

Tiling made e-as-y at the Schlüter Online Academy

We have increased our online presence with the launch of our brand new learning academy, the very first free online training facility of its kind in the tiling industry.

The new Schlüter Online Academy, found at www.elearningatschluter.co.uk is a complete online learning management system, providing free 24 hour access to a wealth of product and continuing professional development (CPD) courses, aimed at building the knowledge and confidence of people throughout the industry.

This will work alongside our existing detailed training programmes, which keep installers, distributors, architects, retailers, stockists, tiling lecturers at college and trainers at independent training centres up to date with the latest trends and technology, no matter if they are experienced with Schlüter-Systems products or just starting out.

“a unique facility”

Ian Knifton, Divisional Manager, comments, “We are delighted to launch our new online academy, a unique facility which provides people with free 24 hour access to our product training courses as and when they require them. The

interactive multi-media content player enables users to learn about our products and systems at their own pace, whilst also allowing them to gain instant access to supporting documents and information.

“We recognise that regular, detailed training is essential to keep up to date with modern trends and new technology. Over the years our

“regular detailed training is essential”

seminar based training sessions have proved extremely successful but the addition of the learning

academy will ensure that all sectors have access to knowledge which will safeguard the long-term integrity of the end-user consumers’ installations.”

Other features of the Schlüter Online Academy include a personal resource area, which enables users to bookmark resources of particular value to them for an instant return when required, plus a media library which includes training and product videos, such as those also found at www.schluter.co.uk.

To sign up for the Schlüter Online Academy, please visit www.elearningatschluter.co.uk and click on Register.



STOP PRESS WINNER!

Just months after its launch the Schlüter Online Academy has been crowned the Best Innovation at The Tile Association Awards 2011, which were held recently in Birmingham!



Welcome from the MD

professionals throughout the industry, in addition to providing the very latest innovative products which ensure that our consumers’ installations last as long as they are designed to.

This new free-to-use facility is not just a landmark achievement for Schlüter-Systems, but also the industry and highlights the most recent reason why we have been market leaders for the past 40 years.

As well as providing continual support and education for experienced installers, we strongly believe in the importance of supporting the next generation of

tiling professionals and you can read about our presence at SkillBuild 2010 on Page 3 of the newsletter.

Finally, thank you to all those who have provided us with feedback from our previous newsletters and to those who have entered our competitions. We really do value your comments and want to see your entries flooding in for our new competition on page four. After all, you’ve got to be in it to win it!

Best Wishes
Elaine Stokes
Managing Director

Hello and welcome to the first issue of our new look version of the Schlüter-Systems newsletter, The Profile.

Our cover story about the launch of the Schlüter Online Academy is a fantastic example of our commitment to lead the way in educating

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Schlüter-Systems is the **One** in Suffolk

A new school called Suffolk One in Ipswich, has used state-of-the-art products from Schlüter-Systems, meaning that the centre's atrium will be able to put up with the thousands of pairs of feet that pass through its doors every year.

The 4,000m² of floor tiling in the ground level area and surrounding walkways are all now protected with Schlüter®-DITRA, which uncouples the tiles from the substrate and neutralises tensions, after the product was specified by Bond Bryan Architects of Kent.

Caroline Gibbs, project architect from Bond Bryan, comments, "We picked this Schlüter product as it allows for movement between the tile and the screed, helping eliminate the

disastrous consequences of cracking."

Additional products installed at the centre were Schlüter®-SCHIENE-E, an L shaped profile of stainless steel that finishes and protects the edges of tiled coverings, and Schlüter®-DILEX-KS, a maintenance free movement joint profile that offers secure protection for surfaces subjected to high mechanical stresses caused by continuous use.

“products particularly easy to work with”

Jason Brown at Surrey-based EP Ceramics, which carried out the installation, commented "Our team have found these three Schlüter

products particularly easy to work with which makes our lives easier and makes for a better all round installation."

Ian Knifton, comments, "This brand new facility at Suffolk One is state-of-the-art and we are very pleased that a number of our products form part of its design. Its pupils can therefore study safely in the knowledge that Schlüter products are ensuring the tile installations last as long as they are designed to."

Walk the Line

The growing number of people looking to install a wet room at home now have an exciting new drainage option available after Schlüter-Systems revealed Schlüter®-KERDI-LINE as the newest addition to its wetroom range.

