UKTC-SR-003

**Fire Resisting Partition Scheme**

Scheme for the Certification of Fire Resisting Partitions

(including Internal Glazed Screens, External Curtain Walling Systems, and non-rigid Fire Barriers)

1. Introduction

This scheme outlines the general requirements for providing third-party certification of fire resisting Partitions / Fire Barriers used as separating elements in life safety and property protection applications.

The certification shall be related to the fire resistance performance of the products / systems only and shall not include other performance criteria (such as acoustic performance) unless specifically identified in certification documents.

It has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of BS EN ISO/IEC I7065:2012 for product certification bodies. In addition to this scheme the other controlled documents are:

1. UKTC-CF-500 UKCA Third-Party Certification and UKCA Marking Applicant Guide.
2. Documentation from the Manufacturer.

**This document refers to the UKTC ”Third-Party Certification and UKCA Marking Applicant Guide”UKTC-CF-500 which should be read in conjunction with this scheme document.**

**Note:** *The Third-Party Certification and UKCA Marking Applicant Guide and other UKTC documents referenced within this scheme document will be at the Revision number stated at the time of application and may change in the future.*

This scheme provides a method of third-party certification for both load bearing and non-load bearing internal and external solid and glazed Partitions / Curtain Wall Systems (fully glazed or partially glazed), but the scheme does not certify the glass, or any doors installed within these Partitions.

This scheme also provides a method by which non-rigid fire resisting barriers (fire barriers) may be certificated. These may allow for passage of services through the fire barrier or not.

1. Approvals can be given for internal and external solid and glazed partitions when

tested in accordance with:

* BS 476-20,-22:1987
* BS EN 1364-1:2015
* BS EN 1365-1:2012

1. Approvals can be given for Curtain Wall Systems (fully glazed or partially glazed) when

tested in accordance with:

* BS 476-20,-22:1987
* BS EN 1364-1:2015
* BS EN 1364-3:2014
* BS EN 1365-1:2012

1. Approvals can be given for non-rigid fire resisting barriers with or without services

passing through them when tested in accordance with:

* BS 476-20,-22:1987
* BS EN 1364-1:2015

Approvals can be given for the above referenced separating elements (Partitions / Fire Barriers / Curtain Wall Systems ) that satisfy the loadbearing capacity (R), integrity (E), insulation (I), radiation (W) and mechanical action (M) criteria of the test as applicable, or solely 'E' in those applications where insulation is not required by the product’s use.

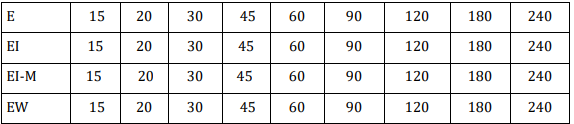
Where the partition is glazed, EW when the glass installed in the partition is of a type, or an area that can meet the radiation criteria as required to satisfy the market conditions in terms of evidence restriction/needs.

Where the requirements of a country are not known, it is recommended that UKTC be contacted for advice.

1. Scope

The scheme provides ongoing independent third-party certification and confirmation of performance of fire resisting Partitions / Fire Barriers / Curtain Walling Systems according to which schedule is used to ensure that the performance, installation, identification, and classification requirements of the appropriate standard are met and maintained.

Nonloadbearing Partitions/Fire Barriers/Curtain Walling Systems covered by this scheme can be certificated as:



Loadbearing Partitions / Fire Barriers / Curtain Walling Systems covered by this scheme can be certificated as:

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When the products are tested from both sides, with standard temperature/time curve from inside and external fire exposure from outside, the lowest time determines the certificated performance.

Testing may also be performed from one side only. Whichever test(s) is/are performed the performance will be identified as follows:-

“i→o” when certificated from inside to outside.

“o→i” when certificated from inside to outside.

“o↔i” when certificated from inside to outside and from outside to inside.

1. Definitions

For the purpose of this Scheme Document the following definitions apply:

3.1 Partition

A vertical internal loadbearing or non-loadbearing fire separating element within buildings.

3.2 Curtain Walling System

A vertical external loadbearing or non-loadbearing fire separating element typically a glazed or partially glazed external cladding system used in high-rise buildings to provide both fire and environmental protection to the building envelope.

3.3 Fire Barrier (non-rigid)

A vertical or horizontal non-loadbearing fire separating element made up typically of non-rigid materials (such as mineral wool or specialist fabrics) possibly incorporating insulation materials in order to provide insulation performance in addition to integrity to provide fire separation within buildings. It is likely that such fire barriers may manufactured to have both integrity only and integrity & insulation versions in the same product range.

3.4 Glazed screen

A form of Partition where the major component is glass, and the panes are separated from each other by mullions and/or transoms.

