



Member of the FM Global Group

Approval Standard for Doorway Spill Barriers

Class Number 4985

September 2008

Foreword

The FM Approvals certification mark is intended to verify that the products and services described will meet FM Approvals' stated conditions of performance, safety and quality useful to the ends of property conservation. The purpose of Approval Standards is to present the criteria for FM Approval of various types of products and services, as guidance for FM Approvals personnel, manufacturers, users and authorities having jurisdiction.

Products submitted for certification by FM Approvals shall demonstrate that they meet the intent of the Approval Standard, and that quality control in manufacturing shall ensure a consistently uniform and reliable product. Approval Standards strive to be performance-oriented. They are intended to facilitate technological development.

For examining equipment, materials and services, Approval Standards:

- a) must be useful to the ends of property conservation by preventing, limiting or not causing damage under the conditions stated by the Approval listing; and
- b) must be readily identifiable.

Continuance of Approval and listing depends on compliance with the Approval Agreement, satisfactory performance in the field, on successful re-examinations of equipment, materials, and services as appropriate, and on periodic follow-up audits of the manufacturing facility.

FM Approvals LLC reserves the right in its sole judgment to change or revise its standards, criteria, methods, or procedures.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

1.1.1 This standard states Approval requirements for doorway spill barriers. Doorway spill barriers are used in doorways of flammable liquid storage areas such as cut-off rooms, and are used in place of physical barriers such as ramps, curbs and other construction features.

1.1.2 Doorway spill barriers are used in place of or as a supplement to passive protection schemes. Their purpose is to prevent the spread of flammable liquids, fire caused by flammable liquids, and/or contaminated fire water from spreading beyond the room of origin. Failure to contain a flammable liquid fire to its room of origin increases the likelihood of an out-of-control flammable liquid fire.

1.1.3 The containment of flammable liquids to their room of origin is also necessary to prevent contamination to other parts of a facility, to storm drains or to sewer drains when a flammable liquid spill occurs.

1.2 Scope

1.2.1 This standard sets the performance requirements for doorway spill barriers under simulated indoor or environmentally controlled laboratory conditions. They shall be examined for their ability to effectively seal off a room and limit flammable liquids from passing through a doorway before, during and after being exposed to a fire that simulates the fire resulting from a flammable liquid spill.

1.2.2 This standard sets the performance requirements for doorway spill barriers in regards to their ability to deploy automatically, if automatic closing, and to reliably prevent the passage of flammable liquid through an opening at the onset of a flammable liquid spill.

1.2.3 This standard also sets the performance requirements as it relates to the load resistance and reliability of the unit to activate or deploy, if automatic closing, or ease of removing and re-installing the unit if it is a manual barrier.

1.2.4 This standard is intended to evaluate only those hazards investigated and is not intended to determine suitability for the end use of the product.

1.2.5 The results of tests conducted under the controlled conditions required by this standard shall not be used to describe or appraise performance under actual fire or natural hazard conditions as actual fire and natural hazard conditions vary widely.

1.2.6 Approval criteria shall include, but are not limited to, performance requirements, marking requirements, an examination of manufacturing facility(ies), an audit of quality assurance procedures, and a follow-up program.

1.3 Basis for Requirements

1.3.1 The requirements of this standard are based on experience, research and testing, and/or the standards of other organizations. The advice of manufacturers, users, trade associations, jurisdictions and/or loss control specialists was also considered.

1.3.2 The requirements of this standard reflect tests and practices used to examine characteristics of doorway spill barriers for the purpose of obtaining FM Approval. Doorway spill barriers having characteristics not anticipated by this standard may be FM Approved if performance equal, or superior, to that required by this Standard is demonstrated, or if the intent of the standard is met. Alternatively, doorway spill barriers which meet all of the requirements identified in this Standard may not be FM Approved if other conditions which adversely affect performance exist or if the intent of this standard is not met.

1.4 Basis for Approval

Approval is based upon satisfactory evaluation of the product and the manufacturer in the following major areas:

1.4.1 Examination and tests on production samples shall be performed to evaluate

- the suitability of the product;
- the performance of the product as specified by the manufacturer and required by FM Approvals; and as far as practical,
- the durability and reliability of the product.

1.4.2 An examination of the manufacturing facilities and audit of quality control procedures is made to evaluate the manufacturer's ability to consistently produce the product which is examined and tested, and the marking procedures used to identify the product. These examinations may be repeated as part of FM Approvals' product follow-up program.

