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Covering the World





CUPIRE was founded in 1968 by the union of several Spanish slate producers who decided to combine their efforts in the extraction and production of slate. Five years later, in order to meet the growing worldwide demand for natural slate and with the entrance of new partners the company transformed into **CUPIRE PADESA**.

More than forty years later, **CUPIRE PADESA**, is now a group employing more than 1,300 people and comprises over forty companies linked primarily to the building sector.

Within **CUPIRE**, **CUPA PIZARRAS (CUPA)** is the company responsible for the marketing and sales of the slates produced by the group. It was created with the aim of providing the finest quality slate and exceptional service to our customers around the world.





The global importance achieved by the group, and its unquestionable leadership is reflected by the fact that...

ONE in every **FOUR** slates
used in roofing around the world
is produced by **CUPA PIZARRAS**

Today, **CUPA** with over forty years of experience in the slate roofing market is the world's leading brand in natural slate. With exports of more than 140,000 tons to more than twenty countries such as the United Kingdom, France, Portugal, Belgium, Denmark, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Bulgaria, Poland, Argentina and Chile.

CUPA owes its market leadership to the tremendous quality of its slates and we believe to our dedication to outstanding customer satisfaction. As part of this commitment **CUPA** offers its customers in the United Kingdom and Ireland a 30 year guarantee on their products.







In order to control the quality of our production, regular quality tests are carried out. These tests are done in certified laboratories in the countries to which we export. However, in order to offer the finest quality slate, **CUPA PIZARRA'S** own laboratories carry out additional tests as part of our internal quality control system.

CUPA PIZARRAS quality system works under the premise of continuous improvement thanks to the feedback extrapolated from customer satisfaction surveys. External tests and revisions to our quality system also enable us to continually improve our processes.

Quality that's Guaranteed



Cupa Pizarras offers its customers in the United Kingdom and Ireland a **30-year guarantee**

 <p>CUPA PIZARRAS</p>	<p>REFERENCIA/REFERENCE/REFERENCE</p> <p>HEAVY3 HEAVY</p>		<p>ESPEJOF. TÉCNICA/TECHNICAL SPECIF./SPÉCIFICATIONS TECHNIQUES</p> <p>UNE-EN-12036-1</p>
	<p>ORIGEN/ORIGINE/ORIGINE</p> <p>PIFOSA</p> <p>S. Pedro de Trones LEDA</p>		<p>Dimensiones y Var. Dim. OK</p> <p>Espejo Normal Normal Thickness OK</p> <p>Resistencia Mecánica Mechanical Resistance OK</p>
<p>DUPA PIZARRAS, S.A.</p> <p>03200 Soldeu de Valldigna</p> <p>Chamús, España</p> <p>Tel. 988 325 410</p> <p>Fax 988 335 590</p> <p>www.cupapizarra.com</p> <p>C.I.F. A-30225427</p>	<p>FORMA/FORMA/FORMA/FORMAT</p> <p>5025</p> <p>Con Agujero RECTANGULAR/Normal</p>		<p>Dimensiones y Var. Dim. OK</p> <p>Espejo Normal Normal Thickness OK</p> <p>Resistencia Mecánica Mechanical Resistance OK</p>
	<p>PIEZAS/Pieces/Pieces</p> <p>438</p>		<p>Carga Rupt. Transversal 9 MPa</p> <p>Carga Rupt. Longitudinal 9 MPa</p> <p>MOR-C Transversal 9 MPa</p> <p>MOR-C Longitudinal 9 MPa</p> <p>Atorción de Agua: 0,24 % OK</p> <p>Contenido Carbonato 0,3 % OK</p> <p>Ciclo termico Exp 903 T100</p>





Our traceability procedure can be identified by means of a unique label we place on each pallet (once the pallet has completed quality controls at the central warehouse and inspection controls in the manufacturing bay).

This label contains information about the slate that has been packed, such as: test results, the name of the quarry, size of the slates, number of slates, even the name of the person who selected and packed the pieces, and of course a unique code that is never repeated and that ensures clear and reliable identification of the pallet.

