

FACTA DRIVES THROUGH NEW BRITISH STANDARD



LEADING INDUSTRY BODY FACTA (FABRICATED ACCESS COVERS TRADE ASSOCIATION) IS PROUD TO HAVE BEEN THE MAIN DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE NEW BRITISH STANDARD BS 9124:2008 WHICH SPECIFIES STEEL AND ALUMINIUM ACCESS COVER SYSTEMS WITH A CLEAR OPENING GREATER THAN 1 METRE.



Previously, BS EN 124 was the only national or European standard for the industry and was principally aimed at cast iron covers with a clear opening of up to 1 metre, therefore making it impossible for fabricated access covers to conform to.

“ By joining FACTA you will not only become part of a great team, but you will be best placed to learn about all the latest new developments across the industry. ”

Peter Jennings of ACO Building Drainage and FACTA Chairman, explains: “BS 9124, which came into effect in August last year, offers the first standard dedicated to fabricated access covers, and includes a new scale with A - K loadings ranging from pedestrian to aircraft applications, covering eventualities such as fork lift trucks and helicopters.”

Under the guidance of BSI, FACTA worked with experts from the access cover, water and civil engineering industries, as well as the HSE and the Highways Agency, to prepare the new standard.

Standard benefits

BS 9124 will now enable manufacturers to consistently work to a set design criteria covering areas such as:

- Pressure tight, water tight and air tightness
- Drainage of water within the frame
- Fall protection
- Infill of materials such as block paving
- Welding conformance to BS EN 287-1 and 287-2
- Design guidelines to BS EN 1993-1-1:2005 for steel structures and BS EN 1999-1-1:2007 for aluminium structures
- Load classification guidelines to BS EN 1991
- Assisting lifting and hold-open stay mechanisms
- Slip resistance specifying a minimum polished slip resistance (PSRV) of 40
- Trip hazards stipulating the maximum height a cover should protrude from the frame
- Installation

“In addition to these benefits, the standard will mean that manufacturers will need to supply design calculations ensuring that access covers will adhere to BS 9124, therefore providing specifiers and end users with the peace of mind that the product is fit for its purpose,” added Peter.

FACTA Members

FACTA currently has 11 members, all of whom are committed to ensuring high standards across the fabricated access covers industry.

“We are always looking for new members”, continues Peter. “By joining FACTA you will not only become part of a great team, but you will be best placed to learn about all the latest new developments across the industry.”

For more information call 01827 52337, visit www.facta.org.uk or email info@facta.org.uk

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Enquiry ??

