BS EN 13050:2011
Incorporating corrigendum August 2011

BSI Standards Publication

Curtain Walling — Watertightness — Laboratory test under dynamic condition of air pressure and water spray

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 13050:2011, incorporating corrigendum August 2011. It supersedes DD ENV13050:2001 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee B/538/6, Curtain walling.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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ISBN 978 0 580 76297 0

ICS 91.060.10

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This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 July 2011.

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
30 September 2011	Implementation of CEN correction notice July 2011: modification of contents and clause 10

EUROPEAN STANDARD

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

EN 13050

July 2011

ICS 91.060.10

Supersedes ENV 13050:2000

English Version

Curtain Walling - Watertightness - Laboratory test under dynamic condition of air pressure and water spray

Façades rideaux - Etanchéité à l'eau - Essai en laboratoire sous pression d'air dynamique et projection d'eau

Vorhangfassaden - Schlagregendichtheit - Laborprüfung mit wechselndem Luftdruck und Besprühen mit Wasser

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Ref. No. EN 13050:2011: E

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Foreword

This document (EN 13050:2011) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 33 "Doors, windows, shutters, building hardware and curtain walling", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by January 2012, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by January 2012.

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1 Scope

This European Standard defines an additional test method which may be used when assessing the watertightness of curtain walling, both its fixed and openable parts. It is a supplementary test, not required for classification purposes, and it should be used only when the project specifier has determined its necessity.

This European Standard describes how the outside face of a curtain walling specimen should be subjected to a continuous spray of water and a turbulent airflow, with continuous pulses of positive air pressure on the outside of the test specimen generated from within the chamber.

This European Standard applies to any curtain walling product as defined in EN 13830.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 13119:2007, *Curtain walling - Terminology*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 13119:2007 and the following apply.

3.1
test pressure
difference between the static air pressures on the outside and inside faces of the test specimen, which is expressed in Pascals (Pa)

3.2
positive test pressure
when the static air pressure is greater on the outside face of the test specimen than on the inside face

3.3
watertightness
ability of the curtain walling specimen to resist water leakage

3.4
water leakage
penetration of water that continuously or repeatedly wet parts of :

1) the inside face of the specimen

2) any parts of the specimen not intended to be wetted as part of the system of water drainage to the outside

4 Principle

The application of a constant and specified quantity of water in a spray combined with a specified turbulent airflow and continuous regular pulses of positive test pressure, on to the outside face of the specimen, while inspecting for water leakage.

5 Apparatus

5.1 A chamber with an opening into which the test specimen can be fitted.

This chamber shall be of sufficient strength and rigidity to withstand the test pressures likely to be imposed during the tests. It shall not deflect under test pressure to any extent which would affect the performance of the test specimen (Figure 2).

Adequately representative structural supports shall be provided to which the specimen shall be attached in accordance with the conditions of use in the works (see also Clause 6).

5.2 A **means for applying controlled positive test pressures** to the specimen arranged such that the air does not impinge directly on the specimen with any significant velocity.

5.3 A **means by which rapidly controlled changes of test pressure may be produced** within defined limits.

5.4 A means of measuring the applied test pressures, steady or fluctuation, calibrated within an accuracy of ± 5 %.

5.5 An adjustable device for spraying water at a minimum of 2 l/m²·min so that a constant and continuous film is applied to the outside surface of the specimen.

The water spraying device shall have nozzles spaced on a regular grid and at a uniform distance from the outside surface of the specimen (see Figures 3 and 4).

The local mains water supply will be an acceptable source providing it is clean enough to allow the spray nozzles to function properly throughout the test.

The nozzles shall include the following features:

— Circular full cone spray;

— Spray angle minimum 90° to maximum 120°;

— Working pressure range two to three bars according to the manufacturer's specification.

5.6 A **means of measuring the total amount of water supplied** within an accuracy of 10 %.

5.7 A **drain for the sprayed water which will not interfere with the drainage** of the specimen frame.

5.8 A **mobile wind generator for applying a controlled turbulent airflow** to all points on the outside surface of the specimen.

The turbulent airflow shall be generated by a variable speed axial fan fixed to a 600 mm diameter rigid duct which directs the airflow around a 90° bend onto the outside surface of the specimen (see Figure 5). The bend in the duct shall have an inside radius of 300 mm ± 5 mm and the straight length of duct after the bend shall be 300 mm ± 10 mm.
The fan shall be capable of generating an airflow with the following features, measured 20 mm from the end of the duct and not more than 300 mm from its central horizontal axis:

3) A minimum velocity of not less than 30 m/s along the central horizontal axis.

