



Hambleside Danelaw
Building Products

Hambleside Danelaw Ltd
Press release – 30 October 2006

Tax incentives may be the answer after Stern acknowledges construction supply chain issues with energy efficient buildings

Hambleside Danelaw's response to the Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change

The roofing products manufacturer, Hambleside Danelaw Ltd, which won a Queen's Award earlier this year for the innovative design behind its energy-efficient Insulator rooflight, has today welcomed the Stern Review's observations on possible measures to cut carbon emissions from buildings.

The Review appears more supportive of punitive taxes against those who exceed regulatory limits on carbon emissions than tax incentives for those whose emissions are inside the limits. But in the case of the technology market failure in the construction industry, it agrees that direct financial incentives may be the answer.

Echoing the points made by Hambleside Danelaw in its own submissions to the Review, Stern recognises that while architects may be knowledgeable about sustainable technologies, the lack of a coordinated approach within the industry remains a 'key barrier' to progress.

The Group strongly supports the Review's conclusion that by paying a little more now, one will save a great deal more later. It believes that this mitigation argument is particularly applicable to the construction industry where many builders still spurn using insulated materials that comply with the Building Regulations in order to save on costs.

Sir Nicholas Stern's report on the economics of climate change, which was commissioned by the Treasury, has calculated the cost of carbon as \$85 per tonne. With the Insulator rooflight delivering a CO₂ saving of 50 tonnes per year on a typical 1000 sq metre installation, the additional £8k cost of the rooflight compared with one which just complies with the regulatory U-value limits would soon be offset by a

carbon energy cost saving of £2.5k year on year with additional savings being realised through reduction in heating and lighting costs.

Robin Jeffery, Hambleside Danelaw's vice chairman, recently met a Treasury minister to discuss the need for tax incentives to encourage developers and builders to become more energy efficient in their choice of materials. He said today: "There is a major onus on suppliers like Hambleside Danelaw to market more effectively the potential long-term energy savings of using insulated building materials. However we take enormous encouragement that a report, which the Prime Minister considers so vital to our future, has recognised that financial incentives may be necessary to bring about a step-change in behaviour in the industry. We hope that the Chancellor of Exchequer takes appropriate action in his forthcoming Pre-Budget Report."

ENDS

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Note to Editors

1. Stern Review and the building industry

Sir Nicholas Stern's comments on encouraging energy efficiency in the building industry are contained in chapter 17 of his Review on the Economics of Climate Change, which can be downloaded from:

www.hmtreasury.gov.uk/Independent_Reviews/stern_review_economics_climate_change/sternreview_index.cfm .

Hambleside Danelaw Ltd made two submissions to the Review, considering the various options available for financial incentives, such as reductions in business rates and changes to the Industrial Buildings Allowance. These can be accessed on the Stern Review website.

2. About Hambleside Danelaw Ltd

Hambleside Danelaw Ltd (www.hambleside-danelaw.co.uk) manufactures Glass Reinforced Polyester (GRP) rooflights and other roofing and ventilation products in Daventry and Inverness. As part of the Hambleside Danelaw Group with headquarters in Waterlooville in Hampshire, its turnover is currently in excess of £10 million a year and it employs almost 90 people. The group was established in 1975 with its first factory at Inverness for manufacturing GRP products becoming operational in 1978. The factory has won three Green Apple Gold awards and a VIBES commendation for its efforts to reduce its environmental impact and has attained BS 14001:2004 in recognition of its environmental management systems. In 1992, the company began producing in Daventry non-GRP products primarily for roof and cavity wall ventilation. This year, the company has won a Business Commitment to the Environment award, presented by David Cameron MP, as well as a Queen's Award for Enterprise: Innovation for its Insulator GRP thermally efficient rooflight.