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Agrément Certificate
15/5241
Product Sheet 1

NBT DIFFUTHERM EXTERNAL WALL INSULATION SYSTEM

NBT DIFFUTHERM EXTERNAL WALL INSULATION SYSTEM FOR USE ON MASONRY SUBSTRATES

This Agrément Certificate Product Sheet⁽¹⁾ relates to the NBT Diffutherm External Wall Insulation System for use on Masonry Substrates, for use as an external wall insulation system employing wood-fibre boards rendered with a mineral render and fixed to new or existing masonry substrates on domestic and non-domestic buildings.

(1) Hereinafter referred to as 'Certificate'.

CERTIFICATION INCLUDES:

- factors relating to compliance with Building Regulations where applicable
- factors relating to additional non-regulatory information where applicable
- independently verified technical specification
- assessment criteria and technical investigations
- design considerations
- installation guidance
- regular surveillance of production
- formal three-yearly review.



KEY FACTORS ASSESSED

Thermal performance — the system can be used to improve the thermal performance of an external masonry wall (see section 6).

Strength and stability — the system can adequately resist wind loads and, in certain applications, impact damage (see section 7).

Behaviour in relation to fire — the system can be designed to meet the UK requirements concerning fire performance. (see section 8).

Risk of condensation — the performance of the system with regard to interstitial and surface condensation has been considered (see section 11).

Durability — when installed and maintained in accordance with the Certificate holder's recommendations and the terms of this Certificate, the system will remain effective for at least 30 years (see section 13).

The BBA has awarded this Certificate to the company named above for the system described herein. This system has been assessed by the BBA as being fit for its intended use provided it is installed, used and maintained as set out in this Certificate.

On behalf of the British Board of Agrément

Date of First issue: 25 July 2016

John Albon — Head of Approvals
Construction Products

Claire Curtis-Thomas
Chief Executive

The BBA is a UKAS accredited certification body — Number 113. The schedule of the current scope of accreditation for product certification is available in pdf format via the UKAS link on the BBA website at www.bbacerts.co.uk

Readers are advised to check the validity and latest issue number of this Agrément Certificate by either referring to the BBA website or contacting the BBA direct.

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Regulations

In the opinion of the BBA, the NBT Diffutherm External Wall Insulation System for use on Masonry Substrates, if installed, used and maintained in accordance with the provisions of this Certificate, can satisfy or contribute to satisfying the relevant requirements of the following Building Regulations (the presence of a UK map indicates that the subject is related to the Building Regulations in the region or regions of the UK depicted).



The Building Regulations 2010 (England and Wales) (as amended)

Requirement: A1	Loading
Comment:	The system can sustain and transmit wind loads to the substrate wall. See section 7.1 of this Certificate.
Requirement: B4(1)	External fire spread
Comment:	The system has a Class 0 surface and can satisfy the requirements of BS EN 1365-1 : 1999 and BS 8414-1 : 2002 and can, therefore, meet this Requirement. See sections 8.1 to 8.3 of this Certificate.
Requirement: C2(b)(c)	Resistance to moisture
Comment:	The system provides a degree of protection against moisture ingress. See sections 4.4, 10.1, 11.1 and 11.3 of this Certificate.
Requirement: L1(a)(i)	Conservation of fuel and power
Comment:	The system can contribute to meeting this Requirement. See sections 6.2 to 6.5 of this Certificate.
Regulation: 7	Materials and workmanship
Comment:	The system is acceptable. See section 13.1 and the <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.
Regulation: 26	CO₂ emission rates for new buildings
Regulation: 26A	Fabric energy efficiency rates for new dwellings (applicable to England only)
Regulation: 26A	Primary energy consumption rates for new buildings (applicable to Wales only)
Regulation: 26B	Fabric performance values for new dwellings (applicable to Wales only)
Comment:	The system can contribute to satisfying these Regulations; however, compensating fabric/services measures may be required. See sections 6.2 to 6.5 of this Certificate.



The Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (as amended)

