

**WITNESS STATEMENT**

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

Statement of: HUDSON, MIKE

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

Occupation: SALES DIRECTOR

---

This statement (consisting of 4 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: M HUDSON

Date: 31/07/2019

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

---

This statement is made to assist the Grenfell Tower fire investigation.

I am now retired, having retired around 2012 being made redundant by Manse Masterdor however I assisted in a consultancy capacity for a three (3) month period in 2013.

In 1989 I joined my three brothers, David HUDSON, Phillip HUDSON, Keith HUDSON setting up a PVC-U window company named Manse Window Design Ltd generally working for local authority in the North of the country. As this time LB Plastics supplied the PVC-U components for our windows. In 1992 we launched a new range of timber doors combining the timber door set with the PVC-U window set which was a very unique range at the time, named Masterdor. There were no fire doors at this time.

The company grew and grew with an income up to nine (9) million pounds on the door business however in 1998 we hit a cash flow issue and because of the relationship with James LITCHFIELD which we had established LB Plastics acquired Manse Masterdor Ltd.

Signature: M HUDSON  
2020

Signature witnessed by:

Nothing changed all four (4) brothers stayed in position and we became employees of LB Plastics. We continued manufacturing and producing the timber door sets in Knaresborough til 2009. However in 2002 they began manufacturing excess timber doors under LB Plastics at the Derwent Factory. In 2004 I believe they began manufacturing and producing GRP composite doors and it wasn't until 2007 when the GRP composite fire door was introduced. This door was fully developed and tested to the British Standard at an accredited test site and certificated. Jim DUNCAN under his line manager Barry GOOCH had the responsibility for the development of all GRP doors including the GRP fire doors which are known as Suredor.

My role at Manse Masterdor was as an Associate Director which means I was responsible for day to day management and sales based in the Knaresborough office. With regards to contracts, contracts were required to be signed by any two (2) of the Associate Directors and was usually myself and co-associate director John TAPSCOTT. I cannot remember many details regarding the Grenfell Tower contract except that it would have been under the contract with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. I believe the contract was arranged through the LHC.

Regarding my knowledge of the doors produced by Manse Masterdor (GRP doors). The blanks/slabs are bought in (Nan-Ya) from China, the PVC frame is produced by LB Plastics in Derbyshire. The double glazed units for the GRP doors are also produced by LB Plastics who had a glass plant. The glass was a Pyroshield 1 wired glass supplied by Pilkington. The glazing, intrumescent strips and hardware are then fitted after the CNC process, and delivered to site.

The parts/components for the manufacture of the timber door controlled at Knaresborough and the GRP door at Derwent are sourced independently. Around 2009 possibly December the manufacture of timber doors at Knaresborough ceased completely and it was transferred to the Derwent factory.

Signature: M HUDSON  
2020

Signature witnessed by:

In 2012 financial pressure hit Manse Masterdor and LB Plastics and I was made redundant. In 2013 James LITCHFIELD decided to sell the business and Synseal accured the business in 2014. Further more, I'd like to add I never went to or visited Grenfell Tower. I did attend an introduction meeting at a TMO office I believe with Steve MOCKLOW (Regional Sales Manager, London area for Manse Masterdor). Also present was Allan DAVIS of LHC and I remember a female [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I do not re-call if the female was from RBKC, TMO or a resident. It was an informal non-minuted, casual meeting.

I would like to clarify that the timber doors were fire tested under Masterdor, the GRP fire door (Suredor) was tested under LB Plastics. I am aware that the fire door (GRP) failed a fire test following Grenfell Tower fire which has shocked me. From memory the doors were tested on a latch only, internal opening and inside only.

Signature: M HUDSON  
2020

Signature witnessed by: