COMMISSION DECISION

of 7 August 2003

amending Decision 2003/43/EC establishing the classes of reaction-to-fire performance of certain construction products

(notified under document number C(2003) 2592)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2003/593/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 89/106/EEC of 21 December 1988, on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to construction products [1], as amended by Directive 93/68/EEC [2], and in particular Article 20(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Decision 2003/43/EC [3] establishes classes of reaction-to-fire performance of certain construction products, namely wood-based panel products.

(2) Decision 2003/43/EC should be adapted to technical progress through the inclusion of certain gypsum products, certain high-pressure decorative laminate panels and certain structural timber products in conformity with the classification established in Commission Decision 2000/147/EC of 8 February 2000 implementing Council Directive 89/106/EEC as regards the classification of the reaction-to-fire performance of construction products [4].

(3) Decision 2003/43/EC should therefore be amended accordingly.

(4) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Construction,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Annex to Decision 2003/43/EC is amended as set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 7 August 2003.

For the Commission
Erkki LIIKANEN
Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 40, 11.2.1989, p. 12.
[2] OJ L 220, 30.8.1993, p. 1.
[3] OJ L 13, 18.1.2003, p. 35.
[4] OJ L 50, 23.2.2000, p. 14.

ANNEX

In the Annex to Decision 2003/43/EC, the following Tables and note shall be added:

'TABLE 2

Classes of reaction-to-fire performance of gypsum plasterboard products

Gypsum plasterboard	Nominal board thickness (mm)	Gypsum core		Paper grammage ([1]) (g/m^2)	Class ([2]) (excluding floorings)
		Density (kg/m^3)	Reaction to fire class		
Conforming to EN 520 (except perforated board)	≥ 9,5	≥ 600	A1	≤ 220	A2-s1, d0
	≥ 12,5	≥ 800		> 220 ≤ 300	B-s1, d0

([1]) Determined according to EN ISO 536 and with no more than 5 % organic additive content.
([2]) Classes as provided for in Table 1 of the Annex to Decision 2000/147/EC.

Note: End Use Application

The gypsum plasterboards shall be mounted and fixed using one of the two following methods:

(a) *Mechanically fixed to a supporting substructure*

The boards, or (in the case of multi-layer systems) at least the outermost layer of boards, shall be mechanically fixed to a metal substructure (made from components detailed in EN 14195) or a timber substructure (in accordance with EN 336 and ENV 1995-5).

When the substructure provides supporting members in one direction only, the maximum span between the supporting members shall not exceed a dimension equal to 50 times the thickness of the boards. When the substructure includes supporting members in two directions the maximum span in either direction shall not exceed a dimension equal to 100 times the thickness of the boards.

The mechanical fixings shall be screws or nails, which shall be fixed through the thickness of the boards into the substructure at centres not exceeding 300 mm measured along the length of each supporting member.

All joints between adjoining boards shall be fully filled with jointing compound as specified in EN 13963.

The cavity formed behind the boards by the substructure may provide an air space, or may be filled with an insulating material with a reaction to fire classification of at least class A2-s1, d0.

(b) *Directly fixed or bonded to a solid substrate (dry lining system)*

The boards shall be fixed directly to a solid substrate with a reaction to fire classification of at least class A2-s1, d0.

The boards may be fixed using screws or nails fixed through the thickness of the boards into the solid substrate or may be bonded to the substrate using "dabs" of gypsum based adhesive compound. In either case the screw or nail fixings or the adhesive "dabs" shall be positioned at maximum 600 mm vertical and horizontal centres.

All joints between adjoining boards shall be fully filled with jointing compound as specified in EN 13963.

TABLE 3

Classes of reaction-to-fire performance of high-pressure decorative laminate panels

High pressure decorative laminate panels (1)	Product detail	Minimum density (kg/m³)	Minimum overall thickness (mm)	Class (2) (excluding floorings)
Interior grade non-FR Compact HPL panels (3)	Compact HPL meeting EN 438-4 type CGS	1 350	6	D-s2, d0
Interior grade non-FR HPL composite panels with wood-based substrates (3)	Composite panels comprising non-FR grade HPL meeting the requirements of EN 438-3, adhesively bonded to both sides of non-FR grade wood-based core of minimum thickness 12 mm complying with EN 13986, using PVAc or thermosetting adhesive at an application rate of 60 to 120 g/m²	Wood-based core minimum density 600 HPL minimum density 1 350	12 mm wood-based core with HPL ≥ 0,5 mm bonded to both sides	D-s2, d0

(1) Either directly fixed (i.e. with no air gap) to a material having a reaction to fire of A2-s1, d0 or better and a density of at least 600 kg/m³, or mounted on a timber or metal batten support frame, with a non-ventilated (i.e. void open only at the top) air gap of at least 30 mm, the reverse face of the cavity so formed having a reaction to fire classification of A2-s1, d0 or better.
(2) Classes as provided for in Table 1 of the Annex to Decision 2000/147/EC.
(3) Complying with European Standard EN 438-7.

TABLE 4

Classes of reaction-to-fire performance of structural timber products (1)

	Product detail	Minimum mean density (3) (kg/m³)	Minimum overall thickness (mm)	Class (2) (excluding floorings)
Structural timber	Visual and machine graded structural timber with rectangular cross-sections shaped by sawing, planing or other methods or with round cross-sections	350	22	D-s2, d0

(1) Applies to all species covered by the product standards.
(2) Classes as provided for in Table 1 of the Annex to Decision 2000/147/EC.
(3) Conditioned according to EN 13238.'