

Efectis Nederland BV
Centre for Fire Safety
Lange Kleiweg 5
P.O. Box 1090
2280 CB Rijswijk

Efectis Nederland-report

2006-Efectis-R0803 [Rev. 2]

Determination of the fire resistance according to
EN 1365-2:1999 of a suspended ceiling system
of CMC with Rockfon Sonar D 600 x 600
concealed ceiling tiles, suspended under an
aerated concrete floor supported by steel sections

www.efectis.nl

T +31 15 276 34 80
F +31 15 276 30 25
E nederland@efectis.com

Date	June 2007
Author(s)	P.G.R. Scholten, B.Sc. Dr. Ir. G. van den Berg
Number of pages	10
Number of appendices	3
Sponsor	Rockwool / Rockfon BV Industrieweg 15 6045 JG Roermond Postbus 1160 6040 KD Roermond The Netherlands
Project name	Fire resistance floor ceiling construction
Project number	2006058/101

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1 Subject

A floor / ceiling construction build up of reinforced aerated concrete floor members supported by steel sections IPE 140 with a suspended ceiling system of CMC T grid profiles with Rockfon Sonar D concealed ceiling tiles with the module size 600 x 600 x 20 mm.

2 Investigation

Determination of the fire resistance according to EN 1365-2: 1999.

3 Sponsor

Rockwool / Rockfon BV
Industrieweg 15
6045 JG Roermond
Postbus 1160
6040 KD Roermond
The Netherlands

4 Place and data regarding the investigation

The investigation took place at the laboratory of Efectis Nederland BV in Rijswijk, The Netherlands.

Building the walls and Floor construction:	20 th of July 2006
Installing the suspended ceiling:	3 rd of August 2006
Fire test:	7 th of August 2006.

5 Date and number of the report

Date report: June 2007
Report number: 2006-Efectis-R0803 [Rev.2].

6 Investigated construction

6.1 General

A floor ceiling construction was the subject of the investigation. The build up was of reinforced aerated concrete floor members supported by steel sections IPE 140 with a suspended ceiling system of CMC, measurements 3.2 x 4.0 m, see figure 12.1. The concealed ceiling tiles are produced by Rockfon and of the type Rockfon Sonar D with the module size 600 x 600 x 20 mm.

6.2 Materials

6.2.1 *Suspended ceiling system*

The profiles were made of cold rolled thermally zinc coated steel. Strip steel of 0.20 mm was wrapped around the edges of the profiles. This strip steel was protected by an oven dried epoxy primer with a thickness of 5µm. On the visible side it was coated with a polyester paint with a thickness of 20µm.

The system was build up from the following profiles:

- (1)¹: Main profile of the type CMC 850-10-001 main measurements 38 x 24 with a material thickness of 0.4 mm.
- (2): Intermediate profile of the type CMC 856-30-001 with a module length of 1800 mm, main measurements 38 x 24 mm, material thickness of 0.4 mm.
- (3): C profiles, stiffeners, main measurements 15 x 11 x 13 mm, material thickness 0.5 mm.
- (4): Quick suspender of the type CMC 11002, existing of two parts steel wires Ø 4 mm and a coupling and caddy clip 4-H-24.
- (5): Wall profiles of the type CMC 1420, main measurements 24 x 24 x 0.5 mm.

The main profiles were connected to the quick suspenders (4), the positions are given in figure 12.1.

Each main profile was provided with one Fire-break and a length connection, see figure 12.1.

6.2.2 *Ceiling tiles*

Rockfon, type Sonar D concealed ceiling tiles, a self supporting tile made of stone wool finished with paint and a structurized mineral membrane on the visible side with the module size 600 x 600 x 20 mm (l x w x t). See also paragraph 8.3.

6.2.3 *Floor and supporting construction*

The floor construction was made out of:

- Three steel sections IPE 140, length 4600 mm, span $L_t = 4150$ mm.

¹ The numbers in between the brackets refer to the numbers in figure 12.1

- Six reinforced aerated concrete floor slabs:
150 x 750 mm, length 3050 mm (4 pieces).
150 x 400 mm, length 3050 mm (2 pieces).

The floor was build in the steel test frame in which a aerated concrete supporting construction was made with a thickness of 150 mm and inner dimensions of 4000 x 3200 mm.

6.2.4 *Fixing materials*

- Steel nails galvanically zinced, measurements \varnothing 3.5 x 60 mm, c.t.c. approximately 250 mm, for fixing the wall profiles (5) to the aerated concrete frame.
- Caddy clip of the type 4-H-24, for fixing the quick suspenders (4) to the sections IPE 140, for the positions see figure 12.1.

6.2.5 *Sealing materials*

Strips of stone wool, type Rockwool 750, density 115 kg/m³:

- Used for closing the joints between the floor slabs.

6.3 **Method of assembly and mounting**

The build up of the construction is given in figure 12.1.

The assembly and mounting of the floor / ceiling construction is given in 6.3.1 and 6.3.2.

6.3.1 *Floor*

- Placing three steel sections IPE 140, c.t.c. approximately 1200 mm, in the longitudinally direction of the aerated concrete frame.
- Placing the aerated concrete floor slabs in the steel test frame.
- Closing the joints between the floor slabs, between the floor slabs an the aerated concrete frame and the openings at the locations of the steel sections.

6.3.2 *Ceiling*

- Placing the wall profiles (5) on the inside of the aerated concrete frame at a distance of approximately 400 mm from the bottom of the floor slabs fixed with steel nails with a c.t.c. distance of approximately 250 mm.
- Placing the Caddy clip (4) and quick suspenders (4) to the IPE 140 sections, c.t.c.. 1200 mm crosswise to the span of the steel sections, see figure 12.1.
- Shortening the main profiles (1) to lengths of approximately 2870 and 330 mm.
- Connecting the main profiles and placing them to the quick suspenders. For the positions of the couplings and fire breaks see figure 12.1.
- Adjusting the quick suspenders to correct length and folding the hooks.
- Intermediate profiles (2), c.t.c. 600 mm.
- Placing of the ceiling tiles with the stiffener profiles (3).

