

# INSIGHT

SERVING THE ROOFING INDUSTRY

FROM **SIG** ROOFING

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UNDERLAYS**  
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## BE SAFE ON SITE



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# Good health and safety... is no accident

Attention to health and safety is about more than just being responsible, it also makes good business sense.

The business case for improving health and safety is very simple: accidents at work can impose heavy costs on your business. No one wants something serious to happen on their watch so having the systems, equipment and training in place to reduce risk and provide a safe working environment makes great business sense. It will not only help your business run smoother and reduce costs in the long run, it also conveys a professional image that customers can trust.

In this issue of INSIGHT we've got information on some of the latest products on the market that can help you ensure site safety. We also cover the regulations you need to be aware of and how they affect what you need to do on site. This is especially important in roofing as in 2013/14 falls from height were the most common cause of fatalities, accounting for

nearly three in ten (29%) of fatal injuries to workers (RIDDDOR).

Making sites as safe as possible means recognising that health and safety is everyone's responsibility, from individuals right up to large manufacturers. The fact there are now more products with safety built in to the design than ever before, combined with clearer and tighter regulations and best practice is definitely taking us in the right direction. Prevention is better than cure and you'll find lots of information in this issue to help you stop accidents before they happen.

There are detailed case studies showing how using Hydrostop EU AH-25 and SIGnature Torch on Felt helped enable safe re-roofing of commercial buildings - where shutting down operations wasn't an option. We also highlight product options for reducing exposure to silica dust to help avoid respiratory problems further down the line. And, you can see how Marley Alutec's lightweight systems contribute to safe installation by reducing the risk of contractors unbalancing.

Fire is undoubtedly one of the biggest risks on construction sites. There are around 11 fires every day and the costs can be serious both financially and personally.

For editorial enquiries please contact the editor at [insightmag@sigroofing.co.uk](mailto:insightmag@sigroofing.co.uk)

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# FREE T-shirt!

Sign up for the quarterly INSIGHT magazine to receive your FREE T-shirt!

See page 21 for details.



## IN THIS ISSUE:

- ONE Warranty now includes even more industry leading products
- NFRC spread technical knowledge and best practice with their free library
- SIGnature Clay Tiles share their three ranges to suit all budgets
- Reduce the risk of harmful dust with MarleyEternit's fibre cement slates
- Cembrit explains why ventilation is essential for tight fitting roof coverings
- SMARTPLY introduces their new and improved OSB

We've included some hints and tips to help keep you in line with regulations and avoid on site fires that take £400m from the industry each year.

In addition to all that you'll find details of trade association initiatives driven by organisations such as CompetentRoofer, TrustMark and the NFRC. These are helping roofers get paid safely, comply with regulations and share knowledge - all vital parts of creating a safer working environment for everyone.

## Don't Forget...

You can flick to the back for a handy index of all our contributors and use our reader response card to make finding out more even easier.



## COMPETITION WINNER

Congratulations to our reader Andrew Saint of SAS Property Services who is our latest competition winner!

Andrew entered our INSIGHT issue 25 Sudoku competition to win a MarcO-Grill BBQ worth £100!

We asked Andrew why he reads INSIGHT he told us: "I've been subscribed to the magazine now for five years. It helps me to keep up to-date with the latest news within the roofing industry and I can find out what new products are available to me."

Have your chance to win a Durafix Driver on page 39.

## Our online home

Get a deeper insight into all things roofing at [www.sigroofing.co.uk/insightmag](http://www.sigroofing.co.uk/insightmag)

# Roofing news

The latest stories from the world of roofing.

## You Bute!

The latest thinner leading edge range from Russell Roof Tiles shows how using the right product can make a big difference, when it comes to looks and speed of installation.

There are some things you just can't avoid in roofing: climbing up and down ladders and working at height are just some that spring to mind! That's why having the right tools for the job can make all the difference. The Bute 'Thinner Leading Edge' range of tiles from Russells are lighter and easier to handle – some 30% lighter than their standard flat interlocking tiles, a good choice when thinking about health and safety on site.



Bute is the latest addition to the Natural Range of concrete tile versions of slate, clay and stone – each designed to match the local look of roofs across the UK. It has a double tile format, so has the good looks of a small format tile, however it's easier to fix. One tile covers a larger area but still has the appearance of smaller tiles, which means you'll spend less time up and down the ladder and more time admiring your handy work.

Like all Russells's thinner leading edge tiles, the Bute is manufactured using 15% less raw materials than a standard flat interlocking tile. That also means they're a 'greener' choice and have less packaging, so they can be delivered to the site in fewer batches.

Sounds like a concrete solution... thanks Russells!



**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 1**



## There in a flash(ing)

GRP flashing offers an alternative solution.

With lead being such a tried and tested roofing material that stands the test of time, it's sometimes hard to stop and think about the need for an alternative. However, there are several currently on the market that offer similar physical and aesthetic qualities that are worth considering.

Hambleside Danelaw's GRP flashing range is one of these. It offers a non-toxic solution that is easy to work and is lightweight - perfect for handling on site and reducing the risk of injury to our backs.

The range is suitable for use with profiled, flat and plain tile roofs and slate roofs. For ease of use, stainless steel clips can be used to support the left side of the valley where no support is available from the tile lock. The product is both BBA and Secured by Design certified (a police initiative created to design out crime).



# in brief



Their leading GRP Dry Fix Valley Trough remains the market leading solution for roofers. Their mortarless Dry Fix Inclined Valley Trough version offers a number of additional benefits, with hidden water gulleys at the roof valleys providing a close-cut appearance, which don't require any counter battens or special eaves closure pieces.

Hambleside's no flash in the pan, so next time you're looking for a lightweight, versatile alternative take a look at their product range and you'll see the benefits too.



**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 2**

## A real bonding experience

Eco Systems 100% recycled, self-bonding Eco Slate is revolutionising roofing.

Eco Slate's state-of-the-art formulation makes their self-bonding slate extremely strong, pliable and attractive. Eco Slate's increasing popularity is due to it being; very flexible, quick and simple to install...and with hardly any waste installation costs are drastically reduced.

Designed for use with board roofs, Eco Slate has BBA certification for roof pitches as low as 10 degrees. And installation couldn't be easier, all you have to do is place a roofing underlay directly over a series of sarking boards fixed to the roof rafters, and nail the roof slates directly on to the boards. No roof battens are required as the embossed guidelines on the slate make locating each slate simple. Nails should be stainless steel or hot-dipped galvanised nails.



Over time the slates self-bond to form a solid membrane on the roof that is wind and weather resistant, even at low pitches. This process relies on sunlight, bonding even quicker during the summer.

This is one new slate that really is a game changer.

**ECO Systems**  
DISTRIBUTION LTD

**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 3**

# You're the ONE that I want!

## ONE Warranty offers even more choice.

Research has shown that around 70% of us have had to replace a roofing product through a warranty claim. That's why SIG Roofing know that it's important to make the process of replacing roofing products as simple as possible, particularly when dealing with multiple suppliers, and that contractors just need to get on with the job. That's where ONE Warranty comes in...

### **ONE ROOF, ONE NAME, ONE WARRANTY!**

Since its launch in October 2015, SIG Roofing's ONE Warranty for pitched roofing has gone from strength to strength. ONE Warranty supports the build-up of the roof from batten to roof coverings and its simplicity is the key to its success. It covers the performance of the key products involved in the roof build-up for 15 years under one single package warranty that is easy to use and understand, and all at no extra charge. ONE Roof, ONE Name, ONE Warranty. It really couldn't be simpler.

### **ONE WARRANTY NOW GIVES EVEN MORE**

To give contractors, property owners and specifiers even more choice and flexibility, ONE Warranty now includes even more industry leading products for the roof build, including:

- Klober
- Welsh Slate
- SIGA Heritage
- DuPont Tyvek
- JLM
- Young Black
- Paslode
- TIL-R and TIL-R Classic

These leading manufacturers' products include underlays from Klober's Permo<sup>®</sup> Air and DuPont's Tyvek<sup>®</sup> Supro and Supro Plus and coverings from Welsh Slate and SIGA Heritage's latest addition Reproduction Reclaimed Slate. ONE Warranty also now includes a range of Klober's pitched roof ventilation products, Jamestown Metals Ltd's Zinc Ridge, slate hooks from Young Black and batten nails from Paslode.

These latest products add to the existing coverings from industry leading SIGA Natural Slate, SIGA Heritage Reproduction Stone and SIGnature Clay Tiles, along with a range of market leading accessories including:

SR Timber's Premium Gold Batten, TIL-R's pitched roof underlays, and a wide range of flashings, fixing and ridges from ALM, TIL-R and Red Bank, to name just a few.

SIG Roofing are committed to expanding the products included in ONE Warranty because they understand that contractors want to take advantage of the benefits ONE Warranty brings. Now they can enjoy an even wider range of products that are all of a high standard and highly sought after. Not only will the property owner have peace of mind knowing their roof is covered, the contractor can rest easy, knowing that they're using top quality products.

To take advantage of ONE Warranty all you have to do is register at [www.sigroofing.co.uk/onewarranty](http://www.sigroofing.co.uk/onewarranty) and your membership details and marketing materials will be supplied for you to use with your customers. After you've purchased and installed the relevant products, you can easily register your project online so it's covered by ONE Warranty. It's as simple as that... ONE Roof, ONE Name, ONE Warranty. It's the ONE that you want!





**TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ONE WARRANTY IS SIMPLE**

Visit <a href="http://www.sigroofing.co.uk/onewarranty">www.sigroofing.co.uk/onewarranty</a> and register to participate	<b>REGISTER</b>
Receive a membership number and welcome pack (including marketing materials)	<b>MEMBER</b>
Purchase and install the <b>ONE WARRANTY</b> products from SIG Roofing	<b>BUY</b>
Visit <a href="http://www.sigroofing.co.uk/onewarranty">www.sigroofing.co.uk/onewarranty</a> to register the completed job	<b>APPLY</b>
Receive <b>ONE WARRANTY</b> certificate	<b>WARRANTY</b>

# Playing by the Part L rules

Join CompetentRoofer and you can sign off your work as compliant with building regulations, including Part L. It saves you time and is a badge of quality customers trust.

In life there are some rules that you might consider breaking. In Pennsylvania, for example, it's illegal to sleep on a refrigerator outdoors, while in Idaho you can't fish if you're on a camel's back! Rules and regulations are part of life and, while it's fairly unlikely you'll be locked up if you doze off on top of your fridge, there are some you don't want to ignore. Like Building Regulations.

The latest revision to Part L of Building Regulations came into force in October 2010. Its purpose is to implement the Energy Performance of Building Directive, which aims to reduce energy use in buildings, with part L focusing on the Conservation of Fuel and Power.