4) A minimum velocity of not less than 20 m/s over 75 % of the measurement area.

5) A minimum velocity of not less than 8 m/s at any point within the measurement area.

The axis of the airflow from the duct shall be horizontal and normal to the outside surface of the specimen with the end of the duct 650 mm, ± 50 mm, from the specimen.

The wind generator shall be mounted on a device that provides controlled movement in any direction in a plane

parallel to the glazing or infill panels without regard for any small inclined sections of the specimen.

6 Test specimen

The specimen shall be submitted in a fully operable condition, ready for use. It shall be supplied in a suitable manner for fixing onto the test chamber. The test specimen shall not be less than two typical units wide and shall be sufficient to provide full loading on at least one typical vertical joint or framing member or both. The specimen shall not obtain additional stiffness from the test chamber. The height shall be not less than the full distance between the curtain wall's point of connection to the building structure.

For custom designed curtain walls or special elements, the specimen shall be a size which is adequate to demonstrate its compliance with the specified requirements.

All parts of the specimen shall be full size, using the same materials, details, methods of construction and fixing as intended for use in the works. Conditions for connection to the structural support shall simulate those in the works as accurately as possible (see also 5.1).

This standard does not apply to the perimeter joints between the curtain walling and the test chamber, or to the joints between the curtain walling and the building construction.

7 Specimen preparation

No further preparations are necessary other than those already carried out for the preceding air permeability, watertightness and wind resistance tests.

8 Test Procedure

Open and close all openable windows 5 times and finally secure them in the closed position.

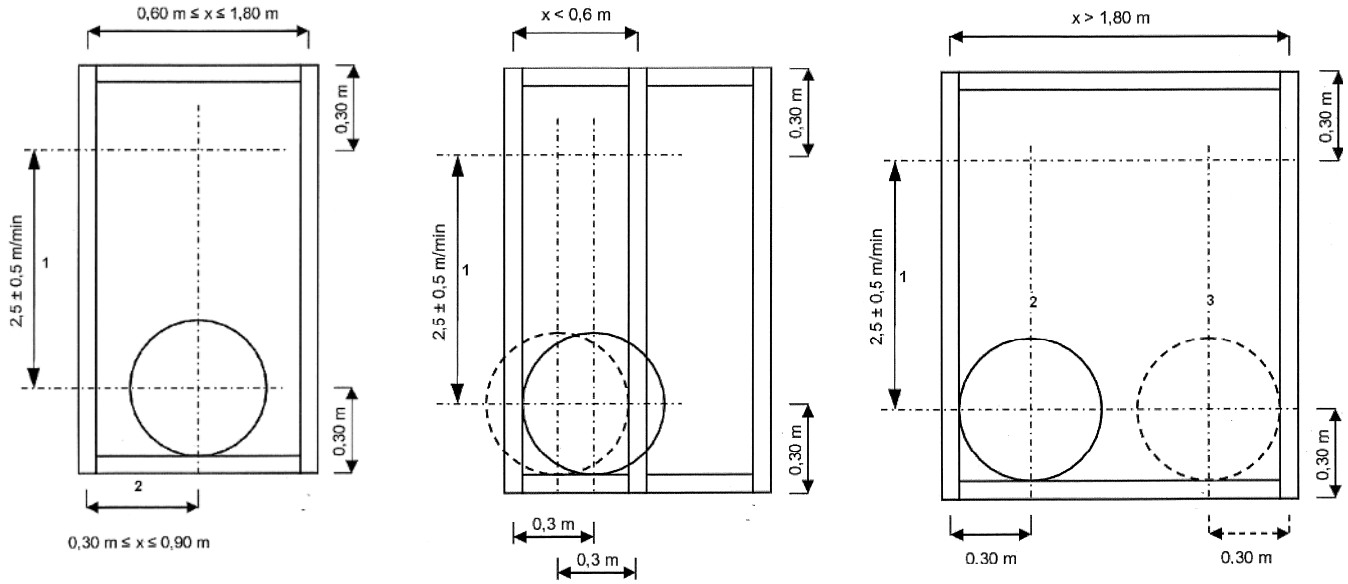
Calculate the maximum test pressure (P_{max}) and the minimum test pressure (P_{min}) from the actual, or intended maximum, design wind pressure (P_{design}) for the certain walling to comply with: For the calculation generally the highest design wind pressure (P_{design})(positive or negative) shall be taken in account.

$$P_{max} = 3\ P_{min} = 0{,}375 \times P_{design}$$

Apply 3 pulses of positive pressure equal to 500 Pa or 10 % greater than the maximum test pressure (P_{max}), whichever is greater. The time to increase the pressure up to the maximum value shall be between 1 s and 3 s. Each pulse shall be maintained for at least 3 s.

