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SKYLIGHTS WITH AN AESTHETIC VALUE

By MYRA VONG

LIVING in a tropical climate like Malaysia increases our need to have some form of shelter to protect us from adverse weather conditions. While you may be able to escape from the heat and the rain by staying in the house, your cars and plants may not be so lucky.

Installing a polycarbonate skylight may be the smart thing to do if you want to extend roof protection to the areas surrounding your house, according to DE Skylight marketing manager Lawrence Foong.

"A skylight is basically a sheet of glass or polycarbonate which allows sunlight to pass through while also offering protection against the rain, heat and, if it is UV-protected, any harmful rays," explains Foong.

With a skylight set up, you can park your cars outside without having to worry about them being exposed to the harsh sunlight. And in case of rain, hanging out your clothes to dry would not be a problem either as they would be well covered.

These days, not only are skylights functional, they can also help beautify your home with many of them adding an aesthetic value for homeowners.

"A polycarbonate skylight is artistic and contemporary. Also, customers are able to choose their own design, colours and type of frame to suit their lifestyle and budget," says Foong.

"Nowadays, wrought iron and wooden pergolas are often used. Wrought iron frames can be designed artistically whereas wooden pergolas have a Balinese style and bring a tropical feel to your home. Stainless steel, meanwhile, will not rust."

DE Skylight uses local polycarbonate material as well as imported ones from Taiwan, USA, Switzerland, China, Korea and Italy. Foong also recently introduced a new brand, "Verone," which is a solid polycarbonate sheet from Italy and available exclusively at DE Skylight.

According to Foong, there are two types of polycarbonate sheet available in the market currently - solid and hollow.

Solid is a costlier option but it can be installed in any place as it can withstand heavy impact without breaking. Hollow, however, is

a cheaper alternative with a simple design but is not suitable for installation in high-rise areas because it cannot withstand any heavy impact.

The DE Skylight team believes in service with a personal touch by offering home consultation without any obligation. Before a quotation is given, customers are presented with a variety of product samples, project references, technical calculation and sketches of materials so that they can better understand the working process.

"All our sales people have the experience and knowledge to provide good and practical designs for our customers. Based on the project size, we can propose suitable designs and materials to

complement their needs and budget," says Foong.

With many patterns and colours available, customers are spoilt for choice. While some prefer to go down the practical route with simple designs, others choose to explore their creativity by coming up with their own designs.

Once the design and measurements are confirmed, it would take approximately two to three weeks for the DE Skylight team to assemble and install the skylight. The polycarbonate material has a 10-year warranty against depreciation of light transmission and will not yellow or break.

All roofing works are charged in Ringgit per square foot and varies depending on the material used for the frame and polycarbonate sheet. Prices start from RMI4 per square foot for a basic skylight constructed from steel frame and hollow sheet and can reach up to RM40 per square foot for one made from steel frame and solid sheet.

Although DE Skylight's niche is

polycarbonate skylight, it also caters to customers' requests for wrought iron and wooden works for window grilles, door grilles, fencing and gates, to name a few.

"Our customers have shown their support all these years by returning for additional jobs and also recommending many new customers. So when they have occasional requests for wrought iron works for example, we are happy to oblige," says Foong.

DE Skylight's handiwork includes the entrance cover at Legend Hotel in KL, the bus stand cover and garden cover at University of Malaya and also the walkway cover at University Putra Malaysia in Serdang.

"Our clientele comes from both residential and commercial sectors and we are concentrating more on the city area for now as there is a higher demand here," says Foong.

"In fact, we have recently been tasked with installing polycarbonate skylights for all the units of a new housing development project

"We also hope to expand our business by building a good reputation in the commercial building line with bigger projects from developers."

● DE Skylight, No. 19, KJ Techno Industrial Park, Lrg Seri Gambut 2, off Jln Kebun, 42450 Klang. Tel: 03-516127880

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With a skylight, you can park your cars outside without having to worry about the harsh sunlight.



Polycarbonate skylights are artistic and contemporary.