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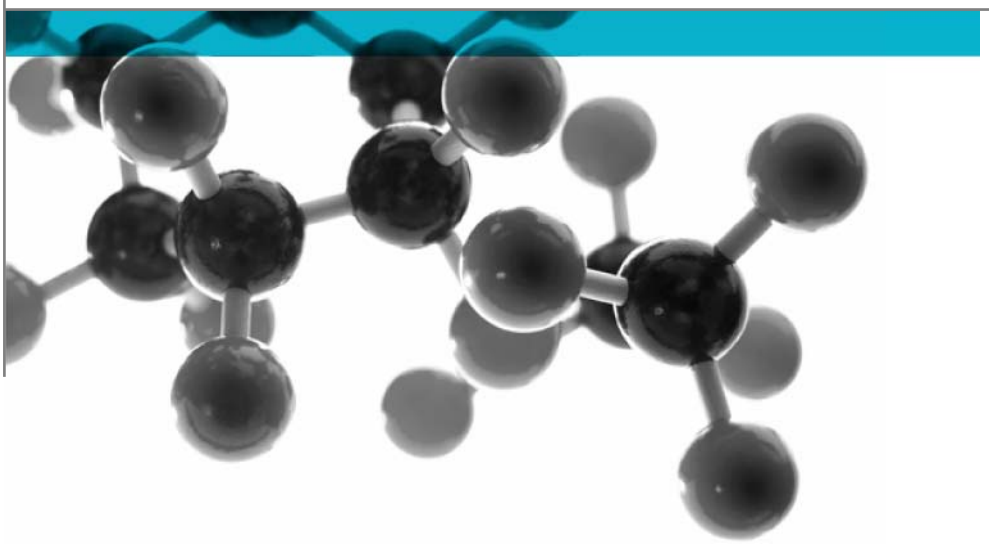
BS 476: Part 7: 1997



Method For Classification Of The Surface Spread Of Flame Of Products

A Report To: Saudi Industrial Resins Limited

Document Reference: 312514

Date: 28th November 2011

Issue No.: 1

Testing
Advising
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Executive Summary

Objective To determine the surface spread of flame classification of the following product when tested in accordance with BS 476: Part 7: 1997.

Generic Description	Product reference	Thickness	Weight per unit area or density
Flame retardant grade glass reinforced plastic (GRP) Sheet	"SIROPOL 8050 A"	2mm	3.15kg/m^2
Individual components used to manufacture composite:			
Resin	"SIROPOL 8050 A"	Not applicable	Not stated
Glass reinforcement	"450g/m^2 CSM"	Not applicable	2 x 450g/m^2
Please see page 5 of this test report for the full description of the product tested			

Test Sponsor Saudi Industrial Resins Limited, 9th Floor, Al-Farsi Centre West, Ghusn Al-Salam Street, Off King Abdullah Street West, Al-Ruwais District / 2, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Test Results: **Class 1**

Date of Test 26th & 27th October 2011

Signatories

Responsible Officer T. Benyon * Technical Officer	Authorised S. Deeming * Operations Manager

* For and on behalf of **Exova Warringtonfire**.

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Test Details

Purpose of test

To determine the performance of a product when it is subjected to the conditions of the test specified in BS 476: Part 7: 1997, "Fire tests on building materials and structures, method for classification of the surface spread of flame of products". This test was therefore performed in accordance with the procedure specified in BS 476: Part 7: 1997, and this report should be read in conjunction with that British Standard.

Scope of test

BS 476: Part 7: 1997 specifies a method of test for measuring the lateral spread of flame along the surface of a specimen of a product orientated in the vertical position, and a classification system based on the rate and extent of flame spread. It provides data suitable for comparing the performances of essentially flat materials, composites, or assemblies, which are used primarily as the exposed surfaces of walls or ceilings.

Fire test study group/EGOLF

Certain aspects of some fire test specifications are open to different interpretations. The Fire Test Study Group and EGOLF have identified a number of such areas and have agreed Resolutions which define common agreement of interpretations between fire test laboratories which are members of the Groups. Where such Resolutions are applicable to this test they have been followed.

Instruction to test

The test was conducted on the 26th & 27th October 2011 at the request of Saudi Industrial Resins Limited, the sponsor of the test.

Provision of test specimens

The specimens were supplied by the sponsor of the test. **Exova Warringtonfire** was not involved in any selection or sampling procedure.

Conditioning of specimens

The specimens were received on the 18th October 2011 and were conditioned to constant mass at a temperature of 23 ± 2°C and a relative humidity of 50 ± 5% prior to testing.

Form in which the specimens were tested

Assembly - Fabrication of materials and/or composites that can contain air gaps. Each specimen was placed over 25mm thick by 20mm wide calcium silicate based spacers positioned around its perimeter and mounted onto a backing board so that a 25mm enclosed air gap was provided between the unexposed face of the specimen and the backing board.

Exposed face

One of two identical faces of the specimens was exposed to the heating conditions of the test.

Description of Test Specimens

The description of the specimens given below has been prepared from information provided by the sponsor of the test. All values quoted are nominal, unless tolerances are given.

