

Selection of construction sealants — Guide

ICS 91.100.50

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Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted to Technical Committee B/547, Sealants, upon which the following bodies were represented:

Association of Sealant Applicators
British Adhesives and Sealants Association
Consumer Policy Committee of BSI
Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions (Building Research Establishment)
Flat Glass Manufacturers Association
Glass and Glazing Federation
Institution of Civil Engineers
Water UK

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Sector Committee for Building and Civil Engineering, was published under the authority of the Standards Committee and comes into effect on 15 July 2000

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First published May 1982

Second edition July 2000

The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
Committee reference B/547
Drafts for comment 99/100978 DC
09/30209809 DC

ISBN 978 0 580 69145 4

Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments
A1	February 2010	See foreword

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Foreword

This revision of BS 6213 has been prepared by Technical Committee B/547. It supersedes BS 6213:1982, which is withdrawn.

BS 6213:2000+A1:2010 supersedes BS 6213:2000, which is withdrawn.

The start and finish of text introduced or altered by Amendment No. 1 is indicated in the text by tags **[A1]** **[A1]**.

In this revision of BS 6213 selection tables have been removed. This reflects the change in emphasis in this revision from providing solutions to providing guidance and methodology enabling the user to determine the sealing requirement for a particular project.

The approach adopted in this guide is suitable for both new construction and resealing/renovation projects.

Guidance for sealant installation is to be found in BS 8000-16. As sealant choice will be influenced by installation conditions, relevant factors are given for consideration.

The recently introduced system of classification of sealant properties, determined using laboratory test data in accordance with **[A1]** BS EN ISO 11600 **[A1]**, is referred to as a means of identifying suitable sealants which meet a number of requirements, in particular movement accommodation. **[A1]** BS EN ISO 11600 **[A1]** recognizes two sealant types: those intended for façade and general construction (type F), and those intended for glazing applications (type G). As not all characteristics of sealants are evaluated for classification, other means may need to be used to assess capability, e.g. field trials, case histories, test programmes or research reports.

Reference should also be made to BS 6093 for design of joints and jointing in building construction.

For existing structures with no design history, joint movement will need to be estimated as part of the selection process.

Certain sealant types have been designed for use as part of a system for fire prevention, sound deadening, insulated glass unit construction and installation. The specialized characteristics of these materials are not within the scope of this guide which is aimed primarily at the weather sealing water retention and exclusion applications most frequently found in general construction. Guidance on selection of sealants for horizontal joints outside the scopes of BS 2499 and BS 5212 is included, as well as guidance on the selection of sealants for many installations.

It is advisable to gain assurance that data provided for the performance characteristics of sealants is relevant to the materials that will be supplied to the project. Long-term performance data in particular may be based on an earlier generation of product and not validated on current supplies.

Use of certified products. Manufacturers of sealants are advised to consider the desirability of third-party certification/inspection/testing of product conformity with **[A1]** BS EN ISO 11600 **[A1]** to provide additional confidence that the actual product used to fulfil the specification meets the requirements.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

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