EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE FOAM BOARDS AS LOAD BEARING LAYER AND THERMAL INSULATION OUTSIDE THE WATERPROOFING
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This European Assessment Document (EAD) has been developed taking into account up-to-date technical and scientific knowledge at the time of issue and is published in accordance with the relevant provisions of Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 as a basis for the preparation and issuing of European Technical Assessments (ETA).
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1 SCOPE OF THE EAD

1.1 Description of the construction product

The factory-made products are of rigid cellular plastics material of expanded polystyrene or one of its copolymers and have a closed cell structure. The thermal insulation can consist of factory made boards with a smooth or moulded surface and shape moulding of expanded polystyrene (edge modules). The boards can have straight edges or special edge treatment (tongue and groove, shiplap etc.).

The expanded polystyrene foam boards do not contain Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD).

The expanded polystyrene foam boards are not fully covered by the following harmonized technical specification: EN 13163.

The deviations from the standard are:

- The hEN does not cover essential characteristics of the products as needed for the intended use of the products as part of the building foundation. The basis for the evaluation of their application are the guidelines for related aspects of structural reliability of EN 1990 (see chapter 4.2).
- There are no essential characteristics related to Mechanical resistance and stability (BWR 1) included in EN 13163.

Concerning product packaging, transport, storage, maintenance, replacement and repair it is the responsibility of the manufacturer to undertake the appropriate measures and to advise his clients on the transport, storage, maintenance, replacement and repair of the product as he considers necessary.

It is assumed that the product will be installed according to the manufacturer’s instructions or (in absence of such instructions) according to the usual practice of the building professionals.

Relevant manufacturer’s stipulations having influence on the performance of the product covered by this European Assessment Document shall be considered for the determination of the performance and detailed in the ETA.

1.2 Information on the intended use(s) of the construction product

1.2.1 Intended use(s)

The boards with smooth or moulded surfaces are intended to be used as exterior thermal insulation (walls/floors) and as load bearing thermal insulation (one or two layers of EPS thermal insulation boards) underneath floor slabs including specific edge modules. The boards are laid uniformly on the substrate to which they are applied.

The load bearing function is limited to predominantly static loads.

In particular the following applications are covered:

a) Load bearing and thermal insulation underneath foundation slabs (inside and outside the waterproofing)

b) External horizontal and vertical thermal insulation (partly with a drainage function) of in-ground constructions exposed to in-ground frost but not constantly exposed to groundwater or to long-term backwater (non-structural application)

c) Inverted roof insulation
1.2.2 Working life/Durability

The assessment methods included or referred to in this EAD have been written based on the manufacturer’s request to take into account a working life of the insulation boards for the intended uses a) and b) of 50 years and for the intended use c) of 25 years when installed in the works (provided that the thermal insulation boards is subject to appropriate installation (see 1.1)) These provisions are based upon the current state of the art and the available knowledge and experience.

When assessing the product, the intended use as foreseen by the manufacturer shall be taken into account. The real working life may be, in normal use conditions, considerably longer without major degradation affecting the basic requirements for works\(^1\).

The indications given as to the working life of the construction product cannot be interpreted as a guarantee neither given by the product manufacturer or his representative nor by EOTA when drafting this EAD nor by the Technical Assessment Body issuing an ETA based on this EAD, but are regarded only as a means for expressing the expected economically reasonable working life of the product.

1.3 Specific terms used in this EAD (if necessary in addition to the definitions in CPR, Art 2)

1.3.1 Smooth single-layer board

Factory made boards of expanded polystyrene foam with smooth surface on both sides.

1.3.2 Moulded single-layer board

Factory made moulded single-layer boards are boards of expanded polystyrene foam with a one or both-sided shape-moulded surface by a specific shaped profile (e.g. pyramid-shaped profile, grooved profile).

1.3.3 Composite panel

Moulded single boards can be combined as a composite panel. Each of the two single layers has got one moulded surface. The moulded surface (e.g. pyramid-shaped profile) of the base board fits tight with the moulded surface of the cover board.

1.3.4 Double-layer installation

Smooth single-layer boards or composite panels are to be used for double-layer installation underneath floor / foundation slabs.

1.3.5 Edge modules

Edge modules are preformed elements of expanded polystyrene as an outer closure of horizontal thermal insulation. They are manufactured using the identical chemical composition as the single boards.

\(^1\) The real working life of a product incorporated in a specific works depends on the environmental conditions to which that works is subject, as well as on the particular conditions of the design, execution, use and maintenance of that works. Therefore, it cannot be excluded that in certain cases the real working life of the product may also be shorter than referred to above.
2 ESSENTIAL CHARACTERISTICS AND RELEVANT ASSESSMENT METHODS AND CRITERIA

2.1 Essential characteristics of the product

2.1.1 Essential characteristics in case of intended use a) according to clause 1.2.1 - Load bearing and thermal insulation underneath foundation slabs

Table 1 shows how the performance of the expanded polystyrene foam boards is assessed in relation to the essential characteristics in case of intended use a) according to clause 1.2.1.

