



Powell Insulations

Powell Insulations is the recognised leader in the supply and installation of all commercial and residential insulation needs.

Whilst having a massive residential customer base, we are the builders choice for provision of insulation to new & old homes!!!



Attic Insulation

Choosing the right insulation for a home can have dramatic effects on the costs associated with heating and cooling the home



Cavity Wall Insulation

All exterior walls of your home or building should be insulated. Insulation is a key component of the building envelope and will have a major impact on both energy efficiency and the comfort level inside.



Drylining

Drylining is primarily a method of finishing walls & ceilings with a board product as opposed to the more traditional block / brick & plaster.

Phone: 01 841 3130

Mobile: 087 264 7322

Fax: 01 841 7366

Email: admin@powellinsulations.net

www.powellinsulations.net

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Gerry Hand talks to Paul Powell of Powell Insulations.

If it really is true that you cannot beat experience then Paul Powell of Powell insulation is the man for the job when insulation is on your agenda.

Thirty plus years in the business, he has survived the rough and tumble of two recessions, one as an employee one as an employer, and come out the other side as happy as a sand boy.

'Like most businesses word of mouth is the key to success or failure, and thankfully we have had a lot of customers suggest to their family and friends that we are good at what we do.

'I worked for an insulation company for over three decades before going out on my own and was doing that during the recession in the eighties, the recession this time around was harder for me as I was an employer and had staff to worry about.

'I actually had to liquidate a company I ran because, and to this day I remember the amounts involved, I owed 180k and people owed me exactly twice that, 360k, and unfortunately I ended up the same as a lot of other fellas not being paid, I tried hard but just couldn't get through it.

'The receiver came in and the Revenue got paid, but even he couldn't get the rest of the money it, people simply didn't have it.

'I was just glad to be able to rebrand and go again, as I was in my forties then and this line of work is all I knew, and what was a big help was the fact an awful lot of clients stuck by me.'

And while he doesn't exclusively do it, there is one particular line of the insulation game that Powell Insulation do get a lot of work from.

'We would do a fair bit of retro fitting, if you remember in the '60s and '70s here in Ireland there would be more cold than heat in your house.

'We would go into houses that were built back then and would often have a couple of inches thick cavity walls with nothing in them, so the heat wasn't staying in, we fill the cavities in, draft proof windows and doors and do ventilation.

'You then end up with a house which is far more comfortable to be in and as the heat is now retained the house is a lot cheaper to run.'

Then there is the drive to bring houses in line with new regulations.

'On a site now all houses have to be built to 'A' level regulations, and we got a lot of work, perhaps as many as 5000 houses from various councils who have to bring their houses up to regulation.



+353 (01) 841 3130



info@powellinsulations.net



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‘Since the situation that developed in Long boat Quay and Clare Hall all new houses are now tightly regulated, when we do a job we have to put our label on it, photograph that and mark it on the drawing. Things have tightened up a lot.’

Given his harrowing recession experience, Paul was well placed to spot the upturn in the economy which he feels actually only happened quite recently.

‘About three years ago I saw things turn around, and here’s how I noticed it, in the recession we did a lot of fire and sound proofing in houses, that kind of kept us ticking over, but from around 2015 all the new companies starting up had to modernise their insulation and proofing, so we started to get a lot of business there. The majority of our fire proofing works are carried out in office blocks & apartment blocks / commercial units, we do domestic houses from time to time but mainly the latter’

For the last twelve months Paul himself has been drawn more to the administrative side of the business, something that leaves him with a pang of regret.

‘Up to last year I was out helping the lads on site, and I miss the craic and the banter, but I am adapting to the new role, ah look I get the job done right anyway.’

Thousands of satisfied customers would agree with that.