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REVISED CLASS 1 LOCK STANDARD SETS BENCHMARK

The most advanced official standard for custodial locks has been tightened to clear the way for additional benchmarks to be created for the broad spectrum of custodial and security market products.

The initiative is being led by Leeds (UK) lock manufacturer Pickersgill-Kaye Ltd and Sold Secure Ltd, which conducted exhaustive tests and created the original SS317 performance standard during the development of the increasingly successful Kaye Class 1 Cell Lock.

These changes mean that the SS317 specification for locks for custodial doors - the first official standard in the custodial industry and an internationally respected proof of excellence – can now be applied to a Class 1 lock by any manufacturer, with a specific focus on the lock's dimensions in respect of standard UK cell doors. SS317 is now the de facto standard as it prescribes minimum levels of quality for components, system features and the installation of the security systems.

John Moore, Pickersgill-Kaye's business development manager, commented: "We have had a long-term focus on helping to provide high quality technical standards to benefit the industry as a whole. However, our goal has an added dimension with the increasing drive for competitive tendering in the custodial industry. Specifiers have needed a scientifically-based set of benchmarks against which to gauge products and make the correct purchasing decisions because SS3177 also provides verification of claimed performance proving the lock is fit for purpose."

News release PKaye PR9a continued:

And he added: "Now that we have provided a foundation through SS317 for mechanical locks, we are confident we can accelerate our development of different lock types and other products through a proven approach to this technology."

The rigorous original tests on the Kaye Class 1 Lock that led to SS317, took into consideration European and British standards (EN 12209:2003, BS 3261:2004 respectively). Under the revised standard, the testing procedures will remain very similar.

Sold Secure's chief executive officer, Dr Martin White, said that the rapid progress across the custodial industry towards the highest levels of professional procurement provides the ideal time to establish a complete and cohesive set of technical standards.

He added: "The whole industry is now scrutinising how it can improve the standard of products it requires. We are working with all the appropriate authorities and the timescale of development will be dictated by the industry itself, as customers will tell us which areas need to be prioritised."

In Dr White's opinion, it is inevitable that official standards will be in place across the spectrum of custodial products, and he explained: "The experience gained with the Kaye Class 1 Lock will be consistently repeated as the pioneering vision that Pickersgill-Kaye demonstrated has proven the absolute necessity of standards broadly applied within a coherent, strategic approach that applies consistent methodologies to all product tests."

Pickersgill-Kaye Ltd is an established specialist high security product manufacturer and the Kaye Class 1 cell door lock has already been selected for use in a growing number of new custodial facilities throughout the UK.

ENDS

News release PKayePR9a continued:

Background information:

Pickersgill-Kaye Ltd has built a solid reputation over the past 150 years through the specialist design and manufacture of Kaye's patent door locks for the architectural and railway industries throughout the UK and overseas. More recently, the company has diversified and is now using its expertise to design high quality locks for the UK detention industry.

Operating from premises in Leeds, the company uses state of the art CAD systems linked to advanced CNC engineering facilities, producing high quality, British engineered products to the highest quality standards.

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