

**British Polythene Ltd**  
**t/a Visqueen Building Products**

Heanor Gate  
Heanor  
Derbyshire DE75 7RG

Tel: 08453 024758 Fax: 08450 178663  
e-mail: enquires@visqueenbuilding.co.uk  
website: www.visqueenbuilding.co.uk



**Agrément Certificate**  
**94/3059**  
Product Sheet 2

**ZEDEX HIGH PERFORMANCE DAMP-PROOFING SYSTEM**

**ZEDEX HOUSING GRADE DAMP-PROOF COURSE**

This Agrément Certificate Product Sheet<sup>(1)</sup> relates to Zedex Housing Grade Damp-Proof Course, a flexible sheet material manufactured from a mixture of thermoplastic polymers and additives, used to provide a horizontal, vertical or stepped damp-proof course (dpc) in either solid or cavity masonry walls.

(1) Hereinafter referred to as 'Certificate'.

**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**

**Behaviour under load** — the product will not extrude under load and will not adversely affect the ability of a properly designed and built wall to sustain and transmit compression (see section 6).

**Resistance to water and water vapour** — the product will provide an effective barrier against liquid water and water vapour (see section 7).

**Compatibility with other materials** — within normal construction, the product is compatible with all materials with which it is likely to be in contact (see section 8).

**Durability** — when properly specified and installed, the product, in normal circumstances, will remain effective during the lifetime of the building (see section 10).



The BBA has awarded this Certificate to the company named above for the product described herein. This product has been assessed by the BBA as being fit for its intended use provided it is installed, used and maintained as set out in this Certificate.

On behalf of the British Board of Agrément

*Claire Curtis-Thomas*

Date of Fifth issue: 14 February 2019

John Albon – Head of Approvals  
Construction Products

Claire Curtis-Thomas  
Chief Executive

Originally certificated on 26 October 1994

*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.  
Any photographs are for illustrative purposes only, do not constitute advice and should not be relied upon.*

**British Board of Agrément**

Bucknalls Lane  
Watford  
Herts WD25 9BA

©2019

tel: 01923 665300  
clientservices@bbacerts.co.uk  
www.bbacerts.co.uk

## Regulations

In the opinion of the BBA, Zedex Housing Grade Damp-Proof Course, if installed, used and maintained in accordance with this Certificate, can satisfy or contribute to satisfying the relevant requirements of the following Building Regulations (the presence of a UK map indicates that the subject is related to the Building Regulations in the region or regions of the UK depicted):



### The Building Regulations 2010 (England and Wales) (as amended)

<b>Requirement:</b> A1 Comment:	<b>Loading</b> The product will not extrude under load up to the point of failure of the wall, and will not adversely affect the ability of a properly designed and built wall to sustain and transmit compression loads. See section 6.1 of this Certificate.
<b>Requirement:</b> C2(a)(b) Comment:	<b>Resistance to moisture</b> Properly installed in a correctly designed structure, the product forms an effective barrier to the movement of water within the wall and will contribute to enabling compliance with this Requirement. See section 7 of this Certificate.
<b>Regulation:</b> 7 <b>Regulation:</b> 7(1) Comment:	<b>Materials and workmanship (applicable to Wales only)</b> <b>Materials and workmanship (applicable to England only)</b> The product is acceptable. See section 10 and the <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.



### The Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (as amended)

<b>Regulation:</b> 8(1) Comment:	<b>Durability, workmanship and fitness of materials</b> The use of the product satisfies the requirements of this Regulation. See section 10 and the <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.
<b>Regulation:</b> 9 Standard: 1.1(a)(b) Comment:	<b>Building standards applicable to construction</b> Structure The product will not extrude under load up to the point of failure of the wall and will not adversely affect the ability of a properly designed and built wall to sustain and transmit compression loads, with reference to clauses 1.1.1 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> and 1.1.3 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> . See section 6.1 of this Certificate.
Standard: 3.4 Standard: 3.10 Comment:	Moisture from the Ground Precipitation Properly installed in a correctly designed structure, the product forms an effective barrier to the movement of water within the wall, enabling compliance with this Standard, with reference to clauses 3.4.1 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> and 3.10.1 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> . See section 7 of this Certificate.
Standard: 7.1(1)(2) Comment:	Statement of sustainability The product can contribute to meeting the relevant requirements of Regulation 9, Standards 1 to 6 and therefore will contribute to a construction meeting a bronze level of sustainability as defined in this Standard.
<b>Regulation:</b> 12 Comment:	<b>Building standards applicable to conversions</b> Comments in relation to the product under Regulation 9, Standards 1 to 6 also apply to this Regulation, with reference to clause 0.12.1 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> and Schedule 6 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> .