Table 1 Essential characteristics of the product and methods and criteria for assessing the performance of the product in relation to those essential characteristics in case of intended use a) according to clause 1.2.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Essential characteristic</th>
<th>Assessment method</th>
<th>Type of expression of product performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Compressive stress or compressive strength</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.1.1</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Characteristic value of compressive stress or compressive strength (5%-quantile of compressive stress or compressive strength)</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.2</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Compressive creep</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.3.1</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Behaviour under shear load (large-sized specimen)</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.4</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Creep under shear load</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.5</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Creep under combined compressive and shear load</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.6</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Adhesion behaviour under compressive and shear load on large-sized samples</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.7</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Density</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.8</td>
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<td>Shear strength</td>
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<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Basic Works Requirement 2: Safety in case of fire</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Reaction to fire</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.10</td>
<td>Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
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<td>Assessment method</td>
<td>Type of expression of product performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Thermal resistance / Thermal conductivity</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.11</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Moisture conversion coefficient</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.12</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Water absorption</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.13</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Freeze-thaw resistance</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.14</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Water vapour transmission</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.15</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Geometrical properties</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.16</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Deformation under specified compressive load and temperature conditions</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.17</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Dimensional stability under specified conditions</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.18</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Tensile strength perpendicular to faces</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.19</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Bending strength</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.20</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.1.2 Essential characteristics in case of intended use b) and c) according to clause 1.2.1 – External horizontal and vertical thermal insulation of in-ground constructions and Inverted roof insulation

Table 2 shows how the performance of the expanded polystyrene foam boards is assessed in relation to the essential characteristics in case of intended use b) and c) according to clause 1.2.1.

Table 2  Essential characteristics of the product and methods and criteria for assessing the performance of the product in relation to those essential characteristics in case of intended use b) and c) according to clause 1.2.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Essential characteristic</th>
<th>Assessment method</th>
<th>Type of expression of product performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basic Works Requirement 2: Safety in case of fire</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Reaction to fire</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.10</td>
<td>Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basic Works Requirement 6: Energy economy and heat retention</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Thermal resistance / Thermal conductivity</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.11</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Moisture conversion coefficient</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.12</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Water absorption</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.13</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Freeze-thaw resistance</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.14</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Water vapour transmission</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.15</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Geometrical properties</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.16</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Deformation under specified compressive load and temperature conditions</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.17</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Dimensional stability under specified conditions</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.18</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tensile strength perpendicular to faces</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.19</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Bending strength</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.20</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Density</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.8</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Compressive stress or compressive strength</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.1.2</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Compressive creep</td>
<td>See clause 2.2.3.2</td>
<td>Level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.2 Methods and criteria for assessing the performance of the product in relation to essential characteristics of the product

For sampling, conditioning and testing (dimensions of the test specimen, minimum number of measurements, specific conditions), EN 13163 shall apply, unless otherwise is specified in the following.

The test specimens shall be chosen to cover the intended product parameter (thickness and density range). If the tests are carried out on specimens with minimum and maximum total thickness the results can be applied for the thicknesses in between, unless otherwise is stated in the following.

The specific test conditions take the following products for installation into account

- Smooth single-layer boards for single-layer installation
- Moulded single-layer boards for external vertical installation (basement walls)
- Smooth single-layer boards for double-layer installation
- Composite boards as double-layer installation
- Edge modules

This EAD contains provisions on how to indicate certain performance characteristics. These provisions only apply if the manufacturer wishes to declare a performance for the relevant product characteristic.

2.2.1 Compressive stress or compressive strength

2.2.1.1 Compressive stress or compressive strength in case of intended use a)

Compressive stress at 10 % deformation, $\sigma_{10}$ or compressive strength, $\sigma_m$, of the single-layer boards or composite panels is determined using at least 15 (preferably 5 specimens from three different lots) test specimens according to EN 826. By derogation from EN 826 the thickness, length and width of the test specimens should be equal to the total thickness of the single-layer board or composite panels.

The time period between manufacturing and testing of the boards used for sampling should not be less than 42 days or the samples shall be dried at a temperature of 70 °C for a one week period.

The force-displacement curve according to EN 826 should be recorded.

Each measured value may not be more than 10 % lower than level which will be stated in the ETA.

Compressive stress at 10 % deformation, $\sigma_{10}$, or compressive strength, $\sigma_m$, is given in the ETA using levels with steps of 10 kPa.

Note: The test is also performed after freeze-thaw exposure – see clause 2.2.14.

Additional test if double-layer installation of single-layer boards is intended:

The testing of the compressive stress at 10 % deformation or compressive strength following EN 826 is performed on large size composite specimens with dimensions of 1200 mm x 1200 mm x total thickness of the intended multiple layer installation (two layers of single boards). Therefore, single-layer boards in delivery length (1200 mm) and a width of 600 mm are used. The second layer of the large size specimen is laid horizontally rotated by 90°.

Density, board thickness and flatness deviation of the boards are documented. 5 specimens each of the largest two-layer total thickness are tested.

Compressive stress at 10 % deformation, $\sigma_{10}$, or compressive strength, $\sigma_m$, is given in the ETA using levels with steps of 10 kPa.

Furthermore, the compressive stress, $\sigma_a$, and initial displacement $X_a$, until the conventional elastic zone (distinct straight portion of the force-displacement curve) is reached should be stated.
2.2.1.2 Compressive stress or compressive strength in case of intended use b) and c)
Compressive stress at 10 % deformation or compressive strength is determined according to EN 826 in accordance with EN 13163, clause 4.3.4.

Compressive stress at 10 % deformation, \(\sigma_{10}\), or compressive strength, \(\sigma_m\), is given in the ETA using levels with steps of 10 kPa.

