

From tango to tapas

Last year's overseas conference trips to Cape Town and Rome attracted a bumper attendance of 93 and 96 so we are hoping to set a new record with this year's venues – Argentina's capital Buenos Aires and the Spanish city of Valencia.

Our long-haul trip to Buenos Aires – often called the Paris of the South – runs from November 21st to 25th. The home of Tango, it is a large, energetic port city and the most exciting city in South America.

Stretching along the Rio de la Plata, it is a complex mixture of European and South American flavours, boasting bustling streets, grand avenues, old-time cafés and stylish restaurants.

A cosmopolitan capital where locals are renowned for their flair, spontaneity and extrovert nature, do not be surprised if a Tango exhibition breaks out in the middle of a bustling street or on a busy corner.

Travellers can wander the cobbled streets, marvel at faded architectural glories and colourfully painted metal houses, talk world politics and fútbol (soccer) in an atmospheric old café, then tuck into a famously delicious Argentinean steak to power a long night's partying.

The city's rich history, grand, tree-lined boulevards, electric atmosphere, sophisticated

restaurants, superb shopping and energetic nightlife make Buenos Aires an amazing destination and an ideal venue for our 2008 long-haul trip.

Our short-haul trip to Valencia is in early December (exact dates to be confirmed). Located on the east coast of Spain, Valencia has regenerated itself to become a modern, cosmopolitan city, ideal for organising congresses and business meetings.

Washed by the Mediterranean Sea, its excellent climate is one of its main advantages.

The beaches and water sports are part of Valencia's appeal – its waters are considered some of the best sailing grounds in Europe. Proof of this is the fact that the city is soon to host the most prestigious sailing race in the world: the America's Cup.

However, Valencia is also home to the avant-garde Arts and Sciences Centre, the Valencia Exhibition Centre and its Conference Centre, designed by world-famous architect Sir Norman Foster.

Other interesting alternatives include a stroll around the Old Town and its wealth of monuments such as the Cathedral and Silk Exchange that is a UNESCO World Heritage site. By night, nothing better than to head out to discover Valencia's famous nightlife with a myriad of bars and nightclubs.



Regional meetings re-scheduled

Members who attend the IMA's regional meetings will hopefully be pleased to learn they have been rescheduled to be more convenient for them.

The meetings were typically held at this time of the year but the committee felt this was not necessarily the best time since it is a busy season for members and much of the information released at the conference duplicates that given in the regions.

Therefore, regional meetings in 2008 will now take place later in the year (dates to be confirmed), with a couple planned for Scotland and the north and half a dozen planned for the rest of the country.

The meetings aim to provide the optimum mix of business and pleasure, with IMA developments such as new products handled first and then some form of social activity afterwards.

Your contractor representative

North

Mike Byron
T: 01482 224335
E: mike@byronroofing.co.uk



Midlands

Keith Fletcher
T: 0115 9304019
E: keith@nrrroofing.co.uk



South

Mark Jones
T: 07785 296469
E: mark.jones@surveyroofing.co.uk



Your IMA committee

Neil Harrison, Chairman

Jim Mathieson, President

Tony Burke, Secretary

Simon Ashworth, Technical

Andrew Taylor, Marketing

Mike Byron, Contractor Representative

Mark Jones, Contractor Representative

Keith Fletcher, Contractor Representative



IMAGAZINE

The Newsletter for the Intelligent Membrane Trade Association

June 18th 2008

Delivering on a Pledge

Phrases such as "In pursuit of excellence" (our own IMA motto) are now commonplace in industry but how many businesses actually deliver on that pledge?

Certainly, it is getting more difficult to do so in a climate governed by raw material price hikes, globalisation, skills shortages and regulations to name just a few factors. Any business that continues to innovate, in terms of both products and service delivery, stands head and shoulders above the rest.



And that is what the IMA does – stand above the rest. Our organisation has always looked ahead of its time. At the launch in 1996 (a vintage year obviously!) we focused on the importance of partnerships forming a quality supply chain using quality products.

Since that inception, we have provided an abundance of technically advanced and award-winning waterproofing systems – Profiles' stripes and grooves, FireSmart LPCB approved membranes, Total Torch and Torch Safe bitumen systems, flame-free bonding equipment, and heat-activated and self-adhesive bitumen products to name just a few.

In my opinion, the time has never been more right to embrace products like these, which offer quality and safety in application. There is no doubt the roofing market will continue to evolve but with product and service support like this, the IMA is well positioned to meet the future with confidence.



