

Assessment Report



Title:

The likely fire resistance performance of linear gap sealing systems in aerated concrete walls if tested in accordance with AS1530.4-2005.

BWA Report No:

23751-00

Report Sponsor:

Soudal NV
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Belgium



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1 INTRODUCTION

This report presents an assessment of the likely fire resistance performance of linear gap sealing systems in aerated concrete walls if tested in accordance with AS1530.4-2005

The tested prototypes described in Section 2 of this report, when subject to the proposed variations described in Section 3, are to perform satisfactorily if tested in accordance with the referenced test method described in Section 4. The conclusions of the report are summarised in Section 5.

The validity of this assessment is conditional on compliance with Sections 7, 8 and 9 of this report.

Summaries of the test data on which this assessment is based are provided in Appendix A. A summary of the critical issues leading to the assessment conclusions including the main points of argument are included in Appendix B.

2 TESTED PROTOTYPES

This assessment is based on test report 13492A from the WFRGENT NV which describes a fire resistance test performed on various linear gap sealing systems when installed in vertically and horizontally orientated gaps within aerated concrete wall.

Permission has been granted from Soudal NV for the data to be used in the preparation of this report.

For the purpose of this report, data considered from this fire resistance test is summarised in Appendix A

3 VARIATION TO TESTED PROTOTYPES

The proposed construction shall be as tested in 13492A and consideration shall be given to the likely performance in accordance with AS1530.4-2005.

4 REFERENCED TEST PROCEDURES

This report is prepared with reference to the requirements of AS1530.4-2005 and AS4072.1-2005 for the determination of a FRL.

5 FORMAL ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

On the basis of the discussion presented in this report, it is the opinion of this testing authority that if the tested prototypes described in Section 2 had been varied as in Section 3, they would have been likely to achieve the fire resistance performances below if tested in accordance with the test method referenced in Section 4 and subject to the requirements of Section 7.

Table 1: Likely fire resistance performance for Aerated Concrete Walls

ID	Wall Thick. (mm)	Gap Width (mm)	Seal depth (mm)	Sealant Reference	Backing Material	Seal	FRL
A	200	30	200	Soudafoam FR	None	Both faces	-/120/120
B	200	25	25	Firecryl FR	Soudaform FR	Exposed	-/240/240
C	200	15	15	Soudaseal FR	Pe- Backer Rod	Exposed	-/240/240
D	200	15	15	Firecryl FR	Pe- Backer Rod	Exposed	-/240/240
E	200	10	200	Soudafoam FR	None	Both faces	-/240/240
F	200	10	10	Silirub FR B1	Pe- Backer Rod	Exposed	-/240/240
G	200	40	20	Soudaseal FR	Soudafoam FR & Firecryl FR	Exposed	-/240/240
H	200	30	20	Soudaseal FR	Pe- Backer Rod	Both faces	-/240/240
I	200	30	20	Soudaseal FR	Soudafoam FR	Exposed	-/240/240
J	200	15	15	Firecryl FR	Soudafoam FR	Exposed	-/240/240
K	200	25	20	Soudaseal FR	Soudafoam FR	Exposed	-/240/240

Note

Seal (A), (E): Soudafoam FR applied through full thickness of the wall

Seal (G): Soudaseal FR applied to exposed face and Firecryl FR applied to unexposed face.

6 DIRECT FIELD OF APPLICATION

The results of this assessment are applicable to walls exposed to fire from one side or exposed to fire from either side depending on design

7 REQUIREMENTS

This report details the methods of construction, test conditions and assessed results that would have been expected had the specific elements of construction described herein been tested in accordance with AS 1530.4-2005.

The supporting wall of floor construction shall be capable of providing effective support of the proposed construction for the required fire resistance period (FRL).

Any further variations with respect to size, constructional details, loads, stresses, edge or end conditions, other than those identified in this report, may invalidate the conclusions drawn in this report.

8 VALIDITY

This assessment report does not provide an endorsement by Bodycote Warringtonfire (Aus) Pty Ltd of the actual products supplied.

