



## Personnel Certification Q-Mark Fire Stopping Installation

Where services such as water, gas, electrics and communications penetrate through a building's fire resistant compartment lines, it is vitally important to ensure that the hole is appropriately sealed with a suitable fire stopping solution. Both the Building Regulations and the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order (RRFSO) require that the person fitting fire-stopping products is competent to do so and third party certification is the accepted means of demonstrating competency.

Fire stopping solutions are specifically designed to prevent a fire (at up to 1000+ degrees Celsius) from passing from one side of a compartment line to the other. To check that the solution will work, the manufacturer must install their products in a test rig, which will then be fire tested under controlled conditions.

Once tested, the fire stopping solution must be installed in the same configuration as that originally tested, or in line with the approved extended scope, with the correct components, the correct services, and the correct surrounding structure (substrate). If any one of these items changes in specification, there will be doubt as to whether the fire stopping solution will work as intended during a fire. It is also of critical importance to ensure that the solution is installed in line with the manufacturer's installation instructions and completely sealed, with no gaps.

### What is the BM TRADA Q-Mark Fire Stopping Installation Scheme?

Based on training a supervisor who takes responsibility for a number of operatives, this scheme is designed to check that fire stopping solutions are being fitted correctly, in accordance with both the manufacturer's instructions and their fire test evidence.

The scheme then provides a means of certifying the installation to the building owner/Responsible Person, with a label being affixed next to the solution to confirm that the installation meets the requirements of the scheme. The scheme also provides a means of verifying the competence of the company who is installing the fire-stopping.

### What are the benefits?

#### The scheme provides confidence:

To fire stopping installers, that they are fitting products correctly,

To building owners, specifiers and the Responsible Person that fire compartment lines have been properly sealed,

To fire stopping product manufacturers, that their products are being fitted correctly.

All installations carried out under the scheme are registered with **BM TRADA** through their web-based database. Once this has been completed, **BM TRADA** will e-mail a certificate to the person nominated by the installer, confirming details of what has been installed. This certificate should be retained by the building owner, to help demonstrate that they have had their compartment lines appropriately fire stopped. It can also be used to assist with meeting the requirements of Regulation 38 of the Building Regulations.

# How to achieve certification

## 01 Application

Obtain a quote from us then submit your application to accept the quote stating the names of the nominated supervisors who are to be covered under the scheme.

## 02 Certification Process

To become certified under the scheme, the nominated supervisors will be required to demonstrate their competence to fit fire stopping products and supervise the fitting of such products. This is achieved through the following means:

- Attendance at **BM TRADA**'s 'Fire Protection in Buildings Explained' seminar
- Completion of the scheme specific training, including an examination
- Completion of an on-site competence assessment at a live customer site
- Inspection of work carried out by the supervisor and those under their supervision at a live customer site

The installer will only be approved to fit product types for which they have demonstrated competence. The approved product types are shown in the installer's Scope of Certification and listed on the **BM TRADA** website.

Once certification has been achieved, a minimum of 2 site audit visits are required each year in order to remain in the scheme. The installer is also required to notify details of all installations to **BM TRADA** through its web based database.

## 03 Certification

On completion of step two (and closure of any identified non-conformities) certification is granted by **BM TRADA**. You will be issued with a certificate and certification marks to demonstrate and promote your certification.

Certification is valid for three years and is maintained through a programme of annual surveillance audits and a recertification audit in the third year before the certification expires.

### Additional services include:

#### Certification:

- Enhanced Security Doors Scheme
- Enhanced Security Windows Scheme
- Fire Door Installation Scheme
- Fire Door Maintenance Scheme
- Fire Door Manufacture Scheme
- Window & Doorset Survey & Installation Scheme
- Competent Person Scheme

#### Testing:

- Acoustics
- Durability
- Fire
- Security
- Thermal
- Weather

#### Training:

- Fire Doors Explained
- Fire Protection Measures

## Why BM TRADA?

Choosing **BM TRADA**, a British based company with a global presence, means you are working with a major international certification body with a wide scope of UKAS accredited certification schemes and an impressive record in management systems, factory production control, supply chain and product certification.

Our industry expertise and the standard of our services have helped us deliver certification to businesses in 70 countries around the world.

We pride ourselves on being approachable and responsive, and on offering clear, transparent pricing with no hidden costs. Making us your certification partner means you are joining the increasing number of organisations around the world for their certification. You won't see a different face every time. You will have a designated auditor who understands your business.



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