## THE KEY REQUIREMENTS

Basically, if you're refurbishing more than 50% of the roof, then Part L comes into effect; the whole of that roof must then be brought up to the thermal efficiency demanded by the regulations. In practical terms that means a strip and re-roof, or even just installing a new layer of waterproofing, for example when stripping and re-felting a flat roof, will usually require upgrading the roof's thermal performance.

It's also important to be aware that the homeowner CANNOT opt out from having their insulation upgraded to Part L. An exception to this is when the payback period is more than 15 years or the work is not technically feasible. However, even then the roof must be upgraded to the best standard that is within this criteria.

## HOW TO COMPLY

Before you begin any work you need to inform the Local Authority Building Control (LABC) of the proposed work and complete an application to repair/renovate. If it's an emergency then you can begin the work before you get approval, although you still need to go through the process.

## COMPETENTROOFER SIMPLIFIES THE PROCESS

If you're registered with CompetentRoofer you can sign off the work as Part L compliant yourself. If you're not part of the scheme the LABC will inspect the work periodically to make sure it complies with the Building Regulations (including Part L) and with your drawings/specifications. They will then issue a completion certificate at the end of the contract. The fine for non-compliance is a hefty £5000, which falls on either the homeowner and/or the roofing contractor. And if you start work without informing the LABC then they can call a halt to proceedings until they are happy, so it pays to get it all organised.

As a member of CompetentRoofer, not having to wait for a Local Authority Surveyor to inspect your work saves you both time and money. Anyone can apply (as long as they're a roofer!) and it means you can get on with the next job rather than waiting for your project to be signed off by someone else.

How does this benefit you as a contractor?

- Increases efficiency by providing an all-in-one service to your customers
- No need for you or your customers to pay for a Building Control Officer
- Domestic works receive a 10-year insolvency warranty included in the price
- You can include the cost of self-certification in your pricing
- Members are listed by Local Authorities

It's worth remembering that without a Building Control Completion Certificate the homeowner will have difficulty selling their house. Membership of CompetentRoofer assures your customers that you're a credible, competent company that provides quality work and peace of mind. And, of course, that plays by the rules.

For more information on how to join visit [www.competentroofer.co.uk](http://www.competentroofer.co.uk)



# Technical know-how for all

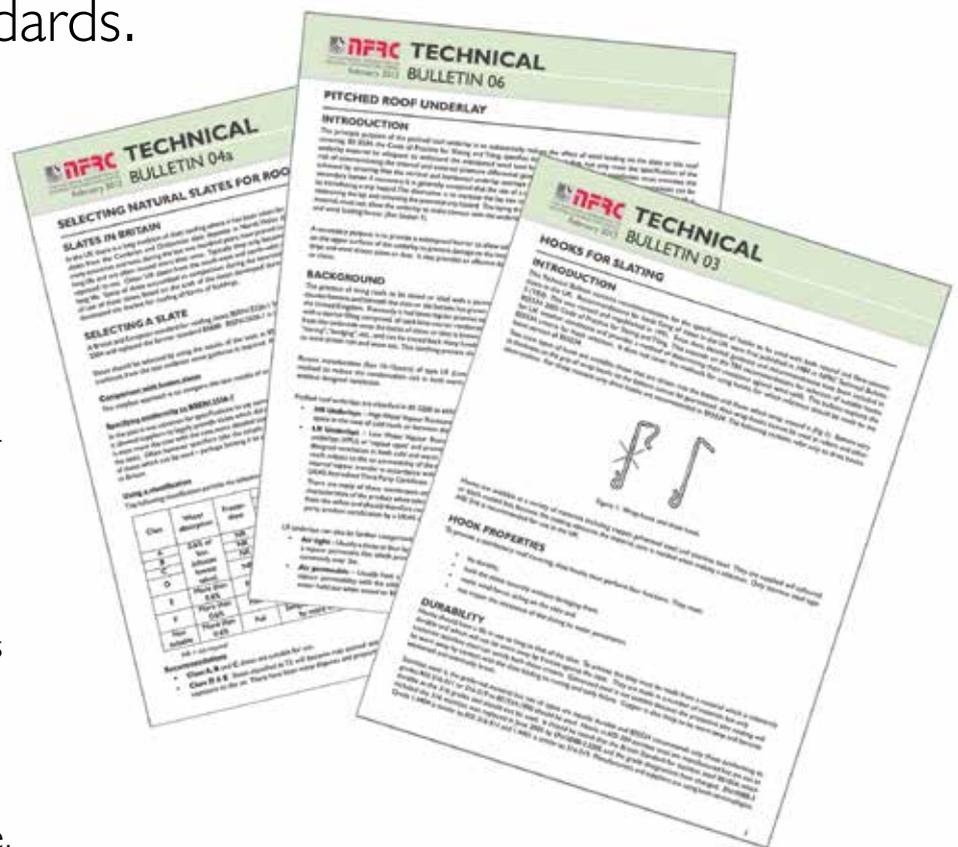
The National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC) has opened up its extensive technical library to one and all, to help spread awareness of best practice and drive up standards.

As the UK's leading roofing trade association the NFRC has, over the decades, built up a wealth of technical information. It continually revises and creates new technical publications to keep its members at the forefront of roofing developments. Raising the standards of the industry and promoting it in a positive light are two fundamental goals of the NFRC, which is why earlier this year it took the innovative decision to open up its technical library to everyone.

## A MAJOR BENEFIT TO THE WHOLE ROOFING COMMUNITY

Kevin Taylor, NFRC Head of Technical Services, said, "The free availability of technical information can only help to spread awareness of best practice and in turn drive up standards across the roofing industry, which is something we are constantly striving for at NFRC."

For contractors this is really good news; you can find information on any aspect of roofing you need more knowledge of



and be sure it's from a trusted source.

It's also for the whole community, so whether you're a contractor, architect or a homeowner, you can now download Technical Bulletins covering all the major disciplines. These run in conjunction with the latest British Standards such as BS 5534:2014 Code of Practice for Slating and Tiling. There are also a number of well known publications such as the 'Blue Book', otherwise known as 'Profiled Sheet Roofing and Cladding - The Guide to Design and Best Practice', and The GRO Green Roof Code.

## IT'S FREE

You can access the technical library for free. All you have to do is complete a short online form, at [www.nfrc.co.uk](http://www.nfrc.co.uk), after which you can browse and look for the information you want. Once you've used the library you'll be notified of any new publications uploaded to it, or any revisions made to existing documents.

# You're in safe hands with SR Timber

SR Timber's mantra of focus, expertise and reliability is helping the industry meet ambitious government targets to build 1 million new homes by 2020.

Richard Branson once said that, *"Business opportunities are like buses. There's always another one coming."* And, while the government target for new house building is a challenge, it's also a massive opportunity. To meet it we need more companies like SR Timber to step up and provide the platform on which to build. Here's how they do it.

Since they started over a decade ago, SR Timber has evolved into the leading manufacturer and supplier of specialised timber products in the UK. From fully graded BS 5534:2014 Roofing Batten, to Kitemarked Scaffold Boards and high-end Cedar Shingles, their success stems from the company's values of focus, expertise and reliability. It's adhering to these guiding principles that means the company is perfectly placed to help contractors meet the government's target of a million new homes.

## FOCUS

SR Timber's focus on quality, sustainability and distribution means you always have access to the right product for the job and that they exceed what is expected by British Standards. All their products

are produced from slow-grown timber and are either FSC® or PEFC™ certified, guaranteeing your timber comes from sustainable sources. And, as the operator of the largest roofing batten production mill in Europe, they receive regular shipments into the UK for fast delivery into more than 200 outlets nationwide. It's all part of ensuring you have the very best material for any project.

## EXPERTISE

As one of the industry's longest serving suppliers of specialised timber products in the UK, the team at SR Timber have decades of collective experience. They are there to support you with any product and work closely with customers and trade associations to make sure that industry standards, safety and awareness of industry changes are continually improved. They are always on hand to provide support and advice.

## RELIABILITY

For SR Timber, reliability means providing you with consistent quality, robust warranties and continuity of supply nationwide. By controlling their own production facilities and raw materials they can manage the whole process from the forest to the roof, so you get the product you want, when you want it.

To contact a member of SR Timber's expert team, contact details can be found on their website: [www.sr-timber.co.uk](http://www.sr-timber.co.uk).



# Show me the money!

Secure payment with peace of mind through TrustMark Escrow, a low cost, quick and effective way of guaranteeing 100% payment for each job.

As a tradesperson, getting paid is a pretty fundamental part of the job and we're all very familiar with our customer's needs, much like our own, to watch and cut costs where possible. Increased customer awareness of product costs, home improvement TV shows offering advice and greater expectations of service can all have an impact on the price a customer wishes to pay – causing you and your business potential problems. That could now all be a thing of the past with TrustMark Escrow.

The Escrow service is a low cost, quick and effective way of helping tradespeople and their customers protect each other through a financial contract. The payment for the works is placed in an independent, secure account, which is protected by a Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) authorised firm. In other words, you are guaranteed 100% payment for every completed job and your customers can feel reassured their money is safe in a secure payment facility.

Depending on the works and payment structure agreed, the service allows customers to pay for the work in advance or in staged payments. For tradespeople, this provides peace of mind that you'll be able to supply the materials and complete the work knowing the funds for the job are available through the Escrow account.



Based upon the terms and conditions, which the two parties set and agree before the works starts, payments are released accordingly. It means you can take on jobs, agree the payment structure, and be totally confident you're going to get paid. For bigger projects this can be the difference between being able to carry on trading, or in some cases breaking the bank - which is no one's preferred option.

Escrow is also a great solution for many homeowners with bigger jobs, such as new roofs that can take a few months to complete. It means they won't actually pay any money direct to a tradesperson or firm until they are fully satisfied. From your point of view, you'll know you're dealing with a genuine customer and guaranteed payment if you carry out your side of the contract.

In addition to improving your financial stability, the Escrow system also gives your business an extra layer of credibility. You give the customer peace of mind when parting with their money as the payment procedure is clear from the outset. Both parties are bound by the terms of the

contract and need to hold up their side of the bargain to benefit.

TrustMark is offering the Escrow payment protection scheme to all its registered firms from as little as £6 - a small price to pay considering the potential savings you can make from securing 100% payment for every job.

If there is a disagreement over payment, TrustMark will mediate and try to resolve the issues between the two parties. If necessary they'll apply final arbitration according to the pre-agreed conditions.

TrustMark's most recent registered firm is so pleased with the ease of the service, and has profited so much that he has now decided to use Escrow for every single job! You can find out more about how the system could benefit you and sign up for the service at [www.trustmarkescrow.org.uk](http://www.trustmarkescrow.org.uk).