7 Production of the construction

- Rockwool / Rockfon BV:
Production of the ceiling tiles, placing the suspended ceiling system and tiles.
- Chicago Metallic:
Production of the profiles of the ceiling system
- Efectis Nederland BV Rijswijk, The Netherlands:
Supporting construction

8 Course of investigation

8.1 Verification of the specimen

Efectis Nederland BV was not involved in the selection procedure of the specimen. During mounting the used materials and parts were verified against the supplied data.

8.2 Conditioning

From the moment of installation until the fire test the construction was stored in the laboratory of Efectis Nederland BV with the following conditions:

- Ambient temperature: $20 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$.
- Relative humidity: $50 \pm 10\%$.

8.3 Density and humidity measurements

The density and the moisture equilibrium of the stone wool ceiling tiles was determined.

- Density² 166 kg/m^3 .
- Moisture equilibrium³ of 0% .

8.4 Fire test

8.4.1 Test conditions

The test was performed under the conditions as specified in EN 1365-2: 1999, using the standard fire curve. The specimen was heated from the underside only. The aim for the furnace pressure, as measured 100 mm below the ceiling, was 20 Pa.

² Determined before drying

³ Determined after drying for at least 24 hrs at 105°C

8.4.2 *Load*

Dead weight was distributed on the aerated concrete floor slabs, resulting in 1.32 kN/m on each of the IPE 140 sections. The load induced by the weight of the construction itself was 1.68 kN/m on each of the IPE 140 sections.

The total load on each of the IPE 140 sections during heating was 3 kN/m.

8.4.3 *Measurements*

During the heating the following data were measured and registered:

- gas temperatures inside the furnace with ten plate thermometers (TPL 1 to TPL 10), regularly spread over the directly heated surface.
- The temperatures of the flanges of the steel sections with six thermocouples (TK 1 up to 6).
- The temperatures of the web of the steel sections with six thermocouples (TK 7 up to 12).
- The air temperatures in the cavity with five thermocouples (TK 13 up to TK 17).
- The surface temperatures with five thermocouples (TK 18 up to TK 22)
- The pressure inside the furnace at 100 mm below the ceiling.
- The deflection at the centre of the test specimen.
- Temperature and air velocity outside the furnace.

The positions of the thermocouples and deflection measurement are given in figure B1.

9 Observations during heating

During the total heating period no single ceiling tile has fallen from the system. On request of the sponsor the heating was stopped after 45 minutes.

For a more detailed description of the observations a reference is made to appendix A.

10 Test results

Test results are given in graphs in appendix B.

During the heating the temperature and airspeed fulfilled the requirements of EN 1365-2: 1999.

10.1 **Uncertainty of measurement**

Because of the nature of fire resistance testing and the consequent difficulty in quantifying the uncertainty of measurement of fire resistance, it is not possible to provide a stated degree of accuracy of the result.

11 Summary

According to the EN 1365-2: 1999 a floor / ceiling construction was investigated which was built up of reinforced aerated concrete floor members supported by steel sections IPE 140. From these sections a ceiling system of CMC T grid profiles was suspended with Rockfon Sonar D concealed ceiling tiles with the module size 600 x 600 x 20 mm.

The most important results of the investigation are given in table 11.1.

Table 11.1 Summary of test results

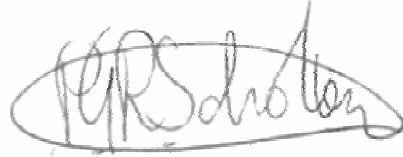
Criterion	Time from the start of the heating, during which the criterion was just fulfilled.	
	EN 1365-2: 1999	Remarks
1. Load bearing capacity [R]	45 minutes	No failure
2. Integrity [E] flames cotton pad gap gauges	45 minutes	No failure
	45 minutes	No failure
	45 minutes	No failure
3. Insulation regarding temperature [I] I_{maximum} I_{mean}	45 minutes	No failure
	45 minutes	No failure
The test was discontinued after 45 minutes.		

12 Field of application

The test results are directly applicable to a similar floor / ceiling construction provided the following is true:

1. With respect to the structural building member:
 Aerated concrete floor, minimum thickness 150 mm, with IPE 140 steel members
 The maximum moments and shear forces, which when calculated on the same basis as the test load shall not be greater than those tested. The load on the steel members was 3 kN/m.
2. With respect to the ceiling system:
 The size of panels of the ceiling lining and suspension system shall not be changed.
 No openings in the lining are allowed.
3. With respect to the cavity:
 The height of the cavity, 400 mm, is equal to or greater than the height tested.
 No combustible or insulating material is added to the cavity.

Regarding this field of application it is also required that construction elements, which are connected to the tested construction have a fire resistance which is at least equal to that of the floor / ceiling construction.



P.G.R. Scholten, B.Sc.



