AUGUST 2017

European Certification Body GmbH

GUIDELINE

Fire resistance tests for ECB•S certification

ECB•S R14

Content

Edited by: European Certification Body GmbH
Lyoner Straße 18, 60528 Frankfurt am Main

1 Scope

To ensure uniform procedures at the ECB recognized laboratories this guideline specifies requirements for fire resistance tests.

The guideline shall help applicants and laboratories to have equal conditions when testing fire resistance products.

The guideline is applicable for type tests according to the standards in Clause 2 starting from 1 October 2017.

3 Normative references

This Guideline incorporates by dated or undated reference provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this Guideline only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

EN 15659 *Secure storage units – Classification and methods of test for resistance to fire – Light fire storage units*

EN 1047-1 *Secure storage units – Classification and methods of test for resistance to fire – Part 1: Data cabinets and diskette inserts*

3 Definitions

In addition to the definitions stated in the standards according to Clause 2, the following definitions are applicable within the context of this Guideline:

3.1
Certification body
In this guideline the term certification body exclusively refers to European Certification Body (ECB) GmbH.

3.2
Testing laboratory
Laboratory, which is recognized by the certification body for tests according to Clause 2.

Note to Entry: A list of the current recognized testing laboratories is available under www.ecb-s.com.

3.3
Series
Variety of models with different dimension having the same product type which are listed together in one certificate.

3.4
Size
Model of a series with identical dimensions.

3.5
Model
Name under which a size is sold

Note to Entry: Models can only differ by having different names and apart from that being of identical construction. In addition changes between models may be for instance different locking settings.

3.6
Test specimen
Size, which is tested in the fire resistance test.

4 Choice of test specimen

The rules for choosing the test specimens, which are required in the standards listed under Clause 2 have to be met. The laboratory shall choose the test specimens from a series in such a way that the number of tests required is as small as possible.

If the models of a series shall be provided with different locks, the test specimen shall include the most critical usable lock in the fire resistance test. In addition, the greatest amount of usable locks shall be mounted in the test specimen.

The usable locks shall be listed in a product specific "lock list", which shall be given to the certification body as well as the testing laboratory.

Note 1: The locks in the product specific lock list do not need to be certified.

Equipment used in a series which is critical in regards to its fire resistance such as cable holes for alarm systems, anchoring holes etc. shall be included in the test specimen.

Note 2: In cases a series is not intended to contain cable holes for alarm systems, anchoring holes etc. these do not need to be included in the test specimen.

5 Amount of test specimens in the furnace

For tests, which shall be used as a basis for the ECB•S certification, only one test specimen shall be tested in the furnace. Each of the four vertical walls of the test specimen shall be exposed to the same heating conditions according to the requirements specified in the relevant testing standard.

For research purposes more than one test specimen may be tested in the furnace at once. Such test specimens cannot be used as a basis for a ECB•S certification.

6 Technical assessment

6.1 Changes in construction

On the basis of a technical assessment changes in construction can be included in a series. The testing laboratory shall decide, if for the assessment:

- sufficient expertize is available to include the changes in construction without additional tests,
- a comparison test with the critical test specimen shall be conducted or
- further test specimen shall be conducted in additional fire tests.

6.2 Adding new models or new sizes

Models and sizes with identical construction which are within the tolerance requirements set in the testing standard (see Clause 2) can be added to the certificate by the certification body on application.

If additional sizes and models shall be added to a series after the original type tests have already been conducted and the sizes and models marginally differ from the requirements set in the testing standard (see Clause 2) or the requirements set in Clause 4 of this guideline (for instance adding a cable hole etc.), these can be added either by an additional type test or per technical assessment by the testing laboratory. A technical assessment can only be used as a basis if:

- at least two sizes of a series have been tested with a positive outcome and
- in regards to its fire resistance the new model (or size) cannot be assessed as being more critical as the already tested sizes.

6.3 Application of the technical assessment

The content of the technical assessment shall clearly indicate the technical reasons why the fire resistance requirements are still met.

A positive technical assessment does not guarantee a certification by the certification body. The certification body decides, if it agrees to the arguments stated in the technical assessment.