FAQ about the TBDK Directive

Attachment of supporting fitting components for turn-only and tilt&turn fittings

1 Foreword 3

2 FAQ – Information on use 3

3 FAQ 3

Published by

Gütegemeinschaft Schlösser und Beschläge e.V.

Offerstrasse 12

42551 Velbert, Germany

Phone: +49 (0)2051 / 95 06 - 0

Fax: +49 (0)2051 / 95 06 - 25

https://www.guetegemeinschaft-schloss-beschlag.de/Startseite/

https://www.guetegemeinschaft-schloss-beschlag.de/Pruefen-Zertifizieren/Richtlinien/TBDK/

Note

Technical details and recommendations in this journal of decisions and the guideline dealt with therein are based on the state of knowledge at the time of going to press. The contents of the disclaimer on the above-mentioned website apply.

Contents

1 Foreword 3

2 FAQ – Information on use 3

3 FAQ 3

3.1. Question 01: Is a manufacturer obliged to apply the TBDK directive? 3

3.2. Question 02: Can evidence of compliance with the TBDK directive also be provided by a system supplier? . 3

3.3. Question 03: Up to what sash weights must the TBDK be used? 3

3.4. Question 04: What is required for sash weights greater than 150 kg? 4

3.5. Question 05: Is the TBDK test a "production release”? 4

3.6. Question 06: The required TBDK values cannot be achieved – what should be done? 4

3.7. Question 07: The required TBDK values are exceeded significantly – does this mean that heavier sashes may be installed? 4

3.8. 2026-04-17: Revision of question 08: In which profile situations must testing be carried out in accordance with the TBDK? 5

3.9. Question 09: Can TBDK values differ from those given in the tables? 5

3.10. Question 10 In accordance with the TBDK, which test specimens should be given preference (sections/corners)? 5

3.11. Question 11: How long do certificates issued in accordance with the TBDK remain valid? 5

3.12. Question 12: Who determines the inspection intervals for factory production control (FPC)? 5

1 Foreword

In order to ensure the long-term functionality and thus also the operating safety of windows and French windows over their expected period of use, particular importance must be given to the attachment of safety-relevant fittings. This refers to the attachment of load-bearing components, scissor bearings and corner bearings (a unit comprising corner bearing components on both the sash and the frame sides).

The **responsibility** for sufficient strength of the fitting components lies with the **fitting manufacturer**.

The **responsibility** for the correct attachment to the frame material (sashes and frames), and for ensuring the requirements listed here lies with the **manufacturer of windows and French windows**.

The answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ) set out here must be taken into account, and the requirements set out must be complied with, in order to fulfil the respective responsibilities of market participants.

2 FAQ – Information on use

The specifications of the TBDK directive as well as all of the instructions in this FAQ must be applied by manufacturers of windows and French windows before using turn-only and tilt&turn fittings in the intended window systems for the first time.

3 FAQ

3.1. Question 01: Is a manufacturer obliged to apply the TBDK directive?

Answer 01

- Yes – provided that the fitting manufacturer stipulates, in the documentation for its fittings, compliance with the requirements of the TBDK directive. The manufacturer of windows and French windows must observe the technical documentation of their fitting manufacturer.

3.2. Question 02: Can evidence of compliance with the TBDK directive also be provided by a system supplier?

Answer 02

- Yes – as set out in Section 2 of the TBDK.
- A system supplier (e.g. profile provider, provider of documents for the CE marking of, for example, wooden window elements, etc.) must provide appropriate system descriptions (system specifications and limits) and processing guidelines together with the verification and must be complied with by the manufacturer of windows and French windows.

3.3. Question 03: Up to what sash weights must the TBDK be used?

Answer 03

- The TBDK must, in principle, be applied to all sash weights (sash masses) for which the fitting is approved and for which the fitting is used (see Section 4).

