

The benefits of specifying factory prepared timber doorsets



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Timber doorsets are increasingly being used in projects around the UK. No longer just an item found in commercial properties such as office developments, hotels, hospitals and schools, but evermore so in homes.

Timber doorsets are a complete doorset: door, frame, glass, seals and hardware all supplied from a single source.

Those with a keen eye on environmental issues will agree that using a doorset from a sustainable source with a chain of custody that traces the history of the wood used is a positive move forward.

Not unlike the environmental issues, the whole process is one that in an otherwise busy world, becomes a pleasure to purchase whether as a consumer or as a trades person.

Furthermore, persons in control of workplaces have additional criminal responsibilities under the European Workplace Directive 89/654/EEC as transposed into national law:

UK:

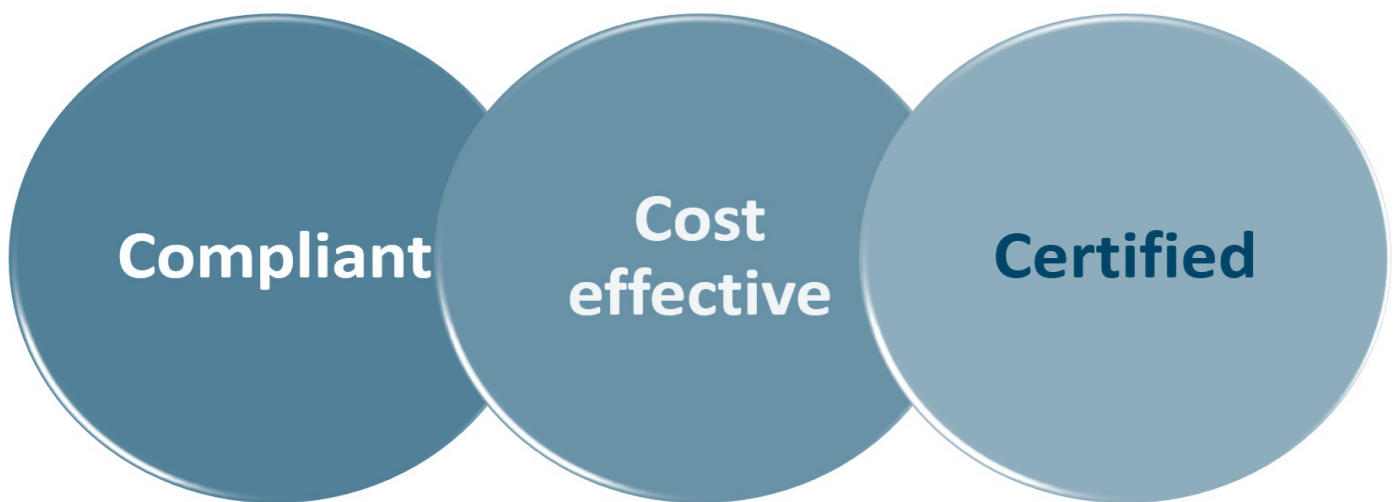
Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992: Regulation 5 requires maintenance to be carried out and regulation 18 specifies the safety requirements for doors in the workplace.

Republic of Ireland:

Safety, Health and Welfare (General Applications) Regulations 2007: See regulation 11.

Both UK and Republic of Ireland Regulations include the requirements for vision panels on swing doors.

What are the real benefits of using a timber doorset and why should you specify one?



1: Compliant

Performance to standards & legislation

- Doorset performance standards exist, enabling compliance with legislation to be readily demonstrated.
- Tested as a complete doorset: door, frame, seals, glass, hardware. Making it easy to show performance characteristics including:

fire, smoke control, security, thermal insulation, weathertightness, durability, acoustics

- Assured compatibility of components because they have been tested together as a complete unit
- Manufactured in a controlled environment leading to consistent performance of the doorsets

2: Cost effective

Whole life costs

Reduced capital cost

- A single source supplier
- Quality controlled doorsets
- Accurately sized & morticed for hardware
- Straightforward assembly
- Reduced risk of accidents to installers
- Reduced risk of damage / loss on site
- Reduced life-cycle costs

Reduced operational cost

- Timber doorsets provide clear traceability and improved documentation making inspection and maintenance quicker and easier
- Traceability also makes component replacement easier for the purchaser to go to the doorset manufacturer

Reduced disposal cost

- During the factory manufacturing process any waste is controlled and can be recycled efficiently
- Timber doorsets reduce landfill wastage fees & tax
- Timber doorsets offer cradle to grave approach for building design

3: Certified

Quality & traceability

Third party certification of manufacture is recommended by dhf

- Through a UKAS, INAB or international accredited independent certification body
- Certification for manufacture ensures what is produced accurately reflects what is tested
- Reassurance to back up your purchasing decision & evidence to back up your fire safety measures
- Introduces traceability of manufacture and all components from one single source

Third party certification of installation and maintenance is recommended by dhf

- Through a UKAS, INAB or international accredited independent certification body
- Certification for installation and maintenance ensures your certified doorset is correctly installed and maintained
- Reassurance to back up your fire safety measures

Chain of custody

- Records of the timber used
- Sustainability

'Green' benefits of timber

Timber is repairable and is a traditional material for fire doorsets. This is beneficial if they catch fire, as unlike newer lightweight insulation materials that, once flammable, can contribute to the fire load and toxicity affecting the building and inhabitants, timber does not.

Timber is a natural material & biodegradable making it less costly on the environment too.

Timber doorsets comprise timber leaves in frames supplied with all necessary glass seals and hardware. The frames can be timber, MDF or metal, and may form part of a partitioning system. The door leaves may have hardboard or non-timber faces. The doorset can be pre-hung or in kit form for site assembly.

Timber doorsets offer a number of performance characteristics including thermal properties, acoustic, security, water tightness, air permeability, fire resistance, smoke control, fire escape as well as basic durability. Each of these can be proved by testing to various standards some of which form part of CE marking.

dhf members are fully conversant with the standards and legislation relating to doorsets, including those for Fire Regulations. To find out further information and to locate a **dhf** member who supplies or installs timber doorsets visit the website www.dhfonline.org.uk



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