

What to look for in a quality tubular daylighting system



As with all great and original ideas, Solatube Daylighting Systems have their imitators – so what makes Solatube stand out above the rest and what should you expect from a quality tubular daylighting system? See our checklist & tips below.

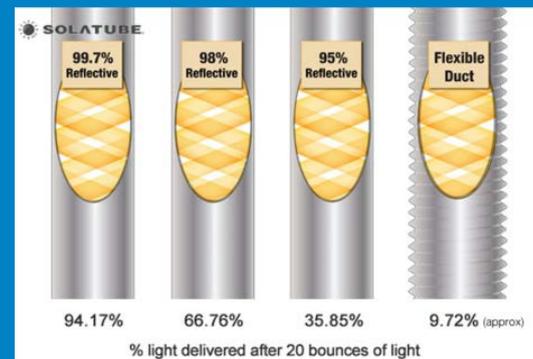


Peace of mind	Safety, quality & fitness for purpose	Can the supplier offer products that hold an independent statement of safety, quality & fitness-for-purpose, such as a BBA Certificate?	✓
	Supplier	Is the supplier a well-established company with a proven track record - in the commercial market too?	✓
	Warranty	Does the product have a 10 year manufacturer's warranty?	✓
	Energy Star rated	Is the product Energy Star rated or similar to confirm its 'green' credentials?	✓
Efficiency	Performance	In addition to excellent daylight delivery, does the product meet the thermal and acoustic requirements within the UK?	✓
	Tube material	To deliver maximum daylight, the tube material should be at least 99% reflective and never flexible ducting.	✓
	Double glazed	Is the system double-glazed <i>at ceiling level</i> (not at roof level) to maintain your room's thermal barrier?	✓
Control	Reduce glare	If the daylight delivered is too bright, can you easily adjust lighting levels (glare) once the system has been installed?	✓
	Condensation	Is the product equipped to deal with the potential of condensation?	✓
Smart design	Angles	Are two adjustable angles supplied as standard for ease of installation?	✓
	Ceiling fittings	Is there a wide range of ceiling fittings, with a choice of materials & attractive designs?	✓
	Accessories	Is there a range of integral accessories to transform your daylighting system into a multi-functional unit?	✓

Solatube Daylighting Systems ... versatile but never flexible

One great advantage of Solatube Daylighting Systems is that they can deliver daylight to areas that traditional windows & roof lights simply can't reach. But we never use flexible duct tubing to deliver daylight - and here's why.

With Solatube's unique, rigid Spectralight Infinity 99.7% reflective tube material, only 0.3% of the light is absorbed at each bounce down the tube. By contrast, a flexible tube, with its concertinaed foil lining, loses a significant amount of light at each bounce, resulting in very poor light output.



You would need 10 flexible sun tunnels to meet the light output of just one Solatube Daylighting System.

This was the conclusion of a Building Research Establishment test that compared the Solatube rigid tube system – size for size – against the flexible tube system of the most widely-known roof light manufacturer.

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