
**High-pressure decorative laminates
(HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on
thermosetting resins (Usually called
Laminates) —**

**Part 1:
Introduction and general information**

*Stratifiés décoratifs haute pression (HPL, HPDL) — Plaques à base de
résines thermodurcissables (communément appelées stratifiés) —*

Partie 1: Introduction et informations générales



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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. 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. www.iso.org/patents

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 11, *Products*.

This sixth edition cancels and replaces the fifth edition (ISO 4586-1:2004), which has been technically revised.

ISO 4586 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Plastics — High-Pressure Decorative Laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on Thermosetting Resins (Usually called Laminates)*:

- *Part 1: Introduction and general Information*
- *Part 2: Determination of properties*
- *Part 3: Classification and specifications for laminates less than 2 mm thick intended for bonding to supporting substrates*
- *Part 4: Classification and specifications for compact laminates of thickness 2 mm and greater*
- *Part 5: Classification and specifications for flooring grade laminates less than 2 mm thick intended for bonding to supporting substrates*
- *Part 6: Classification and specifications for exterior-grade compact laminates of thickness 2 mm and greater*
- *Part 7: Classification and specifications for design laminates*
- *Part 8: Classification and specifications for alternative core laminates*

High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (Usually called Laminates) —

Part 1: Introduction and general information

1 Scope

This standard is applicable to High-Pressure Decorative Laminates (HPL, HPDL) as defined in [Clause 3](#).

This part of ISO 4586 gives an overview of the standard, and provides guidance in the selection and application of test methods and specifications contained in ISO 4586-2 to ISO 4586-8.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 4586-2, *High-Pressure Decorative Laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (Usually called Laminates) — Part 2: Determination of properties*

ISO 4586-3, *High-Pressure Decorative Laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (Usually called Laminates) — Part 3: Classification and specifications for laminates less than 2 mm thick intended for bonding to supporting substrates*

ISO 4586-4, *High-Pressure Decorative laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (Usually called Laminates) — Part 4: Classification and specifications for Compact laminates of thickness 2 mm and greater*

ISO 4586-5, *High-Pressure Decorative Laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (Usually called Laminates) — Part 5: Classification and specifications for flooring grade laminates less than 2 mm thick intended for bonding to supporting substrates*

ISO 4586-6, *High-Pressure Decorative Laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (Usually called Laminates) — Part 6: Classification and specifications for Exterior-grade Compact laminates of thickness 2 mm and greater*

ISO 4586-7, *High-Pressure Decorative Laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (Usually called Laminates) — Part 7: Classification and specifications for design laminates*

ISO 4586-8, *High-Pressure Decorative Laminates (HPL, HPDL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (Usually called Laminates) — Part 8: Classification and specifications for alternative core laminates*

EN 13329, *Laminate floor coverings — Specifications, requirements and test methods*

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1 High-Pressure Decorative Laminate(s)

HPL

HPDL

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

3.2 High-Pressure Process

simultaneous application of heat (temperature $\geq 120^{\circ}\text{C}$) and high specific pressure ($\geq 5\text{ MPa}$), to provide flowing and subsequent curing of the thermosetting resins to obtain a homogeneous non-porous material with increased density ($\geq 1,35\text{ g/cm}^3$), and with the required surface finish

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.

4 Guidance in the use of the standard

4.1 Description of parts

ISO 4586-2 describes the methods of test that shall be used to determine the performance of HPL products in their various internal and external application fields, e.g. construction, transport, furniture, flooring, etc. The test methods have been specifically developed for testing HPL.

It should be noted that not all test methods apply to all types of HPL. For example Test 12, Resistance to Abrasion, applies only to flooring grade laminates; while Test 11, Resistance to Surface Wear, applies to all types of HPL except flooring grade laminates. It is therefore important to read the scope of the test method to determine whether it is applicable to a particular HPL product.

ISO 4586-3 to ISO 4586-8 specify the performance requirements for different types of High-Pressure Decorative Laminates. Each of these parts is independent of the others, and only requires reference to ISO 4586-2 for details of the appropriate test methods.

ISO 4586-3 applies to laminates less than 2 mm thick intended for bonding to supporting substrates to produce HPL composite panels. Classification systems and performance requirements are specified for heavy duty, horizontal and vertical grades of laminate, in standard, postforming and flame-retardant qualities.

