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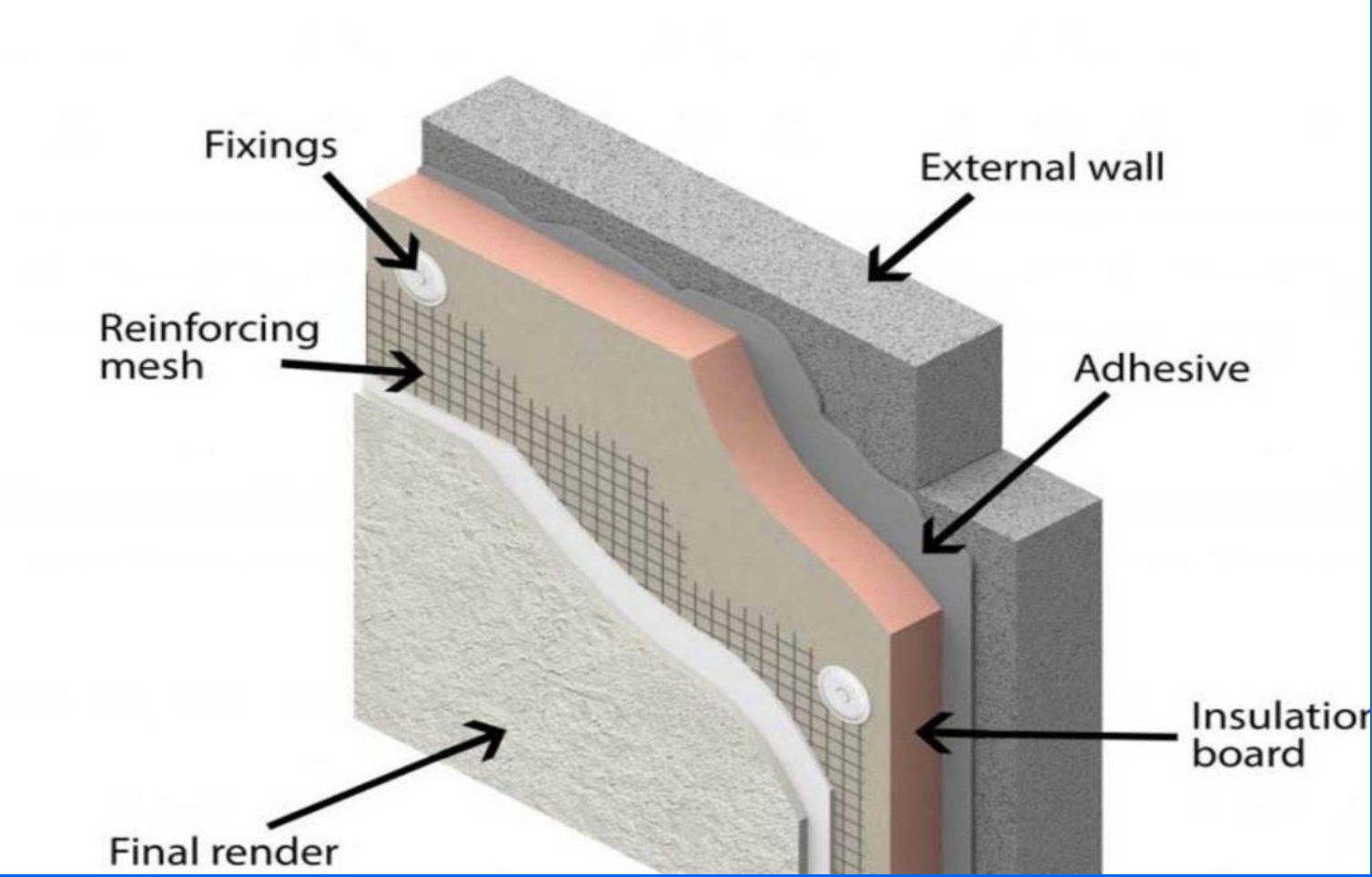
Helping people live better

CASE STUDY



External Wall Insulation

www.sps-south.com

The property

Peter from Cirencester recently decided it was time to renovate his solid walled 4 bed detached home. He has lived in the house for nearly 20 years, and in his own words, has done "next to nothing" to improve its appearance or efficiency. However, with energy costs rising so rapidly it was time for him to invest in his home.

