CLAIMS:

1. A roller shutter including:

a chamber with an opening,

a roller curtain movable between a retracted configuration in which said roller curtain is substantially fully contained within said chamber and an extended configuration in which at least part of said roller curtain extends beyond said chamber through said opening, and

at least one guide rail along and relative to which said roller curtain is movable between said retracted configuration and said extended configuration,

wherein said roller curtain includes

a plurality of slat members interlocked with each other for relative pivotal movement, said plurality of slat members collectively forming a first major surface and a second major surface, and

a first layer of fire-resistant and/or heat-resistant fabric fixedly mounted to said first major surface of said plurality of slat members and a second layer of fire-resistant and/or heat-resistant fabric fixedly mounted to said second major surface of said plurality of slat members, and

wherein said guide rail includes at least a first sealing member which, when said roller curtain is in said extended configuration, contacts or presses into said first layer of fire-resistant and/or heat-resistant fabric to form a first seal which at least hinders the passage of smoke there-through.

2. A roller shutter according to Claim 1, wherein, when said roller curtain is in said extended configuration, said sealing member contacts or presses into at least a side edge of said first layer of fire-resistant and/or heat-resistant fabric to form said first seal.

3. A roller shutter according to any of the preceding claims,

wherein said roller curtain includes an elongate member,

wherein said guide rail includes a trough,

wherein said elongate member moves along and relative to said trough when said roller curtain moves between said retracted configuration and said extended configuration,

wherein said trough has an opening adapted to prevent detachment of said elongate member from said trough in a direction substantially perpendicular to the length of said

elongate member, and

wherein, upon bending of said roller curtain, said elongate member is adapted to contact at least one wall surface of said trough to form at least one second seal which at least hinders the passage of smoke there-through.

4. A roller shutter according to Claim 3, wherein said elongate member includes a cylinder of ceramic fibre wrapped around by at least a piece of ceramic fibre cloth.

5. A roller shutter according to any one of Claims 1 and 2,

wherein said first layer of fire-resistant and/or heat-resistant fabric is fixedly mounted to said first major surface of said plurality of slat members *via* at least one linkage member, and

wherein said linkage member includes at least a first link element and a second link element fixedly joined with each other by a material of a melting temperature of or below 100 ºC, preferably of or below 70 ºC.

6. A roller shutter according to Claim 5,

wherein said roller shutter comprises a horizontally-sliding roller shutter, and

wherein, when the surrounding temperature rises to at least said melting temperature of said material, said first link element and second element link are detachable from each other, and said first layer of fire-resistant and/or heat-resistant fabric is adapted to be at least partly detached from said plurality of slat members and deforms on its own weight to contact at least a part of said guide rail to form a third seal which at least hinders the passage of smoke there-through.

7. A roller shutter according to Claim 6, wherein, upon detachment of said first layer of fire-resistant fabric and/or heat-resistant from said plurality of slat members, an air gap exists between said first layer of fire-resistant and/or heat-resistant fabric and said plurality of slat members.

8. A roller shutter according to any one of Claims 5 to 7, wherein said material is a solder.

9. A roller shutter according to any of the preceding claims, wherein said roller curtain includes at least a magnesium oxide fireproof board.

10. A roller shutter according to any of the preceding claims,

wherein said roller curtain includes at least a first blocking part which is movable by said roller curtain to block at least a part of said opening of said chamber to at least hinder the passage of smoke through said chamber.

11. A roller shutter according to any of the preceding claims,

wherein said roller shutter comprises a vertically-sliding roller shutter or a horizontally-sliding roller shutter, and

wherein a free end of said roller curtain includes an extension part adapted to extend into a cavity below the floor level to form a fourth seal which at least hinders the passage of smoke there-through.

12. A roller shutter according to any of the preceding claims,

wherein said roller shutter comprises a laterally-sliding roller shutter or a horizontally-sliding roller shutter, and

wherein a free end of said roller curtain includes a second sealing member which is adapted to contact or press into a fire-resistant and/or heat-resistant material in an end trough to form a fifth seal which at least hinders the passage of smoke there-through.

13. A roller shutter according to any one of Claims 1, 2, and 5 to 12,

wherein said roller shutter comprises a horizontally-sliding roller shutter with a pair of substantially parallel guide rails along and relative to which said roller curtain is movable between said retracted configuration and said extended configuration,

wherein said roller curtain is engaged with a plurality of first bearings and a plurality of second bearings for movement of said roller curtain along and relative to said pair of guide rails,

wherein said plurality of first bearings and said plurality of second bearings are rotatable along and relative to said pair of guide rails,

wherein each of said plurality of first bearings is rotatable about a substantially horizontal axis of rotation, and

wherein each of said plurality of second bearings is rotatable about a substantially vertical axis of rotation.