1.5 Basis for Continued Approval

Continued Approval is based upon:

- production or availability of the product as currently FM Approved;
- the continued use of acceptable quality assurance procedures;
- satisfactory field experience;
- compliance with the terms stipulated in the Approval report;
- satisfactory re-examination of production samples for continued conformity to requirements; and
- satisfactory Facilities and Procedures Audits (F&PAs) conducted as part of FM Approvals' product follow-up program.

Also, as a condition of retaining Approval, manufacturers may not change a product or service without prior authorization by FM Approvals.

1.6 Effective Date

The effective date of an Approval standard mandates that all products tested for Approval after the effective date shall satisfy the requirements of that standard. Products FM Approved under a previous edition shall comply with the new version by the effective date or else forfeit Approval.

The effective date of this Standard is September 1, 2008 for compliance with all requirements.

1.7 System of Units

Units of measurement used in this Standard are United States (U.S.) customary units. These are followed by their arithmetic equivalents in International System (SI) units, enclosed in parentheses. The first value stated shall be regarded as the requirement. The converted equivalent value may be approximate. Appendix A lists the selected units and conversions to SI units for measures appearing in this standard. Conversion of U.S. customary units is in accordance with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)/American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) SI 10-02 *Standard for Use of the International System of Units (SI): The Modern Metric System*.

1.8 Applicable Documents

The following standards, test methods, and practices are referenced in this standard:

FM Global Data Sheets

FM Global Property Loss Prevention Data Sheet 7-29, *Flammable Liquid Storage in Portable Containers* (September 2005)

FM Global Property Loss Prevention Data Sheet 7-32, *Flammable Liquid Operations* (September 2000)

FM Approvals Test Procedures

Hydrostatic Head Leakage Test
Deployment Flow Test
Doorway Spill Barrier Fire Test

1.9 Definitions

For purposes of this standard, the following terms apply:

Automatic Operating Barrier – a movable device that allows for the free movement of vehicular or personnel traffic through an opening under normal operating conditions. They shall be permitted to move into the deployed position upon receipt of a signal to deploy but shall not require any human intervention to deploy when it is exposed to the flow of liquid.

Deployed Position – the position of an automatic operating barrier after it has been activated from the open position.

Deployment – the action of an automatic operating barrier as it moves into position to block the flow of liquid through an opening.

Fully Deployed Position – the position of a barrier when it is subjected to the maximum liquid depth for which it has been Approved.

Leakage – the amount of liquid that passes through an opening.

Manual Barrier – any device that is physically placed into, adjacent or in front of an opening to prevent the flow of liquid through the opening. Manual barriers do not allow vehicular traffic to pass through the opening when they are in place.

Maximum Liquid Depth, "h" – the maximum height of the liquid level for which the barrier has been Approved. The maximum height shall not be closer than 1 in. (25 mm) from the top of the barrier when it is in the fully deployed position.

Open Position – the position of the barrier when vehicular and personnel traffic have free movement through the opening the barrier is designed to protect.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1 Product Information

2.1.1 The presence of flammable liquids in a facility will always create a fire hazard. One way to protect against this hazard is to store and handle flammable liquids in a designated room that is cut-off from the rest of the facility by physical barriers such as fire walls and curbs.

2.1.2 Doorway spill barriers, along with fire walls, fire doors and curbs, are an important element in the protection against fire in occupancies handling, processing or transferring flammable liquids.

2.1.3 Flammable liquids present a unique challenge not only because of their relatively high heat content, but also because they can freely move past barriers that are not leak proof.

2.1.4 Facilities that use flammable liquids have to balance the need to provide adequate protection for and confinement of flammable liquids in case of fire with their need to freely move through openings for production purposes. Curbs are an effective barrier against the spread of flammable liquids because of their constant physical presence; however, the presence of a curb is also a detriment to the free movement into and through the openings in which they are found.

2.1.5 Automatic operating doorway spill barriers provide an option when trying to balance protection needs with production needs. Automatic spill barriers are usually in a retracted or non-obtrusive position under normal operating conditions so that vehicular and personnel traffic are not impeded. Upon receipt of a signal, they deploy such that any flammable liquid can not pass through the opening. These devices can also contain inherent design features that allow them to mechanically deploy from the open position when exposed to a flowing liquid.

2.2 Approval Application Requirements

To apply for an Approval examination the manufacturer, or its authorized representative, should submit a request to

Materials, Director
FM Approvals
1151 Boston-Providence Turnpike PO Box 9102
Norwood, MA 02062
U.S.A.

