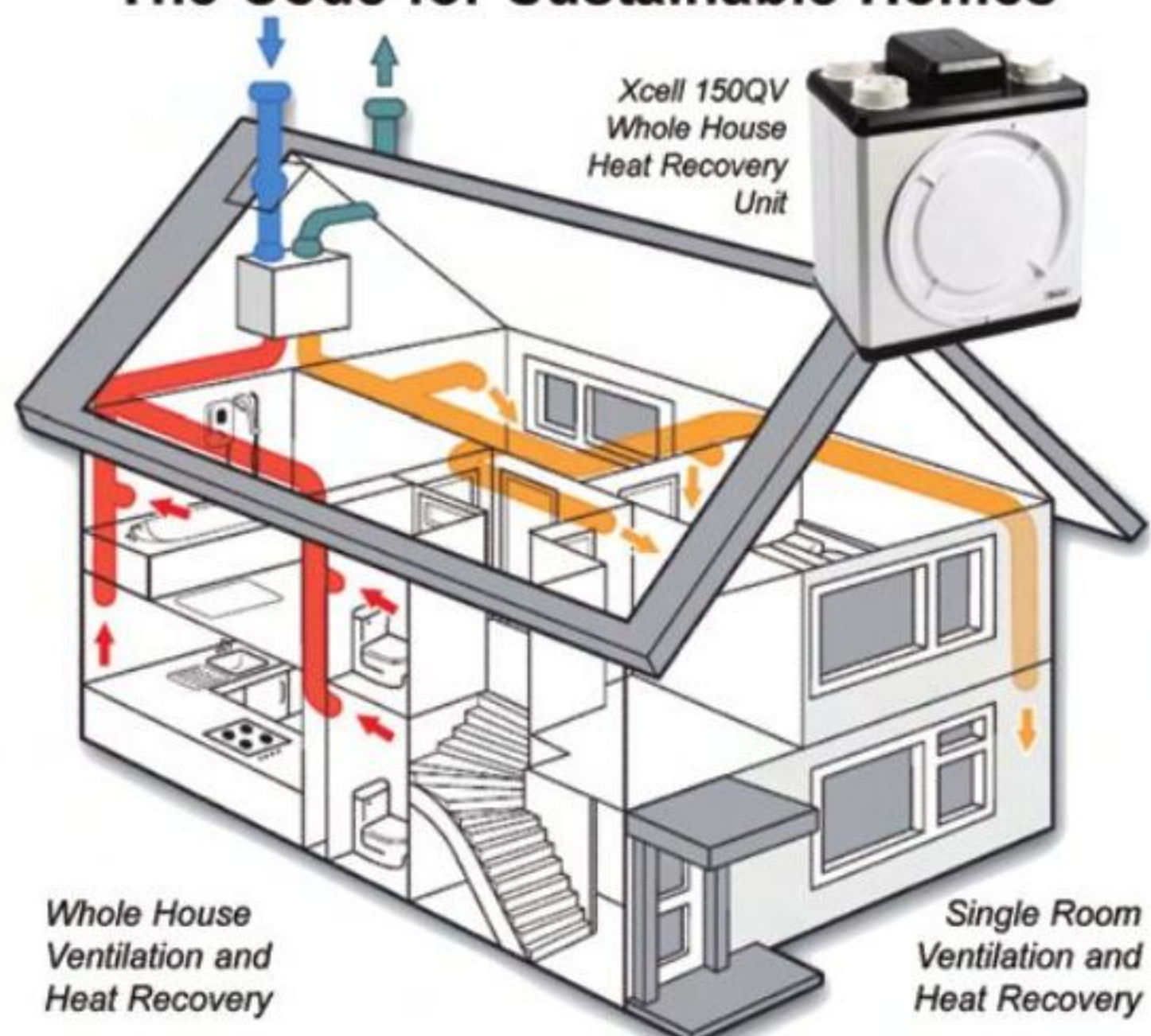
Heat Electric's range of electric water filled radiators offers end users maximum control over the output of their heating system. While each unit looks like a conventional radiator a built in boiler, pump and thermostat transforms each into a self contained central heating system. Requiring no pipework the range comes with a choice of control options to ensure heat is only delivered when and where it is needed. Wall mounted on brackets and plugged into any 13-amp socket they are both quick and easy to fit.

brackets and plugged into any 13-amp socket they are both quick and easy to fit.

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Dunsley Heat

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www.dunsleyheat.co.uk

All Dunsley stoves are manufactured in Great Britain

Enq. 163

Enq. 164

Johnson & Starley



Johnson & Starley has introduced a new vertical flexible flue kit for use with its RENO range of domestic condensing boilers. It is designed for use in vertical voids rising to loft spaces and obviates the need for inspection hatches that may otherwise be required as laid out in the Gas Safe Register's Technical Bulletin 008, December 2010. The Flexible Flue Kit FFK5 includes a continuous 5 metre length of concentric flexible flue designed specifically for condensing boiler applications. There are no joints along the flue between the boiler and the terminal, whilst the support bracket at the terminal and terminal connection can be seen and inspected.

Enq. 165

Sentinel



With TripleTech technology providing three different types of chemical technologies to penetrate and attack system scale and corrosion in X800, and three different heavy duty specialist corrosion inhibitors each targeting a specific metal type in X100, and most major boiler manufacturers recommending Sentinel products by name – using Sentinel could make your heating system up to 1.5% more effective. You only want the best for

your own home, so clean and protect your heating and hot water system to save money, reduce emissions and cut down on maintenance.

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Enq. 166

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Enq. 167

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Enq. 169

Enq. 170

Trend GB



This season, there has been a resurgence of opulence and glamour in the home, with gold colour schemes making a brilliant return. The original and still the most prized golden wall and floor covering is 24ct gold mosaic and, through its many precious tile collections, Trend of Italy offers the widest choice in this prestigious segment. Gold mosaic par excellence is seen in Trend's distinctive Aureo 24 Carat line, offered in both yellow and white gold, smooth and corrugated textures, Modern and Traditional designs, and different finishes for floors and wallcoverings.

