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Agrément Certificate
10/4724
Product Sheet 1

CUPAMAT WALL PANELS

STONEPANEL AND STONEPANEL SKY

PRODUCT SCOPE AND SUMMARY OF CERTIFICATE

This Certificate relates to Stonepanel and Stonepanel Sky, natural stone panels for use as a decorative cladding.

AGRÉMENT CERTIFICATION INCLUDES:

- factors relating to compliance with Building Regulations where applicable
- factors relating to additional non-regulatory information where applicable
- independently verified technical specification
- assessment criteria and technical investigations
- design considerations
- installation guidance
- regular surveillance of production
- formal three-yearly review.

KEY FACTORS ASSESSED

Strength and stability — the panels have sufficient strength to resist the negative and positive wind pressures likely to be experienced in the UK and have good impact resistance (see section 5).

Behaviour in relation to fire — the panels are non-combustible and will restrict the spread of fire across the external surface of a building (see section 6).

Air and water penetration — the system is not watertight but will restrict the ingress of rainwater to the supporting structure (see section 7).

Maintenance — generally the panels do not require maintenance and are self-cleaning but removal of some types of mark may require specialist treatment (see section 8).

Durability — the system has a design life in excess of 30 years (see section 9).



The BBA has awarded this Agrément Certificate to the company named above for the products described herein. These products have been assessed by the BBA as being fit for their intended use provided they are installed, used and maintained as set out in this Certificate.

On behalf of the British Board of Agrément

Brian Chamberlain
Head of Approvals — Engineering

Greg Cooper
Chief Executive

Date of First issue: 9 February 2010

Certificate amended on 17 November 2011 to add more finishes to Table 1.

The BBA is a UKAS accredited certification body — Number 113. The schedule of the current scope of accreditation for product certification is available in pdf format via the UKAS link on the BBA website at www.bbacerts.co.uk

Readers are advised to check the validity and latest issue number of this Agrément Certificate by either referring to the BBA website or contacting the BBA direct.

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Regulations

In the opinion of the BBA, Stonepanel and Stonepanel Sky, if used in accordance with the provisions of this Certificate, will meet or contribute to meeting the relevant requirements of the following Building Regulations:



The Building Regulations 2000 (as amended) (England and Wales)

Requirement:	A1	Loading
Comment:		The panels are acceptable for use as set out in sections 3.2 and 5.1 to 5.13 of this Certificate.
Requirement:	B2	Internal fire spread (linings)
Requirement:	B4(1)	External fire spread
Comment:		The panels are judged to meet the Class 0 requirements. See sections 6.1 and 6.2 of this Certificate.
Requirement:	C2(b)	Resistance to moisture
Comment:		A cladding system incorporating the panels will not be completely watertight but will provide a degree of protection against rain ingress. See sections 7.1 to 7.3 of this Certificate.
Requirement:	Regulation 7	Materials and workmanship
Comment:		The panels are acceptable. See sections 9.1 to 9.3 and the <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.



The Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (as amended)

Regulation:	8(1)(2)	Fitness and durability of materials and workmanship
Comment:		The use of the product satisfies the requirements of this Regulation. See sections 8.1, 8.2, 9.1 to 9.3 and the <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.
Regulation:	9	Building Standards — construction
Standard:	1.1(a)(b)	Structure
Comment:		The panels are acceptable, with reference to clause 1.1.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ . See sections 3.2 and 5.1 to 5.13 of this Certificate.
Standard:	2.5	Internal linings
Comment:		The panels will satisfy this Standard, with reference to clause 2.5.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ . See sections 6.1 to 6.2 of this Certificate.
Standard:	2.6	Spread to neighbouring buildings
Comment:		The panels can contribute to satisfying this Standard, with reference to clause 2.6.4 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ . See sections 6.1 to 6.2 of this Certificate.
Standard:	2.7	Spread on external walls
Comment:		The panels can contribute to satisfying this Standard, with reference to clause 2.7.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ . See sections 6.1 to 6.2 of this Certificate.
Standard:	3.10	Precipitation
Comment:		A cladding system incorporating the panels will not be completely watertight but will restrict the ingress of rainwater to the supporting structure. See sections 7.1 to 7.3 of this Certificate. (1) Technical Handbook (Domestic). (2) Technical Handbook (Non-Domestic).



The Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000 (as amended)

Regulation:	B2	Fitness of materials and workmanship
Comment:		The product is acceptable. See sections 9.1 to 9.3 and <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.
Regulation:	B3(2)	Suitability of certain materials
Comment:		The product is acceptable. See sections 8.1 and 8.2 of this Certificate.
Regulation:	C4(b)	Resistance to ground moisture and weather
Comment:		Walls clad with the panels provide a degree of protection against rain ingress and contribute to satisfying this Regulation. See sections 7.1 to 7.3 of this Certificate.
Regulation:	D1	Stability
Comment:		The panels are acceptable for use when installed in accordance with this Certificate. See sections 3.2 and 5.1 to 5.13 of this Certificate.
Regulation:	E5(a)	External fire spread
Comment:		The panels are judged to meet the Class 0 requirements. See sections 6.1 to 6.2 of this Certificate.

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007

Information in this Certificate may assist the client, CDM co-ordinator, designer and contractors to address their obligations under these Regulations.

See sections: 1 *Description* (1.1) and 2 *Delivery and site handling* (2.2 to 2.4)

Non-regulatory Information

NHBC Standards 2008

In the opinion of the BBA, the use of Stonepanel and Stonepanel Sky, in relation to this Certificate, is not subject to the requirements of these Standards.

General

This Certificate relates to Stonepanel and Stonepanel Sky, natural stone panels for use as a decorative cladding system suitable for indoor and outdoor use on new or existing buildings when attached to solid walls of masonry or concrete.

The panels are made of natural stones bonded to a cement base reinforced with glassfibre mesh, and are installed to the substrate of solid walls of masonry or concrete using mortar adhesive to BS EN 1348 : 2007. Each panel of Stonepanel Sky incorporates an embedded mechanical anchor used for additional fixing system.

Stonepanel must not be installed above a height of 2 m; Stonepanel Sky can be installed at any height.

The mechanical fixing system is outside the scope of this Certificate. However, the perforated steel banding used to support the Stonepanel Sky panels must be fixed to the substrate with stainless steel screws in plugged drilled holes, all of which must be approved by an appropriately qualified engineer.

It is essential that the panels are installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the requirements of this Certificate.

Technical Specification

1 Description

1.1 Stonepanel and Stonepanel Sky panels are made of natural stones bonded to a cement base reinforced with glassfibre mesh. The panels are available in a range of stone types and with long (L) or short (S) corners (see Table 1 and Figure 1).

1.2 Stonepanel Sky panels, in addition, each incorporate a mechanical anchor of stainless steel wire 2.6 mm in diameter embedded into the concrete base (see Figure 2).

