



EUROCLASS FIRE GRADE PLATOWOOD

Regulations with regard to fire safety of structures are recorded in the Building code. In it, construction demands (qualitative and / or quantitative) dealing with fire safety for all structural types of building have been described, often making reference to (European) guides and / or regulations such as the NEN-EN 13501: Fire Classification of construction products and building elements.

The degree in which a material could contribute to fire propagation is presented in a classification system. In the NEN-EN 13501, building products are divided to seven Euroclass system classes on the basis of their reaction-to-fire properties (A1, A2, B, C, D, E and F). A1 is the highest class and products within this class perform no contribution to fire. Besides the classification for the propagation of fire, there is also a classification for smoke development: S1 (minimal smoke development), S2 (average smoke development) and S3 (high smoke development).

The general demand for all construction parts of a building at the outside (the façade) is Euroclass D. In a number of situations, however, more stringent demands to the Euroclass need be met. The sides of construction parts facing an escape route, for example, should meet the requirements of Euroclass B (enclosed space) or C (non-enclosed space). Euroclass B is also required for the part of the façade that is situated above 13 meters from ground level, since the fire department is unable to extinguish fires at that height, as well as for the lower façade panels facing adjacent grounds for the possible risk of fire kindling. If a building contains a residential area with a floor higher than 5 metres above ground level, the lower 2.5 metres of the façade also requires Euroclass B.

Products marked with a CE-label, such as wooden floors, wall-, ceiling- and façade panels, are required to meet Euroclass according to NEN-EN 13501.

Wood sorts Platowood

Based on NEN-EN 13501, most (Platowood) wood sorts are classified in Euroclass D-s2. In accordance with the European document CONSLEG 2003D0043 – 08/08/2003, untreated wooden panels, including Platowood, are classified as D-s2, d0 if these panels meet requirement EN 13353; a minimum density of 400kg/m³ and a minimum thickness of 12 mm. It is important that the panels have not been treated with paint, varnish and similar finishes, as this may cause a strongly differing classification.

In the instance that a Building code requires a more stringent demand of the Euroclass, Platowood timber can be treated with a fire retardant in order for the application to meet the demands. SBI-tests have proven Platowood Fraké and Spruce, at a thickness of 15 mm, to comply with Euroclass B-S2, d0 once they have been treated with the Platowood Protect concept.

Euroclass fire grade for Platowood Fraké and Spruce, treated with Platowood Protect:

| Wood sort | Norm | Euroclass |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| Fraké | NEN-EN 13501 | B-S2, d0 |
| Spruce | NEN-EN 13501 | B-S2, d0 |