Regulation: 8(1)(2)	Durability, workmanship and fitness of materials
Comment:	The system can contribute to a construction meeting this Regulation. See sections 12 and 13.1 and the <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.
Regulation: 9	Building Standards applicable to construction
Standard: 1.1	Structure
Comment:	The system can sustain and transmit wind loads to the substrate wall with reference to clause 1.1.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ . See section 7.1 of this Certificate.
Standard: 2.6	Spread to neighbouring buildings
Comment:	The system has a 'low risk' surface classification. The system incorporates materials which would be classed as 'non-combustible', with reference to clauses 2.6.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ , 2.6.2 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ , 2.6.4 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ , 2.6.5 ⁽¹⁾ and 2.6.6 ⁽²⁾ . See sections 8.1 to 8.3 of this Certificate.
Standard: 2.7	Spread on external walls
Comment:	The system incorporates materials which are classed as 'non-combustible' as defined in this Standard, with reference to clause 2.7.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and 2.7.2 ⁽²⁾ . See sections 8.1 to 8.3 of this Certificate.
Standard: 3.10	Precipitation
Comment:	Walls insulated with this system will provide protection against rain ingress, with reference to clause 3.10.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and 3.10.2 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ . See sections 4.4 and 10.1 of this Certificate.
Standard: 3.15	Condensation
Comment:	Walls insulated with the system contribute to minimising the risk of interstitial and surface condensation, with reference to clauses 3.15.1 ⁽¹⁾ , 3.15.4 ⁽¹⁾ and 3.15.5 ⁽¹⁾ . See sections 4.4, 11.2 and 11.3 of this Certificate.
Standard: 6.1(b)	Carbon dioxide emissions
Standard: 6.2	Building insulation envelope
Comment:	The system can contribute to satisfying these Standards, with reference to clauses (or parts of) 6.1.1 ⁽¹⁾ , 6.1.2 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ , 6.1.3 ⁽²⁾ , 6.1.5 ⁽²⁾ , 6.1.6 ⁽¹⁾ , 6.2.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ , 6.2.3 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ , 6.2.4 ⁽²⁾ , 6.2.6 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ , 6.2.7 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ , 6.2.8 ⁽²⁾ , 6.2.9 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ , 6.2.10 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ , 6.2.11 ⁽¹⁾ , 6.2.12 ⁽²⁾ and 6.2.13 ⁽¹⁾ . See sections 6.2 to 6.5 of this Certificate.
Standard: 7.1(a)(b)	Statement of sustainability
Comment:	The systems can contribute to satisfying the relevant requirements of Regulation 9, Standards 1 to 6, and therefore will contribute to a construction meeting the bronze level of sustainability as defined in this Standard. In addition, the systems can contribute to a construction meeting a higher level of sustainability as defined in this Standard, with reference to clauses 7.1.4 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ [Aspect 1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and 2 ⁽¹⁾], 7.1.6 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ [Aspect 1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and 2 ⁽¹⁾] and 7.1.7 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ [Aspect 1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾]. See sections 6.2 to 6.5 of this Certificate.
Regulation: 12	Building standards applicable to conversions
Comment:	All comments given for the systems under Regulation 9, Standards 1 to 6, also apply to this Regulation, with reference to 0.12.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and Schedule 6 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ . (1) Technical Handbook (Domestic). (2) Technical Handbook (Non-Domestic).



The Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 (as amended)

Regulation:	23	Fitness of materials and workmanship
Comment:		The system is acceptable. See section 13.1 and the <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.
Regulation:	28(b)	Resistance to moisture and weather
Comment:		Walls insulated with the system will provide protection against rain penetration and contribute to satisfying this Regulation. See sections 4.4 and 10.1 of this Certificate.
Regulation:	29	Condensation
Comment:		Walls insulated with the system contribute to minimising the risk of interstitial and surface condensation. See section 11.3 of this Certificate.
Regulation:	30	Stability
Comment:		The system can sustain and transmit wind loads to the substrate wall. See section 7.1 of this Certificate.
Regulation:	36(a)	External fire spread
Comment:		The system has a Class 0 surface and can satisfy the requirements of BS EN 1365-1 : 1999 and BS 8414-1 : 2002 and can, therefore, satisfy this Regulation. See sections 8.1 to 8.3 of this Certificate.
Regulation:	39(a)(i)	Conservation measures
Regulation:	40	Target carbon dioxide emission rate
Comment:		The system can contribute to satisfying these Regulations. See sections 6.2 to 6.5 of this Certificate.

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007

Information in this Certificate may assist the client, Principal Designer/CDM co-ordinator, designer and contractors to address their obligations under these Regulations.

See section: 3 *Delivery and site storage* (3.3) of this Certificate.

Additional Information

NHBC Standards 2016

NHBC accepts the use of NBT Diffutherm External Wall Insulation System for use on Masonry Substrates, when installed and used in accordance with this Certificate in relation to *NHBC Standards, Chapter 6.9 Curtain walling and cladding*.

Technical Specification

1 Description

1.1 The NBT Diffutherm External Wall Insulation System for use on Masonry Substrates comprises a wood-fibre insulation board, mechanically fixed to a masonry substrate. A basecoat render is applied directly to the insulation boards incorporating a reinforcing mesh and a mineral topcoat with a decorative finish.

1.2 Components of the system include:

- Pavatex NBT Diffutherm wood-fibre insulation (60 mm to 120 mm thickness)
- Baumit BM33 basecoat
- Wemico glassfibre mesh R131
- Baumit DG27 adhesion coat (primer)
- Baumit SEPO1, SEPO2, SEPO3 or SEPO4 decorative coat
- Baumit SilikonFarbe equalising paint
- Fischer TermoFix CF or EJOT TID-T fixings
- Base rail and clip on profile
- APU rail and compriband sealing band.

2 Manufacture

As part of the assessment and ongoing surveillance of product quality, the BBA has:

- agreed with the manufacturer the quality control procedures and product testing to be undertaken
- assessed and agreed the quality control operated over batches of incoming material
- monitored the production process and verified that it is in accordance with the documented process
- evaluated the process for management of nonconformities
- checked that equipment has been properly tested and calibrated
- undertaken to carry out the above measures on a regular basis through a surveillance process, to verify that the specifications and quality control operated by the manufacturer are being maintained.

3 Delivery and site storage

3.1 The Insulation is delivered to site shrink-wrapped in polythene packs which carry the manufacturer's and product identification marks and batch numbers.