# Roofing Racers... we salute you!

For the tenth consecutive year Roofing Racers ran, swam and cycled to the finishing line, all in support of Great Ormond Street Hospital and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Proudly representing the Roofing, Building Plastics and Windows industries 21 Roofing Racers teams of three and 41 individuals, embraced the challenge of the 750 kilometer swim in the River Thames, followed by a 20 kilometer bike ride and a 5 kilometer run.

Every individual and team that took part in this iconic event showed amazing dedication to their training, fund raising efforts and participation on the day. Without them and their truly heroic efforts we would not have raised an incredible £460,000 for the chosen charities.



## MAKING THE COMPETITION EVERMORE COMPETITIVE

With every member of the Roofing Racers team putting in a winning performance, there were some that really wowed us with their times:

Category	Name	Time
Fastest Man	Bernie Fyans	01:17:00
Fastest Woman	Ellen Curtis	01:33:30
Fastest Over 50	Dave King	01:30:11
Fastest Team	Ubbink Team	01:25:35

Well done to them and all that took part!



10<sup>th</sup>  
year

After the event more than 230 Roofing Racers, their friends, families and colleagues boarded the Dixie Queen boat and took a trip down the Thames. With those that had completed the swim... returning to the same river that they had swam in just a few hours earlier! Great fun was had by all, with dancing late into the night - with everyone celebrating the achievements of the day and the last 10 years in style.

Awards were given out in recognition to those with the fastest times and particular acknowledgments were made to those who had faced and overcome personal challenges. The evening was a great success, with lots of fun and comradery had by all!

All of the Roofing Racers team's efforts are made to raise money for our two charities; Great Ormond Street Hospital and Macmillan Cancer Support. So far, the team this year have raised £40,000 - with an amazing £460,000 raised in the last 10 years! The money raised makes a great difference to these charities:

Great Ormond Street Hospital is one of the world's leading children's hospitals, with the broadest range of dedicated children's healthcare specialists under one roof in the UK.

The support Roofing Racers has provided to Koala and neurosciences at Great Ormond Street Hospital has been

invaluable. With their continued and generous support we are able to fund many pieces of equipment, new research projects, support workers to help families and so much more.

Macmillan Cancer Support reports that by the end of 2016 1000 people every day will hear the devastating news that they have cancer.

The money raised by Roofing Racers since the event started in 2006 has made a huge difference to the lives of people affected by cancer. The fundraising has helped Macmillan fund four Macmillan nurses for a year - helping people living with cancer and their families receive essential medical, practical and emotional support.

SIG's Managing Director, Andrew Wakelin tells us of his pride in Roofing Racers: *"We are thrilled to be able to say that this is the tenth anniversary of Roofing Racers. Every year we see more and more of our colleagues and friends participate in the event which continues to grow the support our great charities. We are hugely proud of the amount of money we have raised over the ten years for GOSH and Macmillan Cancer support. None of this of course would be possible without the camaraderie we see from the Roofing, Building Plastics and Window industry."*

Well done Roofing Racers... we definitely salute you!!



# Roofing Racers

Should you still wish to show your support by making a donation then please visit our website [www.roofingracers.com](http://www.roofingracers.com)



## A SPECIAL MENTION MUST GO TO OUR SPONSORS WHO HAVE HELPED MAKE THE 2016 EVENT POSSIBLE:



## WE'D ALSO LIKE TO THANK:



# Higher quality underlays give better protection

The huge variety of underlays means choosing the right one is more important than ever.

When working at heights we all know we need to install scaffolding at the eaves for safe entry and exit and ensure the appropriate fall arrest or collective protection systems are in place – preventing falls is front of mind for all of us working at heights.

However, we also need to be vigilant when it comes to avoiding falls through the rafters. As a solution, you can board out the inside of a roof, insert air bags or install safety nets. Even with these solutions available, falls from height still account for one in four deaths in the construction industry, with a misplaced confidence in the strength of vapour permeable underlays (VPUs) sometimes leading to complacency.

## HIGH PERFORMANCE FOR HIGHER SAFETY

The introduction of VPUs instantly made roofs a safer place as they were less than half the weight of traditional underslating felt and clean to handle. Yet, in reality, very few can withstand the weight of an

individual if he loses his footing. The huge variation in their quality and strength is also often ignored; we expect them all to provide a similar level of performance when actually, they don't. If you look at how products have been made increasingly lighter, you'll often find several areas of compromise, with reduced product strength being the commonest factor.

This has been masked by BBA certificates which suggest that cheaper products are like-for-like with better ones. The answer is simple - they aren't! If you want to gauge a product's strength, look at its weight per square metre. As a general principle, the lower the weight, the lower its strength.

A four-layer, high performance VPU such as Klobber Permo® Forte presents no such risks. This is one reason why it is still so widely preferred by roofers and specified by architects. A mesh reinforcement as part of its four-layer construction adds strength that's missing from its 2-layer counterparts. The addition of edge tapes to seal laps in Permo forte SK2 has also given added value, particularly when you are installing an airtight roof.

Safety was a prime consideration in the product's development and the millions of square metres installed over more than twenty years provide proof of its effectiveness. Don't fall for anything less.



**KLOBBER**  
Professional roofing accessories

For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card

ENQUIRY 4

# A model material

Clay tiles are one of the oldest building materials on earth. They're also one of the most versatile, able to match a range of styles and budgets.

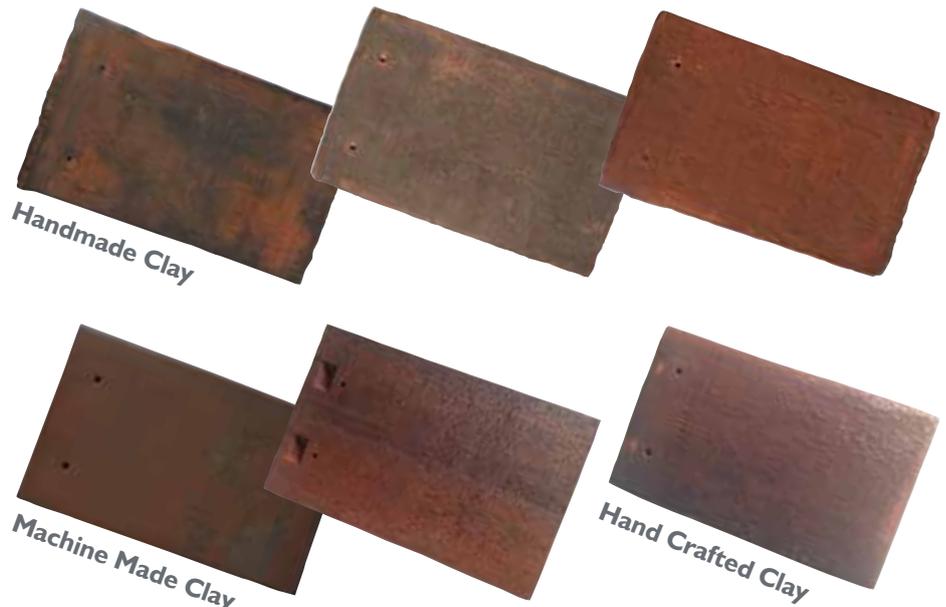
The UK is rightly proud of its building heritage. As well as thousands of listed buildings, it has one of the oldest housing stocks in Europe – buildings that shape our country's character and identity.

As contractors we are regularly asked to source materials that sustain the country's structural identity, whether on new build or renovation projects. That can sometimes be a tricky task; you not only have to find the right tile to complement the surroundings, you also have to make sure it fits the budget. That's where clay tiles can come into their own, as just because they're clay doesn't mean they won't be within your reach. SIGnature Clay Tiles ranges mean you have a choice to suit all budgets while retaining the beauty and charm of a clay roof.

SIGNature Clay Tiles come in three select ranges:

## HANDMADE

Produced manually to ensure they meet British Standards for strength, frost resistance and water permeability. Each tile is moulded by hand to achieve a camber, and it's this craftsmanship that gives the clay tile its characterful, highly-individual look that successfully brings an old world charm to any building. In addition to their long life span, in some cases lasting for centuries, they exude a natural warmth, texture and appearance that blends well with any surroundings.



## HAND CRAFTED

These sit between the machine made and handmade versions. The process is automated up until the tiles are fired. At this point they are taken off the line and finished by hand to emulate a rustic, sand faced or smooth faced texture. Hand crafted tiles are naturally colourfast and durable, however the production process is not as labour intensive as handmade versions and therefore offers a cost-effective solution to recreate the much-admired, traditional look.

## MACHINE MADE

Commonly used in both contemporary and traditional builds, machine made clay tiles hold their hue and actually mature with age. SIGNature machine made tiles meet the aesthetic and performance demands of all types of roofing applications, while being extremely durable. Less labour intensive than handcrafted or handmade clay tiles,

machine made clay tiles are perfectly suited to the more cost-conscious project.

Clay tiles also have that wonderful knack of getting better with age as they weather naturally and improve as time goes on. With SIGNature's ranges of handmade, handcrafted and machine made clay tiles, you get charm and beauty, guaranteed.

