



PLYWOOD STANDARDS EN 636 EN 314

Recently, there have been some fundamental changes in the terminology used when specifying Plywood. There are two standards, one looks specifically at the wood species and one at the glue line as to how the Plywood performs, the two should be considered together.

WOOD SPECIES

In terms of the use of Plywood products in the construction sector, the uniform standard for wood based panels, EN 13986, requires that Plywood species must comply with one of the three performance classes within EN 636, and we as a supplier must provide evidence to substantiate such.

The three classes; EN 636-1, EN 636-2, EN 636-3, are based upon moisture resistance as follows:

- Class 1 : Plywood will not break up in interior conditions
End use: warm roofs, intermediate floors, timber frame internal and partition walls
- Class 2 : Plywood will not break up in humid conditions or if to be used externally. Plywood should be treated or covered
End use: cold roofs, ground floors and timber frame external walls
- Class 3 : Plywood will not break up in exterior weather conditions
End use: fully exposed service conditions

BONDING / GLUE

Changes to the bond quality classifications of Plywood have also been altered. Bonding quality is now divided into three classes also, according to EN 314-1, EN 314-2, EN 314-3, based upon moisture resistance as follows:

- Class 1 : Dry Conditions
Appropriate for normal interior climate.
Replacing MR Plywood
- Class 2 : Humid Conditions
Appropriate for protected external applications, it is capable of resisting weather exposure for short periods of time. Also suitable for interior situations where moisture condition raised above the class 1 level.
Replacing Type 1
- Class 3 : Exterior Conditions
Capable of withstanding exposure to weathering conditions and liquid water over sustained periods of time.
Replacing WBP (Weather and Boil Proof)