Dr. Ir. G. van der Berg

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13 Drawing

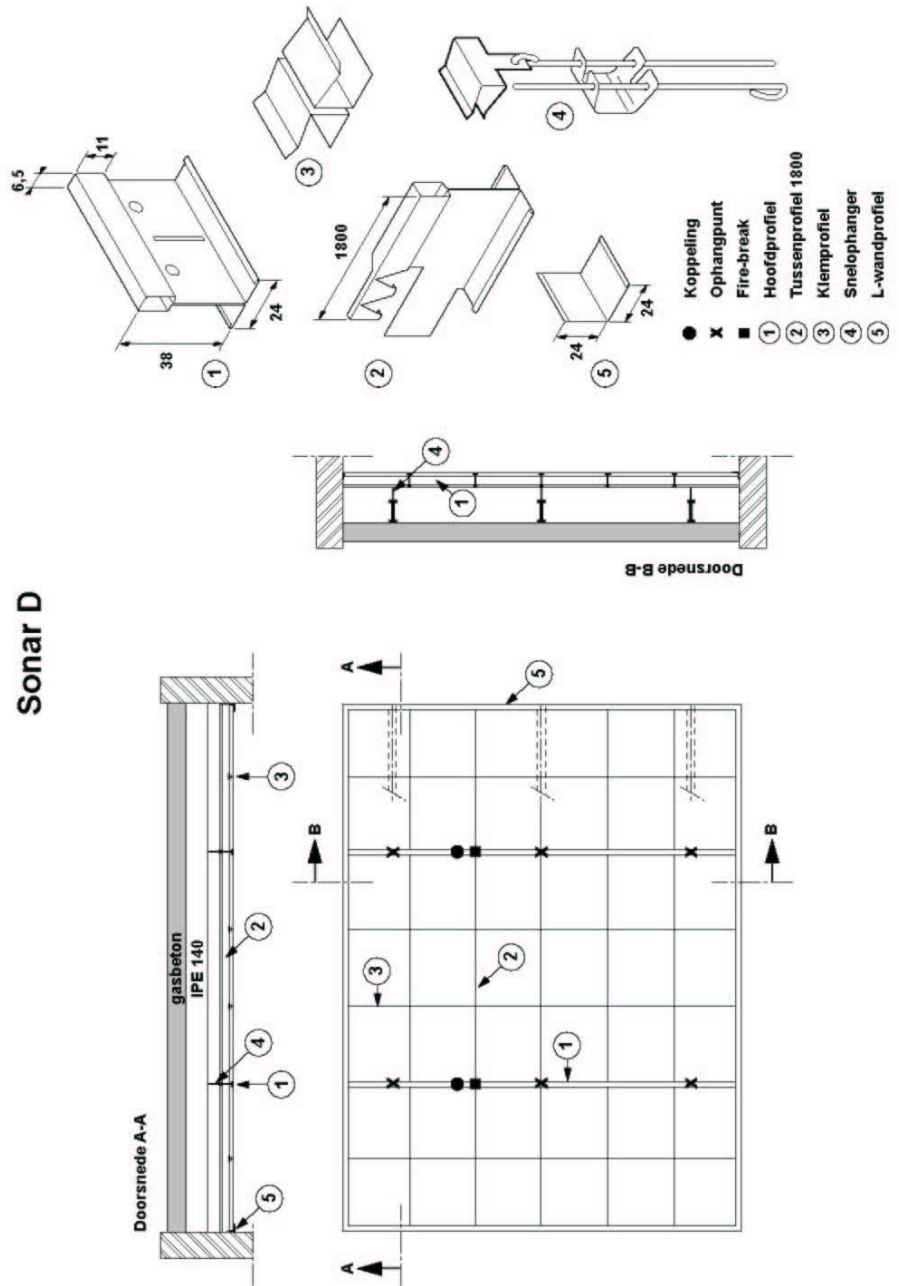


Figure 12.1 Overview of the test set up

A Observations

Time [min]	Observation
0	Start of heating, five of the six selected burners fell out. Within the first minute five of the six burners functioned during the total heating period
2	The wall profiles deform
7	The firebreaks are functioning
15	At A the grid deforms, at the location of a firebreak and the membrane becomes detached from two ceiling tiles
30	All ceiling tiles are present in the grid and all criteria are fulfilled
41	At B the membrane starts to detach from the ceiling tiles as well
45	The end of the heating after consulting the sponsor. All ceiling tiles are present in the grid and all criteria are fulfilled.

