SRL

UKAS TESTING
0444

Technical Report
C/23917/T04

Project

The Laboratory Measurement of Random Incidence Sound Absorption Coefficient of Various Ceiling Tiles

Prepared for

Fibrite AB

By

Allen Smalls

Published

6 February 2018

SRL
Telephone +44(0)1787 247595
Website www.srltsl.com
London, Birmingham, Manchester, Sudbury

Quality Assurance	
Project Title	The Laboratory Measurement of Random Incidence Sound Absorption Coefficient of Various Ceiling Tiles
Document Title	Technical Report
Client	Fibrite AB
Client Address	Granbacken S-749 51 Grillby Sweden
Author	Allen Smalls
Checker	Richard Critchlow
Report Number	C/23917/T04

Summary

Tests have been done in SRL's Laboratory at Holbrook House, Sudbury, Suffolk, to determine the random incidence sound absorption of various ceiling products in accordance with BS EN ISO 354:2003.

From these measurements, the required results have been derived and are presented in both tabular and graphic form in Test Certificates 11144 & 11145.

The results are given in 1/3rd octave bands over the frequency range 50Hz to 10kHz, which is beyond that required by the test standard. Measurements outside the standard frequency range are not UKAS accredited.

Allen Smalls
Quality Manager
For and on behalf of
SRL Technical Services Limited
Tel: 01787 247595
Email: asmalls@srltsl.com

Richard Critchlow
Deputy Technical Manager

Contents

1.0 Details of Measurements

1.1 Location

Sound Research Laboratories

Holbrook House

Little Waldingfield

Sudbury

Suffolk

CO10 0TF

1.2 Test Dates

1 & 2 February 2018

1.3 Tester

Allen Smalls of SRL Technical Services Limited

1.4 Personnel Present

A. Schiedeck	Knauf AMF GmbH & Co. KG

1.5 Instrumentation and Apparatus Used

Make	Description	Type
E D I	Microphone Multiplexer	
	Microphone Power Supply Unit	
Norwegian Electronics	Real Time Analyser	830
Brüel & Kjaer	Windshields	UA0237
	Pre Amplifiers	2669C
	Microphone Calibrator	4231
	Omnipower Sound Source	4296
Larson Davis	12mm Condenser Microphone	2560, 377A60
TOA	Graphic Equalizer	E-1231
QSC Audio	Power Amplifier	RMX 1450
G.R.A.S	Pre Amplifier	26AK

1.6 References

BS EN ISO 11654:1997	Sound absorbers for use in buildings. Rating of sound absorption.
ATSM C423-01	Sound Absorption and sound Absorption Coefficients by the Reverberation Room Method
BS EN ISO 354:2003	Measurement of sound absorption in a reverberation room

2.0 Description of Test

2.1 Description of Sample

Tests were performed on the following products.

SRL Test No.	Description in Brief	Tile Production Date	Tile Weight Kg/m²	Mounting
60	Fibrophone Fine AS 600x600x20mm	16/01/2018	5.2	E-200
71	Fibrophone Fine AS 600x600x20mm	16/01/2018	5.2	E-100

Sampling plan: Selected at random

Sample condition: New

Details supplied by: Fibrite AB

Sample installed by: Fibrite AB

2.2 Sample Delivery date

19 January 2018

2.3 Test Procedures

The sample was mounted/located and tested in accordance with the relevant standard. The method and procedure is described in Appendix A. The measurement uncertainty is given in Appendix B. The mounting method is given in Appendix C.

3.0 Results

The results of the measurements and subsequent analysis are given in Test Certificates 11144 & 11145.

Results relate only to the items tested.

Appendix A - Test Procedure

Measurements of Random Incidence Sound Absorption Coefficients to BS EN ISO 354:2003 - TP14 (Plane Absorbers)

In the laboratory, random incidence sound absorption coefficients are determined from the rate of decay of a sound field in a reverberation room, with and without a test sample installed. The rate of decay is described by the time a sound field takes to decay by 60dB, known as the reverberation time.

The reverberation room is constructed from 215mm brick, which is internally plastered with a reinforced concrete roof and floor. The reverberation room is rectangular, measuring 8.3 metres long, 6.7 metres wide, 5.4 metres high. The volume is 300m^3, the total surface area, 275m^2. From the ceiling hang 10 randomly positioned diffusers, with a total surface area (for one side) of 20m^2. The room is isolated from the surrounding structure by the use of resilient mountings and seals, ensuring good acoustic isolation.

