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Agrément Certificate

No 03/4041

CEMBRIT SLATES

PRODUCT SHEET 3 — WESTERLAND SLATES

PRODUCT SCOPE AND SUMMARY OF CERTIFICATE

This Certificate relates to Westerland Slates, acrylic-coated fibre-reinforced cement slates.

THIS CERTIFICATE INCLUDES:

- factors relating to compliance with UK 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.

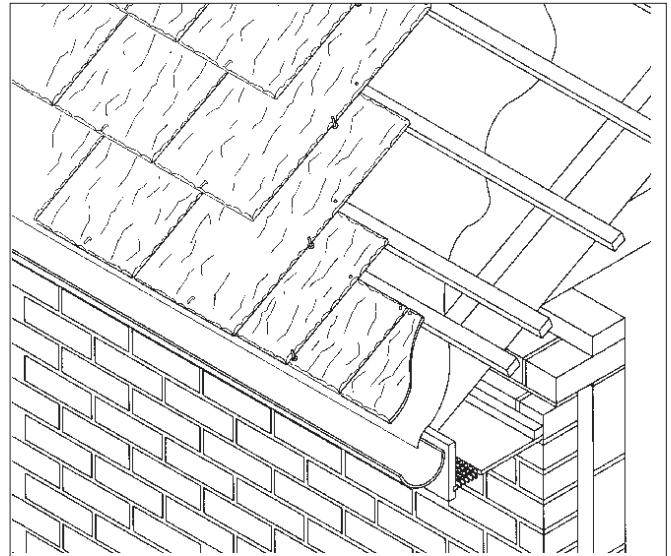
KEY FACTORS ASSESSED

Strength — the product has adequate strength to resist the loads associated with the installation of the roof or an external wall cladding (see section 4).

Properties in relation to fire — the product will enable a roof or an external wall cladding to be unrestricted under the Building Regulations (see section 5).

Liquid water penetration — the product will resist the passage of moisture into the building (see section 6).

Durability — under normal service conditions the product will provide a durable covering with a service life of in excess of 30 years (see section 8).



The BBA has awarded this Agrément Certificate for Westerland Slates to Cembrit CZ a.s. as fit for their intended use provided they are installed, used and maintained as set out in this Agrément Certificate.

On behalf of the British Board of Agrément

Date of First issue: 22 August 2003

Date of Second issue: 19 October 2007

Greg Cooper: Chief Executive

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, Westerland Slates, 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:	B3(2)	Internal fire spread (structure)
Requirement:	B4(1)(2)	External fire spread
Comment:	The slates are a Class 0 product and meet these Requirements. See sections 5.2 to 5.4 of this Certificate. A roof incorporating the slates has an AA classification and meets these Requirements provided the installation complies with the conditions set out in section 3.2 of this Certificate. See also sections 5.1 and 5.2 of this Certificate.	
Requirement:	C2(b)	Resistance to moisture
Comment:	A roof or wall cladding incorporating the slates meets this Requirement provided the installation complies with the conditions set out in section 3.2 of this Certificate. See also section 6 of this Certificate.	
Requirement:	Regulation 7	Materials and workmanship
Comment:	The slates are acceptable products. See sections 8.1 to 8.3 of this Certificate.	



The Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (as amended)