(1) Technical Handbook (Domestic).

(2) Technical Handbook (Non-Domestic).



## The Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 (as amended)

<b>Regulation:</b>	<b>23(a)(i)(iii)(b)(i)</b>	<b>Fitness of materials and workmanship</b>
<b>Comment:</b>		The product is acceptable. See section 10 and the <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.
<b>Regulation:</b>	<b>28(a)(b)</b>	<b>Resistance to moisture and weather</b>
<b>Comment:</b>		Properly installed in a correctly designed structure, the product forms an effective barrier to the movement of water within the wall and will contribute to enabling compliance with this Regulation. See section 7 of this Certificate.
<b>Regulation:</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Stability</b>
<b>Comment:</b>		The product will not extrude up to the point of failure of the wall, and will not adversely affect the ability of a properly designed and built wall to sustain and transmit horizontal and compression loads. The presence of a dpc can reduce the shear and tensile strength of a wall at that point, and design may need to take account of this. See section 6.1 of this Certificate.

### Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015

### Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

Information in this Certificate may assist the client, designer (including Principal Designer) and contractor (including Principal Contractor) to address their obligations under these Regulations.

See sections: 1 *Description* (1.2) and 11 *General* (11.3) of this Certificate.

## Additional Information

### NHBC Standards 2019

In the opinion of the BBA, Zedex Housing Grade Damp-Proof Course, if installed, used and maintained in accordance with this Certificate, can satisfy or contribute to satisfying the relevant requirements in relation to *NHBC Standards*, Chapter 6.1 *External Masonry walls*.

### CE marking

The Certificate holder has taken the responsibility of CE marking the product, in accordance with harmonised European Standard BS EN 14909 : 2012. An asterisk (\*) appearing in this Certificate indicates that data shown are given in the manufacturer's Declaration of Performance.

## Technical Specification

### 1 Description

1.1 Zedex Housing Grade Damp-Proof Course is a black flexible sheet, comprising a mixture of thermoplastic polymers and other additives, extruded into sheet form, reeled into rolls and cut to width.

1.2 The product has the nominal characteristics given in Table 1.

**Table 1 Nominal characteristics**

Characteristic (unit)	Value
Thickness (mm)	0.6
Mass (g·m <sup>-2</sup> )	570 ± 10%
Roll length (mm)	20
Roll width (mm) <sup>(1)</sup>	100 to 1400
Watertightness* (2 kPa)	Pass
Durability (artificial ageing)*	Pass
Durability (alkali)*	Pass
Resistance to low temperature (°C)*	-40
Resistance to impact (mm)*	>200
Resistance to static loading (kg)	>20

(1) Other widths are available on request.

1.3 Also for use with the product and included in this assessment is Visqueen Zedex DPC Jointing Tape.

## 2 Manufacture

2.1 The product is manufactured from a blend of thermoplastic polymers and extruded into sheet form.

2.2 As part of the assessment and ongoing surveillance of product quality, the BBA has:

- agreed with the manufacturer the quality control procedures and product testing to be undertaken
- assessed and agreed the quality control operated over batches of incoming materials
- monitored the production process and verified that it is in accordance with the documented process
- evaluated the process for management of nonconformities
- checked that equipment has been properly tested and calibrated
- undertaken to carry out the above measures on a regular basis through a surveillance process, to verify that the specifications and quality control operated by the manufacturer are being maintained.

2.3 The management system of the Certificate Holder has been assessed and registered as meeting the requirements of BS EN ISO 9001 : 2015 by Knights International Inspectorate (Certificate 4560).

## 3 Delivery and site handling

3.1 The product is delivered in rolls, secured with a wrapper bearing the manufacturer's name and the BBA logo incorporating the number of this Certificate.

3.2 Rolls must be stored on end and under cover.

## Assessment and Technical Investigations

The following is a summary of the assessment and technical investigations carried out on Zedex Housing Grade Damp-Proof Course.

