

PRESS RELEASE

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CIF invests further £25K in fire laboratory

Chiltern International Fire (CIF) has completed a further tranche of investment in its fire laboratory, including recommissioning its 3m x 2.4m floor furnace with an upgraded computer control system and expanded data logging capabilities, in line with the 3m x 3m vertical fire resistance test furnace installed last year.



Further refurbishment of the fire laboratory included an industrial clean down to improve the working environment for staff and clients, while industrial painters were called in 'not only to brighten up the lab, but also to ensure the long-term reliability of the equipment by preventing rusting and the breakdown this can entail,' said Mark Cummings, Head of Section: Fire Resistance Testing. A new crane has also been installed for further reliability.

The £25,000 investment included, too, checking the calibration of all the existing furnaces, including the smaller 1.1m³ and 3m x 2m horizontal furnace, to ensure they were totally accurate. "It's important for our clients to know they're getting a consistent and reliable service from us. The investment this year will enhance CIF's offering and we will of course continue to underpin our service with a rolling maintenance and calibration programme.'

The enhanced floor furnace will enable Chiltern Fire to meet increased demand for penetration seals testing, following the publication earlier this year of BS EN 1366-3 2009 *Fire resistance tests for service installations. Penetration seals*. This together with the supporting European Technical Approval Guidelines (ETAG) No.26 Part 2 paves the way for CE marking, Mark stressed. 'We have been talking to several companies in the UK and overseas who are interested in testing with us, with CE marking in mind too. We can now offer them absolutely first class facilities.'

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