

Technical Article

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Muntin Bars – Handle With Care

Muntin bars can be an absolute pain because they need absolute precision to incorporate into a conservatory roof, writes Don Waterworth.

I would suggest that installers apply the analogy that correctly fitting a muntin bar is not dissimilar to a surgeon carrying out heart surgery i.e. there is no margin of error allowed.

Consequences

The consequences of a muntin bar allowing water ingress post-completion is very serious. It involves returning to the property to climb back onto a fully glazed roof to carefully apply silicone and hoping that it will do the job. But then the customer com-

plains that some silicone has been smeared over the glass, and/or the roof spars have been marked, and/or the other seals may have been compromised by the installer climbing back on the roof. And what about the Health and Safety issues?

Integrity

Remember, water will pond on the back edge of the muntin bar and thus not only must the silicone seal be the correct type but also the seal must be 100 per cent in its integrity. There is no margin of error al-

lowed and the consequences could be very costly. So as I wrote at the outset, when you are fitting muntin bars, see yourself as a heart surgeon, with no room for errors. **f**



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