
PhotonCheck Fixing instructions

General

- ✓ PhotonCheck must be installed in accordance with these instructions and should follow Building Regulations and current good building practice.
- ✓ BS5250 (Code of practice for control of condensation in buildings) defines an air and vapour control layer (AVCL) as a continuous layer of impermeable material and recommends the following:

Designers should determine the performance standard required in any given situation and ensure the specified AVCL will meet that standard over the life of the building. It should be borne in mind that some membranes offer high resistance to the passage of water vapour and air, whilst others offer high resistance to air leakage but low resistance to the passage of water vapour.

In order to form an effective AVCL, side and end joints should be kept to a minimum, joints in flexible membranes should be formed over solid backing members or a rigid substrate, be lapped at least 50 mm and be sealed. Any damage should be repaired using matching material and jointing techniques. Unstabilized plastics-based sheeting should be protected from heat and sunlight to prevent degradation.

Penetrations through an AVCL by pipes and services will compromise its performance; they should preferably be eliminated at the design stage: if that is not possible they should be adequately sealed by means of proprietary seals and collars, or liquid-applied sealants, which should be able to accommodate thermal and other movements, likely to occur during the life of the building. A void should be formed behind the internal surface finish to enable services to be installed without compromising the AVCL.

Building owners/occupants should be made aware of the importance of maintaining AVCLs throughout the life of the building, particularly when repairs, alterations and extensions are made.

Installation

- ✓ PhotonCheck should be installed on the internal (warm) side of the insulation with the reflective side facing into the service cavity.
- ✓ PhotonCheck should form a continuous barrier against air and water vapour transfer and all laps should be at least 50mm and sealed with tape.
- ✓ When laying on inclined or vertical substrates temporary fixing may be required. The preferred method is to use double sided tape but where staples or nails are used these may need to be covered by a single sided tape to ensure an effective seal.
- ✓ Where puncture damage is unavoidable apply good sized patches over the puncture ensuring that there is a continuous taped seal all the way around the hole.
- ✓ An AVCL needs to be continuous; particular care is required sealing around penetrations and ensuring that the various vapour control planes of adjoining constructional elements should be joined, i.e. the wall AVCL and roof AVCL should be continuous to reduce both air and vapour movement and should be positioned on the warm side of the insulation layer.