The conclusions of this assessment may be used to directly assess fire hazard, but it should be recognised that a single test method will not provide a full assessment of fire hazard under all conditions.

Because of the nature of fire testing, and the consequent difficulty in quantifying the uncertainty of measurement, it is not possible to provide a stated degree of accuracy. The inherent variability in test procedures, materials and methods of construction, and installation may lead to variations in performance between elements of similar construction.

The assessment can therefore only relate only to the actual prototype test specimens, testing conditions, and methodology described in the supporting data, and does not imply any performance abilities of constructions of subsequent manufacture.

This assessment is based on information and experience available at the time of preparation. The published procedures for the conduct of tests and the assessment of test results are the subject of constant review and improvement and it is recommended that this report be reviewed on or, before, the stated expiry date.

The information contained in this report shall not be used for the assessment of variations other than those stated in the conclusions above. The assessment is valid provided no modifications are made to the systems detailed in this report. All details of construction should be consistent with the requirements stated in the relevant test reports and all referenced documents.

9 AUTHORITY

9.1 APPLICANT UNDERTAKINGS AND CONDITIONS OF USE

By using this report as evidence of compliance or performance the applicant(s) confirms that:

to their knowledge the component or element of structure, which is the subject of this assessment, has not been subjected to a fire test to the Standard against which this assessment is being made, and

they agree to withdraw this assessment from circulation should the component or element of structure be the subject of a fire test by a test authority in accordance with the Standard against which this assessment is being made and the results are not in agreement with this assessment, and

they are not aware of any information that could adversely affect the conclusions of this assessment and if they subsequently become aware of any such information, agree to ask the assessing authority to withdraw the assessment.

9.2 GENERAL CONDITIONS OF USE

This report may only be reproduced in full without modifications by the report sponsor. Copies, extracts or abridgments of this report in any form shall not be published by other organisations or individuals without the permission of Bodycote Warringtonfire (Aus) Pty Ltd.

9.3 AUTHORISATION ON BEHALF OF BODYCOTE WARRINGTONFIRE (AUST) PTY LTD

Prepared by:



Mandeep Kamal

Reviewed by:



K. G. Nicholls

9.4 DATE OF ISSUE

27th July 2009

9.5 EXPIRY DATE

30th July 2014

APPENDIX A - SUMMARY OF SUPPORTING DATA

A.1 TEST REPORT – NR. 13492A

A.1.1 Report Sponsor

A.1.1.1 Soudal NV, Everdongenlaan 18-20, B-2300 Turnhout, Belgium.

A.1.2 Test Laboratory

A.1.2.1 WFRGENT NV, Ottergemsesteenweg- Zuid 711, B- 9000 Gent, Belgium.

A.1.3 Test Date

A.1.3.1 The test was conducted on 25 November 2008

A.1.4 Test standards prescribed

A.1.4.1 The test was conducted in accordance EN 1363-1:1999 and EN 1366-4:2006

A.1.5 Variations to Test Standard

A.1.5.1 The thermocouples were placed in accordance with EN 1366.4-2006.

A.1.6 Description of Tested Assembly

Nine vertically orientated and two horizontally oriented gaps between sections of aerated concrete block separating elements were sealed with different linear gap sealing systems. All of the gaps were sealed on the exposed and non-exposed sides.

The specimens referred to in the above table are as follows:

ID	Wall Thick. (mm)	Gap Width (mm)	Seal depth (mm)	Sealant Reference	Backing Material	Seal Positions
A	200	30	200	Soudafoam FR	None	Both faces
B	200	25	25	Firecryl FR	Soudafoam FR	Exposed
C	200	15	15	Soudaseal FR	Pe- Backer Rod	Exposed
D	200	15	15	Firecryl FR	Pe- Backer Rod	Exposed
E	200	10	200	Soudafoam FR	None	Both faces
F	200	10	10	Silirub FR B1	Pe- Backer Rod	Exposed
G	200	40	20	Soudaseal FR	Soudafoam FR & Firecryl FR	Exposed
H	200	30	20	Soudaseal FR	Pe- Backer Rod	Both faces
I	200	30	20	Soudaseal FR	Soudafoam FR	Exposed
J	200	15	15	Firecryl FR	Soudafoam FR	Exposed
K	200	25	20	Soudaseal FR	Soudafoam FR	Exposed

Seal (A), (E): Soudafoam FR applied through full thickness of the wall

Seal (G): Soudaseal FR applied to exposed face and Firecryl FR applied to unexposed face.

