**Requirements to be met regarding purchases of equipment or services related to fire safety**

The minimum requirements regarding service provision as well as systems and components of fire detection/protection equipment are as follows:

* **Service provision**: activities related to the installation and maintenance of fire equipment require:
* a BOSEC certificate for the company and staff in the case of gas-powered or hydraulic (sprinklers/deluge system) automatic fire detection or protection systems, and fire compartments;
* an APRAGAZ certificate for fire extinguishers;
* an ISIB certificate for fire doors;
* a 10CFR50 appendix B (1) certificate for other equipment, including non-automatic hydraulic protection devices and circuits.

Recognition by an accredited Belgian certification body (e.g. ANPI – Certification Division) of the equivalence of a certificate issued by another certification body (e.g. LPCB in the UK, VdS and MPA NRW in Germany, EFECTIS and CNPP in France) is also acceptable.

(1) 18 quality assurance criteria for nuclear power stations (issued by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission - USNRC).

What does the certification cover? The certification mainly covers (with documentary traceability) the training and experience of staff involved in performing the relevant task, in accordance with the standards, the manufacturer's requirements and the specifications.

Where this certification is not obtained, the contracting EBL department analyses, formalises and archives its agreement, should it be given, in accordance with the requirements concerning safety, security and asset protection based on proof provided by the company from its quality control department (which must be independent from the department performing the work) as well as any other evidence.

* **Equipment**: the relevant fire detection/protection systems and components (2) must be certified.
* Fire detection: BOSEC certified in accordance with the EN54-13 standard for compatibility and the EN54-\*\*\* standard for components.
* Gas-powered fire protection: BOSEC certified in accordance with the NBN EN12094-01 and NTN ANPI EN12094-01 standard for extinguishing systems and VdS certified in accordance with the NBN EN12094-\*\*\* series of standards for components.
* Hydraulic fire protection (except fire hydrants and fire hose reels): UL/FM (3).
* Fire extinguishers: BENOR and ANPI certified (4).
* Doors: BENOR-ATG.
* Fire hose reels (fire hose cabinets): ANPI certified.
* Fire hydrants, smoke and heat evacuation (EFC), fire dampers: in accordance with the standards (but are not covered by a certificate).

\*\*\* Refer to the section of the relevant standard

Recognition by an accredited Belgian certification body (e.g. ANPI – Certification Division) of the equivalence of a certificate issued by another certification body (LPCB in the UK, VdS and MPA NRW in Germany, EFECTIS and CNPP in France, etc.) is also acceptable.

As a last resort and where circumstances justify it, the contracting EBL department analyses, defends, formalises and archives its agreement, should it be given, for the use of a non-certified part, e.g. to replace a non-certified part on a previous (non-certified) installation and provided that the fitting of a new certified part would require modifying the installation and that it does not impair the safety, security or protection of property.

(2) Unless required by the standard, components that do not affect the equipment's operating ability do not have to be certified.

(3) UL/FM: Underwriters Laboratories and Factory Mutual: US companies established worldwide, recognised bodies for firefighting equipment certification.

(4) BENOR is necessary but is not enough on its own because only ANPI guarantees performance based on fire testing in accordance with the ANPI NT105 technical information (which facilitates choosing fire extinguishers and compares performances).