

LABSS INFORMATION PAPER INFOP33 - 2021 Version 1 – 24 November

CLOSURE OF LABSS REGISTERED DETAIL SERVICE

Applicable to Domestic Buildings and Non-Domestic Buildings, Products and Systems

BACKGROUND

Following the [Government's announcement on 19th January 2021](#) that a new regulator was to be established in respect of construction materials within the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS), together with the details emerging from phase 2, module 2 of the Grenfell Tower Public Inquiry, our partner provider in England and Wales LABC Board of Directors instigated a comprehensive review of the LABC Assured scheme (which is equivalent to the LABSS Registered Details Service). The review was conducted in accordance with the general criteria within ISO 10965:2012. The review has now been completed and has reported back to the LABC Board, who have resolved that the LABC Assured scheme should be closed.

Given this development, LABSS have also decided to close the operation of their Registered Details Service.

CONCLUSIONS

- No new applications will now be considered.
- Existing registrations will remain in place until their expiry date in accordance with the terms and conditions issued at the time of application, whereupon they will not be considered for renewal and will be subsequently removed from the LABSS register/website at the date of expiry.
- Where registrations have recently expired, they will not now be considered for renewal and will be removed from the LABSS register/website forthwith.
- Where applications have been submitted and are in the process of being assessed, these assessments will be completed, provided the requested information is submitted within one month following the date of the request, and where successful the application will be registered for a period of 12 months and will then be subsequently removed from the LABSS register/website at the date of expiry.
- Where further details have been requested to complete an assessment and that information has not been forthcoming within a period of one month following the date of the request, it will not then be possible to submit further information.

FUTURE

When a registration has expired, guidance on ways of establishing the fitness of materials can be found under [Regulation 8-durability-workmanship-fitness-materials](#). Regulation 8 applies to all building work, and requires that materials, fittings and components used in the construction of buildings should be suitable for their purpose, correctly used or applied, and sufficiently durable, taking account of normal maintenance practices, to meet the requirements of these regulations.

Guidance Clause 0.8.5 to Regulation 8 describe how you can assess the suitability of a material for use for a specific purpose in a number of ways.

INTERIM MEASURES - WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR PREVIOUS OR CURRENT REGISTERED DETAILS

If a product or system has enjoyed the benefits of a published Registered Detail and that certificate has either expired or not been renewed, it does not mean that that the product or system is no longer considered suitable for acceptance under a building warrant compliance assessment for approval. However, certain questions need to be asked.

1. Is the version of the Technical Handbooks referenced in the Registered Detail certificate the current version?
2. If the version is not the most recent, has anything been introduced in a later version of the handbooks which influences the compliance decision relative to the product or system – i.e., does it still comply with the current relevant standards even if the reference is to earlier versions?
3. Despite versions of the Technical Handbooks being put in place which superseded the versions upon which the Registered Detail certificate was granted, does the product or system still meet the Mandatory Standards referenced on the certificate?
4. Have any of the specification references or drawing details been changed or updated since the issue of the last published Registered Detail certificate?
5. Do these changes or updates in specification or detail affect the suitability of the product or system when checking compliance with the current Mandatory Standards with reference to the current Technical Handbooks

See Options Chart under Appendix A below

Registered Details certificates confirm that the assessment prior to registration has been carried out under Regulation 8 Durability, workmanship and fitness of materials. This is a normal part of the building warrant assessment process also.

In addition, the Registered Detail certificates also make references to those Mandatory Standards which are relevant to the properties of the product or system. Again, this would be a normal process when assessing a building warrant submission prior to approval.

CONCLUSION

If the questions referred to above confirm that nothing has changed

- in the detailing or specification of the product since the issue of the published Registered Detail certificate, OR

- in the guidance assessed when registering the published Registered Detail certificate (in other words despite a later version of the Technical Handbooks having been introduced, none of the referenced standards specified in the certificate, have applied a higher or more onerous requirement relative to the Mandatory Standard)

then the detail and background information, within an expired or withdrawn Registered Detail certificate, can still be referenced as relevant supporting information to confirm compliance of a Mandatory Standard referenced with the certificate.

APPENDIX A



