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High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) — Part 7: Classification and specifications for design laminates

Stratifiés décoratifs haute pression (HPL, HPDL) — Plaques à base de résines thermodurcissables (communément appelées stratifiés) — Partie 7: Classification et spécifications pour conception stratifiés

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 11, *Products*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 4586-7:2015), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- correction of errors due to typographical, formatting, and omission issues.

A list of all parts in the ISO 4586 series can be found on the ISO website.

Introduction

High-pressure decorative laminates are characterized by their qualities, durability, and functional performance. High-pressure laminates sheet are available in a wide variety of colours, patterns, and surface finishes. They are resistant to wear, scratching, impact, moisture, heat, and staining; and possess good hygienic and anti-static properties, being easy to clean and maintain.

In an effort to harmonize ISO 4586 with other high-pressure decorative laminate standards, multiple methods may be published that demonstrate similar properties. In these instances, the same test method title is given and is annotated as either "Method A" or "Method B". This is the case in the following tests: Edge squareness — 8/9, Dry heat — 17/18 Dimensional stability at elevated temperatures — 19/20, Dimensional stability at ambient temperature — 21/22, Staining — 30/31, Lightfastness — 32/33, Formability — 38/39, and Blistering — 40/41. In these instances, either method may be utilized in testing. Compliance to both methods is not required. While these tests are similar they are by no means identical and results of one method do not necessarily correspond to the results of the accompanying test. In these situations, it is intended that the documentation in specific parts of ISO 4586 for performance requirements be consulted. Each specific method has performance requirements particular to that method for individual grades of high-pressure decorative laminate.

This document has been harmonized with EN 438-8 whenever possible.

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High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) — Part 7: Classification and specifications for design laminates

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1 Scope

This document applies to laminates intended for interior use with a design effect surface having a phenolic based core and a decorative surface, not covered by ISO 4586-3 through ISO 4586-6 and ISO 4586-8. Three surface material types (metal, wood veneer, and pearlescent décor) are defined in this document.

ISO 4586-2 specifies the methods of test relevant to this document.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 178, *Plastics — Determination of flexural properties*

ISO 1183-1, *Plastics — Methods for determining the density of non-cellular plastics — Part 1: Immersion method, liquid pycnometer method and titration method*

ISO 4586-2:2018, *High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) — Part 2: Determination of properties*

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ISO 11664-2, *Colorimetry — Part 2: CIE standard illuminants*

EN 12722¹, *Furniture — Assessment of surface resistance to dry heat*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1

high-pressure decorative laminate

HPL

¹ ISO 4211-2:1993 modified.

HPDL

sheet consisting of layers of cellulosic fibrous material (normally paper) impregnated with thermosetting resins and bonded together by the *high pressure process* (3.2)

Note 1 to entry: This is a general definition of high-pressure decorative laminate(s). More specific product definitions can be found in ISO 4586-3 to ISO 4586-8.

Note 2 to entry: The back of the sheet(s) is made suitable for adhesive bonding to a substrate.

3.2**high-pressure process**

simultaneous application of heat (temperature ≥ 120 °C) and high specific pressure (≥ 5 MPa), to provide flowing and subsequent curing of the thermosetting resins to obtain a homogeneous non-porous material with increased density ($\geq 1,35$ g/cm³), and with the required surface finish

3.3**pearlescent laminate**

high-pressure decorative laminate (3.1), the surface material of which consists of a pearlescent effect decorative paper, which is impregnated with melamine resin

Note 1 to entry: To achieve the optimum aesthetic effect from the pearlescent pigment a protective melamine layer is not used.

Note 2 to entry: As a result, some surface properties are reduced (e.g. scratch, wear) therefore it is recommended that these products are used for vertical applications.

3.4**metal laminate**

high-pressure decorative laminate (3.1), the surface material of which consists of a thin layer of metal

EXAMPLE Aluminium, steel, or copper.

Note 1 to entry: The surface is often protected by a thin layer of lacquer or in the case of aluminium, the surface may be anodized. The surface performance and appearance of these metal laminates is equivalent to that of a thin metal sheet.

Note 2 to entry: As some surface properties are lower than that of melamine (e.g. scratch, wear), it is recommended that these products are used for vertical applications.

3.5**wood veneer laminate**

high-pressure decorative laminate (3.1), the surface material of which consists of a wood veneer, which is covered by a protective melamine layer

Note 1 to entry: The surface appearance of these wood veneer laminates is similar to wood. Wood veneer laminates are not normally available in postforming grade.

4 Material types

High pressure decorative design laminates are defined using a three letter classification system as shown in Table 1.

Table 1 — Numerical classification

First letter	Second letter	Third letter
A (Pearlescent laminate)	C (Compact)	S (Standard grade)
M (Metal laminate)	T (Thin laminate, < 2 mm)	or P (Postformable grade)
W (Wood laminate)		or F (Flame-retardant grade)

Type S — Standard grade decorative laminates.
Type P — Postformable decorative laminates; similar to type S but can also be formed at elevated temperature.
Type F — Decorative laminates with improved fire retardance; similar to types S or P but also meeting special requirements of specified fire tests which may vary according to the application (e.g. construction, marine, transport) and the country of use (see 5.4.5).
In addition to the abbreviation “HPL” or “HPDL” and the number of this document, materials shall be specified by the alphabetical classification system.
NOTE As an example, pearlescent standard grade thin high-pressure decorative design laminate is designated as HPL/ISO 4586-8 ATS or HPDL/ISO 4586-8 ATS.

5 Requirements

5.1 Compliance

High-pressure decorative design laminates classified in Table 1 shall comply with all the appropriate requirements specified in 5.2, 5.3, and 5.4. This applies to both full-size sheets and cut-to-size panels.