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Enq. 171

Granite Transformations



New from Granite Transformations are three innovative Trend Prestige designs, the only agglomerate or engineered stone products in the world to feature a veining pattern running through the surface. Also new are two new Trend Q metallic tones, made with material normally used in computer chips, and three additions to the best-selling Trend R Italian granite range, reflecting this season's fashionable earthen and desert tones.

As with all Granite Transformations' products, these eight new designs are covered by a lifetime warranty.

Tel: 0800 822 3410 www.granitetransformations.co.uk

Enq. 172



Kit Stone

Kit Stone is passionate about producing beautifully crafted hand-made kitchens at tremendous value for money. The Dorchester and Woodbridge hand painted and Huntley solid oak ranges have an average cabinet order value of under £10K, representing outstanding quality and value for a bespoke style fitted kitchen. Kit Stone offer a free design service and understand that a kitchen must be a multi-functional room that is so much more than just a place for preparing and cooking food. Each one is individually designed to work around your lifestyle and attention to design and detail ensures that the kitchen functions in every way, providing not only a unique culinary workspace but an inviting place to socialise. Each fitted kitchen can be complemented with a full range of free-standing pieces, including dressers, islands and butchers blocks; and for the kitchen-diner, Kit Stone have a range of dining sets to suit all tastes and budgets.

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Enq. 175

Lighting technology
is changing fast
opening the way for
new solutions

getting the green light

Sally Storey, design director of John Cullen Lighting, helps self builders cope with the new energy efficient lighting regulations

Anyone considering a new build or extension in England and Wales now has to comply with some of the most far-reaching regulations on energy efficiency in the world introduced last October. With 75 per cent of your fixed internal fittings now required to be energy efficient, ending up with an attractive lighting scheme is far from easy, but it's not impossible. Meanwhile, lighting technology is changing fast opening the way for new solutions as well as new disasters! However, if you learn about new light sources

and see samples in action then you should be able to design successful and innovative new lighting schemes.

Understanding the regulations

Before even thinking about how you want to light your home it is important to understand exactly what the regulations mean.

Energy efficient is now defined as 45 lumens per watt and for any light fitting to be deemed compliant it must also produce a minimum of 400

lumens. We all need to know about lumens (lm) as EU law means that they will slowly replace watts on all packaging. There is no convenient way of converting watts (which measure power) to lumens (which measure light), but to give you some idea a classic 40w bulb roughly equates to around 415lm, a Classic 60w bulb gives out roughly 710lm, and a 100w bulb about 1340lm, depending on the product chosen.

A fixed light fitting refers to any fitting that is permanently wired and which you would normally turn on at the wall. The definition includes dedicated light fittings which take only low energy bulbs or standard fittings supplied with low energy bulbs.

There are a number of things that will not count towards your target of achieving 75 per cent energy efficiency. For example, lights in storage areas, cupboards, your garage or wardrobes won't count, and neither will any circuits of 5 watts or less.

Different light sources

Compact fluorescent bulbs have been pushed about as far as they can be and the light they give off, especially when dimmed, still tends to be flat, cold and generally unwelcoming. There may also be health and safety concerns to consider.

Instead of using compact fluorescent bulbs I would recommend using energy saving IRC (infrared coated) incandescent bulbs instead, even though these are only 30 per cent energy efficient. However, in a couple of years' time, LED bulbs may well offer an equally good and more efficient alternative. However, they haven't got there yet.

LED technology represents the future of energy efficient lighting and although it can't compete with the quality of light produced by the best traditional incandescent fittings just yet, it is already starting to get close. The main problem with LED lights at the moment is that the colour of the light they emit can differ even if the lights are meant



THE EFFECTS OF LAYERED LIGHTING



to be identical. Colour is measured in Kelvins and it's always worth checking where an LED bulb comes on the Kelvin scale which could be anywhere from the blue spectrum to a slightly orange light.

Good ways to use LEDs are:

- As uplighters recessed in the floor. They are low heat and with less depth are therefore far easier to incorporate in schemes
- As low level floor washers
- As in-built joinery lighting in shelves etc
- As downlights in utility areas and any undimmed area

Downlights are probably the biggest problem when it comes to being energy efficient, however, bulbs with the latest LED technology can gradually change colour as they dim, so they can produce a crisp white light at full brightness and a much softer, warmer and more attractive light when dimmed. It normally makes sense to opt for directional downlights and always consider the width of the beam you want.

Fluorescent lighting seems to have obtained rather a bad name, but in certain places and alongside other light sources it can actually work quite well, for example concealed behind splash backs or hidden behind a bedhead. Coloured sleeves can be added making a very efficient, cheap and fun lighting option.

Table lamps, which can simply be plugged in and moved, are exempt from the regulations as they are often a great way to add another layer of light to whatever scheme you are planning.

Controlling your lights

Control is one of the most important factors for any lighting scheme. The more layers of light you have and the more you can control them, the easier it will be to create the mood

and atmosphere you want. Different lights should be put on separate circuits. These need to be planned right from the start.

External lighting

The regulations only refer to fixed exterior lights. However, any fittings that give out less than 45lm per watt must be controlled both by a PIR (Passive Infrared Sensor) which detects motion and a daylight sensor, so if you're not outside your external lighting will remain off. Only external fittings above 45lm per watt can be controlled manually, but even they must be on a daylight sensor. You can now light a medium sized garden using a total of 20-30w using 1w LEDs, which is often all you need.

The future

It is worth knowing that the current regulations intend to ensure that all new build houses are carbon neutral by 2016 when energy regulations are also expected to be tightened further.

Expert advice

My final piece of advice is, given how quickly things are changing, consulting a lighting expert is unlikely to be either a waste of time or money.