A.1.7 Test Results

The test was discontinued after 240 minutes and the specimens satisfied the performance criteria specified in EN1366-4:2006 for the following period:

Specimen	Time to failure in minutes		
	Insulation	Integrity (Cotton pad)	Integrity (Sustained flaming)
Joint Seal A	158	162	163*
Joint Seal B	240*	240*	240*
Joint Seal C	240*	240*	240*
Joint Seal D	240*	240*	240*
Joint Seal E	240*	240*	240*
Joint Seal F	240*	240*	240*
Joint Seal G	240*	240*	240*
Joint Seal H	240*	240*	240*
Joint Seal I	240*	240*	240*
Joint Seal J	240*	240*	240*
Joint Seal K	240*	240*	240*

* No failure observed up to this time.

APPENDIX B ASSESSMENT OF SPECIFIC VARIATIONS

B.1 RELEVANCE OF EN1366-4:2006 DATA WITH RESPECT TO AS1530.4-2005

B.1.1 General

B.1.1.1 The fire resistance test 13492A was conducted in accordance with EN 1366-4:2006 which refers to the general requirements of EN1363-1: 1999. These standards differ from AS1530.4 2005 and the significance of these differences is discussed below.

Temperature Regime

B.1.1.2 The furnace temperature regime for fire resistance tests conducted in accordance with AS 1530.4-2005 follows the same trend as EN1363-1: 1999.

B.1.1.3 The parameters outlining the accuracy of control of the furnace temperature in AS 1530.4-2005 and EN1363-1: 1999 are not appreciably different.

Furnace Thermocouples

B.1.1.4 The furnace thermocouples specified in AS1530.4-2005 are type K, mineral insulated metal sheathed (MIMS) with a stainless steel sheath having a wire of diameter of less than 1.0mm and an overall diameter of 3mm. The measuring junction protrudes at least 25mm from the supporting heat resistant tube.

B.1.1.5 The furnace thermocouple specified in EN1363.1: 1999 is made from folded steel plate that faces the furnace chamber. A thermocouple is fixed to the side of the plate facing the specimen with the thermocouple hot junction protected by a pad of insulating material.

B.1.1.6 The plate part is to be constructed from 150 ±1 mm long by 100 ±1 mm wide by 0.7 ±0.1 mm thick nickel alloy sheet strips.

B.1.1.7 The measuring junction is to consist of nickel chromium/nickel aluminium (Type K) wire as defined in IEC 60584-1, contained within mineral insulation in a heat-resisting steel alloy sheath of nominal diameter 1 mm, the hot junctions being electrically insulated from the sheath.

B.1.1.8 The thermocouple hot junction is to be fixed to the geometric centre of the plate, by a small steel strip made from the same material as the plate. The steel strip can be welded to the plate or may be screwed to it to facilitate replacement of the thermocouple. The strip should be approximately 18 mm by 6 mm if it is spot-welded to the plate, and nominally 25 mm by 6 mm if it is to be screwed to the plate. The screw is to be 2 mm in diameter.

B.1.1.9 The assembly of plate and thermocouple should be fitted with a pad of inorganic insulation material 97 ±1 mm by 97 ±1 mm by 10 ±1 mm thick with a density of 280 ±30 kg/m³.

B.1.1.10 The relative location of the furnace thermocouples for the exposed face of the specimen, for AS1530.4-2005 and EN1363.1: 1999, is 100mm ±10mm and 100mm ±50mm respectively.

