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PORTAKABIN BECOMES 1st MODULAR BUILDING MANUFACTURER IN EUROPE TO ACHIEVE CE MARK APPROVAL

***Portakabin*, the UK's leading modular building specialist, has become the first modular manufacturer to achieve CE Approval – the European product mark, which gives customers the reassurance that specific products have been tested to demanding European standards.**



The *Portakabin Ultima*, *Titan* and *Solus* buildings have all gained European Technical Approval (ETA) following a series of rigorous tests and now carry the CE mark – the first modular buildings in Europe to be awarded this important independent verification.

CE marking is now mandatory in continental Europe and is a declaration by the manufacturer that its products comply with all the production standards, safety requirements and provisions of the Construction Products Directive 89/106/EEC and European Technical Approval Guideline 023 (ETAG 023). Whilst it is not yet compulsory in the UK, CE mark approval represents best practice and gives clients further confidence in their choice of construction solution.

Commenting on this latest approval, Mike Williams, General Manager of *Portakabin Hire*, said, “This is another independently verified endorsement of the quality of our modular buildings – and another industry first for *Portakabin*. The design of our buildings for sale and hire, are constantly reviewed and this continuous process of development and innovation ensures we always offer our customers the very best value – whether for permanent or interim building applications.”

The tests on the *Portakabin* buildings were carried out under strictly controlled conditions, and were independently verified by the British Board of Agrément (BBA).

They included:

- Full-scale building tests with hydraulic rams to simulate service and ultimate wind loads
- Computer simulation of the building fabric to assess structural performance
- Computer modelling to determine thermal performance of the building envelope and cold bridging of structural connections
- Full-scale building air pressure tests to evaluate air permeability
- Rigorous handling trials incorporating maximum payloads /continued...

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- Uniformly distributed loads applied to full-scale roofs to simulate snow and wind loads
- Flexural testing of wall panels to analyse positive and negative air pressure
- Racking tests to assess performance of structural elements
- Maximum uniformly distributed loads applied to floors in full-scale buildings to determine deflection.

The *Portakabin* modular buildings satisfied the essential requirements of ETAG 023 for Mechanical Resistance and Stability; Hygiene, Health and Environment; Safety in Use; Protection against Noise; and Energy, Economy and Heat Retention.

All *Portakabin* buildings for hire also have the reassurance of accreditations from Buying Solutions – the Government’s procurement scheme; Zurich, BBA, and LABC approvals, as well as ISO 9001 for quality assurance and ISO 14001 for environmental performance.

For further information about modular buildings for hire, visit

www.portanews.co.uk, email information@portakabin.co.uk or call 0845 401 0010.

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Editor's Notes

1. *Portakabin* modular buildings offer a range of advantages over site-based construction, including:
 - Programme times reduced by up to 50 per cent
 - Highly flexible and innovative accommodation solutions, such as *Ultima Vision* – a fully glazed modular building available for hire, and *Titan* – the largest single modular building in Europe
 - Enhanced quality and a robust steel-framed construction
 - A sustainable alternative to site-based building methods – less waste, improved building performance and fewer vehicle movements
 - The provision of buildings with significantly less disruption
 - A wide variety of aesthetic and fitting out options to reduce procurement time.
2. *Portakabin*, *Ultima*, *Titan* and *Solus* are registered trademarks.