



WATERPROOFING THE SUBSTRUCTURE – WELLINGTON

CHALLENGE: A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY IN WELLINGTON WAS BEING BUILT ON A SLOPING SITE. ONE INTERESTING FEATURE OF THIS PROPERTY WAS THAT TWO BEDROOMS AND THE GARAGE WOULD ACTUALLY BE BELOW GROUND-LEVEL, MEANING THE FLOOR SLAB AND THREE SIDES OF THE BUILDING NEEDED TO BE WATERPROOFED. AS THIS WOULD BE COVERED BY A DRIVEWAY AND GARDEN, THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR ERROR FROM A WATERPROOFING PERSPECTIVE. A FURTHER CHALLENGE WAS THE FACT THAT UNLIKE WATERPROOFING ON LARGE, OPEN AREAS SUCH AS ROOFS - TANKING THE WALLS BELOW THE GROUND HAD TO BE DONE IN A TIGHT, CONFINED SPACE.

Solution

As the work was to be done in an confined space, it was decided that Viking Peel & Stick would be the correct solution as it is easy to apply in tight locations (the 915mm x 20.4m rolls are easily handled on-site) and does not need a lot of equipment. Viking Peel & Stick is a self-adhering waterproofing system consisting of a 1.5mm thick rubberised asphalt membrane, on the face of which a heavy-duty, high-impact polyethylene film is laminated. The adhesive side has a removable release sheet which is peeled back at the time of application to the substrate.

To begin, the floor slab was poured on Viking Peel & Stick membrane, then the block walls needed tanking. A critical component of this is 'tying' the floor slab waterproofing to the tanking membrane (that runs up the block walls). The block work was primed with a roller-applied primer coat. The Peel & Stick membrane was then adhered onto it. Viking's standard details called for an extra layer of Peel & Stick membrane applied on the external corners for durability.

The Viking Approved Applicator then protected the waterproofing sheet with a proprietary dimpled protection / drainage sheet. The membrane was terminated at the top of the

block wall by fixing under the bottom plate. A drain was installed at the bottom of the wall to ensure any water drained away from the wall.

Result

The high-risk situation of waterproofing below-the-ground was easily completed with Viking's BRANZ appraised tanking materials installed by its skilled approved applicator. The sub-structure of the building received a durable waterproofing solution through quality detailing and a proprietary protection system, resulting in a tanking job that would meet the New Zealand Building Code's Clause B2 requirement - 50-year durability.

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