5.2 Inspection requirements

5.2.1 General

Inspection shall be carried out in accordance with ISO 4586-2:2018, Clause 4, at a distance of 0,75 m to 1,5 m.

5.2.2 Colour, pattern and surface finish

When inspected in daylight or D65 standard illuminant, as specified in ISO 11664-2, and under tungsten-filament lighting illuminant F as specified in ISO 11664-2, a slight difference between the corresponding colour reference sample held by the supplier and the specimen under test is acceptable.

As colour and surface finish are critical, it is recommended that the sheets are checked for colour and surface finish compatibility without protective film before fabrication or installation.

Some of these products are directional in surface finish or colour and they shall be installed in the correct orientation.

5.2.3 Metal

When inspected in daylight or D65 standard illuminant and under tungsten-filament lighting illuminant F a slight difference between the corresponding colour reference sample held by the supplier and the specimen under test is acceptable.

As colour and surface finish are critical, it is recommended that the sheets are checked for colour and surface finish compatibility without protective film before fabrication or installation.

Some of these products are directional in surface finish or colour and they shall be installed in the correct orientation. Small indentations in the surface are unavoidable.

5.2.4 Wood veneer

Due to the fact that wood is a natural product, each veneer may be considered as unique. Slight colour and structure differences are considered normal. Singularities such as knots and resin inclusions are

not considered as defects, but as a part of the décor. There are differences in light fastness performance depending on the wood species and the source of the wood.

5.2.5 Reverse side

The reverse side of single-sided sheets shall be suitable for adhesive bonding (e.g. sanded). In the case of sanded backs, slight chatter marks shall be permitted.

5.2.6 Visual inspection

5.2.6.1 General

The following inspection requirements are intended as a general guide, indicating the minimum acceptable quality for laminates. Cut-to-size panels and certain applications involving full-size sheets may call for special quality requirements which can be negotiated between the supplier and purchaser, in such cases the following requirements may be used as a basis for agreement. Only a small percentage of sheets in a batch (the level to be agreed upon between the supplier and the customer) shall contain defects of the minimum acceptable level.

5.2.6.2 Surface quality

The following defects are permissible.

- Dirt, spots dents, and similar surface defects.

The admissible size of such defects is based on a maximum contamination area equivalent to 1,0 mm²/m² of laminate and is proportional to the sheet size under inspection.

The total admissible area of contamination may be concentrated in one spot or dispersed over an unlimited amount of smaller defects.

- Fibres, hairs, and scratches.

The admissible size of such defects is based on a maximum contamination area equivalent to 10 mm²/m² of laminate and is proportional to the sheet size under inspection.

The total admissible area of contamination may be concentrated in one spot or dispersed over an unlimited amount of smaller defects.

5.2.6.3 Edge quality

Visual defects (e.g. moisture marks, lack of gloss, corner damage) can be present on all four edges of the laminate, providing the defect-free length and width are at least the nominal size minus 20 mm.

5.3 Dimensional tolerance requirements

5.3.1 Dimensional tolerance requirements for pearlescent laminates

Dimensional tolerance requirements for pearlescent laminates are specified in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2 — Dimensional tolerance requirements for thin pearlescent laminates

Property	Test method (ISO 4586-2:2018, Clause No.)	Requirement

Thickness	5	0,5 mm ≤ <i>d</i> ≤ 1,0 mm: ±0,10 mm maximum deviation 1,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> ≤ 2,0 mm: ±0,15 mm maximum deviation where <i>d</i> = nominal thickness
Length and width ^a	6	+10 mm/-0 mm
Straightness of edges ^a	7	1,5 mm/m maximum deviation
Squareness (Method A) ^a	8	1,5 mm/m maximum deviation
Squareness (Method B) ^a	9	< 6 mm
Flatness ^b	10	60 mm/m maximum deviation
^a Tolerances for cut-to-size panels shall be agreed between supplier and purchaser. ^b Provided that the laminates are stored in the manner and conditions recommended by the manufacturer.		

Table 3 — Dimensional tolerance requirements for compact pearlescent laminates

Property	Test method (ISO 4586-2:2018, Clause No.)	Requirement
Thickness	5	2,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> < 3,0 mm: ±0,20 mm maximum deviation 3,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> < 5,0 mm: ±0,30 mm maximum deviation 5,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> < 8,0 mm: ±0,40 mm maximum deviation 8,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> < 12,0 mm: ±0,50 mm maximum deviation 12,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> < 16,0 mm: ±0,60 mm maximum deviation 16,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> < 20,0 mm: ±0,70 mm maximum deviation 20,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> < 25,0 mm: ±0,80 mm maximum deviation 25,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> : to be agreed upon between the supplier and customer where <i>d</i> = nominal thickness
Length and width ^a	6	+10 mm/-0 mm
Straightness of edges ^a	7	1,5 mm/m maximum deviation
Squareness (Method A) ^a	8	1,5 mm/m maximum deviation
Squareness (Method B) ^a	9	< 6 mm
Flatness ^b	10	2,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> < 6,0 mm: 8,0 mm/m maximum deviation 6,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> < 10,0 mm: 5,0 mm/m maximum deviation 10,0 mm ≤ <i>d</i> : 3,0 mm/m maximum deviation where <i>d</i> = nominal thickness
^a Tolerances for cut-to-size panels shall be agreed between supplier and purchaser. ^b Provided that the laminates are stored in the manner and conditions recommended by the manufacturer.		

5.3.2 Dimensional tolerance requirements for metal laminates

Dimensional tolerance requirements for metal laminates are specified in Tables 4 and 5.

Table 4 — Dimensional tolerance requirements for thin metal laminates

Property	Test method (ISO 4586-2:2018, Clause No.)	Requirement
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