**Note 1:**
The test in clause 2.2.1.2 is not required if the test according to 2.2.1.1 is used.

**Note 2:**
The test is also performed after freeze-thaw exposure – see clause 2.2.14.

**Note 3:**
The test is also performed on edge modules. The 5 samples shall be cut off from different parts including the middle area of the edge modules.

**Note 4:**
Moulded single-layer boards with specific shaped profile can be tested with removed shaped profile. If the test is performed on specimen without the shaped profile it should be stated in the ETA.

2.2.2 Characteristic value of compressive stress or compressive strength (5%-quantile of compressive stress or compressive strength)

The characteristic value of compressive stress or compressive strength is defined on basis of statistical analysis of the measured results of compressive stress at 10 % deformation or compressive strength (see 2.2.1.1).

The statistical analysis is carried out in accordance with EN 1990, clause 4.2 for the 5%-quantile value for a one-sided confidence level of 75 % under unknown or known variance using ISO 12491. For the first 35 test results the variance of the normal population should be considered as unknown.

The characteristic value of compressive stress or the compressive strength, \(\sigma_{0.05}\), is given in the ETA together with the number of sample measurements \((n)\), the sample mean value \((\sigma_{\text{mean}})\) and the standard deviation \((s_{\sigma})\).

2.2.3 Compressive Creep

2.2.3.1 Compressive creep in case of intended use a)
The long-term creep behavior under compressive load of single-layer boards or composite panels is performed according to EN 1606 deviating from EN 13163 as follows.

**Load stages**

If the parameters according to the Findley equation as described in EN 1606 Annex A.1 (Findley, W.N.: Creep Characteristics of Plastics. Symposium on Plastics, Am. Soc. Testing Mats.; 1944) are required the creep test should be carried out minimum at three different compression load stages in order to estimate the parameters of Findley approach as a function of the applied compression stress. The recommended load stages are 20 %, 30 %, and 40 % of the mean value of compressive stress at 10 % deformation or the compressive strength (see section 2.2.1.1).

**Specimen**
The specimens for the determination of the creep behavior are taken from the same sample, like the specimens that were used for the compressive test according to EN 826.

The time period between manufacturing and testing of the boards used for sampling should not be less than 42 days or the samples shall be dried at a temperature of 70 °C for a one week period.
The thickness, length and width of the test specimens should be equal to the total thickness of the product. It is recommended to test minimum three specimens under each of the three selected compression load stages. These specimens are extracted from three different boards where each board preferably comes from a different lot. Thereby, the potential variation in creep response of the same product between the different lots as well as the variation between the different specimens within the same lot could be taken into account by evaluating the creep behavior.

Test time

For the intended use of 50 years the test time (extrapolation time of 50 years) is 20 months (608 days).

The following values for each load stage, $\sigma_c$, are stated in the ETA:

- The initial thickness reduction $X_0$
- The creep deformation after test time $X_{ct}$
- The creep deformation extrapolated to 50 years, $X_{ct50}$
- The total thickness reduction extrapolated to 50 years, $X_{t50}$

2.2.3.2 Compressive creep in case of intended use b) and c)

Compressive creep and total thickness reduction are determined according to EN 1606 in accordance with EN 13163. The thickness of the test specimens should correspond to the total thickness. The length and width of the specimen should correspond at least to the total thickness of boards.

Compressive creep and total thickness reduction can be stated in the ETA using levels according to EN 13163.

Note:
The test in clause 2.2.3.2 is not required if more severe test according to 2.2.3.1 is used.

2.2.4 Behaviour under shear load (large-sized specimen)

The shear test on specimen of single-layer boards or composite panels is performed in accordance with the guidelines in EN 12090, yet the specimen size is determined as stated below.

The time period between manufacturing and testing of the boards used for sampling should not be less than 42 days or the samples shall be dried at a temperature of 70 °C for a one week period.

The thickness of the test specimen should be the total thickness of the single-layer boards or composite panel. In addition, the relative dimensions between the thickness and the length of the test specimen should be kept equal to a ratio of 1:4. The dimension of the test specimen parallel to the shear loading direction is referred to as the length of the specimen. The width should be equal to delivery width.

At least five test specimens each from three different lots should be tested in shear conditioning that the failure does not take place in the bonding material between specimen and test-setup. The specimens by which the failure took place in the bonding material should be excluded and replaced by new ones.

The shear strength ($\tau_{large}$) is given in the ETA.

2.2.5 Creep under shear load

The long-term creep deformation under shear load of single-layer boards or composite panels is to be according to the test procedure described in ANNEX A following EN 1606 regarding the determination of creep behaviour and EN 12090 regarding the test arrangement (in horizontal position).

Load stages

When the determination of the stress-dependent Findley parameters is not required, the creep test should be performed under a shear stress level of 35 % of the average value of shear strength, measured in accordance with section 2.2.4.
Optional:

To determine the stress-dependent Findley parameters, the creep test should be carried out minimum at three different shear load stages. The recommended load stages are 20 %, 30 %, and 40 % of the shear strength, measured in accordance with section 2.2.4.

Specimen

The thickness of the large size test specimen should be the total thickness of the single-layer boards or composite panel. The time period between manufacturing and testing of the boards used for sampling should not be less than 42 days or the samples shall be dried at a temperature of 70 °C for a one week period.

In addition, the relative dimensions between the thickness and the length of the test specimen should be kept equal to a ratio of 1:4. The dimension of the test specimen parallel to the shear loading direction is referred to as the length of the specimen. The width should be equal to delivery width. Minimum three specimens (maximum thickness) are tested under each of the three selected load stages.

