



MCS 012

Product Certification Scheme Requirements: Pitched Roof Installation Kits

Issue 1.0

This standard has been approved by the Steering Group of the Microgeneration Certification Scheme.

This standard was prepared by the Microgeneration Certification Scheme Working Group 10 'Roofing Issues'.

REVISION OF MCS PRODUCT SCHEME DOCUMENTS

The MCS Product Scheme documents will be revised by issue of revised editions or amendments. Details will be posted on the website at www.microgenerationcertification.org

Technical or other changes which affect the requirements for the approval or certification of the product or service will result in a new issue. Minor or administrative changes (e.g. corrections of spelling and typographical errors, changes to address and copyright details, the addition of notes for clarification etc.) may be made as amendments.

The issue number will be given in decimal format with the integer part giving the issue number and the fractional part giving the number of amendments (e.g. Issue 3.2 indicates that the document is at Issue 3 with 2 amendments).

Users of this Standard should ensure that they possess the latest issue and all amendments.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 2 of 48

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	5
1. INTRODUCTION.....	5
2. SCOPE.....	6
2.1 Definitions	6
3. APPLICATIONS TO JOIN THE SCHEME	7
4. MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS CERTIFICATION.....	7
5. CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL.....	7
6. TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION.....	9
7. PERFORMANCE CRITERIA.....	10
7.1 Resistance to wind uplift.....	10
7.2 Fire.....	10
7.3 Weathertightness.....	10
7.4 Installation instructions	10
8. CERTIFICATE CONTENT.....	11
9. MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION AND LISTING	11
9.1 Supplier / manufacturer audits.....	11
9.2 Product audits	12
10. CERTIFICATION MARK AND LABELLING	12
APPENDIX A.....	14
1. INTRODUCTION.....	17
2. SCOPE.....	17
3. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS.....	18
4. RESISTANCE TO WIND UPLIFT	19
4.1 Test method	19
4.2 Test criteria.....	20
5. FIRE PERFORMANCE.....	22
5.1 Roof integrated Systems	22
5.2 Above-roof Systems	23
6. WEATHERTIGHTNESS	23
6.1 General	23
6.2 Test methods.....	25
7. TEST REPORT	28
7.1 Product & System Details:.....	29

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 3 of 48

7.2	Resistance to wind uplift.....	30
7.3	Fire performance	31
7.4	Weather tightness.....	31
8.	REFERENCES.....	35
	Appendix 1	36
	Test arrangement for carrying out tests to BS EN 14437 : 2004	36
	Appendix 2	37
	Annexes A & C of BS 476 -3 : 2004.....	37
	Appendix 3.....	38
	Test procedure for wind driven rain performance based upon prEN 15601 : 2006 38	
	1.1 Rain and Wind Driven Rain Effects.....	38
	1.2 Test Procedure	42
	Appendix 4.....	44
	An example of an underlay sealing ring in test for water-tightness.....	44
	Informative Annexes.....	45
	Annex 1.....	45
	Resistance to Wind Uplift.....	45
	REVISION OF MICROGENERATION CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS	47
	AMENDMENTS ISSUES SINCE PUBLICATION	48

FOREWORD

MCS is committed to working with industry and as a result has taken the view to publish MCS 012 issue 1.0, with the proviso of committing to a formal review of the document 15 months from its date of publication. MCS is aware that industry has some key feedback with regards to exceptions which may not fall under the remit of MCS 012, and as a result is committed to reviewing the document in 15 months time to ensure it is fit for purpose before its mandatory introduction (18 months from its date of publication) in the market place. Installers with specific examples of where this standard cannot be met will be requested in due course to submit information to this effect for MCS to consider at the 15 month date.

1. INTRODUCTION

This document identifies the evaluation and assessment requirements and practices for the purposes of certification and listing of installation kits for pitched roof mounted Solar PV Modules and Solar Collectors. Certification and listing of products is based on evidence acceptable to the certification body:-

- that the product meets the standard;
- that the manufacturer has staff, processes and systems in place to ensure that the product delivered meets the standard.

and on:

- periodic audits of the manufacturer and / or supplier, including testing as appropriate;
- compliance with the contract with the certification body for listing and approval including agreement to rectify faults as appropriate.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 5 of 48

2. SCOPE

This scheme provides ongoing independent, third party assessment and approval of companies who wish to demonstrate that their pitched roof installation kits meet and continue to meet the requirements of this standard.

The requirements of this scheme document are not applicable to installation on flat roofs which will be covered by a separate document.

2.1 Definitions

Roof installation kit - a collection of parts designed to mount (a) Solar Collector(s) or PV Module(s) on the roof of a building. The kit comprises all parts required to provide a structurally stable fixing and ensure the weathertightness and fire performance of the roof meets the requirements of the building regulations.

Roof integrated installations - an installation where the Solar Collector or PV Module replaces some or all of the roof covering. Including PV tiles or Thin-film PV modules bonded to roof coverings such as standing seam roof sheets.

Above roof installations - an installation where the Solar Collector or PV Module is mounted above the roof covering and fixed to the underlying roof structure through the roof covering.

Bespoke building integrated installations - a bespoke PV unit that is manufactured in varying sizes, shapes and configurations for the purpose of being built into the fabric of a building - such as PV glazing, PV façade units or PV shading units. Furthermore, a BBIPV product is one that is tailored and manufactured to a specific project, with a size and configuration specific to that project.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 6 of 48

Solar panel - this document uses the term solar panels as a collective term for solar thermal collectors and PV modules.

3. APPLICATIONS TO JOIN THE SCHEME

Applications should be made to an accredited certification body operating this scheme, who will provide the appropriate application form and details of the applicable fees.

4. MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS CERTIFICATION

Manufacturers and or suppliers* shall operate a certified documented manufacturing quality control system, in accordance with the requirements of MCS 010 “Generic Factory Production Control Requirements”

* The factory production control exercised by the manufacturers of the various components must be confirmed as adequate in all cases.

