

Does a fire rated grid offer a system fire rating?



Fire resistant ratings apply only to complete systems - not to individual components of a building system. As such a full lay-in/suspended ceiling system must combine fire rated elements and conform to a SABS fire test result for the specified fire rating to genuinely qualify as a fire rated system.

National Building Regulations structural fire precautions require that in the event of fire the stability of a building is maintained for a reasonable period, and the spread both of fire and smoke within a building and the spread of fire to other buildings is inhibited allowing for safe evacuation and fire fighting. This means that no ceiling grid alone can provide a fire rating.

A comprehensive fire rating has to take into account individual building criteria such as;

Integrity and stability - any separating or supporting element has to be able to resist collapse and prevent the fire spreading in a building. Hanging wires at correct intervals and support systems that comply with SABS fire tests and reports are important for maintaining integrity. For any emergency escape and fire access routes it is particularly important that the necessary fire resistance requirements are met to ensure stability for as long a period as possible.

Insulation - all holes, gaps or fissures through which flames and hot gasses could pass compromise the ability of a system to provide a greater amount of fire resistance. Necessary insulation and fire stop elements are required to comply with SABS fire test reporting standards.

Saint-Gobain construction products offer full technical support and assistance to all clients and projects for any queries re complete building system solutions and improved fire rating systems.

Innovative Building Solutions



Gyproc

DONN

A Saint-Gobain company