Regulation:	8	Fitness of durability of materials and workmanship
Regulation:	8(1)	Fitness of durability of materials and workmanship
Comment:	The product can contribute to a construction satisfying this Regulation. See sections 8.1 to 8.3 and the <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.	
Regulation:	9	Building standards — construction
Standard:	2.1	Compartmentation
Standard:	2.2	Separation
Comment:	The product can contribute to satisfying these Standards, with reference to clauses 2.1.15 ⁽²⁾ , 2.2.7 ⁽²⁾ and 2.2.10 ⁽¹⁾ respectively. See sections 5.1 and 5.2 of this Certificate.	
Standard:	2.6	Spread to neighbouring buildings
Standard:	2.8	Spread from neighbouring buildings
Comment:	A roof incorporating this product is unrestricted under these Standards, with reference to clauses 2.6.4 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and 2.8.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ respectively. See sections 5.1 to 5.4 of this Certificate.	
Standard:	2.7	Spread on external walls.
Comment:	Walls incorporating the product have a 'low risk' reaction to fire, with reference to clause 2.7.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ of this Standard. See sections 3.2 and 5.2 to 5.4 of this Certificate.	
Standard:	3.10	Precipitation
Comment:	The product will contribute to a roof or external wall satisfying this Standard, with reference to clauses 3.10.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and 3.10.8 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ . See section 6 of this Certificate.	
Regulation:	12	Building standards — conversions
Comments:	All comments given for this product under Regulation 9, also apply to this Regulation, with reference to clause 0.12.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and Schedule 6 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ .	
	(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 slates are acceptable products. See sections 8.1 to 8.3 of this Certificate.	
Regulation:	C4	Resistance to ground moisture and weather
Comment:	A roof or wall cladding incorporating the slates can satisfy this Regulation provided the installation complies with the conditions set out in section 6 of this Certificate.	
Regulation:	E4	Internal fire spread — Structure
Regulation:	E5	External fire spread
Comment:	The slates are a Class 0 product and meet these Regulations. See sections 5.2 to 5.4 of this Certificate. A roof incorporating the slates is unrestricted under this Regulation provided the installation complies with the conditions set out in section 3.2 of this Certificate. See also sections 5.1 and 5.2 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* (1.3) and 2 *Delivery and site handling* (2.1).

Non-regulatory Information

NHBC Standards 2007

NHBC accepts the use of Westerland Slates, when installed and used in accordance with this Certificate, in relation to NHBC Standards, Chapter 7.2 *Pitched roofs*.

Zurich Building Guarantee Technical Manual 2007

In the opinion of the BBA, Westerland Slates, when installed and used in accordance with this Certificate, satisfy the requirements of the *Zurich Building Guarantee Technical Manual*, Section 4 *Superstructure*, Sub-section *Pitched roofs*.

General

This Certificate relates to Westerland Slates for use on conventional pitched roofs with a rafter pitch of 20° and over, or hung vertically as a cladding on the outer face of external walls.

The slates are denoted Type NT and comply with the requirements of BS EN 492 : 2004.

It is essential that the product is installed in accordance with the conditions set out in the *Design Considerations* and *Installation* parts of this Certificate.

The slates are manufactured by Cembrit CZ a.s. and marketed in the United Kingdom by Cembrit Blunn Ltd, 57 Kellner Road, London SE28 0AX. Tel: 020 8301 8900, Fax: 020 8301 8901, e-mail: sales@cembritblunn.co.uk
website: www.cembritblunn.co.uk

Technical Specification

1 Description

1.1 Westerland Slates are manufactured from cellulose and polymeric fibre, Portland cement, pigments and other constituents, in the Hatschek process. Slates are punched, pressed and heat-cured and, in a separate process, the cured slates are sprayed with an acrylic paint, on both surfaces and edges, stoved, cooled and stacked.

1.2 Quality control checks are carried out on the incoming materials, during production and on the finished product. Quality control checks on the substrate and finished product include:

- flexural strength
- density
- dimensions
- adhesion
- resistance to efflorescence
- frost resistance.

1.3 The slates have an average density of 1850 kgm⁻³, a nominal thickness of 4 mm and a weight of 1.5 kg (standard slate).

1.4 Slates are available coloured blue/black, graphite and Welsh blue with a riven natural surface and dressed edges.

1.5 Rectangular slates are available sized 600 mm by 300 mm (see Table 1).

Table 1 Slate sizes and minimum rafter pitch

Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Minimum rafter pitch ⁽¹⁾	
		Severe exposure	Moderate exposure
600	300	20°	20°

(1) Other factors may dictate steeper minimum pitches and consideration should be given to the relevant section contained in BS 5534 : 2003.

