



Dated: 2nd March 2021

Equivalence of IFC Certification Installer Schemes with Warringtonfire FIRAS and BM TRADA Q-Mark (Element – formerly Exova) Schemes

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as we (IFC Certification) are informing all procurers of fire safety installer services of the equivalence of IFC Certification's certification scheme with the Warringtonfire FIRAS and BM TRADA Q-Mark (Element – formerly Exova) Schemes. As an introduction, IFC Certification (IFCC) is a provider of 3rd party certification of fire protection products and installers alongside other services such as Passive/Active Fire Protection Site Inspections.

Procurement policies relating to fire safety products/installers can sometimes be specific to a certification brand, sometimes as a product of historic continuity and sometimes as result of the absence of policy reviews. Our concern is that limiting such an important specification to one brand alone may limit the scope of choice for procurers and may impact costs, quality and diversity.

We accept that there is no obligation to accept IFCC and that your organisation may have a list of approved suppliers that may require a lot of work to extend / revise, but we would ask you to accept this letter as confirmation of the status of the IFC Certification Limited installer certification scheme being equivalent to the WCL FIRAS and BM TRADA Q-Mark (Element – formerly Exova) Installer Certification Schemes.

All three schemes are UKAS Accredited installer certification schemes which comply with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17065:2012 "Conformity Assessment – Requirement for bodies certifying products, processes and services". The IFCC UKAS Accreditation number 175 is shown above (in the head of this letter) with the UKAS mark awarded as a result of IFCC satisfactorily achieving and maintaining this accreditation, the scope of our accreditation can be reviewed on the UKAS website at the following location:

www.ukas.org/CertificationBodies/schedules/PROD/0175Product%20Certification.pdf

IFC Certification Ltd

Tel: +44(0) 1844 275500, Fax: +44(0) 1844 274002, E-mail: info@ifccertification.com

A Member of the IFC Group of Companies

Head & Registered Office: 20 Park Street, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire, England HP27 9AH

Registered No: 4777898 England



IFCC schemes are headed up by Certification Director Ian Woodhouse, and our team have over 200 years collective experience in Fire Safety. Ian Woodhouse worked for Warrington Certification Limited for over ten years before leaving to work for IFC Certification some eight years ago. He ran the FIRAS scheme during his ten-year tenure at Warrington, preceded by myself who had been involved in the scheme for over twelve years. Other members of our management structure were former Warrington employees and were involved in the operation of the FIRAS scheme. It is due to our in-depth knowledge of FIRAS, its operation, and its criteria that we are able to state categorically that the scheme we now operate is truly equivalent.

I trust the content of this letter clarifies the status of certification issued by IFCC in respect of its equivalence to any certification issued by Warringtonfire or BM TRADA (Element – formerly Exova) to fire protection installer companies and gives you an insight into what we can offer. We hope that you will choose to expand your scope of procurement to include any installer certified by a UKAS accredited third-party certifier. If you wish to discuss this further then either Ian Woodhouse or myself would be happy to talk to you. We are all available at our Princes Risborough office on 01844 275500, or please email phil.sargent@ifcgroup.com

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'P Sargent'.

Phil Sargent

Site Inspection Manager

On behalf of
IFC Certification Ltd.

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Tel: +44(0) 1844 275500, Fax: +44(0) 1844 274002, E-mail: info@ifccertification.com

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