



VISION House® Los Angeles

Manufacturer: Schluter®-Systems

Products: Schluter®-Shower System, Schluter®-KERDI-BOARD, Schluter®-DITRA

Category: Tile Installation System

Website: www.schluter.com



Team members of the the VISION House LA project had a laser focus on durability—among other ambitious green attributes—when designing the ultra-green showhouse. In addition to physical beauty and lifestyle function, the house had to stand the test of time. The team assessed each potential product for longevity, low-maintenance, and ease of installation.

Tile is an optimal green product choice for floors and walls. When installed properly, it is one of the most durable and sustainable construction materials available. Tiled surfaces are hygienic, easy to maintain, produce no VOCs, and can last a lifetime. Its low thermal resistance makes tile an excellent surface for delivering heating and cooling benefits, and its hypoallergenic attributes make it an ideal covering for allergy and asthma sufferers.

With a commitment to tile in place, and durability as the cornerstone of the VISION House, we turned to the experts to provide the right foundation for a successful installation. While many homeowners and builders focus on the beauty and design of tile, not all consider the system underneath, which determines long-term installation success. Schluter-Systems has established their leading position in the industry by providing systems that ensure integrity, dependability, and quality construction, which are the grass roots of green construction. With 35 years of experience providing solutions for some of the most challenging tile installations, Schluter-Systems was the ideal choice to provide the uncoupling membrane and waterproofing solutions for our project. With Schluter-Systems' installation systems beneath the tiled surfaces, the added benefit of longevity created the ideal green building system. The VISION House includes these three Schluter-Systems products:

Schluter®-Shower System

The Schluter®-Shower System for ceramic tile installation creates a totally waterproof and vapor tight environment that properly manages all moisture. The system permits the installation of ceramic tiles on shower walls constructed with standard drywall and eliminates the need to build a mortar bed in many instances.

Schluter®-KERDI-BOARD

The Schluter®-KERDI-BOARD system, used on the shower walls in VISION House LA, serves as a substrate, building panel, and bonded waterproofing solution. It can be used to create an absolutely flat substrate with precise corners that is immediately ready for tile. Available in eight thicknesses, it can also be used as a building element to construct free-standing structures for tile coverings.

Schluter®-DITRA

Designed specifically for ceramic tile and dimension stone installations, Schluter-DITRA serves as an uncoupling layer, waterproofing membrane, and vapor management layer that accommodates moisture from beneath the tile covering and provides support/load distribution for the tile covering. Schluter-DITRA is a polyethylene mat with square, dovetailed recesses, and an anchoring fleece on the underside.



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Schluter-Systems' commitment to the environment goes far beyond products. Office facilities in the USA and Canada are heated and cooled using geothermal technology to reduce dependence on non-renewable resources. Geothermal energy is clean, sustainable energy, which allows Schluter to operate the heating and cooling systems without the production of harmful emissions. The company also uses recycled materials in the manufacturing of their products, and recycles scrap metal that is created during production.

Sustainable construction has durability as its cornerstone. With Schluter-Systems we were able to use practical, affordable building materials, achieve a quality construction that looks great, and have the confidence that our latest VISION House project is built to last.



Schluter®-DITRA [far left - photo courtesy Structure Home] is shown in the installation phase in the laundry/mudroom of VISION House Los Angeles. The finished product is shown [left - photo by lathamarchitectural.com] with ceramic tile installed over the product.

The Schluter®-Shower System is shown as a cutaway example [right -courtesy of Schluter] of what the products look like underneath finished ceramic tiles in a shower. The photo on the far right is one of the finished bathooms at the VISION House Los Angeles that has the system installed.



Schluter®-KERDI-BOARD was used on the shower walls in VISION House Los Angeles as shown in these before and after photos in one of the bathooms. [Photo on far left courtesy Structure Home. Photo on left by lathamarchitectural.com]