3.2 The insulation boards should be stored on a firm, clean, level base, off the ground and must be protected from prolonged exposure to sunlight and heavy rain, either by storing opened packs under cover in dry conditions or re-covering with opaque polythene sheeting.

3.3 Care must be taken when handling the insulation boards to avoid both damage and contact with solvents or bitumen products. The boards must not be exposed to open flame or other ignition sources.

3.4 Bagged materials should be stored in dry conditions, off the ground, and be protected from frost at all times.

3.5 The primer and equalising paint should be stored in a safe area, under cover, and be protected from excessive heat and frost at all times.

Assessment and Technical Investigations

The following is a summary of the assessment and technical investigations carried out on the NBT Diffutherm External Wall Insulation System for use on Masonry Substrates.

Design Considerations

4 General

4.1 The NBT Diffutherm External Wall Insulation System for use on Masonry Substrates, when installed in accordance with this Certificate, is effective in reducing the thermal transmittance (U value) of external walls of new and existing buildings. It is essential that the detailing techniques specified in this Certificate are carried out to a high standard, if the ingress of water into the insulation is to be avoided and the full thermal benefit obtained from treatment with the system (eg the insulation must be protected by an overhang – see section 16.24 and window sills should be designed and installed so as to direct water away from the building). Only details specified by the Certificate holder should be used.

4.2 For improved thermal/carbon-emissions performance, the designer should consider additional/alternative fabric and/or services measures.

4.3 The system is for application to the outside of external walls of masonry on new or existing domestic and non-domestic buildings (with or without existing render). Prior to the installation of the system, wall surfaces should comply with section 14 of this Certificate.

4.4  New walls subject to national Building Regulations should be constructed in accordance with the relevant recommendations of:

- BS 5628-3 : 2005, in particular Clause 5.5.2 *Rain penetration* of the Code of Practice, should be followed in that the designer should select a construction appropriate to the local wind-driven rain index, paying due regard to the design detailing, workmanship and materials to be used
- BS 8000-3 : 2001.

4.5 New walls not subject to regulatory requirements, should also be built in accordance with section 4.4 of this Certificate.

4.6 The system will provide a degree of protection against rain ingress and give a decorative finish. However, care should be taken to ensure walls are adequately weathertight prior to its application. It may only be installed where there are no signs of dampness on the inner surface of the wall other than those caused solely by condensation.

4.6 When using the system, consideration must be given to the overall design to minimise the risk of condensation and the recommendations of BS 5250 : 2011 should be followed.

4.7 The effect of the system on the acoustic performance of a construction is outside the scope of this Certificate.

4.8 The fixing of sanitary pipework, plumbing, rainwater goods, satellite dishes, clothes lines, hanging baskets and similar items to the system is outside the scope of this Certificate.

4.9 External pipework and ducts should be removed before installation and alterations made to underground drainage, where appropriate, to accommodate repositioning of the pipework to the finished face of the system.

5 Practicability of installation

The system must only be installed by specialised contractors who have successfully undergone training and registration by the Certificate holder (see section 15).

Note: The BBA operates a UKAS-accredited Approved Installer Scheme for external wall insulation (non-mandatory); details of approved installer companies are included on the BBA website (www.bbacerts.co.uk).

6 Thermal performance

6.1 Calculations of the thermal transmittance (U value) of a specific wall construction should be carried out in accordance with BS EN ISO 6946 : 2007 and BRE report (BR 443 : 2006) *Conventions for U value calculations*, using the declared thermal conductivity (λ_D value) of 0.043 W·m⁻¹·K⁻¹ for the insulation. The U value of a typical wall construction will depend on the insulating value of the wall and its finish. Example U values are given in Table 1 of this Certificate.

Table 1 Example U values for various insulation thicknesses⁽¹⁾

Insulation thickness (mm)	U value for example construction (W·m ⁻² ·K ⁻¹)
60	0.50
80	0.41
100	0.35
120	0.30

(1) 3 mm plaster skim on 12.5 mm plasterboard, 25 by 40 mm timber batten, 215 mm thick masonry (Table 1), mechanically fixed NBT Diffutherm wood-fibre board coated with 8 mm meshed external render.



6.2 When considering insulation requirements, designers should refer to the detailed guidance contained in the documents supporting the national Building Regulations. The U values shown in Table 1 indicate that the product can enable a wall to achieve typical design U values referred to in those supporting documents. See Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2 Typical design U values for walls — England and Wales, and Northern Ireland

Construction type	U values (W·m ⁻² ·K ⁻¹)
Mean for new extensions ⁽¹⁾	0.30
'Notional' mean in SAP and SBEM and limit mean for new-build	0.35
Mean for replacement, renovated, and retained walls and non-domestic consequential improvements ⁽¹⁾	0.35
Individual limit for new-build and flexible approaches ⁽¹⁾	0.70

(1) Alternative or flexible approaches are given in relevant documents supporting the national Building Regulations.

