



BSI Standards Publication

Fire resistance tests for non-loadbearing elements

Part 6: Open-state cavity barriers

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 1364-6:2025.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee FSH/22/-/7, Non loadbearing separating elements.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

BSI, as a member of CEN, is obliged to publish EN 1364-6:2025 as a British Standard. However, attention is drawn to the fact that during its development, the UK committee voted against its approval as a European Standard. The main reasons for this negative vote are as follows.

- The Introduction to the standard states that a European reference scenario has not been established but is ongoing, and so the standard cannot be used to imply performance of an external façade system in which the open-state cavity barrier is included. It does state that the test results can be used to supplement evidence of cavity barrier performance in faced systems already accepted by current local regulations.
- Though Subclause 6.2 of this standard does not make reference to minimum length to width ratios for an open state seal, the UK committee would advise users to note that the Introduction to BS EN 1366-4:2021 details that linear joint seals are normally defined by a typical ratio of at least 10:1, and Subclause 6.2 of BS EN 1366-4:2021 points out that the length to width ratio may be < 10:1 in case the heated length of the linear joint seal is $\geq 2\,600$ mm.
- Figure 1 and Figure 2 leave room for interpretation on the permissible/intended distance from the furnace opening to the installation location of the specimen. The UK committee advises that this be considered in association with combustible substrate and/or any insulation material which may be present and the position of the cavity barrier in relation to the cavity edge.
- Figure 2 and Clause 9 do not include unexposed surface thermocouples on the inner face of the twin leaf cavity substrates 25 mm above the cavity barrier. The UK committee believe that thermocouples at these locations are important for monitoring insulation performance.
- Figure 2 does not include a minimum height of the twin leaf cavity wall substrates.
- Clause 7 does not cover variations in associated supporting construction.

The UK committee advise users to be aware of these concerns when applying this standard, particularly in the context of a fire risk assessment of the application.

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