Where a supplier is gathering together various components manufactured by other companies, for sale as a kit, it may be possible to restrict the audit to the supplier’s office, provided that they can demonstrate that they have adequate procedures in place to confirm that the quality of these components is being maintained. Should this prove not to be the case, then further audits may be required at some or all of the manufacturing locations.

The level of control operated for individual components should be commensurate with the nature and significance of these components. For example, that exercised over a standard screw and nut combination may be lower than those for specialised fixing brackets.

5. CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL

Certification and approval is based on the following:

a) Evidence of compliance with:

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 7 of 48

Roof performance tests for solar thermal collectors & PV modules (see Appendix A)

Evidence of compliance is generally accepted as independent third party testing by a UKAS (or equivalent) accredited test laboratory. However, other evidence of compliance may be considered at the discretion of the certification body (see document MCS 011 'Testing acceptance criteria').

b) Verification of the establishment and maintenance of the manufacturing company's quality management system in accordance with the Factory Production Control requirements (FPC).

c) Review of the technical documentation relating to the material or product.

Applications for a range of common products (product families) will be dealt with on a case by case basis. For example, where one or more characteristics are the same for products with similar design, construction and functionality then the results of tests for these characteristics on one product may be applied to other similar products, as agreed between the manufacturer / supplier and the Certification body

A certificate is awarded following demonstration of satisfactory compliance with this scheme document, taking into account any limitations imposed and other appropriate guidelines and satisfactory verification/assessment of the manufacturer's Factory Production Control and technical documentation.

Certificates are valid from the date of issue and are maintained and held in force subject to satisfactory completion of the requirements for maintenance of certification (see item 10), but remain the property of the issuing Certification Body.

Details of the manufacturer and the certificated product(s) are listed on the website at www.microgenerationcertification.org

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 8 of 48

6. TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

Technical documentation for the product must be submitted for review. This documentation shall be presented in English and shall be such that it can be assured that the products submitted for test are equivalent to those that are to be manufactured for normal production. The documentation must consist of the following as a minimum;

- a) Details of intended use, application, classifications and restrictions (such as minimum roof pitch) required
- b) Manufacturing drawings and/or specifications including tolerances, issue and revision numbers
- c) The revision number of the product.
- d) Raw material and components specifications
- e) Details of the quality plan applied during manufacture to ensure ongoing compliance
- f) Where historical test data is requested to be considered for the application, full test report and details of any existing approvals (Note: each application will be dealt with on a case by case basis and further information about the acceptance of previous testing is available on request)
- g) Installation, use and maintenance instructions.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 9 of 48

7. PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

7.1 Resistance to wind uplift

A maximum wind uplift resistance shall be declared when assessed in accordance with section 4 of Appendix A.

7.2 Fire

A fire rating shall be declared in accordance with section 5.1 of Appendix A except for above roof mounting kits satisfying the requirements of section 5.2 of Appendix A.

7.3 Weathertightness

The mounting of the solar panels on or in the roof shall not decrease the weather performance of the declared roof types when tested in accordance with section 6 of Appendix A.

7.4 Installation instructions

Guidance must be given on compatible solar panels and roof systems. The information provided to the installer must clearly indicate how the kit is installed with different solar panels and roof types including the type and number of fixings and maximum recommended spacing of brackets/rails.

In particular, the following information shall be clearly and prominently shown in the product installation instructions:

- The maximum wind load the system achieved when tested to this document, using the standard procedure and fixing details as described in the manufacturer's instructions
- For products that can be used with a variety of different solar panels these instructions should clearly describe the array design constraints (e.g. maximum module area, fixings per m² etc) that need to be met in order to achieve the stated wind load result

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 10 of 48

8. CERTIFICATE CONTENT

Certificates shall contain the name and address of the manufacturer / supplier, model and reference number of the roof installation kit or components the test standard, a unique certificate reference number and the issue number and date.

In addition, the Certificate will include the following information

- Roofing substrates compatible with the system and any minimum requirements e.g. minimum timber size
- Minimum permissible roof pitch
- Whether the product is suitable for use as in roof or above roof installations
- Maximum design wind uplift resistance as defined in Section 4.2.1 of Appendix A (this may be a single value or a table of values for different installation configurations)
- The value of the partial (safety) factor(s) that have been used in determining the wind uplift resistance for the product as defined in section 4.2.1 of Appendix A
- Fire test result in accordance with Section 5 of Appendix A (for roof integrated only or where an above roof system is assessed for use on combustible substrates)

9. MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION AND LISTING

Certificates and listing are maintained and held in force subject to satisfactory completion of the following requirements for maintenance of certification:

9.1 Supplier / manufacturer audits

Certification is maintained through annual FPC quality system audits*, which shall include a detailed check that the product being manufactured is to the same specification as the product tested.

* Carried out in accordance with the principles discussed in Section 5.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 11 of 48

9.2 Product audits

Product audits will be conducted as follows:

- 9.2.1 review of the product technical data files including materials
- 9.2.2 review of end of line tests in accordance with the manufacturer's quality plan
- 9.2.3 repeat testing of elements from the product standard as appropriate to confirm that the product continues to meet the requirements for certification and listing.

10. CERTIFICATION MARK AND LABELLING

All approved products listed under this scheme shall be traceable to identify that they have (marked with a label to confirm that the product has) been tested and certificated in accordance with the requirements of the test standard. See below for details.

The Supplier shall use (the) Certification Mark(s) (only) in accordance with the Certification Bodies' instructions.

An example of the certification mark that can be used for this scheme is as follows:



Certificate Number MCS "XXX"

"Description of the Technology certificated"

Where 'XXX' is the certificate number and the logo of the certification body issuing the certification would sit in the right hand box.

