

CERTIFICATE NO. 08/0307

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KORE Insulated Concrete Formwork System

Système pour construction Bausystem

The **Irish Agrément Board** is designated by Government to issue European Technical Approvals.

Irish Agrément Board Certificates establish proof that the certified products are '**proper materials**' suitable for their intended use under Irish site conditions, and in accordance with the **Building Regulations 1997 to 2007**.

The **Irish Agrément Board** operates in association with the **National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI)** as the National Member of UEAtc.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION:

This Certificate relates to the KORE ICF (Insulating Concrete Formwork) System, which consists of modular interlocking expanded polystyrene (EPS) building blocks for permanent formwork for the construction of in-situ concrete walls. An external render system approved by IAB for use with ICF systems is applied to the external polystyrene insulation of the KORE ICF system as the external finish, and plasterboard slabs are screw fixed to the polypropylene connectors as an internal finish. This Certificate certifies compliance with the requirements of the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007.

USE:

The KORE ICF System is certified for use in the construction of two storey plus attic space (2.5 storeys) single occupancy dwellings.

The system has been assessed for use as load bearing and non-load bearing walls in the construction of specifically designed buildings. Fire and sound rated walls may also be constructed using the system.

MANUFACTURE AND MARKETING:

The product is manufactured and marketed by:

Airpacks Ltd.,
The Green,
Kilnaleck,
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Tel: +353 (0) 494336998
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1.1 ASSESSMENT

In the opinion of the Irish Agrément Board (IAB), the KORE ICF System when used as specified in this Irish Agrément certificate is satisfactory for the purpose defined above, and meets the requirements of the Building Regulations 1997 - 2007 as indicated in Section 1.2 of this Certificate.

1.2 BUILDING REGULATIONS 1997 to 2007

REQUIREMENT:

Part D - Materials and Workmanship

D3 – The KORE ICF System, as certified in this Certificate, is comprised of proper materials fit for their intended use (see Parts 3 and 4 of this Certificate).

D1 – The KORE ICF System, used in accordance with this Certificate, meets the requirements for workmanship.

Part A – Structure

A1 – Loading

The KORE ICF System, as certified in this Certificate, has adequate strength and stability (see Parts 3 and 4 of this Certificate).

Part B – Fire Safety

B1 – Means of Escape In Case of Fire

The KORE ICF System can be designed to meet the requirements in respect of means of escape in case of fire.

B2 – Internal Fire Spread (linings)

The plasterboard slabs used on the internal finish are non-combustible and have a Class 0 'spread of flame' rating. Surface spread of flame rating of the finished construction will be determined by the surface spread of flame rating of the lining materials used.

B3 – Internal Fire Spread (structure)

The KORE ICF System, as certified in this Certificate, will meet this requirement.

B4 – External Fire Spread

External renders approved for use with the KORE ICF System have a spread of flame rating equivalent to Class 0 on both faces. In respect of 'Spread of Flame', this is the highest performance classification set out in the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007.

Part C – Site Preparation and Resistance to Moisture

C3 – Dangerous Substances

Every ground floor must include a radon sump and be provided with a facility for extracting radon.

Where it is shown that protection from dangerous substances such as radon is required, an approved gas resistant membrane and gas handling system must be provided under the ground floor. The KORE ICF System permits the easy incorporation of the appropriate membrane, sump and gas handling system.

C4 – Resistance to Weather and Ground Moisture

The KORE ICF System, used in accordance with Part 3 of this Certificate, will have adequate weather resistance in all exposures, will resist the passage of moisture from whatever source and will prevent surface or interstitial condensation.

Part E – Sound

E1 – Airborne Sound (Walls)

Compartment walls (i.e. party walls) are designed and constructed to meet the airborne sound requirements of this Regulation.

E2 and E3 – Airborne and Impact Sound (Floors)

Intermediate and separating floors can be constructed to meet the airborne sound requirements of this Regulation.

Part F – Ventilation

F1 – Means of Ventilation

Adequate building ventilation openings can be provided in walls constructed with the KORE ICF System. It is essential that ventilation ducts through such walls are fully sealed within the walls or from contact with the cut edges of adjacent materials.

F2 – Condensation in Roofs

Adequate ventilation can be provided in roofs to meet this requirement in respect of the prevention of condensation.

Part J – Heat Producing Appliances

J3 – Protection of Building

When the KORE ICF System is used in accordance with Section 2.1.11 of this Certificate, wall lining, insulation and separation distances meet the Regulation requirements.

Part L – Conservation of Fuel and Energy

L1 – Conservation of Fuel and Energy

The KORE ICF System will contribute to enabling a building to meet this requirement. U value calculations may be based on a λ value = 0.033 W/mK. The calculated U-value for the KORE ICF 150 and 200mm wall is 0.20W/m²K.

Part M – Access for People with Disabilities

M1 – Access and Use

Buildings based on the KORE ICF System can be designed to meet the access, circulation and facilities requirements of this Regulation.

2.1 PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

2.1.1 General

The KORE ICF System consists of moulded panels of expanded polystyrene linked together with folding linkages. When unfolded fully the panels form the KORE ICF System. The linkage system consists of three components:

- KORE Insert, high impact polystyrene, moulded within the KORE panels
- KORE Bridge, polypropylene, variable in with (150, 200 or 300mm)
- KORE Pin, cold head high tensile steel.

The KORE panels and KORE Bridges are linked together by means of the KORE Pin forming an articulated hinge. Two KORE panels on extension create the formwork of uniform width. The KORE panels are manufactured from fire retardant grade EPS in accordance with IS EN 13163:2001 *Thermal insulation products for buildings – Factory made products of expanded polystyrene – Specification*, without the use of HCFC's. The minimum density is 25kg/m³.

Each KORE panel has a moulded interlocking tongue and groove system at the top and bottom to enable the tight connection between layers of panels. The panels are placed with staggered vertical joints.

On placement of the forms, a cavity is formed for the placement of concrete. The cavity is formed around windows and openings by insertion of KORE stops, which fit into the concrete security feature dovetails, moulded into the concrete cavity side of the KORE panel. The KORE stop is moveable within the cavity for accurate placement.

When concrete is poured into the cavity, a monolithic concrete wall is formed. The poured wall then retains the KORE formwork insulation for the life of the building. The KORE inserts provide permanent fixing points within the insulation embedded 12.5mm under the KORE logo on the panel. Their fixing area is 50mm by 412mm and each plain panel contains 6 at 200mm centres. The standard dimensions of the KORE panel are 1200mm by 417mm by 75mm.

2.1.2 Structure

The concrete specification is as follows:

- Minimum concrete strength: 25N
- Maximum aggregate size: 10-13mm for a 150mm wall and 10-19mm for a 200mm wall
- Concrete slump: 150mm

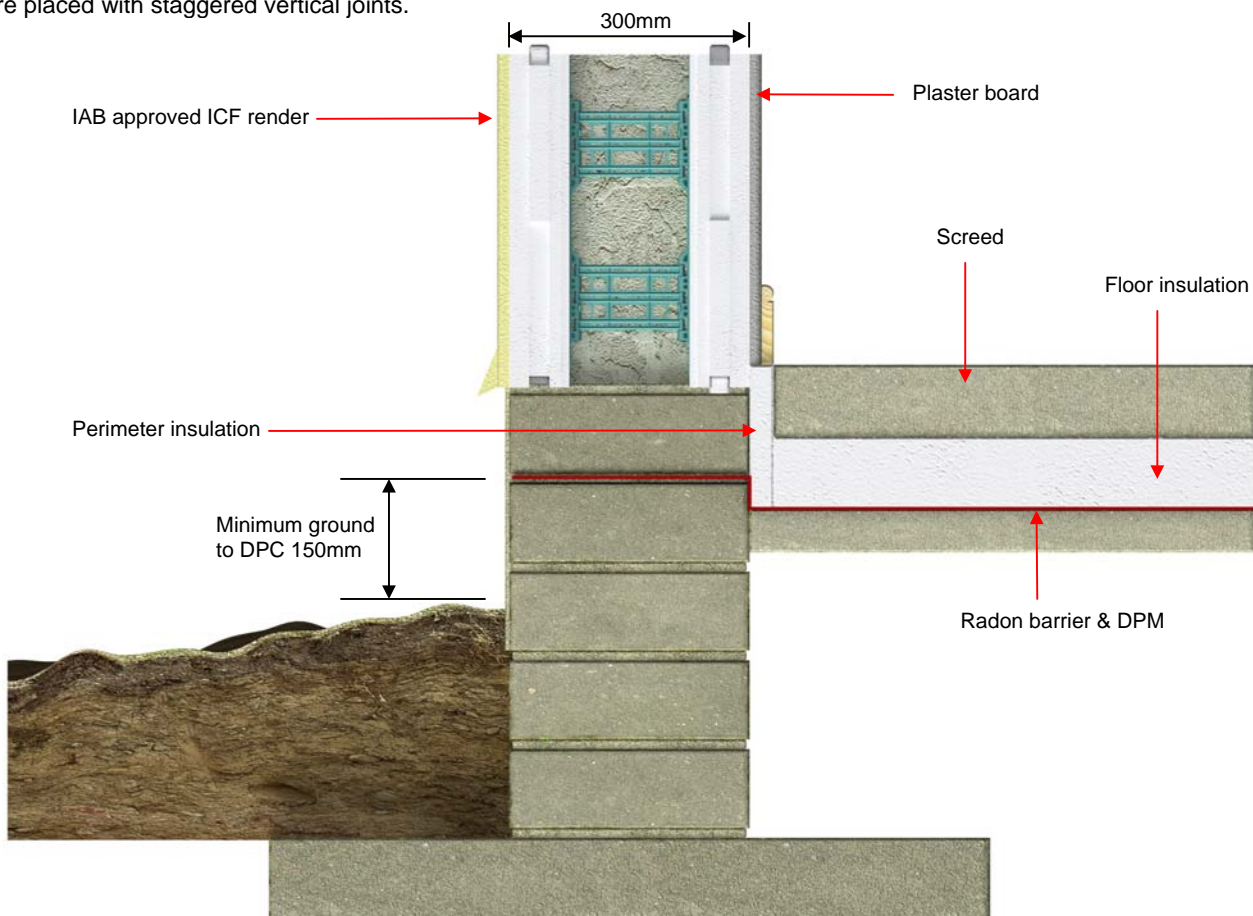


Figure 1: DPM and Radon Barrier

2.1.3 Steel Reinforcement

The steel reinforcement to be used should be 12mm diameter round or deformed bars, high tensile to BS 4449:2005 *Steel for the reinforcement of concrete – Weldable reinforcing steel – Bar, coil and decoiled product – Specification*, BS 4482:2005 *Steel wire for the reinforcement of concrete products – Specification*, BS 4483:2005 *Steel fabric for the reinforcement of concrete – Specification*, and IS EN 10020:2000 *Definition and classification of grades of steel*, and have a maximum yield strength of 500N/mm².

2.1.4 Foundations

The foundations are not part of the KORE ICF System and are not covered by this Certificate. Foundation design must comply with Part A of the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007. Airpacks Ltd. will provide loading information for foundations.

