

# Insulation experts welcome report into overheating buildings

## **Concerns raised by government climate advisers that homes and hospitals are not being constructed to cope with hot summers have been welcomed by innovative insulation manufacturer Actis.**

A recent report issued by the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) says the government is not doing enough to cope with the risks associated with extreme weather conditions – with one of its concerns being that many buildings overheat in the summer.

And it warns that premature deaths from overheating could triple to 7,000 per year by the 2050s as temperatures rise and the population ages.

Actis' Hybrid range of CE marked products and its thin multifoil product for loft conversions are becoming increasingly recognised for their ability to maintain properties at a fairly consistent and comfortable temperature regardless of the weather.

Actis technical manager Thomas Wiedmer explained: "During the winter, at night a highly insulated building will retain a lot of the heat built up through solar gain during the day. Masonry walls act as a thermal store, releasing heat into the building at night – similar to storage heaters. Therefore when external night time temperatures decline, insulation prevents a similar decline internally which means internal temperatures remain close to day time temperatures. A topping up process occurs the next day when the sun rises again.

"Insulation is designed to retain the heat when outside temperatures cool at night and to keep the house comfortable in the blistering heat.

"Reflective insulation technologies also have the specific ability to counteract heat transfer via radiation. Of course, no form of insulation can address the significant effects of solar gain through windows in summer."