

FILON[®]

roofscape

Your regular update from the leader in GRP building products

New structural glazing

Now, from Britain's leading supplier of profiled GRP rooflights, comes an innovative new polycarbonate system

Full story page 7

Rooflights

FILON rooflights are now available in the Corus Platinum Scheme

Full story page 4

New GRP flat roofing system gets the thumbs up from contractors

FILON's revolutionary TecnaFlex system takes flat roofing to a whole new level

Full story page 3

Welcome to **roofscape**



It's been a busy time at FILON over the last few months: The move to new premises, the launch of our new TecnaFlex Flat Roofing System at Interbuild, the compilation of our asbestos regulation guide, new development work on our rooflights and over-roofing system as well as the introduction of SunModul Finesse, our new polycarbonate barrel vault rooflights... and now the launch of 'Roofscape' our new magazine. Exciting and busy times lie ahead, not only for FILON, but for the industry itself. Over the coming months, 'Roofscape' will keep you up to date with new developments and issues, with contributions from the team at FILON and other industry experts. The new Control of Asbestos regulations and forthcoming revisions to the Building Regulations Part L and J Scotland are just two of the subjects we'll be covering. I'm looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead and I hope to meet many of our new 'Roofscape' readers.

David Hathaway F.I.o.R.
Director of Sales, FILON Products

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FILON PRODUCT INFORMATION SERVICE

Just tick the box on the enclosed form and we'll do the rest!

Bigger, better FILON

New factory increases production capacity



FILON Products Ltd, the leading UK manufacturer of GRP (glass reinforced polyester) roofing products, has moved to larger factory premises in Burntwood, Staffordshire.

The move represents part of a strategic growth plan following a management buyout in 2002.

Occupying a 4.5 acre site, the factory houses production lines for the company's extremely wide range of rooflights and profiled roofing sheets, as well as the innovative new TecnaFlex flat

roofing system.

"This is an exciting time for FILON", says Managing Director, Ron Allen. "With increasing commitment to export markets, an expanding product portfolio and continuing growth in the company's core roofing products, the move is very timely. It will allow us to significantly increase productivity, as well as providing improved conditions for shop floor and office staff."

The company's R&D and training facilities will also be housed at the Burntwood site, making this

arguably the country's leading 'centre of excellence' for GRP roofing and construction products.

FILON has been an important employer in the West Midlands area for over 48 years.

The new premises are ideally situated just seven miles from the company's former factory in Streetly and just off Junction T6 of the M6 Toll Road, enabling the company to retain its highly skilled workforce with minimal disruption. ◆

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New TecnaFlex flat roofing system gets the thumbs up from installers

Following the launch of its new TecnaFlex Flat Roofing System in September 2004, FILON has been hosting a series of installer training workshops for selected contractors, at the company's new Staffordshire headquarters.

Only those installers who have successfully completed the programme carry authorisation from the company to undertake customer installations. They represent a crucial part of the TecnaFlex system, which has been developed with quality control at its core - from concept to installation and throughout the life of the roof.

TECNAFLEX: A NEW CONCEPT

The key feature that differentiates TecnaFlex from other flat roofing systems, is its patented mobile anchor plate fixing system. This innovative design allows the GRP roof membrane to move in a lateral plane, to accommodate thermal movement of the roof deck without causing stress at fixing points, thereby virtually eliminating the possibility of leakage caused by tearing of the membrane. The fixing also utilises a high technology adhesive, which removes the need to pierce the sheet at fixing points.

TWENTY YEAR GUARANTEE

The design has undergone rigorous testing at BRE. An insurance backed guarantee scheme providing coverage of up to twenty years is available.

As with any roofing system, many of the key advantages will become more apparent in the long term, as customer installations prove the longevity and effectiveness of the design. However, of more immediate interest to FILON's authorised contractors, has been the ease with which the new system is installed.