1.3 Quality control is exercised over raw materials, during production process and on the final product.

Table 1 Panel characteristics

Finish	Stone type	Stonepanel Reference	Stonepanel Long (L) and Short (S) Corner Reference	Stonepanel Sky Reference	Stonepanel Sky Long (L) and Short (S) Corner Reference	Size of panel (mm)	Overall thickness (mm)	Approximate weight (kg)
Orient Gold	Quartzite	SPZ-14R	SPZ-14R-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-14R-MF	SPZ-14R-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	610x152 ⁽¹⁾	30-40	6.5
			SPZ-14R-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-14R-S-MF ⁽²⁾			3.3
Orient Gold	Quartzite	SPZ-14R/T	SPZ-14R/T-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-14R/T-MF	SPZ-14R/T-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	30-40	8.8
			SPZ-14R/T-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-14R/T-S-MF ⁽²⁾			4.4
Multicolour	Slate	SPZ-24A	SPZ-24A-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-24A-MF	SPZ-24A-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	610x152 ⁽¹⁾	30-40	6.5
			SPZ-24A-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-24A-S-MF ⁽²⁾			3.3
Multicolour	Slate	SPZ-24A/T	SPZ-24A/T-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-24A/T-MF	SPZ-24A/T-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	30-40	8.8
			SPZ-24A/T-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-24A/T-S-MF ⁽²⁾			4.4
Multicolour	Slate	SPZ-24TS	SPZ-24A/T-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-24A/T-MF	SPZ-24A/T-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	25-45	8.8
			SPZ-24A/T-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-24A/T-S-MF ⁽²⁾			4.4
Slate	Slate	SPZ-18TS	SPZ-18TS-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-18TS-MF	SPZ-18TS-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	610x152 ⁽¹⁾	25-45	6.5
			SPZ-18TS-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-18TS-S-MF ⁽²⁾			3.3
Slate	Slate	SPZ-18TS/T	SPZ-18TS/T-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-18TS/T-MF	SPZ-18TS/T-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	25-45	8.8
			SPZ-18TS/T-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-18TS/T-S-MF ⁽²⁾			4.4
Rodenas	Sandstone	SPZ-31N	SPZ-31N-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-31N-MF	SPZ-31N-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	610x152 ⁽¹⁾	30-40	6.5
			SPZ-31N-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-31N-S-MF ⁽²⁾			3.3
Rodenas	Sandstone	SPZ-31N/T	SPZ-31N/T-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-31N/T-MF	SPZ-31N/T-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	30-40	8.8
			SPZ-31N/T-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-31N/T-S-MF ⁽²⁾			4.4
Wild	Gneiss	SPZ-55N	SPZ-55N-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-55N-MF	SPZ-55N-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	40-50	10.3
			SPZ-55N-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-55N-S-MF ⁽²⁾			5.2
Block Slate	Slate	SPZ-19A	SPZ-19A-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-19A-MF	SPZ-19A-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	30-40	8.8
			SPZ-19A-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-19A-S-MF ⁽²⁾			4.4
Blue Limestone	Limestone	SPZ-38N	SPZ-38N-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-38N-MF	SPZ-38N-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	30-40	8.8
			SPZ-38N-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-38N-S-MF ⁽²⁾			4.4
White Sandstone	Sandstone	SPZ-61N	SPZ-61N-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-61N-MF	SPZ-61N-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	30-40	8.8
			SPZ-61N-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-61N-S-MF ⁽²⁾			4.4
Marina	Sandstone	SPZ-66N	SPZ-66N-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-66N-MF	SPZ-66N-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	40-50	10.3
			SPZ-66N-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-66N-S-MF ⁽²⁾			5.2
Nilo	Limestone	SPZ-35N	SPZ-35N-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-35N-MF	SPZ-35N-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	30-40	8.8
			SPZ-35N-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-35N-S-MF ⁽²⁾			4.4
Sahara	Mica Schist	SPZ-49R	SPZ-49R-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-49R-MF	SPZ-49R-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	40-50	10
			SPZ-49R-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-49R-S-MF ⁽²⁾			5
Nordic	Quartzite + Mica Schist	SPZ-33RB	SPZ-33RB-L ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-33RB-MF	SPZ-33RB-L-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x200 ⁽¹⁾	40-50	10
			SPZ-33RB-S ⁽²⁾		SPZ-33RB-S-MF ⁽²⁾			5
Sahara XXL	Mica Schist	SPZ-49GB	SPZ-49GB-S ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-49GB-MF	SPZ-49GB-S-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x300 ⁽¹⁾	40-50	15.5
			SPZ-49GB-L ⁽²⁾		SPZ-49GB-L-MF ⁽²⁾			7.8
Gneiss XXL	Gneiss	SPZ-55GB	SPZ-55GB-S ⁽¹⁾	SPZ-55GB-MF	SPZ-55GB-S-MF ⁽¹⁾	600x300 ⁽¹⁾	40-50	14.5
			SPZ-55GB-L ⁽²⁾		SPZ-55GB-L-MF ⁽²⁾			7.3

(1) Long corner piece.

(2) Short corner piece.

Figure 1 Finishes



Figure 2 Rear view of panels



2 Delivery and site handling

2.1 The panels are packed in plastic in pairs or in cardboard boxes of three or four pieces. For delivery, the packs are loaded onto wooden pallets.

2.2 Each pallet carries a label bearing details of manufacturing reference, size, area covered per unit and weight per unit.

2.3 Panels should be handled with care to avoid damage or breakage. Care is required when installing panels, particularly at height, to avoid injuries.

2.4 When handling panels, appropriate protective clothing should be worn and all Health and Safety regulations observed.


Assessment and Technical Investigations

The following is a summary of the assessment and technical investigations carried out on Stonepanel and Stonepanel Sky.

Design Considerations

3 General

3.1 When fitting the panels, the building designer must determine the type of supporting substrate, type of mechanical fixings (screws and stainless steel perforated banding) and adhesive. Design guidance can be supplied by the Certificate holder.

 3.2 The substrate wall to which the cladding is fixed should be structurally sound and constructed in accordance with the requirements of the relevant building regulations and national standards.

3.3 All design aspects of installation should be checked by a suitably qualified chartered engineer or other appropriately qualified person.

4 Practicability of installation

The product should only be installed by installers who have been trained and approved by the Certificate holder.

5 Strength and stability



5.1 The substrate wall to which the panels are to be fixed should be designed and constructed in accordance with the requirements of the relevant building regulations and national standards.

5.2 The supporting wall must be able to resist the full wind, as well as any racking loads, on its own. The cladding system is assumed not to contribute in this respect.

