

Case Study Eco-friendly house, France December 2010

Making a World of Difference



Ecodan plays a major role in Grand Design

Featured on Channel 4's Grand Designs, this unique family home in rural France has been built using the most eco-friendly products and materials available today. Playing a major role in helping to maximise this new home's energy efficiency is an Ecodan air source heat pump from Mitsubishi Electric.

Having decided that they'd like to live a more ecological way of life, this young family chose to leave their home in Sheffield to embark on a more idyllic lifestyle in France. They wanted their home to reflect their views, whilst saving them money and be kinder to the environment. In line with their new way of life, they built an eco-friendly house that needed a heating system capable of delivering the lowest running costs and carbon emissions. Advanced, low carbon heating from Ecodan proved the ideal match.



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Renewable Heating Technolog

Domestic Heating



Installation Summary

This unique, straw bale house has been built by the Sampson family in the Lot region of France, near Martel.

An 8.5kW Ecodan currently provides underfloor heating for the 4-bedroomed home, with hot water provided by a solar thermal system.

The family are now adapting the Ecodan unit to top up the hot water on the solar thermal system.

The Ecodan unit plays a major role in helping maximise the home's energy efficiency and is in keeping with the homeowners' desire to use the most eco-friendly products and materials available today.

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Low carbon Ecodan heating delivers optimum comfort and efficiency

This unique straw bale house-with-a-view, featured on Channel 4's Grand Designs, has been built in picturesque rural France to reflect this young family's beliefs in ecology and conservation. It was their dream to create a home that made a statement about how they want to live their lives and used materials that utilised the planet's resources in the most economical and efficient way.

When it came to deciding upon the heating system for the house they looked for something that could deliver year-round reductions in carbon emissions and keep fuel bills low. Having considered several options they felt that Ecodan perfectly suited their needs.

Award winning Ecodan has established itself as one of the most efficient and effective low carbon alternatives to gas and oil heating.

This home has a timber frame construction throughout, giving it strength and stability and the walls have been made from wheat straw, a dense, but light material offering good insulation. Recycled paper and gypsum board was used internally as an alternative to plaster board and together with the Ecodan air source heat pump, it boasts rainwater harvesting and solar panels.

The 8.5kW Ecodan unit sits on a covered terrace and supplies heating to the whole of the ground floor via the underfloor heating system - significantly reducing carbon emissions and running costs.

So impressed are the family with the efficiency and reliability of Ecodan, they're now considering using Ecodan to provide their hot water to supplement the solar thermal system and guarantee a continuous supply, whatever the weather.



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