

MonierLifetile®

News

Media Contacts: Shannon K. Benton
skahlbaum@kleberadvertising.com
and Lyndsey Forster
lforster@kleberadvertising.com
770.518.1000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**TIPS FROM THE TRADE: SUMMER IS A GOOD TIME FOR
A SEMI-ANNUAL ROOF INSPECTION**

IRVINE, Calif. (June 2008) – Most experts agree that giving your roof a seasonal once-over is the best way to prevent expensive future damage to your home. It's an inspection that you can do yourself before you call a roofing professional.

The first step is to go into the attic. If you see daylight, there's a problem. As obvious as it sounds, many homeowners get caught by surprise during the first heavy rain of the season. This simple observation will save you from overflowing buckets in the living room, or at worst, water damaged walls, ceilings and infrastructure. While in the attic, use a flashlight to check the underside of your roof decking for water spots; water trails running down rafters; condensation; mold or wood rot. Even though your roof may not be letting water in from the outside, an inadequate ventilation system may be allowing the production of water through condensation. This can also lead to serious damage to the structure that supports your roof.

Next, take the inspection outside. A word of caution though - *do not walk on the roof*. Even the most skilled roofing professionals have difficulty walking on the roof without causing damage to the shakes, shingles or tiles. Instead, the National Roofing Contractor's Association recommends that you lean a ladder to the side of the structure and using a pair of binoculars, examine the roof for signs of damage. Move the ladder around the perimeter of the roof until you've inspected all areas. If you have an asphalt shingle roof, look for bald spots, cracked or missing shingles, or shingles with curled edges. If you have wood shakes, look for cracked, missing, rotted or moldy shakes. Especially in the Sun Belt, the heat dries and deteriorates a shake roof very quickly, even if it has been re-oiled or treated.

While doing the outside inspection, note the condition of the rain gutters. Make sure that they are clear of debris. Clogged gutters lead to pooling water on the roof, which can rot underlayments and create leaks inside the home. Check the metal flashings around the chimney and vents to see if they are able to let in water. Finally, inspect the roof edges. If they have

broken seals, water can be driven under the roof tiles by wind-blown rain or over-flowing gutters.

If during your inspection you see trouble spots, consider seeking some professional advice. A qualified roofing professional can examine the areas of concern and determine whether you need a repair, recover or replacement.

And should you find yourself in need of a new roof, take the opportunity to research the benefits of concrete tile. MonierLifetile has long been recognized as the leading innovator in tile roofing, and now offers an Energy Efficient Roofing System that can lower your energy costs by up to 22%.* Combine this with benefits such as enhanced curb appeal, fire/hail and wind protection, transferable warranty and you've just increased the overall value of your home.

For more information about MonierLifetile and its concrete roof tile systems, visit www.monierlifetile.com or call 1-800-571-TILE (8453).

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About MonierLifetile:

Based in Irvine, Calif., MonierLifetile is the leading U.S. manufacturer of premium, high quality concrete tile roof systems. MonierLifetile has 14 manufacturing plants and service offices throughout the U.S., and a plant in Guadalajara, Mexico.

**Study Cited: Steep-slope Assembly Testing of Clay and Concrete Tile with and without Cool Pigmented Colors – October 2005.*