5.3 The ultimate wind load to be resisted by the system should be calculated in accordance with BS EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 + NA⁽¹⁾ or BS 6399-2 : 1997.

(1) National Annex.

5.4 The bond strength between the adhesive and the wall should be determined on site as described in section 10.4. The design bond strength should be taken as the lowest of the five results divided by a safety factor of 9.

5.5 The bond strength between the adhesive and the panels may be taken as well in excess of that necessary to cope with the negative wind pressures likely to occur in the UK.

5.6 The Stonepanel panels should be installed with mortar adhesive tested to BS EN 1348 : 2007. The mortar adhesion should have minimum strengths (N·mm⁻²) of:

- after 28 days 1.2
- after heat ageing 1.2.

5.7 The mortar adhesive should be between 3 mm and 15 mm in thickness, non-sliding and heat resistant.

5.8 All panels installed above 2 m from the ground should be fixed with mortar adhesive and mechanical fixings which include perforated banding, stainless steel screws and plugs as described in section 11.4.

5.9 The anchor embedded in the concrete base of Stonepanel Sky panels (see Figure 2) has a minimum characteristic resistance of 2 kN pull-off strength.

5.10 The pull-out value of the fixings for securing the Stonepanel Sky panels to the wall should be determined on site from the characteristic pull-out strength and appropriate safety factor of 3.

5.11 The design of the installation must be checked by a suitably qualified engineer.

5.12 The mechanical fixings comprising stainless steel perforated banding, stainless steel screws and plugs (not covered by this Certificate) should be designed and specified by a suitably qualified engineer. The Certificate holder can supply details of the fixings.

Impact

5.13 The panels have good impact resistance and can be used in areas categorised as A to F in accordance with BS 8200 : 1985, Table 2, reproduced in Table 2.

Table 2 Location areas

Category	Description	Examples
A	Readily accessible to public and others with little incentive to exercise care. Prone to vandalism and abnormally rough use	External walls of housing and public buildings in vandal prone areas
B	Readily accessible to public and others with little incentive to exercise care. Chances of accidents occurring and of misuse	Walls adjacent to pedestrian thoroughfares or playing fields when not in category A
C	Accessible mainly to those with some incentive to exercise care. Some chance of accident occurring and of misuse	Walls adjacent to private open gardens. Back walls of balconies
D	Only accessible, but not near a common route, to those with high incentive to exercise care. Small chance of accident occurring or of misuse	Walls adjacent to small fenced decorative gardens with no through paths
E	Above zone of normal impacts from people but liable to impacts from thrown or kicked objects	1.5 m to 6 m above pedestrian or floor level in public areas
F	Above zone of normal impacts from people but not liable to impacts from thrown or kicked objects	Wall surfaces of high positions other than those defined in E above

Zone of wall up to 1.5 m above pedestrian or floor level

6 Behaviour in relation to fire



6.1 The panels are rated as non-combustible in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and a 'non-combustible risk' material in Scotland.

6.2 The incorporation of combustible material behind the cladding should be avoided wherever possible.

7 Air and water penetration



7.1 The cladding is neither airtight nor watertight.

7.2 The substrate supporting the cladding must be watertight.

7.3 The mortar adhesive should be applied evenly to the supporting wall and the back of the panels to minimise the formation of air pockets which might collect water from wind-driven rain.

8 Maintenance



8.1 For abnormal soiling, the surface may be cleaned using a hot water/household detergent mixture, applied with a suitable cleaning pad or sponge. However, for the removal of graffiti and other persistent stains, the Certificate holder's advice should be sought.

8.2 Regular maintenance inspections should be made and faults and damage repaired as soon as is practicable, following the manufacturer's instructions and observing all necessary Health and Safety precautions. Where damage has been caused by severe impact, the Certificate holder's advice should be sought.

9 Durability



9.1 Tests carried out on the panels indicated that the bond between the stone finish and the cement base of the panels was not affected by freeze-thaw conditions nor thermal shock and, therefore, will have adequate durability.

9.2 The durability and service life of the panels will depend upon the building location and use, and its immediate environment.

9.3 Provided regular maintenance is carried out as described in section 8 and in accordance with Certificate holder's instructions, the product will have an ultimate service life in excess of 30 years.

Installation

10 General

10.1 The product must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, the requirements of this Certificate and the specifications laid down by the consulting engineer.

10.2 At the design stage and at the commencement of the installation, technical advice should be sought from the Certificate holder.

