

# Conditions and Guidance for the Use of ift Test Documents

as of November 2004



The provision laid down in the following govern the unambiguous and unaltered representation of the results and contents of tests, and serve to preserve the neutrality and independence of the **ift**, in cases in which test documents are passed on, used in advertising, or published in the Internet or by other media. **ift** test documents are test reports, certificates, evidence of performance, evaluations or expert opinions.

## 1. Use of documents

For information or advertising purposes, only the complete test document or an abstract prepared or authorized by the **ift** shall be used. Abstracts are subject to the following:

- The excerpts must contain the full wording and must be accompanied by exact reproductions of any illustrations and explanations.
- The original significance and the purpose of the results must be presented in a clear manner.
- Notes and conclusions must not be inserted in or added to the text in a misleading manner

## Digital use (Internet)

When the test documents are published in the Internet, it must be ensured that the file is protected from updates (read and print only access in PDF Format). The **ift** will make available the appropriate files of the document.

## 2. Reference to / use of test results for PR purposes

Any reference in publications/media to an **ift** test shall be made only on the basis of the relevant test report or evidence of performance issued by the **ift**. The sole statement „ift-tested“ is illegal. Any reference to **ift** test documents must contain the following minimum data:

- Registered number of test document, date and type of test (relevant standards and documents),
- Identification of the relevant product/item,
- Complete representation of the characteristics determined/findings,
- Term of validity of test documents (if specified).

Prior to publication, the full wording and all illustrations of the advertising texts shall be submitted to the **ift** for approval, e.g. by submittal of the manuscript and sending of a specimen copy.



## 3. ift Logo

Use of the **ift** logo is allowed solely on the basis of ift certification according to the Rules on the Use of the “**ift certified**” Mark. The **ift** is entitled to claim damages and injunctive relief in the case of unauthorized use or reference.



## 4. Pictograms

**ift pictograms** are protected by copyright and visualize by means of a typical symbol the **ift** tested functions and characteristics of building elements, building materials and services. The **pictograms** given on the cover sheet of the test documents to visualize the tested characteristic can be used by the holder for advertising purposes. Use of the pictograms is restricted exclusively to the product/product characteristics tested by the **ift** and prohibited for tests, certification and evidence of performance carried out/issued by other test bodies.



## 5. Use of test results by the ift

The **ift** will not disclose test results to third parties even after publication of these results by the customer. Notwithstanding this principle, the PÜZ<sup>1)</sup>-bodies are obliged to publish general construction supervisory test certificates in a suitable manner. This is done by publication on the **ift** website: [www.ift-rosenheim.de](http://www.ift-rosenheim.de).

The client agrees to an anonymous scientific evaluation of the test results by the **ift**.

## 6. Validity

The **ift** reserves the right to limit the time period of using and/or publishing the test documents as set out by the present guideline (as a rule 3 years). Unless stipulated otherwise by the relevant test / performance standards, it is recommended to verify after a period of 3 years whether conformity with the test and evaluation criteria then in force continues to be ensured.

The **ift** recommends the client to keep the test specimen during the time of using the test documents.

Manufacturer undertakes to ensure consistency of quality and workmanship of the products placed on the market in relationship with the **ift** test documents in such a way that the characteristics approved by the test documents are guaranteed.

## Misuse

In the case of justified grounds for suspicion of infringement, the **ift** shall have the right to arrange for repeat testing of samples at the expense of the manufacturer and/or withdraw the relevant test documents and the relevant rights of use, respectively, and to claim damages.

<sup>1)</sup> approved national testing laboratory, inspection and certification body