High-tech Porcelain Slab

Neolith high-tech porcelain slabs offer a range of solutions for commercial and residential contracts across Europe, which has been met with a positive reaction.

The need for these projects to take place with minimal disruption and preservation of certain features is a core consideration. Issue with older buildings often arise as the refurbishment takes place. Neolith can be applied to existing surfaces, both exterior and interior, and its lightweight composition helps speed up installation for a cost effective solution.

Added advantages include itsdurability, anti-combustibility, energy efficiency properties and aesthetic qualities.

Mar Esteve Cortes, Marketing Director at Neolith's parent company, TheSize based in Spain, says: "Being able to cover large areas with fewer panels, combined with Neolith's lightweight properties, provides installation advantages from a labour, time and money perspective. Using materials that are quick and easy to install can offer a cost effective solution. This not only means less disruption for occupants but can be beneficial if delays have happened earlier in a project."

www.neolith.com

Helping to Preserve Priceless Documents

An integral part of the newly constructed, state-of-the-art National English Literary Museum (NELM) in Grahamstown were three composite Kaytech drainage systems, installed under floors, behind retaining walls and under a roof garden.

Of concern during the project planning stages was the retention of groundwater at the building site, where investigations revealed highly weathered sandstone and/or silty clay, all with PI's exceeding ten. As the best possible solution, Kaytech's economical geocomposite drainage systems were specified to rapidly remove groundwater, and thereby maintain atmospheric pressure around the structure.

Since the museum was built with the intention of housing priceless documents, it was imperative that temperature and humidity be effectively controlled to safeguard the longevity of the documents.

After completion, the museum was awarded a 5-Star Green Building rating for meeting design, construction and operation standards that are undertaken using environmentally sustainable methods. Contributing to the award was the xeriscaping green-roof system that was installed above the concrete deck to provide thermal massing, or heat storage. Xeriscaping is landscaping using carefully selected water-wise plants that either reduce, or eliminate the need for supplemental irrigation.

www.kaytech.co.za