

## **UK Technical Bulletin**

## Triple Glazing – Acoustic Performance

The acoustic performance of triple glazing has little advantage over double-glazing when specifying the same glass thicknesses in each. The nature of most triple glazing constructions limits the options of glass choice, and resonance in the glass becomes more complex.

For example, triple glazing with 4 mm thick glass and two 8 mm air cavities would achieve 32 dB (-1; -5) Rw dB (C; Ctr). If a pane of Pilkington **K** Glass<sup>TM</sup> is included, the U value of this unit would be 1.7 W/m<sup>2</sup>K. Compare this with a double glazed unit with 4 mm glass, 16 mm airspace and 4 mm Pilkington **K** Glass<sup>TM</sup>. This achieves 31 dB (-2; -3) Rw dB (C; Ctr) with a U value of 1.7 W/m<sup>2</sup>K.

The double glazed unit is a more economical construction and the need for toughening the centre pane to protect it from thermal stress is eliminated. In many new installations the improved draught sealing of modern windows plays a large part in the improvement of acoustic performance.