Using at least two omnidirectional loudspeaker positions, broad band random noise is produced in the room using an electronic generator and power amplifier. When the amplification system is switched off, the decay of sound is filtered into one-third octave band widths and the reverberation times measured. This process is repeated for each of six microphone positions and the values arithmetically averaged to obtain a final value for each frequency.

The sample, which has an area between 10m^2 and 15.7m^2 is then laid over a pre-assembled laboratory test rig positioned on the floor of the reverberation room so that no part of it is closer than one metre from any edge of the boundaries. The test rig provides a space beneath the sample, the depth of which can be varied to simulate specific requirements such as the void above a suspended ceiling system. The procedure of measuring the reverberation times then repeated.

The sound absorption coefficients are calculated from the difference in decay rates for each frequency according to the formula:

$$a_s = \frac{A_T}{S}$$

where

a_s is the random incidence absorption coefficient

A_t is the increase in equivalent sound absorption area of the test specimen (m^2)

S is the area covered by the test specimen (m^2)

The equivalent absorption area of the test specimen is further defined as:

$$A_T = 55.3V\left(\frac{1}{c_2 T_2} - \frac{1}{c_1 T_1}\right) - 4V(m_2 - m_1)$$

where

V is the volume of the empty reverberation room (m³)

c_1 is the speed of sound in the empty room (m/sec)

T_1 is the reverberation time in the empty room (sec)

m_1 is the power attenuation coefficient calculated according to ISO 9613-1 using the climatic conditions that have been present in the empty rooms during the measurement.

c_2, T_2 and m_2 have the same meanings as c_1, T_1 and m_1 but with the test specimen in the room.

It is occasionally found that the absorption coefficient derived in this manner reaches a value greater than unity. This is impossible, by definition, and investigation has shown that this anomaly is due to diffraction of the impinging sound waves at the edges of the sample. In practical terms this is insignificant.

Appendix B - Measurement Uncertainty

BS EN ISO 354:2003 - TP14

1. Introduction

The estimated values of uncertainty are based on a standard uncertainty multiplied by a coverage factor of K = 2, which provides a level of confidence of approximately 95%.

Table 1: Uncertainty for Equivalent Absorption Area Measurement

Frequency, Hz	Expanded uncertainty K = 2, 95% % of A_1 or A_2
100	9.0
125	8.1
160	5.6
200	6.7
250	4.3
315	8.1
400	4.6
500	5.0
630	5.3
800	3.2
1000	3.5
1250	3.1
1600	2.8
2000	2.7
2500	2.2
3150	1.8
4000	1.6
5000	1.6

2. Estimation of Expanded Uncertainty for Sample Equivalent Sound Absorption Area

The expanded uncertainty, U_A,m^2 is estimated by using the following formulae:-

$$U_A = \sqrt{\left(\frac{uA_1}{100}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{uA_2}{100}\right)^2}$$

where

U_A is the expanded uncertainty for the sample equivalent sound absorption area, for K = 2, 95%, m^2

u is the estimated expanded uncertainty for the equivalent sound absorption area, taken from Table 1 above, K = 2, 95%, % of A_1 or A_2

A_1 is the equivalent sound absorption area of the empty room, m^2

A_2 is the equivalent sound absorption area of the room with the sample, m^2

3. Estimation of expanded Uncertainty for Sound Absorption Coefficients

The expanded uncertainty for sound absorption coefficients, U_{α_s} , is estimated using the following formulae:-

$$U_{\alpha_s} = \frac{\alpha_s U_A}{A}$$

where

U_{α_s} is the expanded uncertainty for sound absorption coefficients, K=2, 95%

α_s is the sound absorption coefficient

U_A is the expanded uncertainty for the sample equivalent sound absorption area, K=2, 95%, m^2

A is the sample equivalent sound absorption area, m^2

Appendix C - Mounting Types

Descriptions of Test Specimen Mountings for Sound Absorption Tests

BS EN ISO 354:2003 describes various test specimen mountings. The one used is briefly described as follows:

Type E Mounting

Test specimen mounted with airspace behind it. The suffix of the mounting type

(e.g; Type E-200) is the distance in mm between the exposed face of the test specimen and the room surface.

