

Issue nine

Daylighting

News from
HomeTech
Solatube®



IN THIS ISSUE

FAKRO Roof Windows
and Skylights

Solatube International's
25th Birthday Celebrations
in Cancun

Case studies from
Christchurch and Auckland

Eight Great Daylighting
Ideas from around the world

NEW! CAD Library and
Easy Specification Guide

How Daylighting Boosts
Student & Teacher Productivity

FAKRO celebrates its
25th anniversary

News, reviews & project information for
Architects, building designers and specifiers


hometech™

 **SOLATUBE®**

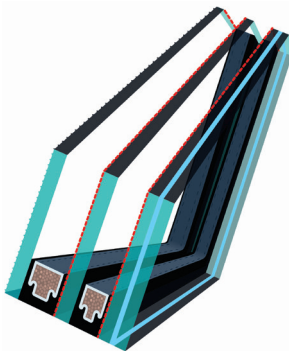
In Brief

New! FAKRO Roof Windows and Skylights



NEW Generation of Central Pivot and Top Hung Windows – PreSelect

At the flick of the preselect switch change between a top hung and central pivot window.



NEW Triple Glazed Window

Winter is getting closer and closer. Be prepared with these energy efficient windows. The most insulated windows in NZ with an R-value of 0.97 m²K/W and U-value of 1.03 W/m²K, they also provide a 99% reduction in UV light penetration and are designed to reduce in-home heating costs.



Solatube International's 25th Birthday Celebrations in Cancun.

In early January Solatube celebrated its 25th anniversary in sunny Cancun, Mexico.

Four of our New Zealand staff were fortunate enough to head over to take part in the learnings and enjoy the festivities.

People came from all around the globe to attend the conference, spanning from Bulgaria, to England and the Africa's.

Alongside meeting such a diverse group of people, our staff thoroughly enjoyed learning about how Solatube was founded. Three tool makers from Australia established the business before expanding to the United States, and now Solatube has an entirely global presence. Fortunately the founders were present at the conference, as was the president of Solatube and many premiere dealers.

Our Managing Director, Paul Nielsen, was given the honour of being asked to be a key note speaker at the conference. Paul spoke about systems in business, and how despite our geographical distance our markets and systems across the board are the same.

What impressed upon our staff the most was the overwhelming enthusiasm that attendees had for Solatube. It was encouraging to see that everyone was so passionate about what we sell and the quality of the product.

It was also recognised that while Solatube is a global leader it is also important to invest in the future. Solatube international continues to invest in research and design to remain innovative and stay ahead of the curve.

Aside from learnings and workshops, there was opportunity for a bit of "r and r". Networking dinners and activities in the sun and sand were held and enjoyed by all.



HomeTech Solatube Case Studies

After the 2011 earthquake, Beggs Music Store relocated to a single story, tilt slab concrete building located in central Christchurch.

Objective

When Begg's took occupancy of their new premises it needed to be converted from a warehouse to a retail space. Part of the requirement was to provide natural light to showcase the store's instruments and to convert the space into a customer friendly atmosphere.

Products Used

20 x 750 DS with open ceiling

Testimonial

"Just a note to say how pleased we have been with the Solatube's we have had installed as part of our refit. As a music shop selling everything from guitars to high quality pianos we need good lighting to showcase our products.

We also wanted to create an industrial look for our new premises which the extending tubes have done perfectly. They have often been the first thing commented on when



customers initially enter our shop. In most cases people assume the light is powered.

In terms of both lighting and aesthetics', Solatube has well and truly exceeded expectations."

*Best regards,
Grant, Beggs Music, Christchurch.*

Single story building on Bairds Road, Auckland. In a residential area, the building was renovated from an existing to an updated kindergarten.

Objective

Flat Bush Kindergarten underwent renovations at their site in Otara Auckland. With an internal storage room that had no windows it was recognised that natural daylight was the best way to provide visibility in this space. A further requirement was for ventilation in this space.

Products Used

2 x 290DS

1 x VS2002 Passive Ventilation



How is Solatube being used offshore? The possibilities are endless.

Check out some of the innovative and inspirational uses below!