The fact that **CUPA PIZARRAS** is able to offer such a system is highly important to our clients as it offers increased confidence in our products and in our company.

Slate as building material



The Galician Association of Slate Producers (AGP) has pointed out various reasons for Spain's specialisation and leadership in natural slate. Factors such as the **traditional** use of slate as a roofing material in north-western Spain created a natural market where the importance of the **quality** of the slate was only equalled by the **ability** of the slate masons.

The qualities that AGP points out are backed by market evidence. Slate performance depends on how it is used by builders, roofing contractors, and architects, for whom slate is not only a natural material with certain properties and a particular appearance, but also an extremely durable and easy-to-maintain material when compared to other artificial roofing materials.



Slate is a metamorphic rock of sedimentary origin that dates back to the Ordovician period (550 million years ago). It is mainly composed of quartz, sericite and minerals of the chlorite group. The use of slate as a construction material can be traced back to the ancient Egyptians and the inhabitants of Iron Age settlements in north-western Spain.

Present since the beginning of human history, slate was formed by the superposition of clay sediments on the sea bed. Due to high pressure, high temperatures and an intense deformation during the Hercinic orogenesis, they were subjected to metamorphic phenomena, which caused a change in the mineralogical composition of clay and a reorientation of minerals in parallel planes, called schistosity or fissility planes.

When slate is seen through a microscope, it shows the typical slate-type lepidoblastic texture with a marked orientation of its minerals depending on the schistosity. Iron oxides and sulphurs, carbonaceous matter, carbonates, feldspars, etc. are often found as secondary minerals.

In order to be developed, a slate deposit should have the following geological and mining characteristics:

- a suitable chemical and mineralogical composition
- a degree of deformation suitable for the development of a very penetrative schistosity.
- potential for the extraction of commercial slate
- a lack of discontinuities (i.e. fractures, kink-bands, quartz, crenulation, etc.)

Characteristics

- **CUPA PIZARRAS** slate is 100% natural.
- **CUPA** slate is extracted from Grade A deposits and only cut to achieve the desired shape and thickness for individual markets.
- The colour of slate depends on its mineral structure and the size of the mineral grains that define its composition.
- The value of slate lies in its properties, among the most important of which are: **impermeability**, **durability**, and **versatility**.

Innovation and care in the manufacturing process



As soon as the purity and viability of the slate composition has been ascertained, development of the site begins.

Once earthworks and other initial tasks have been completed, the slate is extracted in large blocks in accordance with the techniques best suited to the particular quarry i.e. open air quarry or underground mining.





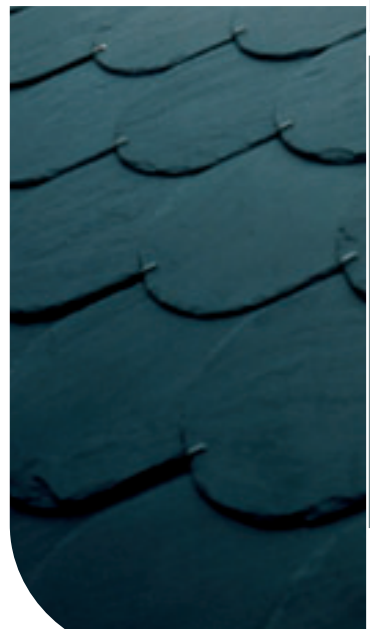
These blocks are then brought down from the quarries and sawn down to the size best suited to the slate format being produced. Subsequently, in a process which is purely artisan, our master craftsmen split the blocks into slates. These last two operations are carried out manually by experts who handle each slate individually before they are classified and prepared for transport.

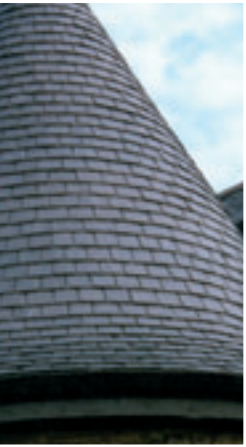


Cupa Pizarras advises its clients in the best use of natural slate

The design and construction of slate roofs requires a complete control of installation techniques and of the factors that will ensure maximum performance and safety. Geographical location, environmental conditions, the pitch of the roof and the size of the slate etc. all play an important part in the correct use of natural slate.

