## **The Quality Pathway - Defect Avoidance**

## MORGAN SINDALL CONSTRUCTION

## Air, Fire and Acoustic Requirements,

To facilitate this ambition of getting the quality right, these checks should take place:

- > Fire cavity barriers and stopping should be fully specified and designed by the architect or specialist fire consultant
- Inspections and signoff should be undertaken as the work progresses and a final inspection recorded before areas are closed up (invite other interested parties as appropriate)
- > Check that independent test data is available for proprietary systems
- Ensure fire barriers are fully installed in cavity walls and form continuation from floor slabs to back of curtain walling. If installing before watertight then ensure the correct weather resistant grade is used
- > Continuous floor screeds will require acoustic break at compartment zones
- ➤ Where construction elements pass through acoustic, air and fire zones, check the specification and requirements
- > Check requirements under raised flooring and above suspended ceilings
- > Check that double skinned roofing systems have fire barriers where the insulation does not fully fit between the roofing sheets
- > All sealants, expanding foams, glues and tapes etc. must be fire, air or acoustic rated as required
- Where possible ensure that installers are members of approved schemes that are UKAS (United Kingdom
- Accreditation Service) accredited such as FIRAS or ASFP as an absolute minimum all operatives hold a Construction Skills Certification Scheme card that covers 'PFP' (Passive Fire Protection). It is our responsibility to ensure the individuals/ companies are competent
- > Who holds the design for specialist subcontractor proposed solutions do we have design in their order, do they hold third party certification?
- ➤ Ensure that all completed work by the PFP contractor has fixed a suitable permanent label to each item with a reference number, installation date and other suitable information e.g. period of fire resistance, to provide traceability and identified on marked-up record drawings
- ➤ It is inevitable that some follow on trades will have to remove or cause some minor damage to installed and completed PFP. This should be properly addressed with those trades and the fire resistance reinstated
- > Check that bricks or blocks are dense enough to withstand the external envelope air pressure test
- > If starting a contract on an existing building, then request an air test is carried out prior to the start of our works for a baseline of the air permeability before our works begin. This is especially important on labs projects

