



2nd November 2018

The Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP
Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government
The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
4th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

By email: Office of James Brokenshire

Dear Secretary of State

ACDM'S Proposals for the re-supply of the GRP Fire Doors to the market

Continuing the discussions and activities being undertaken to address the concerns identified by the MHCLG, whilst conducting its fire door tests earlier this year, I now report on further progress between the Association of Composite Door Manufacturers (ACDM) and various stakeholders to address and resolve the issue.

Following consultation with the MHCLG over many months, together with much bi-directional testing of GRP fire door sets, the ACDM believe that the implementation of the proposals presented to you in my communication of 12th October 2018 provides enough foundation to restart the supply of GRP fire doors to the UK market. Therefore, I will advise ACDM members today, that they can return to market with immediate effect, assuming they can meet the following criteria required by the ACDM:

1. The fire door set manufacturer must have primary test evidence illustrating that it has passed a fire test from both sides and have written confirmation from the test house confirming this result.
2. Additionally, a director from the manufacturer should write a confirmation to the supplier of the door blank, enclosing the successful bi-directional test evidence, confirming that the door sets they intend to manufacture and supply, will use without exception, only the components within the door sets tested.

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2)

26th October 2018

The ACDM intend to release a positive press statement early in November regarding the re-introduction of GRP fire door sets to the market. The ACDM would be grateful for the Secretary of State's support with this in the form of a press statement and/or quote, highlighting the action taken and positive engagement with the department. The timing of the press release depends upon some additional information points being addressed. These include:

- Traceability of products: How this will be achieved through 3rd party certification?
- Product life cycle: How this will be communicated to users/landlords and the maintenance requirements?
- Industry fire test results: The provision of summary anonymised test data, showing all recent bi-directional tested door sets by type, indicating pass or fail, times for each direction, together with any subsequent improvements.

On the subject of remediation, this will be dealt with separately from the re-supply of new products. A proposal and action plan by the ACDM on how this may be dealt with is currently under consideration. Input is also expected from the Expert Panel. This is being examined by Nick Coombes for the National Fire Chiefs Council and Jon Bednall & Matthew Mycock for the ACDM, to develop the detailed process for a buildings risk assessment and to determine what remediation is required. The results of this work will not be available until week commencing 5th November 2018, due to holidays.

I am pleased to report that the ACDM believe that the industry has made sufficient progress to allow the resumption of the manufacture and supply of GRP fire doors to the market under the terms stated above. This is essential to prevent further damage to an industry that is already severely weakened and suffering job losses, but which has reacted positively and responsibly by voluntarily withdrawing from the market until this resolution could be found.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Fowlds
Chairman
Association of Composite Door Manufacturers

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