THE INSTALLER'S VIEW

Ian Saunders of Refurbishment Systems in Bristol, has completed one of the TecnaFlex installer



The roof at Ecclestone House, Bristol, before and after installation of the new Tecnaflex system

workshops. His view is typical of attendees:

"Having been installing GRP roofing for over fifteen years, I've seen many failures related to thermal movement of decks. TecnaFlex clearly overcomes these problems when properly installed. The installation procedure requires a methodical, disciplined approach. When this is adhered to, time savings can be achieved, with no need to cut and patch sheets around fixings. I'm particularly impressed with the flexible edge trims, which are very easy to fit and allow movement in the membrane while at the same time securing the system."

TECNAFLEX IN ACTION

Delegates from Bristol City Council were able to find the answers to their questions at one of the many

seminars given by Filon Products Limited. They were aware that many of the problems associated with flat roofs are caused by thermal movement. With its unique mobile anchor plate (MAP) fixings and flexible edge trims, Tecnaflex creates a 'floating' flat roof which eliminates the compromises of conventional systems for both cold and warm roof construction. The GRP preformed sheet is not fixed direct to the decking but is held to the MAP fixing by means of a specially developed adhesive. This allows running movement to be taken up by the mobile anchor plate, thereby reducing stress on the top surface. The roof is also allowed to vent via flexible trims.

Flats owned by Bristol City Council in the Barton Hill area had been having problems with ingress of

water for many years and despite numerous attempts to repair, they never fully resolved the situation. The roof was a concrete deck with an area of 600m² covered by asphalt chippings. It was not just the flat area that was causing problems, but the parapet wall and also ductings running down the centre of the roof. It was apparent that something long term was required and Bristol City Council took on board the benefits of the Tecnaflex GRP Flat Roofing System and placed the contract with Gibbs and Tregidgo.

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

Despite inclement weather the contract was carried out with no disruptions to the tenants and to the full satisfaction of the Local Authority. Tony Knight, working for Gibbs and Tregidgo, having completed the training by FILON's technical team, was extremely impressed with the ease of installation and flexibility of the system. He had nothing but praise, stating that the training and support provided by FILON both on and off-site, was extremely helpful. Further Tecnaflex specifications are now being considered. ◆



The Tecnaflex mobile anchor plate fixing features a stainless steel disc with raised dimples to the underside. These reduce the contact area between the plate and the roof surface. The top surface of the disc carries a specially developed adhesive ring with removable protective backing. The mobile anchor plate is secured to the roof deck by a single austenitic stainless steel screw through a circular stainless steel top plate with a small indent. The indent provides clearance allowing the mobile anchor plate lateral movement. When fixed in place the backing is removed from the adhesive ring and the Tecnaflex sheet is simply laid on top to adhere to the fixing, then pressed down firmly. The Tecnaflex sheet is then joined with a bi-axial chopped strand fibre mat which provides a high strength flexible bond. The system is then coated with a UV stable Tecnaflex polyester top coat. Stone chippings are applied for additional UV protection and to provide an attractive seamless finish.

A free in-house CPD seminar on the Tecnaflex System is available. Please contact Derek Jones on 07711 147161 or call the office on 01543 687300 should you wish to book a seminar.

Da Vinci code cover-up at Rosslyn Chapel

Rosslyn Chapel at Roslin By Penicuik in Scotland is featured in the final chapter of Dan Brown's world famous controversial book "The Da Vinci Code" and is being protected to prevent further erosion from the weather by a scaffolding structure which incorporates FILON rooflights in both the roof and gable end cladding.

The rooflights provide ample day lighting so that renovation works can continue in most weather conditions without the need for artificial lighting. The chapel contains many interesting features as described in Dan Brown's book which seemingly give clues to the identity of the Holy Grail.

FILON's translucent GRP rooflights have excellent light diffusion properties. With nearly half a century of practical experience in rooflighting, FILON is well placed to provide excellent technical support for this type of contract, where high daylight levels are needed.

The Rosslyn Chapel restoration proves the versatility of FILON GRP rooflights, which can be found on hundreds of diverse buildings all over the UK and Europe.

