

Fire resistant timber screens

Exciting Development from SCHOTT and Sealmaster

Two of the leading manufacturers of specialist products for the passive fire resistance industry have teamed up to successfully test and promote a solution to achieve a 60 minute integrity rating for timber screens WITH transom bars. With the use of SCHOTT's unique borosilicate glass, PYRAN[®] S, and Fireglaze 2000 seals and GL60 liner from Sealmaster, it is now possible to offer a proven solution to meet these onerous fire conditions. Not only did the official test at Warrington Fire run for 72 minutes (i.e. a 20% overrun beyond the target of 60 minutes) but they also tested in large glass sizes and to the European Standard EN 1364-1.

This new European test is more severe than the British Standard (BS476 Part 22) which it supersedes. The main reason for this is that the European test uses thermocouples which have a greater thermal capacity. The required time temperature profile is the same for both tests but, because the thermocouples are different, the actual furnace temperature is higher in the European test than in the British test. The effect is more pronounced when the temperatures are rising rapidly. The effect for some products can be severe. Glass can be disproportionately affected because it softens at a particular temperature and thus makes the consequence of running the furnace to a higher temperature more onerous. Wood is disproportionately affected because it degrades more rapidly. However, due to its unique borosilicate composition, PYRAN[®] S fire resistant glass has a higher softening point than most of its competitors who use soda-lime composition glasses. Therefore, PYRAN S is capable of resisting these higher temperatures for longer time periods and hence achieving this exciting target. In addition, PYRAN[®] S is a clear glass with no integral wires. To counter the faster rate of degradation with higher temperatures on timber, Sealmaster has developed a seal, Fireglaze 2000, specifically to overcome the problems associated with more rapid burning.

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SCHOTT UK Ltd

Sales Office

Drummond Road
Stafford ST16 3EL

Phone: 01785 223166

Fax: 01785 223522

Email: info.uk@schott.com

Web: www.schott.com/uk

Now there is a proven solution for the use of clear fire resistant glass in timber frames WITH transoms. Permitted sizes of PYRAN[®] S can be up to 2857mm high x 1400mm wide. This evidence is confirmed in CERTIFIRE 291, the third party certification report from Warrington Fire for SCHOTT UK Ltd.

For further details please contact SCHOTT UK technical support on 01785 223166 or email info.uk@schott.com.

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Editorial contact: Rebecca Ashley, Marketing Services Manager, SCHOTT UK Ltd

Email: Rebecca.Ashley@schott.com

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SCHOTT PYRAN[®] S tested to the European Standard achieves a 60 minute integrity rating for timber screens WITH transom bars.

SCHOTT UK Ltd
Sales Office
Drummond Road
Stafford ST16 3EL

Phone: 01785 223166
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