

## MEDIA RELEASE

BUILDING TRUST



**FROM** Sika Australia  
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**PAGES** 1/3  
**DATE** July 2014

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### **Sika supplies green roof waterproofing membrane for Forest Lodge Eco House**

*Sika has supplied the green roof waterproofing membrane for progressive Sydney home, “Forest Lodge Eco House”, providing lasting protection against structural water damage.*

Featured on the national television series Grand Designs Australia, Forest Lodge Eco House in the Sydney suburb of Forest Lodge is a landmark home for the city. Designed and built on the principles of sustainability, the 3.9 metre wide, two-storey home features advanced insulation and water conservation installations, including a unique green roof.

The home was officially opened by Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore, who commended homeowners Chris and Belinda Knierim on setting an excellent and inspiring example of sustainable urban home design. Mayor Moore, who introduced a strategy in December to expand on the 96,000 square metres of greens rooftops already in buildings across Sydney, urged others to consider the merits of green roofs in building design.

“We opted for a green roof to not only improve insulation and reduce the Eco House’s carbon footprint and energy costs, but also to add an aesthetic appeal and conserve water by reducing storm water runoff,” said Chris Knierim, owner of the Eco House and Managing Director of Code Green Pty Ltd. “The roof collects and stores storm water, providing a water supply for the roof top garden, vertical gardens and the house.”

Given the damp environment of a green roof, a reliable waterproofing membrane is critical to its performance and durability.

“With a high risk of water ingress, it is important to avoid cutting corners when choosing a waterproofing solution. A low quality product can cause costly structural damage down the track.



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“With this in mind, I was seeking high quality, reliable waterproofing for the Eco House’s green roof. Based on the success I’ve had using Sika products for sustainable construction projects in Europe, I selected Sika Sarnafil for this project,” said Chris.

Chris specified a 1.5 millimeter thick Sika Sarnafil G410-15L Felt membrane for the project. This was fully adhered with Sarnacol 2142s to prevent leaks and water ingress under the membrane, should the membrane be breached with punctures or damage

Sika Sarnafil is root resistant, making it ideal for green roof applications, from small residential projects to large scale commercial builds. As plants grow, its roots are unable to penetrate the membrane, reducing the risk of water ingress. Designed for flat exposed roofs, Sika Sarnafil offers outstanding resistance to weather and high water vapour permeability.

As access to the Eco House construction site was very limited by narrow streets, the waterproofing membrane had to be laid in sections and its seams were heat welded on site. Sika Sarnafil is a thermoplastic membrane, making it an ideal waterproofing solution for this project. Seams and flashings were welded together with Sika Sarnafil’s automatic hot-air welder, resulting in one monolithic layer of material that is impervious to moisture infiltration.

“The project was governed by strict timelines and access points, and Sika was able to work within these constraints to deliver and install a high quality waterproofing membrane,” said Chris.

Client: Code Green Pty Ltd

Contractor: Keystone Building Solution

Sika Representative: Matthew Sipek

For a technical product guide or further information, contact Sika Australia on 1300 223 348.

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### **Sika Australia Profile**

Sika Australia, located in Wetherill Park, NSW is part of a globally active specialty chemical company. Sika supplies the building and construction industry as well as manufacturing industries (automotive, bus, truck, rail, solar and wind power plants, facades). Sika is a leader in processing materials used in sealing, bonding, damping, reinforcing and protecting load-bearing structures. Sika's product lines feature high-quality concrete admixtures, specialty mortars, sealants and adhesives, damping and reinforcing materials, structural strengthening systems, industrial flooring as well as roofing and waterproofing systems. Worldwide local presence in 80 countries and some 15 200 employees' link customers directly to Sika and guarantee the success of all partners. Sika global generated annual sales of CHF 4 829 million in 2012.