Barbrook PassivHaus









PROJECT DETAILS

Client:

North Devon Homes

Contractor:

Richardson Ltd / South Combe Construction

Warmcel Installer:

Ecofill

Architect:

Clive Jones

Advisor:

Energy Action Devon

Start:

November 2010

Finish:

June 2011

Overview

The Barbrook PassivHaus retrofit project in Devon has selected WARMCEL as its insulation, in recognition of the complete void fill it offers; WARMCEL is manufactured from 100% recycled newsprint and offers airtight installation to reduce energy loss through the building's fabric.

The term 'PassivHaus' relates to a standard of low-energy buildings where as much heat energy is conserved as possible, reducing ongoing living costs and carbon footprint.

The Barbrook project features many energy-saving retrofit design features, but at its heart is WARMCEL insulation, which has been BREEAM-rated 'better than zero carbon' and has an incredible Global Warming Potential of -1.9.

Project

The Barbrook PassivHaus project is part of the national 'Retrofit for the Future' programme (managed and funded by the Technology Strategy Board and in this instance administered by Energy Action Devon). The programme involved over 190 organisations (including housing associations, architects and construction companies) carrying out full feasibility studies and devising innovative proposals, from which 87 were awarded proof of concept development contracts to carry out retrofits on current social houses — including Barbrook.

Understanding and implementing best practice retrofitting is key to meeting the government's CO2 reduction target of 80% by 2050. The project will be monitored for two years after completion and results will be used as an exemplar to show how the UK's existing housing stock could be made more energy efficient.

WARMCEL will play a key role in the ongoing success of the Barbrook project, offering an airtight insulation which actually sequesters carbon within the fabric of the building. In addition, WARMCEL is 100% recyclable.

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