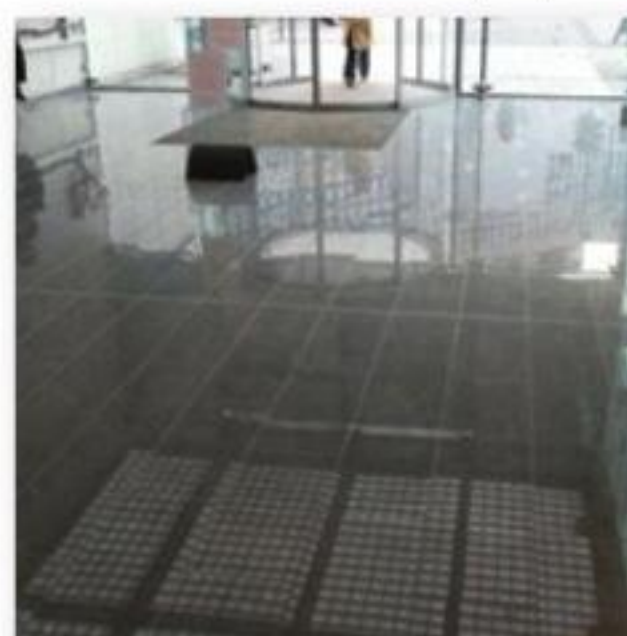
Enq. 176



DIRECTIONAL LIGHTING

Enq. 177

Instarmac Group plc



The Millennium Gallery's foyer area was recently refurbished. TTA member, Great Northern Tiling secured the floor tiling contract and set to work. To level and provide the base for the under floor heating, following the removal of the existing floor covering and previous leveller, Ultra Floor Level IT one HDB was applied. Ultra Tile meets the requirements of many tiling installations with ProFlex SP due to its extensive compatibility.

ProFlex SP is a floor and wall tile adhesive that can be used on interior and exterior applications both in wet and dry conditions.

Tel: 01827 871871 www.drivewayfix.co.uk

Enq. 178

Retrotouch



Retrotouch is launching a range of innovative lighting products onto the UK market such as remote-control light switches that bring sophisticated but affordable home automation functions to any type of property, new or old. Providing superb performance and durability; Retrotouch's "Touch and Remote" remote control light switches can be easily installed within minutes into existing homes without the need for expensive electrical rewiring.

Retrotouch's high quality product range comprises Touch and Remote Light Switches, Rocker Light Switches and Plug Sockets/Accessories.

Tel: 01293 279426 www.retrotouch.co.uk

Enq. 179



Megaman UK

A new range of LED based "candle" style light bulbs, from low energy lighting manufacturer Megaman UK Limited, are specifically designed for use in decorative lamps and light fittings, which previously used incandescent bulbs. However, while each emits the light equivalent to a 25 Watt traditional incandescent light bulb, they consume only 5 Watts of electricity, an energy saving of about 80 per cent. The bulbs also have a rated life expectancy of around 30,000 hours, over six times that expected from a traditional light bulb.

The new bulbs are the classic "candle" shape measuring just 37mm (1.5 in) diameter by about 100mm (4 in) overall depending on the type of base: bayonet, small screw (E14) or standard screw (E27). They are also available with either clear or frosted glass, ensuring that they match previously used incandescent bulbs in appearance.

Megaman LED Candle bulbs are available through a number of lighting, and electrical wholesalers as well as Internet suppliers.

LedLex



LED Lighting specialist, LedLex Ltd, has just launched a range of sustainable LED garden lighting. The range of traditional garden lighting is supplied with a 3W or 6W LED lamp which minimises the energy used whilst providing a bright light. LED lighting is a major advance in lighting with its low power consumption and long life - up to 50,000 hours depending on the lamp. LedLex lanterns come with a 20 year anti-corrosion warranty and are

almost completely recyclable. LedLex develop sustainable lighting products that save energy.

Tel: 0845 519 1481 www.ledlex.com

Aico



Aico Ltd. has launched a completely new website aimed at providing its customers with useful information and unique features. In particular it provides comprehensive information for specifiers looking to specify Aico's Ei Professional range of mains powered fire alarms. Whilst the web address www.aico.co.uk remains the same, the new Aico website is easier to use and navigate, and has a completely new contemporary design. There is

also an easy to use tool to make producing a robust domestic fire alarm specification quick and simple; the Specification Selector. It guides the user through alarm grades and categories, choice of back-up supply, alarm sensor types, alarm quality and installation methods.

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Steico



A 180 sq m artist's studio, constructed in 8-9 weeks near Canterbury, used a factory assembled timber frame system and 1100 linear metres of Steicojoist timber and natural wood fibre joists. Designed by architect Joanne Cooke and Conker Conservation, it is the UK's first certified Passivhaus industrial building. The frame, engineered by Stephen Green Ltd, was constructed by Ecoframes Systems Ltd. Paul Mallion, Conker Conservation, said: "The Passivhaus standard requires excellent 'U' values [...] and very low air leakage. The portal frame using Steicojoists was key in achieving these aims."

Tel: 01582 768 321 www.steico.co.uk



GM Moore and Associates

A Sussex architectural and planning consultant is celebrating after helping a couple to get agreement for a unique 360° eco house on a plot in Laughton, East Sussex. Consultant Glenn Moore worked closely with Wealden District Council over many months to come up with the approved design, which was inspired by some of the region's earliest homes. It will be one of the first contemporary, round houses in the district. He said: "People might think of a round house as being modern and unusual but circular homes date back to pre-historic times. When we were developing the idea we looked at local buildings such as Celtic round houses and forts, defensive and warning structures like round towers, Martello towers, windmills, roundels, oast houses and water towers, and the form began to take shape. The benefits of a round house are that it is an aerodynamic shape with no harsh lines, deflecting wind, providing shelter and performing at the highest level in terms of sustainability. The design embraces new technologies to reduce carbon emissions and incorporates renewable sources for heat and energy, as well as building materials."

