Appendix F, *Product Grouping Examples*

Contents

1 Introduction

The definition of product groups is introduced in chapter 6 of the scheme rules. According to these definitions product grouping is possible:

- Product by Product

The main aims of product grouping and the major principles are described in chapter 7.3 of the scheme rules.

The main reason for grouping more than one product in a Product Groups can be to obtain more statistical data for products which are identical. The reasons can be also marketing reasons for different names for different applications or markets or to reduce testing costs.

In any case the product grouping is a task of the manufacturer but has to be agreed and accepted by the certification body.

2 Product grouping according to Product by Product

This type of grouping fits very good to producers which produce a small number of products in one production plant with a limited amount of Reaction to Fire classes, Thermal Conductivity classes and Compressive Strength classes. The premise is that each single product can be characterised and differentiated. Every product can be then certified individually with a VDI Product Certificate.

2.1 Definition

Product or stringent Product Group with in principle identical declared properties (except of Reaction to Fire for different facings)

2.2 Example

Examples can be **Mineral Wool pipe sections** acc. EN 14303 with different facings and/or names or **Flexible Elastomeric Foam (FEF) tubes** or **sheet products** acc. EN 14304 with different colours and/or names for different applications. In both cases the products have the identical declared values for example Thermal Conductivity, Maximum Service Temperature and Chloride Content but not for Reaction to Fire.

Another example can be **Cellular Glass products** acc. EN 13167. Cellular Glass contains no combustible organic material. Therefore, Reaction to Fire is covered by the Commission Decision 96/603/EC. The material shows a good correlation between density, compressive strength and thermal conductivity for the same type of material. One Product Group has identical declared values for example for Thickness Tolerance, Thermal Conductivity, Compressive Strength, Water Absorption and Water Vapour Transmission but different facings and different Reaction to Fire classes with different facings.