



**There is one question asked above all others with regard to the Safe-D clip range;**

**'Your clips are great - easy to use and retain cables, but how do I fix them properly and remain compliant?'**

The legislation within the new Wiring Regulation 521.11 calls for a method of fixing all cable categories running within escape routes such that they will not be liable to premature collapse in the event of fire. In Note 2, it states that 'a suitable fire-resistant means of support/retention must be provided'.

Common sense tells us that using a standard plastic red plug is therefore unlikely to be a guaranteed and 100% reliable solution, since it will soften as the temperature in a fire rises.

There are 2 solutions to this issue which are fully compliant with the new legislation using fixings that already have up to 2hr fire-resistant certification. These are masonry screws and gas-fired nails.



The easy to use solution that is within reach of all installers is masonry screws. We have had particular success in our own trials using a DeWalt® product - the 'Walldog®'

The *Walldog®* works very effectively straight into timber and plasterboard where its wide and sharp flutes easily self-drill their way in. They also work well directly into Thermalite blocks and some of the softer brick and even concrete block types. Harder bricks and dense concrete blocks are best drilled out first with a 4mm pilot hole to 35mm depth. The *Walldogs®* will then pull in nice and tightly to give a good firm fixing when a battery powered impact or drill-driver is used.



For engineering bricks, concrete and even steel reinforced concrete, the best solution when using the *Walldog®* is to make a 5mm pilot hole - again to 35mm depth.



*Walldogs®* work well when fixed either directly to substrate or within PVC trunking (25mm to 50mm sizes). Simply drill the pilot hole straight through the pre-formed hole in the clip, the back of the trunking and directly into the wall behind.



If you have larger numbers of fixings to make in one go, particularly straight onto brickwork, blockwork or concrete, then gas nailing is the way to go. In our trials, we used the *DeWalt® C5 gas nailer* with *25mm XC nails*. Once set up, the gun will fix nails straight through the pre-formed hole or even through the clip itself regardless of the density of the substrate. Using the harder XH nails even allows for fixing directly to steel work if that is the way the circuit is routed.