Test time

For the intended use of 50 years the test time (extrapolation time of 50 years) is 20 months (608 days).

The following values for each load stage $\tau_c$, are stated in the ETA:

- The value of the initial sliding $X_{10}$
- The creep deformation after test time $X_{\tau_{ct}}$
- The creep deformation extrapolated to 50 years $X_{\tau_{ct50}}$
- The total sliding extrapolated to 50 years $X_{t50}$

2.2.6 Creep under combined compressive and shear load

The long-term creep deformation under combined compressive stress and shear stress of single-layer boards or composite panels shall be measured in accordance with the test procedure described in Annex A.

Load stages

When the Findley parameters are not required as a function of stress, three large size specimens from three different lots are tested. The load stages applied in this case are recommended to be a compression stress equal to 30 % of the compressive stress at 10 % compressive strain, measured according to section 2.2.1.1, in addition to a shear stress level equal to 35 % of the shear strength, measured according section 2.2.4.

Optional:

To calculate the stress-dependent Findley parameters, it is required to carry out three creep tests under combined shear-compression stress state with the following recommended load stages combinations:

- Shear stress equal to 20 % of the shear strength with a compression stress equal to 40 % of the compression stress at 10 % compression strain.
- Shear stress equal to 30 % of the shear strength with a compression stress equal to 30 % of the compression stress at 10 % compression strain.
- Shear stress equal to 40 % of the shear strength with a compression stress equal to 20 % of the compression stress at 10 % compression strain.

Specimen

The time period between manufacturing and testing of the boards used for sampling should not be less than 42 days or the samples shall be dried at a temperature of 70 °C for a one week period. The specimen size is the same as that used to determine the shear behavior in section 2.2.4.

In case that the stress-dependent Findley parameters are not of interest, the creep test is carried out on three large size specimens. Preferably these three specimens should be taken from three different lots.
Optional:

When the Findley parameters are required as a function of combined compressive and shear stress, minimum three specimens (maximum thickness) are tested under each of the three selected load stages.

**Test time**

For the intended use of 50 years the test time (extrapolation time of 50 years) is 20 months (608 days).

The following values for each load stage ($\sigma_c$ and $\tau_c$) are stated in the ETA:

- The initial thickness reduction $X_0$
- The creep deformation after test time $X_{ct}$
- The creep deformation extrapolated to 50 years $X_{ct50}$
- The total thickness reduction extrapolated to 50 years $X_{t50}$
- The value of the initial sliding $X_{\tau0}$
- The creep deformation (sliding) after test time $X_{\tau ct}$
- The creep deformation (sliding) extrapolated to 50 years $X_{\tau ct50}$
- The total sliding extrapolated to 50 years $X_{\tau t50}$

**2.2.7 Adhesion behaviour under compressive and shear load on large-sized samples**

The determination of the adhesive friction coefficient of single-layer boards or composite panels is performed in accordance with the test procedure described in Annex A using boards with the lowest and the highest level of compressive strength to be covered by the ETA.

The test is carried out with 3 load stages: 5/15/30 % of the compressive stress according to section 2.2.1.1.

The time period between manufacturing and testing of the boards used for sampling should not be less than 42 days or the samples shall be dried at a temperature of 70 °C for a one week period. Per load stage 5 specimens with the dimensions of 500 mm x 1000 mm x total thickness are used.

The adhesive friction coefficient is determined for the following settings:

a) Adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards ($\mu_{EPS}$)

b) Adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and in-situ concrete as well as a concrete finished part with foil ($\mu_{con}$)

c) Adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and in-situ concrete without foil ($\mu_{con0}$)

d) Adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and a precast concrete part without foil ($\mu_{precast}$)

The adhesive friction coefficient is given in the ETA depending on the setting.

**2.2.8 Density**

The density is determined in accordance with EN 1602 at 5 test specimens with delivery dimensions. The density range of the products covered by the ETA is given in the ETA.

**2.2.9 Shear strength**

The shear strength of single-layer boards is determined according to EN 12090 in accordance with EN 13163.

The shear strength, $\tau$ is given in the ETA using the levels according to EN 13163.
2.2.10 Reaction to fire

The expanded polystyrene foam boards are tested using the test method(s) relevant for the corresponding reaction to fire class (EN ISO 11925-2) in order to be classified according to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 2016/364 in connection with EN 13501-1 and in accordance with EN 13163. Concerning mounting and fixing conditions see EN 13163.

2.2.11 Thermal resistance and thermal conductivity

The thermal conductivity at 10 °C is determined according to EN 12667 or EN 12939 in accordance with EN 13163 and given in the ETA in levels with steps of 0,001 W/(m·K).

2.2.12 Moisture conversion coefficient

The moisture conversion coefficient $\psi$ [m³/m³] can be determined as described in Annex B and given in the ETA.

2.2.13 Water absorption

2.2.13.1 Long term water absorption by total immersion

Long term water absorption by total immersion of single-layer boards or composite panels is determined according to EN 12087 (method 2A).

For single-layer boards or composite panels with thicknesses greater than 200 mm the length and width of specimen should be at least equal to the total thickness.

Deviating from EN 12087 the drip-off time is max. 10 sec. Afterward the surface of the boards should be carefully dabbed off.

The water absorption by total immersion is given in the ETA using in levels with steps of 1 % by volume in accordance with EN 13163.

Note:
It is also possible to determine instead the long term water absorption by total immersion in full accordance with EN 13163.

