

Technical Guidance Note No. 98/101

Proper Evidence of a Test Result within the European Economic Area (EEA)

0 Preliminaries

0.1 The object of this note is to give guidance to regulatory and statutory bodies, building designers and other specifiers, construction teams, insurance brokers and companies, manufacturers and users, concerning technical problems which may be encountered in the specification, design / development, production, supply, installation, use, maintenance, reinstatement or upgrading of construction related products, materials or components, and building assemblies or systems.

1 Proper Evidence of a Test Result within the European Economic Area (EEA)

- 1.1 The only proper evidence of a test result is a complete test report (see EN ISO/IEC 17025 : General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories, Clause 5.10), which has been issued by an independent, accredited test laboratory situated within the EEA.
- 1.2 A valid **test report** shall only be reproduced in full by a test sponsor - without comment, abridgement, alteration or addition.
- 1.3 If for any reason there is a doubt about the authenticity and/or accuracy of a **test report**, the original **test report** must be inspected. Confirmation of authenticity and accuracy shall be made by directly communicating with the accredited test laboratory which carried out the test in question.
- 1.4 Because of rapid technological change and our developing understanding of testing, the life span of a valid **test report** shall not exceed **5 years**, commencing from the date of test. This period may be extended for a further **2 years**, however, if the test report is given a favourable assessment by a competent person with regard to its continuing validity over the 2 year period.
- 1.5 'Test Certificates', 'Summary Test Reports', and 'Simplified Test Reports' are not valid indicators of test results.
- 1.6 Because of cultural and other differences in the method and approach to testing throughout the regions of the EEA (see ISO 5725 : Precision of Test Methods - Determination of Repeatability and Reproducibility for a Standard Test Method by Inter-Laboratory Tests), the required statement on measurement uncertainty shall be given prominence in a **test report**. Where appropriate, a statement on calculation uncertainty shall also be included.
- 1.7 A copy of the test laboratory's 'Accreditation Certificate' and its complete 'Scope of Accreditation' shall be appended to the rear of each **test report**.
- 1.8 If the language in which a **test report** is drafted is not a language of the reader, a full and validated technical translation, in a language of that reader, shall accompany the **test report**. The primary and more important document shall always remain the **test report**, while the translation shall be solely regarded as an aid to proper comprehension.