Sudbury Consultancy
Holbrook House
Little Waldingfield
Sudbury
Suffolk
CO10 0TF
Tel: +44 (0)1787 247595

Manchester Consultancy
Lynnfield House
Church Street
Altrincham
Cheshire
WA14 4DZ
Tel: +44 (0)161 929 5585

London Consultancy
Citypoint, 12th Floor
1 Ropemaker Street
London
EC2Y 9HT
Tel: +44 (0)207 251 3585

Birmingham Consultancy
Cornwall Buildings
45 Newhall Street
Birmingham
B3 3QR
Tel: +44 (0)121 270 6680

South Africa Consultancy
Ground Floor, Liesbeek House
River Park
Gloucester Road
Mowbray
7700
South Africa
Tel: +27 (0)21 680 5305

Laboratory
The Street
Little Waldingfield
Sudbury
Suffolk
CO10 0TF
Tel: +44 (0)1787 247595

Website: www.srltsl.com
e-mail: srl@srltsl.com

SRL offers services in:
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Registered Name and Address:
SRL Technical Services Limited
Holbrook House
Little Waldingfield
Sudbury
Suffolk
CO10 0TF

Registered Number: 907694 England

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

SRL Sound Research Laboratories

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Holbrook House, Little Waldingfield,
Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0TF
Tel: +44 (0) 1787 247595
e-mail: srl@srltsl.com

UKAS TESTING 0444

Test Certificate No. 11144

Contract: C/23917

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Date: 05 February 2018

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See SRL report C/23917/T04 for full details

The Laboratory Measurement of Random Incidence Sound Absorption to BS EN ISO 354:2003

Client: Fibrite AB
Test Date: 01/02/2018

Empty Room:	**Temperature:**	16.7	°C	**Humidity:**	45	%RH	**Pressure:**	998 mbar
Room with Sample:	**Temperature:**	16.5	°C	**Humidity:**	43	%RH	**Pressure:**	1001 mbar

Sample Description: Fibrophone Fine AS 600x600x20mm

Mounting Method: E - 200
Sample Area: 10.8 m^2
Chamber Volume: 300 m^3

	Test 60			
Freq Hz	T1 sec	T2 sec	Absorp Coeff α_s	Practical Absorp Coeff #
*50**	*4.70*	*4.09*	*0.14*	
*63**	*5.04*	*3.49*	*0.40*	*n/a*
*80**	*7.28*	*4.48*	*0.39*	
100	7.60	4.83	0.34	
125	7.53	4.12	0.50	0.45
160	6.72	3.84	0.50	
200	7.10	3.66	0.60	
250	7.55	3.66	0.63	0.65
315	7.25	3.52	0.66	
400	6.99	3.38	0.69	
500	6.06	3.10	0.71	0.70
630	5.56	2.86	0.77	
800	5.78	2.92	0.76	
1000	6.05	2.95	0.78	0.80
1250	5.74	2.76	0.84	
1600	5.10	2.59	0.85	
2000	4.64	2.39	0.90	0.90
2500	4.00	2.20	0.90	
3150	3.13	1.91	0.89	
4000	2.50	1.65	0.87	0.90
5000	1.88	1.34	0.88	
*6300**	*1.25*	*0.99*	*0.82*	
*8000**	*1.02*	*0.85*	*0.71*	*n/a*
*10000**	*0.71*	*0.61*	*0.82*	

