

Press release: Second wall cladding system passes latest government fire safety test

The latest wall cladding combination tested as part of the government's series of large-scale fire safety tests has passed and meets current Building Regulations guidance.

This fifth test was of a wall cladding system consisting of Aluminium Composite material (ACM) cladding with a limited combustibility filler (category 1 in screening tests) with PIR foam insulation.

The government's Expert Panel advises that [the results](#) show that this combination of materials can be compliant when installed and maintained properly. While government has not been informed of any tall buildings over 18 metres in England using this particular combination of materials in their wall system, it could offer a possible solution for some buildings with other cladding systems which have been identified as a fire hazard through previous large-scale tests.

The purpose of the testing programme is to develop a better understanding of how different types of cladding panels behave with different types of insulation in a fire. This is so building owners and their professional advisors can make informed decisions.

The clear [advice](#) from the Expert Panel remains that building owners need to continue to take professional advice regarding remedial work that takes into account the specific circumstances of their building.

The government announced the [independent review of building regulations and fire safety](#) on 28 July 2017. This forward-looking review will examine the regulatory system around the design, construction and on-going management of buildings in relation to fire safety as well as related compliance and enforcement issues.

Results of the first 4 tests have already been published. Results of the remaining 2 large-scale tests will be published when they are available.