Helping to build that confidence is our long-awaited training facility in Manchester that is finally on stream. This launch is complemented with initiatives we are confident will act as a major incentive for members to become familiar with the new systems (more about that elsewhere in this newsletter).

We have also improved our service level interface for training and site monitoring, with the appointment of a further technical services site inspector. Duncan Hastings covers Scotland and the north-east and brings the site team tally to five.

Not content with being one of very few waterproofing suppliers (if not the only one) to be authorised by the FSA to provide insurance-backed guarantees, we have targeted this area for improvement, simplifying the range and launching on-line applications. Together, this means less paperwork and quicker responses – a double whammy.

We have also revised the payment scale and now all guarantees for bitumen built-up waterproofing systems are free to IMA members. Even prices for the specialist products such as Sure-Weld TPO, Parapro liquid

waterproofing and Parabit Hot Melt have been halved, giving members a major advantage on costs.

I was privileged to take over the chair of the IMA six months ago from our long-standing and very popular outgoing chairman Bob Gauld and I would like to thank him for his valued contribution to the success of the organisation. If only he wasn't such a hard act to follow!

As I look forward to my first full year, I felt it was important to reflect on why the IMA came about and the ethos behind it. Like a good vine will bend with the changing wind, I am sure that with such strong roots and quality and flexibility our organisation will continue to flourish and bear fruit for us all.

All that remains for me to say, in a way befitting our connoisseurial venue for this year's conference, is Cheers! The future of the IMA is rosé.

N. Harrison

Neil Harrison, IMA Chairman

- In this issue...
 - New training centre opens
 - New product update
 - FRA awards success
 - Contractors of the Year



The Intelligent Membrane Trade Association



The Intelligent Membrane Trade Association



Built-Up Roofing Category

Winner



CAPITAL ROOFING for Blackheath High School

Capital Roofing has installed Icopal's copper system on many occasions but never before on a hyperbolic paraboloid roof of architectural significance.

The copper roof of the dance studio at Blackheath High School in south-east London, which was opened by Princess Alexandra in 1965 as a chapel for the Church Army, was being stripped by thieves unaware its scrap value is negligible.

Capital Roofing was called in to suggest a solution by longstanding client The Girls Day School Trust, owners of the building, and managing director Terry Peck worked with the trust's principal building surveyor Ben Woolf to provide a remedial specification.

Options such as liquid coatings and a plain green mineral cap sheet were considered until Terry persuaded Ben to keep the original appearance of the roof by using Icopal's Thermaweld Metal Face copper membrane.

These cap sheets for built-up systems combine durable copper or aluminium facings with a high-performance elastomer modified membrane to give exceptional flexibility, durability and puncture resistance.

The installation proved one of the most challenging ever for the Capital team who had to cut the copper surfaced membrane into the exact size and shape while constantly adjusting the scaffolding to cater for the changes in roof pitch. In areas where it was vertical, the roofers had to hang from their harnesses.



A new flashing was applied to the vertical upstand but an intricate valley detail in thick copper was left in place. Installation took two months over the winter in weather that included periods of severe frost – every roofer's nightmare.

Ben Woolf said: **"Capital Roofing were the first choice contractor to provide immediate support and advice to ensure that an appropriate and complete renewal was skillfully carried out to complement this architecturally significant building."**

"Capital Roofing have a long and successful association with the trust and have always provided a highly professional service encompassing a wide spectrum of traditional, modern and specialist roofing techniques and skills."

"Their services are particularly valued as they are able to offer a high degree

of pro-active and reactive management skills, greatly reducing the need for supervision."



Joint 2nd Place



BREYER GROUP for Hampstead Valley Shopping Centre

Despite a number of challenges while refurbishing the 375,000ft² roof of the second oldest out of town shopping centre in the UK, the Breyer Group completed the contract on time and on budget with no defects ... and a 10 out of 10 score from the client.

The old roof at Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre was inverted with single-ply membrane and ballast, and paving slabs used as a walkway over a concrete and metal profile deck.

It was in desperate need of repair, with tears and splits to the membrane, causing water to ingress into the buildings below. Foliage was also blocking outlets and restricting the water from running off through its designated route.

One outlet had deteriorated so badly that both the top and bottom sections had been capped off, severely reducing the roof's drainage capacity. Existing pipes and cable supports consisted of metal angle iron, welded in situ, which had rusted, causing cable trays and gas pipes to sag dangerously.