2.2.13.2 Long term water absorption by diffusion

Water absorption by diffusion of single-layer boards or composite panels is determined according to EN 12088 in accordance with EN 13163.

The water absorption by diffusion is given in the ETA in levels with steps of 1 % by volume in accordance with EN 13163.

2.2.14 Freeze-thaw resistance

Freeze-thaw resistance after long term water absorption by diffusion of single-layer boards or composite panels is determined according to EN 12091 in accordance with EN 13163 using the wet test specimens from having done the water diffusion test in accordance with EN 12088 (see 2.2.13.2).

For the intended use a) according to EN 12091 the reduction in compressive stress at 10 % deformation or in compressive strength of the wet and re-dried specimens after freeze-thaw cycling is tested in accordance with EN 826 and shall not exceed 10 % of the initial value.

For the intended uses b) and c) following EN 13163, after freeze-thaw cycling the reduction in compressive stress at 10 % deformation or in compressive strength of the re-dried specimens, when tested in accordance with EN 826, shall not exceed 10 % of the initial value.
The freeze-thaw resistance after long term water absorption by diffusion, \( FTCD_i \), is giving in the ETA as additional water absorption, \( W_v \), from the 300 freeze-thaw cycling in levels with steps of 1 % by volume in accordance with EN 13163.

2.2.15 Water vapour transmission

The water vapour transmission properties are determined in accordance with EN 12086, climatic condition A.

For single-layer boards or composite panels the water vapour diffusion resistance factor \( \mu \) is given in the ETA.

2.2.16 Geometrical properties

2.2.16.1 Thickness

The thickness of single-layer boards or composite panels is determined according to EN 823 in accordance with EN 13163. Measuring set-up 3 should be used independent from the width of the board. The tolerances in mm are given in the ETA. Classes according to EN 13163 can be used.

2.2.16.2 Length, width

The length and width are determined according to EN 822 in accordance with EN 13163. Length and width are given in the ETA considering the tolerances according to EN 13163.

2.2.16.3 Squareness

The squareness on length and width is determined according to EN 824 in accordance with EN 13163. The squareness is given in the ETA considering the tolerances according to EN 13163.

2.2.16.4 Flatness

The flatness is determined according to EN 825 in accordance with EN 13163. The tolerances in mm are given in the ETA.

2.2.16.5 Profiling and volume loss

For moulded single-layer boards (e.g. with a one-sided shape-moulded surface for external vertical installation) the profiling of the surface is measured and given in the ETA. If needed the volume loss can be given in the ETA.

2.2.17 Deformation under specified compressive load and temperature conditions

Deformation under specified compressive load and temperature conditions of single-layer boards or composite panels is determined according to EN 1605 in accordance with EN 13163. The dimensions (length and width) of the test specimens should correspond to the total thickness of the boards.

Deformation under specified compressive load and temperature conditions is given in the ETA using levels according to EN 13163.

Alternatively, the difference between the relevant deformation, \( \varepsilon_1 \), after step A and, \( \varepsilon_2 \), after step B as described in EN 1605 can be given in steps of 1% in the ETA.

\[ \varepsilon_1 \]

The test is also performed on edge modules. The 5 samples shall be cut off from different parts including the middle area of the edge modules.

\[ \varepsilon_2 \]

Moulded single-layer boards with specific shaped profile can be tested with removed shaped profile. If the test is performed on specimen without the shaped profile it should be stated in the ETA.
2.2.18 Dimensional stability under specified conditions

Dimensional stability under specified conditions of single-layer boards or composite panels is determined according to EN 1603 and EN 1604 in accordance with EN 13163

- under constant normal laboratory conditions (23 °C/50 % relative humidity),
- at a temperature of 70 °C for 48 h or
- at a temperature of 70 °C and a relative humidity of 90 % for 48 h.

The specimen size (length and width) of single-layer boards or composite panels with total thicknesses greater than 200 mm should be equal to or greater than the total thickness of the tested single-layer boards or composite panels.

Dimensional stability under specified conditions is given in the ETA using the level according to EN 13163.

In addition dimensional stability at a temperature of -30 °C can be determined according to EN 1604. The relative changes in length and width and the relative reduction in thickness are given in the ETA.

Note: The test is also performed on edge modules. The 5 samples shall be cut off from the bottom part of the edge modules.

2.2.19 Tensile strength perpendicular to faces

The tensile strength perpendicular to faces of single-layer boards with thicknesses greater than 120 mm (in case of intended use a) is determined according to EN 1607 in accordance with EN 13163. The geometric dimensions of the test specimens should be 100 x 100 x 100 mm. The sample should be cut off from the middle area of a single board.

The tensile strength perpendicular to faces is given in the ETA using levels according to EN 13163.

2.2.20 Bending strength

Bending strength of single-layer boards shall be determined according to EN 12089 (method B).

The time period between manufacturing and testing of the boards used for sampling should not be less than 42 days or the samples shall be dried at a temperature of 70 °C for a one week period. If the thickness of the single-layer board is greater than 100 mm the sample should be cut off from the middle area of a single board.

The bending strength is given in the ETA.

Note: The test is also performed on edge modules. The 5 samples shall be cut off from the middle area of the edge modules.
3 ASSESSMENT AND VERIFICATION OF CONSTANCY OF PERFORMANCE

3.1 System(s) of assessment and verification of constancy of performance to be applied

In case of intended use a) according to clause 1.2.1 the applicable European legal act is: Decision 95/467/EC (structural bearings)

The system is:

System 1 (where requirements on individual bearings are critical) or

System 3 (where requirements on individual bearings are not critical)

‘Critical’ in the sense that those requirements may, in case of failure of the bearing, put the works or parts thereof in states beyond those regarded as serviceability and ultimate limit states.

