

# Important Technical Announcement

## Condensation



### Two forms of condensation are experienced during the colder weather.

**External condensation** is caused by the effect of the Low Emissivity glazing. This form of condensation on the exterior of the glass and is unavoidable. This is proof of the efficiency of the low E glazing, required to meet the demands of Approved Document L.

**Internal condensation**, as illustrated, is caused by the water vapour in the atmosphere forming on any surface sufficiently cooler than the room temperature and corresponds to the humidity of the room - (dew point).

When replacing an existing product with modern draught proofed replacements the humidity caused by normal activities can increase. This is not caused by the room itself or the product but is a natural result of occupier activities such as cooking, drying clothes on radiators and breathing, all of which exhaust moisture into the air.

### Simple measures to reduce condensation:

1. Ensure that the air in the room is regularly refreshed through background ventilation and by opening windows.
2. Maintain a constant temperature, as rooms cool overnight moisture settles on the coolest surfaces - usually the glass.
3. Where possible, open windows when drying clothes, showering etc.
4. Use a dehumidifier.

If the atmospheric conditions are not controlled correctly then the condensation can lead to more serious conditions, such as mould growth when the relative humidity exceeds 70%, and increased risk for asthma sufferers.