Breyer's works involved removing the ballast and stripping the existing membrane back to the substrate. This was done by hand without the use of a chute or hoist facilities and around the air-handling units that had to be left in situ.

The new built-up system of Profiles Vapour-Vent XL VCL, PIR Plus thermal insulation cut to falls, followed by an underlay and Profiles Vent XL and a mineral surfaced cap sheet of Profiles XL. New Roofgard outlets were installed along with

new plant supports for cable trays and gas pipes. The contract was particularly awkward for several reasons. Firstly, the centre, remained fully operational throughout the work.

Then, the roof was stripped in sections, and as there was no temporary roof, night seals had to be made.

The plant supports had to be installed at the beginning of the works to secure the situation and were systematically removed and reinstated between each element of the roofing works – they were supporting not only a cable tray but also a very large gas pipe, which could not be allowed to sag for fear of fracture or gas leak.

The capped off roof outlet had to be replaced when the shopping centre was closed which meant the Breyer team had to work from 9pm to midnight to install a complete downpipe

section. This was made even more awkward because the area below was a Curry's Digital store full of expensive white goods. These all had to be removed from the area or covered to allow the work to be carried out.

Access was another problem. There were few places for the delivery vehicle to stop and what deliveries there were had to be timed, and materials had to be carried up and over the building onto the roof using a rope and wheel. A noisy works restriction also meant the Breyer team had to begin work early and stay late to carry out such work.

Breyer contract manager Kevin Roe said: **"The client was extremely happy with the quality of the works carried out and the fact that the scheme ran so smoothly despite the difficulties encountered."**

"The Key Performance Indicator results were extremely high, scoring 10 out of 10 on each question, and the result is that we have been invited to tender for further phases on the shopping centre and similar schemes."



Joint 2nd Place

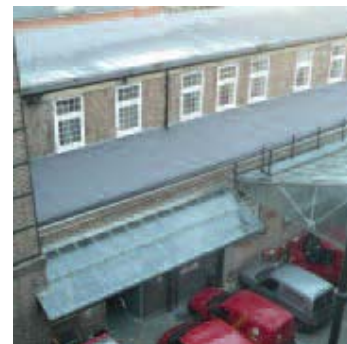


RICHARD SOAN ROOFING SERVICES for Worthing Sorting Office

Richard Soan were put to the test when faced with renewing the 730m² roof of the Royal Mail's sorting office in Worthing, West Sussex, which not only remained fully operational throughout but was also being refurbished generally.

The existing roof of Mastic Asphalt waterproofing membrane had reached the end of its natural lifespan and over the years water ingress had become commonplace in various locations.

Richard Soan removed all solar reflective chippings, paint surfaces and debris before priming the surface and overlaying it with the Profiles warm roof system incorporating a



vapour control layer, 90mm insulation, Profiles Vent XL and Profiles XL cap sheet.



Because the sorting office remained in operation throughout the four-month-long contract, access to the numerous different roof areas was difficult, and along with main contractor Quoin Contracts' various refurbishment works, health and safety played an even more vital factor than usual.

"The craftsmanship on this project was quite outstanding and in the numerous years I have been involved in the flat roofing industry I do not ever recall seeing a better project with regards to workmanship and attention to detail. The transformation from the old to the new is quite amazing in our opinion," said managing director Richard Soan.





Single-Ply Roofing Category

Winner

SRS (SCOTLAND)
for **Culloden Battlefield Visitor/Memorial Centre**

SRS (Scotland) installed Icopal's environmentally-considerate Sure-Weld TPO adjacent to and under an Icopal intensive green roof as part of a scheme to transform Culloden's 1970s visitor centre/museum, which was struggling to cope with visitor numbers, into a £9 million state-of-the-art yet sustainable venue fit for the 21st century.

Situated on the 65-hectare site that saw the final clash between the Jacobites and Hanoverians in 1746 – the last ever battle on British soil – the new centre had to be sympathetic and integrate with the surrounding battlefield that is a designated war grave and historic monument.

Due to the sensitivities of the project, which has been described as 'internationally significant' by the Scottish Executive, Gareth Hoskins

architects were tasked with specifying a roofing system which was not only eco-friendly and affordable but also sustainable and in keeping with the building's design specifications.

Their solution for the international competition award winning building incorporated an unusual hybrid roof that includes three areas (flat, concave-curved and intensive green roof) with Sure-Weld TPO the common denominator. It was used in conjunction with torch-on VCL and tapered EPS insulation.