In case of intended use b) and c) according to clause 1.2.1 the applicable European legal act is: Decision 1999/91/EC (thermal insulation products).

The system is: 3 for any use except for uses subject to regulations on reaction to fire.

For uses subject to regulations on reaction to fire the applicable AVCP systems are 1, or 3, or 4 depending on the conditions defined in the said Decision.

3.2 Tasks of the manufacturer

The cornerstones of the actions to be undertaken by the manufacturer of the product in the procedure of assessment and verification of constancy of performance are laid down in Table 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Subject/type of control</th>
<th>Test or control method</th>
<th>Criteria, if any</th>
<th>Minimum number of samples</th>
<th>Minimum frequency of control</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Compressive stress or compressive strength</td>
<td>see EN 13163</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>see EN 13163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Characteristic value of compressive stress or compressive strength (5%-quantile of compressive stress or compressive strength)</td>
<td>see clause 2.2.2</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>twice per year</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Compressive creep / intended use a)</td>
<td>see EN 13163</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>Minimum and maximum thickness</td>
<td>once per year</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Density</td>
<td>see clause 2.2.8</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>once per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Subject/type of control</td>
<td>Test or control method</td>
<td>Criteria, if any</td>
<td>Minimum number of samples</td>
<td>Minimum frequency of control</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Shear strength</td>
<td>see clause 2.2.9</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>once per month$^2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Reaction to fire</td>
<td>see EN 13163</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>see EN 13163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Thermal resistance / Thermal conductivity</td>
<td>see clause 2.2.11</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>see EN 13163$^3$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Water absorption</td>
<td>see clause 2.2.13</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>twice per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Freeze-thaw resistance</td>
<td>see clause 2.2.14</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>twice per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Water vapour transmission</td>
<td>see EN 13163</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>see EN 13163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Geometrical properties</td>
<td>see clause 2.2.16</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td></td>
<td>see EN 13163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Deformation under specified conditions</td>
<td>see clause 2.2.17</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>twice per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Dimensional stability under specified conditions</td>
<td>see clause 2.2.18</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>twice per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Tensile strength perpendicular to faces</td>
<td>see clause 2.2.19</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>once per month$^4$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Bending strength</td>
<td>see clause 2.2.20</td>
<td>Acc. to control plan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>once per month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.3 Tasks of the notified body

The intervention of the notified body is only necessary in so far as the conditions for the applicability of system 1 are fulfilled, i.e.

- in case of intended use a) according to clause 1.2.1 the requirements on individual bearings are critical, or
- in case of intended uses b) or c) according to clause 1.2.1 the conditions for the applicability of system 1 as defined in Decision 1999/91/EC are fulfilled.

The cornerstones of the actions to be undertaken by the notified body of the product in the procedure of assessment and verification of constancy of performance are laid down in Table 4.

---

$^2$ If the characteristic No 14 “Tensile strength perpendicular to faces” is tested once per month the test can be performed twice per year

$^3$ Only direct testing

$^4$ If the characteristic No 5 “Shear strength” is tested once per month the test can be performed twice per year
## Table 4  Control plan for the notified body; cornerstones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Subject/type of control</th>
<th>Test or control method</th>
<th>Criteria, if any</th>
<th>Minimum number of samples</th>
<th>Minimum frequency of control</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Initial inspection of the manufacturing plant and of factory production control</strong> <em>(for system 1 only)</em></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The notified body shall verify the ability of the manufacturer for a continuous and orderly manufacturing of the product according to the European Technical Assessment. In particular the following items shall be appropriately considered</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Control Plan</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>When starting the production</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- personnel and equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- the suitability of the factory production control established by the manufacturer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- full implementation of the prescribed test plan</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Basic Works Requirement 1: Mechanical resistance and stability</td>
<td>Clauses 2.2.1.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3.1, 2.2.4 to 2.2.9</td>
<td>Control plan</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Presence of suitable test equipment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Presence of trained personnel</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Presence of an appropriate quality assurance system and the necessary stipulations</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Basic Works Requirement 2*: Safety in case of fire:</td>
<td>Clause 2.2.10</td>
<td>Control plan</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Presence of suitable test equipment</td>
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<td>- Presence of trained personnel</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Presence of an appropriate quality assurance system and the necessary stipulations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Continuous surveillance, assessment and evaluation of factory production control</strong> <em>(for system 1 only)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>It shall be verified that the system of factory production control and the specified manufacturing process are maintained taking into account of the control plan.</td>
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<td>Annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Subject/type of control</td>
<td>Test or control method</td>
<td>Criteria, if any</td>
<td>Minimum number of samples</td>
<td>Minimum frequency of control</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 5  | Basic Works Requirement 1 - Mechanical resistance and stability:  
   - Inspection of factory, of the production of the product and of the facilities for factory production control  
   - Evaluation of the documents concerning factory production control  
   Issuing a report of surveillance | Clauses 2.2.1.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3.1, 2.2.4 to 2.2.9 | Control plan | - | Annually |
| 6  | Basic Works Requirement 2*: Safety in case of fire  
   - Inspection of factory, of the production of the product and of the facilities for factory production control  
   - Evaluation of the documents concerning factory production control  
   - Issuing a report of surveillance | Clause 2.2.10 | Control plan | - | |