3.4. Question 04: What is required for sash weights greater than 150 kg?

Answer 04

- With these sash weights, several system limits are usually reached simultaneously (widths, height and area limitations.)
- To ensure that the fittings are securely and adequately attached, Section 4.2 must therefore be observed.
- The manufacturer of windows and French windows must carry out (or have carried out) a durability test in accordance with the details set out in 4.2. The relevant use case diagram is validated in this process.

3.5. Question 05: Is the TBDK test a "production release”?

Answer 05

- No – Verification through TBDK testing and compliance with the TBDK directive serve to ensure that the (bearing) components are secured in the required and sufficient manner.
- In principle, the window manufacturer determines the manufacturing specifications, taking into account all relevant guidelines and technical product documentation relating to the selected components, their combination and the design of the frame connection, and is solely responsible for approving the production.

3.6. Question 06: The required TBDK values cannot be achieved – what should be done?

Answer 06

- First, check whether:
  - All the profile manufacturer’s / fitting manufacturer’s specifications have been adhered to (e.g. steel reinforcement is of sufficient dimension, the applicable use case diagram has been followed, etc.)

    and/or
  - There are options for optimisation (e.g. design of the steel reinforcement used, screw type, pre-drilling, etc.)
- If optimisations do not yield the intended results:
  - Verify the achievable table value by carrying out a test in accordance with TBDK.
  - The value obtained specifies the “possible maximum” sash weight (sash mass).

    Please note: For sashes with a low weight, an adapted use case diagram (UCD) from the fitting manufacturer must be used!

3.7. Question 07: The required TBDK values are exceeded significantly – does this mean that heavier sashes may be installed?

Answer 07

- No – the limits on maximum dimensions (UCD) and sash weight for the fitting system used must be adhered to.

3.8. 2026-04-17: Revision of question 08: In which profile situations must testing be carried out in accordance with the TBDK?

Answer 08

- Designs with identical configurations in the area for hinge side attachment may be grouped into product families. For designs that differ in relevant details, a separate assessment must be carried out in accordance with the TBDK.
- Examples of relevant details include:
  - Different reinforcement configurations (shape/thickness)
  - Different frame materials (e.g. different raw densities, proportion of regranulate in plastic profiles, etc.)
  - Different profile configurations (e.g. wall thickness /screw ribs / position of the reinforcement in the profile, etc.)
  - Systems with alternative reinforcements or with a ground beam, aluminium/plastic hybrid systems, etc.)

3.9. Question 09: Can TBDK values differ from those given in the tables?

Answer 09

- Yes – A fitting manufacturer may specify different TBDK values in conjunction with a UCD.

3.10. Question 10 In accordance with the TBDK, which test specimens should be given preference (sections/corners)?

Answer 10

- Both design types are permitted.
- It must be ensured that the selected test specimen accurately reflects the attachment of the (bearing) components as in series production.

3.11. Question 11: How long do certificates issued in accordance with the TBDK remain valid?

Answer 11

- Certificates issued in accordance with the TBDK remain valid for as long as the design in question (e.g. method of manufacture, fixing devices, etc.) and the TBDK directive remain unchanged.

3.12. Question 12: Who determines the inspection intervals for factory production control (FPC)?

Answer 12

- To ensure that TBDK values are maintained at all times, appropriate measures must be incorporated into the manufacturer's factory production control (FPC) for windows and French doors.
- The manufacturer of windows and French windows is responsible for determining the inspection intervals; which must be sufficient to ensure that the attachments remain secure.

This FAQ was developed in cooperation with:

Fachverband Schloss- und Beschlagindustrie e.V. (German Lock and Hardware Industry Trade Association), Velbert

Offerstrasse 12

42551 Velbert, Germany

Prüfinstitut Schlösser und Beschläge (Testing Institute for Locks and Fittings), Velbert

Wallstrasse 41

42551 Velbert, Germany

Institut für Fenstertechnik e.V. (Institute for Window Technology)

Theodor-Gietl-Strasse 7-9

83026 Rosenheim, Germany