1.6 Double width slates (600 mm by 600 mm) are available for use in details such as hips, valleys and abutments.

1.7 The slates contain holes for fixing in accordance with BS 5534 : 2003.

2 Delivery and site handling

2.1 The slates are delivered to site on pallets and are protected by a polyester strapped cardboard hood and a shrink-wrapped polythene cover. They should be stored on a dry level base in dry conditions under cover, away from the possibility of damage.

2.2 If stacked outside for short periods, the slates should be placed on a dry, level base and covered with a tarpaulin, while allowing air to freely circulate around and through the packs of slates. The maximum stack height is four pallets.

2.3 Care must be taken to avoid efflorescence staining, caused when stacks are allowed to become wet or damp.

2.4 The wrapping bears the manufacturer's legend, the BBA identification mark incorporating the number of this Certificate and handling recommendations.

Assessment and Technical Investigations

The following is a summary of the assessment and technical investigations carried out on Westerland Slates.

Design Considerations

3 Use

3.1 Westerland Slates are satisfactory for use on conventional, pitched, timber roofs with a rafter pitch of 20° and over, or as a cladding on the outer face of external walls. It is essential that such roofs and walls are designed and constructed to incorporate the normal precautions to prevent moisture penetration and the formation of condensation (eg by adequate ventilation).



3.2 Roofs and wall cladding incorporating the slates and subject to the UK Building Regulations should be designed and constructed in accordance with the relevant recommendations of BS 5534 : 2003 and BS 8000-6 : 1990. In particular, the designer should follow the recommendations of Clauses 5.1, 5.2, 5.5 and 5.8 of BS 5534 : 2003 on rain and snow resistance, roof pitch, head-laps and side-laps, structural stability and control of condensation, respectively; and select a construction appropriate to its location paying due attention to design detailing, workmanship and materials to be used.

3.3 Other roofs and wall cladding incorporating the slates and not subject to any of the above Regulations should be constructed in accordance with BS 5534 : 2003 and BS 8000-6 : 1990.

4 Strength

4.1 The slates have adequate resistance to damage during site handling and installation using conventional roofing methods.

4.2 When tested after water immersion in accordance with BS EN 492 : 2004, Section 7.3.2, the minimum bending moment of Westerland Slate material was 50 Nmm⁻¹ (the average value when tested in the longitudinal and transverse directions). Therefore, the material has a class B rating.

4.3 The slates when installed in accordance with BS 5534 : 2003 have adequate resistance to the uniformly distributed loads (wind, snow) likely to be encountered. Where high local snow loads may occur, the manufacturer's advice should be sought and followed in relation to the guidance contained in BRE Digest 439 *Roof loads due to local drifting of snow*.

5 Properties in relation to fire



5.1 When tested in accordance with BS 476-3 : 1958, the slates achieved an EXT.S.AA designation.

5.2 A roof incorporating the slates is designated AA and, consequently, is unrestricted by the relevant requirements of the national Building Regulations:

England and Wales — Regulation B4(2)

Scotland — Mandatory Standard 2.8, clause 2.8.1⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

(1) Technical Handbook (Domestic).

(2) Technical Handbook (Non-Domestic).

Northern Ireland — Regulation E5.

5.3 When tested in accordance with BS 476-6 : 1989 and BS 476-7 : 1997, the slates had a fire propagation index I of 1.4, a sub-index (i₁) of 0.3 and a Class 1 surface.

5.4 The slates have a Class 0 surface or are 'low risk' as defined in the documents supporting the national Building Regulations thus:

England and Wales — Approved Document B

Scotland — Mandatory Standard 2.7, clause 2.7.1⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾. See also Annexes 2c⁽¹⁾ and 2e⁽²⁾

(1) Technical Handbook (Domestic).

