

Press Release

Panel Agency Limited Partner with Touchwood Homes at Ecobuild 2009.

For many years Panel Agency have had a supply relationship with Pat Wilkinson, the proprietor of Touchwood Homes Limited. Specialist products supplied from Panel Agency include I Beams, Glue Laminated Timber and specialist board products including Panelvent® and Paneline®.

Due to their common interest in producing low energy homes utilising the best engineered wood products and sustainable building materials at commercial rates, both Companies have decided to share a common stand at Ecobuild in March to best demonstrate energy efficient construction.

Pat Wilkinson stated “We have cooperated for many years with Panel Agency and used many of their products to achieve low energy structures. These have ranged from schools including the award winning Great Notley school through to high performance individual homes. Touchwood have year on year improved the design and build process to allow us to now supply a complete precut timber frame with all components (windows, doors, cladding etc) to a very high specification. Windows and doors can be built to the German Passivhaus standard, meaning they will meet Code 6 of CSH in terms of energy saving and air tightness. For the structure we use engineered timber 'T' beams to create very thick walls packed with insulation. We will be demonstrating a range of insulation including: CANAflex, FLEX woodfibre insulation; Universal and Special boards, all supplied by Panel Agency; as well as warmcel insulation”

The stand at Ecobuild will demonstrate typical structural details and cut aways demonstrating how walls can achieve U values down to 0.09W/m²K, with a typical wall being 0.12W/m²K. Air tightness levels as low as 0.47 m³/m².hr @ 50Pa can be achieved with good detailing, whereas the stringent requirements of Passivhaus design only require a figure below 1.0 m³/m².hr @50Pa.

Panel Agency will also provide the internal linings using Sasmox gypsum reinforced fibreboard. Mark Wilson of Panel Agency Limited stated that “We have found that the advantages of: class 0 fire performance, high acoustic performance, excellent decorative finish, Class 1 racking strength and impact resistance have made Sasmox an ideal solution for customers demanding high performance internal linings. Our experience has shown that Sasmox is ideally suited to demanding applications such as social housing, secure accommodation and schools. We will also be demonstrating Sasmox Plus the moisture resistant version of the board and Decora, a wood veneered Sasmox board with acoustic perforations.”

Mark Wilson also stated “Our job as a specialist materials supplier is to anticipate market changes and for this reason we are also launching the Primalux Skylights at the show. It is clear that with the daylighting requirements required by the Code for Sustainable Homes demand for skylights will increase.”

The Primalux skylights are unique in their ability to offer integrated M&E solutions including Smoke Heat and Exhaust Ventilation as well as passive and active actuators. Available in polycarbonate, acrylic and glass finishes, these Skylights are CE marked to EN12101-2. The Primalux design has been developed to prevent thermal bridging across the frame and assist in the overall air tightness of a structure.

It is both parties belief that closer partnering between suppliers and contractors can only result in improved pricing for so called green niche products and better construction methods being adopted throughout the build sectors.