

Timber fire door test results – covering narrative

Purpose

This test data is provided to inform building owners building risk assessments and plans for fitting and repair or replacement of fire doors. Details within this note provide important context for the results supplied which represent only a sample of the market and are only relevant for the specific model of door set tested from the manufacturer. This note does not make any recommendations for fitting, repair or replacement. That is a matter for individual building owners and their advisers.

Background

Following the investigation into the GRP composite fire door market the independent Expert Panel, appointed following the Grenfell Tower fire, advised MHCLG to undertake further investigation into the timber fire door market

Testing

A planned programme of testing was established for a range of timber fire doors between October 2018 and March 2019.

All tests were undertaken to British Standard BS-476:223 in a UKAS accredited test house on complete door sets facing into and away from the furnace.

Test conclusions

In total 25 different timber fire doors were furnace tests. All of the fire doors tested passed the 30-minute standard on both sides of the door. A full table of results can be found below.

The Expert Panel has therefore concluded that timber fire doors perform consistently in fire resistance when tested and pass the 30-minute required standard across the market when manufactured to specification.

However, it is important to be clear that this does not provide complete assurance. Building owners should still always assure themselves that the fire doors they install are fit for purpose and have the required documentation and certification.

Advice

The Expert Panel have issued guidance for building owners looking to fit or replace fire doors: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advice-for-buildingowners-on-assurance-and-replacing-of-flat-entrance-fire-doors>.

Building owners should assure themselves that products being used in their buildings meet the appropriate standards. Where doors that have failed tests throughout the investigation are installed, building owners should review their building fire risk assessments and consider whether and how quickly these doors should be replaced.

For advice on testing, guidance is included in Approved Document B: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fire-safety-approved-document-b>.