- B.1.1.11 The furnace control thermocouples required by EN1363.1: 1999 are less responsive than those specified by AS1530.4-2005. This variation in sensitivity can produce a potentially more onerous heating condition for specimen tested to EN1363.1: 1999, particularly when the furnace temperature is changing quickly in the early stages of the test.

Specimen Thermocouples

- B.1.1.12 For penetration sealing systems, thermocouples are fixed in generally similar locations on the unexposed face: on the supporting construction and/or seal and on the penetrating service adjacent at the plane of penetration.

- B.1.1.13 AS1530.4-2005 specifies thermocouple locations for linear gap seals (control joints), as follows:

- At least three on the surface of the seal, with one thermocouple for each 0.3 m² of surface area, up to a maximum of five, uniformly distributed over the area (one thermocouple being located at the centre of the seal).
- On the surface of the seal 25 mm from the edge of the opening, with one thermocouple for each 500 mm of the perimeter.
- On the surface of the separating element 25 mm from the edge of the opening, with one thermocouple for each 500 mm of the perimeter.

- B.1.1.14 EN1366-4:2006 specifies that at least three specimen thermocouples be located at the centre line of the linear joint seals, and four on separating element only 15mm from the edge. Other thermocouples may be applied where the laboratory personnel consider it necessary, as evenly as possible, where the temperature reached is thought to be higher than elsewhere.

B.1.1.15 ***Furnace Pressure***

- B.1.1.16 It is the requirement of AS1530.4-2005 that a pressure of 20_±3 Pa be maintained at the top of vertical penetrating service and the services are included in the zone where positive pressure exceeds 10 Pa, and for EN1363-1: 1999 a minimum pressure of 15 Pa is required at the centre of the lowest test specimen.

- B.1.1.17 Test report shows that pressure at mid height of the vertical specimen is 15 Pa. Considering 8Pa/m rise in pressure, the pressure at the top of the vertical specimen will be 19.8 Pa and 10.2 at the bottom of the specimen. Both these values satisfy pressure criteria in accordance with the requirements of AS1530.4:2005.

- B.1.1.18 The parameters outlining the accuracy of control of the furnace pressure in AS1530.4-2005 and EN1363-1: 1999 are also not appreciably different.

Specimen Size

- B.1.1.19 It is the requirement of AS1530.4-2005 that a control joint specimen be at least 1m long, this requirement is met by the specimen tested in 13492A.

Criteria of Failure

- B.1.1.20 AS1530.4-2005 specifies the following performance criteria for linear gap sealing systems (control joints):

Structural Adequacy:

Not applicable

Integrity:

- B.1.1.21 Failure in relation to integrity shall be deemed to have occurred if the specimen:
- Collapses,
 - Sustained flaming on the non-fire side in excess of 10 seconds,
 - Ignition of cotton pad within 30 seconds when applied.

Insulation:

- B.1.1.22 Failure in relation to insulation shall be deemed to have occurred when the temperature of any of the relevant thermocouples attached to the unexposed face of the test specimen rises by more than 180 K above the initial temperature.
- B.1.1.23 The integrity and insulation criteria specified in EN1366-4:2006 are not appreciably different from AS1530.4:2005.

B.1.2 Application of Test Data from 13492A to AS1530.4 -2005.

- B.1.2.1 The variations in furnace heating regimes, furnace thermocouples and the responses of the different thermocouple types to the furnace conditions are not expected to have significant effect on the outcome of the referenced fire resistance test.
- B.1.2.2 The relative locations of the specimen thermocouples are similar however, EN1366-4 requires three thermocouples located on each control joint, and four thermocouples on the seal separating element Junction. These thermocouples are 15mm from the edge whereas AS1530.4:2005 requires those to be 25mm from the edge of the seal.
- B.1.2.3 Due to the closer location it will however make test results in accordance EN1366-4:2006 more onerous than those to AS1530.4-2005.
- B.1.2.4 Based on the above discussion it is considered that the results relating to the integrity and insulation performance of the tested penetrations in 13492A can be safely and conservatively be used to assess the FRL in accordance with AS1530.4-2005 and AS4072.1-2005.