Companies may only use the mark while the certification is maintained

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 12 of 48

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 13 of 48

APPENDIX A

Pitched roof performance tests for solar thermal collectors & PV modules

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 14 of 48

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION.....	17
2.	SCOPE	17
3.	INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS	18
4.	RESISTANCE TO WIND UPLIFT	19
	4.1 Test method	19
	4.2 Test criteria	20
	4.2.1 Method.....	20
	4.2.2 Alternative methods	21
5.	FIRE PERFORMANCE	22
	5.1 Roof integrated Systems	22
	5.2 Above-roof Systems	23
6.	WEATHERTIGHTNESS	23
	6.1 General	23
	6.2 Test methods	25
	6.2.1 Roof integrated systems	25
	6.2.1.1 Test Procedure.....	25
	6.2.1.2 Test criteria	27
	6.2.2 The performance of underlay penetrations.....	27
	6.2.3 Above Roof Systems	28
	6.2.3.1 Weather-tightness of the penetrations through the outer surface.....	28
7.	TEST REPORT	28
	7.1 Product & System Details:.....	29
	7.2 Resistance to wind uplift.....	30
	7.3 Fire performance	31
	7.4 Weather tightness	31
	7.4.1 Roof integrated systems:	31
	7.4.2 Underlay penetration (both roof integrated and above roof solar systems):.....	34
	7.4.3 Above roof systems:	34
8.	REFERENCES.....	35

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 15 of 48

Appendix 1	36
Test arrangement for carrying out tests to BS EN 14437 : 2004	36
Appendix 2	37
Annexes A & C of BS 476 -3 : 2004.....	37
Appendix 3.....	38
Test procedure for wind driven rain performance based upon prEN 15601 : 2006	
38	
1.1 Rain and Wind Driven Rain Effects.....	38
1.1.1 Test specimens	38
1.1.2 Preparation of the test specimen	39
1.1.3 Apparatus.....	39
1.1.4 Pressure chamber	39
1.1.5 Fan system	40
1.1.6 Rain generating facility	41
1.1.7 Run-off water	41
1.1.8 Observation and measurement of leakage	42
1.2 Test Procedure	42
Appendix 4.....	44
An example of an underlay sealing ring in test for water-tightness	44
Informative Annexes	45
Annex 1.....	45
Resistance to Wind Uplift	45
REVISION OF MICROGENERATION CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS	47
AMENDMENTS ISSUES SINCE PUBLICATION	48

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 16 of 48

1. INTRODUCTION

With the drive for low energy buildings and the greater functionality of roofs, solar panels are being used in ever increasing numbers. It is important that, whilst providing additional functionality, the solar panel systems do not degrade the fundamental function of the roof, which is the long-term protection of the building interior from the elements.

Note:

This document uses the term solar panels as a collective term for solar thermal collectors and PV modules.

2. SCOPE

This document specifies the test procedures which shall be used to demonstrate the performance of solar panels and/or their installation kits under the action of:

- Wind loads – resistance to wind uplift forces.
- Fire – resistance to external fire
- Rainfall and wind driven rain – weather-tightness.

These procedures apply to ‘in roof’ and ‘above roof’ systems fixed to pitched roofs. They do not apply to systems mounted inclined above flat roofs or mounted on vertical walls.

The results of these tests shall be compared with the required performance. The informative annexes provide some guidance on the performance levels necessary.

Satisfactory performance in the tests described in this document does not necessarily imply compliance with the requirements of the Building Regulations.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 17 of 48

3. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

The product and installation kit must come with installation instructions. The installation instructions must be followed when preparing the product and installation kit for test.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 18 of 48

4. RESISTANCE TO WIND UPLIFT

4.1 Test method

In the absence of a test method specifically for assessing the uplift resistance of solar panels, the test method shall follow the principles and, where appropriate, the details of BS EN 14437 : 2004 (Determination of the uplift resistance of installed clay or concrete tiles for roofing — Roof system test method) (Reference 1). *Note that a trial test, as specified in BS EN 14423 : 2004, is not always necessary – this should be decided by the test house, depending on the system.* Appendix 1 shows a typical PV system under test.

The test shall determine the wind uplift resistance and the following details shall be followed:

- I. Where the flashing or sealing kits provide any uplift resistance then these should be included in the test.
- II. The roof pitch shall be 45deg +/- 2 degrees.
- III. A minimum of one solar panel should be tested (or two if shared components are employed) and the test shall be repeated a minimum of three times with new fixings each time.
- IV. The uplift load shall be applied using a cable(s) or equivalent methods to provide uniform loads. This\these may be fixed to the solar collector by drilling a hole(s) through the collector or by using suction cup devices attached to the glass cover plate, as shown in Appendix 1.
- V. The detailed construction of the test rig in terms of the batten sizes, rafter spacing and all fixings shall satisfy the minimum specification (worst case) of the manufacturer/supplier of the solar panel and all materials shall be of a quality typical of real construction. The minimum requirements of BS 5534 : 2003 shall also be satisfied.
- VI. Where there is a choice of fixing positions, the most onerous (weakest) shall be tested.
- VII. The test roof should include all components of typical construction, including the adjacent tiles. Alternatively technical justification shall be provided as to why these are omitted.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 19 of 48

4.2 Test criteria

4.2.1 Method

The characteristic value⁽¹⁾ of the uplift resistance shall be determined (in kPa) from the measured failure loads and reported in accordance with BS EN 14437 : 2004.

(1) The characteristic value has a prescribed probability of not being attained in a hypothetical unlimited test series. This is defined in Annex D of BS EN 14437 : 2004 for a 5% confidence limit.

For design purposes the characteristic uplift resistance load shall be divided by an appropriate partial factor (safety factor) from the relevant Euro-Code:

- For failure in steel or metal components – EN 1993-1-1 : 2005 *Design of steel structures — General rules and rules for buildings.*
- For failure in timber – EN 1995-1-1 : 2004 *Design of timber structures — General rules and rules for buildings.*

The certificate shall declare the maximum design uplift resistance – the characteristic resistance divided by the partial factor for the failure mode in the test.

