Damex FR Installation Guide

Purpose

Typical applications include being used as a vertical DPC or as a site formed, surface fixed, cavity tray to manage the downward passage of water in a cavity wall construction.

Tools Required

- Sheers, scissors or a sharp knife
- Surface cleaner
- Seam roller
- 600ml foil (barrel) gun
- Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray
- Stainless steel Pre-Formed Units (Optional)
- Stainless steel Fixings Strips
- Suitable Fixings
- Damex FR Adhesive

Preparation

Ensure all surfaces are clean, dry and free from dust, oil, dirt and debris. Clean any non-porous surfaces with a suitable cleaner prior to installation.

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Important Information

DPCs and DPC cavity trays should be installed in accordance with BS 8215:1991, PD 6697:2019 and BS 8000-3:2020. Damex FR can be installed either way round, the product has the same performance on both sides.

When building into the outer leaf of a masonry wall construction the Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray should be installed on a flat bed of fresh mortar, and any perforations in adjacent courses of masonry should be fully filled with mortar. To ensure mortar adhesion, as soon as possible after laying the Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray, lay at least one further course of masonry. The Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray should extend through the full thickness of the masonry wall, including pointing, applied rendering or other surface applied materials.

When used as a site formed cavity tray, the Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray can be either built-in to the inner leaf or surface fixed to the external face of the inner leaf depending upon the type of wall construction.

When surface fixing the cavity tray, the Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray should be sealed to the inner leaf using adhesive and permanently secured using stainless steel fixing strips and suitable fixings. For typical details see Damex FR downloads section at www.damexfr.com or contact our technical team. To speed up or simplify installation of complex or awkward junctions (Corners, steel columns, changes of level, etc) an extensive range of pre-formed stainless steel units are available.

All Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray to Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray joints, and Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray to pre-formed units joints should be overlapped by 100mm and bonded with adhesive.

Minimum spacing between Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray to Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray laps should be 900mm, i.e. adjacent cavity tray laps to be spaced at least 900mm apart. Where such laps occur at less than 900mm, back to back stop ends should be considered. Non-combustible weeps vents should be provided to cavity trays above openings and penetrations through the wall (such as sub-floor vents, ducts, or flues), at least two per opening at not more than 450mm centres. Please contact our technical team for more information.

Method of Use

If using them, start by placing all pre-formed corners and units into their desired locations. Then mark out the top edge of where the Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray will be applied to the substrate using the fixing strip. Additional Instructions can be provided if using site formed corners.

Apply an 8-10mm bead of adhesive a minimum of 5mm below the top edge of where the membrane is to be placed. Place the membrane into place and press into the adhesive once in the correct position. Place the bottom edge of the membrane onto the brickwork. Consolidate the adhesive bond with a seam roller.

Where Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray will be joined, a minimum overlap of 100mm in necessary to ensure a sufficient bond between the two pieces of membrane. A preformed joint support can be used behind the membrane to increase strength if necessary.

Where two pieces of Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray or a pre-formed are to be joined, apply three 8-10mm beads of adhesive onto the Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray. One on the front edge of the lap, another a minimum of 100mm in from the first and a further bead in-between the two. Consolidate the adhesive using a seam roller. It is good practice for 2-3mm worth of adhesive to “Creep” out from behind the membrane to enable a quick and comprehensive visual check. There is no need to paste or apply any additional adhesive over the top of the Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray. This may have a detrimental effect on performance.

Mechanically fix the fixing strip to the top edge of the Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC & Cavity Tray. Not all holes need to be fixed through, for fixings strips less than 1200mm in length, only one fixing at each end is required. For Fixing strips between 1200mm and 1600mm in length, one fixing at each end and one in the centre is sufficient. If fixing strips longer than 1600mm in length are being used, then one fixing at each end should be used with additional fixings at no greater interval than 800mm along the length of the strip

Now apply a 2-5mm bed of mortar under the bottom edge of the Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC on top of the brickwork and apply a standard mortar bed on top. Continue to lay bricks as normal. If site formed corners are to be made from the Damex FR Non-Combustible DPC, please consult our technical team for guidance.

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