

GALLENS'S SPA NOTES

Efficient Engineering



Taking an efficient approach to spa design and engineering at the build stage can save you money in the long run, says AOIBHEANN GALLEN.

sound insulation between the rooms. Otherwise, you may have a lovely design, but with no proper water and sound insulation the ambience will be ruined by noise pollution. This is just one small point to consider within the technical elements.

As we know, water therapy is the basis of all spas, so to produce hot water within a spa, is it better to use the 'unique new system' called the 'fresh water module' as opposed to using a large water tank which produces legionella and bacteria under a temperature of 40°C? Or is it better to produce hot water efficiently and economically with a heat and power unit through either gas or electricity, depending on prices?

There are a lot of technical points, which are 'spa specific' that have to be sorted out before starting the building process. These technical concepts, which are based on the interior design (ie position of ventilation grills, ducts etc) makes the operation successful and more efficient. For example you don't need under floor heating in all areas, as it is not good in certain sections and without it you save money both in the investing phase and in the operation phase. There is a lot more to discuss about in design and efficient engineering when building a spa and I will be touching more on this area in future articles. In *The Style Guide* edition in January, I will be advising on style and design and superior trends within the spa world. ♦

Copying a spa design from other spas is increasingly popular within hotel businesses, but this is not a promising way to success. To ensure your spa business grows and continues to stand the test of time, you must offer spa-goers something special and unique.

To do this, you, and the consultants you work with, must ask what is the philosophy of the hotel and what are the key factors which make it stand out from its competitors? Tino Ensenbach of German spa design company Aqua Design recommends that these factors should be included into the spa, to design a holistic and a unique spa surrounding which fits into the hotel's characteristics, for example a Georgian style or private boutique design.

Successful spa conception and design are the basis of guest satisfaction, enthusiasm and consequently of a successful business. Also the spa philosophy and target groups must be taken into account within the process of design and concept of a spa.

The spa is the area in the hotel with the biggest technical elements. A combination of a unique spa design and a modern and efficient technology is the basis for a long-term operation. This starts with the different non-slippery materials to prevent falls happening and the water insulation connections. In Ireland especially, it is very important to control the points of the water insulation and

AOIBHEANN GALLEN, founder of Irelandspas, is Ireland's leading independent spa consultant. To find out more about Aoibheann and the services she offers to the industry log on to www.irelandspas.com or email her at agallen@irelandspas.com.



17% of Guinness® Beer content for a unique and sensational wholegrain bread!!!

Irwin's Bakery, in partnership with the famous beer brand Guinness, has created a new Guinness Wholegrain Bread, following 2 years of product research and development.

This classic wholegrain bread is made with 17% of Guinness® beer content, which gives it a richly dark appearance and the unmistakable malty taste of the Black Stuff.



Try a slice of the world famous black Stout!!!



IRWIN'S BAKERY, The food park, Carne Industrial Estate, Portadown, Co. Armagh, Northern Ireland, BT63 5WE

GUINNESS

A classic whole grain bread flavoured with GUINNESS® Beer

visit www.irwinsbakery.com for more information or contact us by phone: +44 (0) 283833 2421 or email: info@irwinsbakery.com

The GUINNESS word and HARP device are trade marks and are used under license. ©Guinness & Co. 2006