10.3 Site tests should be conducted to ensure compatibility between the supporting substrate wall and mortar adhesive.

10.4 The bond strength between the adhesive and the wall must be determined using trial tests. A minimum of five specimens are bonded to the wall and allowed to cure, typically, one day per mm of adhesive thickness. The specimens are then pulled off the wall using a suitable force gauge (see section 5.7).

10.5 The mechanical fixings (see Figure 3) which are additional supports to the panels and attach them to the substrate wall, are outside the scope of this Certificate.

10.6 On existing buildings, purpose-made window sills must be fitted to extend beyond the finished face of the panels. New buildings must incorporate suitably deep sills.

Figure 3 Fixing components



11 Procedure

11.1 The components are prepared and assembled for the job.

11.2 Suitable mortar adhesive is applied with a toothed trowel to the substrate in line with the bottom row and to the back of the panel.

11.3 Starting with a long-cornered panel, the bottom row of panels is placed into position supported by either a plinth or stainless or galvanized steel profile. A rubber mallet may be used to help consolidate the adhesive and align the panels. The end panel is trimmed to suit using a suitable tool such as an abrasive disc. The process is repeated for each row ensuring that joints are staggered (eg by alternate use of long- and short-cornered panels).

11.4 For heights above two metres, Stonepanel Sky panels must be used with the appropriate adhesive and mechanical system (not covered by this Certificate). With each panel, a piece of steel banding (see Figure 3) is looped through the wire embedded in the panel and fixed to the support wall using the stainless steel screws and plugs.

Windows and doors

11.5 Above windows and door openings, a stainless or galvanized steel profile should be fixed to the substrate to support the first line of panels.

11.6 To support the last course of Stonepanel Sky panels, and those immediately below window sills, the steel banding should be embedded into a created gouged pocket filled with cementitious adhesive in the substrate behind the panels.

Technical Investigations

12 Tests

Tests were carried out on panels to determine:

- resistance to frost damage
- resistance to thermal shock
- bond strength of stones to cement base
- pull-off strength of anchor
- resistance to impact.

13 Investigations

13.1 Installations in progress were inspected to evaluate the practicability of installation.

13.2 A visit was made to the site of manufacture to evaluate the production and quality control procedures.

Bibliography

BS 6399-2 : 1997 *Loading for buildings — Code of practice for wind loads*

BS 8200 : 1985 *Code of practice for design of non-loadbearing external vertical enclosures of buildings*

BS EN 1348 : 2007 *Adhesives for tiles — Determination of tensile adhesion strength for cementitious adhesives*

BS EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 *Eurocode 1 : Actions on structures — General actions — Wind actions*

14 Conditions

14.1 This Certificate:

- relates only to the product/system that is named and described on the front page
- is granted only to the company, firm or person named on the front page — no other company, firm or person may hold or claim any entitlement to this Certificate
- is valid only within the UK
- has to be read, considered and used as a whole document — it may be misleading and will be incomplete to be selective
- is copyright of the BBA
- is subject to English law.

14.2 Publications and documents referred to in this Certificate are those that the BBA deems to be relevant at the date of issue or re-issue of this Certificate and include any: Act of Parliament; Statutory Instrument; Directive; Regulation; British, European or International Standard; Code of Practice; manufacturers' instructions; or any other publication or document similar or related to the aforementioned.

14.3 This Certificate will remain valid for an unlimited period provided that the product/system and the manufacture and/or fabrication including all related and relevant processes thereof:

- are maintained at or above the levels which have been assessed and found to be satisfactory by the BBA
- continue to be checked as and when deemed appropriate by the BBA under arrangements that it will determine
- are reviewed by the BBA as and when it considers appropriate.

14.4 In granting this Certificate, the BBA is not responsible for:

- the presence or absence of any patent, intellectual property or similar rights subsisting in the product/system or any other product/system
- the right of the Certificate holder to manufacture, supply, install, maintain or market the product/system
- individual installations of the product/system, including the nature, design, methods and workmanship of or related to the installation
- the actual works in which the product/system is installed, used and maintained, including the nature, design, methods and workmanship of such works.

14.5 Any information relating to the manufacture, supply, installation, use and maintenance of this product/system which is contained or referred to in this Certificate is the minimum required to be met when the product/system is manufactured, supplied, installed, used and maintained. It does not purport in any way to restate the requirements of the Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974, or of any other statutory, common law or other duty which may exist at the date of this Certificate; nor is conformity with such information to be taken as satisfying the requirements of the 1974 Act or of any statutory, common law or other duty of care. In granting this Certificate, the BBA does not accept responsibility to any person or body for any loss or damage, including personal injury, arising as a direct or indirect result of the manufacture, supply, installation, use and maintenance of this product/system.