3.5 Vertical orientated element

A construction that is installed within ±15o from the vertical orientation.

3.6 Glass

A transparent / translucent rigid material permitting the transmission of light (or vision), excluding materials that are wholly made from plastics or resins.

3.7 Monolithic glass

A homogenous sheet of glass devoid of laminations or cavities which in the context of this scheme document includes clear ceramic glazing materials, and glass of either soda / lime, or borosilicate composition.

3.8 Laminated glasses

A transparent / translucent sheet material formed from one or more layers of glass (refer to Clause 3.2) formed into a solid pane by means of films, resins, or intumescent compound interlayers.

3.9 ‘Gel’ glasses

A transparent / translucent sheet glazing material formed from one or more layers of glass (refer to Clause 3.2) separated by a transparent gel that reacts to the application of heat by becoming rigid and opaque.

3.10 Glazing system

The beads, setting blocks, fixings and any associated sealing strips or sealants used for retaining and sealing a pane of glass.

3.11 Construction material codes

The following Codes are used to describe the materials of construction used for the framing / support system, in particular in respect of the material used for the construction of the beads (where glazing is included in partition sections), which normally reflects the primary construction material used in the partition,

T..-..Timber, or ligno-cellulosic materials\*(1)

M..-..Metal, steel, or proven aluminium\*(1)

\*(1*)  Any specific requirements in respect of these materials will be contained within the Schedule accompanying the approval.*

4. Evidence of Performance

Partitions / Fire Barriers / Curtain Walling Systems submitted for approval shall be supported by evidence of performance in the form of:

* directly relevant test evidence generated by a test carried out by a UKAS (or similarly accredited laboratory).
* Classification reports generated in accordance with EN13501-2:2023 from applicable tests.
* the field of direct application derived from recent test, or
* the extended Field of Application, derived from the most recent test evidence that supports the application being approved.

The scope of approval for the product shall identify any limits on the use of the glass where applicable, including the maximum pane size at each duration and any special limitations shall be based upon either;

* directly relevant test evidence generated by a test by a UKAS (or similarly accredited laboratory.
* The field of direct application derived from recent test, or
* the extended Field of Application, which will be derived from the most recent test evidence that supports the application being approved.

All testing shall be carried out in a testing facility holding accreditation granted by the appropriate national accreditation body (typically UKAS), or as recognised by UKAS, or by meeting UKTC Certification’s own criteria for test facilities).

To demonstrate the ongoing compliance of the Partition with the fire performance standards, each certificated product will be audit tested after a maximum of five (5) years (or more regularly dependent upon national requirements).

The success of the audit test in confirming the performance of the Partition tested will be adjudged by reference to original test performance as confirmed by tests conducted at the time of the initial certification.

5. Applications to be certified under the requirements of this scheme

To apply for product certification, please complete and return the application form *(refer to Application Form UKTC-CF-100)* together with two complete sets of specification documentation, as detailed below:

* Details of the construction / composition of the Partition / Fire Barrier / Curtain Wall System including details of variation within the product range (if the construction of the product varies dependent upon the fire rating or if the product range includes both insulating and non-insulating versions). In addition to this information, if glazed panels are part of the product, details of the treatment of any glass included, including any variations needed to extend the Field of Application, where appropriate.
* The product / system (or product range) name by which it is or (in the case of new products) will be known when marketed to industry. This is required at the initial certification stage to prevent supporting test / assessment evidence identifying a different product name to that depicted on a UKTC certificate.
* Copies of the evidence of performance as described in Clause 4, complete with detailed constructional details of the framing / supporting system and (where applicable) glazing system that apply to the test evidence and any associated Engineering Assessments Reports or Field of Application Reports, including all glass sizes.
* Published installation instructions for the Partition / Fire Barrier / Curtain Wall System in all of its possible forms, i.e. solid, glazed, etc. also its orientation (vertical or horizontal) in the case of Fire Barriers.
* Details of the Factory Production Control (FPC) procedures, although these will be subject to audit by UKTC Certification or their representatives.

Factory Production Control will verify compliance of the manufactured product with those requirements that are deemed critical to be controlled in order to ensure fire performance of the product, by UKTC.

6. Initial Factory Production Control - FPC

The FPC system shall consist of procedures, regular inspections, and tests and / or assessments and the use of the results to control raw and other incoming materials or components, equipment, the production process, and the product.

The results of inspections, tests or assessments requiring action shall be recorded, as shall any action taken. The action to be taken when control values or criteria are not met shall be recorded and retained for the period specified in the producer’s FPC procedures.

