



BS 8414 fire testing of Dryvit systems offers ultimate peace of mind



Recent large scale fire tests at the Building Research Establishment (BRE) are good news for tall building designers, insurers, owners and conveyors of PPP & PFI schemes seeking to specify the cost effective, energy efficient and aesthetic benefits of exterior insulation and finish systems (EIFS) with absolute peace of mind.

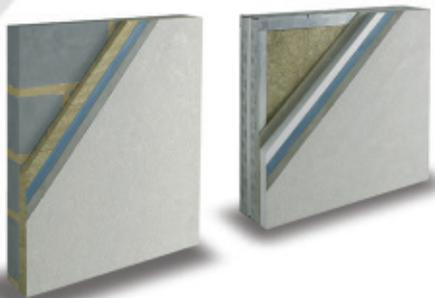
Dryvit has embarked on an extensive programme of fire testing to become one of the first external insulated render manufacturers to achieve BR135 classification tested in accordance with BS 8414-1:2002 and BS 8414-2:2005 for its range of EIFS. This testing satisfies building regulations in England & Wales and Scotland pertaining to fire for buildings over 18 metres tall. The BR 135 classification is called for as an alternative guidance to non-combustibility compliance for domestic and commercial applications.

In addition to the BR 135 classification the range of systems have also been assessed under the surveillance of the Loss Prevention Certification Board (LPCB) to the more stringent requirements of LPS 1581 (formerly named LPS 1181: Part 4), enabling 'Red Book' listing, and denotes compliance with the highest levels of fire testing conformity within the UK. LPCB standards are often used as a benchmark approval by leading building insurers involved in all forms of construction including PFI & PPP projects. Insurers requesting LPCB standards of conformity are generally looking to minimise their risk

by insisting on compliance with the most rigorous fire performance standards backed by independent third party accreditation. (LPS 1581 certificates have been issued relating to solid substrates and an LPCB certificate relating to lightweight steel framed substrates is pending subject to publication of the current draft status "LPS 1582" standard).

Dryvit's fire testing programme was carried out at the world renowned Building Research Establishment (BRE) in Watford and covers the Roxsulation®, Outsulation® and Outsulation Plus™ range of systems covering a range of insulation thicknesses and finish textures & colours over both solid and framed substrates. Until now, only a limited number of external insulated render systems have received accreditation from the prestigious Loss Prevention Certification Board (LPCB). This comprehensive programme of fire testing under typical end-use conditions, coupled with ongoing manufacturing surveillance audits, will offer versatility of specification with ultimate assurance of compliance at all levels.

Roxsulation and Outsulation differ only in the type of insulation incorporated within the systems – Roxsulation is based on mineral wool and Outsulation on expanded polystyrene (EPS). Outsulation Plus builds upon the proven weatherability and insulating qualities of Outsulation by adding a second line of defence against air, moisture and weather. All systems can be fixed either mechanically or with adhesive to most substrates, and are then rendered with a polymer-modified mortar reinforced with a glass fibre mesh and finished with one of a range of coloured textured acrylic finishes. For the test programme, mineral wool firebreaks at storey height intervals were used in the Outsulation & Outsulation Plus installations, as recommended in the BRE report BR135 "Fire performance of external thermal insulation for walls of multi-storey buildings".



Speciality finishes prove that looks can deceive

Dryvit's range of speciality finishes enable designers to achieve the look of granite, limestone, reconstituted stone or brickwork providing a durable and lightweight equivalent to their natural alternative at a fraction of the cost. TerraNeo™, Limestone™, Ameristone™, Stonemist™, and Custom Brick™ finishes complement the standard texture range and are available in a wide choice of colours with the option to match stone or brick where required.

The speciality finishes further extend the versatility of the Dryvit's exterior insulation and finish systems and will provide architects, specifiers and building owners with a highly adaptable method of achieving striking aesthetic results.

Whether the project is new build or renovation Dryvit's speciality finishes offer high-performance attributes that ensure a long-lasting radiant finish certain to enhance a building's stature.