B Test results

Figure B1 Overview of the thermocouples

Figure B2: Furnace temperatures

Figure B3: Deviation fire curve according to EN 1363-1

Figure B4: Furnace pressure

Figure B5: Steel temperatures

Figure B6: Cavity temperatures

Figure B7: Surface temperatures

Figure B8: Displacement

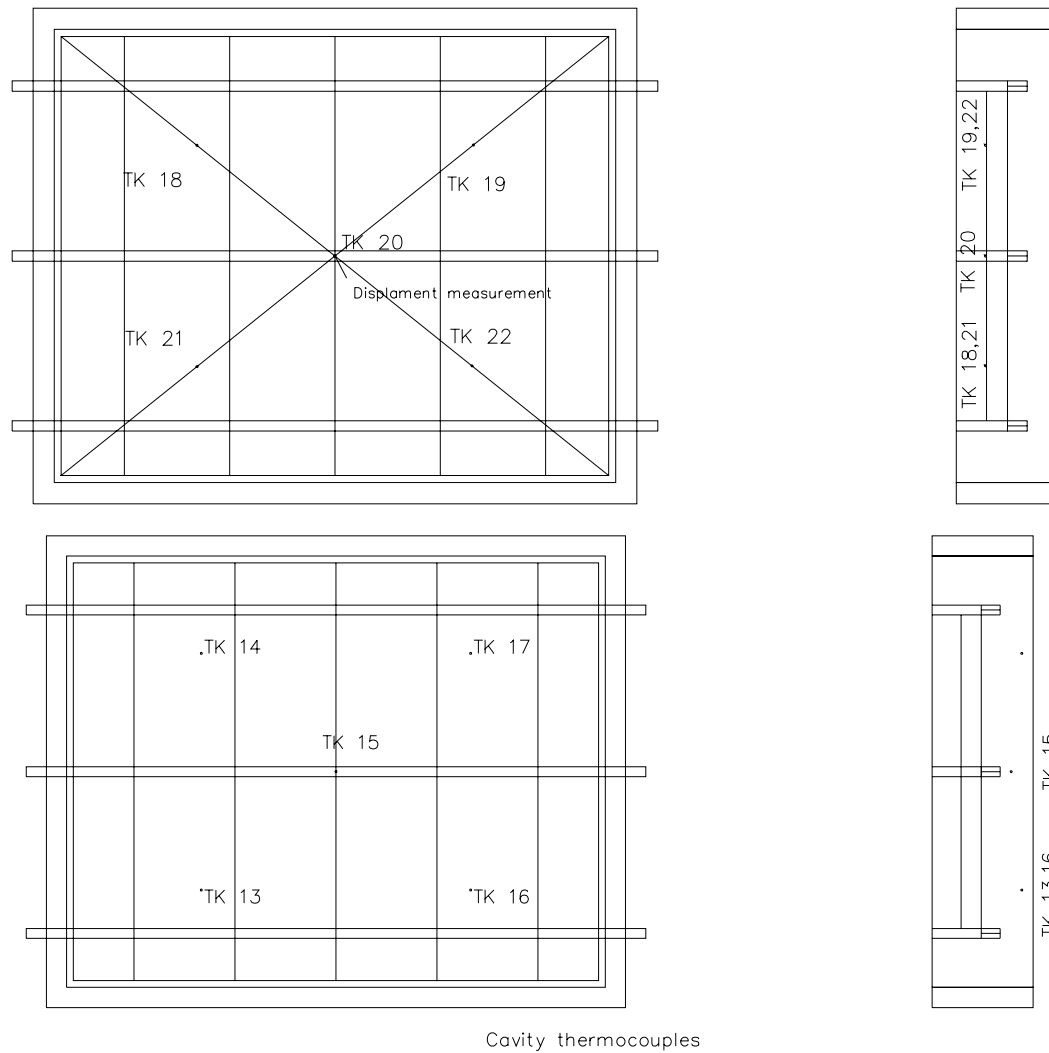
