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PRESS RELEASE

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AVONSIDE ROOFING WORKS ON ECO-FRIENDLY DEVELOPMENT

One of Britain's leading roofing contractors is once again playing a key role in the drive towards increasing the number of eco-homes. The Cannock branch of Avonside Roofing is installing a combination of natural clay tiles and solar thermal technology on 205 dwellings in Unity, Wolverhampton, a Haslam Homes' development which features a mix of for sale, shared ownership for sale and housing association properties.

Paul Davies, manager of the Cannock branch, comments: "This is an exciting contract for us as we are once again involved in the installation of environmentally friendly, innovative roofing materials. We shall fit around 14,350m² of Cassius tiles from Sandtoft, the first time these tiles have been used in the West Midlands. The tiles - which are of large format design and open gauge, offering material and weight savings - have the appearance of antique slate, but are in fact made from natural clay."

In addition, Avonside Roofing is installing solar technology – Sunwarm® - produced by The Nuair Group, based in Caerphilly. "Technicians from The Nuair Group have trained Avonside personnel in the fitting process and highlighted the impressive benefits they offer," adds Paul.

Each 2.4m² panel is made from aluminium with robust polycarbonate covering, and Avonside Roofing is fitting two per house. The panels are in fact roof-mounted solar air heaters, featuring a special coating which absorbs solar energy. They can heat the residence by sending pre-heated air into the home or pre-heat water by directing the heated air to a water heat transfer coil. The panels can also cool the air temperature in the home if required and filter particles from the air, which may be good news for sufferers of allergies such as hay fever.

“Unity is a mixed development, comprising three storey and two storey homes and flats which have mono and pitched roofs,” says Phil Marshall, Haslam Homes Project Manager.

“We have worked with Avonside Roofing before and the project is going well, with Avonside applying its roofing expertise to lead work, dry verge, wet verge, flashings, tiling and panel installation. Wolverhampton Council owned the site originally and determined that any development would need to provide eco-homes and include affordable housing.

“Our response to the Council’s criteria included sustainable solutions like Nuaire’s Sunwarm® technology, Avonside Roofing’s demonstrable track record in working with innovative products and a commitment to building homes for Bromford Group, the well known, local housing association.”

This is the first time that Bromford Group has ‘partnered’ with Haslam Homes and the relationship is proving to be very successful. Steve Swann, the Bromford representative at Unity, explains: “Affordable housing is a vital element of the overall housing stock and here we shall have thirty two of the two and three bed homes.

“Twenty three will be for social rent while the balance will be shared ownership. We are delighted to offer our tenants the opportunity to live in houses which achieve that balance of being environmentally friendly and also desirable.”

Avonside Roofing is a major roofing contractor operating throughout the UK, providing roofing services for the major house builders, contractors, local authorities and housing associations.

Paul McLoughlin, Avonside Roofing National Sales & Marketing Director, comments:

“We recognise our responsibilities to assess and minimise the impact of our business operations on the environment and to prevent pollution. As part of this we are enthusiastic about working with materials and solutions which support our environmental commitment.

“We are therefore particularly pleased to be working on this Haslam Homes’ development as it allows us to work with Sandtoft’s natural clay tile, which is sourced from one of their local reserves, and Nuair’s Sunwarm® technology, which has the capabilities to not only heat a property and the water supply but also cool the home environment and improve the air quality too. We look forward to continuing to work on similarly exciting projects in the future as customer expectation and legislation drive the environmental agenda.”

Anyone seeking more information about Avonside Roofing should visit the website www.avonsideroofing.co.uk or contact Paul and the team by completing the ‘Contact Us’ form.

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