*Only relevant for products of class C and higher
4 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

As far as no edition date is given in the list of standards thereafter, the standard in its current version at the time of issuing the European Technical Assessment is of relevance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EN 822</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications - Determination of length and width</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 823</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications - Determination of thickness</td>
</tr>
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<td>EN 824</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications - Determination of squareness</td>
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<td>EN 825</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications - Determination of flatness</td>
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<tr>
<td>EN 826</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications - Determination of compression behaviour</td>
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<tr>
<td>EN 1602</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications - Determination of the apparent density</td>
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<tr>
<td>EN1603</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications – Determination of dimensional stability under constant normal laboratory conditions (23 °C/50 % relative humidity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 1604</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications - Determination of dimensional stability under specified temperature and humidity conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 1605</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications - Determination of deformation under specified compressive load and temperature conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 1606</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications - Determination of compressive creep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 1607</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications - Determination of tensile strength perpendicular to faces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 1990</td>
<td>Eurocode: Basis of structural design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 12086</td>
<td>Thermal insulation products for building applications-Determination of water vapour transmission properties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 12087</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications-Determination of long term water absorption by immersion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 12089</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications - Determination of bending behaviour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 12091</td>
<td>Thermal insulating products for building applications-Determination of freeze-thaw resistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 12664</td>
<td>Thermal performance of building materials and products-Determination of thermal resistance by means of guarded hot plate and heat flow meter methods-Dry and moist products of medium and low thermal resistance</td>
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<td>Standard</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>EN 12667</td>
<td>Thermal performance of building materials and products-Determination of</td>
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<td>thermal resistance by means of guarded hot plate and heat flow meter methods-</td>
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<td>Products of high and medium thermal resistance</td>
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<td>EN 13501-1</td>
<td>Fire classification of construction products and building elements-Part 1:</td>
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<td>Classification using test data from reaction to fire tests</td>
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<td>EN ISO 10456</td>
<td>Building materials and products - Hygrothermal properties - Tabulated</td>
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<td>design values and procedures for determining declared and design thermal</td>
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<td>EN ISO 11925-2</td>
<td>Reaction to fire tests - Ignitability of products subjected to direct</td>
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<td>impingement of flame - Part 2: Single-flame source test</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISO 12491</td>
<td>Statistical methods for quality control of building materials and components</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX A: CREEP AND ADHESION TEST PROCEDURE

A.1 Creep test under shear stress - Test-Setup and Procedure
The concept of performing the creep test under shear stresses is illustrated in Figure (1). The test specimen is to be bonded between two steel plates where one of these plates is fixed and the other is to move freely in the horizontal direction parallel to the other plate. Any tilting that could happen in the movable plate through shear load application should be prohibited.

![Figure (1) – Sketch of the Shear Creep Test-Setup](image)

The regulations stated in EN 1606 regarding the test duration, load application, and when the creep deformations should be recorded, are followed here also to perform the creep test under shear stresses. Moreover, modelling and extrapolating the creep deformations under shear stresses are performed following the computational procedures in Annex A in EN 1606.

A.2 Creep test under combined compressive and shear stress - Test-Setup and Procedure
The concept of performing the creep tests under combined shear-compression stress state is illustrated in Figure (2). Test specimen is to be bonded between two steel plates where the bottom plate is fixed and the upper one is to move freely in both the horizontal and the vertical directions.

![Figure (2) – Sketch of the Combined Shear-Compression Creep Test-Setup](image)

The test is recommended to start by applying the compression stress firstly and then the shear stress.

As stated previously, the regulations stated in EN 1606 regarding the test duration, load application, and when the creep deformations should be recorded, are followed here as well to perform the creep test under both shear and compression stresses. Shear and compression creep deformations are to be recorded separately.

Moreover, each of the creep deformations under shear and compression stresses are modelled and extrapolated separately based on the computational procedures in Annex A in EN 1606.
A.3 Adhesion behaviour under compressive and shear load on large-sized specimen

A.3.1 Adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards

The concept of performing the test to determine the friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards is illustrated in figure (3). Each test specimen is bonded on one steel plate whereby the lower steel plate is fixed on the testing stand. The steel plate of the upper specimen is fully movable in the horizontal and vertical direction. Any tilting that could happen in the movable plate through shear load application has to be prohibited.

The test is started by applying the compression stress first, afterwards the shear stress can be applied.

![Figure (3) – Sketch of the test-setup to determine the adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards](image)

A.3.2 Adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and in-situ concrete as well as a concrete finished part with foil

The concept of performing the test to determine the friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and a concrete finished part with foil is illustrated in figure (4). The test specimen is bonded on one steel plate. Afterwards it is placed on a precast concrete plate which is fixed against horizontal movement on the test stand. Between the concrete part and the polystyrene foam board a foil is placed. The steel plate with the attached foam board is fully movable in the horizontal and vertical direction. Any tilting that could happen in the movable plate during shear load application has to be prohibited.

The test is started by applying the compression stress first, afterwards the shear stress can be applied.

![Figure (4) – Sketch of the test-setup to determine the adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and a concrete finished part with foil](image)
A.3.3 Adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and in-situ concrete without foil

The concept of performing the test to determine the friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and a concrete finished part without foil is illustrated in figure (5). The test specimen is bonded on one steel plate and an in-situ concrete part is concreted surface to surface against the foam board. The steel plate with the attached foam board is fully movable in the horizontal and vertical direction, the concrete part is fixed against horizontal movement. Any tilting that could happen in the movable plate during shear load application has to be prohibited. The test is started by applying the compression stress first, afterwards the shear stress can be applied.