A similar project at London's Houses of Parliament also used FILON Rooflights in the protective structure whilst cleaning work to the building was carried out. This structure protected workmen from the elements and the public from debris.



Protective structure for restoration at Rosslyn Chapel, featuring FILON rooflights

FILON goes Platinum with Corus

Corus Platinum Partnership System Warranty was launched in 2004 and FILON Products are pleased to be part of the scheme. The complete FILON range of GRP rooflights is available under the scheme, allowing specifiers to choose from a wide choice of designs and profiles.

The Platinum scheme is managed by Corus Panels and Profiles who are one of the leaders in the manufacture of steel and Aluminum roof and wall profiles as well as composite panels.

The concept of the scheme is to provide building warranties that will be valid for between 12 and 30 years taking a project from specification to completion and beyond.

Whether your project is new-build or refurbishment, complete envelope or small project, it is well catered for by the Corus Panels and Profiles Platinum Partnership System Warranty.

Ron Allen, FILON's Managing Director commented: "We are extremely pleased to be part of this initiative. The Platinum Scheme is

a marvellous concept which can only be of benefit to the client and specifier.

For further information on the scheme, please contact Platinum Enquiries on 01684 856701 or email sales@coruspanelsandprofiles.co.uk



Meet George Brownlie, our new Area Representative for Scotland & the North of England

George Brownlie has been appointed to represent FILON in Scotland and the North of England.

George has a wealth of experience in the rooflight industry and in his new role, he will be covering all of Scotland as well as Cumbria, Northumberland, Durham, Cleveland and Tyne & Wear.

He will look after FILON's key accounts across the area, working closely with our distributors as well as roofing contractors and will act as a link for specifiers and designers.

George can be contacted on 07765 883684 or via Filon Head Office on 01543 687300.



Filon FAIRS, the GRP factory assembled rooflights that achieve U-values well below current standards were used for this contract in Lanarkshire. They provided insulation values to meet the new Scottish Part J Building Regulations as well as providing more than adequate day lighting to the internal areas.

From cowshed to commercial property with FILON over-roofing

FILON over-roofing has played a major role in the conversion and upgrading of a former cowshed, to provide new commercial properties in the village of Silverstone, Northamptonshire.

The cowshed is part of a complex of agricultural buildings situated at Shack's Barn Farm – a stone's throw from the famous motor racing circuit.

Architect Jez Watts of MJCT in Banbury specified the FILON Over-Roofing System following an in-house seminar as the conditions of the existing building lent themselves to the Over-Roofing System and the fact that the existing roof profile was maintained with the roof only being raised by 60mm.

Tripp Batt & Co Ltd, a Con Mech Group company, were appointed to undertake the roofing contract to bring the roof up to specification for commercial occupation. The shallow-angled gambrel roof covers an area of approximately 900 square metres.

Trevor Crack of Tripp Batt explains:

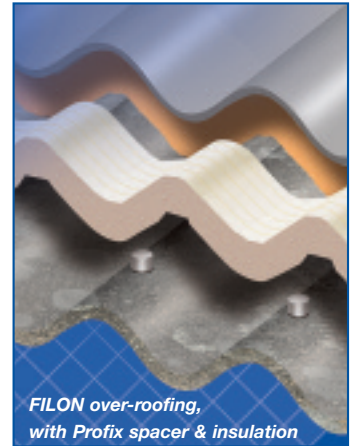
The former cowshed at Shack's Barn Farm, Silverstone

"The existing profiled asbestos cement roof and supporting steelwork were in reasonable condition. There was no requirement for any damaged asbestos profiles to be stripped off to meet the new asbestos management regulations. We were able to simply lay the FILON GRP over-roofing system matching the standard P6 profile, over the existing roof."

The system has been fixed using FILON's new Profix 60 spacers. The new Profix spacer has been developed to help provide increased insulation in relation to the new Building Regulations Part L (Part J Scotland).

