



GREEN NEWS

New In-Wall Heating



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When faced with the challenge of choosing an emitter type for our homes we are usually asked whether we want radiators or underfloor heating. You may also possibly have been offered fan convector radiators, skirting board radiators or even warm air systems, but there is now another system available that may make you ask: Why has this not been done before?

Thermo has introduced an in-wall discreet concealed radiator system that is either embedded in the plaster in a typical masonry wall or fixed behind the plasterboard in a studwork wall. On existing walls there is also the retrofit option to embed the system in a concrete panel that can then be surface mounted on the wall.

This solution is made up of a low level header pipe that has three vertical 'heat pipes' with a gaseous heat transfer medium rising up the wall panel. These are then fixed to a type of diamond mesh to act as distribution spreaders. This means there is no water in your

wall and less circulation energy required. It is a bit like a combination of radiators and underfloor heating, but with the radiator bedded in the wall in specific areas that have been designed for effectiveness, as you would normally expect with standards radiators. The number of panels that are required will depend on the design flow temperature of the water in the system. A boiler would therefore require fewer panels than a heat pump due to the different flow temperatures. The correct number of panels per room will be designed by assessing the heat loss of that room and the resultant flow temperature required to optimise the system. If you would like to future proof the home you could still fit the panels to be compatible with a low flow temperature and simply install a blending valve as per the design in conventional underfloor heating systems.

As with conventional underfloor heating systems, ensure that the panels are not covered by insulating materials or located behind furniture, as this will impede its effectiveness. It is also prudent to make sure that your finishes are compatible with heat variation as you would behind standard radiators. If you desire uncluttered walls and your chosen floor finishes are not compatible with under floor heating, then the 3Thermo Panels could well be a product that solves the dilemma.

UK's First Plot Shop opens its Doors

The first Plot Shop in the UK has opened at Graven Hill, the country's largest self and custom build site near Bicester, Oxfordshire. The Graven Hill Plot Shop provides a one-stop-shop for custom and self-builders looking to buy a serviced plot on the xxx-acre site. Plot Shops are common in continental Europe but until now have been absent from the UK custom and self-build scene. Karen Curtin, MD Of the Graven Hill Development Company, said: "We hope that through the opening of the Plot Shop we can dispel the myths that to successfully manage a self-build you need a limitless budget and an iron clad will to persevere."



29%

the average uplift self-builders enjoy on their projects*