

MON TOIT



PHOTO FOURNIE PAR NOVIK

MON TOIT (*My Roof*)

Imitating slate, Novislate copolymer panels are offered in a choice of nine colours.

New Roof Coverings Imitating Slate

SIMON DIOTTE
SPECIAL ARTICLE

Novik, a business founded in Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures near Quebec City, has just put a new roof covering system on the market. Made of copolymer, this product imitates slate tiles, but at a fraction of the cost of slate.

Contrary to the competition, Novik has chosen to produce roofing panels of 53.5 inches by 22.5 inches which interlock with one another, instead of individual tiles that overlap. Covering a larger surface area, they can be laid more rapidly, which reduces the installation cost by 60% according to the company.

Called Novislate, this roof covering is available in nine colours and costs approximately \$3.50 a square foot. "It's about 25% more expensive than high-end asphalt shingles, but

it's classier and possesses a longer life-span. It has a fifty-year guarantee," explains Marie-Line Gaudreau, Novik's Director of Marketing.

Finally ready after four years of research, Novislate panels resist winds of 175 km/hr, shock, extremes of temperature, discoloration and the effects of expansion and contraction. Novik also uses UV ray inhibitors to impede the process of discoloration.

They are installed in a flick of the wrist on a self-adhering, self-healing membrane. "You maintain an air space between the covering and the roof, which improves insulation and lowers the risk of roof rot, unlike asphalt shingles that are nailed directly onto the wood. It's also an easy product to install," claims Ms. Gaudreau. Novislate panels are sufficiently solid for a person to be able to walk on them.

Novik is presently negotiating agreements with distributors to make the product available throughout Quebec.

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