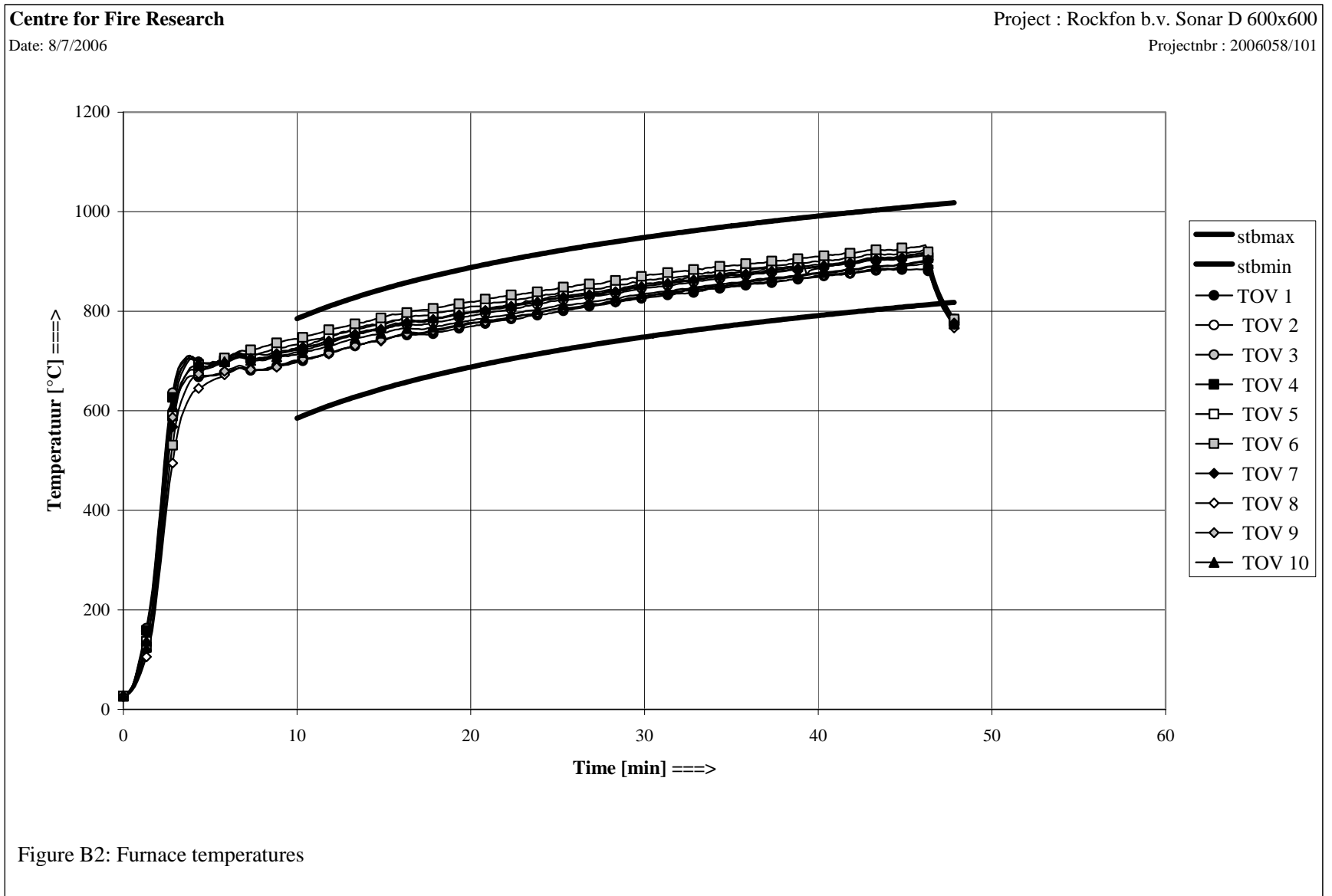
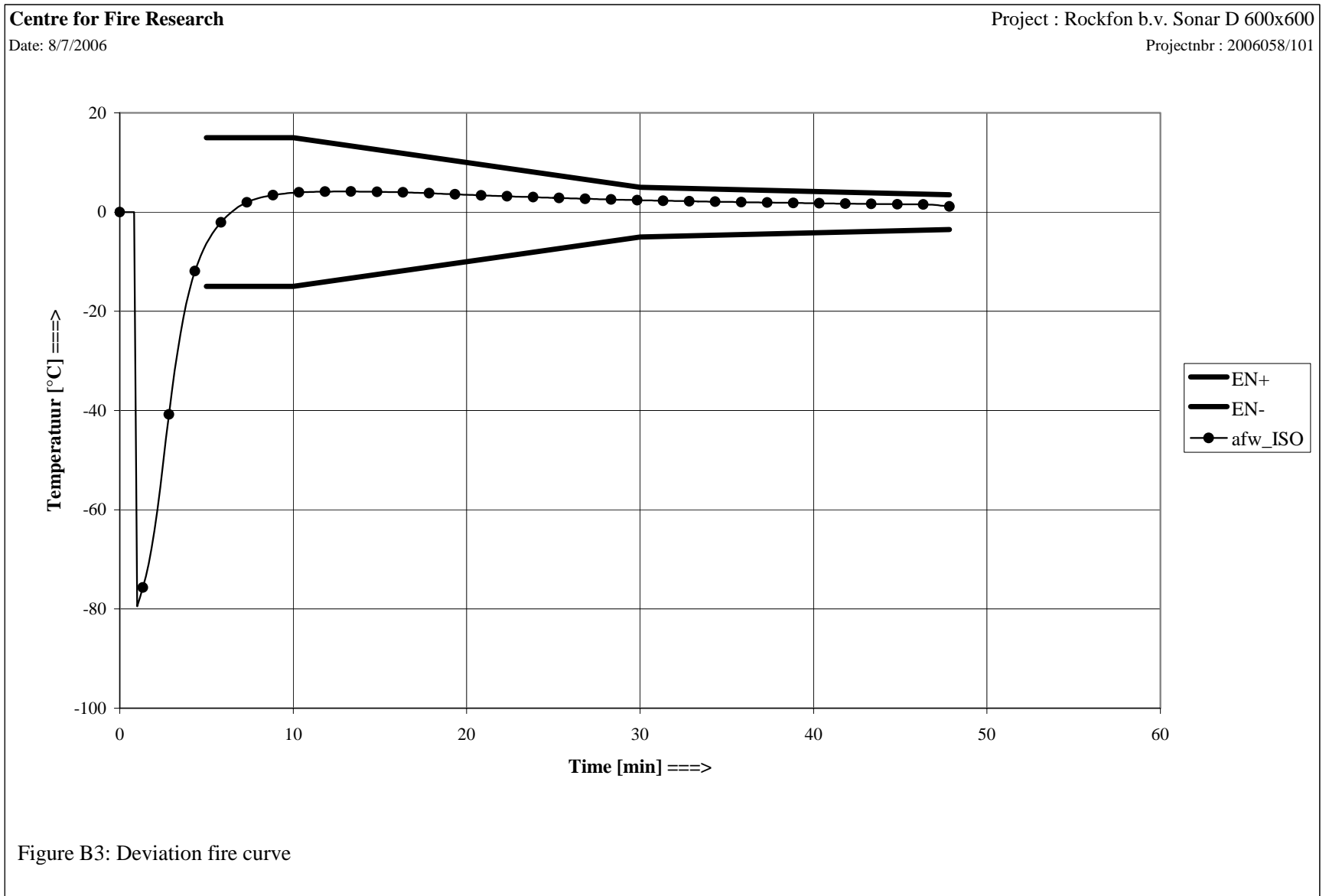
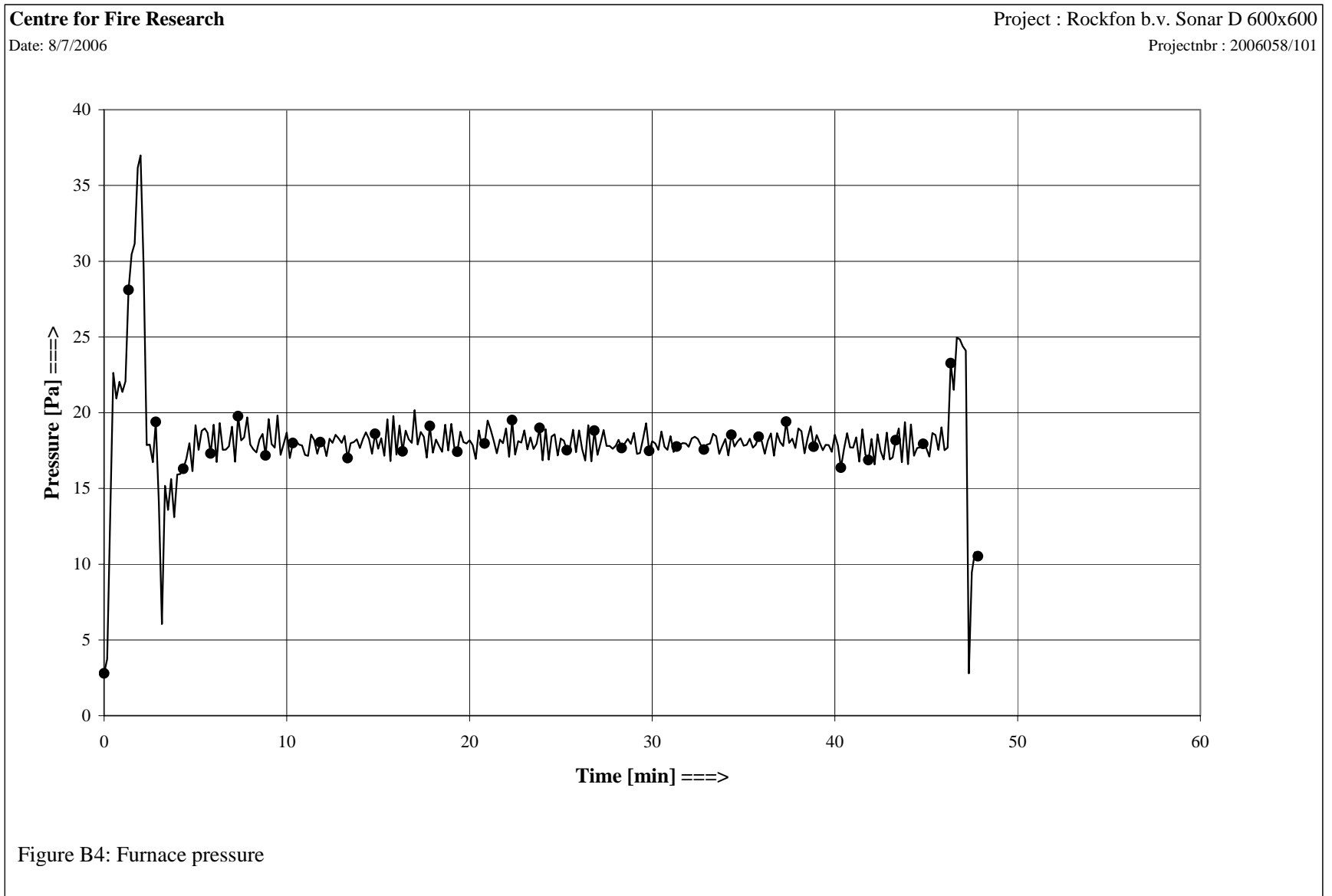
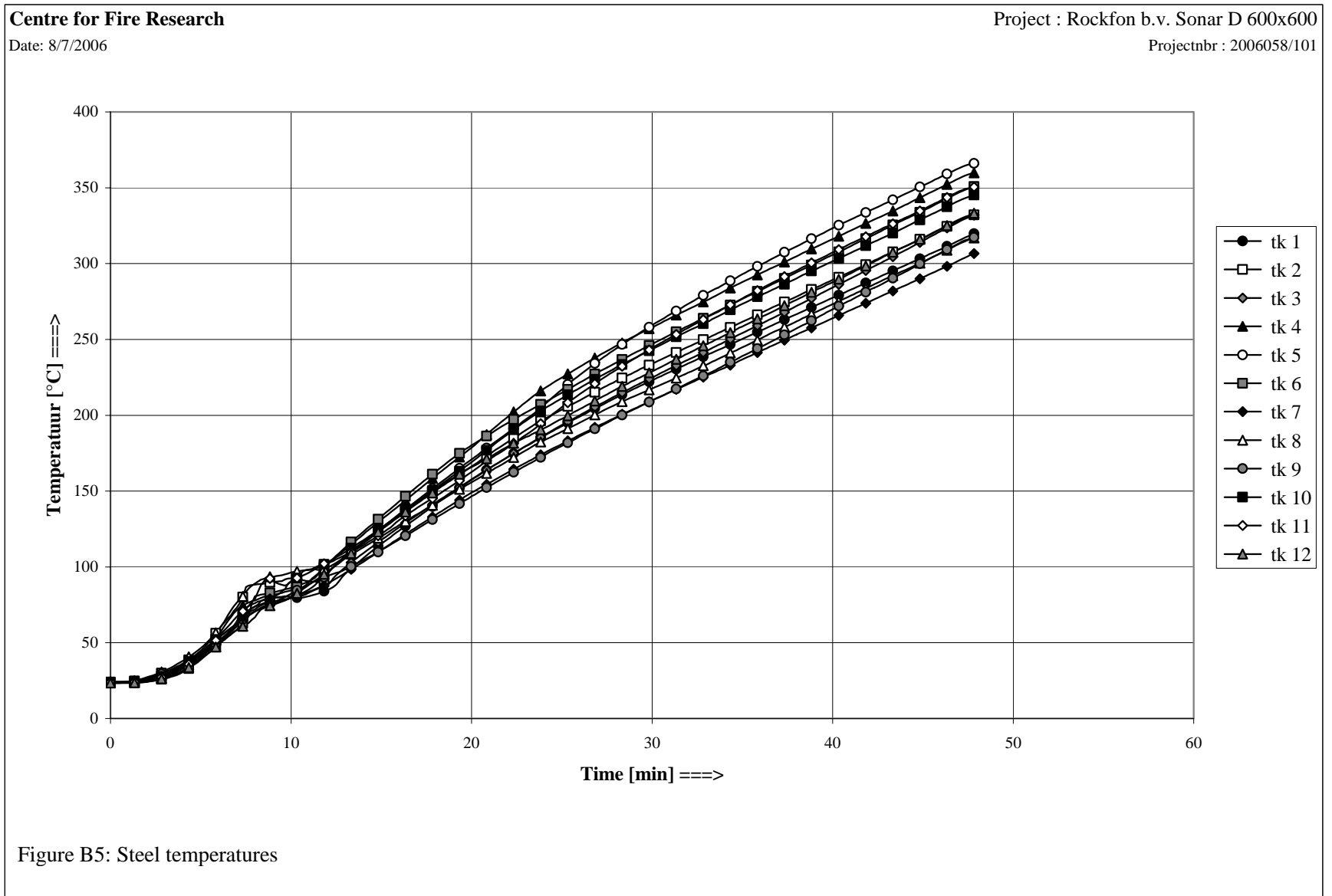