Table 3 Typical design U values for walls — Scotland

Construction type	U values (W·m ⁻² ·K ⁻¹)
'Notional' mean for dwellings in SAP and the 'simplified' approach:	
– solid fuel, package 6	0.20
– other fuels, packages 1–5	0.25
Mean for new extensions, conversions and alterations ⁽¹⁾	0.27
Mean for stand-alone buildings less than 50 m ²	0.27
'Notional' mean for non-domestic in SBEM and limit mean for new-build and stand-alone buildings of 50 m ² or more	0.30
Individual limit for new-build, extensions, conversions, alterations and stand-alone buildings less than 50 m ²	0.70

(1) Alternative or flexible approaches are given in relevant documents supporting the national Building Regulations.

New buildings

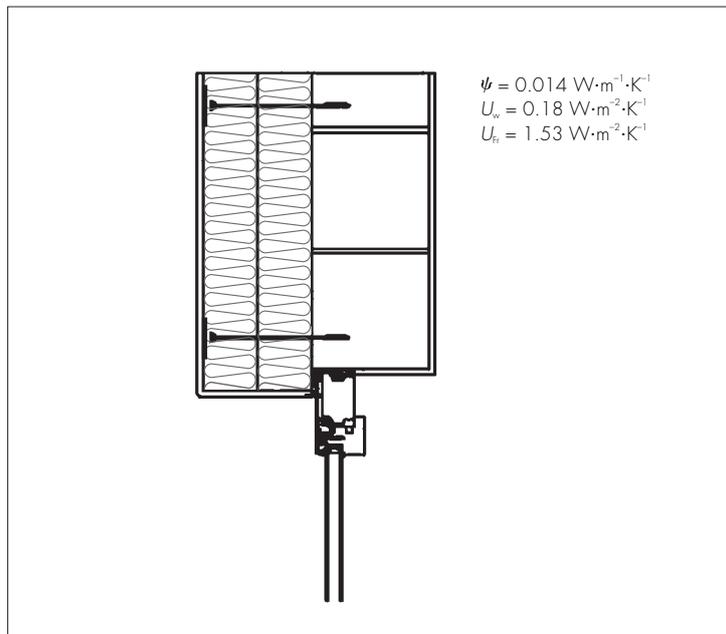
6.3 Walls with U values lower than (or the same as, for dwellings in Scotland) the relevant 'notional' value specified in section 6.2 will contribute to a building meeting its Target Emission Rate. Walls with higher U values will require additional energy saving measures in the building envelope and/or services.

6.4 The system can maintain, or contribute to maintaining, continuity of thermal insulation at junctions between external walls and other building elements. Example junction detail shown in Figure 1 will allow use of the default psi values for Accredited Construction details in Target Emission Rate calculations to SAP 2012 or the Simplified Building Energy Model (SBEM). Detailed guidance can be found in the documents supporting the national Building Regulations.

Existing buildings

6.5 For existing buildings, extensions and conversions, walls will be acceptable where they do not exceed the relevant U value in Table 2 or 3 and junctions and openings comply with section 6.4 or BRE Report BR 262 : 2002.

Figure 1 Junction/lintel detail⁽¹⁾



- (1) The Certificate holder can provide ψ and γ value calculations which give γ values lower (down to $0.02 \text{ W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$ — see Figure 1) than the default values ($0.08 \text{ W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$) as found in the Accredited Construction details in Target Emission Rate calculations to SAP 2005 or the Simplified Building Energy Model (SBEM). Note, the ability of the Certificate holder to calculate ψ values has not been assessed by the BBA.

7 Strength and stability



7.1 When installed on suitable walls, the system can adequately transfer self weight and positive (pressure) and negative (suction) wind loads normally experienced in the United Kingdom.

7.2 The system has adequate resistance to impact and abrasion where walls are exposed and have some protection, eg walls of private dwellings and walls of communal dwellings above ground-floor level. Where the system may be exposed to severe mechanical or malicious impact, eg walls of public buildings at ground-floor level, precautions such as supplementary reinforcement may be required to reduce the risk of damage. Guidance may be obtained from the Certificate holder or BS 8200 : 1985.

7.3 Assessment of structural performance should be carried out by a suitably qualified individual to confirm that the substrate wall has adequate strength to resist the additional loads that may be applied as a result of installing the system, ignoring any positive contribution that may occur from the system.

7.4 The fixing-to-panel-edge distance should be between 50 mm and 100 mm.

7.5 The ultimate wind load to be resisted by the system should be determined by calculating the wind load in accordance with BS 6399-2 : 1997 and BS EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 and multiplying by a load factor of 1.5 (as recommended in EN 1990 : 2002). Special consideration should be given to locations with high wind load pressure coefficients (additional fixings may be required).

8 Behaviour in relation to fire



8.1 The external surfaces of the system are classified as Class 0 or 'low risk' as defined in the documents supporting the national Building Regulations. The system, therefore, may be used in accordance with the provisions of:

England and Wales — Approved Document B, Volume 1, paragraph 8.4 and Volume 2, paragraphs 12.5 and 12.6 (see also Diagram 40)

Scotland — Mandatory Standards 2.6 and 2.7, clauses 2.6.1⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ to 2.6.4⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾, 2.6.5⁽¹⁾, 2.6.6⁽²⁾, 2.7.1⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and 2.7.2⁽²⁾ and Annexes 2.C⁽¹⁾ and 2.E⁽²⁾

(1) Technical Handbook (Domestic).

(2) Technical Handbook (Non-Domestic).

Northern Ireland — Technical Booklet E, paragraph 4.3 (see also Diagram 4.1).

