Technical Specification C

Product grouping rules

Revision index	Date of implementation
A	15/03/2013

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The rules laid out in standard NF EN 13172 apply. These rules are specified in the following paragraphs.

1   Reference to a standard

Products in the same group refer to the same standard and cannot be regrouped with products which do not come under this standard.

2   Type of process

Products grouped together must be produced by the same type of process and made using the same family of raw materials. For example, glass wool and rock wool products must be separated, as must foam obtained using different expansion agents.

3   Coatings[1]

3.1   Thermal properties

Products which are identical apart from the coating and for which the coating has no influence on the thermal properties can be grouped together.

Products which are identical apart from the coating and for which the different coatings have the same effect on the thermal properties can be grouped together.

3.2   Reaction to fire

Products having coatings of the same type can be grouped together on condition that they do not affect the reaction to fire class as an insubstantial product.

A group may include different levels of organic materials, different densities and different thicknesses for the same raw material and the same surface treatment if during the initial type testing, the Euroclass in question is not affected by these product parameters.

4   Conductivity varying with the thickness

When the thermal conductivity varies according to the thickness, two options only are possible:

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[1]   Grouping based on thermal properties

a) The total range of thicknesses is separated into different sub-groups for calculation of the theoretical declarable value of each sub-range according to the standards ($\lambda_{90/90}$ then rounded). The worst conductivity thus calculated is then used for declaration of the entire range.

b) The total thickness range is separated into different sub-groups. A lambda value (90/90 then rounded) is declared for each of these sub-groups after having checked that the variation of the conductivity within each sub-group satisfies the requirements of the standard (less than 2% variation, otherwise the sub-group must be sub-divided).

5 Manufacturing specifications

The products can only be grouped together if their manufacturing specifications are very close (with minor adjustments), except for specifications which do not affect the property or properties for which the grouping is made.

Products having different lengths, widths and panel edge shapes (grooves) can be grouped together.

Products having different density specifications (e.g. 20 and 50 kg/m^3) cannot be grouped together[1].

6 Definition of a production line

<u>Continuous manufacturing</u>: each line is considered separately for type testing and self-testing.

<u>Batch manufacturing</u>: two different processes are considered as two different lines for type testing and self-testing.

7 Selection of samples

During examination, the grouping of several products is defined by agreement between the lead member and the applicant on the basis of the technical information available for these products, choosing one or more products for testing which are likely to have the most unfavourable influential characteristics.

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[1] Grouping based on thermal properties