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Airhead!

The diary of an incompetent air-con apprentice...



MONDAY

Installing a solar system this week – awesome! But the client's a real cheapskate. Mr. Smith came into the Al-Cool shop and said: "My neighbours are having a solar hot water system installed by Penguin this Friday. Their name is Jones and I'll fall into a cliché if I'm seen to follow them, so I want a system installed first. And I want to pay considerably less. Can you do it?" "No bovver!", exclaimed Max cheerily. "And it'll be a pleasure to put one over on Penguin!" So he ordered a cheap system from our Chinese supplier, Wang. Uh-oh, I've a bad feeling about this...

THURSDAY

The Wang 'Sun Happy So-Lar Kit' (sic) arrived today. It looks nasty. "So what?" said Max, "It's dirt cheap – we'll make a huge margin

and Smith will still pay a bit less than his neighbour is paying Penguin, so he's happy too. Easy money - bish-bosh!"

FRIDAY

Started at Smith's house this morning. Soon after, a Penguin van arrived next door, to install their system. They seem a friendly bunch - they waved at us and laughed a lot. Max told me to ignore them, cursing under his breath.

But how weird is that? Two companies installing solar systems on adjacent roofs! Max said: "It's showdown time – bring it on!" "Er, but Max... Have you installed one of these Chinese systems before?"

"Nah, but they're all the same... more or less. Anyway it's a DIY kit - comes with instructions."

"In Chinese."

"Yeah, but with little pictures too,

see? Easy-peasy!"

By 5pm

Penguin had nearly finished. One of

their guys was polishing the panels, another

was testing something with a guage, a third was tidying up. It all looked really smart. Ours didn't – we were still fixing the panels and water tank to the frame, which was wobbling around. And Max was cursing out loud.

Penguin were long-gone by the time Max finally vented his anger and kicked the wobbly frame - and fell off the roof. Lucky it's a bungalow and he bounced off a hedge and into the pool. But he hurt his leg, so I have to go back tomorrow to finish off. Soooo not fair!

(to be continued...)

Follow Airhead's diary in the Resident every week...



Alvord Nº 68022

Don't get an airhead, get an expert!

PENGUIN



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