Notification Number: 2012/97/UK

# Changes to Part B (Fire safety) of the Building Regulations: Light Diffusers and Wall Coverings

Date received : 13/02/2012 End of Standstill : 14/05/2012

# Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2012) D/5382

Directive 98/34/EC

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notifica - Pieteikums - Pranešimas - Bejelentés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificacão - Hlásenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация : 2012/0097/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahajuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késéseket - Ma' jiftaħx il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Мääräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201200382.EN)

#### 1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2012 0097 UK EN 13-02-2012 UK NOTIF

### 2. Member State

UK

## 3. Department Responsible

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills Knowledge & Innovation Group 1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET.

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# 3. Originating Department

Building Regulations & Standards Division Communities & Local Government Eland House 2 Bressenden Place London SW1E 5DU

#### 4. Notification Number

2012/0097/UK - B00

#### 5. Title

Changes to Part B (Fire safety) of the Building Regulations: Light Diffusers and Wall Coverings

#### 6. Products Concerned

The Building Regulations provide for the health, safety, welfare and convenience of those in and around buildings and the sustainability of buildings for current and future generations. In order to do this they set standards through both technical and procedural requirements for those carrying out building work. Therefore this notification has relevance for services including design and construction services for controlled building works and related construction products.

#### 7. Notification Under Another Act

8. Main Content

The Building Regulations 2010 provide for the health, safety, welfare and convenience of those in and around buildings and set technical and procedural requirements for those carrying out building work. Statutory guidance on ways of meeting the functional requirements of these regulations are provided in Approved Documents. Part B of Schedule 1 of the regulations relates to fire safety aspects of building design and construction and Approved Document B contains statutory guidance that demonstrates how the provisions can be complied with. These design standards provide a baseline set of technical performance requirements for fire safety, but are not exclusive of other options being used to show compliance.

The proposed changes are intended to simplify the provisions of Part B2 of the Building Regulations - internal fire spread (linings). This relates to; clarifying the application of Requirement B2 to decorative wall coverings, and updating the guidance on thermoplastic lighting diffusers (where incorporated within a ceiling) to reflect modern technology and practices.

## 9. Brief Statement of Grounds

Requirement B2 of the Building Regulations restricts the spread of flame and heat release rate of the materials used in lining any partition, wall, ceiling or other internal structure.

As a result of changes in technology and standards, along with the introduction of mandatory CE marking, the proposed revision of Approved Document B is to simplify and update the guidance supporting Requirement B2 to ensure that adequate and reasonable standards of safety are maintained, the guidance remains fit for purpose and is in line with European Standards (where a harmonised Standard exists).

#### 10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

No Basic Text exists

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11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure No
12. Grounds for the Emergency
13. Confidentiality No
14. Fiscal measures No
15. Impact assessment Yes
16. TBT and SPS aspects TBT aspect
No - The draft is in conformity with an international standard
SPS aspect
No - The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure
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Contact point Directive 98/34