

ASFP Advisory Note 14:

ASFP position on the Expiry of Certification based upon Yellow Book 4th Edition Assessments



Background to Yellow Book

The ASFP publication “Fire protection for structural steel in buildings” better known as the Yellow Book has been used as the industry leading guide for those involved in the manufacture, test, specification and use of passive fire protection for structural steel. First published in 1976, the 5th Edition was published in July 2014.

The 5th Edition of the Yellow book was published to enable adoption of new European testing and assessment methods – alongside amendments to the pre – existing UK test and assessment methods. The UK amendments were needed to keep pace with steel design practices such as adoption of the Steel Eurocodes, and also use of Multi-Temperature Analysis (MTA) and Structural Fire Engineering.

Industry Guidance

Consequently, all new products, tested and third party certificated since July 2014, have been done so in accordance with the rules of the ASFP Yellow Book 5th Edition.

However, the challenge remains with the historical products that were tested, assessed and certificated to the 4th Edition before July 2014. The decision was taken by the industry that these certificates would not be renewed beyond July 2019 (i.e. a 5 year sunset date). As that date is rapidly approaching, it has been realised that a number of projects will be in construction with products whose 4th Edition Yellow book certification will come to an end.

The ASFP recognises this and would advise that a product which has valid certification at the point of a bid submission, can be used to complete such a project, even if the project completion date occurs after the expiry of the 4th Edition Yellow book certificate. All such certificates expire on 30th June 2019.

Annex – ASFP Publications relevant to fire protection of steelwork

For further information, please consult the following:

Colour books

- Fire protection for structural steel in buildings (ASFP Yellow Book) 5th edition
<https://is.gd/r6orH8>

Codes of Practice

- ASFP TGD 8 Code of Practice for junctions between different fire protection systems
- ASFP TGD 10 Code of Practice for refurbishment of steelwork
- ASFP TGD 11 Code of Practice for overcladding intumescent coatings for fire protection
- ASFP TGD 13 Code of Practice for the specification & on-site installation of intumescent coatings for fire protection
- ASFP TGD 16 Code of Practice for off-site installation of intumescent coatings for fire protection <https://is.gd/FCjaV1>

Advisory notes <http://is.gd/I31BOH>

- ASFP Advisory Note 3 – Specifying steelwork fire protection
- ASFP Advisory Note 4 – Test & assessment procedures for solid rods protected with intumescent coatings