



Case study

The Sill - Northumberland National Park

Product XPS 300 Grade
Area 1900m² Flat and green roofing



Sundolitt's XPS insulation has been specified for Northumberland National Park's new and exciting National Landscape Discovery Centre. Known as The Sill, this striking new visitor attraction, near Hexham is inspiring people of all ages to explore the landscape, history, culture and heritage of Northumberland.

XPS 300 grade was specified by JDDK architects for the innovative living roof which is fully accessible with a walkway and platforms, providing a vantage point across one of the UK's most magnificent landscapes and the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Hadrian's Wall.

In total 1900m² was installed, built up to a thickness of 270mm with



flower-rich native Whin Grassland planted on top. Sundolitt's XPS material was chosen as a cost effective solution that could withstand the heavy loads of soil and planting as well as constant footfall on the roof. XPS is also water resistant and not affected by water allowing the green roof to thrive.

The Sill is the UK's first dedicated National Landscape Discovery Centre. The project, led by Northumberland National Park Authority, was supported with significant funding from the National Lottery players through a £7.8 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

The Sill's purpose is to provide a gateway to enable more people to experience the National Park. It has been designed to promote understanding of some of the country's finest landscapes. The centre is open all year round and offers a wide range of facilities including YHA Hostel accommodation, exhibition space, a rural business hub, retail facilities and a café.

"Sundolitt's XPS insulation provided the National Park Authority with a solution to confidently progress with the installation of a publicly accessible local grass and wild flower roof to take the weight of over one metre of soil and drainage substrata, whatever the weather. This is the first time such a facility has been designed into a building in the UK."

XPS Benefits



Load bearing



Thermal performance



Water resistant



Lightweight



Versatile



ODP = 0 : GWP < 5

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**Manufacturers of XPS and EPS
load-bearing thermal insulation**