



March 2017

House Building - UK

“The housebuilding industry is enjoying a period of strong growth and rising profitability, though output remains low compared with historic levels despite that growth. The real issue is that annual house completions are running at about half the 250,000 figure the government identifies as necessary to meet future housing ...

February 2017

Plumbing - UK

“The plumbing products sector has been recovering strongly from the recession, aided by the en-suite trend, high house price inflation encouraging home improvements, and comparatively buoyant new construction activity. Even so, there have been areas of disappointment, such as the government’s intervention on boiler replacements. Prospects have now been thrown ...

September 2016

Public Expenditure - UK

“The referendum decision to exit the EU will change the emphasis of the government, not least because the new chancellor and the prime minister have been somewhat critical of previous budget cuts and austerity. These policies are due to be scaled back in the autumn budget. There is unlikely to ...

August 2016

Thermal Insulation - UK

“Thermal insulation installers are increasingly adopting a multimeasure approach, ranging from insulation through to heating, plumbing and renewables. Companies are also branching out from the retrofit market to different new build and commercial sectors. This strategy is designed to counteract the reduced demand generated by government home energy efficiency initiatives ...



July 2016

Residential Windows and Doors - UK

“The markets serving both the new build sector and the replacement market performed strongly in 2014 and 2015. More challenging conditions can, however, now be expected. Delays in the replacement sector are likely to be restricted to product failures due to the combined effects of market saturation and delays in ...

Ceramic Tiles - UK

“Underlying market conditions were very positive for ceramic tiles, but the UK’s decision to exit the EU has created major uncertainty for many of the factors that determine demand for tiles. There remains a shortage of new housing, house price inflation is expected to moderate, while initial indications suggest that ...

May 2016

Construction - UK

“Construction activity continues to perform above wider UK GDP. However, growth rates are now slowing like the wider economy after a burst of activity that ‘kick started’ the recovery period. The market has also been constrained by uncertainties caused by the general election last year, the EU referendum this year ...

April 2016

Schools, Universities and Hospitals - UK

“Government policy and the need to restrict public spending overrides population demands, leading to very different influences than if the market was determined by demand expectations. The ageing population in the UK should be driving much greater expenditure in the health sector than schools and universities, where population projections are ...

February 2016

Electrical Wholesalers - UK

“Electrical wholesalers came under intense price pressure in the downturn, which was exaggerated by their reliance on the highly cyclical construction sector. Now the recovery is firmly established, the construction sector is again exaggerating growth compared to the wider UK economy. However, price pressure has remained an issue and margins ...

January 2016



Civil Engineering - UK

“The recent reform of the Highways Agency, now known as Highways England, should give contractors the confidence they need to recruit and train skilled workers to deliver the growing number of transport projects over the coming years.”