

## **Cleanliness classification of air handling products: general instructions**

27 May 2010

These instructions describe the principles of the cleanliness classification of air handling products. They were approved by the Building Information Foundation RTS Committee EPT 24 Indoor Air Classification at its meeting on 27 May 2010.

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

The cleanliness classification of air handling products is based on the criteria and principles established in the Classification of Indoor Environment 2008 document, applicable at that time. The cleanliness classifications are granted by the Building Information Foundation RTS.

Classification work is developed and supervised by Committee EPT 21 Indoor Air Classification appointed by the Director General of the Building Information Foundation RTS. It also promotes building methods aimed at good indoor climate in other ways. Classification applications and matters relating to classification decisions are examined by a separate classification working group nominated by the Committee. The working group consists of a representative of the Finnish Society of Indoor Air Quality, two technical experts and the secretary of the classification working group.

### **2 APPLYING FOR CLEANLINESS CLASSIFICATION**

Applications for a cleanliness classification of air handling products are submitted to the Building Information Foundation RTS using an application form drawn up for this purpose. Applicants should enclose with their application the product specifications, instructions for use, the material safety data sheet, if applicable, and a copy of the report. The test results shall not be more than one (1) year old. The applicant may, if necessary, be asked to supply supplementary information.

### **3 THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE APPLICATION DOCUMENTS**

The Building Information Foundation RTS treats all documents and information submitted by applicants in support of their application in confidence. However, the name of the product and the holder of the classification will be released and entered in the directory of classifications referred to in Section 13.

### **4 RIGHT OF USE OF CLASSIFICATION LABEL**

Right of use of a classification label provides the company which has been granted classification the right to label the classified product with the label and to use the label for marketing purposes. The company shall use the valid classification symbol, which is a registered trade mark.



The valid M1 classification symbol

### **5 VALIDITY OF RIGHT OF USE**

The period of validity of the right of use of a classification label is three (3) years. If the product and method of manufacturing the product have not changed, the classification can be renewed for another three (3) years by application without testing provided that the required testing methods and the criteria set for the products have not been altered fundamentally. Both new and continuation applications will always be examined in accordance with the current requirements set for testing methods and the criteria set for

the products.

## 6 OBLIGATION TO GIVE NOTICE OF CHANGES TO PRODUCT

The holder of right of use is under an obligation to give the Building Information Foundation RTS prior notice of changes relating to the product and its methods of manufacturing if these changes affect the properties on the basis of which the classification was granted. The quality control of classified products is the responsibility of the holder of the classification. It is the responsibility of the holder of the classification to ensure that the product has an approved quality control system.

## 7 RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CLASSIFIED PRODUCT

The holder of the classification is solely responsible for guaranteeing that the product fulfils the requirements concerning it. The Building Information Foundation RTS is not responsible for the classified products or for the product properties as reported by the holder of the classification.

## 8 NOTICE OF TERMINATION OR REVOCATION OF RIGHT OF USE OF CLASSIFICATION LABEL

Both the Building Information Foundation RTS and the holder of the classification can give notice of terminating the classification and the right of use to end three (3) months from the notice. The Building Information Foundation RTS can cancel the classification and the right of use without a period of notice in cases of abuse or if it transpires that the requirements for granting classification are no longer met. If the Building Information Foundation RTS has reasonable grounds to suspect that the product no longer meets the requirements set for it, the holder of the classification must present new testing results showing that the requirements are met.

## 9 PRODUCT TESTING

### 9.1 Product testing before classification

Classification requires the product to be tested by an approved testing laboratory in accordance with the required methods.

### 9.2 Selection of testing laboratory

The products shall be tested by a competent and impartial laboratory approved by the classification working group. A list of approved laboratories can be found on the Internet. The applicant is responsible for documentation.

### 9.3 Testing methods

The products must be tested according to the cleanliness testing instructions for air handling products (dated 2 November 2001) or according to later updated or new product-specific instructions. The research report must contain the details listed in the model test report.

## 10 FEES

### 10.1 Classification fees

The applicant shall pay the Building Information Foundation RTS a fee for classification as well as any other fees due. The fees are confirmed by the Building Information Foundation RTS.

### 10.2 Testing fees and expenses

The applicant is responsible for all the expenses arising from the product testing required for the application. The applicant shall pay the costs of testing directly to the testing institute.

## 11 USE OF CLASSIFICATION LABEL

### 11.1 Product labelling

Products, packaging, product specifications or instructions for use are to be labelled with the label of the cleanliness class granted to the product. Product specifications should also indicate restrictions relating to the use and application of the products in particular.

#### 11.2 Product marketing

The classification label can be used for advertising and marketing the classified product alone. The classification label is not allowed to be used in marketing in such a way that it refers to the company as a whole or to products which have not been granted cleanliness classification.

#### 12 THE APPEAL PROCEDURE

Applicants wishing to appeal a decision by the Building Information Foundation RTS concerning the right of use of a classification label or its refusal may submit an appeal in writing within 14 days of receipt of the decision to the Director General of the Building Information Foundation RTS, who will forward it to Committee EPT 24 for adjudication.

#### 13 DIRECTORY OF CLASSIFIED PRODUCTS

The Building Information Foundation RTS maintains and publishes a directory of currently classified products and holders of right of use.

#### 14 CHANGES TO GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

The Building Information Foundation RTS's Committee EPT 24 approved these instructions at its meeting on 27.5.2010. Committee EPT 24 may alter these instructions if necessary.

#### REFERENCES

- Classification of Indoor Environment 2008 (LVI 05-10440, RT 07-10946, Ratu 437-T, KH 27-10422)
- Cleanliness testing instructions for air handling products. Instructions for the testing of the hygiene of air handling products
- Cleanliness classification for air handling products: test report model
- Cleanliness classification for air handling products: application form