8.2 The documents listed in section 8.1 give full details of permissible heights and boundary conditions of domestic and non-domestic buildings and the relevant guidance with regard to external wall claddings of external wall insulation systems with render surfaces. However, the following information is for guidance purposes:

England and Wales and Northern Ireland

The system is acceptable:

(a) one metre or more from a boundary

(b) less than one metre from a boundary, provided the wall meets the relevant requirements for fire resistance from both sides and extent of unprotected areas

(c) on walls (a) or (b) up to storey heights of 18 m

Scotland

The system is acceptable:

(a) more than one metre from a boundary, but must be included, with some minor exceptions, in the calculation of unprotected area

(b) on wall (a) up to storey heights of 18 m.

8.3 The classifications stated in section 8.1 were achieved on light-coloured render. However, the classification of darker colours should be confirmed by:

England and Wales — test or assessment in accordance with Approved Document B, Appendix A, Clause 1

Scotland — test to conform with Regulation 9, Table to Annex 2.C⁽¹⁾ and 2.E⁽²⁾

(1) Technical Handbook (Domestic).

(2) Technical Handbook (Non-Domestic).

Northern Ireland — test or assessment by a UKAS accredited laboratory or an independent consultant with appropriate experience.

8.4 In buildings not subject to the national Building Regulations, it is recommended that designers should consider the use of the guidance given in section 8.2.

8.5 The system has been tested on masonry substrates in accordance with BS EN 1365-1 : 1999 and satisfied the requirement of 60 minute load bearing capacity, integrity and insulation where relevant. The masonry construction included an 18 mm plaster skim, masonry substrate, bedding mortar, 60 mm thick NBT Diffutherm wood-fibre board mechanically fixed and 8 mm meshed external render.

8.6 The system has been tested on a masonry substrate in accordance with BS 8414-1 : 2002 and shown to comply with the parameters detailed in BRE Report BR 135 : 2003 and gave a fire spread test result of greater than 15 minutes.

9 Proximity of flues and appliances

When the system is installed in close proximity to certain flue pipes the relevant provisions of the national Building Regulations should be met:

England and Wales — Approved Document J

Scotland — Mandatory Standard 3.19, clause 3.19.4⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

(1) Technical Handbook (Domestic).

(2) Technical Handbook (Non-Domestic).

Northern Ireland — Technical Booklet L.

10 Water resistance



10.1 The system will provide a degree of protection against rain ingress. However, care should be taken to ensure that substrate walls are adequately watertight prior to the application of the system. The system should only be installed where there are no signs of dampness on the inner surface of the substrate other than those caused solely by condensation.

10.2 Designers and installers should take particular care in detailing around openings, penetrations and movement joints to minimise the risk of rain ingress. Only construction details approved by the Certificate holder should be used.

10.3 The guidance given in BRE Report BR 262 : 2002 should be followed in connection with the watertightness of solid wall constructions. The designer should select a construction appropriate to the local wind-driven rain index, paying due regard to the design detailing, workmanship and materials to be used.

10.4 At the top of the walls, the system should be protected by an adequate coping, overhang or other detail designed for use with this type of system (see section 16).

11 Risk of condensation

Surface condensation



11.1 Walls will limit the risk of surface condensation adequately when the thermal transmittance (U value) does not exceed $0.7 \text{ W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$ at any point and the junctions with other elements are designed in accordance with the relevant requirements of the publications referred to in section 6.



11.2 Walls and ceilings will adequately limit the risk of surface condensation when the thermal transmittance (U value) does not exceed $1.2 \text{ W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$ at any point. Guidance may be obtained from BS 5250 : 2011, Section 4 and BRE Report BR 262 : 2002.

Interstitial condensation



11.3 Walls incorporating the system will adequately limit the risk of interstitial condensation when they are designed and constructed in accordance with BS 5250 : 2011 (Section 4 and Annexes D and G).

12 Maintenance



An initial inspection should be made within 12 months and regularly thereafter to include:

- agreed with the manufacturer the quality control procedures and product testing to be undertaken
- visual inspection of the render for signs of damage. Cracks in the render exceeding 0.2 mm must be repaired
- examination of the sealant around openings and service entry points
- visual inspection of architectural details designed to shed water to confirm that they are performing properly
- visual inspection to ensure that water is not leaking from external downpipes or gutters; such leakage could penetrate the rendering
- necessary repairs effected immediately and the sealant joints at window and door frames replaced at regular intervals
- maintenance schedules, which should include the replacement and resealing of joints, for example between the insulation system and window and door frame.

13 Durability



13.1 The system will remain effective for at least 30 years, provided any damage to the surface finish is repaired immediately, and regular maintenance is undertaken including checks on joints in the system and external plumbing fittings to prevent leakage of rainwater into the system, enabling steps to be taken to correct the defects.

13.2 The textured finishes may also become soiled in time, the rate depending on locality. The appearance may be restored by a suitable powerwash or, if required, by the application of a compatible paint; however, great care should be taken not to adversely affect the water vapour transmission or fire characteristics of the system. The advice of the Certificate holder should be sought.