The manufacturer shall provide the following preliminary information with any request for Approval

consideration:

- A complete list of all models, types, sizes, and options for the products or services being submitted for Approval consideration;
- general assembly drawings, complete set of manufacturing drawings, including dimensions and tolerances, materials list and specifications, design calculations, sales literature and installation procedures;
- the number and location of manufacturing facilities and;
- all documents shall identify the manufacturer's name, document number or other form of reference, title, date of last revision, and revision level. All documents shall be provided in English or with English translation.

2.3 Requirements for Samples for Examination

2.3.1 Following authorization of an Approval examination, the project engineer will inform the manufacturer of the number and type of samples that shall be submitted for examination and testing.

2.3.2 The manufacturer shall submit samples representative of production. FM Approvals, at their sole discretion, shall reserve the right to witness production of test samples and/or any components or raw materials that are deemed to be critical to the performance of the product. Any decision to use data generated using prototypes is at the discretion of FM Approvals.

2.3.3 Requirements for samples may vary depending on design features, results of prior or similar testing (if applicable), and results of any foregoing tests.

2.3.4 All Performance Requirements (Section 4) shall be conducted on the same test sample.

3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

3.1 General Information

The requirements of this standard shall be used to measure and describe the performance of doorway spillway barriers when subjected to hydrostatic head leakage testing, fire testing, the ability of automatic operating barriers to deploy when subjected to a simulated flammable liquid spill, the reliability of the unit and for manual spill barriers, the ease of which they can be moved, removed and re-secured.

3.2 Tests and Ratings

3.2.1 There shall be two (2) categories of Approval. These categories are automatic operating barriers and manual barriers.

3.2.2 All doorway spill barriers submitted for Approval shall be subjected to a hydrostatic head leakage test and a fire test. The hydrostatic head leakage test shall be conducted prior to the fire test.

3.2.3 Automatic operating doorway spill barriers submitted for Approval shall also be subjected to an examination to determine how much liquid passes through the opening as a result of a simulated flammable liquid spill.

3.2.4 Any barrier that is subject to being loaded by vehicular traffic such as, but not limited to, fork lifts or pallet trucks, shall be subjected to a loading and reliability study.

3.2.5 All manual operating doorway spill barriers submitted for Approval shall be subjected to an examination to assess the ease at which they can be removed from the opening and then placed back in the opening.

3.2.6 The fire rating of the assembly shall be based on the duration of the fire test. The duration of the fire test shall be thirty (30) minutes.

3.3 Markings

3.3.1 Marking on the product or the label accompanying the product, shall include the following information:

- name and address of the manufacturer or marking traceable to the manufacturer;
- date of manufacture or code traceable to date of manufacture or lot identification;
- model number or designation and applicable ratings, as appropriate.

3.3.2 The model or type identification shall correspond with the manufacturer's catalog designation and shall uniquely identify the product as FM Approved. The manufacturer shall not place this model or type identification on any other product unless covered by a separate agreement.

3.3.3 The Approval Mark (see Appendix B) shall be displayed visibly and permanently on the product and/or packaging as appropriate. The manufacturer shall not use this mark on any other product unless such product is covered by a separate report.

3.3.4 All markings shall be legible and durable.

3.4 Manufacturer's Installation Instructions

The manufacturer shall provide the user with instructions for the installation of the product.

3.5 Calibration

All examinations and tests performed in evaluation to this Standard shall use calibrated measuring instruments traceable and certified to acceptable national standards.

4. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Hydrostatic Head Leakage Test

4.1.1 Requirement

All doorway spill barriers submitted for Approval shall be evaluated for their ability to resist leakage and/or seepage when subjected to a hydrostatic loading. The Hydrostatic Head Leakage Test will consist of installing a test specimen onto a water tight basin. The tests shall be conducted on the widest barrier at the maximum liquid depth for which Approval is desired. The maximum liquid depth shall be maintained for a continuous period of not less than sixteen (16) hours.

For details of the test equipment, test set-up and conduct of the test, refer to the FM Approvals Hydrostatic Head Leakage Test Procedure.

4.1.2 Conditions of Acceptance

Upon completion of the sixteen (16) hour test, the amount of liquid that has leaked or seeped through the assembly shall be measured. This shall be done by using a wet-dry vacuum or other similar device to collect the water. Once collected, the water shall be transferred from the vacuum receptacle and measured in a graduated cylinder.

