

**Secured by Design**

10 Victoria Street | London | SW1H 0NN

E: enquiries@police-cpi.co.uk | T: 0203 8623 999

Date: 27th August 2021**To: All Secured by Design Members with Doors Certificated with Enhanced Security & Fire Performance - Certification of Doorsets to include Smoke Control**

Dear Member

Further to our letter dated 24th May 2021 (attached for your convenience), we have been asked for further clarification of our requirements in relation to Smoke Control – in particular, our requirements for thresholds.

It is perhaps worth explaining why we are engaged in the non-security elements of a door specification. Quite simply we are adamant that any doorset that carries our approval should be fit for purpose in all declared characteristics, but especially those that are life critical such as fire, security and smoke control.

Currently doorset thresholds can legitimately be tested to BS 476-31.1 or BS EN 1634-3 with the threshold taped up, and be assigned an 'S' designation (according to the guidance within Approved Document B) or an 'Sa' classification (when classified according to EN 13501-2), as the threshold gap is effectively discounted in both instances. It is also possible to maintain designated smoke performances (i.e. S or Sa) when following the guidance given in BS 8214, which allows for a 3mm gap at the threshold in situations where fitting a threshold seal is not practicable. In our opinion neither are acceptable in a 'real world' fire scenario, the former (taping up the threshold) proves nothing when the doorset is exposed to smoke in an apartment block and could therefore lead to smoke unnecessarily entering an area designed to be a safe haven, and the latter (the 3 mm gap allowance) has been independently proven to allow smoke leakage of up to 10.5m³/h/m – three times the allowance of 3m³/h/m in the current Building Regulations!

With the safety and security of residents in mind, we have confirmed our requirements for all fire, security and smoke rated doorsets carrying our approval to the UK test and certification organisations i.e. all smoke control tests should be conducted with the doorset threshold un-taped, furthermore the allowance of a 3mm gap under the door will also be unacceptable. Therefore, all SBD Fire, security and Smoke rated doorsets will require a thresh detail that enables the doorset to comply with the Building Regulation maximum requirement for smoke leakage of 3m³/h/m.

SBD has committed to promoting our requirements and to support other organisations lobbying for change in this important area. We are committed to saving lives and making homes safer places in which to live, work and play.

We hope the above clarification assists all SBD licensed companies endeavouring to meet our new requirements and we would like to thank you for your patience and continued commitment to provide good quality fire, security and smoke resistant doorsets.

www.securedbydesign.com

We sincerely value your continued support for Secured by Design, an effective crime prevention initiative that has protected people and property since 1989.

Thank you for your understanding

Kind Regards



Alfie Hosker MSyI | SBD Technical Manager
Secured by Design



Official Police Security Initiative

Secured by Design - Police Crime Prevention Initiatives

Email: alfie.hosker@police-cpi.co.uk

Mob: 07710 978 057

www.securedbydesign.com | [@securedbydesign](https://twitter.com/securedbydesign)

www.securedbydesign.com