

Wider, economical roofing profile launched



Versatile products are being used for the Department of Health Clinic in Stanger, KwaZulu-Natal.

With the unique profile of Versatile, the roofing system that was recently relaunched by Safintra, it is now possible to have the look and feel of a traditional tile roof with the “green” credentials, thermal efficiency, cost saving and lightweight properties of steel.

Safintra Roofing celebrates its 21st anniversary this year and has marked the event with a series of exciting product launches – amongst them the relaunch of the Versatile profile with the introduction of Versatile 5, a wider and even more economical version of the company's Versatile 4 profile.



Tafadzwa Togarasei and Makha Dlamini of DGIT Architects in Durban.

The use of this profile has exploded onto the South African market, notably in the province of KwaZulu-Natal, where it has been used on a number of Department of Public Works' developments.

Tafadzwa Togarasei of a leading Durban architectural practice, DGIT Architecture, explains: “I think the popularity of the Versatile profile can be attributed to a number of factors. Firstly, its aesthetic appeal – the beauty of this profile is that it indeed gives you the look of conventional roof tiles.

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“More and more emphasis is being placed on the environment and sustainable building, and steel roofing is one of the most environmentally-friendly options available. It is also a fact that in construction time is money. If you have a high-quality product that meets standards and saves you time on procurement, installation and maintenance, then that product is bound to be a winner.

“This product also enables us to lower the roof structure costs. Its availability in sheet form allows us to make use of fewer trusses, sometimes getting away with half the trusses that would have been required when using conventional roofing tiles.

“Transport costs are also reduced because a large quantity of sheeting can be delivered in one single delivery. Improved metal coating technology, such as aluminium-zinc coatings, ensures that our clients have a quality maintenance-free product with a superior lifespan,” he says.

DGIT Architecture has specified the Versatile profile on a number of developments in KwaZulu-Natal, specifically for the Department of Public Works. These developments include the Department of Education's Empangeni Rail (Richem) Secondary School and Birdwood Secondary School in Richards Bay. The company has also specified the profile on a number of projects for the Department of Health.

The Safintra Group's marketing manager, Sally Stromnes, says: “We are extremely proud to add the Versatile 5 profile to our already extended range. We had excellent reviews from our customers and feel that as more emphasis is being put on designing buildings that conform to environmentally high-performing buildings and building materials, the use of steel will escalate.

“Apart from its obvious cost and environmental benefits, steel roofing is also perfectly suited to the harvesting of rainwater, which we believe will become an area of key focus.

As a company we are committed to providing environmentally-friendly solutions to the building industry with innovative products such as Versatile,” she concludes.

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