Installation

14 Site survey and preliminary work

14.1 A pre-installation survey of the property must be carried out to determine suitability for treatment and any repairs necessary to the building structure before application of the NBT Diffutherm External Wall Insulation System for use on Masonry Substrates. A specification is prepared for each elevation of the building indicating:

- where required, additional corner mesh and reinforcement
- the position of beads
- detailing around windows, doors and at eaves
- damp-proof course (dpc) level
- exact position of expansion joints
- areas where flexible sealants must be used
- any alterations to external plumbing
- where required, the position of fire barriers.

14.2 Mechanical fixings are used to secure the system. If there are any doubts as to the strength of the substrate, trial tests should be conducted on the wall to determine the pull-out resistance of the proposed mechanical fixings. An assessment and recommendation is made on the type and number of fixings required to withstand the building's expected wind loading based on calculations using the test data, the relevant wind speed data for the site and, in the absence of a formal requirement, a safety factor of 3.

14.3 All modifications, such as necessary repairs to the building, are completed before installation commences.

14.4 Surfaces should be sound, clean and free from loose material. The flatness of surfaces must be checked; this may be achieved using a straight edge spanning the storey height. Any excessive irregularities, ie up to 10 mm in 1 metre, must be made good prior to installation to ensure that the insulation boards are installed against a smooth, in-plane finished surface.

14.5 Where surfaces are covered with an existing rendering it is essential that the bond between the background and the render is adequate. All loose areas should be hacked off and reinstated.

14.6 On existing buildings, purpose-made window sills must be fitted to extend beyond the finished face of the system. New buildings should incorporate suitably deep sills. Detailing around window reveals should be carefully carried out to ensure a weathertight seal.

14.7 It is recommended that external plumbing be removed before installation and alterations made to underground drainage, where appropriate, to accommodate repositioning of the plumbing on the finished face of the system.

15 Approved installers

Application of the system, within the context of this Certificate, must be carried out by approved installers recommended or recognised by the Certificate holder. Such an installer is a company:

- employing operatives who have been trained and approved by the Certificate holder to install the system
- which has undertaken to comply with the Certificate holder's application procedure, containing the requirement for each application team to include at least one member operative trained by the Certificate holder
- subject to at least one inspection per annum by the Certificate holder to ensure suitable site practices are being employed. This may include unannounced site inspections.

16 Procedure

General

16.1 Application is carried out in accordance with the current installation instructions of the Certificate holder.

16.2 Weather conditions should be monitored to ensure correct application and curing conditions. Application of the undercoat and finishes should not be carried out at temperatures below 5°C or above 30°C, nor if exposure to frost is likely. The coating must be protected from rapid drying.

16.3 All rendering should be in accordance with the relevant recommendations of BS EN 13914-1 : 2016.

Positioning and securing insulation boards

16.4 The base profile is secured to the external wall above the dpc using approved profile fixings at 400 mm maximum centres.

16.5 The first run of insulation boards is positioned on the base profile. The boards are plastered on the reverse side and pressed firmly against the wall.

16.6 Holes are drilled into the substrate through the insulation board and mechanical fixings are inserted and tapped firmly home to secure the boards at the specified minimum rate of six fixings per board.

16.7 Care must be taken to ensure that all board edges are butted tightly together, and surface alignment checked as work proceeds.

16.8 To fit around details such as doors and windows, insulation boards may be cut with a sharp knife or a fine toothed saw. If required, purpose-made window-sills with sealed end caps are fitted at this stage. They are designed to prevent water ingress and incorporate drips to shed water clear of the system. Compriband should be applied according to the Certificate holder's technical manual at all openings and penetrations.

16.9 APU rails should be applied according to the Certificate holder's technical manual at the sides and heads of all windows and doors.

16.10 Installation continues until the whole wall is completely covered including, where appropriate, the building soffits. Reference should be made to the Certificate holders's technical manual for full application details.

Movement joints

16.11 Movement joints have not been assessed as part of this system and advice should be sought from the Certificate holder as to how existing movement joints within the substrate may be accommodated as part of the system.

Reinforced base coat

16.12 Additional pieces of reinforcing mesh are used diagonally at the corners of openings, as shown in Figure 2.

16.13 Care should be taken at window reveals if insulation has been omitted from the reveal due to space limitations, as movement may cause cracks at changes of material. Additional reinforcing mesh should be used at window reveals.

16.14 The Baunit BM33 basecoat is prepared and trowel or machine applied to the insulation to an appropriate thickness of approximately 4 mm. R131 Reinforcing mesh should be applied to the whole surface and a further 2 mm coat of Baunit BM33 applied and trowelled flat. The R131 mesh should be positioned in the top third of the basecoat.

16.15 Care should be taken with the basecoat under details such as window sills. The surface of the basecoat should be allowed to cure for one day per mm of thickness before surface irregularities are smoothed out using a rasping tool (Grid float). The basecoat render should then be allowed to fully cure for a further four to five days. For full application details see Certificate holder's technical manual or contact the Certificate holder.

