

Reference No ST0563

22 September 2003

Winstone Wallboards Ltd  
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Attention: Dr Richard Hunt

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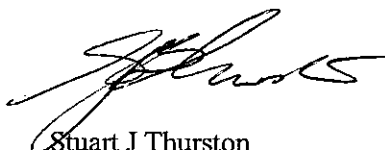
Dear Sir

**Re: Assessment of the bracing strength of Winstone Wallboard Fiberock clad walls**

You have asked for our assessment on the equivalence of the Winstone Wallboard's Ltd GIB Braceline<sup>®</sup> bracing systems as published in the Gib<sup>®</sup> Bracing Systems technical literature dated December 2000 and the Winstone Wallboard's Ltd nominal 12.5 mm thick Fiberock clad bracing walls where each sheet fixing in the GIB Braceline<sup>®</sup> bracing systems is replaced with a 40 x 2.80 mm long plasterboard gold passivated clout in the Fiberock system. The clouts have annular rings over the middle half of the shank.

Based on indicative P21 bracing tests with samples of both systems with both high and low end restraint as stipulated in the BRANZ standard method for assessing equivalence of bracing systems, BRANZ considers that Winstone Wallboard GIB Braceline<sup>®</sup> bracing systems will not be prejudiced if the Braceline<sup>®</sup> sheets are replaced with Fiberock sheets fixed with the clouts as described above.

Yours faithfully



Stuart J Thurston  
Senior Structural Engineer  
(Author)



Graeme J Beattie  
Senior Structural Engineer  
(Reviewer)