Operate the water sprays with 0 Pa test pressure and adjust the total flow to provide 2 l/m^2 per minute or the higher flow specified by the manufacturer calculated from the area of the specimen under test.
After 15 min of spraying without pressure (if the test subsequently to a watertightness test according to EN 12155 the unpressurized spraying time can be reduced to 5 min) apply positive test pressures in continuous regular pulses with a maximum value equal to the maximum test pressure (P_{max}) and a minimum value equal to 0,33 x P_{max}. The duration of each pressure pulse shall be 5 s $\pm$ 1 s.

The wind generator shall be positioned so that the distance between the horizontal axis of the duct and the bottom edge of the test specimen are approximately 0,30 m. The vertical axis of the wind generator shall be not less then 0,30 m and not more than 0,90 m away from any mullion axis (case 1). If the distance between the axis of the mullions less than 0,6 m each mullion shall be tested separately (case 2). If the distance between the vertical axis of the mullions more than 1,80 m, than as well every mullion shall be tested separately. In this case the vertical axis of the wind generator shall be 0,30 m away from the axis of the tested mullion (case 3) see Figure 1.



Key

1: traverse path
2: centred

1: traverse path

1: traverse path
2:1st Stroke
3: 2nd Stroke

a) Case 1 **b) Case 2** **c) Case 3**

Figure 1 Position of the wind generator

Start the fan and adjust the speed to produce an airflow with a velocity of 20 m/s when measured 20 mm from the end of the duct along the central horizontal axis.

Move the wind generator upwards at 2,5 m/min, ± 0,5 m/min, until the central horizontal axis from the duct is 0,3 m from the top of the specimen (see cases 1 to 3). Return the wind generator as rapidly as possible to the starting position near the bottom of the specimen. Make a second upward pass with the wind generator as before and return it to the starting position. Traverse the wind generator across the specimen so that the central horizontal axis of the duct is midway between the next pair of mullions and make two upward passes with the wind generator as before. Repeat this process until the whole of the specimen has been covered.

Constantly inspect the inside surfaces of the specimen for water leakage throughout the spraying period. Record the details of any water leaks that are observed and the total time from the start of spraying to the completion of the movement of the wind generator.

9 Test Results

If water leakage is observed, record the time since the start of spraying and the approximate position of the wind generator when any leak is first observed.

Identify the locations of all leaks on an elevational scaled drawing of the specimen.

Record the total time for which the specimen was sprayed with water, the maximum and minimum test pressures used for the pressure pulses and the total time for which they were applied.

10 Test Report

a) Prepare a report to positively identify the specimen/s and record all parameters checked.

b) the report shall include the following details:

c) reference to this standard

d) the name of the testing institute

e) person(s) requesting the test

f) details of test specimen as follows:

1) type(s) of construction
2) profile references
3) origin of materials
4) types of materials
5) sampling report (to be provided by the manufacturer)

g) dimensioned drawings of the specimen

h) results of the tests (see Clause 9)