## Design Considerations

### 4 Use

4.1 Zedex Housing Grade Damp-proof Course, when correctly specified and installed in accordance with this Certificate, provides a satisfactory horizontal, vertical or stepped dpc (including cavity trays, provided they are fully supported along its length), in either solid or cavity walls of brick, block, stone, or concrete. General standards of good design practice are given in BS EN 1996-1-1 : 2005, BS EN 1996-2 : 2006 and BS EN 1996-3 : 2006 and their UK Annexes, BS 8215 : 1991 and PD 6697 : 2010.

4.2 The product may also be used in conjunction with beam and block flooring.

## 5 Practicability of installation

The product should be installed by bricklayers experienced with this type of product.

## 6 Behaviour under load



6.1 the product will not extrude under load up to the point of compressive failure of the wall, and will not adversely affect the ability of a properly designed and built wall to sustain and transmit compression load.

6.2 The stability of a wall in respect of lateral loads must be checked in relation to the stresses permitted between the dpc and the mortar. A wall incorporating the product must be designed and built in accordance with BS EN 1996-1-1 : 2005 and its UK national Annex.

6.3 The product will withstand movement of the wall, and is unlikely to be impaired by normally occurring movements up to the point where the wall itself is deemed to have failed.

6.4 The presence of a dpc can reduce the shear and tensile (and therefore, bending) strengths of a wall at that point, and design of the structure should take account of this. Shear tests carried out to BS EN 1052-4 : 2000 at a pre-compression load of 0.2, 0.6 and 1 N·mm<sup>-2</sup> gave a characteristic shear strength as detailed in Table 2. The characteristic flexural strength as tested to DD 86-1 : 1986 is given as 0.10 N·mm<sup>-2</sup>.

*Table 2 Characteristic shear strength of Zedex Housing Grade Damp-Proof Course*

Pre-compression (N·mm <sup>-2</sup> )	Characteristic shear strength (N·mm <sup>-2</sup> )
0.2	0.17
0.6	0.30
1	0.45

## 7 Resistance to water and water vapour



When correctly specified and installed, the product will provide an effective barrier against liquid water and water vapour from either a source external to the structure, or from one part of the structure to another.

## 8 Compatibility with other materials

The product is compatible with most materials with which it is likely to come in contact within normal construction, including timber preservatives of water-based solutions of salt.

## 9 Maintenance

As the product is confined within the wall cavity and has suitable durability (see section 10), maintenance is not required.

## 10 Durability



When properly specified and installed, the product, in normal circumstances, will remain effective for the lifetime of the building.

### 11 General

11.1 Installation of Zedex Housing Grade Damp-Proof Course must be in accordance with the Certificate holder's instructions and PD 6697 : 2010 and the relevant clauses of BS 8000-0 : 2014, BS 8000-3 : 2001, BS 8215 : 1991 and BRE Digest 380.

11.2 As with all flexible dpcs, care should be taken to avoid impact damage from sharp objects (eg chisels) during installation.

11.3 The product is handled in the same manner as that for conventional flexible dpcs, and is cut with a sharp knife. It will remain sufficiently flexible for installation in low temperatures and will not become tacky in warm ambient weather conditions.

### 12 Procedure

12.1 The product must be laid on a wet, even bed of mortar and extend through the full thickness of the wall or wall leaf, including pointing, applied rendering or other facing material.

12.2 Perforations in adjacent courses of brickwork must be completely filled with mortar.

12.3 All lap joints in the dpc must have a minimum 100 mm overlap, be completely sealed with Visqueen Zedex DPC Jointing Tape and be supported by a suitable joint system in accordance with the Certificate holder's instructions.

12.4 When using the product with boot lintels or similar constructions, it is installed to follow the lintel profile wherever possible.

12.5 As with other similar materials, care must be taken to avoid damaging the dpc during cleaning of mortar droppings. Recommendations for avoiding damage are:

- use of cavity battens to prevent mortar droppings from reaching the dpc
- removal of mortar droppings before they harden
- avoidance of the use of implements such as steel rods for cleaning the cavity
- inspection of cavity trays for damage as work proceeds.