2.1.5 External Walls

The different elements of the external wall are as follows:

- 12mm minimum IAB approved external render for use with ICF system

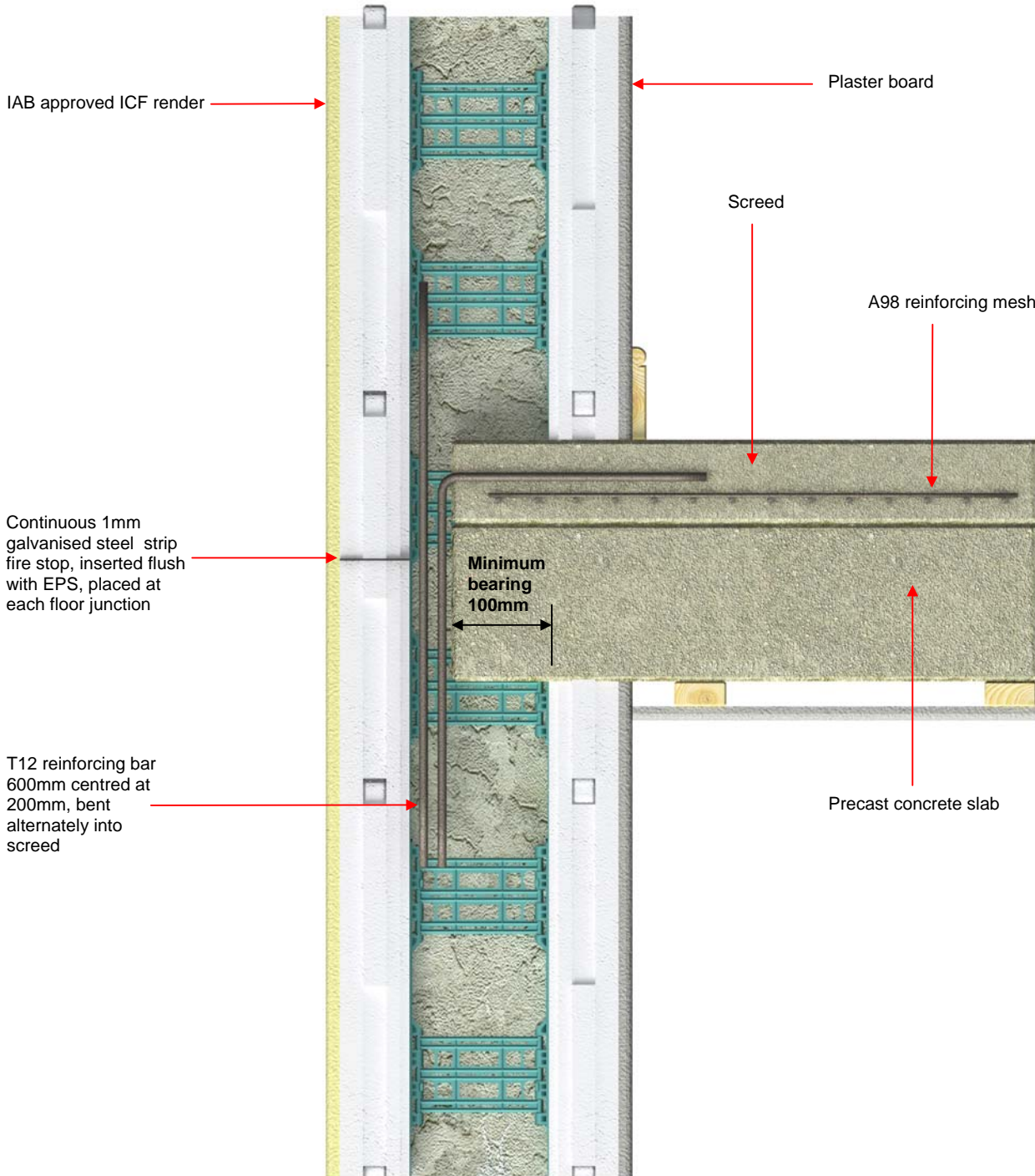


Figure 2: Precast Slab Placement

- 75mm KORE EPS panel
- 150, 200 or 300mm reinforced concrete core and KORE polypropylene bridges
- 75mm KORE EPS panel
- 12.5mm plasterboard slabs screw fixed to the KORE panel inserts
- 4mm gypsum skim coat plaster

The external renders certified for use with ICF systems are described in their own Certificates. Using the elemental U-value calculation method, the U-value of this wall is 0.20W/m²K.

2.1.6 Compartment Walls (Party Walls)

The compartment wall consists of the following:

- 4mm gypsum skim coat plaster
- 12.5mm plasterboard slabs screw fixed to the KORE panel inserts
- 75mm KORE EPS panel
- 200mm reinforced concrete core and KORE polypropylene bridges
- 75mm KORE EPS panel
- 12.5mm plasterboard slabs screw fixed to the KORE panel inserts
- 4mm gypsum skim coat plaster

With regard to sound transmission, the KORE ICF 200mm wall has a mass of 490kg/m² and this meets the requirements of Diagram 5 of Technical Guidance Document (TGD) to Part E of the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007.

2.1.7 Internal Walls

Load bearing internal walls are constructed using either the 150mm or 200mm KORE ICF forms, and slabbed and plastered as above for the party wall.

2.1.8 Floors

Pre-cast with External Wall Abutment

Floor elements should be cast into the KORE wall with sufficient load bearing overlap (minimum 100mm). Reinforcing should be placed before placement of the slab, to ensure the security of the slab, restraining, and prevent lateral movement of the structure. The rebar T12 should be placed at 200mm centres and alternate bars bent down on to the concrete slab then covered with screed (75mm) containing A98 reinforcing mesh.

Pre-cast Internal Wall Load Bearing 150mm

For internal load bearing walls, the 150mm KORE wall should be capped with a 4mm anti-spalling steel plate secured by masonry fixings into the concrete. At 500mm centres, the fixings such as concrete screws, frame fixings and rawbolts are acceptable with a minimum pull-out value of 800N (i.e. Hilti SX8L Plus and No. 12 wood screws).

Timber

Joist fixings are by ICF Connect Ltd. multi purpose hanger systems. The multi hanger system should be used in accordance with the manufacturers instructions and joist span and floor loading. The design loads for the ICF Connect Ltd. multi purpose hanger system are 1.9kN/m² live load and 0.72kN/m² dead load. Joist bearer plate is fixed to the KORE wall bolted directly into the concrete with M12 stud anchors (Hilti HST M12/120) fixings at a density of one per 400mm. The joists are then placed using joist hangers.

2.1.9 Roof

The KORE ICF system allows for the supply by others of a conventional timber or trussed roof with slating or tiling in accordance with ICP2:2002.

2.1.10 Stairs

Stairs are not part of the KORE ICF System and are not covered by this Certificate.

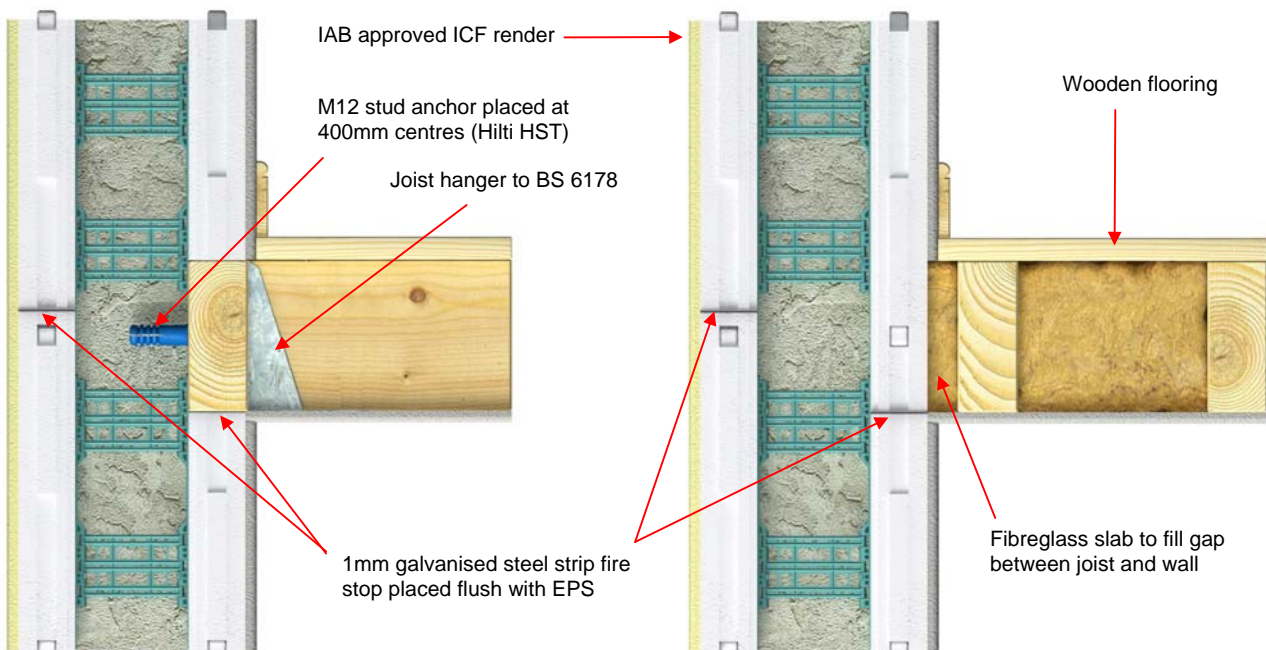


Figure 3: Floor Joist Arrangement

Property	Test Method	Value
Declared Thermal Conductivity (50mm)	IS EN 12667	0.033W/mK
Compressive Strength at 10% Deformation	IS EN 826	150kN/m ²
Bending Strength	IS EN 12089	200kN/m ²
EPS Density	IS EN 1602	Min 25kg/m ³
Reaction to Fire	IS EN ISO 11925-2, IS EN 13501-1	Euroclass E
Water Vapour Permeability	IS EN 12086, IS EN ISO 12572	33g/m ² /day
Water Absorption by Partial Immersion	IS EN 12087	0.01kg/m ²
Water Absorption by Total Immersion	IS EN 12087	0.2%

Table 1: Properties of Polystyrene used in KORE ICF

2.1.11 Chimney

Chimneys are not part of the KORE ICF System and are not covered by this Certificate. However, the system can incorporate an IAB approved pre-fabricated chimney system. The requirements of Clause 2.15 of TGD to Part J of the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007 require that combustible material such as polystyrene insulation have at least the following separation distance:

- 200mm from a flue, or
- 40mm from the outer surface of a brick or blockwork chimney or fireplace recess.

2.1.12 External Finish

An external render certified by the IAB for use with ICF systems is applied to the external polystyrene insulation of the KORE ICF system. Before this can proceed the fire barriers must be fitted opposite all party walls (see Section 4.1.1). A standard external render system consists of the following:

- Fibre reinforced basecoat consisting of high polymer modified cement product, generally 6 to 8mm thick.
- Reinforcing mesh consisting of alkali resistant glass fibre mesh, 160g/m²
- Fibre reinforced second basecoat consisting of high polymer modified cement based product, generally 4 to 6mm thick (a total minimum thickness of 12mm of applied render must be achieved in all areas).
- Primer consisting of topcoat primer.
- Render Topcoat finish consisting of silicone topcoat, available in a variety of colours and grain sizes up to 3mm.
- Ancillary items such as PVC beads, fixings and mineral wool fire stops.