The existing profiled rooflights were in poor condition and light transmission levels were low. These were replaced as part of the roof refurbishment project, using FILON GRP rooflights. The new rooflights provide greatly increased light levels to all areas of the building.

"We've worked with FILON Products on a number of projects and we've always been happy with their service and support. Their technical department have been helpful with advice on various aspects of roofing", said Mr Crack, "whether refurbishment or new build."



FILON over-roofing, with Profix spacer & insulation



over-roo-FILON-ing

Problem

Solved

FILON GRP over-roofing profiles are the durable, lightweight solution for roof refurbishment.

- Quick and easy to install
- Minimal disruption to building occupants
- No extra weight – therefore no additional structural requirements
- Same profile as existing sheets – no planning permission required
- Proven in hundreds of diverse applications
- CPD Seminar available

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ask for our informative over-roofing brochure

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Dutch project nominated for prestigious award

Covering for below ground car parking at the Chasse Park Apartments in the Netherlands was the result of co-operation in design and specification between FILON Products Ltd and Xaveer De Geyter Architects.

Ester Gorski of Xaveer De Geyter lead the project and was highly recommended for the design aspect in the Mies Van Der Rohe award.

FILON's Technical Manager, Steve Vickers, was heavily involved in the detailing of the project ensuring that all of the specification came together on site.

The use of FILON's Supasafe translucent GRP sheet proved to be so effective that the project was entered for the prestigious "Mies Van Der Rohe award" and was featured in the Dutch Yearbook of Architecture. A team of 67 experts placed the project in the top 5 out of 40 projects throughout Europe.

The FILON Supasafe sheets were used to cover 4500 m² of car park roof area, with lengths of over 16 m being used in some places. The Supasafe sheets provide a roof that meets a number of different criteria: a curved profile; transmission of diffused light; elimination of headlaps and above all, sufficient strength to be strong enough to withstand falling objects and frequent foot traffic for cleaning and maintenance.

FILON Supasafe rooflights are manufactured from polyester resins and glassfibre and incorporate two additional reinforced woven glass

mat. These additional reinforcement layers and the method of incorporating them into the rooflights during manufacture, are used in the marine industry to increase the strength and impact resistance of GRP naval vessels.

This additional reinforcement is clearly visible, giving the roofer confidence that the rooflights are safe. The strength and impact resistance of Supasafe rooflights are comparable to much thicker conventionally produced GRP sheets.

Controlling the sheet thickness provides an improved profile match with thin adjacent trapezoidal profiled metal sheets, compared to thicker rooflights which do not locate as tightly at end laps. The improved profile definition of FILON Supasafe rooflights offers well fitting, sealed watertight joints.

FILON Supasafe rooflights are available in Class 0, Class 1 and Class 3 fire grades and lengths up to 8m to match most metal and fibre cement profiles. Special longer lengths can be ordered.

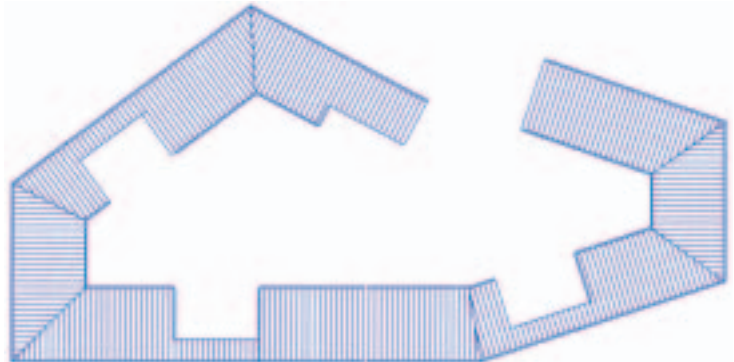
Opaque sheets are available for use in hostile chemical environments and to match metal profiles which are no longer available. ◆



Supasafe rooflights are available in a variety of profiles



The Chasse Park Apartments in The Netherlands with the car park shown below



Site plan of the car park roof area at Chasse Park Apartments

Export success for FILON

FILON Products, the leading UK manufacturer of GRP rooflights and construction materials has received official recognition for its recent export initiatives.

