

## **Builders avoid costly remedial work with PVCu render beads**

22 April 2025

**Builders don't need to be told about the hidden costs of inferior materials, but sometimes, force of habit can lead to the best option being overlooked. This could be said of steel render beads, which have been superseded by durable, aesthetically pleasing and environmentally friendly PVCu alternatives. A pioneer of PVCu render beads, Renderplas is helping the construction industry avoid the costly remedial work associated with rusting steel designs.**

### **Steeling for change**

Render is a very visible exterior feature of a building and render beads are critical for achieving the perfect aesthetic finish. However, steel beads have made many structures look dated well before their time.

Most people will have seen the unsightly, rusty staining down some buildings. This is caused by steel render beads corroding due to moisture, salt or a reaction with chemicals in the render itself. While both stainless steel beads and galvanised steel beads can be affected in this way, the impact on galvanised steel beads tends to be much more severe.

Solving the problem often entails removing the entire render, cutting the steel beads out and starting again. Corrosion damage can become visible soon after construction is complete, damaging the reputation of developers and putting builders in the firing line for costly remedial work.

PVCu render beads suffer none of these limitations and offer a host of additional benefits besides. Consequently, they are becoming the go-to for the industry.

## **Looks are everything**

When it comes to a building's facade, looks are everything. PVCu render beads do not rust, which eliminates any resulting exterior staining, helping to maintain a fresh aesthetic long after completion. Therefore, builders do not need to return to site to remove stained render.

Renderplas PVCu render beads provide a better finish too. Nine colour options allow matching with popular through colour renders from leading manufacturers, so beads can seamlessly integrate with the facade. They greatly reduce fading too, as UV stabilised colours ensure a pleasing, long-lasting finish. Unlike metal counterparts, no re-painting is required. In the looks department, PVCu has the edge over steel.

## **A strong finish**

Style is nothing without substance, and PVCu render beads are incredibly strong. Renderplas guarantees that its products will last the lifetime of the render, or at least 25 years. In fact, end users can expect PVCu to easily outlast stainless steel designs. Higher impact protection than steel also promotes this superior longevity.

Beads are critical for the overall durability of the render itself, and in this regard, PVCu excels. Its inherent flexibility helps to prevent cracking, greatly minimising the risk of remedial work. Furthermore, the fact that PVCu doesn't corrode stymies water ingress into the render, providing greater protection. A 'Y' shape design featuring a narrow arrowhead arris also ensures better render thickness at a typically vulnerable area than folded metal beads, boosting the lifetime of the render.

PVCu render beads are so durable, that re-rendering can sometimes be conducted without chopping out the bead, which is highly unlikely with metal designs.

## **The environmentally conscious choice**

With the introduction of Part L building regulations and global efforts to lower emissions, reducing the carbon footprint of construction projects is of increasing importance. PVCu render beads are an easy way to support this.

White Renderplas stop beads, corner beads and bellcast beads are manufactured from 100% recycled materials, while all other colours contain at least 75%. An independent cradle to grave analysis discovered that Renderplas products only emit 0.74 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per tonne installed.<sup>1</sup> This compares very favourably with stainless steel, which in one study, was ascertained to produce 2.9 tonnes for every tonne manufactured from a common grade of steel.<sup>2</sup>

Ultimately, choosing PVCu render beads over steel can contribute to a more sustainable structure.

## **Not settling for second best**

Anyone who has worked with steel render beads would probably agree that PVCu offers a more user-friendly option too. Renderplas products are safer to cut, handle and install than sharp steel competitors. Essentially, in all criteria, PVCu render beads are better.

It would be easy to overlook the specification of render beads in a construction project, but it would prove to be a mistake. Renderplas PVCu render beads overcome the traditional limitations of steel products, providing a long-lasting, striking and environmentally friendly solution. By choosing the best bead on the market, builders and developers can be sure their projects and reputation for quality stand the test of time.

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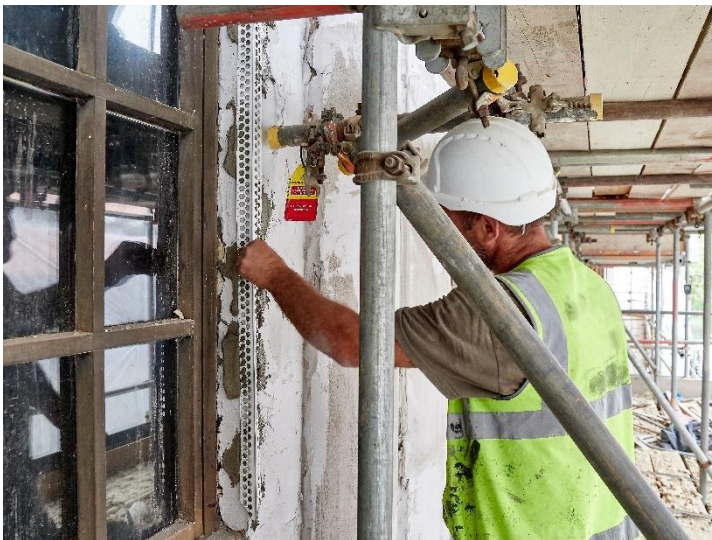
<sup>1</sup> [Environmental Profile: PVCu beads for rendering, plastering and dry lining applications - Renderplas](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Stainless Steel and CO<sub>2</sub>: Facts and Scientific Observations – ISSF](#)

**Image captions:**



**Image 1:** Renderplas PVCu render beads provide an aesthetically pleasing finish.



**Image 2:** Renderplas PVCu render beads do not rust, avoiding exterior staining and subsequently eliminating the need for remedial work.



**Image 3:** Unlike steel render beads, Renderplas PVCu beads do not require re-painting, offering a long-lasting finish.



**Image 4:** Renderplas PVCu render beads are offered in nine colour options to match with popular through colour renders.

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## About Renderplas

Renderplas was formed in 1990 to offer the plastering industry a new concept in beading. The first manufacturer of PVCu beads in the UK, Renderplas is the leading exponent in the field.

The business sets out to address the shortcomings of traditional profiles by designing a range of beads in PVCu to suit the British and Continental market. The key benefit of PVCu beads is that they use the most cost-effective, non-corrosive material to produce robust plasterer friendly beads. Renderplas PVCu beads conform to BS EN 13914-1:2016 - External Rendering.

Renderplas products are designed to be unobtrusive with an extremely narrow arris, making it ideal for scratched or scraped finishes. Very popular with major house builders, its beads are available in white or ivory as standard to blend with most coloured renders. However, in order to give architects and contractors even more freedom to use through-coloured renders in more vibrant colours, a range of beads in 7 further colours are also available for popular render depths.

Used internally, whether, in conjunction with wet plastering or dry lining, they will not stain during lengthy drying out periods and offer superior protection against impact in heavy traffic areas.

By specifying a Renderplas PVCu bead, the problems associated with traditional beads and the aggravation of costly callbacks are avoided. Two different CAD file formats are available for Renderplas profiles from the Downloads page of its web site. Alternatively, register with FastrackCAD to use all of their architectural database services.

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