



Roofing Slate Consultancy

IBIS is experienced in and regularly carries out inspection, testing and consultancy for the use of natural slate for roofing purposes. The service covers all aspects ranging from the assessment of natural slate resources to post roof-construction problems with fixing or slate quality. Assistance is also provided for marketing purposes, including the writing of product literature, and staff training in all roofing matters.

The experience gained by IBIS is founded on the investigation of numerous roofing failures in both the late 1980's and 1990's, principally involving imported slates but also some issues involving slates from certain UK resources. Investigations and advice have been provided to quarriers, importers, merchants, roofers, slaters, designers, specifiers, architects and surveyors.

IBIS can provide assistance with the new British and European Standards for roofing slate, BS EN 12326, guiding you through the many tests and the problems that may arise with their interpretation. In particular there is the petrographic examination, where IBIS has considerable and possibly unrivalled experience with carrying out the procedures and interpreting the findings.

The experience that IBIS has gained concerning UKAS governed slate testing allows us to offer an exclusive service whereby companies undertaking slate testing can be independently assessed. This is especially important for larger projects where testing regimes may become onerous if there are test failures that are not necessarily a fault of the slate or simply are not relevant for the site conditions.

Because IBIS can either organise testing or recommend who best can carry it out, the advice provided may be considered more objective than that which may be offered by those who undertake the testing themselves as part of their service.

The IBIS service is unique in that it specialises in natural roofing slate and combines geological skills with surveying practice. In addition to this combination of skills is the ability for the expert to get close to building problems by employing professional roped access when other methods may not be readily available (see our leaflet covering this subject).

The IBIS service is offered world-wide with experience of slates derived not only from the UK but including countries as diverse as France, China, the United States, Brazil, Spain, Canada, Italy, Norway, India and Argentina.

IBIS also provides a consultancy service for a range of other construction materials. To discuss your needs please contact Barry Hunt, Chartered Geologist and Corporate Building, Conservation and Specialist Surveyor.

Photos, left to right: Mill Hill slate quarry, Devon; SF Theological Seminary with Glendyne slate roof; splitting unfading green slate in Vermont; microscopic view of slate joint and pyrite oxidation in a UK slate.