At last year's West Midlands International Trade Awards, FILON was nominated for the 'Company best prepared for export' award.

The nomination came as a result of FILON's increased commitment to export markets in Europe and the Middle East and follows the company's liaison with Trade Partners UK.

"Trade Partners UK helped to highlight issues which subsequently shaped our new export strategy", said David Hathaway, Director of Sales. "We undertook market research which highlighted potential opportunities in Northern

European markets."

Reports commissioned from the British Embassy provided a useful market synopsis and provided details of European companies interested in establishing contact with FILON.

The initial research period was followed by fact-finding missions to the Netherlands by Mr. Hathaway, who visited potential customers.

Agency agreements with construction material specialist Marcel de Jongh of Profiel Plus has been established. FILON are pleased to be supporting Profiel Plus with their marketing campaign in the Netherlands.

FILON rooflights and construction products are used in most countries around the world. ◆



David Hathaway, FILON's Director of Sales, receiving the award from Sir Stephen Brown, Chief Executive of UK Trade and Investment

FILON launches patented structural polycarbonate glazing system

FILON Products are pleased to have obtained the rights to market the Akraplast Sun Modul Curvo glazing system. In the UK, the system will be marketed as FILON Sun Modul Finesse.

This up-to-the-minute rooflight technology provides the ideal solution for barrel vaulted roofing in commercial, industrial and agricultural buildings. FILON Sun Modul Finesse is equally well suited for use in sports complexes as well as arcade walkways, service station forecourts and many other uses. Cleverly designed multi-wall polycarbonate panels, together with the patented jointing system using structural steel channels locked together with a polycarbonate clip profile, make the FILON Sun Modul Finesse System a cost effective, high quality solution.

FILON Sun Modul Finesse panels are extruded high grade polycarbonate with special UV resistant surface protection ensuring long life and weather resistance and are practically unbreakable. The panels are available as standard in translu-

cent and opal. Smoked brown and green are available to special order. The panel width is designed to give a 500mm or 1000mm modulus, producing an attractive aesthetic effect. Likewise the multi-walled structure of the panels combines the necessary rigidity with excellent thermal insulation values up to $K=1,79Wm^2k$. The channels are precisely engineered and are

