

**Technical Bulletin 001****NHBC Guidance Updates 2024**

We have been notified by Eurocell of additional requirements around coupling of frames for NHBC installations over and above British Standard requirements.

Please see the attached additional guidance document from Eurocell.

Quantum Windows can assist with this requirement by supplying an EPDM P gasket to suit.

*(There will be an additional cost for this)*

**Frequently Asked Questions**

- 1) Does this apply to all NHBC plots irrespective of when the spades went in the ground to start working or will it be for all newly applied sites?
  - These NHBC standards apply to every new home registered with the NHBC where the foundations began on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.
- 2) Where you mention the span of 3m or greater would for example a French door and sidelight combination of 3100mm (650 / 1800 / 650) wide x 2100mm high fall under the requirements for the EWS561A coupling?
  - We would recommend using EWS561A in this scenario, but the location wind / dead loads must be taken into consideration, check with Eurocell Technical Department.
- 3) Does the watertightness testing need to be carried out on every installation on a site or would testing a single combination on site suffice to cover the rest of the site assuming there are no alterations?
  - A minimum of five percent by length of all critical coupling joints should be tested.
  - Where coupled assemblies of the same time are to be installed across a development, a minimum of two installations should be tested.
  - For phased developments this minimum applies to each phase.
  - Testing should be carried out of the first installation on any development or phase before progressing with further installations.
- 4) Is there an expected timescale for the additional seals for the internal and external trims?
  - Eurocell are looking at approx. Q3-4 for the introduction of new profiles.
- 5) Is there any guidance on sealing the top and bottom of the coupler junctions?
  - Seal as you would a normal window. Run a continuous silicone seal across the length of the cill next to the cill upstand and sit the frame on. Run one along the shoulder of the cill so it will be roughly inline with the frame foot detail. The head is sealed as you would a normal window.
- 6) Whose responsibility is it to arrange and carry out CWCT testing?
  - It will be the responsibility of the installer or house builder to arrange and fund any testing requirements.
- 7) How will they be checking this?
  - On site testing – it says the testing should be carried out by a UKAS accredited test laboratory using the CWCT hose test method.