2.1.13 Ancillary Items

- Anchor bolts
- ICF Connect Ltd multi hanger system
- Brickwork/stonework ties
- PVC pipe sleeves for penetrations
- Basement waterproofing membrane
- Fire stops.

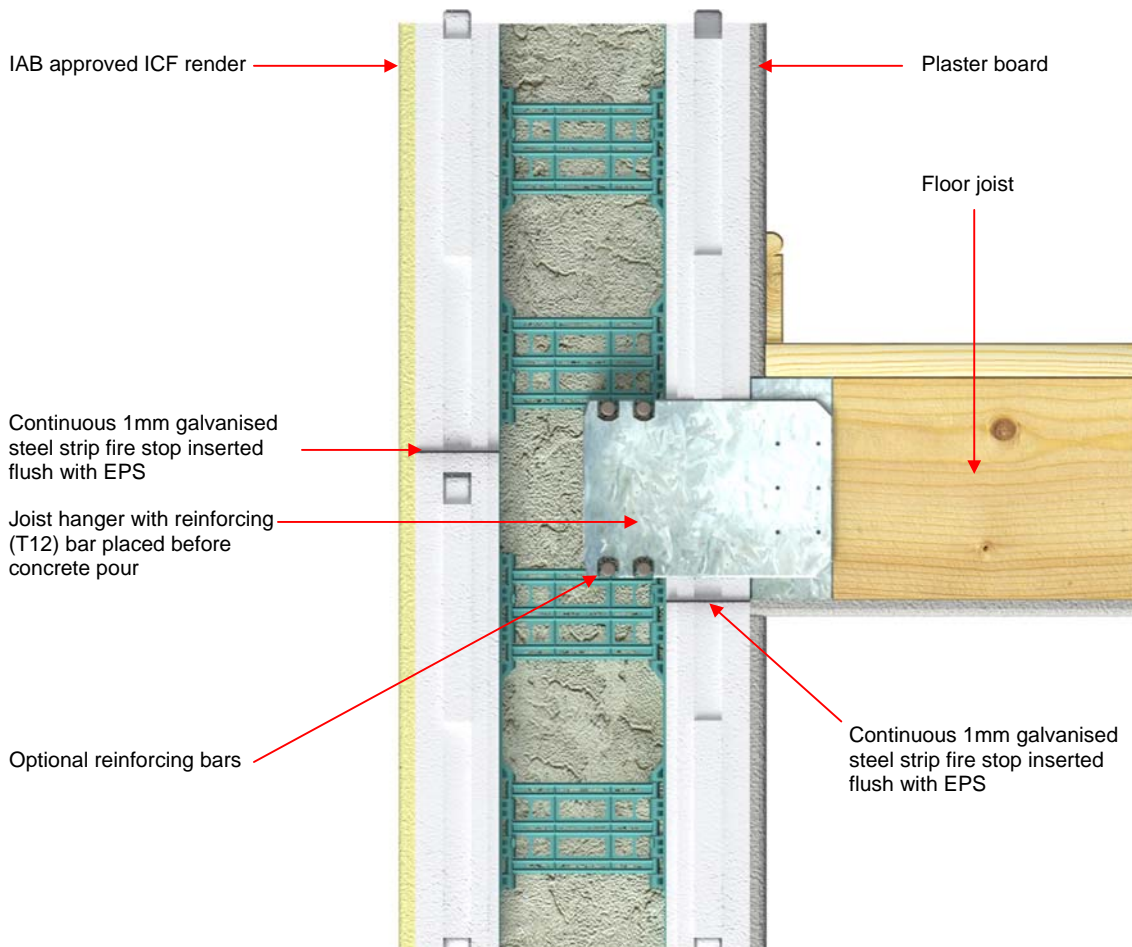


Figure 4: Joist Hanging System

2.2 MANUFACTURE

The EPS building panels are manufactured by Airpacks Ltd. Modular units are moulded with the interlocks and with markings on the panel face showing the locations of the polypropylene connectors. Each EPS building panel is manufactured with its integral polypropylene connectors. Production is controlled at different stages through inspections and quality control checks.

2.3 DELIVERY, STORAGE AND MARKING

Forms are delivered to site in suitable protective packaging. All packaged components are clearly labelled with product type and production date allowing full traceability of supply.

KORE ICF System components should not deteriorate in normal storage conditions so long as they remain in their packaging protected from the environment prior to use. Storage must be on firm, level and dry ground, and if the components are to be stored outside, they may be further protected from the weather by a secured covering.

KORE ICF System materials should be protected from prolonged exposure to direct sunlight and must not be exposed to plastic materials containing plasticizers or to volatile aggressive solvents. The polystyrene must not come into contact with aggressive chemicals or deleterious agents e.g. diesel oil, petrol, various cleaning solvents, hydrocarbons, membranes containing coal tar pitches or building products containing solvents.

The forms are easily handled on site and may be readily cut or trimmed with a knife or fine toothed saw. Reasonable care must be taken, however, to prevent damage to forms before, during and after installation. The forms must not be punctured, split, deformed or unduly compressed before use.

2.4 INSTALLATION

2.4.1 General

Airpacks Ltd. undertakes responsibility for the design and manufacture of the system. An approved Design Guide is available (see Section 3). Site construction is undertaken using IAB registered ICF installers in accordance with the KORE ICF Installation Manual. A pre-rendering checklist report shall be completed before rendering commences, which shall include checking that all fire barriers are correctly installed – this checklist shall be kept by the installer. The external render system shall be applied by IAB registered installers of render onto ICF system in accordance with the render specification.

Concrete working best practice should be followed in both hot and cold conditions. The concrete may be placed when the air temperature is between 5°C and 30°C.

2.4.2 Foundations

Foundations are not covered by this Certificate. However, foundations and substructures must comply with the relevant clauses of BS 8004:1986 *Code of practice for foundations*, BS 8007:1987 *Code of practice for design of concrete structures for retaining aqueous liquids* and BS 8102:1990 *Code of practice for protection of structures against water from the ground* as appropriate, and must provide a flat and level footing for the shuttering. Any reinforcing bars cast into the substructure must be positioned such that they allow for compaction and located in the system with adequate concrete cover for protection. The foundation base from which the KORE ICF System is to be built must be checked to ensure it is clean, flat and level.

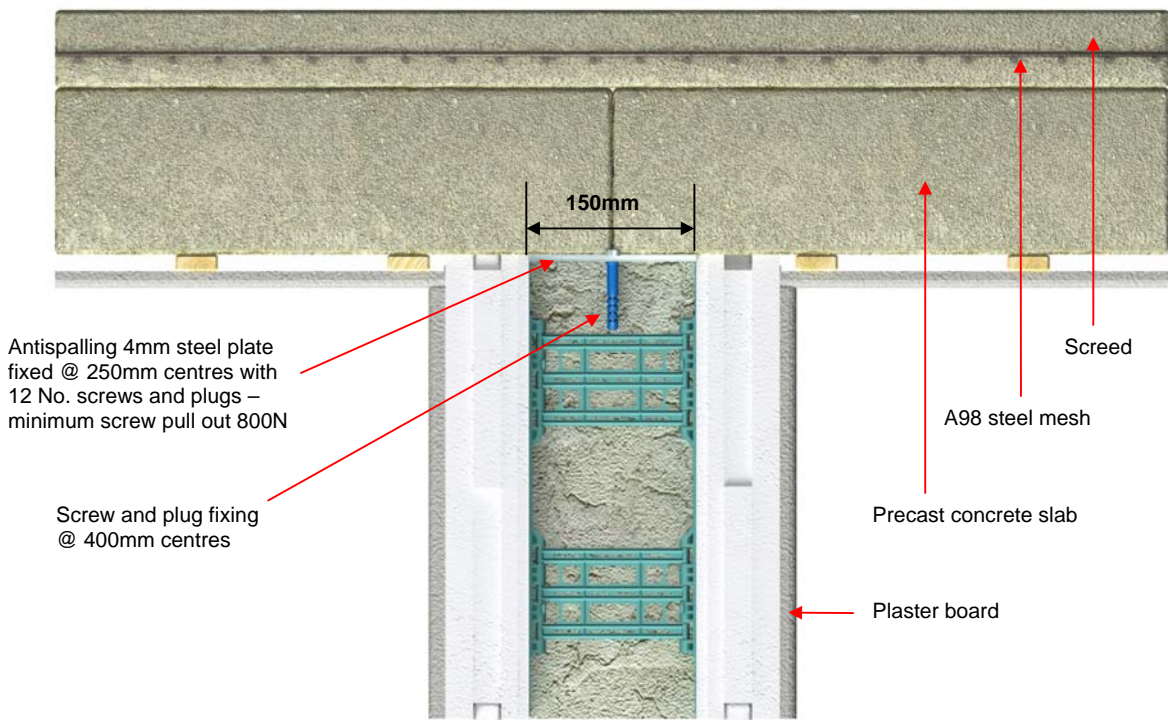


Figure 5: Internal Load Bearing Wall with Concrete Slab and Antisplalling Steel Plate