In summary:

- Ultimate Limit State (the system actually fails i.e. failure criteria a, b or c below):
For failure in a metal component the partial factor is 1.1
For pull out from a metal component (eg; self-tapping screw or rivet) the partial factor is 1.25
For failure in a timber component or pull out from a timber component the partial factor for design against wind loads is 1.44⁽²⁾
(2) This value has taken into account the influence of load duration and other parameters in-line with EN1995-1 Table 2.2 and clause 2.3.1.
- Serviceability Limit State (no failure but the system is no longer fit for purpose i.e. failure criteria d or e below).
The partial factor is 1.0

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 20 of 48

As written, the failure criteria specified in BS EN 14437 : 2004 are not appropriate to solar systems and MCS012 failure criteria shall be taken as follows:

- a) breakage of the mechanical fixing between the roofing element & the structure
- b) pulling out or breakage of the connection of the mechanical fixing to the roof
- c) breakage of covering elements
- d) if the maximum displacement of any roofing element exposes the under-roof then the maximum deflection shall be 75mm.
- e) the remaining displacement of any roofing element after releasing the force to zero exceeds 5mm and degrades the weathertightness of the roof. (When the 5mm limit is achieved the test should be continued until the applied load is at least 1.5 times the load measured at the 5mm limit, or until ultimate failure occurs. This is to ensure that the design resistance derived does not exceed the ultimate resistance divided by the appropriate partial factor).

Note:

1. *Annex 1 gives guidance regarding the required uplift resistance for a given site*
2. *When assessing the adequacy of the system, partial factors must also be applied to the design loads, increasing them in accordance with Tables A1.1 & A1.2 of EN 1990 : 2002. For the design against wind uplift the partial factor for self-weight shall be 1.0 and for wind suction loads 1.5. However, in normal use solar panels may be designated with a lower consequence of failure than for the supporting building structure, in accordance with Table B1 of EN 1990 : 2002 + A1:2005 Consequence Class CC1. As a result the partial factor for design wind loads may be multiplied by 0.9 (Factor K_{FI} for Reliability Class RC1 from Table B3 of EN 1990 : 2002 + A1 : 2005) giving a net increase of 1.35 applied to the design wind suction loads.*

4.2.2 Alternative methods

Where it can be demonstrated that alternative methods provide equivalent or conservative (safe) values of the resistance to wind uplift then these may be used.

Depending upon the failure mode and the method of mounting other acceptable methods may include:

- i) DD CEN TS 15087 : 2005 “Determination of the uplift resistance of installed clay and concrete interlocking tiles for roofing – Test method for mechanical fasteners.” (Reference 9)

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 21 of 48

Note:

This test method may be appropriate for some designs of roof integrated systems. It is not suitable for above-roof systems.

ii) EN 12975-2 : 2006 *Thermal solar systems and components — Solar Collectors — Test methods*, or BS EN 61215 : 2005 or EN 61646 : 2008 providing the mounting arrangement complies with the requirements of clause 4.1 v) & vi) above.

iii) Validation by calculation alone

In some simple cases it may be possible to validate the system against wind loads by calculation only. However, this is often not possible because, for instance: a) the failure modes are not wholly predictable, b) tabulated fastener withdrawal loads from standards are often not applicable due to the fastener diameter/timber thickness ratio.

5. FIRE PERFORMANCE

The test requirements are different for roof integrated and above roof systems.

5.1 Roof integrated Systems

Roof integrated systems shall be tested in accordance with BS 476-3 : 2004 (Reference 3) or DD ENV 1187 : 2002 Test 4 (Reference 11), and the rating must be declared. Appendix 2 shows the test arrangement.

Note:

i) Applying this test to solar systems is not without its problems and guidance is provided in Annex C (normative) of BS 476-3 : 2004.

ii) Past experience suggests that the flashings around and between the panels often pose the greatest risk due to unprotected gaps.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 22 of 48

iii) For large systems it may be necessary to test more than one section to ensure the most vulnerable areas are all tested.

5.2 Above-roof Systems

If the solar system is only used on roofs whose outer covering is non-combustible, as defined in the Building Regulations, then no external fire test is required, otherwise the solar system together with the outer roof covering shall be tested in accordance with BS 476-3 : 2004 or DD ENV 1187 : 2002 Test 4.

6. WEATHERTIGHTNESS

6.1 General

The presence of the solar panel system must not decrease the weather performance of the roof covering or the roof structure.

The manufacturer/supplier shall declare which generic product classes their system can be used with:

- Profiled or flat single lapped tiles (profiled are recommended for test).
- Plain tiles (double lapped product).
- Double lapped slates (natural or synthetic).
- Profiled metal sheets or standing seam roof coverings.
- Any other generic roofing type.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 23 of 48

Where a single flashing kit is specified for use with more than one generic class of roof covering, then the class representing the worst case shall be tested. If the worst class is not certain then other generic classes shall also be tested.

Note:

Based on past experience the biggest risks of water entry are as follows:

Roof integrated systems:

- i) The risk of water entry over the flashing kit which is around, between and, in some cases, under the panels. This water entry can be, for instance, at the interface with the roof covering, at the interface with the panels, or through joints in the flashings.
- ii) Water entry through the roof covering related to increased gapping of the roofing elements due to the presence of the solar panel system, including its fixing system.
- iii) Penetrations through the underlay can also pose a risk. Such penetrations must not jeopardise the role of the underlay, as specified in BS 5534 : 2003 (Section 4.10) and should therefore be sealed in an appropriate and durable manner, preferably with a purpose designed product.

Above roof systems:

- i) Water entry via the penetrations through the outer roof covering.
- ii) Spray entry through any gaps in the outer-roof covering created by the mounting arrangement.
- iii) Penetrations through the underlay can also pose a risk. Such penetrations must not jeopardise the role of the underlay, as specified in BS 5534 : 2003 (Section 4.10) and should therefore be sealed in an appropriate and durable manner, preferably with a purpose designed product.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 24 of 48

6.2 Test methods

The test methods address the leakage mechanisms.

6.2.1 Roof integrated systems

6.2.1.1 Test Procedure

The principles of the draft European wind driven rain test for roofs (prEN 15601 : 2006) shall be used to determine the wind driven rain performance of the roof integrated solar panel systems.