Schlüter®-KERDI-LINE is an aesthetically pleasing linear drainage channel which offers an alternative to regular drains and shower trays. It stands out not just because of its beautiful appearance but also its ease of installation and it is available in a range of sizes.

For more information please visit www.schluter.co.uk



From left to right - Paul Bradley of Ceramic Tiles, Ann Rickwood from Suffolk One and Jason Brown of EP Ceramics at the new college



Tiling Made **Awesome**

Surfing is arguably the ultimate cool sport and the world's top surfers are constantly using the latest board technology to catch the very best waves. Similarly, thanks to the ingenuity of Schlüter-Systems you can now use an inspired board of your own to help your tile installations.

Riding on the crest of a wave at the forefront of tiling technology, Schlüter®-KERDI-BOARD offers a revolutionary approach to tiling and is unique to the market. Much like a surfboard, Schlüter®-KERDI-BOARD is waterproof, lightweight, easy to transport and straightforward to use. But unlike a surfboard it offers the ideal solution for the perfect and simple tile covering in a wide range of applications.

Schlüter®-KERDI-BOARD acts as a multifunctional tile substrate for wall areas, meaning it can be used not just to create bonded waterproofing assemblies with tile coverings but also as a structural panel. The product makes it easy to create an instant and innovative underlayment for tiling over substrates as diverse as metal and timber stud frames, green masonry and mixed substrates. In addition to this, it is also temperature resistant and vapour retardant, contains no cement or fibreglass, has a fleece webbing on each side anchoring in thin-bed mortar and its printed guidelines allow for easy yet precise cutting with a utility knife.

“a revolutionary approach to tiling”

Carl Stokes, Divisional Manager, comments, "We've been delighted with the wave of enthusiasm that Schlüter®-KERDI-BOARD has created, with tilers particularly commenting on how easy the product is to install and how useful its printed guidelines are. These, together with its other characteristics, all combine to provide the very best in tile installations."

Stokesy

Keep an eye out for our new ads in the trade press featuring Alan Stokes - 2009 UK Pro Surf Tour Champion

Schlüter®-DITRA ...did you know?



- It remains the only bonded product of its kind in the market due to its patented dovetail shape design within the square recesses, plus a single laminated anchoring fleece on the underside.
- Its unique geometry allows for the absorption of lateral movement in each direction and therefore a decreased chance of cracking.
- It is able to absorb cracks of up to 2-3mm wide, compared to many systems which can bridge gaps of just 0.4mm.
- A successful and proven solution for over 20 years, Schlüter®-DITRA has also been awarded a CE mark, certifying that it has met EU consumer safety, health and environmental requirements.

For more information please visit the website at www.schluter.co.uk

Supporting the Next Generation at SkillBuild 2010

Tiling apprentices from around the country were put to the test recently when we played a pivotal role in the final of Britain's biggest annual skills competition, SkillBuild.

Held from Wednesday 8th to Friday 10th September, the 2010 event was hosted by Coleg Menai in Llangefni on the Isle of Anglesey and saw more than 80 of the nation's most talented young construction apprentices battle it out to be crowned the best in their chosen trade, having come through regional events earlier in the year.

Schlüter-Systems was heavily involved in the wall and floor tiling competition, supporting main category sponsor, The Tile Association and supplying materials that were used both by the eight finalists and in the public 'have a go' area at the event. In addition Schlüter Business Development Manager Stuart Ross advised on the drawings and design plans for the challenging installations that the finalists had to complete.

Both Stuart and Ian Knifton attended the competition and the awards evening and were thoroughly impressed with both the event's organisation and the high level of tiling talent on show.

“Impressive tiling talent”

Ian comments, “The organisers at both SkillBuild and The Tile Association were very appreciative of our time, effort and commitment to the competition, along with the range of products we were able to provide. Whilst provided with some challenging installations, the apprentices have also had excellent first hand experience of how straightforward installing Schlüter-Systems products can be, which we hope they will remember as they move forward in their careers.”



One of the apprentices taking on the challenging brief

Apprentice Arrives

We have welcomed administration apprentice Sarah Meller to Schlüter-Systems. Sarah (20) is from Ashby and is studying for an NVQ in Business and Administration. She is currently working full time at our head office before heading to Loughborough College later in the year.



