

Glossary

Agrément Certificate	Document issued by the BBA, giving an independent opinion of the performance in use of a product, component, material or system.
British Board of Agrément (BBA)	Company sponsored by the Department of the Environment, which is principally concerned with the testing, assessment and certification of products for the construction industry, to secure their ready acceptance and ensure their safe and effective use.
British Standards Code of Practice	Document issued by the British Standards Institution, which provides the national basis for quality assurance schemes by giving guidance on the design, fabrication and use of a product.
Building Regulations	The statutory requirements for construction of buildings; they may often be satisfied by following the BS Code of Practice or using a product/system covered by an Agrément Certificate.
Chord	The upper and lower timber members of a truss.
Commodity plate	Connector plate sold without supporting CAD facilities.
Computer aided design (CAD) facilities	Computer software system enabling a fabricator to specify, estimate and design trusses according to tested structural engineering principles, using connector plates matching the system.
Connector plate/truss plate	Metal plate having integral teeth punched from the plate material. Used for joining timbers.
Fabricators	In the context of this industry, these are timber merchants or timber products suppliers who assemble prefabricated timber roof trusses as part of their range of timber products.
Full system	Package of connector plates and CAD software, enabling fabricator to manufacture trusses according to system owner's design, often with the latter's machinery for truss assembly.
Jig/Pedestal	Equipment used in the laying out and clamping in position of the components of a truss prior to pressing.
Method of assessment and testing (MOAT)	Test and assessment criteria for defined product groups, based on directives from the European Union of Agrément.
Pitch	The angle of chord (usually rafter) to the horizontal measured in degrees.
Press	Hydraulic equipment used to embed connector plates into timber.
Software	Computer programs used in the design of trussed rafters.
Span	The distance between the outside faces of the two supporting wall plates. Sometimes defined as overall length of bottom chord.
TRADA	Timber Research and Development Association.
Truss/trussed rafter	Lightweight triangulated framework, made from timber members fastened together in one plane by metal fasteners.
UEAtc	Union Européenne pour l'Agrément technique dans la construction.