



Glass is becoming increasingly sophisticated and here at the Technical Advisory Service at Pilkington we are being asked for advice on a growing range of applications. In addition, the rapid growth of the conservatory market combined with an increase in demand from home owners for higher quality products means that higher specification glazing is being used. The introduction of products like Pilkington **Activ™** means that Lumen rooflights are being installed with not only the benefit of self cleaning glazing but also increased thermal performance.

By increasing the amount of glass, especially when it is facing the sun, the potential for solar gain increases. Although, it is possible to glaze rooflights without low-e glazing, many of the more informed customers are requesting its use to improve comfort. Here are some answers to the most common questions.

If my rooflight has low-e glass will the room overheat?

No, not more than a room without low-e glass. Ventilation is the key to avoiding heat build up.

How can I reduce heat gain?

Solar control glass comes in a variety of forms. One of the most popular is the attractive neutral coloured glass that stops a proportion of heat coming in. The neutral glass can enhance the view outside as well as making the space more comfortable. Look for the g-value when comparing performance on solar gain too, the lower the figure the better the performance. It is also important to check the light transmission, often high solar rejection means low light transmission.

How do I keep the room warm in winter?

If you are heating the space then it makes sense to include a low-e glass to help keep energy bills as low as possible.

How does Activ™ work?

It uses daylight and rainwater to breakdown and wash any organic dirt from exterior surfaces, making it ideal for hard to clean areas and giving you a year-round clearer view. Its unique solar control coating also helps keep internal temperatures cool in the summer, whilst still maintaining excellent neutral light transmittance. For optimum self cleaning and thermal performance, Lumen rooflights combine Pilkington **Activ™** Neutral with Pilkington **Optitherm™** S4 in an insulating glass unit.

For more information visit www.pilkington.co.uk