#### Beam and block flooring

12.6 when used with the beam and block flooring, the dpc may be laid dry on an brick or block wall provided that:

- minimum bearing<sup>(1)</sup> of the beam is achieved
- dead and applied loads upon the dpc via the beam do not exceed 2.5 N·mm<sup>-2</sup>
- the surface of the wall onto which the dpc and beam are to be installed is clean, smooth and free from projections and perforations. If this cannot be achieved, the dpc should be laid in an even bed of mortar
- loose aggregate is swept from the wall prior to installation of the dpc, and from the dpc prior to installation of the beams.

(1) As recommended by the flooring manufacturer.

### 13 Repair

Damaged areas of the product can be repaired prior to installation by cutting and/or replacing the damaged section, ensuring that joints are made in accordance with section 12.3. Once covered, the product cannot be repaired.

### 14 Tests

Tests were carried out and the results assessed to determine:

- weight
- tensile strength
- elongation at break
- tear strength
- low temperature flexibility
- dimensional stability
- water vapour permeability
- water vapour resistance
- water pressure.

### 15 Investigations

15.1 The manufacturing process was evaluated, including the methods adopted for quality control, and details were obtained of the quality and composition of the materials used.

15.2 An assessment was made of data relating to:

- resistance to chisel impact
- long-term point loading
- loading via perforated brick.

## Bibliography

BRE Digest 380 *Damp-proof courses*

BS 8000-0 : 2014 *Workmanship on construction site — Introduction and general principles*

BS 8000-3 : 2001 *Workmanship on building sites — Code of practice for masonry*

BS 8215 : 1991 *Code of practice for design and installation of damp-proof courses in masonry construction*

BS EN 1052-4 : 2000 *Methods of test for masonry — Determination of shear strength including damp proof course*

BS EN 1996-1-1 : 2005 + A1 : 2012 *Eurocode 6 — Design of masonry structures — General rules for reinforced and unreinforced masonry structures*

NA to BS EN 1996-1-1 : 2005 + A1 : 2012 UK National Annex to *Eurocode 6 — Design of masonry structures — General rules for reinforced and unreinforced masonry structures*

BS EN 1996-2 : 2006 *Eurocode 6 — Design of masonry structures — Design considerations, selection of materials and execution of masonry*

NA to BS EN 1996-2 : 2006 UK National Annex to *Eurocode 6 — Design of masonry structures — Design considerations, selection of materials and execution of masonry*

BS EN 1996-3 : 2006 *Eurocode 6 — Design of masonry structures — Simplified calculation methods for unreinforced masonry structures*

NA to BS EN 1996-3 : 2006 UK National Annex to *Eurocode 6 — Design of masonry structures — Simplified calculation methods for unreinforced masonry structures*

BS EN 14909 : 2012 *Flexible sheets for waterproofing — Plastic and rubber damp proof courses — Definitions and characteristics*

DD 86-1 : 1983 *Damp-proof courses — Methods of test for flexural bond strength and short term shear strength*

PD 6697 : 2010 *Recommendations for the design of masonry structures to BS EN 1996-1-1 and BS EN 1996-2*

BS EN ISO 9001 : 2015 *Quality Management Systems — Requirements*

### 16 Conditions

16.1 This Certificate:

- relates only to the product/system that is named and described on the front page
- is issued only to the company, firm, organisation or person named on the front page – no other company, firm, organisation or person may hold or claim that this Certificate has been issued to them
- 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.

16.2 Publications, documents, specifications, legislation, regulations, standards and the like referenced in this Certificate are those that were current and/or deemed relevant by the BBA at the date of issue or reissue of this Certificate.

16.3 This Certificate will remain valid for an unlimited period provided that the product/system and its manufacture and/or fabrication, including all related and relevant parts and 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.

16.4 The BBA has used due skill, care and diligence in preparing this Certificate, but no warranty is provided.

16.5 In issuing this Certificate the BBA is not responsible and is excluded from any liability to any company, firm, organisation or person, for any matters arising directly or indirectly from:

- 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
- actual installations of the product/system, including their nature, design, methods, performance, workmanship and maintenance
- any works and constructions in which the product/system is installed, including their nature, design, methods, performance, workmanship and maintenance
- any loss or damage, including personal injury, howsoever caused by the product/system, including its manufacture, supply, installation, use, maintenance and removal
- any claims by the manufacturer relating to CE marking.

16.6 Any information relating to the manufacture, supply, installation, use, maintenance and removal 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, maintained and removed. It does not purport in any way to restate the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, or of any other statutory, common law or other duty which may exist at the date of issue or reissue 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.