

FACTA Specification FAQ

What is the FACTA specification?

Fabricated Access Covers Trade Association (FACTA) is a specification that allows fabricated access covers to be made from a variety of materials and offer flexibility in its design, something that isn't achievable for cast covers. This specification offers load classes to address the shortcomings with BS EN 124. FSP are accredited to FACTA and offer a vast range of access covers to this specification.

What loadings does FACTA cover?

FACTA have produced a classification table that outlines what each loading class can withstand, in terms of both gross laden and slow moving, as well as the comparison against the EN124 specification. It also details the typical application for each loading. Please see the table below:

4. CLASSIFICATION - TABLE 1

Fabricated access covers complying with the requirements of this specification shall be graded as follows:

FACTA Class	Comparisons***		GLW Gross Laden Vehicle Weight (slow moving)	Wheel Loads		Load Test Data		Typical Applications	
	EN124 Class	BS497 approximate equivalent class		Wheel Loads ** (slow moving) Pneumatic	Wheel Loads ** (slow moving) Solid	Acceptance Test (Static Wheel Load plus overload & dynamic effects)	Strength Test (Acceptance Test load plus ultimate safety factor)	Pneumatic Tyres	Solid Tyres
A	A15	C	Pedestrian duty	0.6 tonne (5kN)	N/A	5.0 x 1.0 x 1.0 = 5.0kN	5.0 x 1.6 = 8.0kN	Internal and external areas which can only be used by pedestrians or cycles i.e. toilets, changing rooms, footways and cycle tracks.	
AA	N/A	N/A	5 tonne	1.5 tonne (15kN)	N/A	15.0 x 1.1 x 1.15 = 19.0kN	19.0 x 1.6 = 31.0kN	Very light industrial areas, where small trolleys and private cars/vans can manoeuvre i.e. Domestic driveways, trolley parks, hospital wards.	
AAA	N/A	N/A	10 tonne	2.5 tonne (25kN)	0.5 tonne	25.0 x 1.1 x 1.15 = 32.0kN	32.0 x 1.6 = 52.0kN	Delivery/service areas, shopping malls, light industrial areas	Light industrial areas, where trolleys and light pallet trucks operate.
B	B125	B	Up to 44 tonne *	5.0 tonne (50kN)	0.75 tonne	50.0 x 1.1 x 1.15 = 63.25kN	63.25 x 1.6 = 101.0kN	Pedestrian precincts, forecourts, commercial delivery/parking areas.	Factories, industrial plants, where pick-up trucks and small pallet trucks operate.
C	C250		Up to 44 tonne but under special conditions *	6.5 tonne (65kN)	1.0 tonne	65.0 x 1.1 x 1.15 or 50.0 x 1.1 x 1.5 = 82.5kN	82.5 x 1.6 = 132.0kN	Factories, industrial plants, special axle loads, kerb side drainage	Industrial areas where pallet and small fork-lift trucks operate
D	D400	A	Up to 44 tonne but under special conditions *	11.0 tonne (108kN)	3.0 tonne	108.0 x 1.1 x 1.15 or 50.0 x 1.1 x 2.5 = 137.5kN	137.5 x 1.6 = 220.0kN	Heavy duty plant areas carriageways and industrial service roads where fast moving HGVs reach speeds of 20mph max.	Heavy duty industrial areas where medium duty fork-lift trucks operate
E	E600	N/A	Special application vehicles	16.0 tonne (158kN)	5.0 tonne	158.0 x 1.1 x 1.15 = 200.0kN	200.0 x 1.6 = 320.0kN	Dockside and container storage areas where heavy transporters operate	Very heavy industrial areas where large heavy duty fork-lift trucks operate.
F	F900	N/A	Special application vehicles	24.0 tonne (237kN)	N/A	237.0 x 1.1 x 1.15 = 300.0kN	300.0 x 1.6 = 480.0kN	Civil and military airfield aprons, where particularly heavy wheel loads are imposed by aircraft and towing vehicles.	

* Under the "Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998", Axle weights for the UK are limited to 11.5 tonnes maximum 'Refer to 'Acceptance Test for maximum design load/load bearing capacity)

** Slow moving wheel loads are deemed to be speeds no greater than 20mph.

*** These comparisons are for guidance only and are not intended to be exact.



I require an access cover to withstand 40 Ton Gross, which FACTA Loading would be most suitable?

Although there are three FACTA loadings which state they can withstand up to 44 Ton Gross Laden, the intended applications for each loading greatly vary from one another. The key difference between these loadings is the Slow Moving Wheel load. FACTA B for example can only withstand 5 Ton Slow Moving (50kN), which would be more than ideal for car parks/delivery areas where cars/small vehicles operate. FACTA D however can take up to 11 Ton Slow Moving (108kN), which is best suited to plant areas/carriageways where HGVs/Medium Duty Forklifts operate. In this case, the intended application would be the deciding factor.

What type of access covers are covered by these loadings?

FACTA loadings can only be applied to steel access covers. FSP have fully tested their standard product ranges to conform to the relevant FACTA loadings, in which these have been listed below:

FAB TOP™ (Solid Top) – Available in FACTA AAA, B & D

FAB PAVE™ (Recessed for External) – Available in FACTA AAA, B & D

FAB TRAY™ (Recessed for Internal) – Available in FACTA AA, B & D