**SIGNATURE**<sup>S</sup>  
CLAY TILES

**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 5**

# Let it breathe

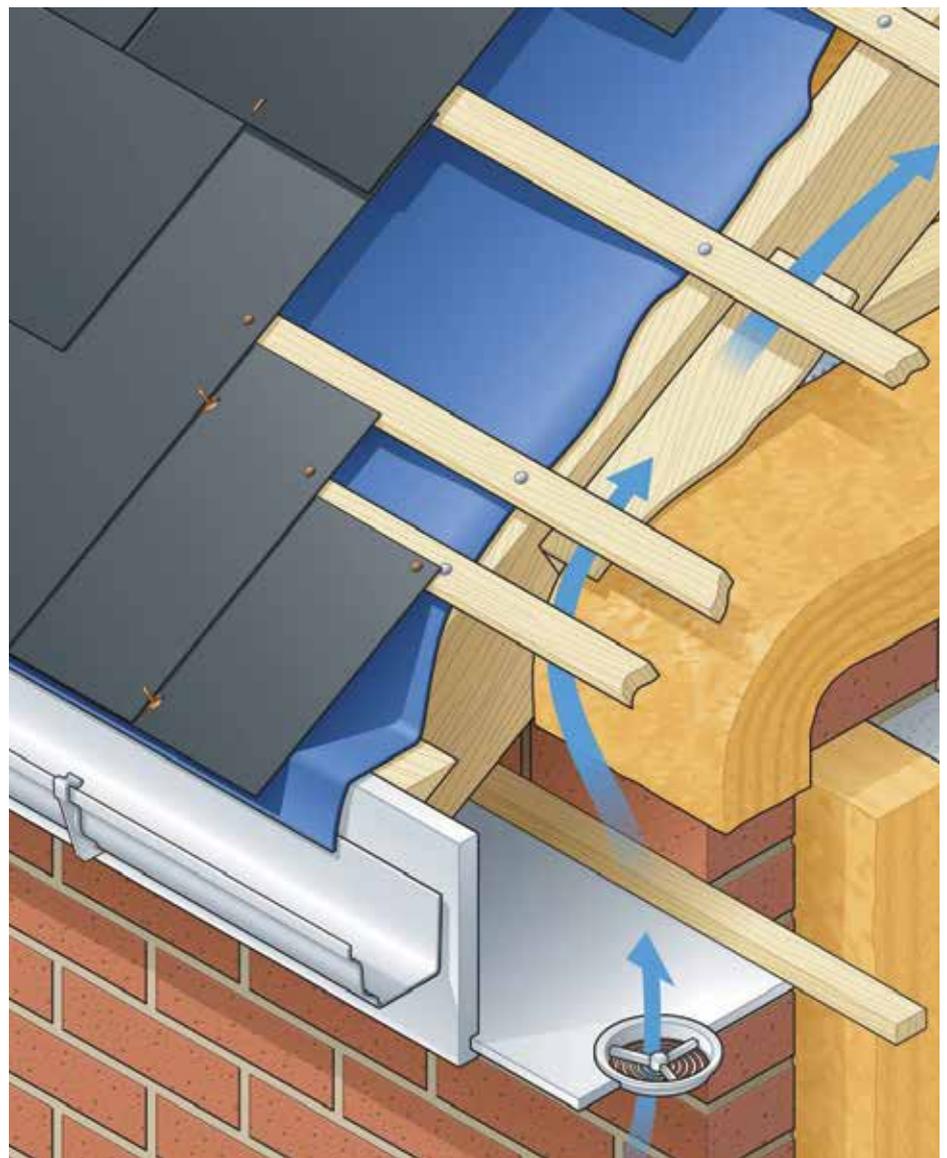
Providing adequate ventilation is always essential for tight fitting roof coverings such as fibre cement slates, even if you're using a breathable underlay.

Convenience is often cited as one of the many reasons for the popularity of breathable underlays. The logic applied is that if you fit a breathable underlay when installing your slates and tiles, you can forget about any other sort of roof ventilation because the membrane takes care of it.

The reality is that, while breather membranes undoubtedly have many brilliant advantages, you still need to make sure you ventilate the roof space when you're using them. This is particularly true when you're working with tight-fitting roof coverings such as fibre cement slates.

The tight fit resulting from using smooth and uniform materials such as fibre cement slates reduces the amount of passive ventilation you get from using more uneven products. This means the batten void will still need ventilation to avoid the build-up of condensation.

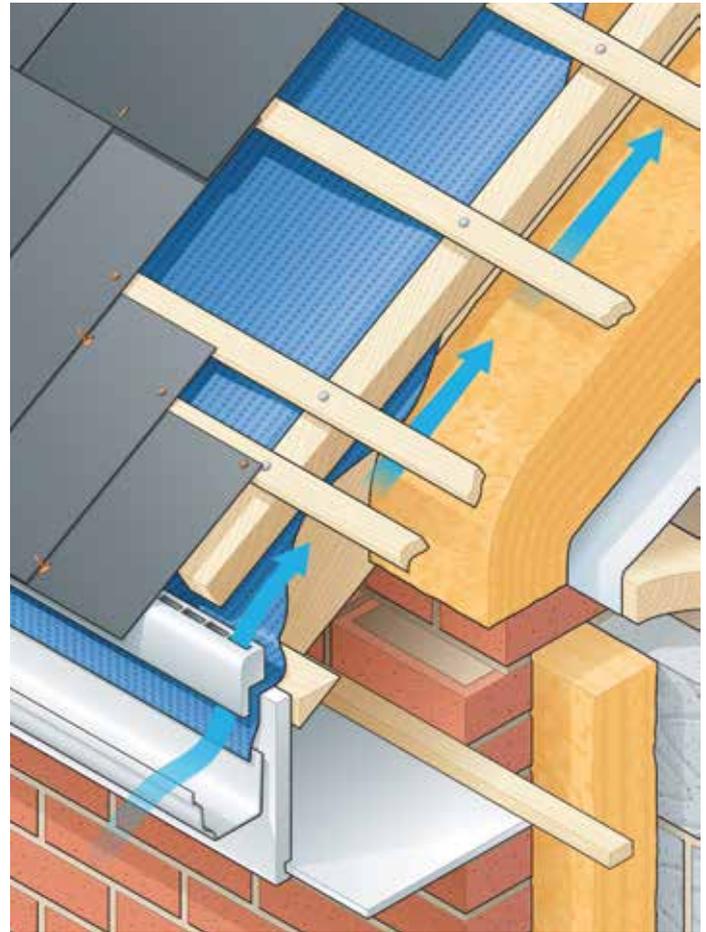
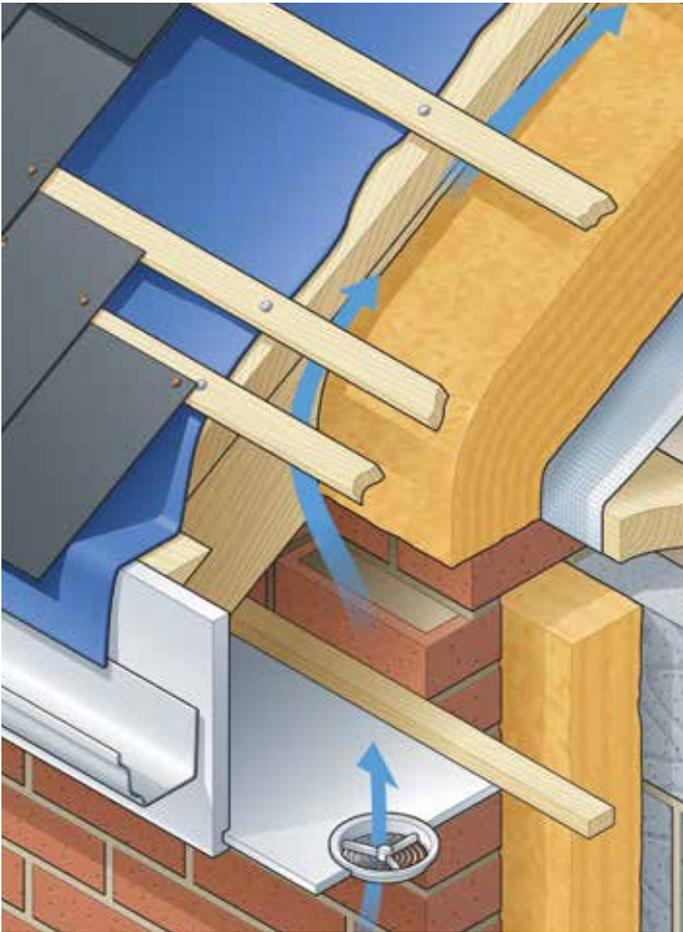
The requirement is covered by the current British Standards on control of ventilation in buildings, BS 5250:2011. According to the Standards, fibre cement



slates must be considered as 'tight fitting', and so the roof space and/or batten cavity must always be ventilated regardless of the type of underlay used.

While providing this ventilation is clearly not a nice-to-have (...it's a requirement),

it's quite often overlooked. This can result in significant remedial work, inconvenience and disputes over who is responsible. By following the code of practice it should result in a problem free construction and ongoing excellent performance.



As the number of options and conditions covered in the Standards can be a little bewildering, here's a simplified extract to use as a rule of thumb:

	<b>WARM ROOF</b>	<b>COLD ROOF</b>
<b>Low Resistance Breather*</b>	Ventilate batten space (i.e. counter battens above underlay) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25mm slot at eaves</li> <li>• 5mm slot at ridge</li> </ul> An AVCL should be applied on the warm side of the insulation at the ceiling line.	Provide dual ventilation of both batten space (i.e. counter battens above underlay) and loft. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25mm slot at eaves</li> <li>• 5mm slot at ridge</li> </ul> or provide 25mm eaves to eaves or gable to gable ventilation.
<b>High Resistance Traditional**</b>	Ventilate between insulation and underlay (i.e. counter battens below underlay) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25mm slot at eaves</li> <li>• 5mm slot at ridge</li> </ul> AVCL should be applied on the warm side (below) the insulation.	Up to 35° pitch and 10m span, eaves to eaves, or gable to gable sufficient <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10mm slot</li> </ul> If roofs exceed these dimensions or are monopitch or lean-to, a 5mm slot at ridge is required.

\* Low Resistance Breather has a water vapour resistance less than 0.25MN.s/g

\*\* High Resistance Traditional has a water vapour resistance greater than to 0.25MN.s/g



**For more information please fill in the reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 6**

# Dust busters

Using fibre cement slates can reduce the risk of exposure to potentially harmful dust and lower the costs of onsite cutting.

To protect our health and reduce our exposure to silica dust, in 2012 the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and National Federation of Roofing Contractors published safety guidance for the controlled cutting of all roof tiles and slates. Four years on, following the advice is more important than ever, particularly when you consider the number of construction workers who suffer from detrimental health effects caused by exposure to silica dust.

For verges, abutments and openings, ridges, hips and valleys the guidelines are pretty clear:

- Mark and cut tiles off the roof surface, either on the ground or an area set aside on the scaffolding
- Use water suppression and respiratory protective equipment (RPE)
- Ensure a minimum water flow rate of around 0.5 litres per minute for effective dust suppression unless otherwise stated by the manufacturer

The HSE also recommends that to reduce risk even further, tiles and slates should be hand cut wherever possible, which helps explain why demand for fibre cement slates has grown over the last four years. The fact



you can cut them by hand on site is just one of the reasons they are becoming so popular. For example, Marley Eternit's range of fibre cement slates are available in uniform size, shape and thickness, and can all be scored and snapped, or cut with a guillotine or reciprocating saw. It makes them very quick to install without the need for water suppression.

Not only does this further reduce the risk of exposure to silica dust, it can also have a significant impact on cost; you avoid the additional expense of dust suppression equipment and the time and labour involved going up and down ladders to cut tiles.

As well as fibre cement slates, Marley's range of clay and concrete interlocking tiles can also help reduce the need for cutting and fixing small sections of tiles. Dry Fix solutions such as cloaked verge tiles, which

incorporate half tiles to help with setting out, and dry valley troughs which reduce the need for precise raking of cut tiles, can also save on cutting time.

For a reminder of the full controlled cutting guidance, visit [www.nfrc.co.uk/docs/health-and-safety-guidance-publications](http://www.nfrc.co.uk/docs/health-and-safety-guidance-publications). And for more information regarding Marley's fibre cement slates please complete our reader response card.