New arrival
Sarah Meller

Industry Appointment

We have been selected as the very first Material Training Centre in the UK by The Tile Association.

This new accreditation, recently introduced by the association's training committee to regulate training centres up and down the country, has been awarded to Schlüter-Systems after we met a number of key training objectives

All Material Training Centres must have industry standard resources and equipment and trainers must provide documented evidence of continual professional development in wall and floor tiling and related products.

Ian Knifton, Technical Manager at Schlüter-Systems, comments, “We are very pleased to be selected as the TTA's first Material Training Centre in the country and be seen as leading the way in the industry.”

Ask Ian

Welcome to Ask Ian, where Ian Knifton will answer a technical question each issue which has been posed by you.



Question: Where should movement joints be located over a heated screed?

Ian says: "Industry guidelines recommend that movement joints are placed at perimeters and where tiling abuts fixed building structures, e.g columns, pillars, steps and plinths. Intermediate movement joints should be used to divide the tiled area into areas of no more than 40 square metres with the longest side not exceeding 8 metres. In addition, TTA recommendations state that intermediate movement joints be considered at 5 metre intervals to prevent tile damage.

Movement joints should extend through the tiling, bedding and screed to the insulation layer below. Structural movement joints in the base must be carried through to the surface covering."

If you have a question which you would like to see answered in the next newsletter, please email it to technical@schluter.co.uk for consideration.



Inside Profile

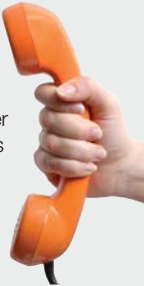
Andrew Curry

1. What is your home town?

I was born in Derby 1976 and have always lived in South Derbyshire. I now live in-between Swadlincote and Ashby de la Zouch.

2. What does your job at Schlüter-Systems involve?

My job is split over three roles: Account Manager, Senior Account Manager and Trainee Business Development Manager. Amongst my many responsibilities are offering technical advice via email and over the phone, promoting the various systems and solutions within the Schlüter portfolio, allocating and organising the daily workflow of orders and enquiries within the sales team and developing relationships with the customers.



3. What do you enjoy most about your job?

I like the fast paced environment. No day is the same and each day has new challenges. I also get on well with the people I work with which helps a lot.

4. What was your first ever job?

I worked as a fishmonger at a local Sainsbury's while I was at college and university. I only did it because it was double pay on Sundays!



5. What did you want to be when you grew up?

All sorts of things: a plumber, a fireman and even an architect. I graduated in IT so the plan was to go into computing, but then I realised I preferred to be more interactive with people.

6. What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given?

A bargain isn't a bargain unless you wanted it in the first place - something I remind my wife about when she goes shoe shopping!

7. Name something not many people know about you?

I was once offered a job as a professional club dancer - I didn't take it.

8. What couldn't you live without?

My gorgeous wife Beverley and my amazing children Alexander (7) and Francesca (6). After that it would be music, films, good food, wine and good company.



Competition Time



Congratulations to Simon Hughes from Rixon & Green Shortlands Ltd who was randomly chosen as the winner from all the correct entries to our Elevens Wordsearch in our previous issue. He is now the owner of a fabulous 10 megapixel digital camera.

Now it's time to put on those thinking caps and enter our new competition!

Can you work out the following four anagrams? All are either related to Schlüter-Systems or are products which are either mentioned in the newsletter or on our website at www.schluter.co.uk

1. Stretchy Mussels
2. A Buckled Rider Short
3. Drastic Hurtle
4. Electron Rush

Send your entry in and you could be in with a chance of winning a Tom Tom XL Live UK. We'll select one winner at random from all the correct answers received by Monday 31st October 2011.

Name

Company

Address

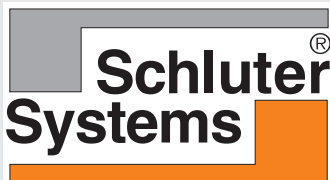
Tel Number Email

Please either cut out and post your answers to the address at the bottom of this page, or alternatively you can email your answers to admin@schluter.co.uk



Get in Touch

To find out more about Schlüter-Systems products please contact our team at:



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