The overall amount of leakage and/or seepage collected that passes under or through the barrier shall not exceed 0.25 gallons (32 oz) per linear foot (3.1 L/m) of product. For purposes of this standard, the linear foot of product shall be the length of the barrier where it forms a seal with the opening.

Manual barriers shall be subjected to this test twice. The first test shall be conducted on a newly installed unit. The second test shall be conducted upon completion of the Deployment Time Test for Manual Barriers (see Section 4.5).

4.2 Deployment Flow Test

4.2.1 Requirement

All automatic doorway spill barriers shall be evaluated for their ability to automatically deploy during a simulated flammable liquid spill. The Deployment Flow Test will consist of installing a test specimen on the simulated storage room side of a water tight basin. The Deployment Flow Test shall be conducted on the widest barrier for which Approval is desired.

For details of the test equipment, test set-up and conduct of the test, refer to the FM Approvals Deployment Flow Test Procedure.

4.2.2 Conditions of Acceptance

Upon completion of the test, the amount of liquid that has leaked or seeped through the assembly shall be measured. This shall be done by using a wet-dry vacuum or other similar device to collect the water. Once collected, the water shall be transferred from the vacuum receptacle and measured in a graduated cylinder.

The overall amount of leakage and/or seepage collected that passes under or through the barrier shall not exceed 0.25 gallons (32 oz) per linear foot (3.1 L/m) of product for the opening width being protected.

4.3 Doorway Spill Barrier Fire Test

4.3.1 Requirement

All doorway spill barriers submitted for Approval shall be subjected to a fire test in order to determine the product's ability to prevent fire from passing through the opening. The Doorway Spill Barrier Fire Test shall be conducted on the widest barrier for which Approval is desired.

For details of the test equipment, test set-up and conduct of the test, refer to the FM Approvals Doorway Spill Barrier Fire Test Procedure.

4.3.2 Conditions of Acceptance

No liquid, flaming or otherwise, shall pass over the threshold of the opening such that it would spread beyond the surface of the wall on the non-protected side of the simulated wall being used in the test. ^{Note 1}

After the fire has been extinguished and the unit has been allowed to cool, the unit shall be inspected for signs of permanent damage that can allow leakage or seepage through the assembly.

Note 1: FM Global Loss Prevention Data Sheets recommend that a fire door be installed on the non-storage side of a flammable liquid storage room. The arrangement used for this test does not readily lend itself to installing a fire door on the simulated fire wall. In applying the acceptance criteria shown above, consideration shall be given to the physical barrier a fire door would provide in preventing passage of flame and hot gases to the non-fire side of the test arrangement. Under these guidelines, flaming would be allowed in the area bounded by the barrier being tested and a fire door (essentially a distance equal to the thickness of the simulated wall used in the test and the face of a fire door) had it been installed; however, any flow of liquid that would extend under such a fire door would not meet the intent of this standard and shall be considered a failure.

4.4 Reliability Study

4.4.1 Requirement

All doorway spill barriers submitted for Approval shall be subjected to a reliability study in order to determine the product's ability to close reliably before and after simulated usage of the product.

4.4.2 Test/Verification

One (1) sample shall be examined for a reliability study. The study will confirm that the doorway spill barrier has been designed to withstand the anticipated live loads, if applicable, that it may be subjected to over the life of the unit. Items that will be evaluated in the examination shall include, but not be limited to maximum deflection under load, permanent deflection based on simulated live loads and a failure analysis of the closing mechanism. The failure analysis may include a review of the manufacturers drawings, an analysis of all items deemed critical to the operation of the unit and cycling of the unit between the open and deployed positions.

4.5 Deployment Time Test for Manual Barriers

4.5.1 Requirement

All manually operated doorway spill barriers submitted for Approval shall be examined for the ease of removal and replacement once the unit has been installed. Written instructions shall be provided that detail how a unit is to be unsecured, moved or removed as applicable, moved back into place and then re-secured in place.

4.5.2 Test/Verification

A doorway spill barrier shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's written installation instructions. The unit shall be the widest barrier at the maximum liquid water depth for which Approval is desired.

With the unit in the deployed position, it will be moved or removed as applicable to simulate a field condition where someone wants to pass through the opening the unit is protecting. The unit will then be removed and then reinstalled or moved back to its original deployed position and re-secured. This shall be accomplished by personnel without an in-depth knowledge of the product other than basic training provided by the manufacturer.