The test shall be carried out at the minimum pitch of the tile/solar panel combination.

prEN15601 : 2006 specifies 4 different wind-rain combinations (A – D), covering a range of severe UK coastal conditions (referred to as N. European coastal in prEN 15601 : 2006). These conditions are summarised in Appendix 3.

For solar panels, provided **all** unprotected gaps caused by the mounting and installation arrangement are no greater than those pre-existing in the roof covering before the installation of the solar panels then only Test D is mandatory; providing there is no reason to believe the gapping will increase due to wind. Tests A – C are then optional.

Note:

Test D is the test with the largest rainfall rate (225mm / hour). Since the limit on the flashing is often the water carrying capacity, this is a sensible compromise, addressing the highest risk leakage mechanism.

If only Test D is to be carried out then a simplified test facility may be used, which does not have the pressure chamber, suction device, or fan system required in prEN 15601 : 2006.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 25 of 48

If the installation of the system creates unprotected gaps larger than those pre-existing then, as a minimum, wind-rain combinations B & D must be tested.

The test specimen shall be constructed in accordance with the manufacturer's laying specifications (complete with tiles or other outer roof covering elements) but without the roofing underlay present, so that any water entry may be observed and collected. The tiles or roofing elements used shall be well established in the market with known satisfactory field performance.

The test specimen shall be mounted in the test apparatus and subjected to the chosen wind-rain combination. In the case of wind-rain combinations A, B & C, a uniform suction pressure is then applied to the underside of the test specimen, in increasing steps (one step every 5 minutes) until a leakage rate of $10\text{g}/\text{m}^2/5\text{min}$ time step is observed. The amount of suction required to bring about this level of leakage is the test result for that wind-rain combination and provides a measure of the rain tightness of the system.

In the case of wind-rain combination D there is no applied suction, as this is simulating a zero wind condition. The test specimen is subjected to the test D rainfall for 2 minutes and any water entry is noted and weighed.

The quantity of water running onto the top of the solar panel ('run-off water') shall be adjusted to simulate the worst case (widest panel and longest rafter length of roof). The minimum simulated additional rafter length above the solar panel shall be 5m.

Note:

Due to the complexity and size of solar systems, it can be difficult to get a whole panel or panels onto the test rig for test. It is often necessary to make up special samples which ensure the most vulnerable parts of the solar array are tested. It is necessary to ensure that all joints and other vulnerable parts of the test sample are representative of normal production. Alternatively, more than one configuration should be tested in order to ensure that one of each joint and interface type are tested.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 26 of 48

6.2.1.2 Test criteria

The performance of the surrounding roof covering elements which are unaffected by the presence of the solar panels shall be taken as a benchmark against which to judge the performance of the solar panels. To be acceptable the solar panel system shall have a level of performance at least equal to that of the unaffected roofing elements, or equal to that of any other roofing element of known acceptable performance. If necessary a reference test shall be carried out with the test roof constructed wholly of roofing elements. The reference test must be carried out at the same laboratory as the test on the solar panel system.

For wind-rain combinations A, B and C, the comparison shall be made on the basis of the level of suction necessary to bring about a leakage rate of $10\text{g/m}^2/5\text{min}$ time step.

For wind combination D the comparison shall be made on the basis of any water entry during the 2 minute test period.

6.2.2 The performance of underlay penetrations.

The sealing arrangement for the underlay penetrations shall be tested for weather-tightness. This shall be done with the underlay system fitted in place of the solar panel and tiles. The test shall follow the same test procedure as the Test D of Section 6.2.1.1 but should use a rainfall rate of 50mm/hr instead of 225mm/hr . In addition there should be no direct rainfall, only run-off water applied at the top of the inclined roof rig, assuming a rafter length of 5m. The product shall be deemed to have passed the test if there is no water leakage through the joint with the underlay after 5 minutes.

Note: Appendix 4 shows an example of an underlay sealing device undergoing a test.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 27 of 48

6.2.3 Above Roof Systems

Provided **all** unprotected gaps caused by the mounting and installation arrangement are no greater than those pre-existing in the roof covering before the installation of the solar panels, then only the weather-tightness of the outer surface penetrations and the underlay penetrations need be tested.

The penetrations through the outer surface shall be tested in accordance with Section 6.2.3.1, whilst the penetrations through the underlay shall be tested in accordance with Section 6.2.2.

If the installation of the system creates unprotected gaps larger than those pre-existing, then the system, including the solar panels, shall be tested in accordance with Section 6.2.1.1 and no separate test is required for the penetrations through the outer roof covering.

6.2.3.1 Weather-tightness of the penetrations through the outer surface

Carry out Test D (Section 6.2.1.1) on the outer roof covering, with one or more penetrations installed but without the solar panel system in place. There should be no dripping from the penetration into the batten space during the 2 minute test period.

For some designs of penetrations a simpler ‘impermeability test’ can be considered as equivalent and sufficient. This simple test follows the principles of the water impermeability test in BS EN 490 : 2011 or BS EN 491 : 2011 (European concrete tile standard and associated test methods – References 7 & 8).

7. TEST REPORT

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 28 of 48

The test report shall include the following details:

7.1 Product & System Details:

Solar panel:

- Manufacturer:
- Model:
- Dimensions:
 - Specify roof integrated or above roof design:
- Supplied by (company / person):
- Date received:
- Laying instructions – publication date/version/edition:

Flashing kit (where appropriate):

- Manufacturer:
- Model:
- Supplied by (company / person):
- Fitting instructions – publication date/version/edition:

Outer roof penetrations/fixings (where appropriate):

- Manufacturer:
- Model:
- Supplied by (company / person):
- Fitting instructions – publication date/version/edition:

Roof covering elements included in tests:

- Manufacturer:
- Model:

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 29 of 48

Performance parameters tested:

	Yes / No	Test dates
Resistance to wind uplift:		
Fire performance:		
Weather tightness:		

7.2 Resistance to wind uplift

Specify all details of the system considered:

(All details influencing the uplift resistance are to be given, including all timber sizes, fixings, roof covering elements and fixings of those.)

