

**WITNESS STATEMENT**

Criminal Procedure Rules, r27.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5b

Statement of: JONES, DAN

Age if under 18: OVER 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation: MANAGING DIRECTOR

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This statement (consisting of 2 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: D JONES

Date: 02/05/2018

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

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This statement is in relation to intumescent strips that my company provides for fire doors and details my previous employment with Norseal and my working relationship with Manse Masterdor/ Masterdor. I am currently the Managing Director of Seal Tight Solutions, which manufactures intumescent strips, which are then provided to door companies. Seals are installed around 3 sides of a fire door, glazing, locks and letterboxes. In 2007, I went to work for Norseal Ltd, which was a supplier of passive fire intumescent strips. I was the General Manager but mainly worked in sales, but was involved in the development of new products and product testing. I required no qualifications to do this role and learnt as I went along. All of my knowledge around intumescent strips is largely a result of my experience in the fire seal industry. I have attended "fire doors explained" days, organised by BM Trada, which has also assisted with my knowledge around fire doors. I have a good understanding of what is required for a door to be deemed a fire door and I also have knowledge around the Building Regulations. When I worked with clients, they would often have a problem around their doors and I was involved in the finding of a solution, for example a more compact drop down seal for acoustic and smoke.

In early 2013, I met with Jim DUNCAN, who was the Technical Manager for LB Plastics and Manse Masterdor, at a joint client meeting for Warmseal Ltd, who wanted a fire door. Norseal were to provide Warmseal (who were a competitor of Manse Masterdor), the seals and LB Plastics were supplying the frame. Norseal's product was made of graphite and was on a roll and had a flexible PVC cap, as opposed to pre-cut lengths, which made it easier to fit and produced less waste. Jim DUNCAN liked this product as it would also improve production techniques and the general product aesthetics and as a result, I

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arranged a meeting with Manse Masterdor, via Jim DUNCAN, in order to discuss Manse Masterdor incorporating our seals in to their doors.

In mid-2013, I met with representatives from Manse Masterdor, at their offices in Nether Heage. Jim DUNCAN was present with their Sales Manager, who I think was Chris HUDSON. Another person was also present; however, I cannot remember his name. During the meeting, the new intumescent strip design was looked at and it was discussed what the benefits of Norseals product would be, if implemented on to the Manse Masterdor products — both their Masterdor which was the timber door product and the Suredor, which was the plastic option from Distinction doors with a Nan Ya blade. As the Norseal product was on a coil, it makes it easier for operatives to fit the seals in to the frame components, meaning zero joints, therefore producing virtually no waste. The flexible PVC capping blended well with the PVC frame, making it less prone to on-site interference, such as vandalism and removal. Manse Masterdor liked the product and it was agreed that two tests would be completed, at the expense of Norseal — one timber door and one plastic one.

The doors with Norseals products were tested at BM Trada in High Wycombe, which is a UKAS accredited test house and both doors passed the test. Jim DUNCAN had requested that they be tested to EN standard, as it was a more onerous test and at the time there was talk that CE Marking was going to be introduced, so if it had been tested to British Standards, a further test to meet EN Standards would have been required, at considerable cost. The main difference between BS and EN is that the BS test uses a 2mm wire for the temperature curve, whilst the EN test uses a 100x100x6mm ceramic plate, which means that the temperature has to rise quicker. Once the tests were completed, the products were incorporated into an assessment document commissioned by Manse Masterdor via International Fire Consultants, which basically states that the doors are fit to be sold as fire doors.

In 2014, I left Norseal and set up my own company — Sealed Tight Solutions. I had established a new intumescent strip product, which was still graphite based but was more flexible, so approached companies and offered my product as an alternative to Norseals. Manse Masterdor was one of these companies and they expressed their desire to have a working relationship with my new company. Not long after, I held a meeting with Manse Masterdor at their offices and a test plan was drawn up. The new product was tested at BM Trada and upon passing and completing the tests, the products were incorporated in to an assessment document commissioned by Manse Masterdor via International Fire Consultants.

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In late 2015, Masterdor Ltd, decided to commission an additional assessment with BM Trada Ltd, and the products were successfully tested in High Wycombe and the assessment written by them. I believe the reason for this was to make it more encumbersome.

When Synseal took over Manse Masterdor and the company changed to Masterdor, Seal Tight Solutions has continued to have a working relationship with them.

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