It was used under the green roof that acts as a viewing platform and by itself on the flat and curved sections that are reminiscent of shallow waves, echoing the exact lines of the distant hills. The lightweight green roof not only blends in with the natural habitat of Culloden Moor but also helps to remove atmospheric pollutants and improve air quality.

Andy Campbell, single ply contracts manager at SRS, said: **"Apart from some difficult weather conditions at the start and towards the end of the roofing works, the project was relatively straightforward."**

"The Icopal Sure-Weld membrane is performing well and was chosen for this particular project by the design team because of its eco-friendly nature which fitted in well with the whole ethos of the design to incorporate fully sustainable products."



Nick Domminney, projects director at Gareth Hoskins, said: **"The client wanted maximum but affordable sustainability and to minimise impact on the battlefield. We specified Icopal for the recyclable TPO and the intensive green roof system, and the support we received and the guarantee gave us confidence."**

"The accessible green roof is a fundamental part of the design and the fully adhered system meant detailing was simplified. The colour of the curved roofs was an agreed substitute for the planning approved metal sheet."



2nd Place

MCCORMICK FLAT ROOFING LTD
for **Garratt Court**

McCormick Flat Roofing won this new-build contract first and foremost because of the confidence the client's surveyor had in the company to deliver the project on time and to the standard required.

Quantity surveyor Samuel DeSouza, with whom McCormick have worked before, insisted on using McCormick over another roofing company who had specified Sarnafil for the Garratt Court development for main contractor Cornhill Interiors.

McCormick then negotiated to use Icopal's Vapour Vent XL, tapered PIR Plus insulation, and fully bonded Sure-Weld TPO membrane over a plywood roof deck.

They also carried out the structural decking, building work to two large lift-shafts and the skylight package, which involved more than 20 variously-sized units, to the main 700m² roof within the four weeks allocated, allowing all follow-on trades to complete works to the

inside of the building ... and the show flats to open at the earliest opportunity.

The five-storey, steel-framed luxury penthouse apartments at Garratt Court in Wandsworth, south-west London, also feature nine terraced balconies that McCormick are now completing with tapered insulation, insulated upstands and waterproofing to the French door thresholds.

Managing director Stuart McCormick said: **"We worked for Samuel DeSouza when he was a QS for a previous contractor on other contracts and his desire for us to undertake this package reflects the quality and attention to detail we strive to achieve."**

"This project was the first contract we have carried out for this particular client and since we completed the main roof, we have been requested to tender for a number of other projects including one on Harley Street."



Craftsman of the Year

JOHN HYDE (Capital Roofing)



John Hyde has notched up more than 30 years in the roofing industry, installed thousands of square metres of Icopal's roofing membranes and many IMA roofing specifications, and always gives 100%. Figures to impress even Sir Alan Sugar.

So it is not surprising to learn that John is this year's roofing ambassador and IMA Craftsman of the Year.

While several of John's roofs have previously won IMA and FRA awards for his employers Capital Roofing, the company felt he merited particular recognition this year for his personal contribution to the industry as well as his exemplary workmanship on the copper membrane installation on the chapel cum dance studio at Blackheath High School in south-east London.

As one of Capital Roofing's most experienced roofers, John had never encountered a roof quite as challenging as this one.

As felt fixer charge hand, John had to cut the bituminous membrane into very small exact pieces to cater for the intricate shape and apply a new flashing to the vertical upstand, leaving in place an intricate valley detail in thick copper.

With nowhere to stand, the scaffolding had to be adapted daily to cater for the changes in roof pitch and curve but thanks to his supervision, any problems were very quickly averted. In areas where it was vertical, the roofers had to hang from their harnesses.

Installation took two months over the winter in weather that included periods of severe frost – every roofer's nightmare.

Capital's managing director Terry Peck said: **"John relished the opportunity he was given to be the lead craftsman on this contract. It was the first hyperbolic paraboloid roof he had worked on in more than 30 years of roofing but the feedback from the school has been overwhelming and they are extremely pleased with their new roof."**

"John has completed thousands of square metres of Icopal's aluminium and copper metal roofing felt. It would be great for him to win an award in his own right. He always gives 100%, no matter what obstacles need to be overcome. He takes great pride in his work and he is a willing and valued mentor to our apprentices."





IMA MEMBERS WIN AT FRA AWARDS

The partnership between Icopal and **IMA** members was recognised twice at this year's FRA Awards that promote excellence in flat roofing.

