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Oct 2006

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From:	Mervyn Godkin	Date:	21 November 2006
Project No:	FP 3699	Total No. of Pages	1

Re: Cable Bundle Sealed into a Concrete Wall

Dear Sir

This is in response to your e-mail of 16th November 2006.

In BRANZ fire resistance test FP 3699 a bundle of electrical and communication cables with an overall diameter of approximately 65 mm passing through a timber framed wall was tested for 154 minutes in accordance with AS 1530.4-1990. The wall was lined each face with two layers of 13 mm Boral Firestop gypsum plasterboard in accordance with the Boral specification SS3 for a 2 hour fire rated wall. The cables were sealed from each face to the full depth of lining with Ramset Blazebrake 201 sealant. The specimen penetration achieved Integrity of 154 minutes without failure and Insulation of 66 minutes with failure occurring on the cables.

If the specimen was installed in a concrete or masonry wall of at least 2 hours fire rating it is expected that the cables and sealing system would perform at least as well. This is because the concrete around the hole will provide a more rigid support to the sealant than the plasterboard lining tested, which would have deteriorated during fire exposure. Also as the insulation failure occurred on the cables prior to any failure on the wall lining it is expected that the insulation failure will also occur in a similar time on the cables installed in a concrete or masonry wall.

It is therefore considered that a bundle of electrical and communication cables of overall diameter not greater than 65 mm penetrating a concrete or masonry wall of at least 2 hour fire rating and sealed from each face of the wall, to a depth of at least 25 mm, with Ramset Blazebrake sealant will achieve a fire resistance of at least 120 minutes Integrity and 60 minutes Insulation.

Regards

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 Senior Fire Testing Engineer

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