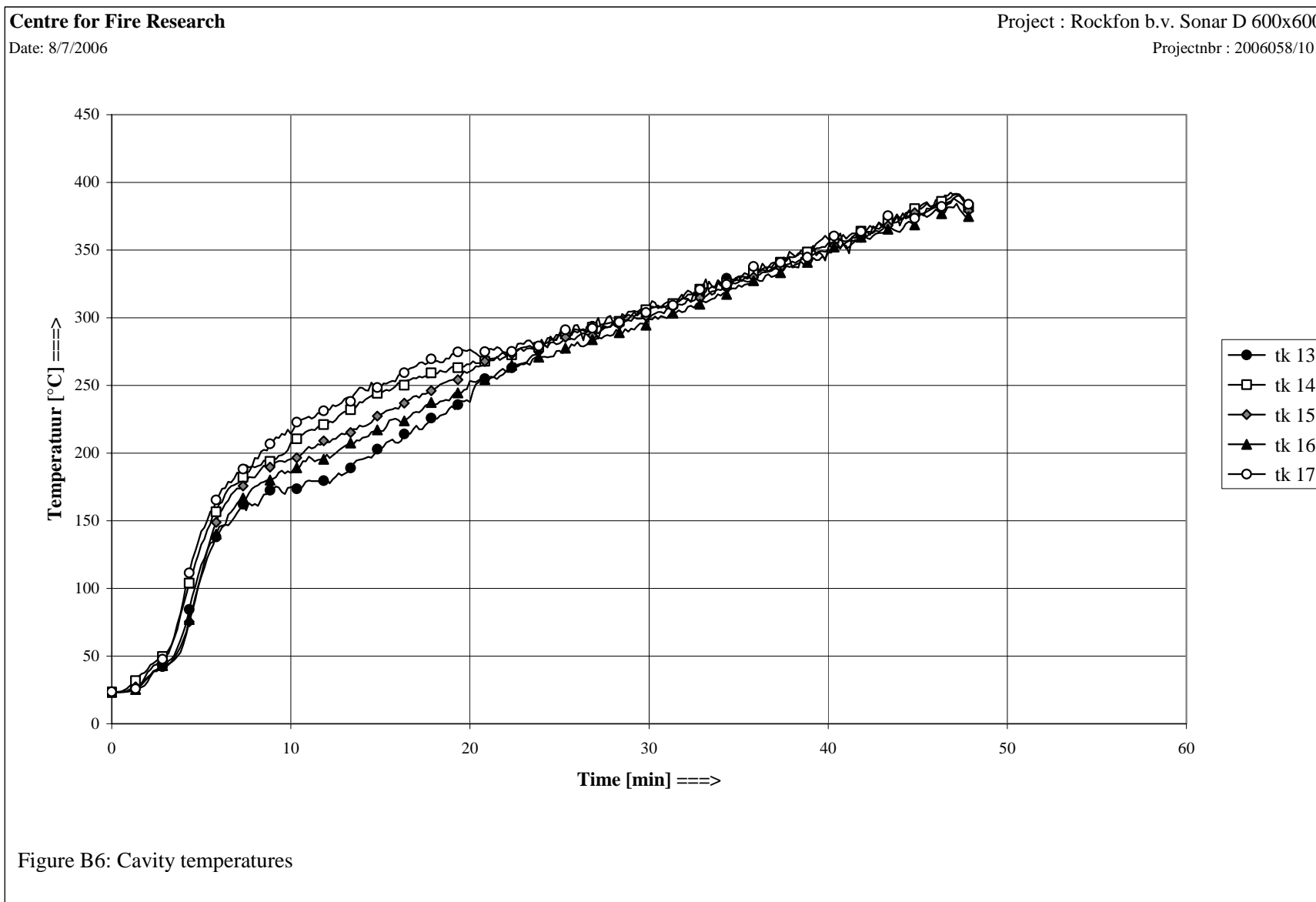
Figure B1 Overview of the thermocouples on the floor and in the cavity