ISO 4586-4 applies to Compact laminates of thickness 2 mm and greater, in standard and flame-retardant qualities, intended for interior applications.

ISO 4586-5 applies to Flooring grade laminates less than 2 mm thick intended for bonding to supporting substrates, to produce HPL flooring elements. As 'laminate floor coverings' they meet the requirements of EN 13329.

ISO 4586-6 applies to Exterior-grade Compact laminates of thickness 2 mm and greater, and specifies requirements for standard and flame-retardant laminates for use in moderate and severe outdoor conditions.

ISO 4586-7 applies to Design laminates (pearlescent, wood veneer, and metal surfaces). Classification system and performance requirements are specified for thin and compact laminates.

ISO 4586-8 applies to Alternative core laminates (coloured and metal reinforced cores). Classification system and performance requirements are specified for thin and compact laminates.

4.2 Applications

[Table 1](#) below shows how the different parts of the standard relate to various fields of application.

Table 1 — Applicable fields

Application	Part 3	Part 4	Part 5	Part 6	Part 7	Part 8
Construction (internal)	•	•			•	•
Construction (external)				•		
Transport	•	•			•	•
Furniture	•	•			•	•
Flooring			•			

5 Product classification systems

ISO 4586-3 to ISO 4586-8 include product classification systems. While each of these systems is different, they contain some common elements as follows:

Main classifications:

H denotes **Horizontal grade**

V denotes **Vertical grade**

C denotes **Compact laminate**

E denotes **Exterior grade**

AC denotes **Abrasion Class** for flooring grade

A denotes **Pearlescent laminate**

M denotes **Metal laminate**

W denotes **Wood veneer laminate**

B denotes **Coloured core laminates**

R denotes **Metal reinforced core laminates**

Sub-classifications:

D denotes **Heavy duty or severe use**

G denotes **General purpose or moderate use**

S denotes **Standard grade**

F denotes **Flame-retardant grade**

P denotes **Postforming grade**

In ISO 4586-5, the classification system AC1 to AC6 has been adopted as these classes relate directly to the corresponding product classes in EN 13329 Laminate Floor Coverings.

Annex A (informative)

Addendum relating to hygienic, health and safety information for laminates intended for interior use

A.1 Cleanability

Because they are easy to clean and maintain, high-pressure decorative laminates are suitable for use in hygienic applications such as hospitals, pharmacies, food processing areas, abattoirs, clean rooms, etc. For routine cleaning, wiping the surface with water and mild detergent is usually sufficient, but more severe methods such as hosing down with hot water or steam cleaning can be used where required by the application. Solvents such as alcohols, white spirit, acetone or cellulose thinners can also be used (e.g. for graffiti removal) as they will not affect the laminate.

A.2 Hygiene

When used in hospitals and surgeries, HPL surfaces can be disinfected using any of the common disinfectants such as Ethanol 70 %, Formalin 1 to 5 %, p-chlorine-m-cresol 0,3 %, Chloramine T 1 to 5 %, or Alkylbenzyltrimethylammonium chloride 0,1 %. High pressure decorative laminates show a high resistance to fungal and bacterial growth, when tested in accordance with ISO 846.

A.3 Contact with foodstuffs

When determination of the overall and specific migration is carried out in accordance with the test method shown below, the following results are typical of those for HPL:

Overall migration	< 10 mg/dm ²
Specific migration (formaldehyde)	< 2,5 mg/dm ²

Test methods - Methods for the examination of consumer goods, basic rules for the determination of the migration in simulant solvents corresponding to the Commission Regulation (Eu) No 10/2011 of 14 January 2011 and according to the parts of the EN 1186.

Conditions	24 h at 40 °C
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Test simulants	acetic acid with a mass fraction of 3 %
	ethanol with a volume fraction of 10 %
	ethanol with a volume fraction of 95 %

Test procedure	one-sided contact
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Section 175.300 of the (US) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 21, April 1, 2013 sets forth those resinous and polymeric coatings which may, when used in accordance with the conditions prescribed in that Section, be safely used as food contact surfaces.

Section 175.300 should be consulted to determine which resins commonly used in the manufacture of high-pressure decorative laminates are safe for use as food contact surfaces.

A.4 Dangerous substances

High-pressure decorative laminate does not contain pentachlorophenol, asbestos, halogens or heavy metals (Antimony, Barium, Cadmium, Chromium III and VI, Lead, Mercury, or Selenium).

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