Tel: 01323 888013 www.gmassociates.co.uk

Nicholls & Clarke



Nicholls & Clarke are delighted to announce that A G Ceramics Ltd has sold its trading activities to the Nicholls and Clarke Group of Companies who will continue to trade from the existing Stevenage site. A G Ceramics are a Tile and Bathroom retailer with a quality tile fixing service. Customers will benefit from access to the wider range of products within the Nicholls & Clarke Group. A G Ceramics will be the

group's 14th tile retailing site and will provide a new location for retail and trade customers to be able to collect from the extensive range of tile and bathroom products such as N&C Nicobond ceramics, natural stone and adhesive products.

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Enq. 187

Senate Electrical



Senate Electrical, one of the UK's leading electrical supplies distributors, has launched a new range of energy saving lamps under its in-house Sector brand. The Energetic range, which includes CFLi and LED lamps for a wide range of light fittings, boasts energy savings of up to 85 per cent on conventional lamps and a lamp life of 30,000 hours for LED lamps and 10,000 for CFLi lamps. All lamps in the Energetic range are liquid mercury free, with CFLi lamps using Amalgam instead for a safer, more environmentally alternative. The latter come with a unique Break-safe feature to confine Amalgam and shattered glass if the lamp is accidentally broken.

Enq. 188

Saint-Gobain PAM UK



Saint-Gobain PAM UK has further enhanced its Classical cast iron domestic rainwater and guttering systems with a new range of hopper heads. Boasting an attractive, flat back design, the new hopper heads are in a larger size of 305 x 186 x 200mm. They can be purchased in both standard Classical black water-based primer and in Classical Plus finish thermoplastic powder coating PPA571. Mike Rawlings, marketing

manager – Soil & Drain at Saint-Gobain PAM UK, explained: "The Classical range already boasted several options in this product area, but the new product will satisfy the requirements of homeowners seeking a larger, more prominent hopper head."

Enq. 189



Fernco Environmental

Whether it's saving money on house insurance or using sustainable building materials there is always pressure to look at options, get the best deal and make the biggest difference. The reality is we don't all have the time to do this – any way of reducing the workload on a house build project is always welcome.

This need for efficiency is always at the forefront of product development at Fernco Environmental, and the result is two systems – for rainwater harvesting and for surface water soakaway. Both water management systems contain everything you need!

The Stormbreaker soakaway is a modular system assembled using 0.4 cubic metre kits. Each kit contains the geotextile, the adhesive tape, and installation instructions – one purchase, one product, no wastage. Why excavate 3 cubic metres and use 4.8 tonnes of stone, when 1 cubic metre of Stormbreaker holds the same volume of water?

Also designed with ease of purchasing and installation in mind is the Stormbreaker rainwater harvesting system. This high spec product is preassembled and contains everything you need: one purchase, one customised, preassembled system.

Tel: 01226 340 222 www.ferncoenvironmental.com



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Enq. 192

Enq. 193



Swish Building Products

Swish Building Products has unveiled new profiles and trims in its Irish Oak foiled range. The new products include square fascia, capping board, soffit, window board and trims all of which carry the Swish 10-year guarantee. The expansion of the range reflects high and still growing demand for the Irish Oak foil plus matching ancillaries, particularly within the PVC-U window industry.

Greg Wilde, Swish Building Products, said: "The Irish Oak range is a strong match for the increasingly popular foiled finish offered by leading window profile extruders. We're also seeing wood grain skirting and architrave specified over traditional timber alternatives, particularly in the commercial sector where it offers a more durable and lower maintenance alternative."

This new range of profiles joins the established range of profiles from Swish, which include Mahogany, Rosewood, Light Oak, Black, White and Cream.

Tel: 01827 317 200 www.swishbp.co.uk



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Enq. 194



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CENTURY STONE

Enq. 195

Enq. 196

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Myrooffline have launched a 48 page brochure to be used in conjunction with their e-commerce site. Myrooffline.com is the easiest and most cost effective method for buying your roofline products. They specialise in the huge range of Freefoam's soffit, fascia and cladding, Freeflow's rainwater goods, Kytun's dry verge systems and much more. The site is designed for you to get all your roofline products delivered "from your mouse to your house."

Covering all of the U.K. and Ireland, Myrooffline offer a free delivery service on all orders over £50.00.

Tel: 01684 293702 www.myrooffline.com

Enq. 197

Securikey



The often confusing area of safe selection has just been made much clearer with the new range of Euro graded safes from Securikey, providing protection from £6,000 to £1 million pounds and designed to please the eye as well as the insurer. The fully tested and approved units provide a safe haven for whatever is most important to you. The inclusion of a test certificate and product rating label bearing the VdS logo prevents

issues of approval from insurers once your choice has been made. Securikey will assist with product selection and tutorial videos help to select from multiple locking options.

Enq. 198

Richard Burbidge



Richard Burbidge is now offering a new continuous handrail in its made-to-order Heritage stair balustrade range. Ideal for larger hallways and exclusive homes, the over-the-post handrail provides a continuous sweep to the end of a staircase, creating a grand and visually stunning effect. The Heritage range is supplied in white oak, which has become the timber of choice for many staircases in grand homes. Its natural warmth and

luxurious finish looks great in traditional hallways, especially when combined with white oak flooring and neutral colourways and accessories. New contemporary plain baluster and newel designs are also available, which are in keeping with the quality and grandeur of the range.

Enq. 199

Aico



For busy contractors on the move, Aico has launched a new iPhone App – Handyfacts – covering all the key information you need when fitting fire, smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms. The new iPhone App is an ideal memory refresher when on site and is easy to use with direct links from the contents page to the relevant sections, an email enquiry facility so you can contact Aico directly, and a link to Aico's new website. The

Handyfacts App also covers which alarm types to use in different areas of a property, explains siting requirements with clear diagrams, and also gives details on wiring and accessories. Additionally, it shows the options that are available when it comes to alarm interconnection.