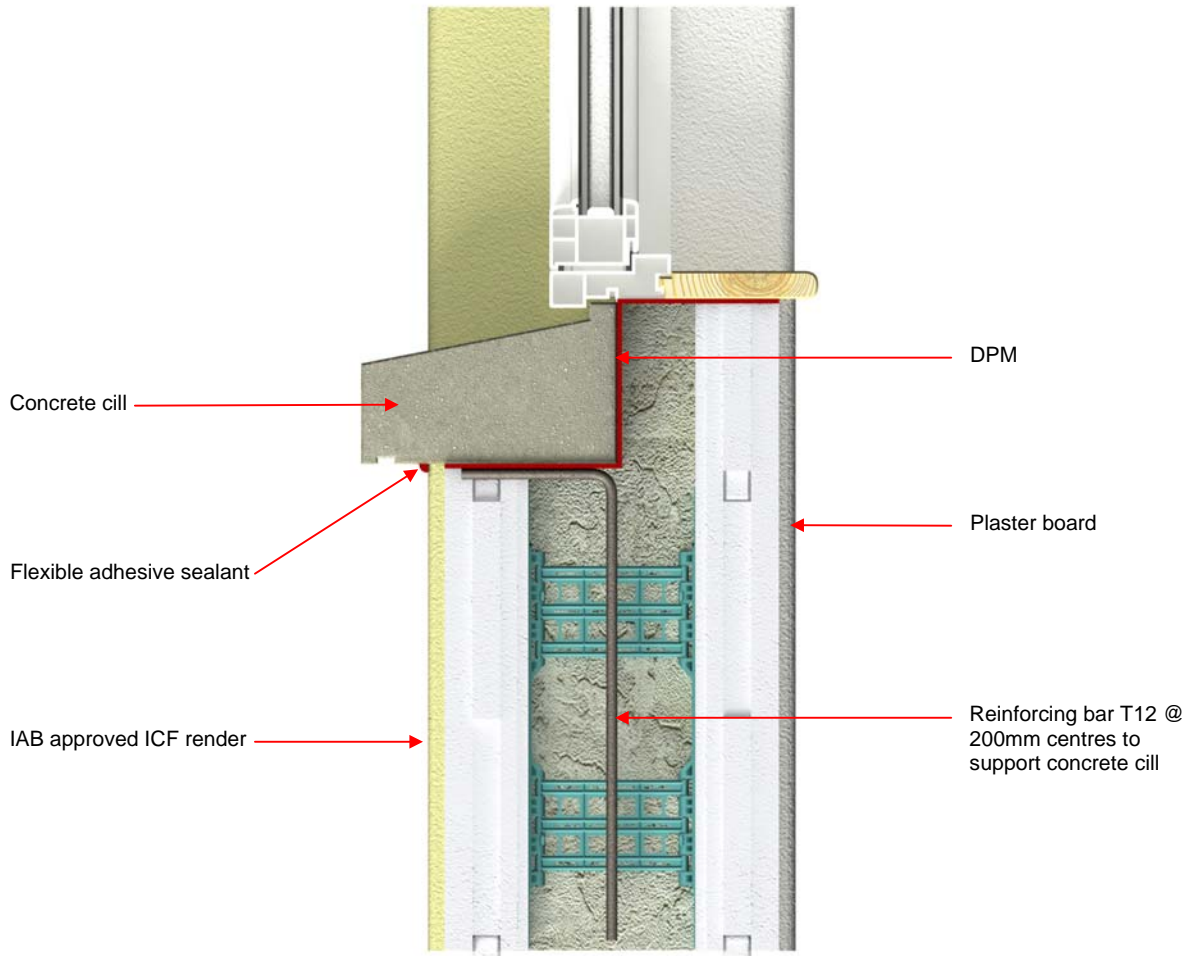


Figure 6: Cill Detail Section

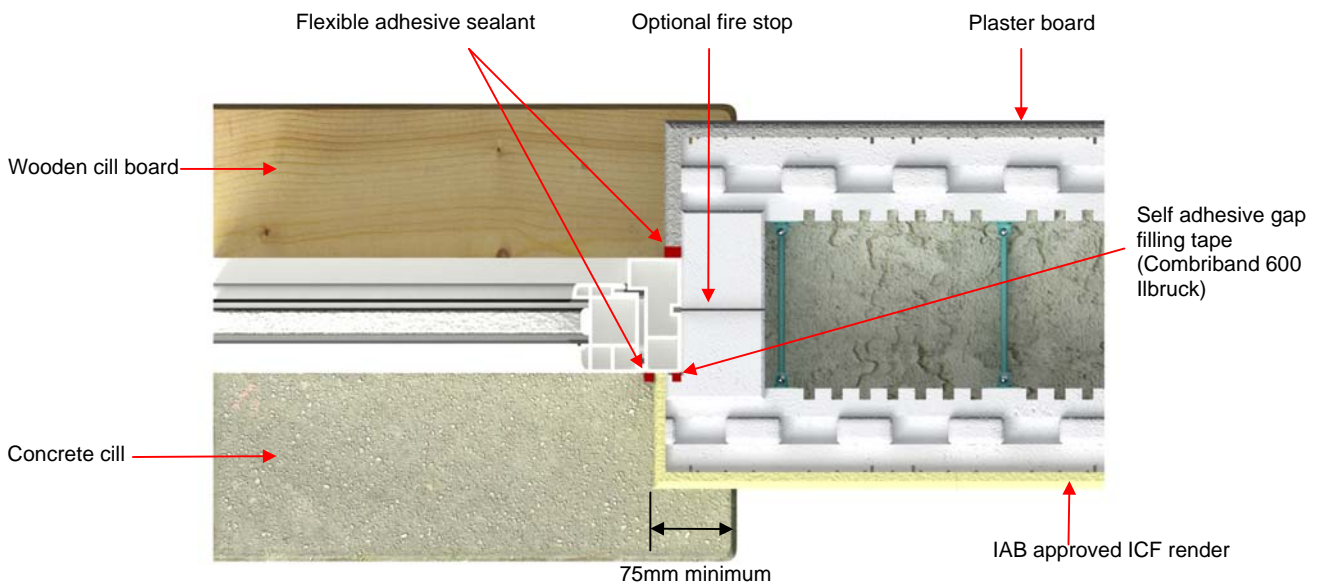


Figure 7: Cill Detail Plan View

2.4.3 Damp Proof Course (DPC)

Forms with appropriate materials and workmanship can produce adequately damp proof structures by using a layer of water resisting concrete, a minimum of 150mm above external ground level, in accordance with Type B structures defined in BS 8102:1990. Alternatively install a dpc e.g. brush applied liquid membrane. The external detail must be such that protection is provided up to a minimum of 150mm above the external ground level.

2.4.4 Wall Assembly

When placing the first course, it is important to ensure that the layout is square and correct. Corner forms are placed first and then worked inwards towards the centre. This will result in any cut being near the centre of the wall. It will also ensure that KORE bridges will line up correctly, which will eliminate compression during the concrete pour.

On the second course, corner forms are stacked in the opposite direction from the first course so that the joints are staggered on each course, eliminating weak spots. Ensure tongues are firmly inserted in grooves and forms are placed end to end tightly. It is recommended that after the second course has been stacked, the forms should be levelled to account for any uneven footings. A laser level may be used to detect any problem areas. On each subsequent course, the corners should be reversed to create staggered joints.

The KORE Strut Bracing System should be installed after the second or third course has been stacked depending on the exposure of the site. It is recommended to place a KORE strut at maximum horizontal centres of 1.8m. It is important to place a strut on either side of each opening and two at every corner. The KORE Strut Bracing System must be plumbed after it has been installed. Additional support may be required if cuts or openings are near a corner, or if joints are not staggered by a minimum of 200mm.

2.4.5 Reinforcement Placement

Horizontal reinforcement can be placed in different locations across the concrete fill void using the form tie/spacer toothed slots. Horizontal reinforcing bars for lintels must be located within the lintel as specified in the structural design, the minimum length of bar being equivalent to the width of opening in the structure plus 500mm. Vertical reinforcement can then be secured to horizontal reinforcement at required centres using standard fixing methods. Bar lapping lengths as per BS 8110-1:1997 should be adopted. The system requires that in plain walls horizontal reinforcement be provided in top and bottom courses of every wall lift. The reinforcement is checked to ensure there is adequate concrete cover for protection and that compaction can take place. The horizontal and vertical reinforcement used is T12 at 1200mm centres in the wall as specified or otherwise by the engineer (see Section 3.1.1).

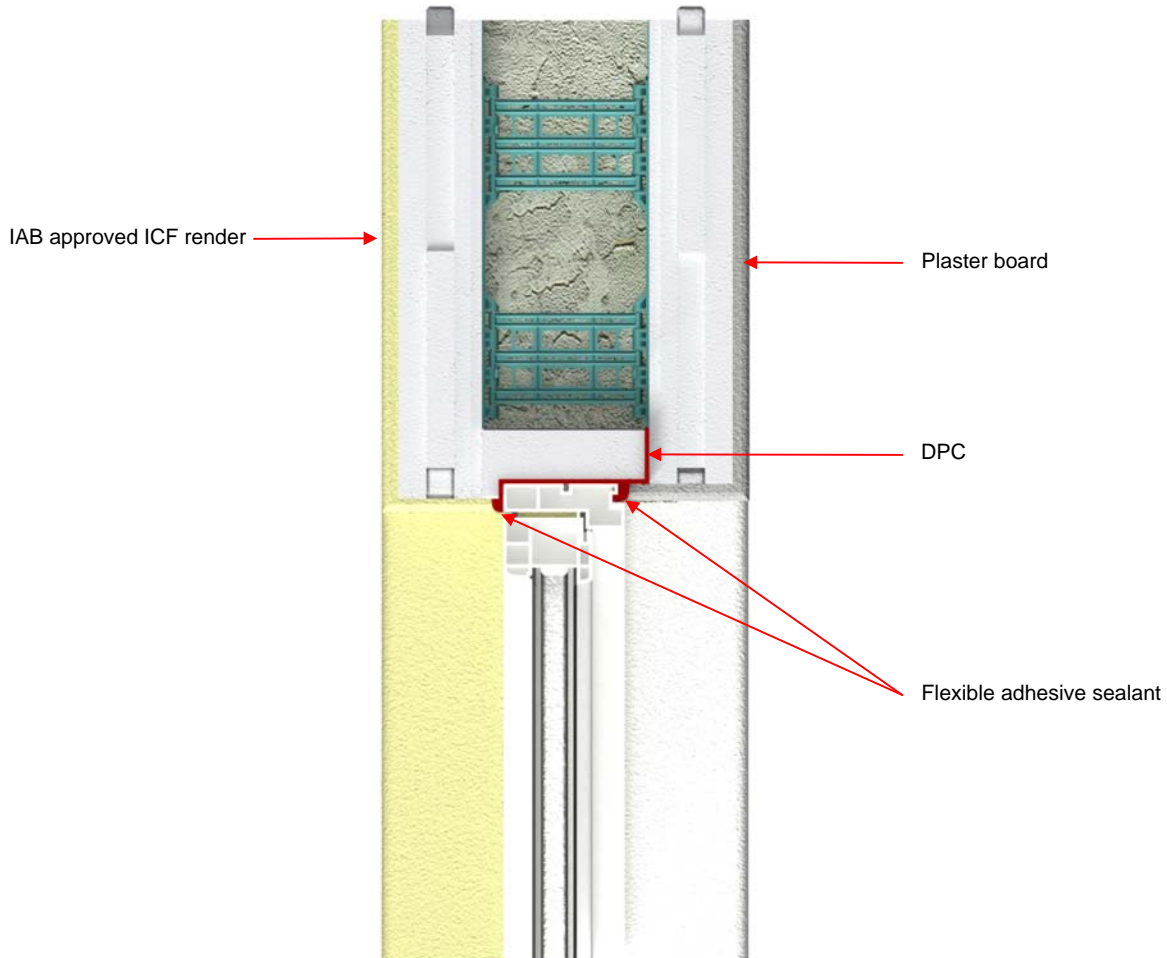


Figure 8: Header Detail

Heavy wall loads (such as wall units) should be supported by the concrete core and not the form tie/spacer flanges. This can be achieved by the use of timber blocks screwed or bolted into the concrete core or cast-in anchor bolts and metal plates.

2.4.6 Bracing

Install the KORE Strut Bracing System after the second or third course has been stacked depending on the exposure of the site. Temporary bracing and propping during construction is essential to maintain alignment and adequate lateral stability during concrete filling. The installer is responsible for ensuring the adequacy of all temporary bracing. As a minimum, the full height of the assembled formwork system must be supported 700mm from corners and along the length of each wall at maximum horizontal centres of 1.8m.

All lintels must be adequately supported until the concrete has attained its minimum working strength. On exposed sites or in adverse weather conditions further support may be necessary.

Typically, the bracing and alignment systems are placed on one side of the formwork (usually the inside face) during construction, however, for very long or walls greater than one storey height, bracing on two sides is recommended.