During this process, the unit will be evaluated for items such as, but not limited to:

- Manpower requirements
- Deployment duration
- Validation of the manufacturer's literature on deployment time
- Ease of removal and re-securement
- Potential for damage during deployment
- Practicality of the process
- Assessment of possible damage that may occur from repeated deployment and removal

Upon completion of the reinstallation, the barrier shall be subjected to the Hydrostatic Head Leakage Test (see Section 4.1) a second time.

5. OPERATIONS REQUIREMENTS

A quality assurance program is required to assure that subsequent doorway spill barriers produced by the manufacturer shall present the same quality and reliability as the specific products examined. Design quality, conformance to design, and performance are the areas of primary concern.

- Design quality is determined during the examination and tests, and is documented in the Approval Report.
- Continued conformance to this Standard is verified by the Facilities and Procedures Audit (F&PA).
- Quality of performance is determined by field performance and by periodic re-examination and

testing.

5.1 Demonstrated Quality Control Program

5.1.1 The manufacturer shall demonstrate a quality assurance program which specifies controls for at least the following areas:

- existence of corporate quality assurance guidelines;
- incoming quality assurance, including testing;
- in-process quality assurance, including testing;
- final inspection and tests;
- equipment calibration;
- drawing and change control;
- packaging and shipping; and
- handling and disposition of non-conforming materials.

5.1.2 Documentation/Manual

There should be an authoritative collection of procedures/policies. It should provide an accurate description of the quality management system while serving as a permanent reference for implementation and maintenance of that system. The system should require that sufficient records are maintained to demonstrate achievement of the required quality and verify operation of the quality system.

5.1.3 Records

To assure adequate traceability of materials and products, the manufacturer shall maintain a record of all quality assurance tests performed, for a minimum period of two years from the date of manufacture.

5.1.4 Drawing and Change Control

- The manufacturer shall establish a system of product configuration control that shall allow no unauthorized changes to the product. Changes to critical documents, identified in the Approval Report, must be reported to, and authorized by, FM Approvals prior to implementation for production.
- The manufacturer shall assign an appropriate person or group to be responsible for, and require that, proposed changes to FM Approved or Listed products be reported to FM Approvals before implementation. The manufacturer shall notify FM Approvals of changes in the product or of persons responsible for keeping FM Approvals advised by means of FM Approvals' Form 797, FM Approved Product/ Specification-Tested Revision Report or Address/Main Contact Change Report.
- Records of all revisions to all FM Approved products shall be maintained.

5.2 Facilities and Procedures Audit (F&PA)

5.2.1 An audit of the manufacturing facility is part of the Approval investigation to verify implementation of the quality assurance program. Its purpose is to determine that the manufacturer's equipment, procedures, and quality program are maintained to insure a uniform product consistent with that which was tested and FM Approved.

5.2.2 These audits shall be conducted periodically but at least annually by FM Approvals or its

representatives.

5.2.3 FM Approved products or services shall be produced or provided at or from the location(s) audited by FM Approvals and as specified in the Approval Report. Manufacture of products bearing the Approval Mark is not permitted at any other location without prior written authorization by FM Approvals.

5.3 Installation Inspections

Field inspections may be conducted to review an installation. The inspections are conducted to assess ease of application, and conformance to written specifications. When more than one application technique is used, one or all may be inspected at the discretion of FM Approvals.

5.4 Manufacturer's Responsibilities

The manufacturer shall notify FM Approvals of changes in product construction, components, raw materials, physical characteristics, coatings, component formulation or quality assurance procedures prior to implementation.

APPENDIX A: Units of Measurement

LENGTH:	in. - "inches"; (mm - "millimeters") mm = in. \times 25.4 ft - "feet"; (m - "meters") m = ft \times 0.3048
AREA:	in ² - "square inches"; (mm ² - "square millimeters") mm ² = in ² \times 6.4516 \times 10 ² ft ² - "square feet"; (m ² - "square meters") m ² = ft ² \times 0.0929
MASS:	lb - "pounds"; (kg - "kilograms") kg = lb \times 0.454
PRESSURE:	psi - "pounds per square inch"; (bar - "bar") kPa = psi \times 6.895 bar - "bar"; (kPa - "kilopascals") bar = kPa \times 0.01 bar = psi \times 0.06895
HEAT:	Btu - "British thermal units"; (J - "joules") J = Btu \times 1.0551 \times 10 ³
HEAT RELEASE RATE:	Btu/min - "British thermal units per minute"; (kW - "kilowatts") kW = Btu/min \times 0.0176
TEMPERATURE:	°F - "degrees Fahrenheit"; (°C - "degrees Celsius") °C = (°F - 32) \times 0.556
VOLUME:	gal - "gallons"; (L - liters) L = gal \times 3.785 oz - "ounce"; gal - gallons gal = oz \times 0.0078

APPENDIX B: FM Approvals Certification Marks

FM Approvals certifications marks are to be used only in conjunction with products or services that have been Approved by FM Approvals and in adherence with usage guidelines.