Please send for our new colour brochure

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Enq. 201



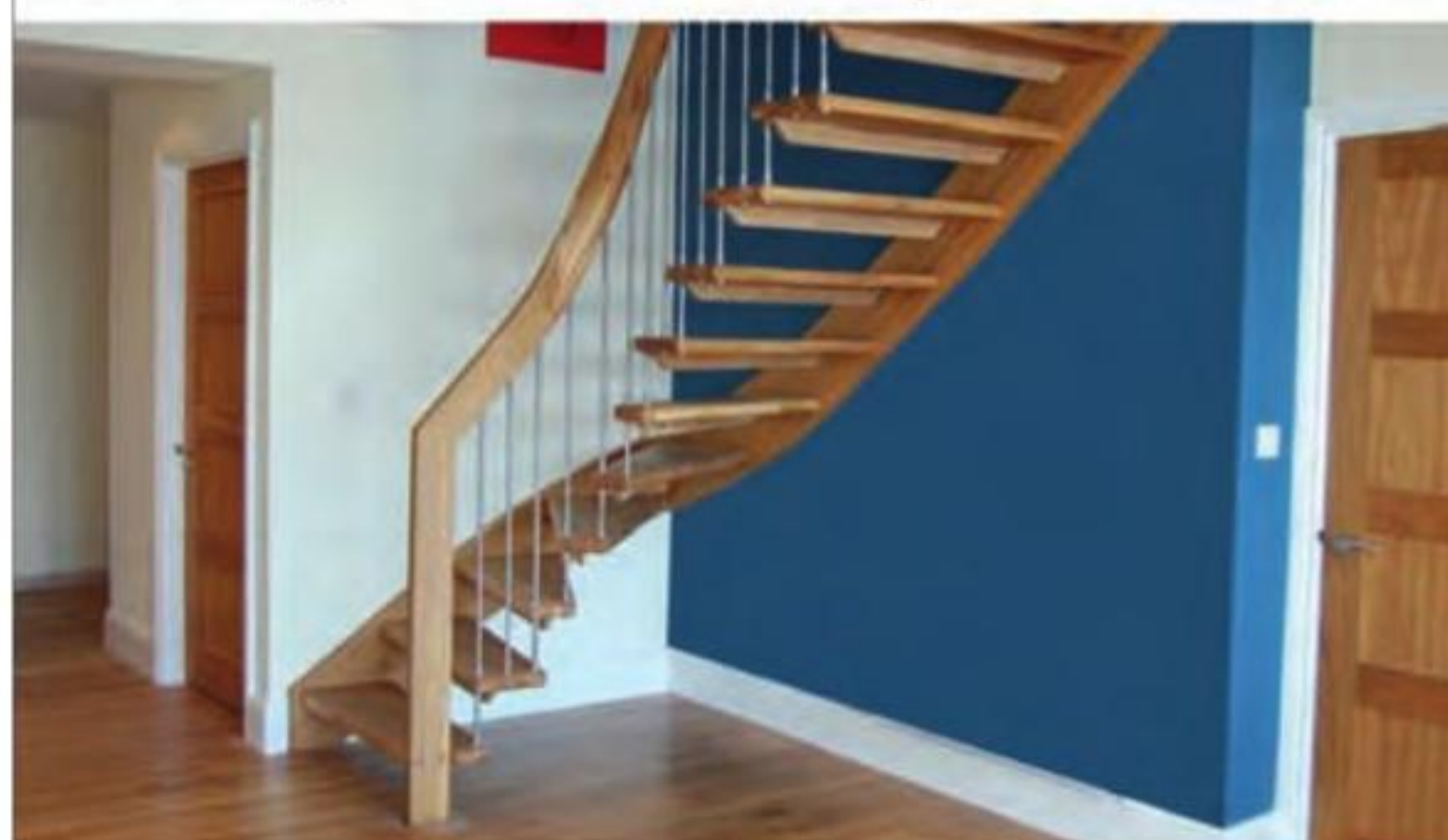
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Enq. 202



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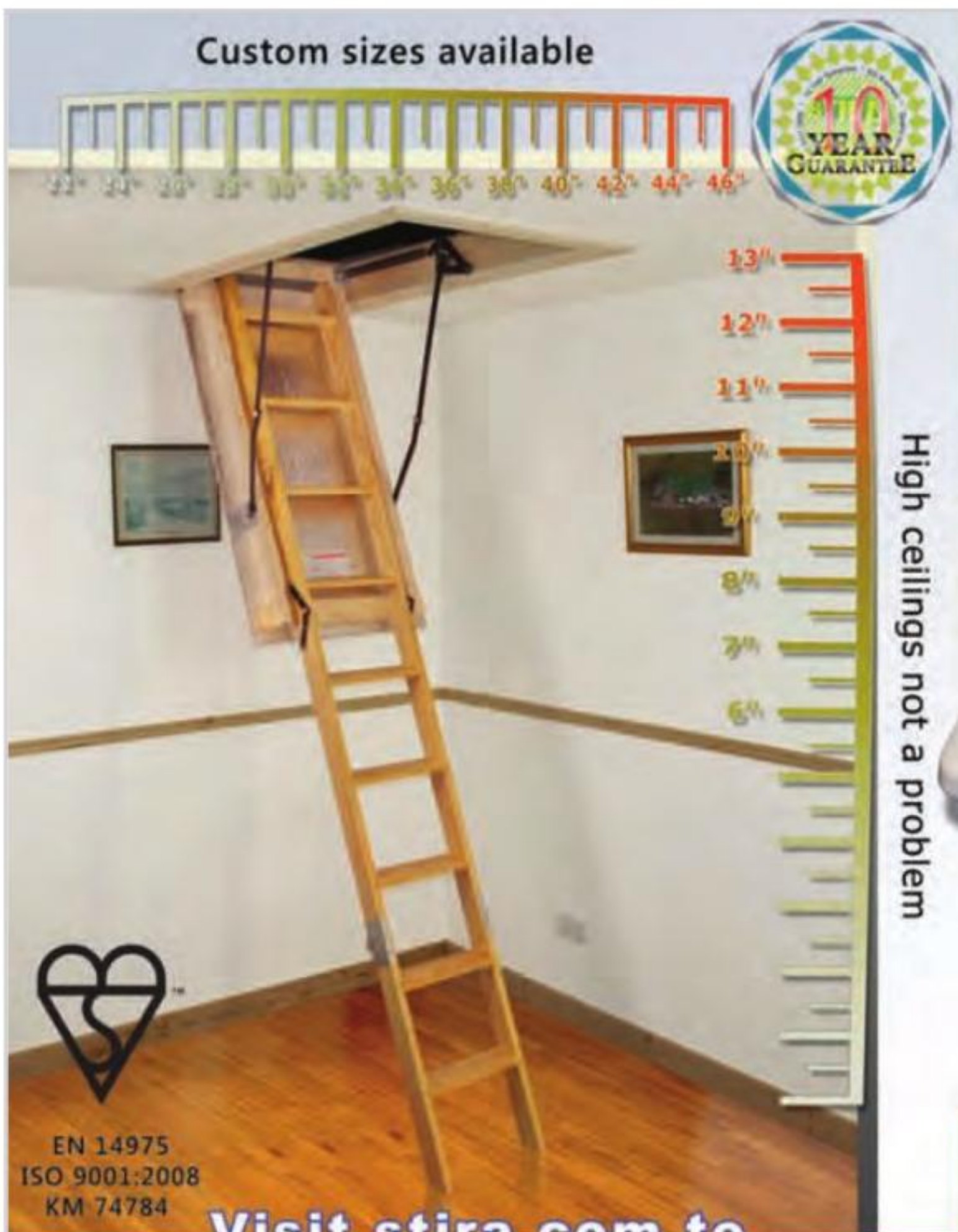
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Enq. 204

