

Right Base

CONSERVATORY & EXTENSION BASES

PROBLEM SOLVED

Good solid reliable engineering techniques are behind the development of RightBase, a division established by RBL for installing bases for conservatories and house extensions.

RightBase has been trading for over four years, and in that time has grown considerably, having established relationships with clients such as Anglian, Bowater, Everest, Glevum, Target, and many others including private home owners who contact us directly.

According to RightBase manager Carl Rookyard, the business evolved from RBL'S subsidence repair division and an awareness of problems associated with conservatories built on poor ground conditions. RBL'S engineers came up with the RightBase system of constructing bases with three variations for dealing with different ground conditions. "A lot of people have been looking to add conservatories or extensions to houses built on piles and companies such as Anglian know RBL has considerable experience with developing engineering solutions for difficult ground," says Carl.

"Every RightBase job we carry out comes with a 10 year insurance-backed guarantee. The need for rapid, high quality installations has also become a factor. Once on site we can usually install a 12m² base within one working day."

The systems consist of a ground bearing piled base design, a fully suspended piled base, or a piled beam variety, which can be varied further with protection against ground heave for situations when RBL'S engineers believe it to be necessary.

"The approach is very much site by site with every job inspected to assess exactly what's needed," says Carl. "There is a common need for building on piles if the base is being built on a brownfield site or the ground is predominantly clay. Plus, if there are a lot of trees in the vicinity, the ground is likely to heave. Every site is visited by our surveyor Howard Homer to ascertain what base is needed to be installed."

The RB Conservatory Base team also includes Darren Mussell, the contracts administrator. As for the operatives, we have a team of fully qualified and trustworthy site technicians. Conservatories also have nationwide contact for the delivery and collection of materials to and from customer's addresses.

The ground bearing and suspended base varieties of RightBase use specially designed stainless steel perimeter beams fabricated at Drakelow. The beams are placed over the piles and have two parallel channels. The exterior channel is filled with concrete to support outer brickwork and the inner channel is similarly filled for seating the conservatory block work and to form a ring beam for the base. The concrete slab is poured at the same time on polystyrene formwork, which is either ground bearing or supported on a grid of secondary steel beams to form a fully suspended base.

"The third, piled ground beam option is used where the ground is sloping or the floor level is particularly high," says Carl. "The perimeter ground beam is cast over the piles to suit the wall dimensions, in-situ and onto a compressible material that protects against ground heave if necessary. The suspended floor is usual built by the conservatory supplier with this type of foundation."

Common to each variety of RightBase are the mini-piles which are

chosen from Roger Bullivant's vast range of products. Often these are 100mm diameter steel cased piles driven using RBL'S adaptation of a lightweight air driven machine that can be easily carried through a house and set up in sites with restricted access. Only two RBL site technicians are needed for each job. The materials and equipment are all fairly light, piles are driven in 2m sections – and the two men teams are fully trained and certificated. They are also arriving at customers' homes ready to work with all the kit they need in fully liveried RBL RightBase vans.

The conservatory and extension bases division has been given the full backing of RBL'S research and development and engineering strength and RightBase has devised a straightforward way of working with its customers.

"Its important to us that we maintain a working lead in time of four weeks or less. We pride ourselves on customer satisfaction.

We are keeping things simple to maintain a quick response. Estimates are sent out with a fax back form that customers can use to specify a preferred start date. From which we endeavour to fulfil.

"Poor ground is about the only thing that can cause the installation of a good quality conservatory to go wrong. We have engineered an insurance-backed guaranteed method of avoiding this risk." Contact Roger Bullivant Limited. Tel: 01283 505451.



Roger Bullivant Limited

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THE BENEFITS OF RB CONSERVATORY & EXTENSION BASES

- **PILED CONSERVATORY BASES FOR ALL GROUND CONDITIONS**
- **ASSEMBLED ON SITE BY OWN PROFESSIONAL TEAMS**
- **UP TO 12m² USUALLY ASSEMBLED IN ONE DAY**
- **BASE MADE TO SUIT ANY CONSERVATORY OR EXTENSION**
- **ACCESS RESTRICTIONS – NO PROBLEM**
- **BASE DESIGN, GENERATED IN-HOUSE**
- **IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO FOLLOW-ON TRADES**

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