2.4.7 Openings/Services

The rigidity of the formwork is reduced by window or door openings, but is increased by the incidence of corner and crosswall details. Openings are formed during construction of the formwork by the insertion of the KORE Stop, which fit into the concrete dovetails that

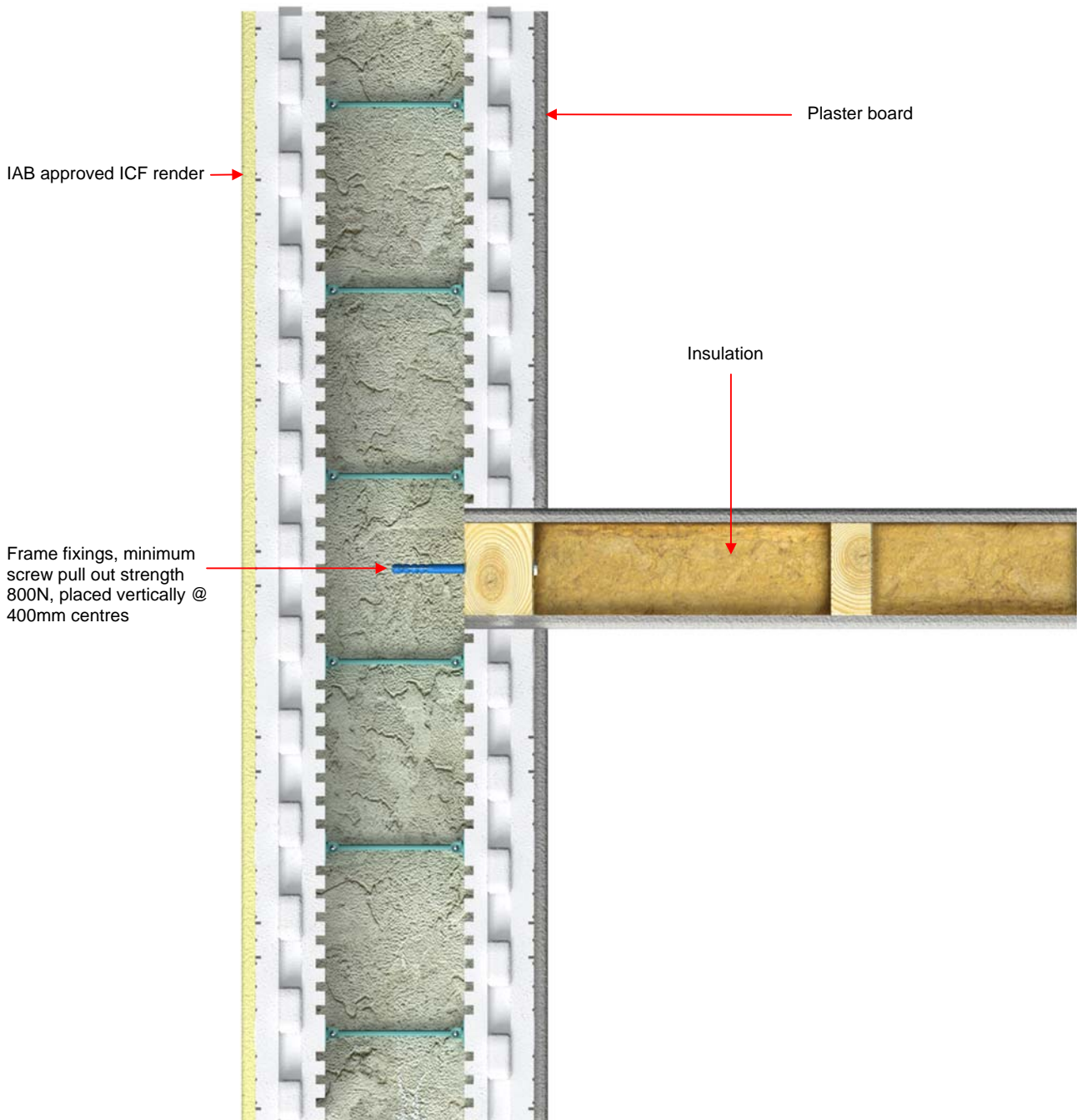


Figure 9: Internal Stooling Wall with External Abutment

are moulded into the concrete cavity side of the KORE panel. Timber headers are used as an additional bracing solution for the concrete pour. All lintels must be adequately supported until the concrete has attained its minimum working strength. On exposed sites or in adverse weather conditions further support may be necessary. Where joists are installed they must be adequately supported by the wall. The joists must not penetrate the external face of the formwork system. Locate and set items to be cast directly into concrete. Refer to Section 2.1.8 of this Certificate.

Wall openings or ducts for service penetrations can be positioned within the formwork prior to concrete pouring. At all service entry points, care must be taken to effect a properly sealed joint to prevent the ingress of vermin or moisture. Gaps in the insulation may be made good by filling and sealing with a self-expanding polyurethane foam. Service entry points to basement walls should be avoided.

Where services or flues are to penetrate the wall, a duct or sleeve through the KORE ICF System should be inserted prior to placing the concrete. Electrical cables should be ducted (to avoid plasticizer migration). The cables must be placed in PVC conduit and must be sized to minimise heat build-up with resulting fire risk, in accordance with ETCI requirements (Electro-Technical Council of Ireland documents, ET 101:2000 *National rules for electrical installations*, and ET 207:2003 *Guide to the national rules for electrical installations as applicable to domestic and similar situations*).

2.4.8 Pre-Pour Checks

Once the bracing is erected, adjustments are made for plumb, alignment and level by use of the push/pull screws. Reinforcement should be checked for correct cover distance and rigidity. Before the initial pour and between concrete pours, care must be taken to remove any debris from inside the formwork. All reinforcement must be checked by registered installer.

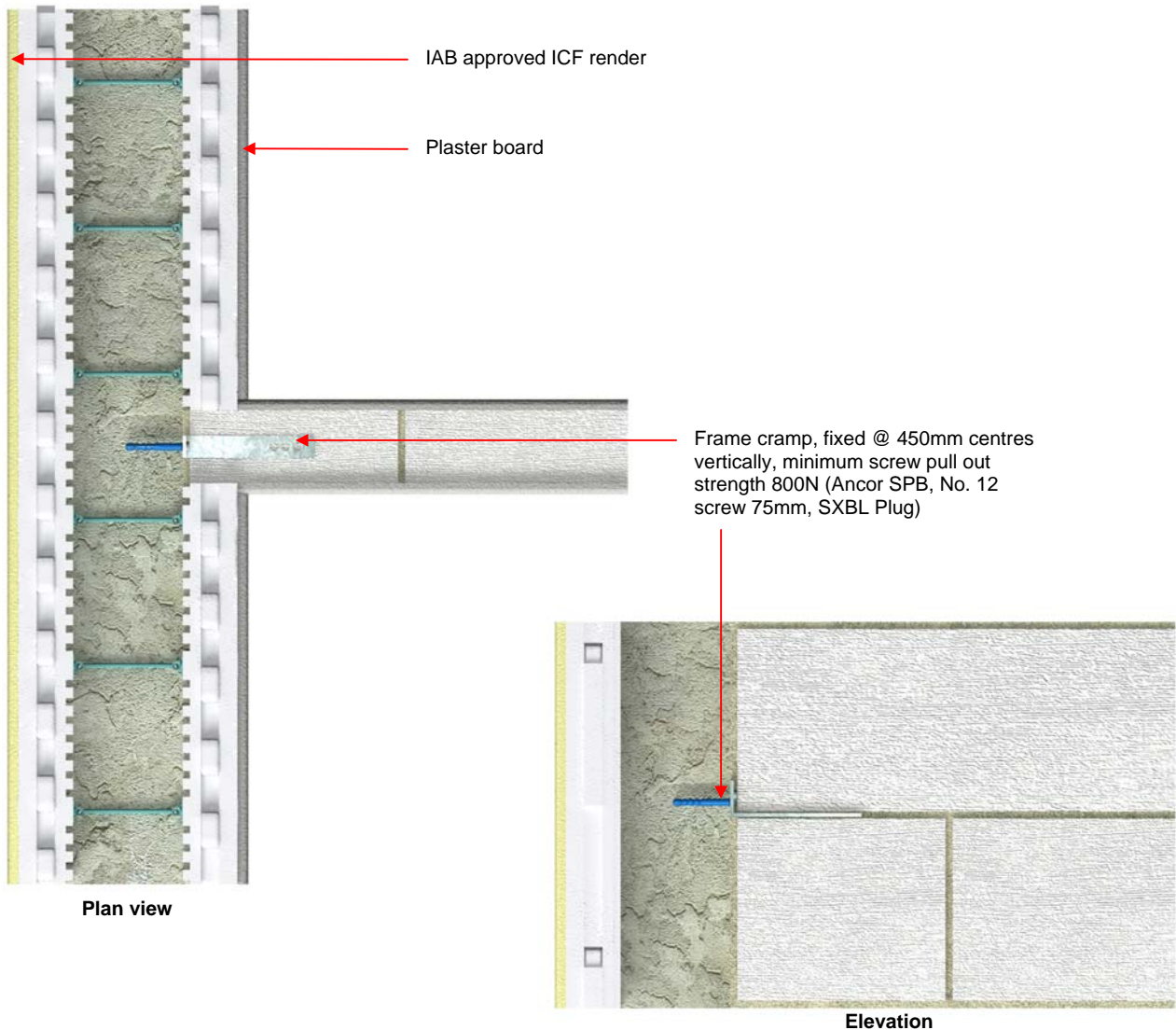


Figure 10: Block Internal Wall with External Abutment

2.4.9 Concrete Placement

Adequate supervision and care by the installer is needed when placing concrete. Concrete can be placed using line pump or overhead boom from a concrete pump lorry. Small volumes of concrete can be placed by hand, e.g. to make up small deficiencies at the end of each pour or to the sill of window openings. The concrete should be directed into the central cavity away from corners and not directly against the polystyrene units in 1.2m lift height allowing concrete to free-flow into corners and below window openings. The first lift is allowed to stiffen before placing the second lift of concrete. Typically storey heights should be placed in two storey lifts. When forming construction joints between concrete pours, these should be located within 100mm of the top of the KORE ICF System for ease of access and visual checking. Construction joints should be horizontal rather than vertical.

Lintels must be filled with concrete in a single operation, ensuring that the concrete integrates fully with the concrete in the walls at both ends. Particular attention should be paid at opening/lintel reinforcement as the steel can impede the flow of concrete around these sections. To prevent damage to the system, the use of poker vibrators above 25mm diameter is not recommended.

In very hot or freezing conditions, the top of the KORE ICF System must be covered to protect the concrete from adverse curing conditions.

The recommended concrete pour rate is 1000 to 1200mm/hr with a maximum of 1500mm/hr in warm temperatures.

The formwork system is filled and compacted progressively in layers not exceeding 1.3m lifts with a total daily concrete pour height not exceeding 3m (i.e. one storey height). This is to ensure adequate compaction is achievable and to avoid possible displacement of any reinforcement and excessive pressure being exerted on the KORE ICF System.

2.4.10 Concrete Compaction

Adequate consolidation/compaction of the concrete in line with BS 8110-1:1997 is essential and the concrete must be placed so that it completely fills the KORE ICF System without creating any voids. A 25mm vibrating poker should be used with care.

Particular attention should be given to basement walls and areas around openings. Particular attention should also be paid to the window and door openings where the steel reinforcement can impede the flow of concrete beneath these sections. Concrete in lintels must be mechanically tamped or vibrated to ensure proper compaction around any steel reinforcement.

For unreinforced walls, correct placement and specification of the concrete together with hand tamping or rodding is adequate. Where reinforcement is present for structural purposes, mechanical vibration is essential with internal poker vibrators smaller than 25mm diameter. Special care is required to avoid touching the formwork when using this equipment. Where internal poker vibrators are used, these should be confined to the central concrete core between reinforcement layers and used in accordance with the certificate holder's instructions.