Staircases have become viewed more as bespoke pieces of furniture than part of the building structure

don't forget the staircase!

Complete Stair Systems Ltd. advises on choosing and installing a staircase within your self build project.



A staircase is the perfect opportunity to create a stunning visual impression as it is often the first fixture on view when entering a property. This brief guide has been prepared to walk you through the process of purchasing a new staircase 'step-by-step' whilst hopefully offering some inspiration.

Space & staircase shape

The first element to consider is the space the staircase will fill on each floor level i.e. the footprint of the flight. The amount of space you have available for this will vary on the size and layout of the property, but should not be overlooked. If it is a new build or a large refurbishment your architect or designer will specify a certain stairwell opening large enough to fit a compliant staircase. The floor-to-floor height will determine the number of treads/risers required so logically the higher the floor, the larger the staircase footprint. If you are replacing an old staircase you will probably have a fixed stairwell opening and it is most likely that any new staircase will have to be a similar size and shape as the old flight. Generally your new staircase will take the form of a:

- Straight flight
- Quarter turn (1 x 90 degree turn) often called a dog leg
- Half turn (2 x 90 degree turns)
- Spiral staircase with treads spinning around a centre column.
- Helical staircase with tapered treads around a central void

...continued on page 61

Enq. 205

New Forest Metalwork



Visit www.newforestmetalwork.co.uk for a look at stainless steel/glass balconies and driveway gates/railings in traditional/contemporary designs from New Forest Metalwork. They design, manufacture and install nationwide for private/commercial projects. Fire escapes and staircases can also be viewed. Free, prompt quotations. New Forest Metalwork has the manufacturing fabrication facilities and know-how to take on any mild/stainless steel fabrication, including custom-built balconies, wrought iron railings, wrought iron gates and barriers, steel and stainless steel furniture.

Tel: 07721742498 www.newforestmetalwork.co.uk

Enq. 206

Chilstone



Kent based composite stone experts Chilstone of Tunbridge Wells have had a strong start to the year despite the economic situation.

Orders have been coming in for home improvement and extension projects, particularly classical porches and hard landscaping features such as fountains and gate piers.

The company, established in 1953, specialises in architectural detailing such as these and short run bespoke work. Chilstone offer both professional architects and self-builders a complete service including drawings, free estimates and expert guidance.

Enq. 207

Hallgate Timber



Hallgate Timber supply and install the Fontanot range of staircases.

They have the UK's largest staircase showroom with over 30 stair models on display.

They offer spiral, helical, traditional open and modular staircases. Glass, steel, timber and cast iron.

Space saver stairs start from just £699. Made to measure Scenik range from approximately £3000. Model shown is Scenik Verve.

Tel: 01406 363978 www.juststairs.co.uk

Enq. 208

Burlington Stone



Burlington has extended its palette of rich and welcoming stone colours with the addition of Brandy Crag Silver. Appropriately named after the quarry from which the stone is extracted, Brandy Crag Silver, as its name suggests, is a silver grey natural stone that exhibits softer, lighter tones and shades than Burlington's familiar and popular Brandy Crag stone. Adding to the romance and appeal of Brandy Crag Silver are contrasting

veins and markings inherent within the body of the stone that not only serve to highlight its authenticity but also its outstanding tactility. Brandy Crag Silver can be supplied in a range of smooth and textured finishes and is suitable for both interior and exterior specification.



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Enq. 210

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Enq. 211



James Latham

As part of its extensive range of solid and engineered wood flooring, James Latham's new dedicated flooring division is now offering two new high quality products on an exclusive basis. Timura® is a solid timber floor, which uses only FSC certified European hardwood. The European grown species used in Timura®, mainly Ash and Beech, are given the appearance of tropical timber which, as well as boasting the durability of tropical wood, utilise the new Vacu3 heat process which 'seals-in' the colour, increasing its longevity. Using long boards and the distinctive bevel, PARKY® veneered floors by Shinnoki maintain the look and feel of solid wood flooring, but because they use 25 times less wood than solid wood flooring, as well as no formaldehyde during the manufacturing process, plus environmentally friendly hardened lacquer, they offer significant environmental benefits. PARKY® is also easy to care for and install and its 'uniclic' jointing system means you can install the boards yourself without the need for glue. PARKY® also uses a layer of cork to produce the feel and sound of walking on a solid wood floor. Paul Latham, who heads Latham's new flooring division, said, "We now deliver a more rounded and comprehensive offering [...] and the addition of these latest exclusive products to an already impressive range of solid and engineered wood flooring, coupled with the fact that we carry information about adhesives, screeds, underlays and liquid DPM, means that our flooring customers are extremely well catered for."