State method of assessment:

BS EN 14437 : 2004	DD CEN TS15087 : 2005	EN 12975-2 : 2006 or EN 61215 : 2005 or EN 61646 : 2008	Calculation	Other

State the results and conclusions including all failure modes found or considered. When an appropriate EN standard or equivalent is used, the reporting shall be in accordance with that standard.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 30 of 48

7.3 Fire performance

Where required, report the results in accordance with BS 476-3 : 2004 or DD ENV 1187 : 2002 Test 4.

7.4 Weather tightness

7.4.1 Roof integrated systems:

State whether whole panels with flashing tested or sections:

(in the case of a section of a panel state the reason and the specific items tested)

Manufacturer's declaration of generic product classes the system is suitable for:

Generic class	Yes/No	Minimum pitch specification
Profiled or flat single lapped tiles		
Plain tiles		
Double lapped slate (natural & synthetic)		
Profiled metal sheets or standing seam		
Any other generic class (state)		

Roof covering elements used as a reference (manufacturer, model, pitch & headlap):

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 31 of 48

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 32 of 48

Gapping information:

Roof covering elements (without solar system):

- Maximum unprotected gapping (mm to an accuracy of $\pm 1.0\text{mm}$):

Solar system:

- Maximum unprotected gapping (mm to an accuracy of $\pm 1.0\text{mm}$):

Tests carried out & result:

Test	Test pitch		Test Result for system	Test Result for Reference product
A		Applied suction (Pa) at leakage rate at $10\text{g}/\text{m}^2/5\text{min}$:		
B		Applied suction (Pa) at leakage rate (Pa) at $10\text{g}/\text{m}^2/5\text{min}$:		
C		Applied suction (Pa) at leakage rate (Pa) at $10\text{g}/\text{m}^2/5\text{min}$:		
D		Leakage observed after 2 min:		

Additional Rafter length simulated (m):

Panel width simulated if greater than physical width of panel tested (m):

Performance assessment compared with test criteria:

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 33 of 48

7.4.2 Underlay penetration (both roof integrated and above roof solar systems):

Product specification (underlay seal):

Manufacturer of product used:

Model:

Supplied by (company/person):

Underlay used in the test (manufacturer/product name):

Test result:

7.4.3 Above roof systems:

If the whole system is tested then report in accordance with the roof integrated system.

If only the outer roof penetrations are tested then report as follows:

Gapping information:

Roof covering elements (without solar system):

Maximum unprotected gapping (mm to an accuracy of $\pm 1.0\text{mm}$):

Solar system (roof covering elements with outer roof penetrations fitted):

Maximum unprotected gapping (mm to an accuracy of $\pm 1.0\text{mm}$):

Test carried out:

Test result:

Performance assessment compared with criteria:

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 34 of 48

8. REFERENCES

- BS EN 14437 : 2004 *Determination of the uplift resistance of installed concrete or clay tiles for roofing-roofing system test method*
- BS 5534 : 2003 *Code of practice for slating and tiling (including shingles)*
- BS 476-3 : 2004 *Fire tests on building materials and structures — Classification and method of test for external fire exposure to roofs*
- BS EN 13501-1 : 2007 *Fire classification of construction products and building elements — Classification using test data from reaction to fire tests*
- BS EN 13501-5 : 2005 *Fire classification of construction products and building elements — Classification using data from external fire exposure to roofs tests*
- prEN 15601 : 2006 *Hygrothermal performance of buildings — Resistance to wind-driven rain of roof coverings with discontinuously laid small elements — Test Method*
- BS EN 490 : 2011 *Concrete roofing tiles and fittings for roof covering and wall cladding — Product specifications*
- BS EN 491: 2011 *Concrete roofing tiles and fittings for roof covering and wall cladding — Test methods*
- DD CEN TS15087 : 2005 *Determination of the uplift resistance of installed clay and concrete interlocking tiles for roofing — Test method for mechanical fasteners*
- EN 12975-2 : 2006 *Thermal solar systems and components — Solar collectors — Test methods*
- DD ENV 1187 : 2002 *Test methods for external fire exposure of roofs.*
- BS 6399-2 : 1997 *Loading for buildings. Code of practice for wind loads.*
- EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 *Eurocode 1. Actions on Structures. General actions. Wind loads.*
- BRE Digest 489 *Wind loads on roof-based photovoltaic systems.*

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 35 of 48

Appendix 1

Test arrangement for carrying out tests to BS EN 14437 : 2004



Figure A1.2 Typical PV System undergoing a wind uplift test according to the principles of BS EN 14437 : 2004

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 36 of 48

Appendix 2

Annexes A & C of BS 476 -3 : 2004



Figure: A2.1 A typical PV system ready for testing to BS 476-3 2004.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 37 of 48

Appendix 3

Test procedure for wind driven rain performance based upon prEN 15601 : 2006

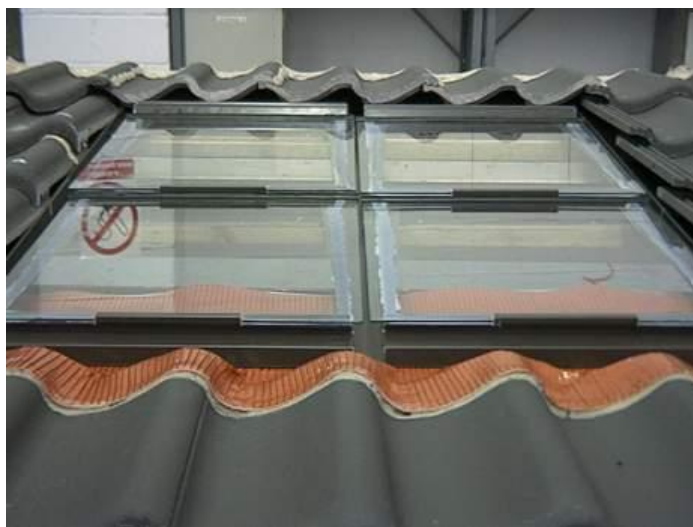


Figure A3.1 A PV system laid ready for wind driven rain tests

1.1 Rain and Wind Driven Rain Effects

A solar energy specimen is fitted into the wind-driven rain apparatus, the external surface of the specimen is exposed to wind and continuously sprayed with water and run-off water is continuously applied at the top of the specimen. At the same time an air pressure difference between the upper and lower sides of the test specimen is increased or decreased in specific steps. Water leakage through the test specimen which may occur at certain air pressure differences is observed and measured.