IMA member MAC Roofing & Contracting was singled out for praise for using Icopal products on two projects – Cobbett House that won them the refurbishment category (above 250m²) and Chimney Pot Park which earned them runner-up in the refurbishment (green roof) category.

Cobbett House is used as doctors' accommodation and the four-storey building remained in full use during the works, which included disposing of the existing roof via a purpose-built scaffold chute, lined with plywood and totally enclosed.

The judges commented that Mac Roofing had made "good detailing and use of local products on a difficult constrained site – a very good submission from the contractor which reflected the care and attention clearly given to this difficult re-roofing project."

Chimney Pot Park is immortalised in the opening credits of Coronation Street but came within a whisker of extinction. Now these back-to-backs have not only been saved from demolition but they have undergone an innovative and exciting makeover.



The judges commented the workmanship was of the highest order and showed a high degree of involvement from the contractor.

"The durability of the flat roof specification allowed the client to enhance the scheme with extensive areas of decking and planters."



Formflash pops lead's balloon



A contemporary alternative to lead for waterproof roof flashings, which is lighter, cheaper and environmentally friendly, has been launched to the IMA.

Because Icopal's Roofgard FormFlash is compatible with all common building materials, it can be specified for all applications where traditional lead would normally be used including step flashings, abutments, chimneys, flat roof upstand cover flashings, and flat to pitched roof junctions.

However, being 50% lighter than lead, it is easier to handle and form and quicker to install, and because it does not have the re-sale value of its predecessor, it is less attractive to potential thieves.

It is also significant where the environment is concerned, being completely free of lead, other heavy metals and PVC, and being non-toxic it is environmentally friendly.

Manufactured from a strong and durable SEBS/bitumen blend and faced with a fine grey granule, no special protective equipment is required except for gloves to prevent cuts when handling.

Available in rolls 10 metres long, it allows flashings of up to that length to be installed without joints, helping to make it even easier and quicker to install.

Capable of being worked in temperatures normal to roof works, it remains flexible down to -20°C and has exceptional weathering and UV resistance. Standard roll widths of 120mm, 150mm, 200mm, 250mm, 300mm, 450mm and 950mm are complemented by special-order widths up to 950mm.



New training centre opens

IMA training has reached new heights with the launch of a new centre and new initiatives designed to encourage members to make the most of the opportunities available.

The formal training centre at Icopal's Manchester site has been converted from a building formerly used as a literature and engineer's store. The 1,760 ft² facility contains a practical area with rigs as well as workstations for up to eight individuals.

To mark the opening of the new training centre, which complements the facilities at Icopal's site in Crawley, the IMA is waiving fees for the first two operatives and vastly reducing rates for groups.

The new centre will be managed by Dave Ormesher assisted by Steve Winchurch for the Midlands and West, Tony Brooks for Yorkshire and Humber, and Duncan Hastings for Scotland and the North-East. The Crawley site is managed by Mike Street.

Training can be booked in the following ways:

- On-line in the members area of the **IMA** website www.imaroofer.co.uk
- Via Nathan Ashcroft in technical services on **0161 865 4444**
- Email to uktraining@icopal.com



IMA workwear gets facelift



The popular **IMA** workwear range of clothing has been updated, improved and extended.

New to the range is the supremely adaptable body warmer that is sure to prove invaluable throughout the year as well as polo and sweat shirts.

The whole of the range has also been updated with a more contemporary design and the new **IMA** Contractor logo.

Guaranteeing a quicker approach

www.imaroofer.co.uk was originally launched to help raise the IMA's profile and to secure more business for its members through its "find a member" facility.

Today the website consistently receives 2,000 hits per month with people looking for information or good quality contractors. The site is constantly evolving and has embraced a members' area that advises on new products and training opportunities as well updating them on news and giving them a forum for discussion.

Now two new initiatives have been launched on the website that are designed specifically to help members with that dreaded paperwork.

The first initiative is the ability to book training on-line. Members previously booked this by fax or post but the process will now be substantially quicker through the website.

The second is the ability for members to apply for and print off guarantees and check the validity of existing ones online, negating the need to hand-write new guarantees or have to refer an enquiry on an existing guarantee to the **IMA** which understandably made the process more lengthy.

Members will have instant access to all of the guarantees for which they have applied.

In a secure environment they will be able

to view and manage guarantees with visibility and speed, cutting down on paperwork and that ever-decreasing time element.

