

2010s - Celotex products are cited & discussed at InspectApedia.com

The evolution of product innovation continues with March 2010 seeing the launch of two new products. Celotex [SL4000](#) combining premium PIR insulation laminated to calcium silicate for use in concrete soffit floors and [TC3000](#), a new flat roof solution suitable for 'torch-on' installations.



Later that year, Celotex achieved the first of two thermal improvements with its core range moving to 0.022 W/mK and a '4000' series of product coding. This allowed Celotex products to be more thermally efficient than other typical PIR products. The technology barrier was broken yet again in June 2011, when Celotex achieved a best in class lambda value of 0.021 W/mK for its FR range. [FR5000](#) as it is now known delivers better U-values and thinner solutions. Both thermal performance improvements have been validated by the BBA.

As well as approval from the BBA and BRE, 2011 saw Celotex achieve further third party approvals from Ofgem and the Energy Saving Trust.

2000s

In 2000 Mr. Jim Walter died and the option to acquire his shares was exercised by the minority shareholders. Two years later Celotex and Sundeala de-merged and the Celotex Head Office was relocated to Hadleigh. This consolidated the manufacturing, warehousing commercial functions of the business on one site.

The introduction of Approved Document L of the Building Regulations 2002 served to almost double the UK market requirements for thermal insulation overnight. In 2004 another Management Buy Out provided investment capital for Celotex Limited to open a new manufacturing and warehousing facility in Hadleigh to meet demand. Approved Document L was tightened further in 2006 as the Government worked to tackle global warming and depletion of fossil fuels. In 2007, the Code for Sustainable Homes was launched to provide a new national standard for the design and build of sustainable homes. 2007 also saw Celotex launched a new range of thickness with its 165mm and 200mm boards earning Celotex the position as the provider of both the thinnest and thickest PIR insulation.

2008 saw Celotex launch its premium PIR offer. Celotex FR4000 achieved a lower lambda value than that of other Celotex products as well as possessing Class O fire performance which until now was not available from any PIR provider. Later that year, Celotex' plasterboard laminate PL3000 was launched offering the perfect solution for dry-lining applications. During 2008, Celotex was also awarded an A+ Green Guide rating by BRE Global, the first PIR manufacturer to achieve this level of approval.

1990s

With the 1990s came a major recession in the UK Construction Industry and an all time peak in UK interest rates. This decade also saw Celotex Limited acquire the Sundeala business out of administrative receivership for £3.2 million. The Sundeala brand dominated the market for pin boards in the education and healthcare sectors and came with the Sunbury-on-Thames site valued at around £5 million. This acquisition saw Celotex Limited well placed to face the challenges of the next Millennium.

1980s

In 1980 the manufacture of rigid polyisocyanurate (PIR) foam insulation commenced at Hadleigh, which launched the Celotex double-R brand in the UK with Factory Mutual approval to highlight its excellent fire performance. By 1985 the Jim Walter Corporation had grown phenomenally and now ranked among the two hundred largest industrial companies in the United States with \$2.4 billion in annual sales and 25,000 employees.

In 1988 Jim Walter proposed a £4.8 million Management Buy Out of Celotex Limited from the Jim Walter Corporation with Mr. Jim Walter as the majority investor.

1970s

In the early 1970s the Celotex Corporation of America introduced a new product line which was proving very popular. The product in question was an isocyanurate foam ceiling tile. This product led directly to the 1978 decision to invest in a new PIR foam board manufacturing line at Hadleigh, Suffolk which would ultimately enable

Celotex to develop our current product range.

1960s

Throughout the early 1960s the Jim Walter Corporation founder Mr. Jim Walter had purchased enough shares in The Celotex Corporation of America to enable the Jim Walter Corporation to take control of the business (in 1963). In 1964 the Jim Walter Corporation bought out the outstanding shares of Celotex Limited and we became a wholly owned subsidiary of the Jim Walter Corporation.

In 1966 the decision was taken to close the Stonebridge Park factory. The 14 acre site was sold and a site at Hadleigh, Suffolk, was acquired. The new warehousing and distribution facility was opened in Hadleigh in 1968

1950s

The continued growth of Celotex Limited, fuelled by post war reconstruction work, led to the installation of a new insulating board line to meet growing demand. This was followed a few years later by the introduction of a new hardboard manufacturing line.

1940s

Increasing demand during this decade led to a requirement to source bagasse from alternative sources. Eventually a long term agreement was settled whereby Caroni (part of the Tate & Lyle Group) would supply West Indian bagasse to Celotex Limited out of the sugar season.

In 1946 in a seemingly unrelated development a Mr. Jim Walter first started property development in the Tampa area of Florida. This would ultimately lead to the Jim Walter Corporation which went on to diversify into building materials, marble quarries, coal mining, and water pipelines.

1930s

By the 1930s sales in the UK were sufficiently high to encourage the Celotex Corporation to open a manufacturing plant in the UK at Stonebridge Park. By 1937 the Celotex Company of Great Britain was firmly established in the UK and had commenced manufacture at its new plant.

1920s

The Celotex Company of Great Britain started trading in 1925 from offices located in Australia House in The Strand, London. The business was a subsidiary of its parent company, the Celotex Corporation of America, and soon established itself as an importer of bagasse fiberboard insulation from the original Celotex manufacturing plant in Marrero in the state of Louisiana, America.