

Flashings for VELUX skylights – some clarification

There has been a misconception that should a VELUX skylight be installed with an alternative flashing to the VELUX flashing kit the company would not warrant the window. This is not the case.

It's not common knowledge that if roofers provide their own flashings for a VELUX skylight this will not invalidate the warranty. Provided the roofer's flashing is correctly installed in accordance with the building code and is weathertight then Velux has no issue if an installer chooses to provide an alternative flashing to the VELUX flashing kit.

In discussions recently between RANZ President, Mark Bishop and VELUX National Sales Manager in Australia and New Zealand, Robert Cussigh, it became clear that issues around VELUX windows needed to be better communicated.

When it comes to installing VELUX skylights on metal roofs, which make up the majority of installations in New Zealand, many installers have opted to provide their own, alternative flashings, but some RANZ members do not know that this is acceptable.

VELUX accepts there are different ways to effectively flash their skylight and the company "has no issue – providing the flashing provided is compliant and watertight". Importantly the use of the roofer's own flashings will not invalidate the warranty if the flashings perform as intended.

Robert Cussigh says the company will more widely communicate this approach within the roofing sector. There have been problems with the VELUX flashing on long run contracts because the roofer usually has to join the roof sheet to accommodate the VELUX flashing and this can cause a bulge where the roofing meets the apron.

Robert says in Australia, installers of long run roofing have been opting to use their own flashings for some time and this has been widely accepted, whereas for concrete and clay tile roofs, metal tiles and shingles, the VELUX skylight flashing kit works well, as it does in New Zealand.

While it is not mandatory, the company prefers installers to be LBPs which is an additional assurance on the skill and quality of



the workmanship. Their recommended installers are all LBPs.

VELUX has a dedicated technical department in New Zealand with representatives available to visit sites when required and training sessions can also be arranged in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

And RANZ members should not forget they have a valuable tool at their disposal too – the RANZ How-to Guide on Penetrations covers flashings for skylights (not specifically the VELUX skylight) in some detail – a good reference source for roofers to ensure they are doing it right.

