BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION Malta Business Review

Teaching the Art of Proper Waterproofing

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The Malta Professional Waterproofing and Resin Flooring Association is a recognised association whose aim is to improve and teach about professionals waterproofing solutions in Malta. It is recognised by the European Waterproofing Association and works closely with ASSIMP (Italian Waterproofing Association) ITALIA. The MPWRA is Malta's centre for learning and certification of professional waterproofing installers. The MPWRA constantly brings over prominent foreign architects and installers to conduct seminars and courses with regards the latest waterproofing systems and product developments.

The Association's aim is to provide technical assistance, product and application knowledge and technical advice to all its registered members. The Association provides all the support required so that each and every job carried out by its members is stringent to the trade. This will ensure excellent working standards are achieved all the time. The Association members make use only of high quality materials and adhere to the product data sheet with regards consumption and implementation.

All this is done to safeguard people from bad experiences, which are usually the result of deceiving installers who are unprepared, unqualified and making use of insufficient and low quality materials that produce poor results. This will lead to an improper roof protection giving way to a serious of unwanted damages due to water infiltrations. The result is an endless court case, if you are lucky enough to trace the guys who carried out the works. All this will eventually take years and prove fruitless.



CERTIFIED INSTALLER

Many waterproofing problems are also the result of arrogance and pride of KNOW IT ALL installers. They are unwilling to accept the fact that a qualified person or instructor can teach them and therefore they do not provide the best possible product or solution for any particular job. Most old school installers tend to persist on the idea that one product fits all and keep using the same old product year in year out. Their reluctance to learn about new working methods and more modern products is purely at the detriment of the customer. Every year there are many situations where people have to contact third parties do complete or redo poor executed works.

We have been doing it this way for many many years ... This is the most common phrase that you hear from a person who is adamant in changing with times and new working concepts. The fact that a person is going the same thing does not qualify it as the right solution or that he is an expert in the field.

Never let anyone experiment with your propriety especially when it comes to waterproofing. A good waterproofing system cost less than 1% of the building value yet damages to buildings due to water infiltrations amounts to 80% of the cases. Nowadays Certified Installers can install a waterproofing system that suits your needs. It is important that the finished product meets all your requirements prior implementation. Everyone has his own using exigencies especially when it comes to Roofs; there are people who use it constantly for BBQ's and entertainment, while others have pets or green roofs,



many do not use it at all and or want a thermal protection from heat. Whatever is the case now there are products that can easily withstand the previously mentioned with great facility. The key is to entrust your waterproofing works to the right company or people that are registered and recognised by this association for a successful outcome.

Always ask for the MPWRA Certified Installers Card prior to any waterproofing

works, only in this way you are assured that the person is qualified and that the commissioned works whether its a house roof, factory roof, wells, pools, ponds etc. are carried out at its best.

When we stop learning in life we are limiting ourselves and risk being cut out from the true reality. The constant search for knowledge helps us to find better and easier solutions for our daily necessities and this is what creates progress.

The NAICI International Academy together with ASSIMP Italy, the Malta Professional Waterproofing and Resin flooring Association and The Resin and Membrane Centre are regularly organising seminars with regards waterproofing and resin flooring for those who wish to learn how to implement them.

For more information visit The Resin and Membrane Centre showroom at 264, Old railway track St Venera, Malta or www. maltawaterproofing.com