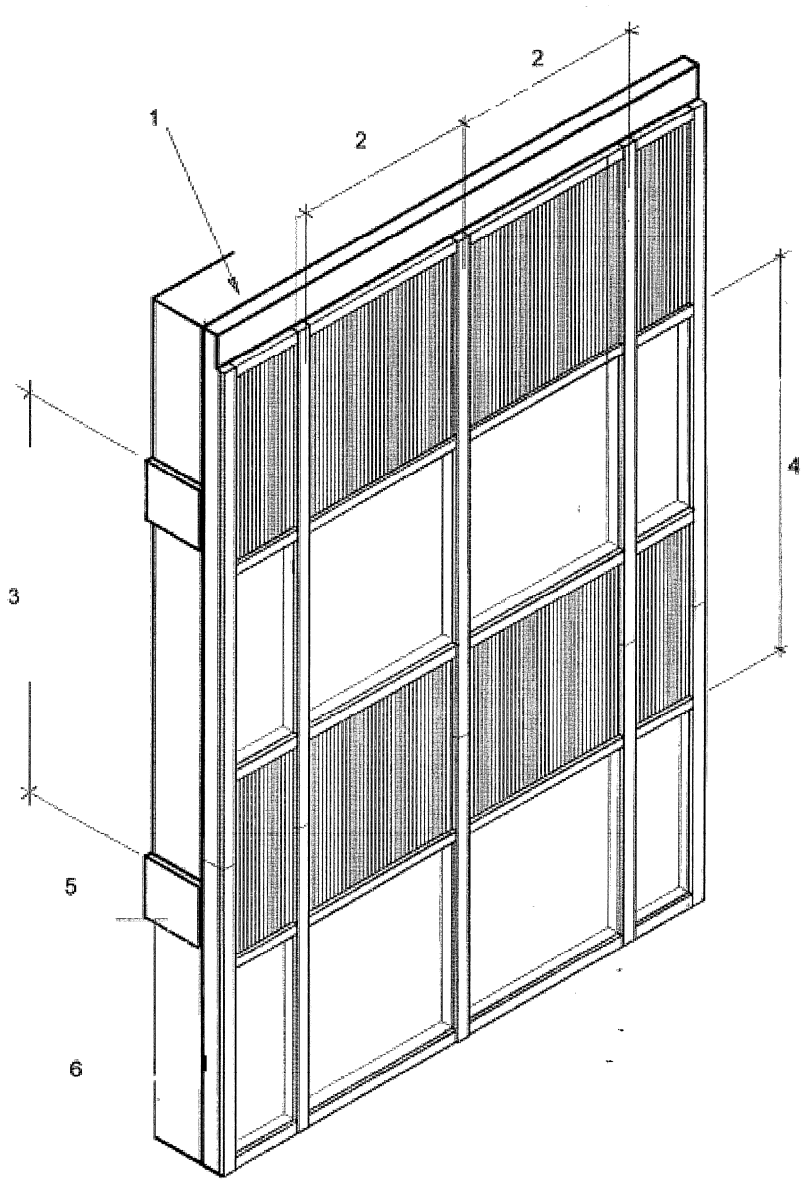
i) product designation form manufacturers literature