Cast-On FM Approvals marks:

Where reproduction of the FM Approved mark described above is impossible because of production restrictions, use these modified versions of the FM Approved mark. There is no minimum size requirement for the mark, but it must be large enough to be readily identifiable.



FM APPROVED mark:

Authorized by FM Approvals as a certification mark for any product that has been FM Approved. There is no minimum size requirement for the mark, but it must be large enough to be readily identifiable. The mark should be produced in black on a light background, or in reverse on a dark background.



FM Approved Mark with “C” only:

Authorized by FM Approvals as a certification mark for any product that has been evaluated by FM Approvals in accordance with Canadian codes and standards. There is no minimum size requirement for the mark, but it must be large enough to be readily identifiable. The mark should be produced in black on a light background, or in reverse on a dark background.



FM Approved mark with “C” and “US”:

Authorized by FM Approvals as a certification mark for any product that has been evaluated by FM Approvals in accordance with US and Canadian codes and standards. There is no minimum size requirement for the mark, but it must be large enough to be readily identifiable. The mark should be produced in black on a light background, or in reverse on a dark background.

FM Approvals Certification Marks

USAGE GUIDELINES

All FM Approvals certification marks are the sole property of FM Approvals LLC (“FM Approvals”) and are registered or the subject of applications for registration in the United States and many other countries. They are for use only according to these guidelines.

FM Approvals certification marks may be used only on FM Approved products and related product packaging, in advertising material, catalogs and news releases. Use of FM Approvals certification marks on such material is not a substitute for use of the complete FM Approvals certification mark on FM Approved products and/or product packaging.

No FM Approvals certification mark or aspect thereof may be incorporated as part of a business name, Internet domain name, or brand name/trademark for products/product lines. This includes both design aspects (the FM Approvals “diamond,” etc.) and word aspects (“FM,” “Approved,” etc.). The use of any FM Approvals certification mark as a trademark is strictly prohibited.

The Approval Standard number or class number may not be incorporated as part of a business name, Internet domain name, or brand name/trademark for products/product lines. For example, a company may not say “ABC Company’s 4100 Fire Door is FM Approved”; the proper terminology is, “ABC Company’s Fire Door is FM Approved per Approval Standard 4100.”

FM Approvals certification marks, except for the FM Approvals Quality System Registration mark, may not be used on business stationery/cards/signage because this could mischaracterize the relationship with FM Approvals. Additionally, these items should not reference any FM Approvals certification mark.

Products or services may not be marketed under any mark or name similar to “FM Global,” “FM Approvals” or any of the FM Approvals certification marks. Further, products or services may not be marketed to imply a relationship beyond the scope of any Approval made by FM Approvals.

When an FM Approvals certification mark is used in advertising material or on product packaging, all material must reflect the specific circumstances under which the product was FM Approved. The material must clearly differentiate between products that are FM Approved and those that are not, and may not, in any way, imply a more substantial relationship with FM Approvals.

A company may not reference the intent to submit a product for Approval or the expectation that a company will have a certain product FM Approved in the future. For example, a company may not state, “Approval by FM Approvals pending” or “Approval by FM Approvals applied for.”

FM Approvals certification marks should not be preceded or followed by a qualifier that indicates a degree of certification or acceptability. For example, “exceeds,” “first” or “only” may not be used to qualify any FM Approvals certification mark.

Only original artwork issued by FM Approvals should be used. The FM Approvals certification marks should not be altered in any way other than to resize the artwork proportionately. Unacceptable uses of the marks include, but are not limited to, adding/deleting wording or artwork, reducing the artwork to an illegible size, animation or distortion.

The text of the FM Approvals certification marks may not be translated into any language other than English.

FM Approvals certification marks must appear in a size and location that is readily identifiable, but less prominent than the name of the owner of the certification or the manufacturer/seller/distributor of the certified products.