"I have known for years I needed to improve my house but my friends keep telling me of bad experiences after they had used rogue builders and so on, so I kept putting it off. However, with energy costing so much I had to do something. My brother recommended the guys at SPS South"

Peter Mulalley, Cirencester, Gloucestershire

Our findings

Peter was shocked to find that our two directors, Colin and Mark, had arranged to survey his property.

Colin and Mark do like to get out into the field to see their customers and in Peter's case, they had been informed of the property age, type and Peter's willingness to renovate. They know installing external wall insulation goes together with replacing the windows and doors.

The guys found the existing render had blown around the property, although the walls behind the render remained in good condition. The rainwater goods were either fouled by moss and debris or in poor repair. To enable external wall insulation to be applied correctly the roofline needed extending as well.

On the front of the house they identified a couple of really old Crittall, single glazed windows and a timber front door that had seen better days.

Despite Peter's inactivity on his house (his words, not ours) the internals of the home remained in very good order, although Peter's wife stated it was a very, very cold property!

The airflow and ventilation systems in the house, apart from no trickle vents on the old windows, seemed to be working well after Peter's son had replaced the old extractor fans.

"We were shocked to have the company directors visit us to conduct the surveys. We are very glad they did, what a nice touch. The two gentlemen were extremely professional and knowledgeable. They took the time to explain what was needed and why. We never felt like they were trying to sell something, more like they genuinely wanted to help improve our situation"

Peter Mulalley, Cirencester, Gloucestershire

Our approach

It was explained to Peter that the value of installing external wall insulation at his property would be devalued if he did not invest in replacing his windows and doors beforehand. Windows first, insulation second when it comes to installing external wall insulation.

Peter was presented with his options in terms of the type of insulation material we could install and the most difficult decision of them all……..what colour will the final render be? There's only several hundred colours to choose from.

Mark talked about window and door designs and of course what the colour of frames and front door Peter would like. Peter's wife wanted grey, so grey is what she got!

The windows and doors are bespoke, so they take between 4-6 weeks to be manufactured. Exactly seven weeks after Peter had confirmed his order our glaziers were on site installing. The glazing install took three days in total. At the same time our roofers arrived and extended the roofline. After a week the house was ready to be insulated.

On day one of the external wall insulation installation our plumbers attended to improve the rainwater goods and amend any external plumbing like waste pipes. Despite a couple of days of rain, which of course delays rendering, the external wall insulation team really cracked on with Peter's installation. Scaffolding and skips came and went, the working areas cleaned down every day and within ten full working days the external wall insulation was complete.

"The weather tried to slow the installers down, but they worked incredibly hard. They were so polite. The thing I liked the best about the installing process was every day or at worst every other day someone from SPS' management were either on site inspecting or on the telephone to us asking if everything was ok. They cared about us during their work".

Peter Mulalley, Cirencester, Gloucestershire

The results

Not only do the new grey windows and doors provide an excellent thermal improvement on the old single-glazed units, but they have also considerably reduced the noise pollution from the local train track and added additional security.

The 90mm external wall insulation system, finished in arctic white render, provides a complete makeover of the homes' external appearance along with a U-Value of .30 which is important in helping keep the energy costs down. Peter and his wife are now projected to save £500 per year on their energy bill. They have also reduced their carbon footprint.

This case highlights the profound difference that essential but simple upgrades like external wall insulation and glazing improvements can make in both comfort and energy efficiency.

"Wow, look at my home, it's brand new. From the moment we met Colin & Mark we knew they would deliver. And deliver they have. We love what they have done for us. There are good people out there after all. SPS, 100% gets my recommendation".

Peter Mulalley, Cirencester, Gloucestershire

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