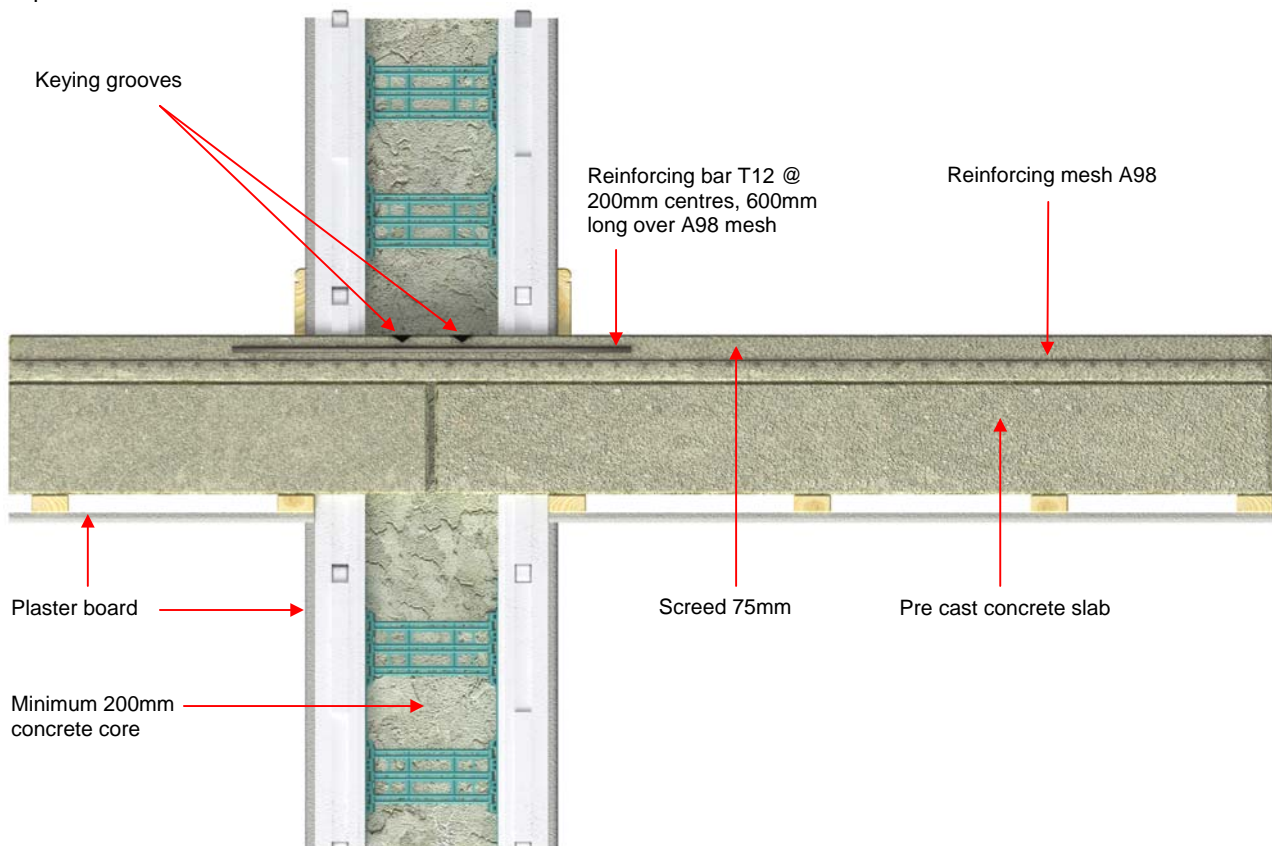


Figure 11: Party Wall with Precast Concrete

The formation of construction joints between concrete pours should be located as close to the top of the form wherever possible for the formwork wall to enable visual checking and ease of access for the formation of these joints. The construction joints formed should be horizontal rather than vertical.

The completeness of filling of the formwork can be easily confirmed by tapping its surface (with the palm of the hand or a wooden mallet) – any voids will be detected by a distinctive hollow sound. This should be done as the concrete is placed so that any voids detected can be easily corrected. The compaction of the concrete can be confirmed by tapping the surface as described up to 2.8m high walls. For load bearing walls above this height, the EPS can be removed to inspect the concrete core or alternatively, normal concrete cores can be taken as required.

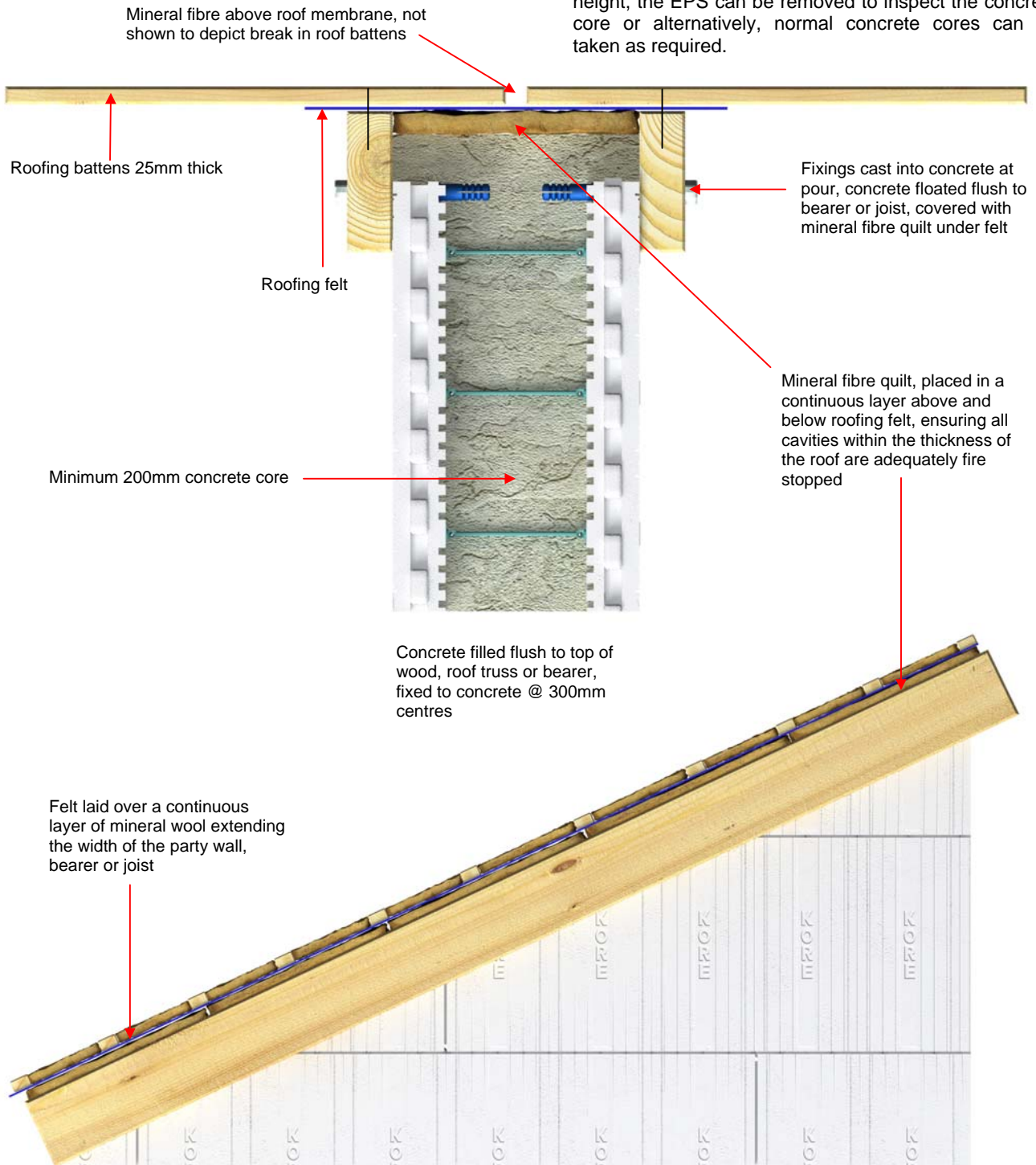


Figure 12: Party Wall Roof Junction

2.4.11 Post-Pour Tasks

After pouring is complete, immediately check the walls are straight and vertical adjusting the bracing support as required.

Any damage to the forms should be repaired immediately and any concrete spillage or leakage of grout may be removed by hosing down the exposed face of the system before it sets.

The concrete in the KORE ICF System must be left to cure until it has achieved a specified minimum strength, usually after two or three days, for construction to continue. Structural fixings should not be loaded until the concrete has achieved a sufficient strength, and supports should be left in place as long as required.

Where lateral bracing walls and other structures are intended to act in concert with the concrete filled forms, the polystyrene face must be removed to allow the required structural connection between the concrete core and the supplementary structure.

Backfilling around bottom layers of formwork to the ground floor walls should not take place until the concrete has reached sufficient design strength i.e. a minimum period of seven days.

Any damage to the faces of the KORE ICF System should be made good prior to the application of the internal and external finishes.

Electrical and plumbing services can be fixed within the formwork or into the concrete core by cutting chases into the EPS using a router or hot knife. Where chases are made in the polystyrene they should be kept to a minimum and need to be located at appropriate distances from separating walls.

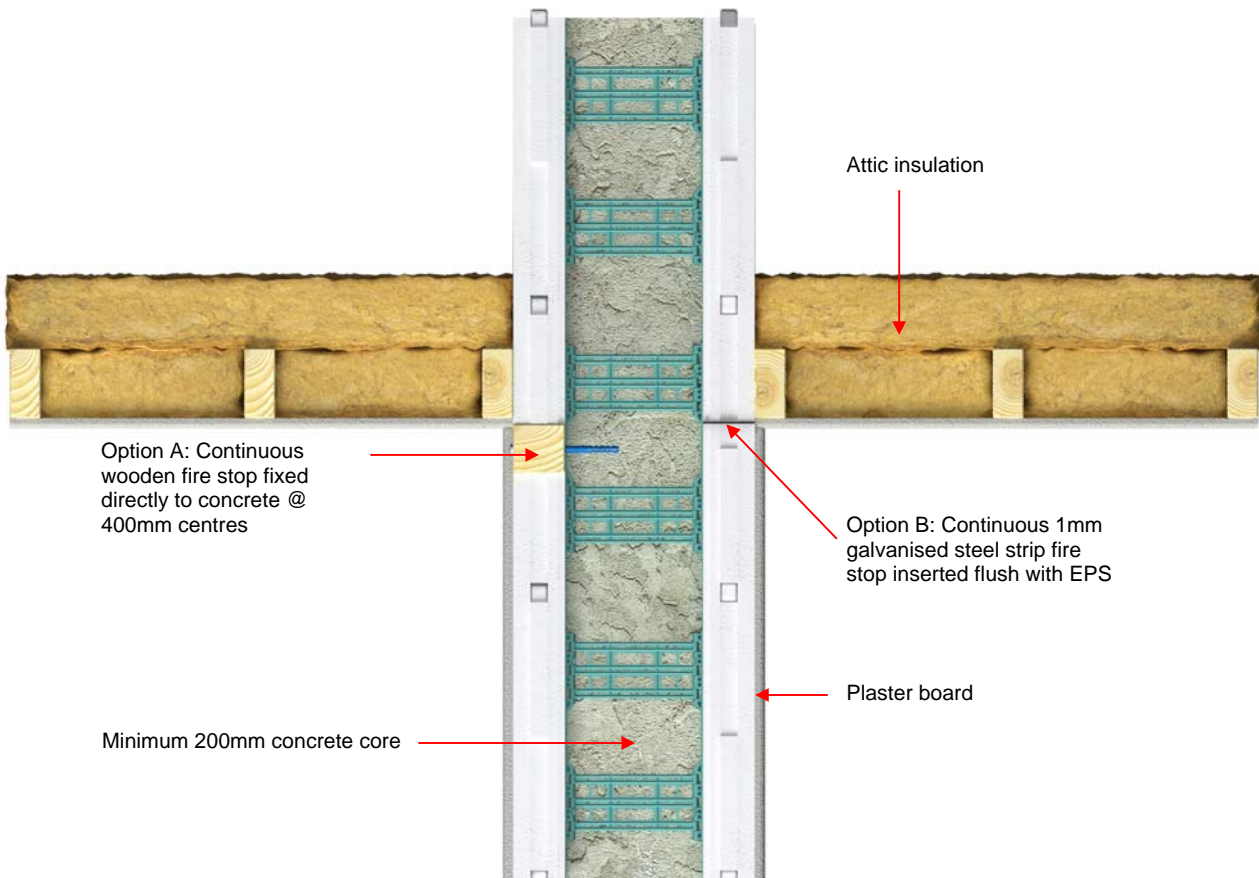


Figure 13: Sectional Elevation of Party Wall at Attic Floor Showing Fire Stop Options

