

## Important Notification: Updates to Agrément South Africa Certification of Non-Standardised Construction-Related Products and Systems

### To All Certificate Holders and Applicants

Agrément South Africa is pleased to announce improvements to its certification framework for non-standardised building systems and products. These updates introduce a clear three-tier classification to ensure assessments are targeted, proportionate, and aligned with the scope of each innovation. All new applications and existing certificates will be reclassified under one of the following categories: **Building System**, **Walling System**, or **Products**.

This reclassification maintains the highest standards of fitness-for-purpose while eliminating unnecessary testing by focusing evaluations on the solution's actual scale and integration level.

### Summary of Categories

- **Building System:** A complete, integrated construction solution for erecting entire buildings or major structural assemblies (walls, roofs, floors, and associated components).
- **Walling System:** A specialised system focused exclusively on wall construction, cladding, or panelised wall solutions (standalone or integrated into larger builds).
- **Products:** Individual non-standardised components, materials, or standalone items (e.g., specific panels, blocks, coatings, or additives).

### Tests Required for Each Category

The testing regime now differs significantly by category to match the intended use and level of integration:

Aspect	Building System	Walling System	Products
Scope of Testing	Full-building assembly and integration	Wall assembly only (no full-building integration)	Individual component or material only

<b>Structural Testing</b>	Complete assembly strength & stability under full loads	Wall-specific load-bearing & stability	Material/component strength properties
<b>Fire Testing</b>	Building envelope + internal fire behaviour	Wall-element fire resistance only	Component fire rating only
<b>Weatherproofing</b>	Complete system water penetration & weather tightness	Wall-specific water penetration & tightness	Material water resistance only
<b>Thermal &amp; Acoustic</b>	Whole-building energy efficiency & acoustics	Wall-specific thermal insulation & acoustic performance	Product-specific performance properties
<b>Durability &amp; Other</b>	Full-system durability, condensation, and maintenance	Wall-focused durability & maintenance	Product durability under relevant conditions
<b>Quality Management</b>	Full QMS review	Full QMS review	Full QMS review

**Building Systems** undergo the most comprehensive, holistic testing because they simulate real-world, complete-building conditions. **Walling Systems** require wall-focused testing only, excluding full-building integration. **Products** are assessed using narrow, targeted tests of the item itself – no system- or building-level evaluation is needed.

Certificate holders are to note that from 1 June 2026, certificates will be reviewed and assessed against the appropriate categories of building systems, walling systems, and products. For Validity Reviews, the reclassification of your system or product could be reviewed. Where reclassification or amendments are required, please refer to the Agrément South Africa contact details on [www.agrement.co.za](http://www.agrement.co.za) for information and applications.

These changes enhance efficiency, reduce unnecessary testing burdens, and continue to provide specifiers, regulators, and the industry with reliable assurance of fitness for purpose.

Thank you for your continued partnership in advancing innovative, safe, and sustainable construction in South Africa.