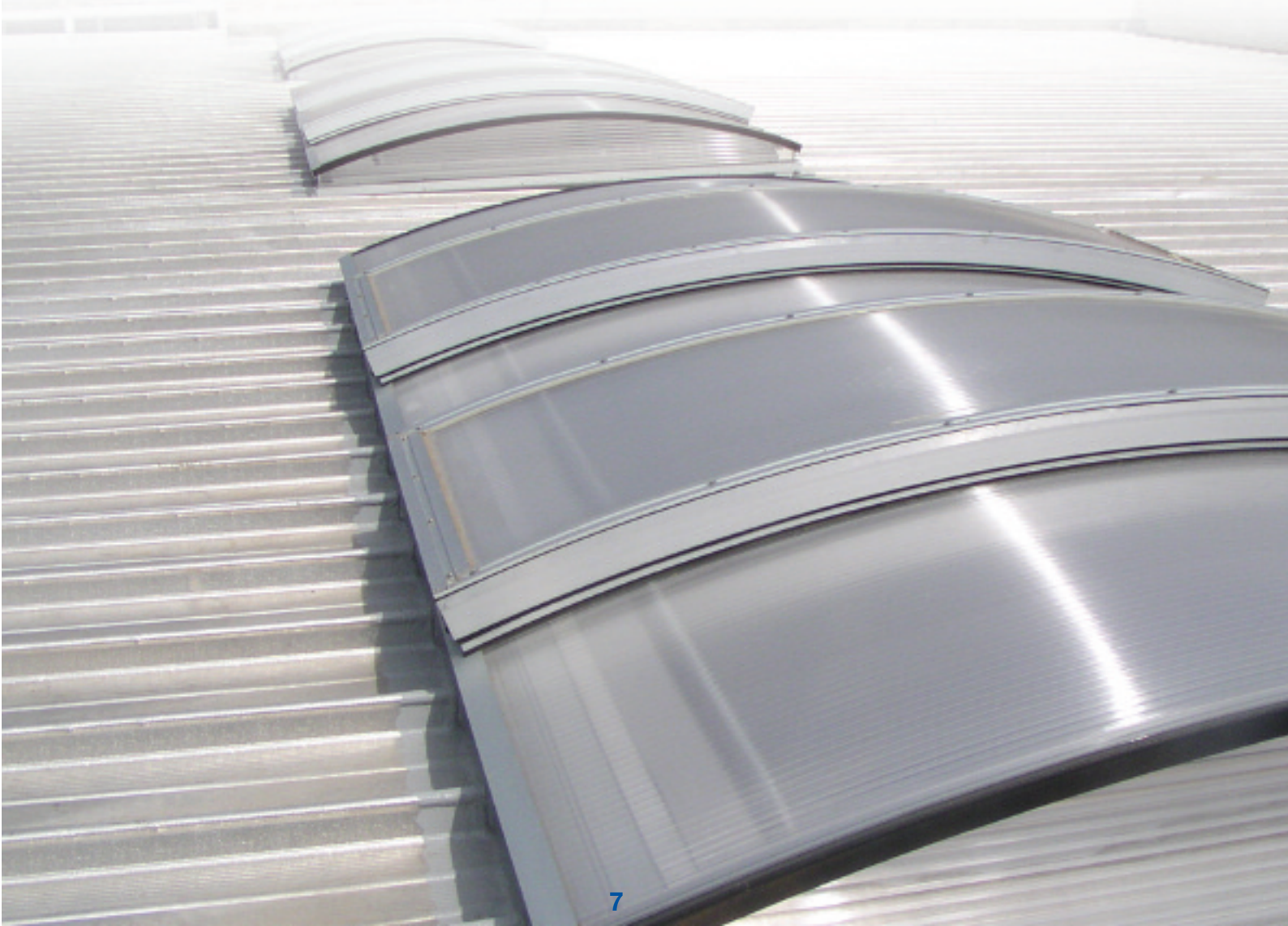
designed to give high rigidity. A free span of up to 8 metres can be achieved (subject to load and applications).

FILON's Managing Director, Ron Allen believes there is a strong demand in the U.K. for this type of System which offers clients, designers and specifiers the opportunity to fulfill a wide range of

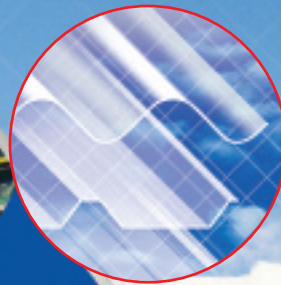
design solutions. He further commented: "This venture will run side by side with FILON's core GRP rooflight business and will offer specifiers a cost effective alternative to other polycarbonate systems. Buyers will also be able to source both GRP and Polycarbonate from a single source." ◆



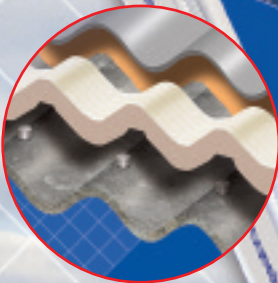
Above and below: The UK's first SunModul Finesse rooflights have recently been installed in Bedfordshire.



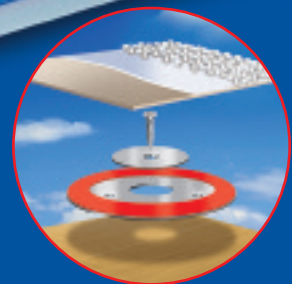
GRP roofing, rooflights and refurb by the book.



Rooflights
The widest selection of profiled GRP rooflights, plus an all-new range of polycarbonate barrel vaults



Roof refurbishment
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Flat roofing
Our revolutionary TecnaFlex system takes flat roofing to a new level

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