

Roof renovation enables smooth back to school

Before the summer holiday, the 5000 m² roof of the school “Asgårdskolen” in the Danish city Ringsted was filled with algae, moss, and broken roof tiles. This meant that the moisture could easily penetrate further into the building and cause e.g. mould. After a comprehensive cleaning of the roof and a treatment with impregnation, the building is now prepared for a new school year – in a healthier indoor climate.

Several years with fall of rain and snow and wind had left their marks on the school in Ringsted. Especially, the 5000 m² of roof were characterised by extensive wear and broken roof tiles, and both algae and moss had given the old roof construction a very rough treatment.

A minimum of maintenance

- The roof is along in years and it was extremely worn. The extensive growth of moss and algae had destroyed quite a lot of roof tiles, and, consequently, moisture had penetrated under the roof construction, Mikael Fuglsang, manager at Alge Expressen, the company that was responsible for both the cleaning and the application of the impregnation, informs.

In order to give the roof a needed boost, the company has cleaned and impregnated the entire roof construction and replaced broken roof tiles during the summer holiday. So, when the pupils and teachers entered the building on the first day of school, they were met by a roof that is not only as good as new, but also ensures a better future indoor climate.

- The impregnation bonds actively with the roof and creates a beading effect which means that the water does not wet but gathers in raindrops that roll down the surface. In this way, the growth of moss and algae is stunted, so that only a general regular maintenance is necessary. At the same time, the lifetime of the roof is prolonged, Jakob Wichmann Matthiasen, Area Sales Manager at Iso Paint Nordic, informs. Iso Paint Nordic is the supplier of the impregnation used, HydroBlock.

Reduced risk of mould

According to Mikael Fuglsang, the growth of moss and algae was so extensive that the broken roof tiles only appeared when they started the cleaning of the roof. Due to the comprehensive damages, the moisture had had rich opportunities to penetrate the roof, while the sun has been shining, giving both algae and moss good growth conditions. This fact may lead to an attack of mould in the class rooms, at worst.

- As the roof has now been impregnated, the risk of e.g. mould is reduced considerably. And as the impregnation penetrates deeply into the roof tile instead of forming a film, the roof can breathe, allowing moisture to escape from the inside, Mikael Fuglsang says, and he continues:

- In a climate where neither the sun nor the frost are strong enough to kill the algae, an impregnation of the roof is a good investment. This is no doubt a good long-term investment for the school.

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