(2) Technical Handbook (Non-Domestic).

Northern Ireland — Technical Booklet E, Section 4.

5.5 Cavity barriers should be used to satisfy the requirements of the national Building Regulations.

6 Liquid water penetration



When tested in accordance with BS EN 492 : 2004, Section 7.3.3, no water droplets formed on the underside of the slates.

7 Water absorption

The maximum water absorption of Westerland Slates is 18% of its dry weight.

8 Durability



8.1 Tests on the slates, after prolonged water immersion and heating, cyclic freezing and thawing, cyclic soaking and drying, and heat-rain cycling, show no evidence of significant deterioration.

8.2 In common with other cementitious materials, the matrix material will carbonate and embrittle with time.

8.3 All available evidence indicates that the products should have a life in excess of 30 years.

8.4 In common with all fibre-cement slates, differential carbonation may cause slight bowing of the slates. The coating on the reverse side of the slates will help reduce the risk of differential carbonation occurring.

8.5 In common with all building materials used externally, extensive exposure to sunlight over the years will cause fading of the surface colouring.

8.6 The acrylic paint will delay weathering of the pigmented substrate and prevent organic growth on the surface. As the paint erodes, the product will weather by retaining dirt and organic growth in the same way as traditional roofing materials.

Installation

9 General

9.1 Westerland Slates are installed in accordance with the Certificate holder's recommendations, BS 5534 : 2003, and BS 8000-6 : 1990 using conventional slating techniques.

9.2 The slates are suitable for use at the minimum rafter pitches given in Table 1.

9.3 The manufacturer's advice should be sought when considering the use of Westerland Slates in situations not covered by this Certificate, such as sprocketed eaves (bellcast) or special roof constructions.

9.4 When used on large roof areas, slates should be selected from the same batches to ensure consistent appearance.

10 Cutting

10.1 Slates may be cut (for use at eaves, hips, valleys) by either scoring and breaking over a straight edge or using a handsaw. Additional fixing holes must be drilled and not punched. Holes must be positioned at least 20 mm from the edge of the slate.

10.2 When cutting slates using a machine that may generate excessive concentrations of dust, the recommended actions contained in section 11.1 should be followed.

10.3 After cutting and/or drilling, slates must be cleaned to avoid possible staining.

11 Health and safety

11.1 If it is necessary to cut slates using a dust-generating technique, and on such a scale as to generate excessive concentrations of dust, the measures defined in Health and Safety Executive Guidance Note EH44 *Dust in the workplace : general principles of protection*, should be followed.

11.2 Any roof or wall clad in slate should be treated as fragile, and the recommendations in sections 13.2 and 13.3 should be followed.

12 Procedure

12.1 Slates must be laid weather-face up. The underside of a minimum of 25% of the quantity of slates in each pallet bears the manufacturer's date mark in accordance with BS EN 492 : 2004.

12.2 Slates should be fixed by centre-nailing each one with two copper nails and securing the tail of the slate with a copper disc rivet.

12.3 Double width slates are available and can be cut to facilitate coursing or the formation of details such as hips and valleys. Cut slates should be fixed with at least two nails to prevent dislodgement. Slate-and-a-half or double slates should be fixed with three copper nails and two copper disc rivets.

12.4 Care is required to ensure that nails are not overdriven. Nails should be tapped rather than driven home.

12.5 It is essential that butt joints between slates are left open; the gap should be approximately 3 mm wide.

12.6 Slates must seat down properly, one with another and with the course below. Butt joints between slates must be properly constructed to provide the required degree of weathertightness and dimensional accuracy.

12.7 Where the product is to be used on an existing roof structure, the recommendations contained in BS 5534 : 2003, Section 6, Clause 6.13 *Installation, Repairs and Maintenance* and BS 8000-6 : 1990, Section 5, Clause 5.1.3 on re-covering, should be followed. Consideration should also be given to the advice contained in BRE Defect Action Sheets DAS 124 : 1988 *Pitched roofs: Renovation of older type timber roofs — re-tiling or re-slating* and DAS 125 : 1988 *Pitched roofs: Re-tiling or re-slating older type timber roofs*.