Once you have established the general layout of the staircase you require you will need to think about materials and costs.

Style & materials

Recently staircases have become viewed more as bespoke pieces of furniture than part of the building structure and the UK market offers plenty of styles. The trend is for more open designs than the conventional closed riser carpeted stairs. Staircases themselves have become open plan with open risers and light balustrade structures allowing the passage of light.

Due to the ever-changing demand staircases are now available in a vast range of materials. Gone are the traditional Parana pine white painted models and in have come models with steel stringers, glass treads and stainless steel balustrading. Indeed timber is still the more popular choice for treads but there are glass, stone and marble options on the market. Whilst there are many modern designs you could still combine a traditional structure staircase with perhaps glass balustrading to give an open feel.

Pricing

Your available budget will probably be influenced by the size and cost of your new build or refurbishment and the emphasis you wish to give the staircase. In calculating your budget it would be advisable to contact a few staircase companies initially to get some ballpark figures. The main contributors to pricing are how the stair is constructed and supported, the size and shape of the flight, and the materials you wish to use.

Fully bespoke stairs can cost £20k plus and

modular options start are around £1.5k.

Measurements are obviously crucial for a new staircase. The precise dimensions required differ from project to project but are generally:

- The finished floor-to-floor height
- The finished floor-to-ceiling height
- The length and breadth of the stairwell opening

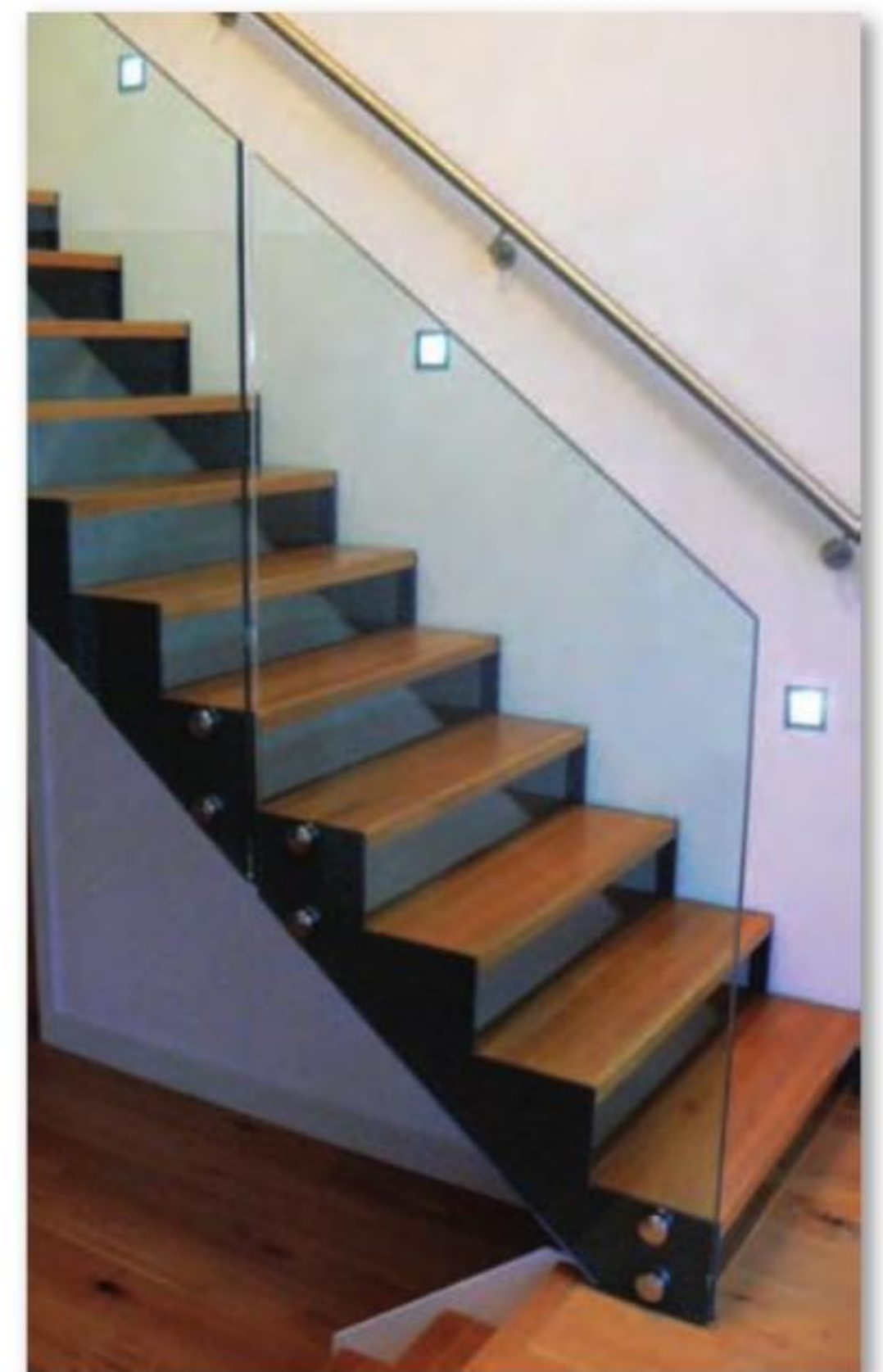
Many suppliers will be able to provide a pretty accurate price based on the shape of the staircase and approximate measurements. For production exact measurements will be required and these are generally either taken by the supplier, builder, joiner or architect on site.

Don't forget to allow for installation and, if applicable, removal of an existing flight. Some companies offer installation and some just supply only. Be sure to check with the supplier what is included.