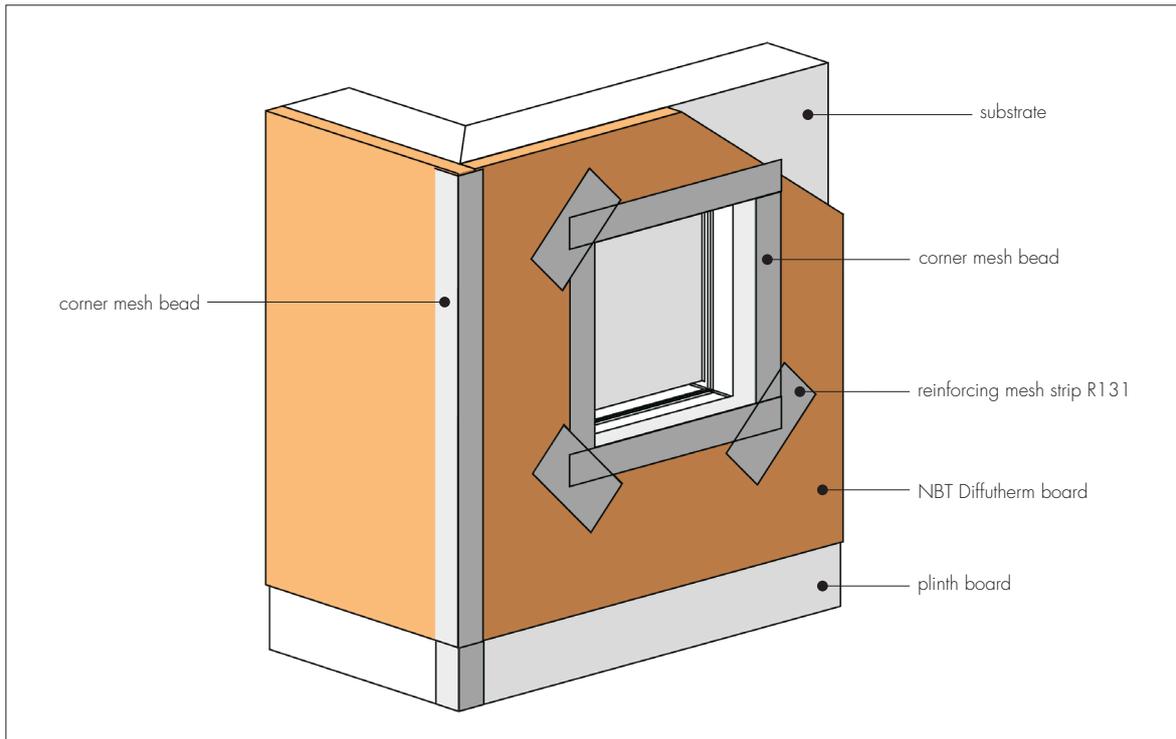
Beads

16.16 Expansion beads should be fixed in accordance with the Certificate holder's instructions.

16.17 Stop beads are positioned vertically, eg at separating wall positions where the adjoining house does not require treatment.

16.18 Where required, angle beads are fixed to all building corners and to door and window heads and jambs.

Figure 2 Reinforcing mesh requirements at opening details



Render finishing

16.19 The basecoat must be left to cure for at least one day per mm thickness depending on weather conditions before application of the finish.

16.20 The surface of the render basecoat can be primed with DG27 adhesion coat (primer), applied by brush or roller and allowed to dry for a minimum of 24 hours.

16.21 The finish coating should be trowel or machine applied to give the appropriate texture effect.

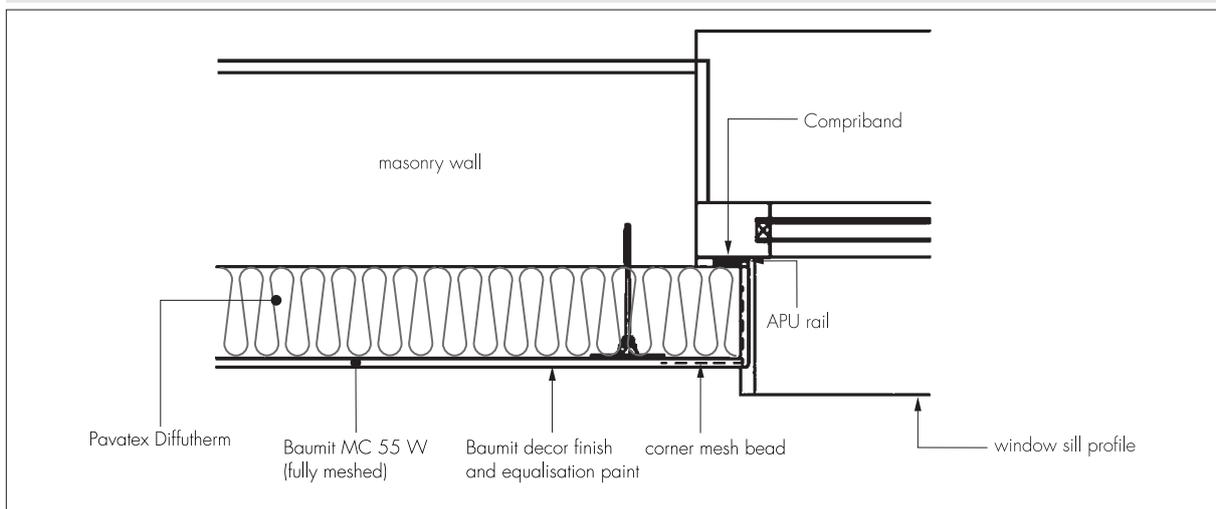
16.22 To prevent the finish from drying too rapidly, it should not be applied in direct sunlight. The finished render surface should be protected from rain and frost until the material is dry and hard, approximately one day per mm thickness of finish. Continuous surfaces must be completed without a break.

