

Green Ideas



PVCu Thermal Reinforcement from Duraflex

QUALITERE WINDOWS
Established 1976 LTD.

Could you make your green windows even 'greener'?

We all know how important it is to fit energy efficient windows, not only can they save your family money, they can also reduce your impact on the environment too.....

.....but is there a way to make your energy rated windows work even harder for you? There is with Duraflex!

As a company committed to environmental issues, we are constantly striving to improve the products we manufacture, which is why all Duraflex windows are now supplied with recycled PVCu thermal reinforcement.

What are thermal reinforcements?

Windows are traditionally manufactured with steel reinforcements (see pic below) which provides strength and support and stops the weight of the building buckling the PVCu frames. However, steel is not an insulating material, which means valuable heat can be lost simply through the material used to reinforce frames.

PVCu thermal reinforcements are not only as strong as steel, they are the simplest way to boost the thermal efficiency of your windows. The unique multi chambered design creates a barrier against airflow travelling through the window, which minimises the heat which can be lost through your window frames.



A better, more sustainable window

Our thermal reinforcements are made from 100% recycled material, which means your entire window frame is recyclable, making it quicker and easier to recycle at the end of its life, which not only helps the environment, it reduces your carbon footprint too!

Quality guaranteed with every window

Our commitment to quality and innovation is what drives our business, and it doesn't stop with our windows. Our thermal reinforcements have been tested by the BBA to BS EN 6375 for air permeability, water and wind specifications, and achieved high results in all areas, so you can be sure the product you're buying is the very best it can be.



Duraflex and the environment - our commitment to your future

As a manufacturer, Duraflex seeks excellence in every aspect of business and, being conscious of the world we live in, we seek to set the same standards in our commitment to the environment. We accept our responsibilities and recognize our obligation to reduce our impact on the environment.

By minimizing the impact of our activities, Duraflex can help to develop a process which constantly evolves with the changes in our world.

Calcium Organic

Two of the initiatives of Vinyl 2010 were the total elimination of Cadmium from PVC formulations and phasing out the use of lead based stabilisers. This latter requirement was to take place before 2015 with staged reductions being achieved by 2005 and 2010.

Duraflex, as with other major systems suppliers, had already removed all traces of Cadmium by the time of signing the Voluntary Commitment; it was therefore tasked with progressing the removal of lead based stabilisers from its formulation and replacing it with a more environmentally friendly Calcium Organic product.

Extensive trials have been carried out over the past few years resulting in Duraflex making the switch to the alternative during 2008, well ahead of the scheduled deadline and with no impact on its current Kitemark and accreditation status.

Duraflex commitment: to recycling

From our drive to be more environmentally friendly and reduce scrap, Duraflex have introduced a number of initiatives to reduce the amount of waste created during the extrusion process.

The majority of scrap produced is recycled in-house with very little (less than 1%) non-recoverable scrap being sent off-site for recycling in other non critical applications (pipes, conduit, furniture etc).

The installation of technical resources has made a significant improvement to the amount of scrap sent off-site for recycling. By removal of the co-extruded gasket from a profile section, the remainder of the section can be re-processed internally.

