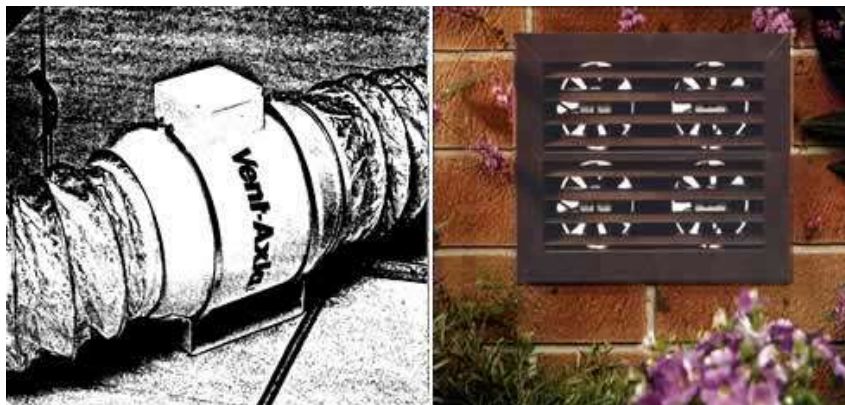


Envirofan Damp Solutions Utilising 12 Volt Sub-floor Ventilation Systems



Left, 240 volt. Right, Envirofan's 12 volt.

In answering this question 'Are 12 volt sub floor ventilation systems powerful enough in providing damp solutions' really depends on who provides you with the answer. Ask a company that installs 240 volt sub floor ventilation systems and they would probably tell you, 'No'. Ask a company that installs 12 volt sub floor ventilation systems and they would say 'Yes'.

What are the facts?

The depiction of the 12 volt sub floor ventilation system and 240 volt sub floor ventilation system would determine how similar these systems are in providing damp solutions for sub floor areas. Not so! As each sub floor ventilation systems has its own characteristics especially when it comes to the attachments needed.

Attachments

12 Volt Sub floor Ventilation Systems

The attachments needed for the 12 volt system are none as the 12 volt sub floor ventilation system replaces certain terracotta vents as some use the term 'retrofit' and rightly so. Damp solutions is achieved by humid air been drawn toward the strategically placed 12 volt sub floor ventilation system thus allowing the air to flow freely out from the problem area.

240 Volt Sub floor Ventilation Systems

240 volt sub floor ventilation systems (as shown) requires flexible ducting, dampers, branch fittings etc. These materials are installed in the sub floor area as well as the sub floor ventilation system itself. Sub floor ventilation has to flow around these objects. Often these ducts penetrate through sub walls which means that the penetration has to be large enough to accommodate the 150mm ductwork, which to some extent weakens the sub wall structure.

As the consumer in looking for damp solutions which installation method appeals to you?

Effectiveness

Are 12 volt sub floor ventilation systems powerful enough to provide damp solutions? Consider these examples first. Sub floor ventilation companies who install 240 volt systems use one fan and sometimes multiple units to draw humid air into the piping configuration and then to the outside thus providing their version of damp solutions. The flow rate of these units are 8,000 litres or more per minute, at a noise rating of around 48-60dba at 240 volt.

12 volt sub floor ventilation companies use multiple units that replace certain terracotta vents to provide damp solutions for the specific damp area. The flow rate of these units are 5,500 litres per minute at a noise rating of 27dba at 12 volts.

Conclusion

Experience over the years and in the testing process of 12 volt sub floor ventilation systems in the 1970's shows three things. Firstly the effectiveness in providing damp solutions is not extracting massive amounts of air in a short period of time but moving lower volumes of damp air over a longer period.

Secondly in providing an installation which doesn't impact on the building structure itself and thereby retrofitting existing terracotta vents changes their characteristics from 'passive' to 'active' sub floor ventilation systems.

Thirdly in getting an effective damp solution, utilising 12 volt sub floor ventilation systems you don't need all that paraphernalia that comes with a 240 volt sub floor ventilation installation or that greater power consumption to drive them.

'If It Is Not Envirofan, Then It Isn't One'