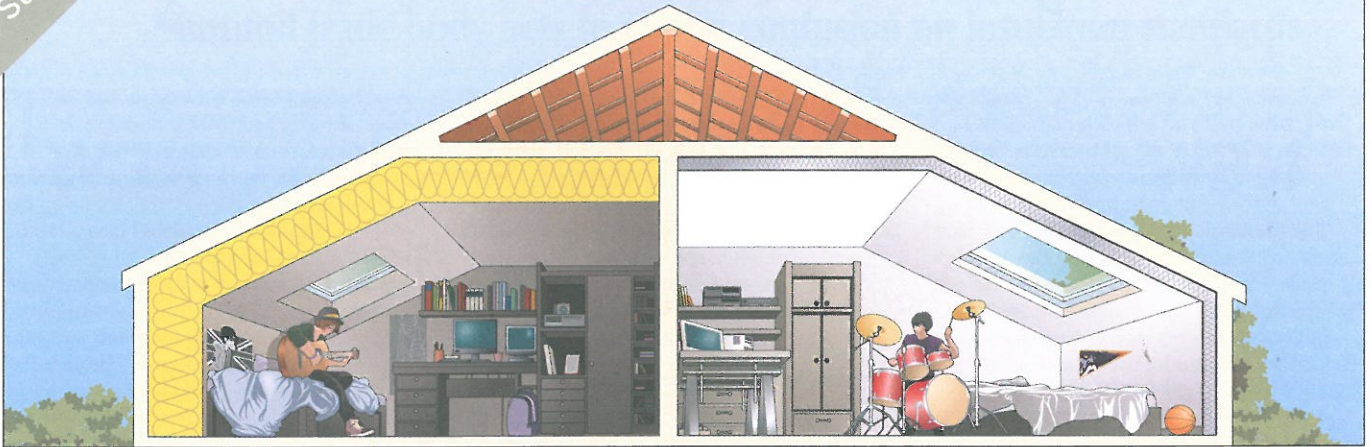


Actis multifoil tops the shopping list for loft converters



With the current housing market not exactly fast moving, mortgages still hard to come by and stamp duty and legal fees taking an unnecessary chunk of cash from the hard working average Joe, staying put and moving out or up is a cost effective alternative for those needing more space.

Actis Insulation is one company seeing an increase in interest for its products as a result – with one in particular, TS10+,

doing particularly well, as its thinness means headroom, at a premium in the modern loft, can be maximised, while insulation levels are on a par with those achieved by far thicker alternatives.

The 35mm thick product has been certified by BM TRADA, whose certification scheme has, in turn, been accredited by UKAS, to be equivalent to 210mm of bulk insulation in roofs.

And, because the insulation is tested in 'real life' the heat savings quoted are the ones actually achieved. While this may sound obvious, predictions for the thermal efficacy of bulk insulation, because it is tested only in a lab and not in situ, can be vastly overestimated – sometimes by as much as 30%.

Actis UK and Ireland director Matthew King explained: "When used as part of a system, TS10+ reduces thermal bridging and

improves the air tightness of the envelope, partly because it is installed as a continuous layer and does not need to be cut to fit around structural elements, such as the timber stud and rafters.

"Lack of headroom is a common reason why people choose not to convert their lofts to living space. But that argument goes out of the window when instead of using 210mm of insulation plus a vapour control layer you can use just 35mm of an easy to install product which has a built in vapour control layer."

Loft conversion specialist Topflite Conversions has been using Actis products for the past decade and chose its products to insulate its own 'open to the public' showroom in Chorley.

The company chose Actis because it is clean and quick to install and maintains the headroom required in a loft conversion.

Clayton Construction chose Actis when adding an extra floor to an existing bungalow. Although they raised the roof to accommodate the extra living space, the thinness of the multifoil meant headroom was maximised.

And Baseley Design and Build, which converted a loft at a York florist, also chose Actis for a combination of its ease of use and value for money. Overall installation costs are around two thirds those of alternatives, once transportation and labour are taken into account.



Topflite Conversions chose Actis products to insulate its own showroom in Chorley and a detached house in Grange over Sands. Top: The thinness of Actis Triso-Super 10+ means headroom can be maximised while insulation levels are on a par with those achieved by far thicker alternatives.

Pre-tapered flat roofing insulation from Kingspan has been installed for the Emirates Air Line, London's first cable car system spanning the river Thames with stations at Greenwich and the Royal Docks. 1,209m² of Kingspan Insulation's high performance Thermataper TT47 LPC/FM insulation was supplied for the project by Solent Insulation, forming part of the Emirates Air Line's terminal roofs. The product helped to achieve the clean lines required by Wilkinson Eyre Architects' flat roofed design, which manages to be simultaneously ultra-modern and retro in character.

Fitted in various thicknesses between 65 and 165mm, Thermataper TT47 LPC/FM is factory tapered and pre-mitred to provide an intrinsic roof fall. This eliminates the need for structural falls in the design and prevents water-ponding and its associated problems, which could reduce the design life. It also delivers excellent U-values as low as 0.25 W/m²·k, forming an important part of the project's energy saving performance. The Emirates Air Line opened on the 28th June 2012 and is operated by Transport for London providing a direct link between the Greenwich Peninsula and the Royal Victoria Docks, home to ExCeL.

Kingspan for UK's first urban cable car