SCHOOL CLASSROOM

WA, Australia



SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

WA, Australia



MAMMOTH PARK

Viminacium, Slovenia



MACY'S
USA



TOYOTA MANUFACTURING PLANT
Mexico



THE CHEESECAKE SHOP
USA



SUPERMARKET GROCERY AISLE
Vista CA,



ZION NATIONAL PARK
Springdale UT, USA

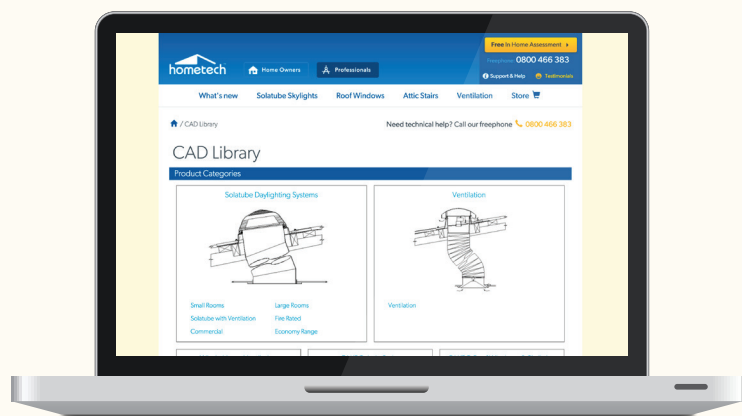
New from Homotech

Introducing our *new* CAD LIBRARY & EASY SPEC

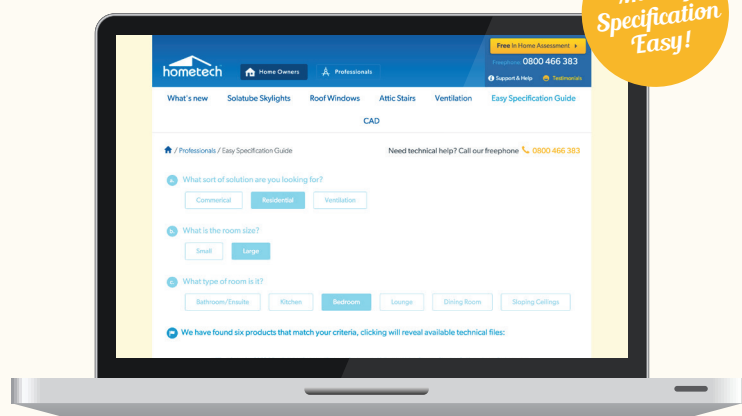
HomeTech is starting 2016 with the introduction of our new CAD library.

We created this library for you, our Architects and Designers with simplicity and ease of use at the forefront. Glide through our CAD directory and specify the correct Solatube for the right room using our step by step guide.

If you require further assistance, use our new Easy Specification guide! Created to make specifying our products even easier. Answer a series of simple questions and our guide will produce the most relevant Solatube.



CAD LIBRARY



EASY SPECIFICATION GUIDE

Check it out at homotech.co.nz

How Daylight Boosts Student and Teacher Performance

Research has shown that daylight has a large positive impact on student and teacher performance.

With several decades of studies to draw from, the data makes it clear that schools with a "daylight deficit" are missing the chance for serious educational improvement, and may be hurting their students in the process.

Combat Myopia with Daylight

The world is experiencing a myopia crisis, with rates in the United States and Europe more than doubling over the last 50 years.

The easiest and most effective way to combat myopia is by providing exposure to daylight during childhood and adolescence. Researchers at the University of Canberra have shown that exposure to at least three hours of strong sunlight per day is necessary for students to achieve therapeutic effects.

Beyond making it easier for children to read and study, the ability for sunlit classrooms to combat myopia also reveals a link to a more fundamental human bio-mechanic: the circadian rhythm.

Increases Student Productivity

The human body is easily confused when it comes to deciding what time of day it is. Often sitting in a dimly lit classroom is

enough to make the brain think it is night and time to prepare for sleep by ramping down mental activity and hormone levels that are crucial for sustained concentration. This means that a poorly lit classroom is quite literally putting the brains of students to sleep.

Boost Academic Performance by up to 30%

The California Public Utilities Commission funded a study of three schools across the country that evaluated classroom performance in comparison to levels of sunlight. Researchers discovered an average 25 to 30 percent performance boost of teachers and students in well-lit rooms over those with poor window coverage, across all subject areas and curriculum types.

How Solatube can help

Many schools around the world use buildings that are decades or even centuries old. Repurposed buildings are common, especially in European cities, and those older designs often have inadequate lighting thanks to small, infrequently spaced windows. With a heavy reliance on masonry-based, load-bearing outer walls,

such buildings are often impossible to retrofit with larger windows.

Solatube Daylighting Systems present a perfect solution. They don't require working around masonry walls, but are instead installed straight through the roof. By routing filtered sunlight into a classroom, a Solatube can dramatically improve light levels, boosting the health of those inside.

FAST FACTS

- Daylight has a positive impact on student and teacher performance.
- The world is suffering Myopia. The easiest way to combat this is exposure to daylight.
- Poorly lit classrooms effect circadian rhythms and decrease concentration and mental activity.
- 25 – 30% increase in teacher and student performance in well-lit over poorly lit rooms.
- Older buildings commonly have small, infrequently spaced windows. Solatube can work around load bearing outer walls as they are installed through the roof.



About HomeTech Solatube

HomeTech first introduced the Solatube Daylighting System to the New Zealand market in 1992. Since then HomeTech has expanded to include a nationwide network of accredited installers and contractors installing daylighting, ventilation and attic stair solutions.

The nationwide team services residential and commercial markets working closely alongside designers, architects and product partners.

HomeTech is part of the Future Proof Building Network (FPB) and CMS Group.

The Solatube Daylighting Systems and FAKRO Roof Windows / Skylights products, distributed by HomeTech, are the only Daylighting options in New Zealand with BRANZ Appraisals.



Technical information is available on our website. Specification information is available on Masterspec, Productspec and Smartspec.

masterspec
PRODUCTSPEC



FAKRO's 25th Birthday

HomeTech would like to wish FAKRO Group a very

Happy 25th Birthday!

FAKRO is the second largest manufacturer of roof windows and loft ladders in the world with exclusive distribution in NZ through HomeTech. We have appreciated the positive working relationship over this time and look forward to many happy years to come!



FREE Design Service

Whether that be adding daylight to your project through Solatube Daylighting Systems or to create a drier, healthier environment through mechanical ventilation. Our team of daylighting design experts will help you design the best solution for your project.

Call **0800 466 383** or email **quotes@hometech.co.nz**