Air Tightness Testing
ATTMA
(DCLG approved)
Registered Scheme for Testers

Neal Mcdonald
Principal Engineer
VINCI Technology Centre UK Ltd
VINCI - A Global Company

- Operating in 100 countries
- 2,100 companies
- 194,000+ employees
- €40b turnover

The world’s largest non-state owned construction and concessions company

VINCI in the UK

- 10,000+ employees
- 2.26b turnover
VINCI Technology Centre UK Limited

- What we do
  - Compliance
  - Sustainability
  - Investigation

- Resources
  - 75 engineers, scientists and technicians
  - 5.5 Ha campus (~8 football pitches)
ATTMA is the Air Tightness Testing & Measurement Association

- Started out as a trade association with just 3 members
- Grew to 19 member companies
- Created a registered tester scheme to replace the existing BINDT scheme
- Sole reason is to improve testing standards in the industry
Who are ATTMA?

- Run the only authorised scheme in the UK
- Represent over 300 test engineers from over 100 companies
- Trusted with writing the approved method for testing in England, Wales, and are referenced in Republic of Ireland & Northern Ireland Building Regulations and Scotland Technical Handbooks
- Independent governing committee oversee operations and trade association still sacrifice their own time to improve quality of air tightness in all countries
Independent?

Department for Communities and Local Government

The British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing

The Building Futures Group

Building Control Alliance

Home Builders Federation

LABC

NHBC

The Association of Noise Consultants

Northern Ireland Executive

The Scottish Government

United Kingdom Accreditation Service

Future Solutions for a better built environment, today
What has changed?

- ATTMA now physically audits its members
- ATTMA operates a lodgement database
  - Reducing ‘fake’ testing
  - Improving communication lines between tester and BCO / AI
  - Creating a unified certificate so BCO’s and AI’s know what to accept
- Offering further training to companies that want / need it
- Offering a no risk route to commercial testing of simple buildings
- Creating clear industry guidelines for what is and isn’t acceptable
Why Now?

- BINDT (British Institute of Non Destructive Testing) have closed their scheme and worked with ATTMA to create a new one.

- ATTMA (the trade association) have always been dedicated to improving testing standards & quality in the industry.

- Show the government the value of the industry:
  - Lodgement
  - Energy Efficiency

- Eliminating rogue traders that bring the industry into disrepute.
When does this happen?

- Now!

- ATTMA Registered Testers Scheme has been live since 1 January 2015

- We already have over 300 testers signed up from over 100 companies, representing over 70% of all testers in the market and an estimated 85% of all testing work
Frequently asked questions

- Aren’t BINDT registered testers still able to use their membership until it expires?
  
  - Yes, they technically can, but DCLG have advised Building Control and Approved Inspectors that this should come with limitations – (see DCLG’s Letter)

  - BINDT registered testers are NOT authorised to carry out non-dwelling testing of any size, ATTMA registered tester are (subject to size and complexity limitations)
Frequently asked questions

- How much is this going to cost?

  - Company Membership Fee: £200+VAT
  - Individual Testers Fee: £50+VAT per tester / EA
  - Audit Fee: £500-£750+VAT, depending on estimated audit time, which is dependent on number of testers and travel time

- The fees have increased from the BINDT scheme but the extra fee is required to pay for the auditing which will be of benefit to companies that have been correctly testing.
Frequently asked questions

- What does the audit consist of?
  - A desktop review
    - Checking calibration of kit
    - Checking software gives the correct answer when using known figures
    - Checking reports for every test engineer
    - Checking all paperwork, including standards, logs etc. are up to date
  - **Witness a site test**
    - Checking the condition of the kit
    - Checking the method is correct
    - Ensuring the test engineer understands the test standards
    - Ensuring the engineer has a basic understanding of air testing
Where can I find more information?
- Visit www.attma.org
  - For a list of current members, visit www.attma.org/registered_members
  - For a list of current scheme documents, visit www.attma.org/downloads
- Speak to the Scheme Manager
  - Barry Cope – manager@attma.org, 07872 065035
QUESTIONS