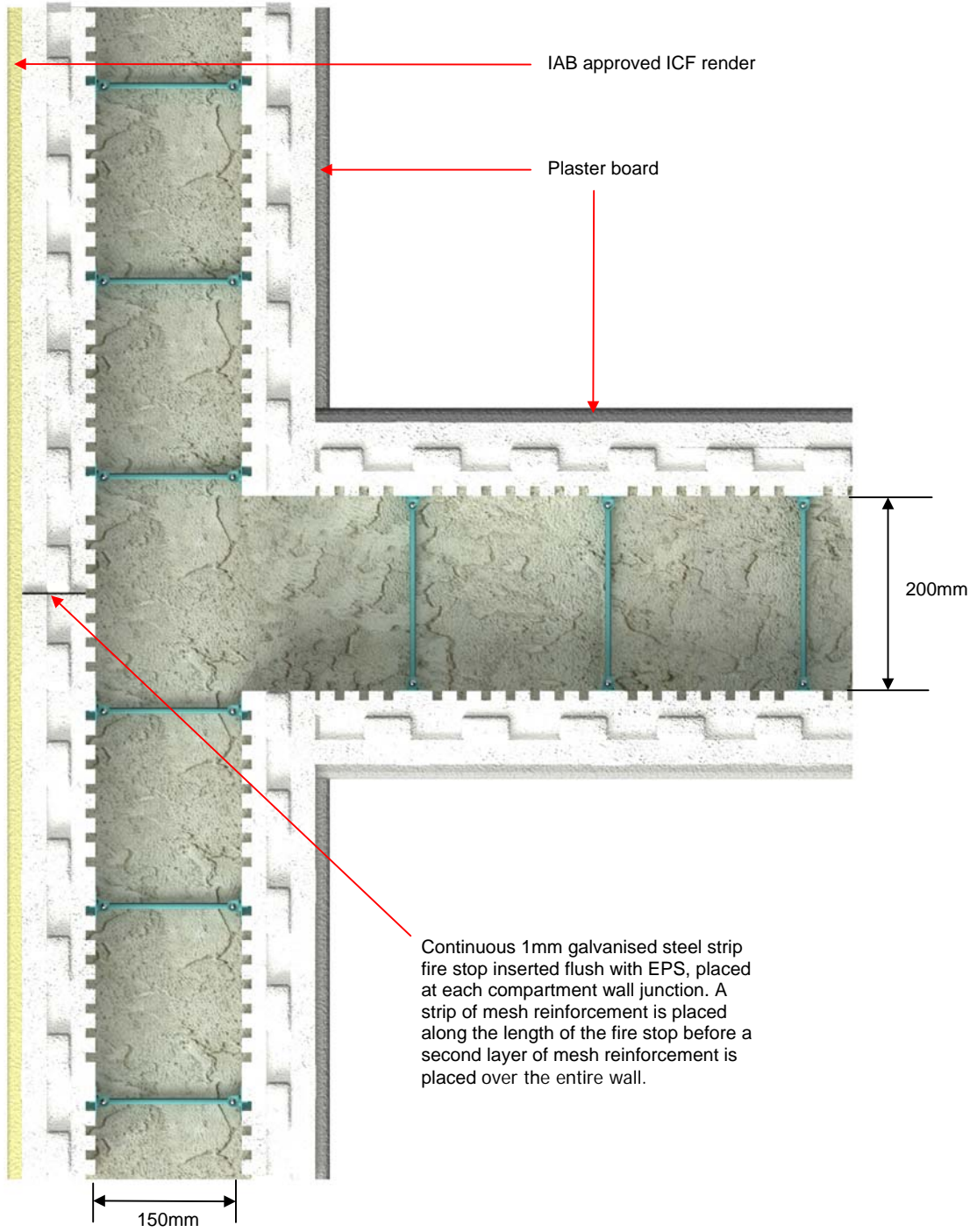


Figure 14: 200mm Party Wall with Vertical Fire Stop

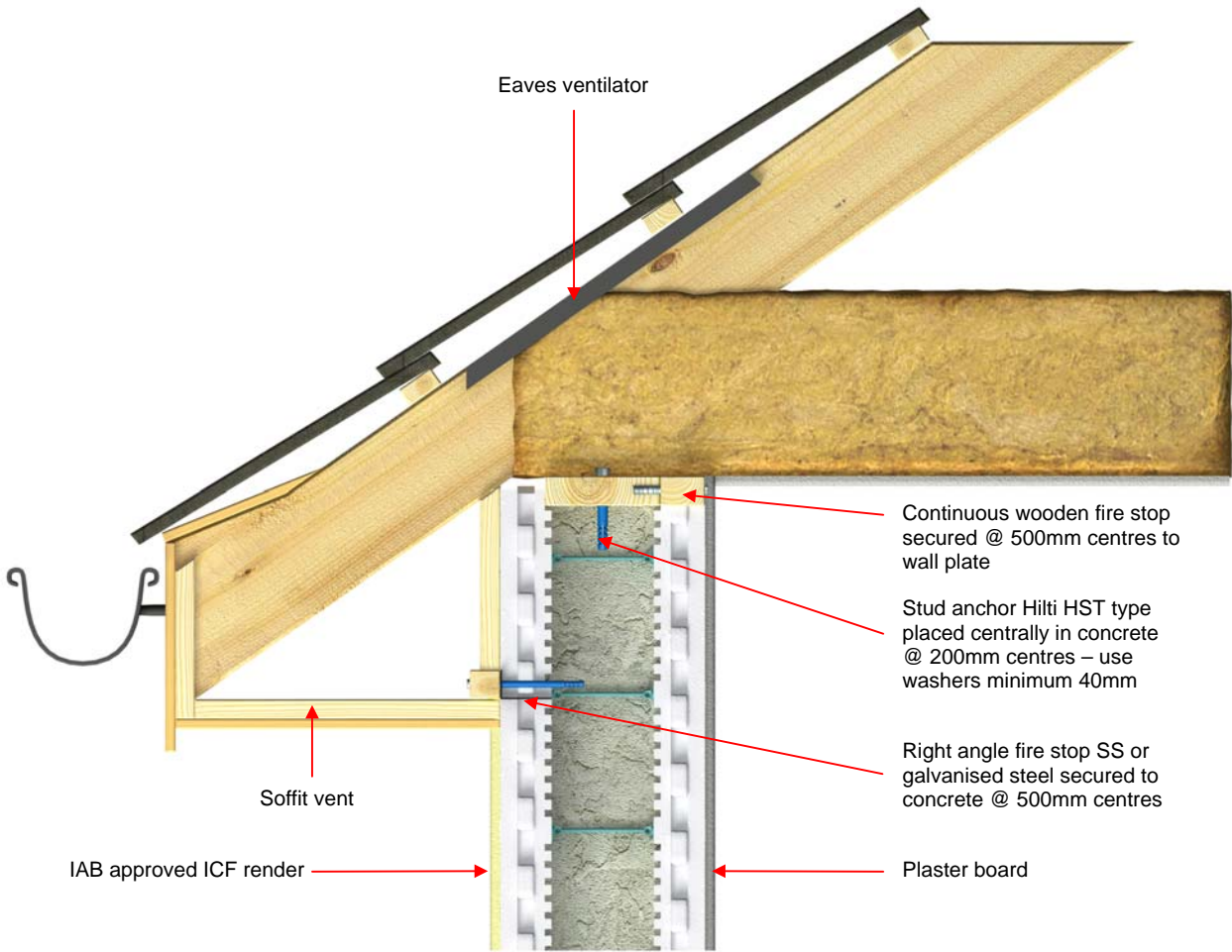


Figure 15: Roof Plate and Soffit

3.1 STRENGTH & STABILITY

3.1.1 General

The KORE ICF System is intended for use where Architect's drawings are available and satisfy the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007 – the Architect and Engineer design team of the developer are responsible for the architectural drawings and overall building design to comply with the Building Regulations. Airpacks Ltd., through the use of an experienced Chartered Structural Engineer, are responsible for the structural design of the KORE ICF System. In the case of two storey single occupancy houses there is a prescriptive design by Chartered Structural Consulting Engineers which addresses the structural requirements for the KORE ICF System for houses meeting the criteria given. For all other cases, the Building Engineer must carry out a structural design to BS 8110, IS 326 or Eurocode 2. The Building Engineer must also follow through with site inspections and issue a certificate of compliance at the completion of the project. The Building Engineer also liaises with the engineer for the developer and provides the necessary loading information for the design of the foundations.

The KORE ICF Design Guide applies to houses up to two storeys, where the following restrictions apply with respect to geometry:

- Max height of house = 10m to the ridge
- Width not less than half the height
- Max floor to ceiling height = 2.7m
- Max roof span = 12m
- Max span of floor = 5.0m
- Max un-buttressed wall = 9.0m
- Max supported wall bonded to a storey height wall from un-buttressed section = 5.5m
- Min pier = 490mm
- Max wall opening width = 3.0m
- Max wall opening height = 2.4m
- KORE concrete core sizes = 150, 200 and 300mm
- Horizontal and vertical steel reinforcement is T12 at 1200mm centres.

Any application outside this scope of the KORE ICF Design Guide should be designed by a suitably qualified Chartered Structural Engineer for guidance.

Buildings constructed using the KORE ICF System shall be certified by a competent, chartered civil or structural engineer (i.e. the Building Engineer), with experience in design of buildings and structures incorporating the KORE ICF System, as being in accordance with Part A of the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007.

3.1.2 Loading

The vertical imposed loads should not exceed the following:

Element	Loading	
Roof	Distributed Load	0.75kN/m ²
Floor	Distributed Load	1.50kN/m ²
Ceiling	Distributed Load	0.75kN/m ²

Table 2: Vertical Imposed Loads

The vertical dead loads should be calculated based on the self weight of materials to be used in construction, and reference should be made to BS 648:1964 *Schedule of weights of building materials* in this regard. The following self weights apply to the KORE ICF wall thicknesses:

- 150mm wall: 0.41kN/m³
- 200mm wall: 0.53kN/m³
- 300mm wall: 0.77kN/m³

These figures include the mass of the concrete insulation and internal KORE ICF system fixings.

