

Take a SIP for energy efficient homes

Want a home that is has the highest energy rating? Look no further than SIP Energy Homes in Athenry.

Structural insulated panels is the latest building technology for the construction of houses, schools, and offices. SIP Energy Ltd was established in 2005 by brothers Michael and Sheamus Quinn, trained engineers in the mechanical and civil fields, who were already running the successful refrigeration body building MJ Quinn Ltd in Athenry. Now both Sheamus and Michael, together with John Moylan, are fast establishing SIP Energy Ltd as one of the most innovative businesses in the construction industry.

Structural insulated panels — known as SIPs — is a leading edge engineering technology that consists of an inner core of high performance insulation sandwiched between two outer layers of environmentally friendly oriented strand board.

“SIPs produce a structurally superior, better insulated, faster to erect, and more environmentally friendly home and are the answer in a climate of spiralling increases in material, labour, and energy costs,” says John.

SIP really is an innovative design. “Air tightness is now key to retaining and making the best use of the energy in your home and as SIP homes can achieve an A grade in energy ratings, it is easy to see why SIP homes are a sure bet,” adds Michael.

The panels are constructed in a newly built factory in Athenry, and then sent to the site ready for erection. “We employ 23 people between both factories and all of our staff are highly trained and interested in the work that they are doing. I am hands on at the design and production stages, and Sheamus is the site manager. This ensures continuity of quality from factory to the finished installation on-

site. It is through this teamwork and a good workforce that SIP homes are becoming more popular and successful,” remarks Michael.

The speed of the building process involved when using SIP homes is extraordinary. At the moment SIP has just constructed a 2,500sq ft house in six days. “What that means for the customer is that after the six days the plumber and electrician can get to work on the interior, while the blocklayer can get to work on the exterior. It speeds up the entire building process to an unprecedented level,” says John.

One of the main advantages in having a SIP home is that when the SIP is built to measure in the factory and then moved to site you can have ordered your doors, windows, and kitchen fittings. This, coupled with the fact that your new home is a safe, acoustically superior, and fire resistant structure, makes a SIP home an ideal choice.

SIP homes are three times ahead of the traditional values for home structures when it comes to air tightness efficiency, and thus lend themselves well to the use of aero thermal and passive solar design features. SIP panels also have superior insulation values compared to conventional methods.

“The OSB facings are all made from renewable, farm grown, trees, so production of your SIP building also contributes positively to the environment, and the finished product reduces pollution by consuming much less heating energy,” says Michael. When you use good quality materials and good solid craftsmanship you then get back what you put in. There is no sacrifice on any aspect of the building or the customer’s choice when choosing a SIP home.

Another aspect to SIP homes is that it is possible to have your house

designed to accept innovative features, such as an upstairs floor of screed (concrete). “Many customers are shocked by this. As standard, SIP homes are some of the quietest on the market. This has become more and more important to our customers as they consider sound levels a key aspect in the purchasing of a house, whether semi-detached or detached,” adds John.

The advantages of building with a SIP energy home range from being environmentally friendly, to superior thermal performance, locking out moisture, and preventing draughts, as well as a solid secure structure for surface fittings, great resale value, and the overall speed of construction.

For further information or to arrange a showhouse viewing phone (091) 874290, visit www.sip-energy.com, or e-mail info@sip-energy.com