Building regulations

If your staircase is for a new build or a large refurbishment it will have to comply with the current building regulations. These are Part K for straight flight, quarter and half turn and BS5395 for spiral and helical. If you do not require planning permission for the work you are carrying out strictly speaking the stairs don't have to comply with the regulations, but do bear in mind that the staircase might be inspected should you later sell the property. The regulations generally cover the relationship between the rise and going of the staircase ensuring it is not too steep to use.

Donot purchase a staircase without confirming with an architect or staircase supplier that the chosen model complies with the relevant regulation.



Enq. 212



ABOVE: ARCHITECT'S HOME ACHIEVING CODE FOR SUSTAINABLE HOME LEVEL 3 RATING

a sustainable future

Written by Ian Hunter, Hunter Architects & Planners



ABOVE: LIGHT FLOODS INTO THE PROPERTY

As architects we were keen to build a sustainable home for our growing family. Luckily we were able to find a plot of affordable land due to a problematic planning history. Ultimately it took over ten years for the site to achieve planning permission, but we managed to obtain approval at our first attempt.

Planning issues

The site had had several failed attempts both at the planning application and appeal stage by other planning professionals. We approached the site by taking the acceptable elements and removing the unacceptable elements, for example removing the need for vehicular access into the heart of the site. Our first attempt, albeit after over one year, obtained a recommendation for approval from the planning officer but was ultimately refused by the Council. The subsequent appeal granted permission and then we set about

dealing with the detailed design aspects. After several more months and numerous revisions etc, the Council approved the scheme at committee. A lot of time was spent agreeing/amending/designing the various aspects, for example positions of windows, height of roof etc.

Located in Timperley village, the site nestles behind a number of traditional semi-detached properties. The brief called for a family home, with good day-lighting, links to the garden, reduced bills and substantial storage. The result is a building of its time, designed by Hunter Architects & Planners to respond to the site simply and elegantly, whilst minimising the potential overlooking from neighbouring dwellings. The house, constructed to Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3, incorporates Secured by Design and Lifetime Homes accreditation, solar hot water and rainwater harvesting systems, and a bespoke kitchen and staircase.



BI FOLD DOORS WITHIN THE FAMILY ROOM BRING THE OUTSIDE IN.



RAINWATER HARVESTING USED TO FLUSH THE TOILETS

The design

The home was designed as a fun, light, bright, contemporary family home with a strong relationship to the outside spaces. The house is arranged with the main family living accommodation linking with the garden via south facing bi-fold doors, which take up a large proportion of the front elevation. A formal living room and home office along with bedroom accommodation are located at the rear of the site looking onto a smaller courtyard garden. The master bedroom and en suite have been constructed within the roof space of the house where the sloping ceilings create a surprisingly spacious master suite.

Externally the house is of traditional brick construction with a feature wall of stone guiding visitors to the main entrance. Local craftsmen and suppliers enabled a high-quality family home to be constructed very cost effectively. A bespoke kitchen, staircase and front door were included to give the house a more unique look.

As architects we were keen that the house would be used to research numerous elements including cost effective, sustainable and energy efficient products. We were keen to investigate how a commercially viable budget could be used to create a contemporary, sustainable, useable home. We chose to construct the house to achieve a Code for Sustainable Homes level 3 rating including Secure by Design and Lifetime Homes accreditation. The property was developed to achieve a 25 per cent betterment on building regulations energy use. This has been done by increasing the efficiency of the wall,

floor and roof insulation, installing higher performance glazing in the windows, and installing a solar hot water heating system and energy efficient boiler (with heat exchanger) to supply the under floor heating system.

A substantially reduced water consumption has been achieved by including the use of rainwater harvesting to flush the toilets and low flow taps.

Other keys aspects of the code and house include good day lighting, generous internal and external storage areas, and defined space for refuse and recycling. This illustrates our understanding of what makes a house a home and how contemporary sustainable design can create useable, functional but interesting buildings. Whilst these features seem fairly common sense they are often overlooked, especially when considering typical house builder offerings.

Enq. 213

Contacts

- Architects: Hunter Architects & Planners
- Insulation: Quinn Glass
- Windows: SAPA
- Hot Water System: Alpha Innovations (Boiler & Solar Hot Water)
- Underfloor heating: Speedfit
- Rainwater Harvesting/Sprinkler: Homesafe
- Kitchen: Bespoke by Cheshire Interiors
- Staircase: Bespoke by joiner
- Front Door: SAPA

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Email: info@nu-heat.co.uk
www.nu-heat.co.uk

ROBBENS SYSTEMS UNDERFLOOR HEATING
69 Castleham Road, St Leonards on Sea,
East Sussex, TN38 9NU
T: 01424 851111 F: 01424 851135
Email: robben@underfloorheating.co.uk
www.underfloorheating.co.uk

ENCOMPAS UNDERFLOOR HEATING
Warwick Mill Business Centre,
Warwick Bridge, Carlisle, CA4 8RR
T: 0845 631 3000 F: 0845 631 3333
Email: info@encompas.co.uk
www.encompas.co.uk

If you would like to advertise within the
Classified & Directory pages, please
contact the sales team on:

01435 863500

The image shows a computer monitor displaying a web browser window. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.shonline.co.uk/readers2004>. The page is titled "Reader Enquiries" and features the S&H logo with the tagline "Selfbuilder & Homeowner". Navigation links include "Home", "Latest Information", "Company Search", and "Contact Us". A maroon banner contains the "Reader Enquiries" section with three steps: "Step 1: Select products and adverts", "Step 2: Contact Details", and "Step 3: Confirmation". Below this, a welcome message is followed by a search bar and a list of product categories with checkboxes, including "the Foundation & Installation", "Accessories", "Bathrooms & Showers", "Building Features", "C&E, Self-build & Conversions", "Gardens, Walls & Fences", and "Outdoor Features & Pools".

Apr/May 2011

Name:.....

Company (if applicable):.....

Position (if applicable):.....

Address:.....

.....

..... Postcode:.....

Tel:.....

Fax:.....

Email:.....

Are you an architect/technician/technologist/agent... involved in a self-build project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: Date:

[illegible]

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