

PRESS release

Isover's new three-credit Robust Detail saves housebuilders money

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Insulation giant Saint-Gobain Isover has gained a second Robust Detail for an acoustic system that is now capable of providing housebuilders with three credits under the Code for Sustainable Homes and at the same time significantly reducing their build costs.

Isover developed the original E-WM-8 dry-finish masonry separating wall construction as a response to the demands of housebuilders who were looking for a Robust Detail-approved system which would not only avoid pre-completion sound testing but would save them money.

High-performance Isover acoustic slabs of only 35mm thickness are positioned in the 75mm design cavity of E-WM-8 party walls in conjunction with dry lining which allows housebuilders to revert to their preferred method of construction without involving a wet finish.

Now Isover has gained new Robust Detail accreditation, designated E-WM-14, which uses a 100mm design cavity compared to the original 75mm. This achieves 50dB and three credits under the Code for Sustainable Homes compared to E-WM-8's 48dB and one credit.

Isover now champions one of only three masonry wall Robust Details that give three credits to housebuilders but it is the only one that is an alternative to wet-applied cement-based solutions.

All other Robust Detail masonry party wall constructions force housebuilders to revert to a wet trade internal wall lining, typically sand and cement, and away from the plasterboard-on-dabs method that had been their preferred choice for years.

Research by Isover shows cost savings of more than 20% can be made in materials and labour because the party wall does not have to be plastered on both sides. Neither does the contractor have to wait for the parge coats to dry – another time saving.



Saint-Gobain Isover

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Proprietor: BPB United Kingdom Limited, registered in England, Company No. 00734396, Registered Office: Aldwych House, 81 Aldwych, London WC2B 4HQ

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Regional housebuilder Macbryde Homes, who were one of the first developers to adopt this construction method, have been able to finish developments days ahead of schedule and were so impressed with the savings it is now their standard method for party wall construction.

Macbryde's design director Ian Hornby said. "Isover's RD35 system can be installed in all temperatures, in a fraction of the time a parge coat takes, and without the mess and labour involved when using wet cement. And because it's manufactured from 80% recycled material, it's vastly more environmentally friendly than cement."

* More and more specifiers and users are insisting on the use of insulation materials that not only deliver technical performance but also come with exceptional green credentials, with the BRE Green Guide to Specification a common point of reference. In this, glass mineral wool insulation can achieve an A+ rating. It also boasts zero ODP (Ozone Depletion Potential) and zero GWP (Global Warming Potential).

Manufactured from a combination of silica sand, the earth's most abundantly naturally-occurring mineral, and recycled glass, up to 80% of the raw material used in the production process is recycled post-consumer glass, from building regeneration projects for example, or flat glass manufacture that would otherwise go to landfill, making Isover one of the most environmentally sustainable insulation products on the market today.

ENDS



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