j) date of the tests

k) date of calibration of test chamber and equipment

l) date of report

m) signature of person preparing report

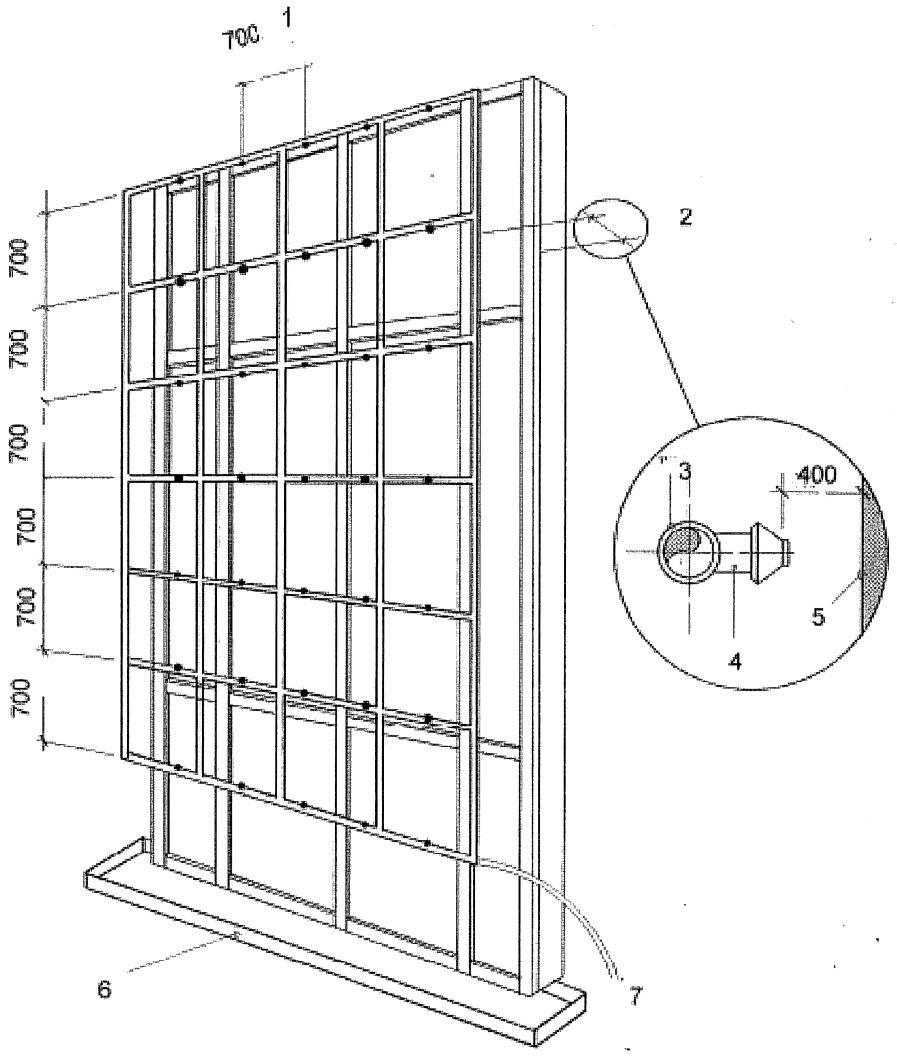


Key

1 Enclosed surround to test chamber
2 Typical module width
3 Typical storey height of structure
4 Typical storey height of curtain walling
5 Simulated floor structure
6 Test specimen sealed to chamber around total perimeter

