



Gas and waterproof membrane systems

In addition to their primary function for waterproofing and water vapour control, Platon membranes can also be used as effective gas barriers, and are suitable for tackling problems with methane, carbon dioxide and radon in the ground.

In existing structures venting the air gap by fan may be an effective and economical method of dispersing the gas before it enters the building. In new-build it is possible during construction to incorporate air gap membranes to seal the complete building from ground gases.

In existing structures the isolation of potential ways around a new barrier may be a critical factor and should be investigated and dealt with adequately. Particularly in existing structures, Platon membranes may be used in conjunction with fans and mechanical ventilation systems, or sumps, with a view to increasing the effect of gas barriers and reducing the risk of bypassing the gas barrier.

Only in special circumstances and following advice from Triton should natural venting be used with Platon membranes. Cross ventilation of the air gap between opposite sides of a building may induce heat loss and condensation.

Platon membranes as gas barriers are applied in a similar way to damp proofing. In all cases due attention to the sealing of joints and details must be given. Double sealing with Platon Sealing Tape between the sheets and Platon Overtape over the protruding edge of the joint or detail is strongly recommended.

For ground gases including radon, the advice at www.bre.co.uk/radon should be followed. In particular the following is relevant to the use of Platon membranes as gas barriers:

Prior to laying barriers on existing concrete floors, sealing of cracks etc. should be carried out. See link, radon solutions, sheet 13.

The installation of vents, for cross ventilation of the air gap should only be carried out in special circumstances. See link, radon solutions, sheet 10.

Sumps and depressurisation pipes as shown in link, protecting new buildings: radon newbuild, model solution no. 2 and 4, are fully acceptable as they are not likely to create heat loss or condensation problems.

For further information about Platon Multi, Platon P20 and Platon Stop, see separate product data sheets.

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