**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 7**

THE SEARCH FOR  
BRITAIN'S BEST CAFE



*WE'RE LOOKING FOR  
BRITAIN'S BEST  
CAFE!*

VOTE YOUR LOCAL CAFE AS  
**BRITAIN'S  
BEST CAFE**



Media Supporter:



1st and 2nd of November  
Ricoh Arena, Coventry

# THE SEARCH FOR BRITAIN'S



## THE SEARCH FOR BRITAIN'S AND WE CAN ALL BE PA

Local cafes around the UK are vying for the title of **BRITAIN'S BEST CAFE**. SIG Roofing and cafe customers alike have the chance to vote for their favourite local cafe in the competition. Voting takes place from the 5th September to the 28th October and the cafe with the most votes will win the prestigious title of Britain's Best Cafe!

The national competition is being organised by **SIG Roofing** and its local branches, where they will be supporting the cafes in their bid to win the title. When votes are counted at the end of October, 14 regional winners will be announced, with the national winner confirmed at the end of November.

SIG Roofing's customers and staff love their local cafe and contractors who use their

products are some of their biggest fans. With our local cafes around the UK helping the nation to get to work every morning courtesy of the famous morning cuppa, Bacon Buttie or the legendary British Breakfast the competition is really hotting up and every vote counts!

Janine at **SIG Roofing** told us **"We think roofers and local contractors are the best people to judge what makes a great cafe, but we want everyone to join in the fun – that's why we've opened up the voting to the general public too. Our customers work hard and start early, so they're always on the lookout for a local cafe with cheery, friendly staff which serves a great British breakfast."**

**SIG** ROOFING

Media Supporter:



1st and 2nd of November  
Ricoh Arena, Coventry

# BEST CAFE

BRITAIN'S  
**BEST  
CAFE**

**SIG** ROOFING



## BRITAIN'S BEST CAFE IS ON... PART OF IT!

**RCI** (Roofing Cladding and Insulation) are supporting the competition, as they, like a lot of us, are amongst some of their local cafes most loyal customers! The team at RCI are excited to be part of the competition and will be featuring more about the competition in the RCI magazine and online.

To find out if your favourite cafe is included either; speak to your local cafe or SIG Roofing branch or visit [www.britainsbestcafe.co.uk](http://www.britainsbestcafe.co.uk) – where you will see all of the cafes hoping to win. Once there you can vote for your favourite!

So, **BRITAIN'S BEST CAFE** will be decided by public acclaim and later this year all the winners will be invited to share in an awards ceremony, where someone else cooks the lunch! Then the overall winner and their partner will be on their way to **New York City** for an all-expenses holiday plus the chance to tell the proprietor of a famous Manhattan diner why the great British Breakfast is still the best!

### *IT'S UP TO YOU NOW*

If you have a favourite cafe you can help them win the chance to be crowned '**BRITAIN'S BEST CAFE**' by voting for them and encouraging other to do the same! Pick up a voting card and vote at your local **SIG Roofing** branch or online at [www.britainsbestcafe.co.uk](http://www.britainsbestcafe.co.uk)

**It's simple – the cafe with the most votes wins... so every vote really counts!** Be sure to do all that you can to support your favourite local cafe and vote today.



LIKE us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/britainsbestcafe/](http://www.facebook.com/britainsbestcafe/)



FOLLOW us on Twitter  
[@britainsbestcaf](https://twitter.com/britainsbestcaf)  
[#votebreakfast](https://twitter.com/votebreakfast)

## #votebreakfast

# THE SEARCH FOR BRITAIN'S BEST CAFE



VOTE YOUR LOCAL CAFE AS  
**BRITAIN'S  
BEST CAFE**

Nothing sets you up for a hard day's work better than a great breakfast or hearty lunch at your local cafe. To say thank you for all their hard work day in day out, we're giving you the chance to vote for them in our nationwide search for **BRITAIN'S BEST CAFE**. Visit your **SIG Roofing** branch today to vote or go online to [www.britainsbestcafe.co.uk](http://www.britainsbestcafe.co.uk)

SCAN ME to visit the website



LIKE us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/britainsbestcafe/](http://www.facebook.com/britainsbestcafe/)



FOLLOW us on Twitter  
[@britainsbestcaf](https://twitter.com/britainsbestcaf)  
[#votebreakfast](https://twitter.com/votebreakfast)

## #votebreakfast



Media Supporter:



1st and 2nd of November  
Ricoh Arena, Coventry

# T1 for quality

## Lifting the grey on slate quality.

Natural slate is one of the world's oldest and most continuously used roofing materials, featured throughout many of the UK's historic buildings. As architects, specifiers, contractors and developers look to build even more new properties, natural slate remains an extremely popular choice. Yet, despite all National House Building Council (NHBC) work needing T1 slates since 2009, many T2 slates continue to find their way onto building sites across the UK. To combat the problem, SIGA are leading the way by ensuring that from now on ALL their slates are T1 quality and so suitable for any work with the NHBC.



### WHAT ARE T2 SLATES?

As a mark of quality, BS EN 12326:2014 is there to help you choose the best quality slate, by comparing and testing its key physical properties. One of these tests is the 'Thermal Cycle' which is used to indicate whether a slate is a T1 or T2 classification – essentially thoroughly assessing the levels of rust and oxidation within the slate.

If the slate is classified as T1, this means there is no apparent change or minimal surface rust/changes to affect the structure or cause discolouration.

T2 classification means there is evidence of oxidation or appearance changes of the metallic inclusions that may cause staining, pitting and/or delamination. This could, in turn, lead to the potential failure of the slate.

By cutting T2 slates out of their range, SIGA aren't taking any chances. With more new builds planned due to Government

targets, the company isn't prepared to take a risk on the quality of their products and safety of users and homeowners. That's the sort of assurance, reliability and expertise that means the house building industry can sustain growth and meet its targets without compromising on quality.

With SIGA you can be confident your slate is the real deal and suitable for any job, regardless of the type of property you're working on.

**SIGA**  
Natural Slate

**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 8**

# Lightening the load

Lighter materials such as aluminium are easy to handle, quick to install and can help improve site safety.

Working in the roofline industry is never dull, with exciting new products, techniques and tools coming along all the time... you also get a pretty good view! However, as you will well know it is potentially very dangerous, with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) reporting that falls from height are the most common cause of fatalities at work.

For roofline contractors, working at height is second nature, however sometimes getting home safe and sound at the end of the day can even come down to the materials you choose.

When climbing a ladder or working on a scaffold, material handling is extremely important. The weight, size and shape of materials all need to be considered. With rainwater and eaves systems you're always going to contend with the length of the materials - it's just the nature of the job, however one thing you can address is the weight of the materials you're carrying.

For many high-quality, heritage or luxury projects, even though it may not be the traditional choice for these types of projects, aluminium can provide an extremely lightweight solution, reducing the risk of unbalancing and making it very safe to install. In addition, some manufacturers offer perfect replica systems that look and feel exactly like more traditional materials.



As well as improving safety, aluminium's reduced weight can also save you money. Being so easy to handle on site, aluminium systems are generally quick to install and take fewer tradesmen to do the job. It means you can complete more work, faster, and get a head start on the next project. Aluminium systems also offer impressive performance with the best boasting life expectancies of 50 years or

more and with virtually zero maintenance - you reduce the chance of call backs.

Next time you're thinking about quoting for a rainwater or eaves project, make sure you think material first. Marley Alutec, manufacture a range of durable, lightweight aluminium solutions to help make life easier for contractors and provide outstanding results.



**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 9**

# Get all the latest news from the roofing industry direct to your door!

**IT'S FREE**

If you haven't already subscribed to **INSIGHT** magazine and want to know what's new out there, what's happening in the industry and what opportunities there are for the specialist roofing contractor look no further...

INSIGHT magazine from SIG Roofing, shares unbiased product and industry information news from the UK's leading manufacturers, Trade Bodies and industry leaders. Making sure you can access the latest information you need to know, when you need to know it!

**Subscribe online or refer a fellow roofer and receive a FREE T-shirt!**  
Simply sign-up for **INSIGHT** magazine at:  
[www.sigroofing.co.uk/insightmag](http://www.sigroofing.co.uk/insightmag)



Or fill in the reader request card to receive your **FREE INSIGHT** magazine and receive a **FREE T-shirt!**

**ENQUIRY 10**

# A SIGnature dish

Health and safety was paramount for DVC Roofing as they used SIGnature Torch On system to re-roof a 'live' factory full of staff.

It's one thing to replace a roof when the building beneath is empty; quite another to do it surrounded by the busy environment of a working factory. Weir Engineering was one such project. The flat roof of the factory had a number of problems to resolve, however as a leading engineering firm with an extensive client base, halting operations wasn't an option.

## A SAFE ASSESSMENT

As part of the SIGnature service, SIG Roofing's Specification Business Development Manager, Ian Dryden, visited the site to carry out a full roof inspection. To assess the site as safely as possible DVC Roofing used a drone to video and photograph the condition of the roof from every possible angle. These investigations identified a number of areas needing attention. It was immediately clear that the existing bitumen membrane had exceeded its life expectancy. The insulation deck was saturated and all the perimeter flashings were split and had detached from the upstands. Interstitial condensation



caused by high humidity inside the building, exacerbated by a lack of ventilation and the cold roof design were all contributing factors to the roof's condition.

The service didn't stop there. Ian drew up a specification to address the issues and handled the tender process with accredited SIG DATAC SIGnature installers. Ian's solution was to specify a new SIGnature Warm Roof system comprising:

- SIGnature Torch On Vapour Control Layer
- SIGnature Approved 80mm BF Insulation
- SIGnature 25 Underlay
- SIGnature Capsheet





DVC Roofing won the contract and work began in May 2016, with the first task being to prepare the site safely. As part of that the factory was fully netted, both to protect the contractors from falling and shield the factory workers from falling debris. The existing defective materials were then stripped back to the metal profile sheet. All the old flat roof skylights were removed and replaced with new barrel vaulted insulated aluminium windows.

A new Vapour Control Layer (VCL) was fixed direct to the metal profile sheets. New 80mm flat roof board insulation with staggered joints was adhered to the VCL with SIGnature Approved Pu adhesive. This ensured the VCL was not breached by using screw fixings.

Once the VCL and Insulation had been installed a 2 layer SIGnature Bitumen membrane system was fully torch bonded to the SIGnature Approved BF Insulation, this consisted of SIGnature25 Underlay and SIGnature AA Capsheet, and all perimeters were finished with a SIGnature approved

GRP Edge trim to ensure a long lasting and aesthetically pleasing finish was achieved.

This roof was completed to SIGnature specification and regularly inspected by a SIGnature Specification BDM, Ian Dryden, to track progress and note the quality of workmanship.

The end result is a beautiful new roof with a 25 year warranty. All achieved safely and while the work of the factory carried on in full swing.

