



# THE LOSS PROTECTION CERTIFICATION BOARD AND LOSS PROTECTION STANDARDS

**The Loss Protection Certification Board is now owned by the BRE Trust.**

**The BRE Trust (formerly called the Foundation for the Built Environment) is a charitable company whose objectives are, through research and education, to advance knowledge, innovation and communication in all matters concerning the built environment for public benefit.**

*"LPCB approval schemes are all written in conjunction with insurers, professionals from the relevant industries, some trade bodies, end-users and, on occasion, government and police representatives. This process ensures that no one industry or commercial interest can predominate.*

*Specifiers can be assured that products and services listed by the LPCB have reached nationally or internationally recognised standards of performance and reliability.*

*Currently, products approved to LPS (Loss Prevention Standard) 1175 by the LPCB include roller shutters, security gates [grilles], doors and utility access covers but it can also be applied to turnstiles, vents, windows and temporary buildings."*

***Elaine Cooper, Press Officer, LPC and BRE***

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## **The purpose of the different levels is to:**

- Simulate various degrees of attack, from the opportunist burglar to break-in attempts by "professionals", possibly working in teams; and
- To provide clear security ratings to enable specifiers, consultants etc. to select products that will provide the level of protection required

General advice from insurers on protecting premises is to use "layered security". This ensures good measures of physical security, both externally and internally, backed-up by appropriate electronic security. An excellent start when it comes to physical security is the use of products approved by the LPCB to LPS 1175. The standard LPS 1175: "Specification for testing and classifying the burglary resistance of building components, strong-points and security encloses" covers several types of device and has six levels of security.



**To qualify for the coveted LPS 1175 Security Rating Classification from the Loss Prevention Certification Board. Security Grilles, Shutters and other physical products will have undergone a series of tests which are both comprehensive and practical.**

The stringent testing procedures operated by the LPCB demonstrate the care taken by the industry to ensure that products which successfully gain the certification at the different levels offer genuine protection to the purchasers.

The LPCB tests are designed to represent the full spectrum of attack which any building might suffer, with a rising scale in the strength of purpose of the attacker and the tools at his disposal. But it would be rare indeed for a burglar to have all the advantages.

### **Every Opportunity to Discover Any Weak Spots**

The stringent testing procedures provide the opportunity to study the detailed technical drawings and design documents for months in advance.

They then spend up to a week examining the items to be tested, in addition to refining their techniques for attacking the grille or shutter through a series of preliminary tests carried out on an identical item.

By the time they launch their final assault they know the item as well as the company which made it or the installer who fitted it, and are guaranteed to find any flaws in design or manufacture.

### **Experienced Engineering Background**

The test is carried out by two experienced engineers with a detailed knowledge of manufacturing and fabrication, so they can be relied upon to use the range of attack tools to maximum effect.

### **Time To Take A Breather**

Even within a comparatively limited time span, the testers can take turns in attacking the grille to ensure that the assault is unrelenting and highly concentrated. They can stop the clock for a rest, then set it running when refreshed to continue the attack.

### **Using a Combination of Tools**

The LPCB engineers can use a number of tools in combination during testing, which may prove the mechanical advantage of individual tools. They are operating in well-lit, dry, warm and comparatively comfortable conditions unlike the dark, possibly wet, cold and windy environment which could be the scenario for a burglar and would-be thief.



## No Looking Over Your Shoulder

The testers do not concern themselves with carrying the tools to the target point of entry, or anticipate having to flee with those tools if they are discovered. Moreover the risk element is missing- the tester can be secure in his attack on the grille and does not have to perpetually keep on looking over his shoulder.

Prior to the "manual intervention attacks" products are subjected to "static load tests" to highlight any structural flaws in a product's design. Moreover a 30kg weight suspended on a pendulum is swung against the product. This "soft body impact test" is designed to simulate shoulder blows and kicking.

Failure or success in the test is determined by the capacity to pass a test block through the barrier after a successful attack, to simulate a person gaining entry to premises. The block has an elliptical cross section (400mm major axis by 225mm minor axis), and is at least 300mm long.

## No Broken Glass?

The genuine burglar would almost certainly be attacking a security grille through broken glass, since they are primarily fitted internally.

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*These notes were prepared from information freely available in the public domain by:*

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