1.1.1 Test specimens

Samples for the test specimen shall comply with the product specifications and be representative of normal production.

The dimensions of the test specimen shall be as large as necessary to be representative of the intended use. The test specimen shall include at least one of every type of joint between the solar energy specimen and the surrounding roof surface (where appropriate). In some cases with large solar energy specimens, it

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 38 of 48

might not be possible to test all of the joints simultaneously in the same test. In such cases the testing shall be repeated to ensure that each joint is fully tested. The minimum number of tests shall be one. The test specimen shall include all representative joints, where this is not possible then additional tests will be required to test each joint separately.

1.1.2 Preparation of the test specimen

Construct the test specimen according to the manufacturer/supplier's specification representative of its intended use (such as roof pitch, fixing systems, etc). The test specimen may be built in a surrounding frame to facilitate transport and fitting to the opening of the driving rain test apparatus. The joint between test specimen and surrounding frame shall be sealed to prevent water leakage during the test, without disturbance to the normal occurring gaps in the specimen. If a frame is used, it shall be able to resist the pressures applied during the test without deflecting to an extent to influence the test results. The surround shall be prepared and installed so that any water penetration through the test specimen is readily detectable.

1.1.3 Apparatus

The test apparatus shall consist of:

- a pressure chamber sealed to the underside of the test specimen and connected to a pressure generator, as specified in 1.1.4 below;
- a fan system to create wind on the outside of the test specimen, as specified in 1.1.5 below;
- a facility for generating rain, as specified in 1.1.6 below;
- provisions for creating run-off water as specified in 1.1.7 below; and
- a facility for observation and measurement of leakage as specified in 1.1.8 below;

NOTE. Apparatus of different design may produce different wind driven rain test results, but can produce consistent comparisons of performance between different roof covering products.

1.1.4 Pressure chamber

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 39 of 48

The pressure generator connected to the pressure chamber shall be capable of creating a stable negative or positive pressure difference, maintained for 5 minutes ± 10 s, across the test specimen. The pressure difference shall be measured to a maximum inaccuracy of 1% or 2.5 Pa, whichever is greater. The volume of the pressure chamber shall be sufficient to ensure uniform pressure conditions. A water collector shall be provided connected to the pressure chamber capable of recording the amount of leakage water during any pressure step in the test, to a maximum inaccuracy of 2 % or 1 g, whichever is greater. The surfaces of the pressure chamber shall allow leakage water to flow freely into the water collector.

1.1.5 Fan system

The fan system shall be capable of generating wind directed parallel to the longitudinal axis of the test specimen. The wind flow may be horizontal or parallel to the surface of the test specimen. The spatial variation of the wind speed shall be not more than 10 % over the test specimen. Calibrate the fan system for spatial variation of the wind speed, by taking measurements at not less than 9 positions uniformly distributed at a height of 200 + 10 mm over a flat boarded area which replaces the test specimen, at the relevant roof pitch. The calibration wind speed shall be 10 + 0.5 m/s at the centre of the test specimen.

The wind speed (V_i) shall be measured to a maximum inaccuracy of 0.5 m/s.

The turbulence intensity (t) in the oncoming wind shall be less than 10 %.

NOTE: The turbulence intensity t (%) is expressed as $t = 100u/U$, where u and U are the RMS and mean wind speeds respectively, measured over a duration of not less than 5 minutes for this purpose.

$$\text{RMS (root mean square) wind speed } u = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (V_i^2 - U^2)}{n-1}}$$

$$\text{Mean wind speed } U = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n V_i}{n}$$

Where V_i is the individual wind speed;

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 40 of 48

n is the number of measurements

1.1.6 Rain generating facility

The facility shall be capable of supplying a stable rain rate. The spatial variation shall be not more than $\pm 35\%$ over the area of the test specimen during a time period of 5 min ± 10 s. During the same time period of 5 min ± 10 s the rainfall rate shall vary by not more than $\pm 2\%$. The rain droplet size shall be representative of natural rain, predominantly in the range of 0.6mm to 2.5mm diameter.

The variation of rainfall over the specimen can be measured using rain collectors with an area of 0.10 m² to 0.20 m² in area and arranged so that they do not collect any run-off water during calibration. To calibrate the rain falling directly on the test specimen, replace the test specimen with a flat board which incorporates the rain collectors in its upper surface. The calibration should be carried out for each wind-rain combination used. The rain shall be measured to a maximum inaccuracy of 3% or 0.2 mm/h, whichever is larger.

NOTE 1. Water droplets introduced into a high velocity air stream tend to break up over distance. Accordingly it is recommended that the droplets are introduced far enough above the test specimen for this process to be completed and for the droplets to achieve the required velocity prior to impact with the test specimen.

NOTE 2: A variation of $\pm 35\%$ in wind driven rain distribution when combined with run-off water (see 8.3.3.4) results in a combined variation of not more than 10%.

1.1.7 Run-off water

Run-off water shall be evenly distributed across the top of the test specimen. The run-off rate shall not vary by more than 10 % over the width of the test specimen. The quantity of run-off water shall be measured to a maximum inaccuracy of 3%.

The run-off rate R_{ro} shall be calculated by the formula:

$$R_{ro} = R_{test} W L / 60$$

where:

R_{ro} is the run-off rate, in l/m;

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 41 of 48

R_{test} is the rainfall on the roof surface in mm/h;

W is the effective width of the test specimen, in m;

L is the simulated additional rafter length above the test specimen, in m.

Unless otherwise specified, L shall be not less than 5 m.

