ZYPHO®
Shower Heat Recovery

Stainless Steel Over Copper

Why use Stainless Steel over Copper?

In the world of shower heat recovery, the use of copper as a material for construction is very commonplace. While this is driven by copper's excellent thermal conductivity, there are a number of drawbacks to copper:

1. **Very volatile market pricing**

   Whilst currently $8,500/tonne, copper has ranged from $4,500 in 2020 to $10,500 in 2021 and 2022. Such volatility makes long-term pricing hard. By comparison, stainless steel is a much more stable material for construction.

2. **Longevity of use**

   Copper corrodes over time, which can manifest itself as pinhole corrosion or worse. Potentially, this can lead to water loss, if on the mains-pressure side, which can lead to leaks and customer complaints. By definition, stainless steel does not corrode, and a stainless steel product is likely to outlast most elements of a home's interior.

3. **Copper is attractive to 'light fingers' on site.**

   With even a single length of copper plumbing pipe selling for over £20, it is not surprising that copper can go 'missing' on site. The copper content alone of a shower heat recovery unit could be close to £100, and, as such, is very tempting to the unscrupulous. Stainless Steel does not have the same sort of attraction.

For all these reasons, Zypho® has innovated the patented stainless steel vertical heat recovery unit.

By clever design, we have increased the heat transfer area, thereby compensating for the lower thermal conductivity of stainless steel.