

24th May 2022

Use of Spray Foam in UK Residential Pitched Roof Construction

Dear Homeowner,

Spray foam is a high-performance insulation material used widely in many countries across the world in both new build and renovation applications to deliver significant improvements in insulation performance. We are aware that over recent months a number of misconceptions have arisen and been perpetuated in the UK regarding the use of spray foam insulation in residential roof applications that we would like to address.

Huntsman Building Solutions (HBS) is a leading global supplier of spray foam, which has been successfully installed in millions of properties across the world. We are fully dedicated to promoting the highest building product standards through extensive education and training programs and the use of independent third-party certification. We also provide a 25-year warranty on products installed through our authorized contractor program for added peace of mind. In addition, our materials and applications are certified by independent third-party construction certification bodies such as the British Board of Agreement (BBA) and Kiwa.

Historically there have been a limited number of issues where spray foam has been incorrectly used as a roof repair system to stabilize loose tiles and address roofing defects rather than for its superior insulating properties. Spray foam is designed to be a thermal and air barrier for the building, it is not intended, nor do we recommend, the use of spray foam to correct roof defects. Spray foam remains one of the most efficient ways to insulate your home.

HBS has established procedures that ensure that all installations are fully documented and that the homeowner is left with an information pack that details what product has been installed, by whom and when, providing full traceability. The installation can be easily inspected by an experienced surveyor including the simple removal and replacement of small amounts of insulation to verify the condition of the underlying substrate if deemed necessary.

We are actively seeking a constructive dialogue with key industry stakeholders such as surveyors, banks, mortgage lenders and other financial institutions to make certain they are fully appraised of the benefits of spray foam insulation and how actions being taken by HBS mitigate risks from incorrect application, illustrated by numerous practical case study examples. We will work collaboratively with surveyors to ensure they are well equipped to carry out inspections to the required standards, thus avoiding the wasteful and short-sighted approach of recommending the unnecessary removal of all spray foam insulation.

We remain committed to providing UK homeowners and other stakeholders with accurate information to allow them to make informed decisions regarding the insulation performance standards they choose for their homes and to ensure that spray foam insulation is no longer perceived as an impediment to obtaining a UK mortgage.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Baker', enclosed within a large, hand-drawn oval. A long, horizontal flourish extends from the right side of the oval.

Simon Baker

President, Huntsman Building Solutions