1.1.8 Observation and measurement of leakage

The pressure chamber shall be provided with:

a) a transparent under-surface for clear visual observation of the nature and position of leakages which may appear on the underside of the test specimen during the test;

b) an apparatus to continuously collect and measure the amount (by weight or by volume) of leakage water which may fall from the test specimen into the pressure chamber during the test.

To minimize surface tension, absorption and retention of water on the internal surfaces of the pressure chamber, the surfaces shall be smooth, non-absorbent and inclined at a vertical angle of not less than 15° from the horizontal towards the lower collecting apparatus during testing.

1.2 Test Procedure

Carry out the test in an environment with a temperature of between 5°C to 35°C with the test specimen installed in the apparatus at the specified roof pitch. Seal the edges of the test specimen as appropriate to prevent leakage of water or air into or out of the pressure chamber. The test specimen shall be surface dry before each test.

Select and continuously apply the relevant wind speed, rain-fall rate, and amount of run-off water for each wind-rain combination as specified in Table 6.1

Table 6.1 Wind-rain conditions for Northern Europe Coastal climate zone

Climate zone	Wind-rain combination	Test conditions +
--------------	-----------------------	-------------------

		Approach Wind speed V_r (m/s)	Rainfall on horizontal R_h (mm/h)
Northern Europe Coastal	A	5	110
	B	13	60
	C	25	6
	D	0	225

+ Note: See prEN 15601 : 2006 for the methodology to determine the wind and rain over the roof surface, as a function of roof pitch.

In summary these combinations are:

Combination A: Low wind speed with severe rainfall rate;

Combination B: High wind speed with high rainfall rate;

Combination C: Severe wind speed with low rainfall rate;

Combination D: Maximum rainfall rate with no wind (deluge).

In the wind-rain combinations A, B and C, measure initially the pressure difference with the pressure box closed and adopt this pressure difference as the reference zero for subsequent pressure changes during the test. Then reduce the pressure in the box in steps of not less than 5 Pa and maintain each pressure step for 5 minutes + 10 seconds, until leakage is observed. Measure the amount of leakage water at each pressure step, or continuously, up to the reference leakage rate.

In the deluge test, combination D, apply the rainfall and run-off without wind and with the pressure box open to the atmosphere, for 2 minutes + 10 seconds. Observe any leakage and measure the amount of leakage water.

NOTE 1: The sub-test may be continued at greater pressure differences to observe more leakage.

NOTE 2: Fine spray may leak through the joints in certain types of solar energy specimens. Its occurrence should be recorded. Such fine spray may or may not be regarded as leakage depending on the leakage criterion adopted.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 43 of 48

Appendix 4

An example of an underlay sealing ring in test for water-tightness



Figure: A4.1 An underlay sealing ring in test and subject to a very large volume of water.

(This product is designed to seal around a rigid pipe and when used with a smaller flexible pipe a durable flashing material is used to make the seal between the lip of the sealing ring and the flexible pipe.)

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 44 of 48

Informative Annexes

Annex 1

Resistance to Wind Uplift

System Requirements

2 System requirement Design Loads

The method of mechanical fixing of the collectors to the roof, and the fixing components, must be adequate to resist the design loads derived from the relevant parts of BS 6399 or EN 1991-1. These design loads relate to dead and imposed loads, wind loads and other environmental loads such as snow loads. The fixings shall be capable of resisting these loads, preferably without maintenance for their full service lifetime.

The test method described is intended to assess the adequacy of the fixings against wind uplift loads only.

2.2 Design wind speed

The design wind speed (and wind dynamic pressure) is used to calculate the design wind load and may either be:

- a) determined using BS 6399-2 : 1997 or EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 for a particular site in question.

Or

- b) taken as a sensible upper estimate which will cover all buildings up to three storeys in height anywhere in the UK, provided that topographical features (eg; hills and valleys) are not significant. *A 1 second gust wind speed with an annual probability of 0.02 and equal to 58ms^{-1} is suggested.*

Where topographical features are significant the design wind speed must be checked using BS 6399-2 : 1997 or EN 1991-1-4 : 2005.

2.3 Design wind loads

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 45 of 48

BRE Digest 489 “Wind loads on roof-based photovoltaic systems” also provides additional guidance on deriving the wind loads on the solar panels and their fixings.

The design wind load shall then be derived as follows:

- I. For roof integrated designs
- II. For air permeable roof integrated systems, which replace roof tiles, BS 5534 : 2003¹ may be used to derive the design wind loads acting on the collectors and fixings. BS 5534 : 2003 takes account of the reduction in the wind loads due to the air permeability of the installed panels and surrounding roof tiles. BS 5534 : 2003 also presents the principles and a test methodology for measuring the level of air permeability.
- III. For non air permeable systems use BS 6399-2 : 1997 or BS EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 to derive the design wind loads.
- IV. For on-roof systems, the wind loads shall be assessed using BS 6399-2 : 1997 or EN 1991-1-4 : 2005.

Additional guidance is given in BRE Digest 489

2.4 Other requirements not tested:

In addition the collector fixings have to:

- possess sufficient shear strength to resist gravitational sliding of the panel due to its weight and imposed snow loads.
- withstand other effects such as fatigue loading due to variation in the wind forces and differential thermal movements,
- resist abrasion against roof tiles and other nearby materials,
- be resistant to corrosion due to rain and accumulated debris.

These properties are not tested in the test method proposed.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 46 of 48

REVISION OF MICROGENERATION CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

REVISION OF MCS REQUIREMENTS

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The issue number will be given in decimal format with the integer part giving the issue number and the fractional part giving the number of amendments (e.g. Issue 3.2 indicates that the document is at Issue 3 with 2 amendments).

Users of this standard should ensure that they possess the latest issue and all amendments.

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 47 of 48

AMENDMENTS ISSUES SINCE PUBLICATION

Document Number:	Amendment Details:	Date:
Issue 1.0	First Issue	16/03/2012

Issue: 1.0	DRAFT PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME REQUIREMENTS: MCS 012	MCS 012
Date: 16/03/2012		Page 48 of 48