α_w 0.80

Class B

Calculated to EN ISO 11654:1997

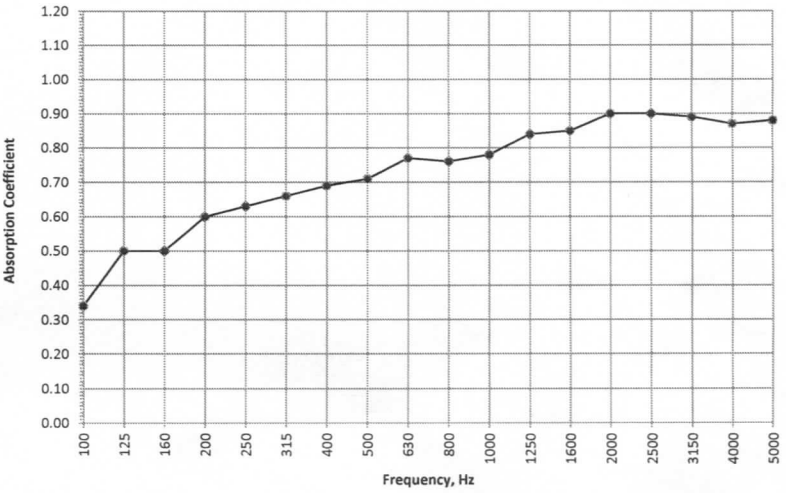
NRC 0.75

Calculated to ASTM C 423-01

** Denotes frequencies outside the range covered by BS EN ISO 354:2003*

T1, empty room reverberation time
T2, room reverberation time with sample

Sound Absorption Coefficient



Practical absorption coefficient, BS EN ISO 11654:1997 | v5

Allen Smalls
Quality Manager

Richard Critchlow
Deputy Technical Manager

SRL Sound Research Laboratories

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Holbrook House, Little Waldingfield,
Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0TF
Tel: +44 (0) 1787 247595
e-mail: srl@srltsl.com

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Test Certificate No. 11145

Contract: C/23917

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Date: 05 February 2018

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The Laboratory Measurement of Random Incidence Sound Absorption to BS EN ISO 354:2003

Client: Fibrite AB
Test Date: 02/02/2018

Empty Room:	**Temperature:**	16.7	°C	**Humidity:**	45	%RH	**Pressure:**	1005 mbar
Room with Sample:	**Temperature:**	16.3	°C	**Humidity:**	44	%RH	**Pressure:**	1006 mbar

Sample Description: Fibrophone Fine AS 600x600x20mm

Mounting Method: E - 100
Sample Area: 10.8 m²
Chamber Volume: 300 m³

	Test 71			
Freq Hz	T1 sec	T2 sec	Absorp Coeff α_s	Practical Absorp Coeff #
*50**	*4.59*	*4.55*	*0.01*	
*63**	*4.57*	*4.23*	*0.08*	*n/a*
*80**	*7.20*	*6.48*	*0.07*	
100	7.71	5.37	0.25	
125	7.37	4.83	0.32	0.30
160	6.57	4.24	0.38	
200	6.95	3.34	0.70	
250	7.39	3.40	0.72	0.70
315	7.11	3.33	0.72	
400	6.71	3.12	0.77	
500	5.81	2.90	0.78	0.80
630	5.42	2.80	0.78	
800	5.69	2.90	0.76	
1000	5.95	2.95	0.77	0.75
1250	5.73	2.90	0.77	
1600	5.12	2.61	0.84	
2000	4.53	2.39	0.88	0.85
2500	3.99	2.22	0.89	
3150	3.17	1.91	0.91	
4000	2.50	1.63	0.92	0.90
5000	1.91	1.35	0.92	
*6300**	*1.27*	*0.97*	*1.01*	
*8000**	*1.06*	*0.82*	*1.12*	*n/a*
*10000**	*0.73*	*0.65*	*0.60*	

α_w 0.80

Class B

Calculated to EN ISO 11654:1997

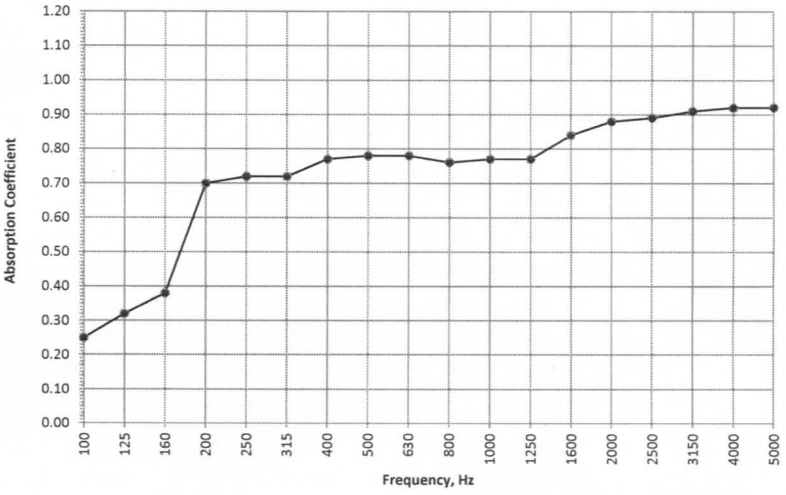
NRC 0.80

Calculated to ASTM C 423-01

** Denotes frequencies outside the range covered by BS EN ISO 354:2003*

T1, empty room reverberation time
T2, room reverberation time with sample

Sound Absorption Coefficient



Practical absorption coefficient, BS EN ISO 11654:1997

v5

Allen Smalls
Quality Manager

Richard Critchlow
Deputy Technical Manager