SIGNature's start to finish service provides peace of mind for the client and a smooth running project. It includes:

- A full roof survey
- Specification writing
- Safety assessment and preparation of the site
- A full detail design
- Tender process with approved contractors
- Regular inspections and progress reports
- All documents collated for the client to confirm the 25 year guarantee



THE  
**SIGNATURE**<sup>®</sup>  
TORCH ON SYSTEM RANGE

**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

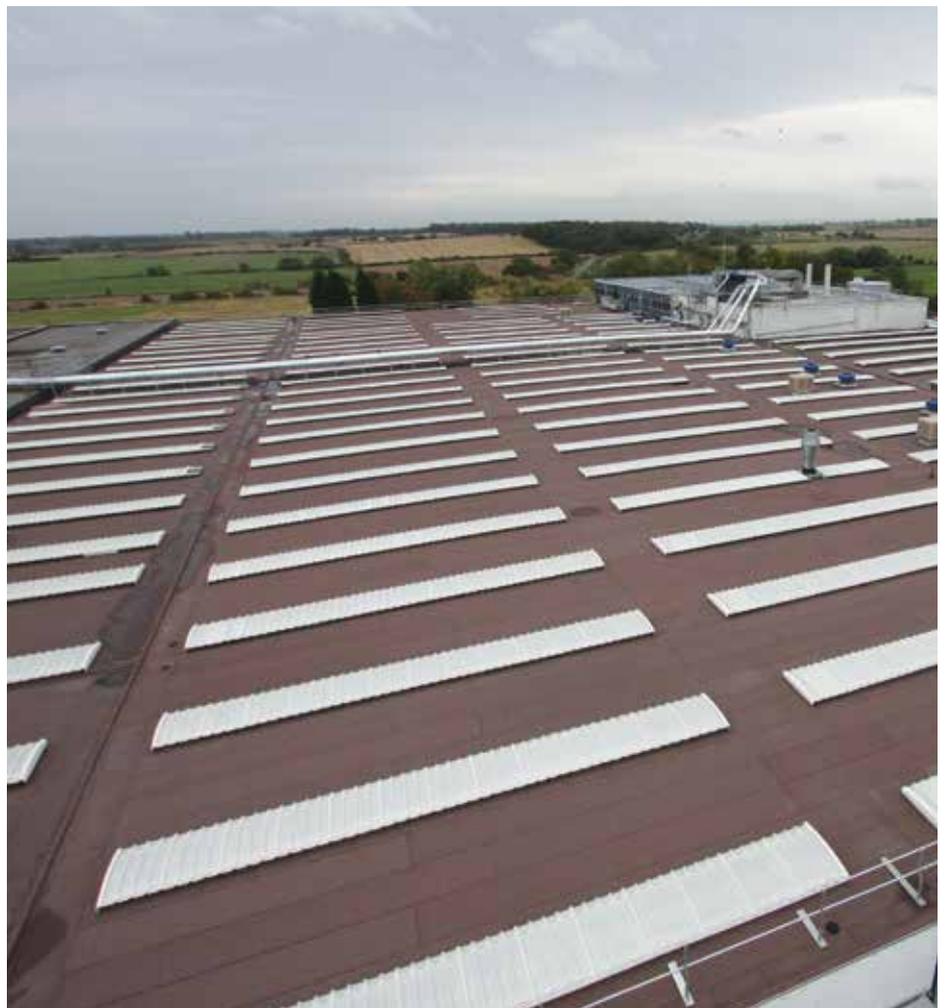
**ENQUIRY II**

# Making flat roofing sites safer

In light of new HSE Construction Regulations, Alan Galloway, Sales Director of IKO Roofing Specification, gives us some hints and tips on how to make flat roofing safer.

To make the building industry safer for contractors, the HSE recently updated the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (CDM) 2015. The new rules, which came into force in April, cover smaller domestic work for the first time, an area where there is often a higher level of contractor accidents.

Adequate preparation beforehand, good site management and prior training all help to avoid accidents. Fire in particular is a constant threat with approximately 11 on site fires each day. While the personal cost of this can be incalculable, the financial toll can also be devastating, with the industry losing around £400m a year through fire related incidents.



With all that in mind here are three things we can do to reduce health and safety risks happening on-site in the first place.

## USE THE RIGHT SUPPLIER AND PRODUCTS TO HELP REDUCE RISK

Working with manufacturers or suppliers right from the start of a project is a crucial part of ensuring you have the right roofing system for the job and to help minimise risk. British manufacturers are expected to work closely with contractors to make sure they have the right training and skills to install the relevant products before they begin the job.

A key step at the start of a project is to consider organising a manufacturer or supplier consultation that looks at all the aspects of the proposed system. They can thoroughly survey the condition of the roof to produce a bespoke specification that covers vital aspects of what is required, such as thermal performance, wind loading and condensation risk – along with advice on how to comply with Building Regulations.

Joining an approved contractor scheme is a good way of getting access to the comprehensive training, support and technical advice that is necessary to ensure installation is managed to the highest standards.

Another good tip here is to use a supplier who will support you right through installation – something that's essential if you are using a product backed by a long-term guarantee.

## CHOOSE PRODUCTS WITH RISK REDUCTION BUILT IN

Over the last twenty years the number of onsite fires does seem to have reduced, and this is partly down to the introduction of products that reduce risk. After all, health and safety shouldn't just be the preserve of architects and contractors - it's up to manufacturers to step up to the plate too.

Technological advances such as built-in smart heat shields are designed to minimise the spread of flames. Some of the latest bitumen membranes use built-in fire retardants such as Graphite Firewall



Technology, tested to the highest UK and European Standards. When it's exposed to heat, the graphite expands through the coating to form a heat shield. It reduces the dripping of a burning coating while maintaining its primary waterproofing function.

You can install cold applications without any hot bonding bitumen or naked flame at all. These include liquid applied roofing systems, single ply and specifically engineered bituminous membranes. They can be adhered, ballasted, mechanically fixed or self-adhesive and are quick, clean and safe to install. You also benefit from less fumes, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and reduced insurance premiums.

## CONSIDER USING A HYBRID

And, we're not talking about a Prius! It's common on bigger or more complicated jobs to use a Torch on System for the majority of the work and then something else for the more fiddly bits like up stands and abutments. However, if incorrectly installed this can cause problems where the two systems meet. Being consistent and using products from one manufacturer for the same job is the best way to avoid

complications like this cropping up. Some manufacturers advise on compatible 'hybrid systems' where two different technologies can be used for optimum performance or to overcome particular problems. This can help deal with intricate detailing or remove the need for flame on a particular section of the job where there may be a particular area of risk.

## HELP IS AVAILABLE

Ultimately, being safe is about choosing the right product for the job, considering the risks and identifying potential danger areas. If you'd like to get some advice on the options and technology available to help make your site safer, you can look to manufacturers or suppliers to support and assist you – whether that be through training, consultation, survey or product selection... help is at hand.

**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 12**

# Look at the Vue

Thanks to fume free Hydrostop EU AH-25, the Vue cinema in Doncaster could stay open while its asphalt roof was refurbished.

Sometimes buildings just can't close while roofing refurbishment takes place. Shutting down operations isn't really an option for places such as schools, hospitals and businesses where continuing with day-to-day activity is necessary. One such example of this was the Vue cinema in Doncaster, which needed to stay open while work was carried out on a section of the roof.

As the cinema is a public space health and safety considerations were paramount. The 750m<sup>2</sup> central cinema roof is located right above a stairwell, lift core and projection rooms, so it was too disruptive and noisy to take up and replace the existing asphalt.

The roof is also covered with mounted plant, equipment and trunking, so the two best options were a torch-applied membrane system or liquid waterproofing.

As the building is constantly in use, hot works weren't an option from a health and safety perspective. Using a cold-applied liquid product instead had the added advantage of avoiding the need for any complex edge and penetration detailing.

However, with the cinema screens in operation only a few feet away from the work, there was always potential for fumes to enter the building through air conditioning intakes on the roof. As these units could not be shut down, it was vital that a solvent and fume free solution was used for the refurbishment.



## AN ODOUR FREE WATERPROOFING LIQUID

SIG Design Technology recommended Hydrostop EU AH-25, a wet-on-wet cold applied liquid waterproofing system that contains no solvents or isocyanates, and also has a very low VOC content.

Installers like working with AH-25 because it goes down wet-on-wet in a single pass install. The first step for the Vue cinema project was to clean the roof. Once the surface was ready a base coat of AH-25 was applied, into which an 110gsm layer of polyester reinforcing fleece was embedded. The second coat of liquid can be applied immediately, saturating the reinforcement and completing the waterproofing. AH-25 is totally impervious to standing water, and as a single component liquid, it does not require a catalyst before use. The product also comes with a 25 year guarantee when installed by SIG's DATAC accredited installers.

For Vue it was the perfect solution. They got a beautiful new roof and were able, literally in this case, to keep the show on the road while their customers were none the wiser.

Why not learn how to install Hydrostop EU AH-25 in a one-day course at SIG Design Technology's Training Academy or become a DATAC accredited installer yourself? It means that when an organisation such as a school, hospital or cinema needs roofing work carried out, you can help them carry on as normal while you do the job.



**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 13**



# SMART engineering driven by you

Customer-led innovation is at the heart of the new and improved SMARTPLY OSB.

Sometimes you don't know what you've been missing until something new comes along. Who, for instance, can imagine living a day without checking emails or walking around without their mobile phone? It's only when something truly different is created that you realise what you needed in the first place. SMARTPLY has done just that with their engineered timber panels, and the results are outstanding.

## ENGINEERED FOR PERFORMANCE

Not all engineered boards, such as OSB (Oriented Strand Board), are created equal. Unsurprisingly, many people don't fully understand the difference or, more importantly, where the 'engineering' fits in.

A big hint is in the first part of the name: 'oriented'. Unlike plywood, which is built up from thin layers of wood veneer, OSB consists of individual strands and flakes of wood. These are bonded and specifically arranged in a three-tier structure, with the strands in the outer layers oriented in the same direction as the panel length, and those in the core layer at right angles to it. It is then subjected to intense heat and pressure, which form the final panel.

The result is a solid board with no core gaps that will not delaminate under normal use. In short, the flakes are positioned for a reason and therefore the panels are 'engineered'. This structure gives OSB a great deal of strength, which means it is the perfect, reliable substrate for roofing applications.

## CUSTOMER DRIVEN INNOVATION

After extensive customer research and a 59m investment in new press technology, SMARTPLY have taken their OSB to an even higher plane of quality and design. The result is the flattest, straightest and most accurate form of SMARTPLY yet.

