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To whom it may concern

Regarding the use of BS 8434-2:2003+A2:2009 in place of BS EN 50200.

BS 8434-2:2003+A2:2009 calls up the requirements of BS EN 50200 for all test equipment, and for the application of that equipment to the material under test, including the burner, the shock application hardware and the water spray protocol. There are only two differences between the two standards.

The first and most significant difference is that the flame temperature of BS EN 50200 is 840°C (+40°C, -0°C) whereas the flame temperature of BS 8434-2:2003+A2:2009 is 60K higher at 930°C (+40°C, -0°C).

The second difference is the duration of the water spray. Under BS EN 50200 the flame and shock are applied for only 15 minutes before the water spray is applied, thereby limiting heat damage. The requirement of BS 8434-2:2003+A2:2009 is to apply the heat and shock for 60 minutes before the water spray.

These two differences ensure that the heat damage to the material under test is much greater using BS 8434-2:2003+A2:2009 requirements in place of BS EN 50200 requirements.

ABTECH selected to perform fire survival tests using BS 8434-2:2003+A2:2009 having judged it the more exigent test regime and that any product surviving 120 minutes of testing to this standard would inevitably survive the tests specified in BS EN 50200, but not necessarily the other way around.

Yours faithfully

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