

DON'T WASTE THEIR TIME

**GET IT RIGHT
THE FIRST TIME!**



A BWF-CERTIFIRE FIRE DOOR & DOORSET SCHEME FACT CARD ON

Certification – Your Guarantee of Safety

- Just like any passive or active fire protection system, it is essential for a **fire door** to perform its vital task in the event of a fire.
- To satisfy UK Building Regulations, a door design must pass a recognised fire test, or an assessment based on test evidence. Tests are usually conducted in a **United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS)** approved laboratory, with the intention of checking that the design meets current standards and to prove that it will hold back a fire for a prescribed period of time.
- The test is conducted on a door assembly which has been supplied by the manufacturer, with no independent selection or assurance that subsequent production will be to the same quality or specification.
- It is important to understand that a test report is only valid for the door assembly that has been tested. So a single leaf door assembly test is not valid for an assembly involving pairs of doors, nor a double acting single leaf door.
- The BWF recommends that all fire door designs should also be third party certificated to offer a safeguard for important aspects which are not covered in a single fire test.
- Third party certification tests and verifies a fire door's design, performance, manufacturing process & the associated procedures, quality assurance, the audit trail from manufacture to installation and identification marking.
- Every fire door design manufactured under the BWF-CERTIFIRE Fire Door & Doorset Scheme has been independently tested and certificated as proof that, all things being equal, it will be reliable in the event of a fire. But it is not only the fire door itself that has to be certificated. Anyone involved in the handling of certificated doors, whether manufacturing the frames, inserting glass vision panels or installation, should be able to demonstrate through independent certification that they are capable of doing the job to the required standard.
- Although it is vital to use certificated components when completing a fire door assembly, it is also important to ensure that the components used are compatible. It is wrong to assume that all certificated components will work effectively together.

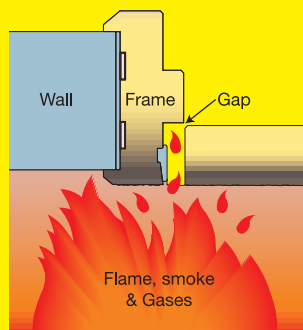
INSTALLATION OF FIRE DOORS - NOT A STANDARD TASK

Including:

- **Certification - Your guarantee of safety**
- **The importance of correct installation**
- **Follow the instructions**
- **What if there are no instructions or label on the fire door?**
- **FIRAS - Certifying installers**



The Importance of Correct Installation



Follow the Instructions

What if there are no instructions or label on the fire door?

FIRAS – Certifying Installers

Proper installation is integral to fire door performance. It is one of the final and, arguably, most crucial stages of the work carried out on fire doorsets.

As manufacturers & suppliers go through the extensive and committed process of having their doors and components rigorously tested in accordance to the latest standards, the installation procedures become ever more important to ensure that the fire door remains fully reliable.

The correct installation of fire door assemblies and doorsets is fundamental to their overall performance because it will ensure the fire door will remain reliable to its fire integrity rating in the event of a fire.

A fire doorset is correctly installed in the furnace when it is tested, so therefore it must be installed correctly on site so that the door will perform in the same way when needed.

Incorrect installation defeats the purpose of certificated fire doors, certificated components and certificated hardware because in a fire, the smoke and gases it produces can easily travel through the gaps left by incorrect installation. A certificated half hour fire door *which is incorrectly installed* may only provide 5-10 minutes of fire resistance.

In order to avoid risking people's lives, BWF-CERTIFIRE manufacturers (who account for 90% of all fire doors manufactured in the UK) provide specific and comprehensive installation instructions **with every door** which must be rigorously followed by the installer.

Installation instructions are specifically written for each particular door design in accordance with its relevant fire test. THEREFORE, INSTALLING FIRE DOORS IS NOT A STANDARD TASK, IT IS A SPECIALISED TASK.

The advice in the installation instructions just takes a moment to read and even though installers may have been fitting fire doors for years, the instructions will inform the reader of detail **specific to that door**. More importantly, it will offer that peace of mind to the installers and will result in fewer site difficulties.

As fire door designs are constantly changing, correct installation has become ever more vital.

Not following the instructions can prove fatal in the event of a fire and will invalidate the certification **because installation is the last stage of the entire certification process.**

If you come across a BWF-CERTIFIRE certificated fire door that – for whatever reason – does not have these installation instructions, then you should speak to the site manager from where you obtained the door **or** contact the manufacturer of the fire door; details can be found on the label stuck on top of the fire door leaf.

If there are no instructions, you may be installing a fire door that has not been third party certificated. The BWF recommends that you contact the manufacturer of that fire door and obtain instructions direct from them.

Ideally, a non-certificated fire door should not be installed where a fire door is necessary and it is highly recommended that you change your supplier in order to obtain fire doors manufactured under the BWF-CERTIFIRE Fire Door & Doorset Scheme.

The BWF is committed to supporting FIRAS, the third party certification Scheme for the installation of passive fire protection products. Members are trained and taught how exactly to install a fire door. All certificated FIRAS Installers are obliged to stick a unique and fully traceable label on every fire door they install (this is also an excellent source of marketing for the installer).



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