Easy to use and install, this latest addition to the market is set to change the industry at a time when roofing contractors, builders and architects are demanding even higher quality and performance. To reinforce their customer commitment, the company have



installed a new tongue and groove line to increase capacity and improve product quality even further.

SMARTPLY's customer commitment doesn't stop there. In response to feedback from SIG Roofing, they have also worked in collaboration with Scott Bader to create a resin that coats the OSB to keep it flat and mould the texture of the board to make it sticky. This provides the perfect key and additional adhesion for Scott Bader's Crystic® GRP system.

Stuart Devoil, SMARTPLY Marketing Manager, said: "Customers have been quick to react to our new SMARTPLY with universally positive feedback. Its strict dimensional tolerance, flatness and outstanding surface have received particular comment. Working with SIG Roofing and Scott Bader, we believe we've introduced a truly market leading panel to our industry."

Now that's a SMART way of working.

**SmartPly®**

The Smart Answer  for Roofing

**For more information please fill in the reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 14**

**We've listened to what you want.**

The flattest, straightest and most accurate form of SMARTPLY yet.

**It's here, our smartest OSB yet.**

Customers told us they wanted the flattest, smoothest, most accurate boards, in the broadest range of sizes, with the widest availability and minimal lead times. We listened. Then we invested. To find out more, please visit [www.alcover-smartply.com](http://www.alcover-smartply.com)



# Safety in numbers

The choice and variety of roofing options means there is always a safe product solution for site safety.

Fire is one of the major causes of roofing accidents, putting both people and jobs at risk. Financially the cost can be crippling, and in personal injury terms the price is always too high.

However, help is available. The flat roofing sector has a rich seam of product options to choose from and some of the most cutting edge manufacturers on hand to provide the knowledge, training and skills needed to install these products safely, professionally and quickly. Since the 1990s the number of fires has dropped significantly, and that is largely down to manufacturers designing products that reduce risk and help you support safety on site.





Here are some of the options to choose from...

## LIQUIDS

Cold-applied liquids are in more demand than ever and depending on the warranty required, you can choose from a number of high quality solutions such as:

- FIX-R Classic Liquid 10 (10 year Warranty)
- FIX-R Liquid Waterproofing (15 year Warranty)
- Hydrostop EU AH-25 (25 year Warranty)
- GRP Roofing Systems (10 & 25 year Warranty)
- IKO Polimar (10-20 year Warranty)

Ideal for roofing, cladding and balconies, they're versatile and meet the high-spec fire resistance requirements.

## MEMBRANES

If liquids aren't right for the project there are other options to choose from. Membranes bonded in cold-applied adhesives or self-adhesive membranes are an increasingly popular choice with contractors. If you're familiar with the system they are quick to apply and can save you time and money on site. For example,

IKO's Easyseal Self-Adhesive System is a BBA approved, high performance, robust and a long-lasting built-up felt that doesn't require hot bitumen, gas torches or liquids.

Using Hybrid Reinforced Membranes, which can be self-adhesive or torch on, such as SIGNature Self-Adhesive Vapor Control Layer or Underlay (warranties of between 20-25 years dependent on the Cap Sheet used), means combustible materials are encapsulated within the built-up system. This means you can install the underlay without having to torch it on to the deck, avoiding having to use naked flame next to the insulation. You can then use a Torch On Cap Sheet to finish the job.

Some of the latest bitumen membranes such as SIGNature Cap Sheet or IKO Mach One Single Layer System minimise the spread of flames with built in fire retardants - with Graphite Firewall Technology, tested to the highest current standards. Graphite expands through the coating, forming a heat-shield if exposed to high temperatures and flames. In addition IKO's range also includes Permateg Hot Melt and Permaphalt Mastic Asphalt, which use heat as part of the install, but are flame-free.

It's clear there are a growing number of products available specifically designed to combat the risk of fire. Fortunately they are all backed up with superb manufacturer training so you know exactly how to install them. Whichever product is the most suitable for your project, it's good to know the range of choices means there's safety in numbers.

**FIX-R**

THE  
**SIGNATURE**<sup>S</sup>  
TORCH ON SYSTEM RANGE

**HYDROSTOP** EU

**IKO**  
Setting the Standard

**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 15**

# Prevention is better than cure

Wherever there is a risk of a fall occurring, the first line of defence is to provide adequate protection to stop it happening in the first place.

Whether you're popping up to the roof to 'have a quick look' or are planning on being up there all day, the dangers of falling are substantial. For roofers the risks are so woven into the fabric of what we do that it's just part of the job. Therefore, it's sadly no surprise that, according to figures from the HSE we account for 24% of those who are killed or seriously injured in falls, far more than any other category of worker.

Thankfully, there are a number of things we can do to mitigate the possibility of an accident happening and in particular the risks from accessing fragile roofs - as these can be hard to spot, especially if an old roof has been painted over or installation of a

built-up system is in progress. First step would be to consider whether you actually need to go on the roof at all. For example, ask yourself if you can do inspection work via a mobile elevating work platform (MEWP), telescopic pole, binoculars... or even with a drone?

Whatever the scale of the project you're working on, when you are working at height, making sure you use the correct equipment and operating procedures can help keep your site a fall-free zone. Here are some of the areas to concentrate on:

## **GETTING ON AND OFF THE ROOF SAFELY**

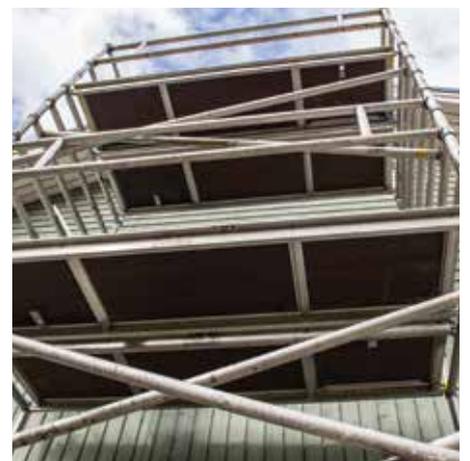
Ensuring this is done with the minimum of risk is essential. A general access scaffold or tower scaffold (preferably of the stairway design) is best. As an absolute minimum you need a properly secured ladder.

## **PROVIDING ADEQUATE EDGE PROTECTION**

To prevent a fall occurring this should include the following:

- A main guard rail at least 950mm above the edge
- A toe board and brick guard where there is risk of objects being kicked off the edge of the platform
- A suitable number of intermediate guard rails or appropriate alternatives positioned so that there is no gap more than 470mm

Sometimes a roof parapet can provide equivalent protection, but if it doesn't you need to organise extra edge protection.





## ESTABLISHING A SECURE WORKING PLATFORM

Again, in many cases the roof itself will provide this. If it doesn't, for instance when you're working on a chimney on a pitched roof, then you need a platform. Sometimes a mobile elevating work platform may be suitable if you can do the work from inside the basket.

## SHORT DURATION WORK

This covers any situation where you are on the roof for a matter of minutes rather than hours. Things like inspections, replacing a few roof lights or minor adjustments to flashings all fall into this category. For smaller jobs like these even though it's not always practical to provide full edge protection, you still need to provide a safe means of access to the roof and for working on it, for example:

- Use a properly constructed and secured roof ladder on a pitched roof
- On flat roofs wear a secure harness with a sufficiently short lanyard to prevent the wearer from falling
- Consider mobile access equipment or proprietary access systems to carry out the necessary work

There are industrial products out there readily available to help you create a safe working environment during installation. An example of this is Filon's Fixsafe, a patented rooflight replacement system which you can fit from inside the building, saving you time and money on traditional expensive access systems.

The Industrial Roofing Centre can give you advice on all the suitable products that can help keep you safe at work. Give them a call on your next project and see how they can help you.

Tel: 0870 264 7766

Email: [ircsalesteam@sigroofing.co.uk](mailto:ircsalesteam@sigroofing.co.uk)



# Better buildings - build better business

By demonstrating the value of better buildings, the construction industry can unlock new revenue streams.

While it's true that some of the Government's high-profile green initiatives seem to have taken a bit of a back seat recently (Green Deal anyone?), make no mistake, the focus on building energy efficiency is only going to increase.

The recent United Nations conference on climate change was a reminder of why it's still such an important issue, and once again brought sustainability targets into sharp focus. In Europe, for example, buildings account for a hefty 40% of the energy we consume. To bring that figure down is both a huge challenge and a massive opportunity for the sector. The only way we will achieve it will be to dramatically improve the way we construct, renovate and occupy buildings. And those with the skills to do so will have a genuine advantage over their competitors.

## **A MASSIVE OPPORTUNITY FOR CONTRACTORS**

As energy costs rise and upcoming legislative deadlines begin to loom, building owners are inevitably going to look for the most sustainable solutions. Those contractors with the relevant expertise to deliver sustainable buildings cost-effectively will be in high demand. The ability to advise on the latest innovations and solutions that make it possible to improve building energy performance while enhancing the bottom line, will give you a serious competitive edge.

The simplest way to gain this competitive edge is to engage with manufacturer training courses such as those offered through the Kingspan Academy. This is an initiative from Kingspan Insulated Panels designed to deliver professional installer training and informative CPD sessions all over the UK. This kind of training helps contractors, designers & specifiers to embrace new technology and create more opportunities to add value to client relationships. This is going to be essential as the regulatory landscape changes and building owners, developers and larger

main contractors expect more than the traditional skills usually associated with specialist contractors and installers.

Those companies able to offer valuable advice on energy efficiency, sustainability and the performance merits of different products will be able to shift their customer relationships beyond the purely transactional. And those contractors able to install the wider range of products required to meet new standards of energy efficiency will find themselves best positioned to capitalise on a growing market.

Investing time in training and understanding the latest products and solutions on the market now, will pay you dividends in the future. Put simply, high-performance buildings are becoming the norm. Those contractors with the skills to deliver them will thrive and reap the benefits of these new business opportunities.



**For more information  
please fill in the  
reader response card**

**ENQUIRY 16**

# Take roof safety to the next level

Choosing the right safety system for the right solution is an essential part of site safety.

As roofing technology and products continue to evolve, so too must our understanding of the specific requirements around roofing access, maintenance and safety.

The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM), for instance, apply to everyone from designers, contractors to clients. They cover all elements of a project from planning to completion, including:

- project management
- planning of work
- employing the right people for the right job at the right time
- communicating information correctly
- consulting and engaging with workers regularly

They link to the 2005 Work at Height Regulations (WAHR), which apply to all working at height where there is any risk of a fall liable to cause injury. These place a clear duty on employers, the self-employed, facilities managers and building owners to ensure the safety of those working on a project.

## COLLECTIVE MEASURES

If working at height is unavoidable, you should always ensure measures are in place to prevent falls or minimise the distance and consequence of a fall. Collective measures



such as guardrails for areas with frequent access, or limiting access for inexperienced personnel play an important role.

