

## CUSTOMER HANDOUT LEAFLET – COMMON LEAKAGE AREAS

### **THE FLOOR:**

Gaps around the flooring leading to the cold void (air bricks)

**Remedies:** Plasterboard walls present a big problem if not properly fixed for testing. Dry liners tend to leave a 15mm gap around the perimeter to allow for any dampness. We recommend when fixing plasterboard to the walls that a solid ribbon of adhesive is placed around the edge of the boards in continuous lines (there must be no gaps between the sheets of plasterboard – the ribbon must be continuous). Alternatively, we recommend the use of expandable foam around the bottom of every wall before fixing skirting boards. However, we do not recommend and try to discourage the use of mastic as, in our opinion; it is only the tested properties that get this level of air tightness.



### **WINDOWS & DOORS:**

Leakage around the frames

**Remedies:** External edges of windows and door frames must be sealed, Ensure frames are fully sealed internally, Expanding foam is recommended to fill any gaps, Check that external area below the window sill is sealed, Ensure all external doors are fully sealed, particularly at threshold.

### **CEILINGS, WALLS & JOISTS:**

Leakage around joints between materials

**Remedies:** Fully mortar around joists at inner cavity or use joist hangers. Make sure you get a seal between walls and ceiling.

### **LOFT HATCH:**

Leakage around loft hatch

**Remedies:** Use sealable types of loft hatch, preferably with a lip so that gravity assists the seal.

### **EXTRACTOR FANS:**

Area around the extractor ducting should not be exposed.

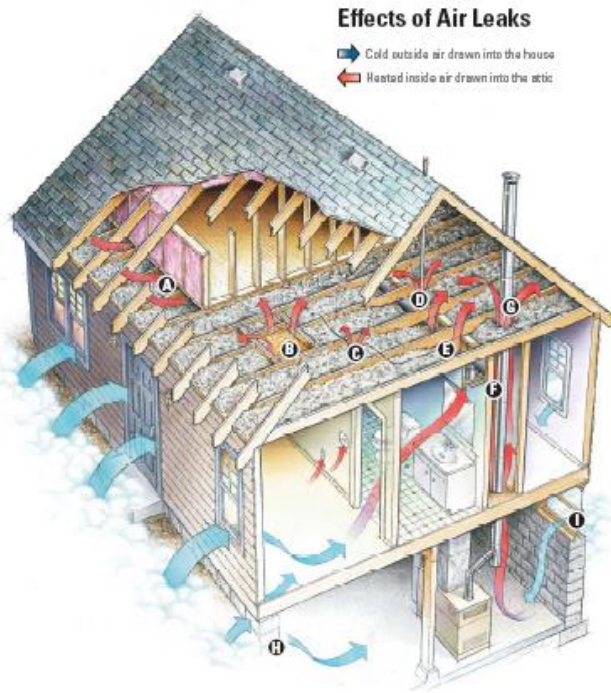
**Remedies:** Ensure that the fan is fitted tightly and externally there is no extra exposure that air could enter through.

### **SERVICE PIPES:** Voids around pipe work

**Remedies:** Any services entering or leaving floors/walls must be sealed internally and externally as anything penetrating a surface will leak air.

### **ELECTRICAL FITTINGS:** Air will enter through fittings

**Remedies:** Socket and switch faces must be fitted tightly to walls. Seal behind the face of the socket with expandable foam.



### Common Household Air Leaks

- A** Between Floor Joists Behind Kneewalls
- B** Attic Hatch
- C** Wiring Holes
- D** Plumbing Vent
- E** Open Soffit (the box that hides recessed lights)
- F** Recessed Light
- G** Furnace Flue or Duct Chaseways (the hollow box or wall feature that hides ducts)
- H** Basement Rim Joist (where the foundation meets the wood framing)

### Major Sources of Air Leaks