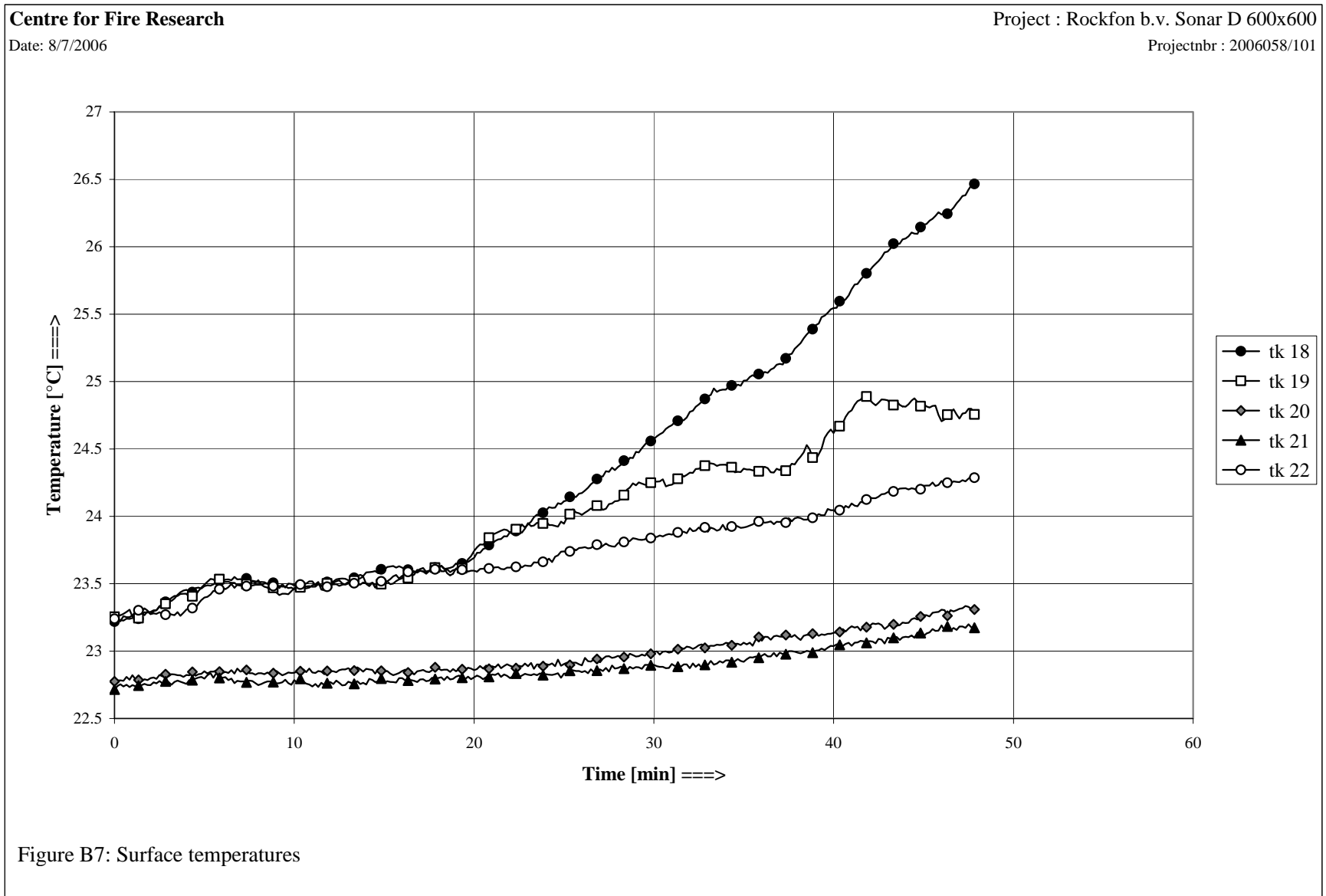


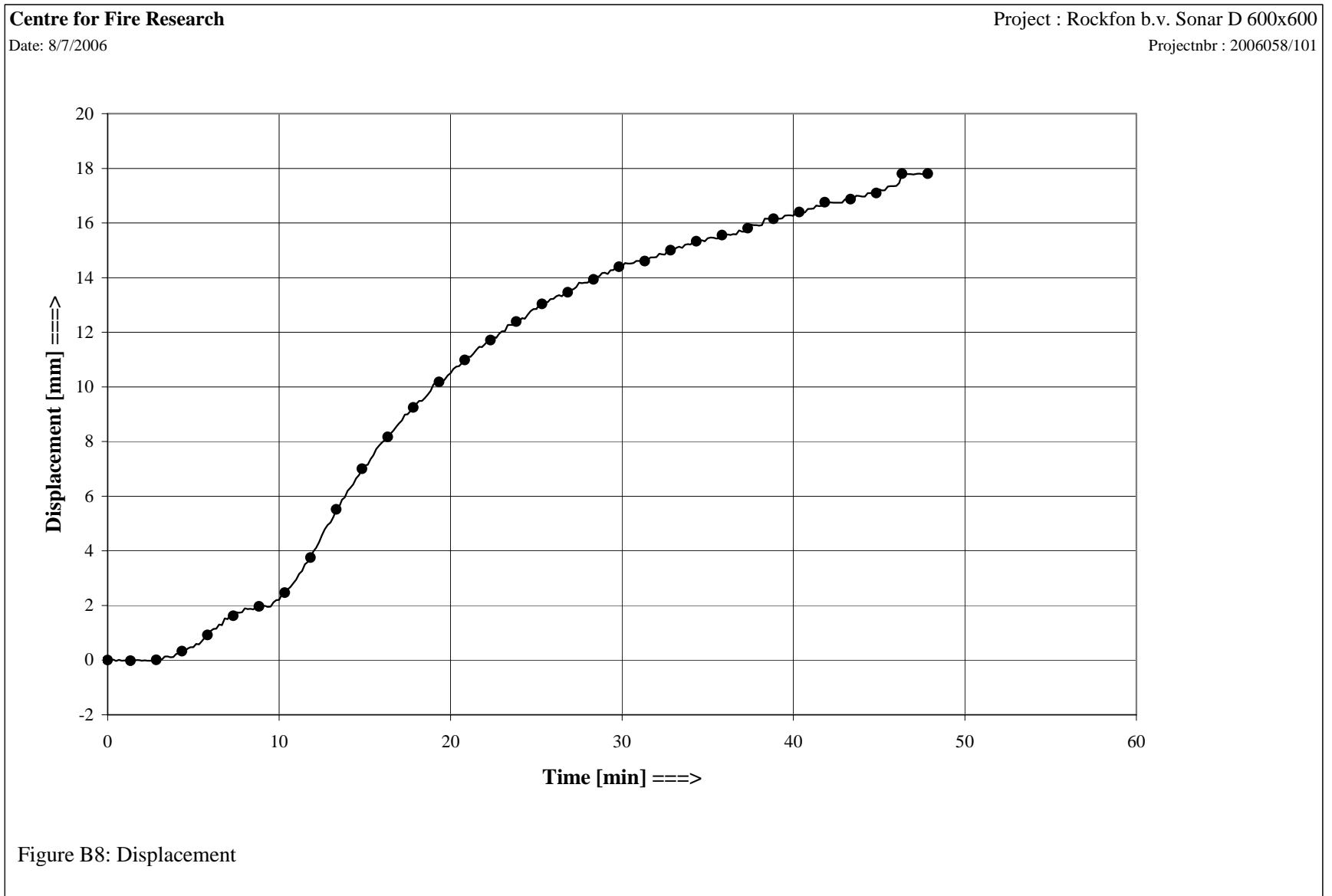












C Photographs

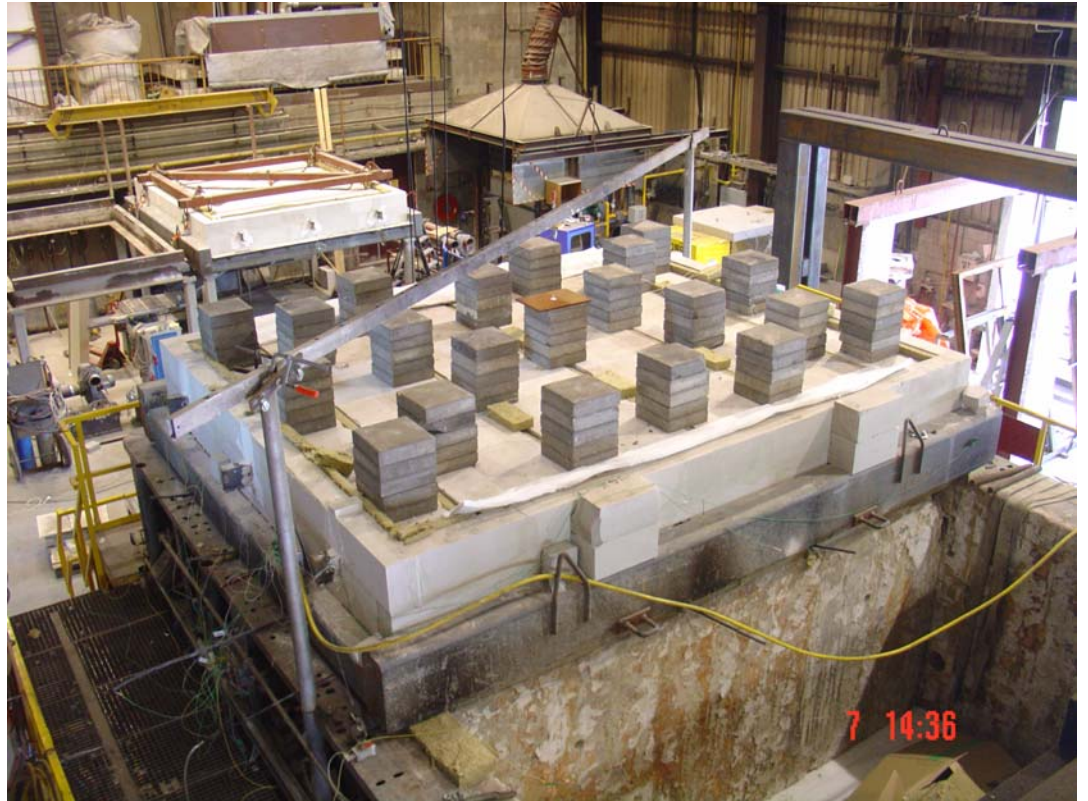


Figure C1 Specimen before the test on the furnace



Figure C2 Specimen before the test from the heated side



Figure C3 Specimen after the test