CUPA PIZARRAS has written manuals on the installation of slate roofs that include a detailed explanation of the basic principles and comprehensive explanations of the best methods, both traditional and modern for the correct installation of a slate roof. Each manual is fully compliant with the local regulations of each country where we are represented.

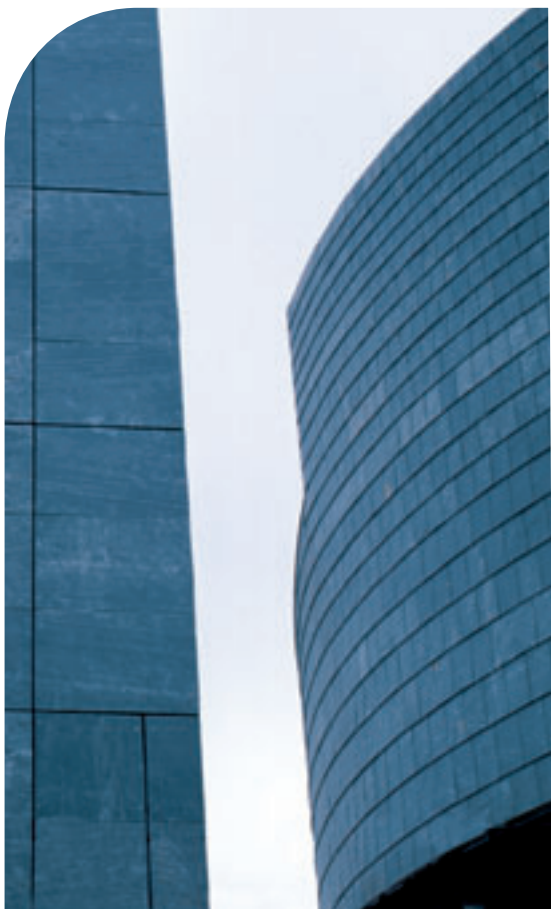




Based on over 40 years of experience, gained from both traditional skills and the experience of master slate layers from different parts of Europe, **CUPA PIZARRAS** has adopted a series of regulations recommended by government and non-governmental agencies concerned with the correct use of natural slate. Among these standards is UNE EN 12326-3, (Slate products for pitched roofs and coverings, part III: fixing systems.)

These standards specify basic guidelines that describe the different parts of a roof, slate types, sizes, roof types, structures, ornamental features and accessories, insulation and ventilation. For this reason, standards have to be set for the installation of roofing materials so that roofing contractors can undertake their work as precisely as possible.

Invest in Natural Slate



Slate is an extremely cost-effective material with regard not only to construction costs but also maintenance and durability costs. It is a very versatile material since it can be used to cover any shape, pitch and space, in addition to providing an outstanding finish.

Apart from the natural beauty of slate, it is also a very resistant material that never loses its technical properties. This makes natural slate roofs more durable than roofs made from other material. Furthermore, once slate has been installed its maintenance costs are practically zero.

Finally, there is no denying the fact that slate roofs add aesthetic value to buildings. The different shapes in which we produce our slates allows for a virtually unlimited array of visual effects that would be impossible to obtain with other materials.

In support of our argument we cite a report written by the internationally recognised Laboratorio Oficial de Ensayos en Materiales de Construcción (Official Laboratory for Testing Building Materials) of the University of Santiago de Compostela's Business School, which concluded that slate is one of best materials for roofing available today.





THE WORLD'S NUMBER ONE SLATE PRODUCER

- 42-year experience.
- 14 slate quarries
- 22 slate processing warehouses.
- 800 employees.
- more than 140,000 tons exported every year.
- we export to France, UK, Ireland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Japan, Australia, Portugal, New Zealand, United States, Bulgaria, Poland, Argentina, and Chile.
- the very latest production technology.

Principle Quarry Locations



Where to find us

United Kingdom

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France

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