

Insuct installation – advice & guidance factsheet

Introduction:

Insuct is a product recognised by WRAS that allows a new water supply pipe to enter a building at the point of entry outside the recommended minimum depth of 750mm. It should be noted that this product is purely an alternative option to use in exceptional circumstances, but the preferred installation for the point of entry should always be ducted in the traditional method underground. Insuct can only be used in situations where it is difficult to obtain the required minimum depth into a property due to structural reasons or if the customer's property has had recent improvements and flooring cannot be removed without significant damage. Notification is required under Regulation 5 of the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 and must be sent to waterregulations@seswater.co.uk for authorisation before installing the product. It is imperative to follow the clear instructions listed below:

What are the water supply regulations?

These regulations are known as: The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 and they apply in England and Wales. These regulations are national requirements for the design, installation, and maintenance of plumbing systems within the boundary of a residential or commercial property. They apply to all water pipes, water fittings, appliances that use water and all other plumbing within the property. The purpose of the regulations is to prevent waste, misuse, undue consumption, erroneous measurement of water and, most importantly to prevent contamination to the water supply.

Installation instructions:

- The customer must agree and sign off with the contractor that they are happy to progress with the product and that they have a clear understanding of what it does. It must be clearly explained that it should only be used as an alternative method to obtain entry into the building rather than using the preferred traditional method of ducting the pipe underground at a minimum depth of 750mm as described in the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999.
- Whoever is responsible for installing the product and signing off the work to say that it has been installed to the manufacturer's recommendations, must take clear photographic evidence of each stage in the installation process. See the step by step guide document. WIAPS, TAPS 5 or an equivalent approved installer can self-certify the work, but they must send the relevant signed certificate and photographs of the installation in with the agreement signed off by the customer. Verbally informing SES water of the work carried out will not be accepted. All correspondence must be sent to Developer Services.
- The sign off should be on the understanding that any action that compromises the product for example, cutting the casing, excessive removal of the insulation around the pipe or elbow fitting if one is used, will compromise the thermal protection of the product and may result in the whole product needing to be replaced.

Key Points listed in the Insuct installation diagram:

- Section 1: Drill a hole through the wall of the building and fit a suitable sized length of duct to house 25mm thick insulation around the pipe. The company who supply Insuct, have a round insulation product called Shalloduct that they recommend should be used for this purpose. The pipe is then sleeved through the insulation inside the duct and the end of the ducting should be sealed at either end, not using an oil based sealant because that could leech into the plastic water pipe and lead to taste issues. Sealing the duct prevents the ingress of vermin, liquids or gases entering the property through the duct.
- Section 3: There should not be any excessive removal of thermal insulation inside the Insuct product, otherwise that would compromise the thermal properties of the product. The use of a 25mm pre-formed hockey stick must be used to prevent excessive removal of the insulation.
- Section 4: The pipe must be laid at a depth of 750mm minimum and 1350mm maximum to the crown of the pipe all the way along the trench up to bottom of the Insuct which is the point of entry for the property. There should not be any premature raising of the pipe on the approach to the Insuct, and it will be necessary to insulate any pipework inside a duct to protect and pipework less than 750mm deep below the base of the Insuct . A hockey stick is our preferred method for installing pipework inside the Insuct because the insulation fits tightly around the hockey stick. This allows for the coupling to be fitted underground and prevents the risk of any damage to the insulation that occurs when a transitional coupling is fitted inside Insuct. The Insulation inside the product is only designed to fit around pipe and does not allow for a bulky coupling to be fitted.
- If any part of the pipework at the base of the trench is less than 750mm it must be insulated and protected inside a length of ducting with appropriate insulation to fully protect the shallower section of pipe.
- The plate that is screwed against the wall should be sealed between the wall and product with a suitable sealant that will protect it from wind chill.