WAHR require that, for construction work, handrails have a minimum height of 950mm, and that any gap between the top rail and any intermediate rail should not exceed 470mm. Toe boards must also be of a suitable size.

The system used will depend on the size and scale of the project. Some that aim to meet architectural design requirements offer straight, curved or inclined uprights, as well as a folding upright version that can be concealed from below when not in use. Guardrail systems like these are also used to contain designated access ways to services, antennae, photovoltaic zones or wind turbines. Proprietary anti-slip roof walkways also offer a firm footing and protect the roof finish.

## CABLE SYSTEMS

Where collective solutions are not suitable for perimeter protection, cable-based fall protection systems offer a non-invasive

solution. Anchor points top-fixed to the roof itself with an energy-absorbing coil avoid any roof damage in the event of a fall and protect its integrity.

Cable safety systems should always be specifically designed for - and tested in conjunction with - each particular roofing system, and endorsed by the roofing system manufacturer. It is crucial to think about how many people will be connected to a safety system at any one time and that everyone is fully trained in how to use the system.

Ultimately, continuous best practice is integral to maintaining worker safety, particularly for projects that involve working at height. Following the CDM and WAHR guidelines, implementing the correct processes and managing and selecting suitable equipment for the task ensures the safety of all involved in a project from the outset.



## INDUSTRY NEWS

Page 4 **Roofing news in brief**



Page 6 **You're the ONE that I want!**



Page 8 **Playing by the Part L rules**



Page 9 **Technical know-how for all**



Page 10 **You're in safe hands with SR Timber**



Page 11 **Show me the money!**



Page 12 **Roofing Racers... we salute you!**



## PITCHED ROOFING

Page 14 **Higher quality underlays give better protection**



Page 15 **A model material**



Page 16 **Let it breathe**



Page 18 **Dust busters**



Page 23 **T for 1... perfect!**



## ROOFLINE PRODUCTS

Page 24 **Lightening the load**



## FLAT ROOFING

Page 26 **A SIGnature dish**



Page 28 **Making flat roofing sites safer**



Page 30 **Look at the Vue**



Page 31 **SMART engineering driven by you**



Page 32 **Safety in numbers**



## INDUSTRIAL ROOFING

Page 34 **Prevention is better than cure**



Page 36 **Better buildings - build better business**



Page 37 **Take roof safety to the next level**



# Smart Toolbox Prize

In this issue of INSIGHT, we're giving you the chance to **WIN a Durafix Driver, worth £100.**



Simply complete the game of Sudoku by filling the 9×9 grid with numbers so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids contain all of the digits from 1 to 9.

To enter the competition, write the 9 numbers shown in the red box on the reader response card and post it back to us.

Good luck!

Closing date to receive entries is 2nd November 2016.

**Terms & Conditions**

Entry to the competition is restricted to one entry per person. Multiple entries will be disqualified. Competitions are open to UK residents only unless otherwise stated. Prizes can only be sent to a valid UK address unless otherwise stated. Winners will be chosen at random from all valid entries. Winners will be contacted via email. The competition will run from 21st September to 2nd November 2016. INSIGHT magazine from SIG Roofing is compliant with the data protection act. Our policy is such that we will not pass on your details to any third party without consent.

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		9	8				7	
2	6							
							5	
7				1	5		3	
4					2	5		
				8			4	
	2			7			8	1

**Congratulations to Andrew Saint from SAS Property Services** for winning the last issue's MarcO-Grill BBQ competition!

# WHERE CAN YOU FIND AN INSIGHT APPROVED STOCKIST?

## ANGLIA

### SIG ROOFING

Bedford	MK41 9QG	01234 325283
Cambridge	CBI 3EW	01223 245262
Colchester	CO2 8JX	01206 877460
Great Yarmouth	NR31 0LY	01493 659991
Ipswich	IPI 5LU	01473 749621
Kings Lynn	PE34 3AJ	01553 764202
Luton	LU1 3XL	01582 456177
Northampton	NN5 5JF	01604 765684
Norwich	NR3 3ST	01603 487860
Peterborough	PE1 5YB	01733 345004
Southend	SS9 5PR	01702 511158
St Ives	PE27 3YJ	01480 467776
Waltham Cross	EN8 7DZ	01992 624938

### BOWLLER ROOFING SUPPLIES

Cambridge	CB22 7QP	01223 872260
High Wycombe	HP12 3RJ	01494 450079
Kings Langley	WD4 8JU	01923 269983

### UNDERCOVER ROOFING SUPPLIES

Colchester	CO2 9JT	01206 840 230
Southend	SS2 5QW	01702 613 181

## LONDON

### SIG ROOFING

Cheam	SM3 9AG	020 8337 9455
Croydon	CR0 2BD	020 8686 6911
Croydon	CR0 4YZ	020 8689 0481
Kentish Town	NW5 3EW	020 7485 5550
Kentish Town	NW5 2DS	020 7485 1791
Ladbroke Grove	NW10 5BT	020 8969 0022
New Cross	SE14 5BL	020 7358 0085
Park Royal	NW10 7UL	020 8507 4380
Romford	RM7 0HL	01708 754022
Romford	RM3 8TS	01708 377666
Slough	SL1 4BG	01753 570526
Stratford	E15 2RW	020 8536 5400
Tottenham	N15 4PG	020 8808 0459
Tottenham Branch	N17 8HJ	020 8808 6816

### UNITED TRADING COMPANY

Chingford	E4 7HZ	020 8559 4334
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### UNDERCOVER ROOFING SUPPLIES

Rayleigh	SS6 7XF	01268 798 999
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### BOWLLER ROOFING SUPPLIES

South Harrow	HA2 8AX	0208 426 8838
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## SCOTLAND

### SIG ROOFING

Aberdeen	AB16 5UU	01224 692000
Ayr	KA8 8BL	01292 262885
Broxburn	EH52 5NN	01506 857613
Dundee	DD2 3QQ	01382 833011
Edinburgh	EH6 7LF	01315 542554
Glasgow	G31 4DX	01415 565200
Glasgow	G71 6LL	01698 817428
Inverness	IV1 1SY	01463 250318
Kirkcaldy	KY1 2YX	01592 654913
Linwood	PA3 3BQ	01505 321122
Melrose	TD6 ORS	01835 823640

## NORTH WEST

### SIG ROOFING

Blackpool	FY3 7UN	01253 398376
Bolton	BL3 2NH	01204 523336
Leyland	PR26 7QL	01772 453939
Liverpool	L9 7ET	0151 5212100
Manchester	M11 1BR	01612 307712
Manchester	M34 5LR	0161 3203456
St Helens	WA9 3AP	01744 611471
Wigan	WN3 4BT	01942 615030

### CHESHIRE ROOFING SUPPLIES

Crewe	CW2 8UY	01270 251 000
Warrington	WA4 4EZ	01928 796 100

## YORKSHIRE

### SIG ROOFING

Bradford	BD3 9HB	01274 392433
Grimsby	DN31 2SG	01472 245667
Huddersfield	HD3 4JW	01484 653373
Hull	HU4 6PA	01482 574577
Leeds	LS12 6AB	01132 631263
Leeds	LS9 0PF	0113 2351441
Rotherham	S60 1DA	01709 835500
Scunthorpe	DN16 1DQ	01724 854444
Sheffield	S9 1TL	0114 2434188
York	YO30 4UU	01904 476319

### ROOFCARE NORTHERN

Scarborough	YO12 4HA	01723 375 851
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## SOUTH COAST

### SIG ROOFING

Bishops Waltham	S032 1BH	01489 896544
Bournemouth	BH12 4BJ	01202 731867
Eastbourne	BN23 6QN	01323 500458
Poole	BH15 4BN	01202 682491
Portsmouth	PO3 5AY	02392 690214
Portsmouth	PO3 5NX	02392 671521
Southampton	SO15 0LG	02380 365555
Waterloooville	PO7 5LT	02392 258344

## SOUTH EAST

### SIG ROOFING

Brighton	BN41 1WF	01273 430444
Finchampstead	RG40 4RB	01189 733788
Folkestone	CT19 5EY	01303 226888
Gravesend	DA12 2PS	01474 532999
Hastings	TN38 9ST	01424 853099
Horsham	RH12 2NW	01403 270640
Hove	BN3 7ES	01273 328640
Leatherhead	KT22 7LF	01372 361600
Lewes	BN7 2BQ	01273 488888
Maidstone	ME15 9NL	01622 843399
Milford	GU8 5BB	01483 425828
Ramsgate	CT11 7QE	01843 592772
Sidcup	DA14 6QF	0208 302 5451
Sittingbourne	ME9 7NU	01795 843967
Tunbridge Wells	TN2 3DY	01892 515599
Worthing	BN14 8NW	01903 201013

## TYNE AND TEES

### SIG ROOFING

Gateshead	NE8 3AD	01914 779474
Killingworth	NE12 6QQ	0191 2686627
Middlesbrough	TS2 1DF	01642 242753
Stockton	TS18 2PH	01642 677772

## SOUTH WEST

### SIG ROOFING

Exeter	EX2 8PY	01392 250323
Exeter	EX2 7JS	01392 446001
Newquay	TR7 2SX	01637 852660
Plymouth	PL1 4LL	01752 509538
Taunton	TA1 5LY	01823 323888
Torquay	TQ2 7BD	01803 613212

## WEST

### SIG ROOFING

Bath	BA1 3EN	01225 483828
Bristol	BS2 0UZ	01179 710085
Bristol	BS5 9RD	01179 412412
Bristol	BS3 2TN	01179 663072
Gloucester	GL4 3SJ	01452 521 347
Hereford	HR2 6JT	01432 273084
Oxford	OX2 0ES	01865 790303
Swindon	SN2 8XA	01793 613339

### BOWLLER ROOFING SUPPLIES

Reading	RG30 4BJ	01189 455454
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## WALES

### SIG ROOFING

Cardiff	CF24 5HB	02920 483939
Porth	CF39 9SJ	01443 681004
Swansea	SA5 7LF	01792 790272

## MIDLANDS

### SIG ROOFING

Birmingham	B11 2DX	01217 081515
Birmingham	B19 1ED	01215 239143
Birmingham	B24 8LD	01213 273071
Coventry	CV6 6FG	02476 688754
Derby	DE24 8HL	01332 349155
Dudley	DY2 0RL	01384 472420
Leicester	LE18 4TA	01162 785262
Leicester	LE18 2QD	0116 2778676
Newark	NG24 2EQ	01636 611880
Nottingham	NG7 2NN	01159 851400
Nottingham	NG8 1PQ	01159 285999
Oswestry	SY10 8NN	01691 654551
Stoke	ST4 2NL	01782 280567
Stoke	ST6 2DU	01782 577330
Telford	TF1 5ST	01952 641161