Figure 2 Example of test specimen built onto test chamber

Dimensions in millimetres

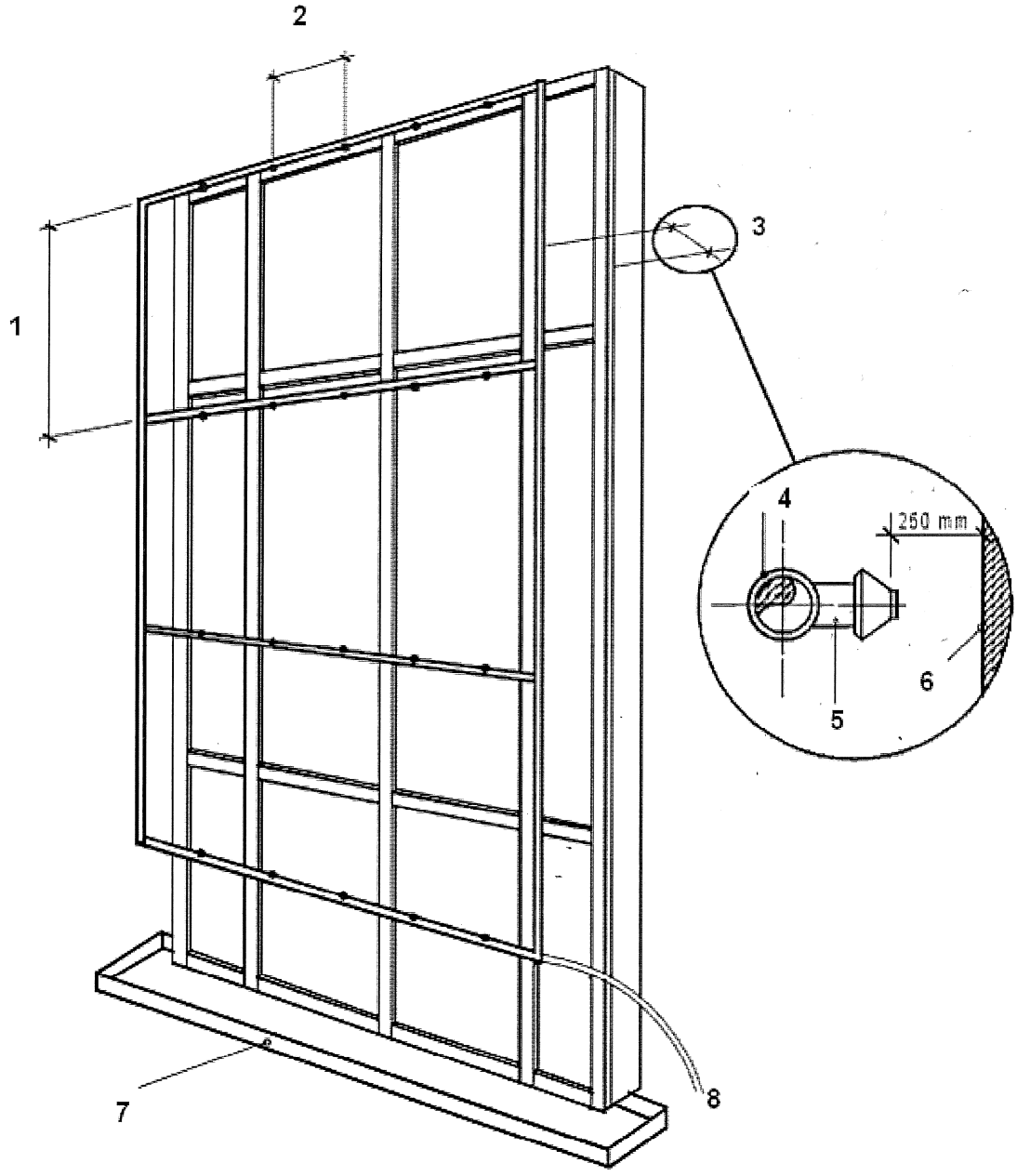


Key

1	Nozzle centres	5	Glass
2	Face of nozzle 400 mm from face of glass	6	Catchmen tray
3	Water pipe	7	Water supply
4	Nozzle		

NOTE The arrangement of the grid of spray nozzles over the test area of the specimen is not critical. Alternative arrangements from that shown in this figure may be used. However, it's providing an approximately continuous film of water over the specimen surface.

Figure 3 Example of water spray system



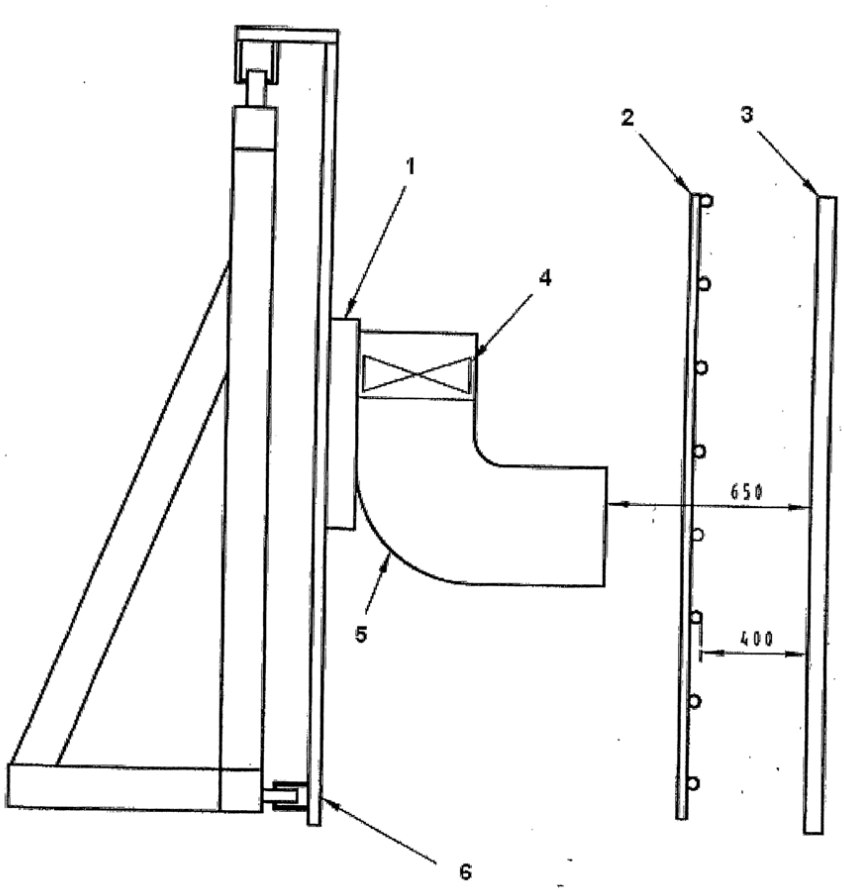
Key

1	1500 mm nozzle centres	5	Nozzle
2	Nozzle centres	6	Glass
3	Face of nozzle 250 mm from face of glass	7	Catchmen tray
4	Water pipe	8	Water supply

NOTE The arrangement of the grid of spray nozzles over the test area of the specimen is not critical. Alternative arrangements from that shown in this figure may be used. However, it's providing an approximately continuous film of water over the specimen surface.

Figure 4 Example of water spray system

Dimensions in millimetres



Key

1 Carriage for vertical travel
2 Water spray grid
3 Specimen
4 Axial fan
5 Duct with 90 degree bendinging and 600 mm diameter
6 Gantry for horizontal travel

Figure 5 Arrangement of mobile wind generator

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[2] EN 12154, *Curtain walling - Watertightness - Performance requirements and classification*

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[4] EN 13830, *Curtain walling - Product standard*

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