12.8 Ridge and hip details may be completed using standard fibre-cement or concrete products and verge details by using traditional mortar bedding techniques. Alternatively, dry-fix systems may be used but are outside the scope of this Certificate.

13 Maintenance

13.1 Damaged slates can be replaced by following the manufacturer's instructions and the relevant sections of BS 5534 : 2003 and BS 8000-6 : 1990.

13.2 Great care is required when carrying out maintenance work on any roof or wall clad in slate, and the recommendations contained in BS 5534 : 2003, Clauses 6.13 *Installation, Repairs and maintenance*, and BS 8000-6 : 1990, Section 5, Clause 5.2, *Safety*, should be followed.

13.3 Precautions should be taken to prevent danger to the public from falling broken or displaced slates.

Technical Investigations

14 Tests

14.1 Tests were carried out by the BBA in accordance with BS EN 492 : 1994⁽¹⁾ relating to:

- dimensions
- bending moment.

(1) Tests were carried out in accordance with BS EN 492 : 1994 version and results reassessed for compliance with BS EN 492 : 2004 were found to be satisfactory.

14.2 Tests were also carried out to determine the effect of artificial weathering (colour stability).

15 Investigations

15.1 An assessment was made of existing data from independent laboratories relating to:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| • BS 476-3 : 1958 | • BS 476-6 : 1989 | • BS 476-7 : 1997 |
| • water absorption | • coating film thickness | • water vapour permeability |
| • water and alkali immersion | • coefficient of linear thermal expansion | • moisture movement |
| • resistance to bowling and curling | • resistance to algal growth | • resistance to humidity (cyclic condensation). |

15.2 An examination was made of test data from the manufacturer's laboratory or independent laboratories on a material of similar composition in relation to:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • coefficient of linear thermal expansion | • freeze/thaw cycling |
| • moisture movement | • heat/rain cycling |
| • resistance to bowing and curling | • resistance to algal growth |
| • water absorption | • resistance to humidity (cyclic condensation). |

15.3 An assessment was made of existing data to BS EN 492 : 1994⁽¹⁾ relating to material of similar composition on:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| • dimensions | • warm water immersion |
| • apparent density | • soak/dry |
| • mechanical characteristics | • freeze/thaw |
| • water impermeability | • heat/rain. |

(1) Tests were carried out in accordance with BS EN 492 : 1994 version and results reassessed for compliance with BS EN 492 : 2004 were found to be satisfactory.

15.4 The manufacturing process was examined, including the methods adopted for quality control.

15.5 A user survey was conducted to evaluate performance in use.

Bibliography

- BS 476-3 : 1958 *Fire tests on building materials and structures — External fire exposure roof test*
- BS 476-6 : 1989 *Fire tests on building materials and structures — Method of test for fire propagation for products*
- BS 476-7 : 1997 *Fire tests on building materials and structures — Method of test to determine the classification of the surface spread of flame of products*
- BS 5534 : 2003 *Code of practice for slating and tiling (including shingles)*
- BS 8000-6 : 1990 *Workmanship on building sites — Code of practice for slating and tiling of roofs and claddings*
- BS EN 492 : 1994 *Fibre-cement slates and their fittings for roofing — Product specification and test methods*
- BS EN 492 : 2004 *Fibre-cement sales and fittings — Product specification and test methods*

16 Conditions

16.1 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.

16.2 References in this Certificate to any Act of Parliament, Statutory Instrument, Directive or Regulation of the European Union, British, European or International Standard, Code of Practice, manufacturers' instructions or similar publication, are references to such publication in the form in which it was current at the date of this Certificate.

16.3 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.

16.4 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.

16.5 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.