16.23 One to two coats of Baunit SilikonFarbe equalising paint should be applied to the Décor finish surface by brush, roller or spray application, colour matched to the finish, and allowed to dry for 24 hours.

16.24 At the tops of walls the system must be protected by an adequate overhang or by an adequately sealed, purpose-made flashing.

16.25 Care must be taken in the detailing of the system around openings and projections (see Figure 3).

Figure 3 Window reveal detail



16.26 On completion of the installation, external fittings, eg rainwater goods, are re-fixed through the system into the substrate.

17 Repair

Damaged areas must be repaired using the appropriate components and the procedures detailed in the Certificate holder's installation instructions.

Technical Investigations

18 Tests

18.1 Tests were carried out to determine:

- component characterisation
- resistance to freeze/thaw
- heat/spray cycling
- impact resistance
- pull-out strength of fixings.

18.2 An examination was made of data relating to:

- water vapour permeability
- water permeability
- fire propagation tests to BS 8414-1 : 2002
- surface spread of flame tests to BS EN 1365-1 : 1999
- durability of finish coatings (SEPO2 and SEPO3).

19 Investigations

19.1 The manufacturing process was evaluated, including the methods adopted for quality control, and details were obtained of the quality and composition of materials used.

19.2 The practicability of installation and the effectiveness of detailing techniques were examined.

Bibliography

BS 5250 : 2011 *Code of practice for control of condensation in buildings*

BS 5628-3 : 2005 *Code of practice for the use of masonry — Materials and components, design and workmanship*

BS 6399-2 : 1997 *Loading for buildings — Code of practice for wind loads*

BS 8000-3 : 2001 *Workmanship on building sites — Code of practice for masonry*

BS 8200 : 1985 *Code of practice for design of non-loadbearing external vertical enclosures of buildings*

BS 8414-1 : 2002 *Fire performance of external cladding systems — Test methods for non-loadbearing external cladding systems applied to the face of a building*

BS EN 1365-1 : 1999 *Fire resistance tests for loadbearing elements — Walls*

BS EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 *Eurocode 1 : Actions on structures — General actions — Wind actions*

BS EN 13914-1 : 2016 *Design, preparation and application of external rendering and internal plastering — External rendering*

BS EN ISO 6946 : 2007 *Building components and building elements — Thermal resistance and thermal transmittance — Calculation method*

EN 1990 : 2002 *Eurocode — Basis of structural design*

EN 12865 : 2001 *Hygrothermal performance of building components and building elements — Determination of the resistance of external wall systems to driving rain under pulsating air pressure*

BRE Report (BR 135 : 2003) *Fire Performance of External Insulation For Walls of Multi-Storey Buildings*

BRE Report (BR 262 : 2002) *Thermal insulation: avoiding risk*

BRE Report (BR 443 : 2006) *Conventions for U-value calculations*

MOAT No 22 : 1988 *UEAtc Directives for the Assessment of External Insulation Systems for Walls (Expanded Polystyrene Insulation Faced with a Thin Rendering)*

MOAT No 43 : 1987 *UEAtc Directives for Impact Testing Opaque Vertical Building Components*

20 Conditions

20.1 This Certificate:

- relates only to the product/system that is named and described on the front page
- is issued only to the company, firm, organisation or person named on the front page — no other company, firm, organisation or person may hold or claim that this Certificate has been issued to them
- is valid only within the UK
- has to be read, considered and used as a whole document — it may be misleading and will be incomplete to be selective
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- is subject to English Law.

20.2 Publications, documents, specifications, legislation, regulations, standards and the like referenced in this Certificate are those that were current and/or deemed relevant by the BBA at the date of issue or reissue of this Certificate.

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- are maintained at or above the levels which have been assessed and found to be satisfactory by the BBA
- continue to be checked as and when deemed appropriate by the BBA under arrangements that it will determine
- are reviewed by the BBA as and when it considers appropriate.

20.4 The BBA has used due skill, care and diligence in preparing this Certificate, but no warranty is provided.

20.5 In issuing this Certificate, the BBA is not responsible and is excluded from any liability to any company, firm, organisation or person, for any matters arising directly or indirectly from:

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- actual installations of the product/system, including their nature, design, methods, performance, workmanship and maintenance
- any works and constructions in which the product/system is installed, including their nature, design, methods, performance, workmanship and maintenance
- any loss or damage, including personal injury, howsoever caused by the product/system, including its manufacture, supply, installation, use, maintenance and removal
- any claims by the manufacturer relating to CE marking.

20.6 Any information relating to the manufacture, supply, installation, use, maintenance and removal of this product/system which is contained or referred to in this Certificate is the minimum required to be met when the product/system is manufactured, supplied, installed, used, maintained and removed. It does not purport in any way to restate the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, or of any other statutory, common law or other duty which may exist at the date of issue or reissue of this Certificate; nor is conformity with such information to be taken as satisfying the requirements of the 1974 Act or of any statutory, common law or other duty of care.