Thinlite Glazing Method

Thinlites should be measured to allow approximately 1.5-2 mm clearance all round where the rebate depth is ideally 10mm or more. The dimension from edge of glass to sightline of a Thinlite is a nominal 8mm. Thinlites are a handmade product and so the application and alignment of the spacer profile/glass can deviate by +- 1.5mm. Consideration should be made where the opening is not perfectly rectangular or shaping is required. Where the rebate depth is in excess of 10mm, additional clearance can be allowed. Thinlite sealed units are primarily designed to service the requirements of small traditional/heritage glazed lite sizes which in the past would have been single glazed. We recommend sizes in general do not exceed 0.4sqm in area. This is to prevent glass-to-glass contact within the cavity of narrow units but also just as importantly so as not to exceed the weight that the perimeter sealing can support. It is not generally possible to duplex Thinlite units due to the flexible foam spacer system they are constructed with. They can be leaded and sandblasted much the same as standard sealed units.

Glazing Timber- Face Putty

Rebates should be clean, dry and clear of minor obstructions and suitably primed with a dedicated timber primer. Where timber frames are constructed from oak or treated timber (such as Accoya) with a high acid content attention should be made to seal the rebates. Failure to do so can result in premature unit failure.

The rebate should be bedded with a non-hardening butyl compound to provide a bed between the back rebate and glass of approximately 1-2mm.The unit should be placed onto the butyl bed and pressed down until the desired perimeter bed is obtained. It is recommended that the remaining void around the IGU is gunned with a Low Modulus Neutral Cure Silicone and this is allowed 12-24hrs to set.
If desired, bedding on Linseed Oil Putty can be carried out, however the putty must not come into contact with the butyl sealing of the unit under any circumstances.

Bedding on Linseed Oil Putty and Silicone is not recommended as it has the effect of locking the glass to the frame with greater effect than the hermetic seal of the Thinlite. Where movement or settlement is present in some installations it has been noted that this method has had undesired effects to IGU's.

The unit should be retained in position by sprigs or pins before facing with putty if this is felt necessary. However with perimeter fixing of LM silicone this may not be required. Facing should be carried out with Linseed Oil Putty to the rebate depth sight line or just below to allow for paint finish line over putty. The LM Silicone acts as a barrier between edge sealant of Thinlite and Linseed Oil. Putty should not be painted for at least 7-10 days and should be applied to a good standard as its function is primarily to shed water away from the Thinlites and secondly to retain them. To suitably retain the minimum face putty width should not be less than approximately 6mm.

It is important that the face putty should be brushed with a fine brush to ensure that there is a good seal against the glass. Painting should overlap the face putty to assist sealing the installation

Glazing - Timber Beads

Rebates should be clean, dry and clear of minor obstructions and suitably primed with a timber primer. The rebate should be bedded with a non-hardening butyl compound to provide a bed between the back rebate and glass of approximately 1-2mm. The unit should be placed onto the butyl bed and pressed down until the desired perimeter bed is obtained. It is recommended that the remaining void around the IGU is gunned with a Low Modulus Neutral Cure Silicone and this is allowed 12-24hrs to set.

The timber bead which should be of a profile that sheds water and should be bedded against the glass by applying butyl glazing compound to the front edge of the bead in sufficient quantity to prevent voids when fitted against the glass. Beads should be beaded down to the desired depth of 1.5-2mm with excess trimmed and removed with

water-shed angle considered. It is recommended that timber beads are also pinned and this is carried out by pre-drilling the beads. The installation should be allowed at least 7-10 days to set before painting. Paint should be applied in detail over the butyl and up to the glass face. This is important as it provides protection from the elements to the installation.

The finished height of the bead should be 2mm below the back-rebate height to allow the painter to paint over the trimmed water shed angle of the compound to match the angled bead. The paint finish is important to provide protection against the rain and sun and the compound should be allowed to cure for at least 7 days before painting, and within 28 days.

Important Note

Weathering of installations is an inevitable situation. It is important to monitor and maintain/repair any cracking, splitting, peeling of paints, timber or glazing materials. Failure to do so will allow the ingress of water into an installation. This can lead to premature failure of IGU's and degradation of timber frames.