General description		Flame retardant grade glass reinforced plastic (GRP) Sheet
Product reference		"SIROPOL 8050 A"
Name of manufacturer		Saudi Industrial Resins Limited
Overall thickness		2mm (stated by the sponsor) 2.65mm (determined by **Exova Warringtonfire**)
Overall weight per unit		3.15kg/m^2 (stated by the sponsor) 3.41kg/m^2 (determined by **Exova Warringtonfire**)
Colour reference		"Whitish Slight Hazy"
Face subject to the heating conditions of the test		One of two identical faces
Resin	Type	Flame retardant grade polyester resin
	Product reference	"SIROPOL 8050 A"
	Name of manufacturer	Saudi Industrial Resins Limited
	Trade name of flame retardant	"SIROPOL 8050 A"
	Generic type of flame retardant	Halogenated
	Amount of flame retardant	**See Note 1 Below**
Glass reinforcement	Type	E- Glass chopped Strand Mat
	Product reference	"450g/m^2 CSM"
	Number of layers	Two
	Weight per unit area of each layer	450g/m^2
	Configuration of glass reinforcement	**See Note 1 Below**
	Name of manufacturer	Taishan Fiberglass Inc. China
Percentage glass reinforcement (by weight)		28.5%
Resin to glass ratio (by weight)		2.5:1
Brief description of manufacturing process of composite panel		Hand lamination process

Note 1 – The sponsor was unwilling to provide this information.

Test Results

Results and observations

The test results for the individual specimens, together with observations made during the test and comments on any difficulties encountered during the test are given in Appendix 1.

Classification

In accordance with the class definitions given in BS 476: Part 7: 1997, the specimens tested are classified as Class 1.

Criteria for classification

If the prefix 'D' or suffix 'R' or 'Y' is included in the classification, this indicates that the results should be treated with caution. An explanation of the reason for the prefix and suffixes is given in Appendix 2, together with the classification limits specified in the Standard.

Applicability of test result

The test results relate only to the behaviour of the test specimens of the product under the particular conditions of test; they are not intended to be the sole criterion for assessing the potential fire hazard of the product in use.

The test results relate only to the specimens of the product in the form in which they were tested. Small differences in the composition or thickness of the product may significantly affect the performance during the test and may therefore invalidate the test results. Care should be taken to ensure that any product which is supplied or used is fully represented by the specimens which were tested.

Validity

The specification and interpretation of fire test methods are the subject of ongoing development and refinement. Changes in associated legislation may also occur. For these reasons it is recommended that the relevance of test reports over five years old should be considered by the user. The laboratory that issued the report will be able to offer, on behalf of the legal owner, a review of the procedures adopted for a particular test to ensure that they are consistent with current practices, and if required may endorse the test report.

Appendix 1 – Test Results

SPECIMEN No.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Maximum distance travelled at 1.5 minutes (mm)	75	75	75	80	80	75
Distance (mm)	Time to travel to indicated distance (minutes : seconds)					
75	0:42	0:40	0:51	0:39	0:40	0:42
165		3:28	1:48			
190						
215						
240						
265						
290						
375						
455						
500						
525						
600						
675						
710						
750						
785						
825						
Time to reach maximum distance travelled	1:00	3:49	1:48	1:00	1:00	1:00
Maximum distance travelled in 10 minutes (mm)	75	175	165	80	80	75

Note: Six specimens are usually tested. If the test on any specimen is deemed to be invalid, as defined in the Standard, it is permissible for up to a maximum of nine specimens to be tested in order to obtain the six valid test results.

Observations made during test and comments on any difficulties encountered during the test:

In the case of specimens one, four, five and six, all sustained flaming ceased at 1:00.
In the case of all specimens tested, transitory flaming occurred from the first minute up to a maximum distance of 190mm.

Appendix 2 – Classification Criteria

Classification of spread of flame

Classification	Spread of Flame at 1.5 min		Final Spread of Flame	
	Limit (mm)	Limit for one specimen (mm)	Limit (mm)	Limit for one specimen (mm)
Class 1	165	165 + 25	165	165 + 25
Class 2	215	215 + 25	455	455 + 45
Class 3	265	265 + 25	710	710 + 75
Class 4	Exceeding the limits for class 3			

Explanation of prefix and suffixes which may be added to the classification

1. A suffix R is added to the classification if more than six specimens are required in order to obtain six valid test results (e.g. class 2R).

2. A prefix D is added to the classification of any product which does not comply with the surface characteristics specified in the Standard and has therefore been tested in a modified form (e.g. class D3).

3. A suffix Y is added to the classification if any softening and/or other behaviour that may affect the flame spread occurs (e.g. class 3Y).

For example, a classification of D3RY could be achieved indicating (a) a modified surface has been used; (b) a class 3 result has been obtained; (c) additional specimens have been used to obtain 6 valid results and; (d) softening and/or other behaviour has occurred which is considered to have affected the test result.

Revision History

Issue No :	Re-issue Date:
Revised By:	Approved By:
Reason for Revision:	

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