Designs for typical dwellings which have been completed have been examined by IAB and comply with the following standards:

- BS 6399-1:1996 *Loading for buildings – Code of practice for dead and imposed loads*
- BS 6399-2:1997 *Loading for buildings – Code of practice for wind loads*
- BS 8200:1985 *Code of practice for the design of non-load bearing external vertical enclosures of buildings*

Reinforcement for intel load spans and spacings of anchor bolts must be as per the KORE ICF Design Guide.

Design snow and wind loads must be based on Diagram 14 and 15 of TGD to Part A of the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007. The maximum characteristic wind loading pressure for the KORE ICF System has been calculated as 1.3kN/m², in accordance with BS 6399-2:1997.

Where timber elements are used they are designed in accordance with IS 444:1998 *The use of structural timber in buildings*, ENV 1955-1-1 *Design of timber structures – General rules and rules for buildings* and ENV 1955-1-2 *Design of timber structures – General rules for fire design*.

Panel designs are based on the wind exposure map provided in the TGD to Part A of the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007. For very exposed sites on hills above the general level of the surrounding terrain, the system can be specifically designed to withstand the unusually high wind loading. This is likely to involve the provision of additional ground anchorage and increased lateral bracing, both of which can be readily provided in the system.

3.1.3 Retained Earth

Differences in the final level of ground or floor slabs between one side of a wall and the other should not exceed four times the wall thickness.

3.1.4 Stability

Because of the homogenous and boxed nature of the form of construction, domestic structures built using the KORE ICF System will be stable in themselves. Normally the elements requiring particular care are the tying in of floors and roofs into walls and the bracing of any free standing or unbutressed sections of wall.

3.1.5 Impact Resistance

The KORE ICF System provides a robust system that has a high resistance to hard and soft body impacts likely to be associated with normal use situations. The rendered wall is acceptable for all normal situations and is classed as Category 1, which is described in ETAG 004:2000 *External thermal insulation composite systems with rendering* as zone readily accessible at ground level to the public and vulnerable to hard body impacts but not subjected to abnormally rough use.

3.2 STRUCTURAL FIRE SAFETY

3.2.1 Internal Fire Spread (Linings)

The plasterboard slabs used on the internal finish are non-combustible and have a Class 0 'spread of flame' rating. Surface spread of flame rating of the finished construction will be determined by the surface spread of flame rating of the lining materials used.

3.2.2 Internal Fire Spread (Structure)

When the building has been designed and installed in accordance with the requirements of this certificate, the walls are capable of withstanding the effects of fire for 60 minutes without loss of stability.

3.2.3 External fire spread

The IAB certified renders approved for use with ICF Systems have a spread of flame rating equivalent to Class 0 on both faces. In respect of 'Spread of Flame', this is the highest performance classification set out in the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007.

3.3 WEATHERTIGHTNESS

Externally the walls are protected by an approved render. A DPC/radon barrier is installed at ground level to prevent rising damp. A DPC is also used around window sills, and a double seal is used at window reveals. In the case of aluminium window cills, they shall be provided with stop ends. In the case of concrete cills, they shall either be stooled or be 75mm wider than window ope and be provided with a wraparound DPC.

4.1 BEHAVIOUR IN RELATION TO FIRE

The fire resistance of load bearing wall, compartment wall and floor elements of the KORE ICF System in two storey construction (not more than 7m in height) is 60 minutes. Based on Table 4 of BS 8110-2:1985 *Structural use of concrete – Code of practice for special circumstances*, and KORE ICF 150mm wall has over 60 minutes fire performance. Minimum cover to reinforcement is 30mm (for durability), which exceeds the required cover of 25mm for fire protection.

Escape stairways constructed using the KORE ICF System must be lined with fire retardant linings.

The concrete in the walls has a Class 0 rating and is non-combustible as per Tables A6 and A8 of TGD to Part B of the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007. The polystyrene used in the wall and floor panels is flame resistant.

External walls with the IAB approved external render for ICF systems applied have been tested as Class 1 as per BS 476-7:1997 *Fire tests on building materials and structures – Method of test to determine the classification of the surface spread of flame of products*. In the case of the internal wall, as the design is for the use of 12.5mm gypsum plasterboard slabs screwed to the webs of the polypropylene connectors, the internal walls have a Class 0 rating and are acceptable for all areas according to the general provisions of Clause 2.1

of Section B2 of TGD to Part B of the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007.

4.1.1 Fire Barriers

There are no cavities in the walls. However, as the KORE ICF System has polystyrene, it must be fire stopped opposite every compartment wall. The external render fire stops the insulation around the window and door openings. In the case of timber floors, a fire barrier must be provided at the top of plasterboard slabs. Airpacks Ltd., through their approved installer, are responsible for the installation of fire barriers. The location of fire barriers should be agreed with the Architect.

Fire stops are created by placing strips of galvanised steel 1mm thick (weight 2.68kg/m²) to the full depth of the expanded polystyrene. The fire stop must be placed level with any internal ceiling plasterboard. A strip of mesh reinforcement is placed along the length of the fire stop before a second layer of mesh reinforcement is placed over the entire wall.

4.1.2 Toxicity

The system is non-toxic in normal conditions. In fire conditions, the polystyrene will begin to soften, to contract and finally melt above 100°C. Ignition occurs between 350°C and 450°C. The mass of material present is low and hence the amount of heat released is low. When burning, EPS behaves like other

hydrocarbons such as wood and paper. The products of combustion are basically carbon monoxide and styrene: during a fire, the styrene may be further decomposed, giving off oxides of carbon, water and a certain amount of smoke. The polystyrene used in the KORE ICF System is flame retarded.

4.1.3 Security of Fixings

With regard to security of fixings, there is the mechanical fire fixing for the KORE ICF System of one per m² above two storeys. Also the mechanical fixings for the fire stopping are austenitic stainless steel. Eject supplementary polypropylene fasteners are also used whenever necessary to fix insulation to the wall.

4.2 THERMAL INSULATION AND U-VALUES

The thermal conductivity, λ , value of the KORE ICF wall is 0.033W/mK. The calculated U-value for the KORE ICF 150 and 200mm wall is 0.20W/m²K.

4.3 CONDENSATION

The system was subjected to a condensation risk analysis, which concluded that the risk of surface and interstitial condensation is minimal and that no vapour barrier is required.

4.4 SOUND

The party wall requirement is met by the wall thickness of the KORE 200mm wall which gives 490kg/m². This satisfies the requirement of 415kg/m² of Diagram 5 of TGD to Part E of the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007. With regard to compartment floors in apartments, the minimum required mass for hollowcore type floors with a screed and soft covering is 365kg/m² as per Diagram 10 of TGD to Part E.

4.5 DURABILITY

Buildings based on the KORE ICF System, when rendered using the IAB certified renders, subject to maintenance, when constructed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and this Certificate, will have a minimum design life of at least 60 years in accordance with BS 7543: 1992 *Guide to Durability of Building Elements, products and components*.

4.6 MAINTENANCE

The rendering on the wall panels should be inspected at regular intervals (at least annually). It is considered that period re-coating of the silicone top coat may be necessary every 18/20 years to improve the appearance. The external sealants around window and door frames should be inspected periodically and replaced when necessary.

4.7 PRACTICABILITY

A Design Guide, Installation Manual incorporating Health & Safety guidelines are provided by Airpacks Ltd. for each project. Erection of the KORE ICF System must be by approved trained installers.

4.8 TESTS AND ASSESSMENTS WERE CARRIED OUT TO DETERMINE THE FOLLOWING:

- Structural strength and stability
- Behaviour in fire
- Resistance to airborne and impact sound transmission
- Thermal transmittance values
- Condensation risks for external walls
- Impact resistance for external walls
- Site erection controls

4.9 OTHER INVESTIGATIONS

- The manufacturing process was examined including the methods adopted for quality control, and details were obtained of the quality and composition of the materials used
- Site visits were conducted to assess the practicability of installation
- Bought-in components were assessed for suitability for use
- No failures of the product in use have been reported to the IAB.

5.1 National Standards Authority of Ireland ("NSAI") following consultation with the Irish Agrément Board ("IAB") has assessed the performance and method of installation of the product/process and the quality of the materials used in its manufacture and certifies the product/process to be fit for the use for which it is certified provided that it is manufactured, installed, used and maintained in accordance with the descriptions and specifications set out in this Certificate and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and usual trade practice. This Certificate shall remain valid for five years from date of issue so long as:

- (a) the specification of the product is unchanged.
- (b) the Building Regulations 1997 to 2007 and any other regulation or standard applicable to the product/process, its use or installation remains unchanged.
- (c) the product continues to be assessed for the quality of its manufacture and marking by NSAI.

(d) no new information becomes available which in the opinion of the NSAI, would preclude the granting of the Certificate.

(e) the product or process continues to be manufactured, installed, used and maintained in accordance with the description, specifications and safety recommendations set out in this certificate.

(f) the registration and/or surveillance fees due to IAB are paid.

5.2 The IAB mark and certification number may only be used on or in relation to product/processes in respect of which a valid Certificate exists. If the Certificate becomes invalid the Certificate holder must not use the IAB mark and certification number, and must remove them from the products already marked.

5.3 In granting Certification, the NSAI makes no representation as to;

(a) the absence or presence of patent rights subsisting in the product/process; or

(b) the legal right of the Certificate holder to market, install or maintain the product/process; or

(c) whether individual products have been manufactured or installed by the Certificate holder in accordance with the descriptions and specifications set out in this Certificate.

5.4 This Certificate does not comprise installation instructions and does not replace the manufacturer's directions or any professional or trade advice relating to use and installation which may be appropriate.

5.5 Any recommendations contained in this Certificate relating to the safe use of the certified product/process are preconditions to the validity of the Certificate. However the NSAI does not certify that the manufacture or installation of the certified product or process in accordance with the descriptions and specifications set out in this Certificate will satisfy the requirements of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005, or of any other current or future common law duty of care owed by the manufacturer or by the Certificate holder.

5.6 The NSAI is not responsible to any person or body for loss or damage including personal injury arising as a direct or indirect result of the use of this product or process.

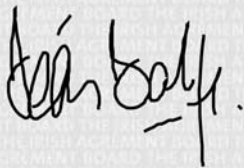
5.7 Where reference is made in this Certificate to any Act of the Oireachtas, Regulation made thereunder, Statutory Instrument, Code of Practice, National Standards, manufacturer's instructions, or similar publication, it shall be construed as reference to such publication in the form in which it is in force at the date of this Certification.

The Irish Agrément Board

This Certificate No. **08/0307** is accordingly granted by the NSAI to **Airpacks Ltd.** on behalf of The Irish Agrément Board.

Date of Issue: **March 2008**

Signed



Seán Balfe
Director of the Irish Agrément Board

Readers may check that the status of this Certificate has not changed by contacting the Irish Agrément Board, NSAI, Glasnevin, Dublin 9, Ireland. Telephone: (01) 807 3800. Fax: (01) 807 3842. www.n Sai.ie