

Dated: [21] January 2020

IN THE GRENFELL TOWER INQUIRY

WITNESS STATEMENT OF STEPHEN WASHER

I, STEPHEN WASHER DO SAY as follows: -

1. I make this witness statement in response to a written request for evidence under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 made by the Grenfell Tower Inquiry on 27 June 2019. In this witness statement I address the specific questions put to me in that request for evidence.
2. Between January 2010 and 31 December 2012 I was employed by Manse Masterdor Limited in various capacities as follows:
 - 2.1 Between January 2010 and the end of July 2011 I worked at Manse Masterdor Limited's factory in and my roles included CNC machinery programming, breakdown and production support, machining timber components on six headed moulding machinery in the timber mill, and issuing and collating manufacturing reports to the Production Director, also based in Knaresborough.
 - 2.2 Between August 2011 and the end of July 2012 I worked machining and assembling timber components that were manufactured into the timber blades for doors prior to the blades being transported from Knaresborough to the company's factory in Ambergate, Derbyshire. In addition, I issued and collated production reports for the Production Director.
 - 2.3 Between August 2012 and the end of December 2012 I continued to machine and assemble timber components being manufactured into timber blades, but did so at the company's factory in Ambergate, Derbyshire, and I trained other operatives to perform this task.

- 2.4 I was given no specific training or information in relation to the regulatory requirements for Fire-resisting Door, nor in relation to the importance of intumescent strips, the importance of cold smoke seals, the significance of glazing and hardware or the importance of self-closing devices.
3. I have been asked to give details of Manse Masterdor Limited's approach to ensuring that doors sold as FD30 or FD30S fire doors were tested to appropriate standards and were fire resistant and controlled smoke as required by the relevant building regulations and other associated guidance. I have no knowledge of these matters.
4. I have been asked if I was aware of any changes made to the manufacturing process of composite Fire-resisting Doors between 2006 and 2013 and, if so, what changes were made. I am not aware of any such changes.
5. I have been asked if Manse Masterdor Limited ever supplied and/or installed fire doors which differed from the fire doors that had undergone relevant testing, and if so to explain how and in what circumstances that occurred. I have no knowledge of these matters.
6. I have been asked to give details of any systematic problems arising from the installation of composite Fire-resisting Doors sold by Manse Masterdor. I have no knowledge of any such problems.
7. I have been asked to give details of any issues relating to the self-closing devices on composite Fire-resisting Doors sold by Manse Masterdor. I have no knowledge of any such issues.
8. I have been asked to give details of any advice relating to the maintenance of composite Fire-resisting Doors that was routinely given by Manse Masterdor to the purchasers of such doors. I have no direct knowledge of any specific advice given, but I was aware of the existence of an information sheet containing an installation and maintenance advice that was sent out with each fire door and with each non fire door manufactured by Manse Masterdor Limited. I do not have a copy of that information sheet.

9. I have been asked if I was aware that Manse Masterdor was contracted to install fire doors in public housing throughout the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea from February 2011 onwards, and if so, to give any details I can in relation to these matters including the installation, the type of doors and self-closing mechanisms and of any problems that arose. I confirm that I was aware that Manse Masterdor Limited supplied fire doors to numerous housing areas in London, but that I did not specifically know of them being supplied to the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea. I have no knowledge or information in relation to the contract, the installation or the types of doors or self-closing mechanisms and any problems that arose in relation to Manse Masterdor Limited's contract with the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea.
10. I am willing for this statement to form part of the evidence before the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and for it to be published on the Inquiry's website.

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed: SwM.
Stephen Washer

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