## robustdetails®





#### What does Robust Details Limited ACTUALLY do?...



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#### What does Robust Details Limited ACTUALLY do?...



Classification: Classification: Mot Testing Stations

#### What does Robust Details Limited ACTUALLY do?...



### ★★★★★ da\*e baker - 20 March 2014 15:03

# Took my car to be MoT'd but found instead that Robust Details provides a fantastic alternative to pre-completion sound testing for new homes. Imagine my surprise! The guys there were very helpful and their levels of service are great. Apparently, there's loads of robust detail solutions for full-fill party walls, enabling builders to meet Part L and Part E. They also pointed out that my wiper blades needed replacing. Highly recommended. Show less

#### The Scheme

To use the **robust**details<sup>®</sup> option, the 'Person carrying out the work' **must**:

- Select appropriate Robust
  Details from the Handbook\*, and
- Design in accordance with the relevant Robust Detail specification(s)

(\*Handbook available FREE on-line at <u>www.robustdetails.com</u> )



#### The Scheme

To use the **robust**details<sup>®</sup> option, the 'Person carrying out the work' **must**:

- Register each plot with Robust Details Limited [now on-line at <u>www.robustdetails.com</u>]
- Give registration document
  to the BCB [before work starts]
- Build in accordance with the relevant Robust Detail specification
- Satisfy the BCB that the relevant requirements have been met
- Agree to be subject to robustdetails<sup>®</sup> scheme surveillance (if selected)





#### Surveillance findings

#### 12,000+ tests have been undertaken



Of these:

- 3.1% did not achieve the performance expected of a Robust Detail;
- 98.3% met the Building Regulations requirements

	Airborne <i>D</i> <sub>n<i>T</i>,w</sub> + <i>C</i> <sub>tr</sub>	Impact <i>L</i> ' <sub>n<i>T</i>,w</sub>
Building Regulations	45	62
Robust Detail	47	60

#### Common Problems...





Wrong wall ties









#### Beyond Part E







#### The Scheme

#### Its all about context...



A bit like car production:

- a prototype is developed
- testing is undertaken

If successful, the same design can be repeated without the need for further testing

#### Ventilation





- MEV and MVHR becoming more common
- 25,000 in dwellings, 15,000 in nondomestic each year
- Issues with design, installation, commissioning
- Looking at a pattern book approach
  - Robust technical systems
  - Noise, usability also factors for owners
- Piloting 2014/15 with selected partners

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#### **Design versus Actual**

#### Some homes don't perform as designed



- Design it right, build it right, get the data right
- SAP as a model of reality is OK-ish
- Issues seem to be linking processes
- Could we standardise process and product a bit
- Possible role for Robust Details

#### Thermal bridging





- Becoming critical in Part L 2013
- Multiple sources of guidance
  - Government
  - NHBC and Industry
  - Constructive Details
- Buildable, checkable, robust, sustainable?
- Integration with BIM

#### BIM



- The scary bit it will transform construction
  - Comforting bit more on processes than stuff
- Standardised, structured data is key
- Pretty 3D drawings are secondary
- Working on it so we are ready, when necessary, to support industry



#### **Allowable Solutions**



#### **Allowable Solutions**

- We are not interested in what its spent on
  - · Are interested in making it easy to use
    - Integrate with SAP, Part L and building control
      - Demo developed of a system

# Allowable solutions

- Maximise choice, minimise administration costs
  - Trialling soon with ZCH and others

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#### **Defra report NANR 314**: An investigation into the effect of historic noise policy interventions



#### **Building Regulations, Part E**:

"The net effect of the policy over the period 2003 – 2010, assessed in terms of preventing 'failures', was estimated to have been about 198,000 attached houses and 111,000 purpose-built flats".

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NHBC Foundation Report NF56: Sound Progress: A review of homeowner feedback on noise in new homes



**NHBC Foundation Report NF56:** 

Sound Progress: A review of homeowner feedback on noise in new homes



Attached Homes:

- "From 2004, attached homes built in successive years generated progressively fewer homeowner contacts related to noise problems...
- ...this was largely due to fewer concerns over transmission of noise from adjoining homes."





#### Attached Homes (contd..):

 "The start of the downward trend coincides with the new regulatory guidance in AD E 2003 and the associated launch of the Robust Details scheme in 2004."

#### **Detached Homes:**

 "From 2004, owners of detached homes were more likely to contact NHBC in relation to noise issues than those living in attached homes."



