

## Delivering district heating to the iconic Portmeirion village

Portmeirion is a picturesque, remote location which was developed between 1925 and 1975 in the Italian style of a Mediterranean village. As part of a £1m biomass investment at the popular tourist attraction, Mibec supplied over 3km of REHAU's RAUTHERMEX pre-insulated polymer pipework.

### The challenge

The project supplies a total of 29 buildings that are part of the district heating scheme, almost 90% of the town, including the famous Castell Deudraeth Hotel and its range of holiday cottages, shops, restaurants and even the village swimming pool. It was particularly challenging because of the 40m difference in height between the Castell at the top of the village and the cottages below. Some of the RAUTHERMEX pipework transporting the heat between the two had to be installed into bare rock, which meant the pipe's performance and flexibility were crucial.

### Innovation

The key driver for the investment in the biomass scheme for Portmeirion Ltd, which runs the village, was energy efficiency and lower running costs, so the thermal performance of the pipework was a key consideration. As Mibec specialises in supplying REHAU pipe, including RAUTHERMEX and the more flexible alternative RAUVITHERM, we were the ideal choice to deliver for this important project.

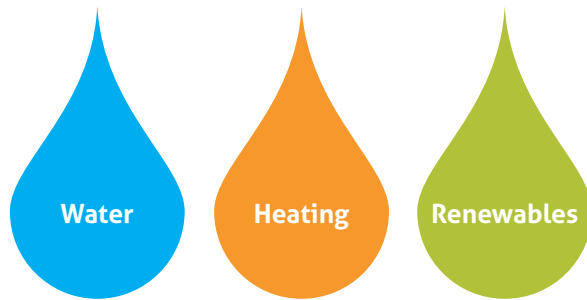
At Portmeirion, RAUTHERMEX single pipe (UNO) was installed in sizes from 32mm to 110mm and double pipe (DUO) in sizes 25mm to 63mm. It was specified for the project because of its durability and very high insulation performance (PU foam with a lambda value of 0.0216W/mK), which means it does not lose much heat on the long runs between buildings.



The complex site needed specialist installers ESP Energy to ensure the installation went smoothly. ESP Energy's Site Manager Steve Hoole has this to say about REHAU pipe and the Portmeirion project: "The durability of the LDPE outer jacket which surrounds RAUTHERMEX and the flexibility of the insulated pipe itself was a real benefit on this project where the site conditions and access were difficult. The fact that it was available on continuous rolls also helped considerably because it meant we could lay long runs without the need for repeated joints."

Mibec has worked in partnership with the REHAU team, successfully delivering projects across the UK for over a decade. We can provide system design support, and our experienced team will support you from design to delivery. To find out how our specialist team can help you with your next project, speak to our expert team on 01782 959170.





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