Quality Alert

MORGAN SINDALL CONSTRUCTION

Wall Cabinet Installation

On a completed school project handed over approx. 4 years ago over the weekend of the 27th November 2021. 3No. 1 meter double wall units fell off the wall onto the classroom floor, luckily the incident happened over the weekend when no school children or staff were present.

In the investigation it was identified the 3No. Wall units were fixed across a drylining stud wall and an external block work wall. It was identified the reason the wall units came away from the wall due to fixing failure. The external block work wall detail B06 on the architect drawings shown it to be a skimmed plaster wall block work finish, this detail was changed to a dot n dab plaster board finish, with adjacent drylining wall system to B02 detail which included full height timber pattress. The 3 units were fixed to the wall that spanned both the drylining stud wall and the external block work wall also fixed together to ensure all units lined up. Each unit had the correct hanging bracket installed to the wall, fixings used within the drylining wall were 3no. 75mm x 10 screws. The fixings used for the wall brackets to the block work/dot and dab plaster board finish were brown 7mm rawl plugs and 50mm x 10 screws.

The fixing failure was due to the rawl plug installed by drilling through the plasterboard into the blockwork placing the rawl plugs flush with the plasterboard finish meaning the rawl plugs only penetrated the blockwork by 10-15mm due to the void with a dot and dab plasterboard system, with this installation the rawl plugs were not installed as to manufacturers recommendations.

With the 3 units installed as mentioned above the right hand unit would have slowly pulled away from the wall as the units were loaded with school equipment until the unit pulled away from the wall bringing with the other 2 with them in a domino effect.

This advice should be used, where the above is applicable, and the information discussed with your team highlighting the following points:

- **Ensure changes go through the change control process**
- **Ensure the site management inform the supply chain of the changes**
- **Ensure the supply chain are aware of the required fixings to meet the change**
- **Check the wall cabinet fixings are suitable for the wall construction they are being fixed to**
- **Record all changes to drawings and fixings within the ITP process**

Everyone has the right to be 100% Safe