

THINK
PVC-U WINDOWS
DOORS AND
CONSERVATORIES
THINK
CRYSTAL

Industry jargon explained

FENSA

Registered Company

FENSA (Fenestration Self-assessment Scheme) was set up by the Glass and Glazing Federation (GGF), with Government approval, in response to the new Building Regulations for England and Wales which came into force on the 1st April 2002.

All replacement glazing in dwellings now comes within the scope of the Building Regulations. Anyone who installs replacement windows or doors has to comply with improved thermal performance standards. When having their windows and doors replaced, homeowners must ensure that they get a certificate from the Local Authority Building Controller or have the work completed by a FENSA Registered Company. One of the main reasons for this change to the Building Regulations is the need to reduce energy loss.

Registered approved member companies of FENSA are allowed to self certify their installations and will be subject to random checks. All installations will be recorded on the FENSA database which will be made available to local authorities and the Law Society. FENSA will issue certificates to householders as proof of compliance. When a householder wishes to sell the property, solicitors will check with the Law Society to ensure compliance with Buildings Regulations, failure will result in the cost of obtaining retrospective approval.

Those companies that do not comply and/or are not members of FENSA must obtain Building Regulations approval. FENSA applies to installation NOT product or manufacturing, an installer can be FENSA registered, not a product, it is not compulsory, it is an alternative to the traditional route of seeking Building Regulations approval. FENSA only covers installations of windows and doors in a replacement environment, it is NOT applicable to any new build construction.

Notifiable to FENSA

- Replacement windows and doors

Not notifiable to FENSA

The FENSA scheme does not cover the following and work should be notified to the local authority:

- New build dwellings
- New domestic extensions
- Any glazing work in commercial and industrial buildings
- Listed buildings or those in conservation areas
- Doors with less than 50% glazing
- Room conversions e.g. bathroom converted into bedroom, new loft conversions
- Communal areas for flats
- Conservatories
- Porches

The removal of Brickwork (e.g. conversion of windows to patio cut outs, door to window, window to door) are not considered replacement like for like products and should not be registered under a replacement window, door and roof light Competent Person scheme.

For more information on FENSA visit
www.fensa.co.uk