



Supported by
NB-Rail Association

RECOMMENDATION FOR USE

NB-RAIL COORDINATION GROUP

Administrative Decision according to Interoperability Directive
(EU) 2016/797 art. 30.6



Co-funded by
the European Union

RFU-RST-316

Issue 01
Date 18/11/2021

TITLE

ACCEPTABLE EVIDENCE FOR FIRE PERFORMANCE OF MATERIALS TO EN 45545-2

ORIGINATOR

IPS Tabor, TÜV Rheinland Rail
Certification, TÜV SÜD Nederland

SUBJECT RELATED TO

Reg. (EU) 1302/2014 (TSI LOC&PAS)
amended by Reg. (EU) 2016/919, Reg.
(EU) 2018/868, Reg. (EU) 2019/776 and
Reg. (EU) 2020/387, referred as L&P TSI

AMENDMENT RECORD:

DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND EXPLANATION

Background:

Section 4.2.10.2.1 of L&P TSI refers via Appendix J-1, index 58, to those clauses of EN 45545-2:2013+A1:2015 that are in direct relationship to the requirement expressed in TSI. For the classification of material performance in relation to fire properties of materials according to EN 45545-2:2013+A1:2015, the standard in turn refers to a range of standardized test methods and parameter requirements.

Further **section 4.2.10.2.1 (3) of L&P TSI** defines:

“In order to ensure constant product characteristics and manufacturing process, it is required that:

- *the certificate to prove compliance of a material with the standard, which shall be issued immediately after testing of this material, shall be reviewed every 5 years,*
- *in case there is no change in the product characteristics and manufacturing process, and no change in the requirements (TSI), it is not required to perform new testing of this material; the certificate needs only to be updated regarding its date of issue.”*

Description of the situation:

In order to gain evidence on the compliance of a material with the aforementioned standards, it is required that the material is tested in a laboratory with accreditation according to ISO 17025 in combination with the respective test method referenced by EN 45545-2. The related test results should, in accordance with ISO 17025, be documented in a laboratory test report.

It is further possible that in a subsequent conformity assessment step, such a laboratory test to ISO 17025 is additionally certified according to ISO 17065. It is understood that this second conformity assessment step is not usually requested by the material manufacturers.



Supported by
NB-Rail Association

RECOMMENDATION FOR USE

NB-RAIL COORDINATION GROUP

Administrative Decision according to Interoperability Directive
(EU) 2016/797 art. 30.6



Co-funded by
the European Union

RFU-RST-316

Issue 01

Date 18/11/2021

It is also noted that some manufacturers of materials provide declarations of conformity of their material with EN 45545-2.

In summary, NoBos may be offered evidence on the conformity of material properties in the following formats:

- 1) Laboratory Test Report from an accredited test laboratory in accordance to ISO 17025 in combination with the respective test method referenced by EN 45545-2
- 2) Certificate from an accredited certification body in accordance with ISO 17065 on the basis of testing according to ISO 17025 in combination with the respective test method referenced by EN 45545-2
- 3) Declaration of a manufacturer about the conformity to EN 45545-2.

Which of the above evidence may be used by the NoBo during TSI assessment?

RFU PROPOSAL

A) LABORATORY TEST REPORT

A Laboratory Test Report from an accredited test laboratory in accordance to ISO 17025 in combination with the respective test method referenced by EN 45545-2 is acceptable to the NoBo. Despite the lack of any direct requirements in the TSI text for the acceptability of Laboratory Test Reports, it can be assumed from the very detailed requirements for the acceptability of Certificates, that the possibility of (even unintended) modifications in the material production chain must be considered.

Mutatis mutandis to the time limits in TSI L&P 4.2.10.2.1 (3) Laboratory Test Reports shall only be directly acceptable for 5 years after they have been issued by an accredited test laboratory. This time interval may be extended, where the applicant in connection with the material manufacturer can provide evidence, that the material properties and the material production chain are not altered and that the related laboratory test results are therefore still applicable. This is identified as "UNIFE manufacturer declaration" in the Application Guide of ERA V3.0 (GUI/LOC&PAS TSI/2021).

Otherwise, a new test has to be performed by a test laboratory.

NOTE to avoid possible misunderstandings: As accredited test laboratory reports are issued as the statement of facts on the results of a defined test (a defined material batch tested at a defined point in time) they have an issue date, but they have no validity. As they have no validity there is no possibility of 'extending' their validity.



Supported by
NB-Rail Association

RECOMMENDATION FOR USE

NB-RAIL COORDINATION GROUP

Administrative Decision according to Interoperability Directive
(EU) 2016/797 art. 30.6



Co-funded by
the European Union

RFU-RST-316

Issue 01

Date 18/11/2021

B) CERTIFICATE

A Certificate from an accredited certification body in accordance with ISO 17065, on the basis of testing to ISO 17025 in combination with the respective test method referenced by EN 45545-2, can be used under the conditions stated in TSI L&P 4.2.10.2.1 (3).

It is understood in this context, that TSI L&P 4.2.10.2.1 (3) does not mandate that a certification is performed in each case after laboratory testing, but in such cases when it is performed, certification “shall be issued immediately after testing of this material”.

NOTE: It is in this regard recommended, that ‘immediately after’ should be a time not longer than 6 months after conclusion of the testing.

C) DECLARATION

A declaration from a manufacturer without further evidence, i.e. a Laboratory Test Report or a Certificate as indicated above, cannot be taken as evidence by the NoBo in this context.

Note: This declaration shall not be mixed with the “UNIFE manufacturer declaration” as mentioned above. In the case c) described here, the basic evidence (Laboratory Test Report or Certificate) is missing and cannot be substituted by a simple declaration from a manufacturer.

THIS RFU WAS AGREED ON

PLENARY MEETING 063

THIS RFU ENTERS INTO FORCE ON

18/11/2021

FROM THIS DATE ON THIS RFU CAN BE APPLIED INSTEAD OF THE PREVIOUS MANDATORY VERSION.

RFU APPLICATION IS MANDATORY STARTING FROM

18/11/2021

AT THIS DATE ANY PREVIOUS VERSIONS OF THIS RFU WILL BE WITHDRAWN.

RFUS SHALL BE APPLIED BY ALL NOBOS. PLEASE REFER TO RFU-STR-702, CHAPTER 3 OF THE SECTION “DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND EXPLANATION”, FOR THE LEGAL BASIS SUPPORTING THIS OBLIGATION.

ERA COMMENTS

PLE 63 – 10/11/2021: NO COMMENTS