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Sent: Friday, July 8, 2016 7:51 AM
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Subject: Revised NHBC Guidance for buildings above 18m
Attach: Acceptability of common wall constructions containing combustible materials in high rise buildings.pdf

Hi Everyone,

Yesterday at the NHBC facades conference (at which NHBC, DCLG, BRE and Exova presented) NHBC unveiled a new technical note which will be expanded in the future as more test evidence becomes available. Basically they have taken all the test evidence available in the market featuring combustible insulations (6 Kingspan, 2 Xtratherm, 1 Celotex) to come up with 3 standard wall build ups that they deem automatically compliant. They all have a number of caveats and any deviation from one of these 3 wall types will still require supporting evidence in line with BCA TGN 18.

The basic wall build up behind the cladding is the same in all instances which is as follows;

- Double layer of 12.5mm plasterboard
- Min 100mm lightweight steel frame (can be unfilled or use combustible or non combustible infill)
- 12mm cement particle board or better
- Insulation upto 140mm thick of either K15, RS5000 or Xtratherm SR/RS
- Drained and vented cavity

The 3 cladding materials are 75mm masonry (brick/block), 18mm factory treated timber to Euroclass B, ACM panels at least Euroclass B.

All the constructions should have cavity barriers at compartment lines and around all openings.

Once the NHBC website is working again I will download the presentations given yesterday and circulate them.

Kind regards,

Adam Heath

Technical Project Leader

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