6.1 Equipment

1. Testing all weighing, measuring, and testing equipment shall be calibrated and regularly inspected according to documented procedures, frequencies, and criteria.
2. All equipment used in the manufacturing process shall be regularly inspected and maintained to ensure use, wear or failure does not cause inconsistency in the manufacturing process. Inspections and maintenance shall be carried out and recorded in accordance with the producer’s written procedures and the records retained for the period defined in the producer's FPC procedures.

6.2 Raw materials and components

The specifications of all incoming raw materials and components shall be documented, as shall the inspection scheme for ensuring their conformity.

6.3 Competence of Applicants Personnel

Personnel performing work affecting product conformity shall be competent on the basis of appropriate education, training skills and experience for which records will be maintained. (i.e. records of degrees, professional qualifications and training, training matrix, etc.). This applies, in particular, to personnel that need to initiate actions preventing product non-conformities from occurring, actions in case of non-conformities and to identify and register product conformity problems.

6.4 Product testing and evaluation

The producer shall establish procedures to ensure that the stated values of all of the characteristics are maintained.

6.5 Non-conforming products

The producer shall have written procedures which specify how non-conforming products shall be dealt with. Any such events shall be recorded as they occur, and these records shall be kept for the period defined in the producer’s written procedures.

6.6 Other test methods

For factory production control, other test methods may be used provided that:

1. they can show a correlation to exist between the results from the EN reference test

and those of the alternative test;

1. the information on which the correlation is based is available for inspection.

7. Continuous surveillance of FPC

Surveillance of the FPC shall be undertaken annually and in addition to the areas listed above the specification and production processes for each certificated product will be reviewed to determine if any changes have been made since the last audit. The significance of any change shall be accessed.

In addition to the “Factory Production Control Requirements”, checks will be made on the control of the UKTC supplied labels or printing applied to each component / Fire Barrier; against the requirements of the Scheme Document (refer to Clause 10).

A quality management system (QMS) certificated to ISO9001:2015 although recommended is not a mandatory requirement of this scheme.

If an improvement action is raised during the audit *an “Improvement Action Summary Report UKTC-CF-700”* will be completed by the auditor, this will identify the level of the finding (M=Mandatory or R=Recommendation), whether or not evidence of compliance is required and the agreed time frames in which to respond by completing the “*Improvement Action Completion Form UKTC-CF-800”.*

UKTC will only assign an auditor who has documented competence in the auditing and certification of fire resisting partition systems. Auditor competence is documented in our company corporate CV's and are available upon request.

8. Certification

A certificate is awarded following satisfactory completion of the above assessment programme, involving technical review of submitted test evidence, also any Field of Application (FOA) / assessment documents provided (supported by the submitted test evidence) and the FPC audit(s) conducted by UKTC.

As stated on each certificate (see Appendix A) certification is only granted when products “have satisfied the requirements of the UKTC-SR-003 Partition scheme. This includes the testing of products to BS476: Part 22:1987 or EN 1364-1:2015, the inspection of their Factory Production Control continuing surveillance audits and testing of samples of products taken from production.

UKTC Certificates will make reference to this Scheme Document Number (003) but shall only specify the type of product / product range / system (such as for example: Partition or Fire Barrier as determined by UKTC during the certification process). This is determined by UKTC and documented as described in order to prevent confusion of any third parties reviewing the certificates or misrepresentation of the certificated product’s intended use at a time after issue of the certificate.

Certificates are valid for five years subject to:

* satisfactory surveillance visits to review compliance with the factory production control (FPC).
* ongoing surveillance.
* ongoing audit testing of the certificated products.
* satisfactory results from the required fire test.

For full details of the certification process please read *UKTC-CF-500 UKCA Third-Party Certification and UKCA Marking Applicant Guide* along with *UKTC-CF-400 Customer Agreement* which are provided with the application form.

9.  Identification

All certificated Partitions / Curtain Walling Systems / Fire Barriers manufactured under the scheme must be identified using the UKTC supplied labelling system, which is to be applied to the surface of the Partitions / Curtain Walling Systems / Fire Barriers and must not be removed.

If it is not possible to apply a label, the individual components must be legibly printed with the UKTC Ensure logo, certificate number and the either the batch details or date of production of the component to provide traceability.

Any packaging must also be printed with the UKTC Ensure logo and the applicable certificate number.

10. Audit Testing

Following the initial certification, audit testing of each of the certificated component types will be carried out annually, on product sampled by UKTC.

11. UKTC Vault

All the test reports and FOA’s or EXAP’s supplied in support of the products certificated scope will be stored in the UKTC vault and will be publicly available either by scanning the QR code on the partitions ensure scheme label or by visiting the UKTC website.

12. Installation

UKTC strongly recommend that the certificated partition systems are installed by companies that operate as a member of a third-party certification scheme for partition systems installation, as such schemes are designed to ensure that the installation process maintains product conformity.

Appendix A

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