![Figure (5) – Sketch of the test-setup to determine the adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and a concrete finished part without foil](image)

A.3.4 Adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and a concrete finished part without foil

The concept of performing the test to determine the friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and a concrete finished part without foil is illustrated in figure (6). The test specimen is bonded on one steel plate. Afterwards it is placed on a precast concrete plate which is fixed against horizontal movement on the test stand. The steel plate with the attached foam board is fully movable in the horizontal and vertical direction. Any tilting that could happen in the movable plate during shear load application has to be prohibited. The test is started by applying the compression stress first, afterwards the shear stress can be applied.

![Figure (6) – Sketch of the test-setup to determine the adhesive friction coefficient between the expanded polystyrene foam boards and a concrete finished part without foil](image)
ANNEX B: DETERMINATION OF THE MOISTURE CONVERSION COEFFICIENT $F_{\Psi}$

B.1 Scope

This Annex B specifies the method for determination of the moisture conversion coefficient $f_\Psi$ of the thermal conductivity of the insulation.

B.2 Principle

The moisture conversion coefficient is determined on the basis of measurements of the thermal conductivity at several moisture conditions.

The conditioning of samples is performed by water absorption by diffusion (EN 12088).

B.3 Apparatus

B.3.1 Water absorption by diffusion apparatus

Water absorption by diffusion apparatus is in accordance with EN 12088.

B.3.2 Heat flow meter

A horizontal single specimen heat flow meter apparatus.

B.3.3 Polyethylene film

Either a polyethylene film or bag capable of being sealed vapour tight.

B.4 Test specimen

Five test specimens, of length and width dimensions 500 mm x 500 mm x total thickness, are taken and from different production lots.

B.5 Procedure

B.5.1 The test specimens are dried at 70 °C until constant mass, smaller than 0,1 % of initial mass per day, is attained.

B.5.2 The thermal conductivity is determined at a mean temperature of 10 ± 0,3 °C according to EN 12667 using a heat flow meter apparatus with a temperature difference of 10 to 15 °C.

B.5.3 The mean value $\lambda_{10,\text{dry}}$ is calculated to the nearest 0,0001 W(m·K)$^{-1}$.

B.5.4 The water absorption is accelerated by putting the specimens into a diffusion test apparatus, according to EN 12088, until a range of 2 % to 5 % by volume has been reached. If necessary the Standard’s test period of 28 days shall be prolonged until the range is reached. The test specimens are turned over every 7 days.

The test is stopped if the range of 2 % to 5 % has not been reached after 84 days. In this case the specimens showing the water absorption after 84 days are used for the next steps of the test procedure.

B.5.5 The test specimens are wrapped in polyethylene film or placed in a polyethylene bag, and sealed, for three weeks to allow homogeneous distribution of humidity within the test specimen at 23 ± 5 °C.
B.5.6 The thermal conductivity measurement is repeated (see B.5.2) using the heat flow meter apparatus with a temperature difference of 4 to 6 °C. The specimens are made on the wrapped specimens to avoid loss of water vapour during the measurements. The lower plate of the apparatus is used as hot side and the upper plate as cold side. The heat flow direction and small temperature difference is required to avoid movement of humidity during measurement.

B.5.7 The following step in the water absorption test is carried out by placing the test specimens into the diffusion test apparatus until 6 to 10 % by volume is achieved. If necessary the Standard’s test period of 28 days shall be prolonged until the range is reached. The test specimens are turned over every 7 days.

The test is stopped if the range of 6 to 10 % has not been reached after 84 days. In this case the specimens showing the water absorption after 84 days are used for the next steps of the test procedure. The calculated conversion coefficient applies only up to the water absorption reached in the test (see B.5.13).

B.5.8 The test specimens are wrapped in polyethylene film or placed in a polyethylene bag, and sealed, for three weeks to allow a homogeneous distribution of humidity within the test specimen.

B.5.9 The thermal conductivity measurement is repeated using a temperature difference of 4 to 6 °C as described above.

B.5.10 The mean slope of the curve is determined by regression.

B.5.11 $\lambda_{10 \varphi}$ is the value of thermal conductivity determined by evaluation of the curve at a mean humidity content $\varphi$ after step B.5.7.

B.5.12 The moisture conversion coefficient is determined in accordance with EN ISO 10456:

$$f_\varphi = \frac{\ln \frac{\lambda_{10 \varphi}}{\lambda_{10 \text{ dry}}}}{\psi}$$

where, $f_\varphi$ is the moisture conversion coefficient volume by volume

$\lambda_{10 \text{ dry}}$ is the thermal conductivity of the thermal insulation dry

$\lambda_{10 \varphi}$ is the thermal conductivity of the thermal insulation following water absorption by diffusion

$\psi$ is the corresponding moisture content volume by volume at $\lambda_{10 \varphi}$.

B.5.13 Restrictions concerning the application of this method:

If the water absorption of 6 to 10 % has not been reached according to B.5.7 the calculated conversion coefficient $f_\varphi$ applies only up to the water absorption reached.

If the value is less than 1.5 and/or 60 % of the moisture conversion coefficient quoted in EN ISO 10456 then the value is set to 1.5 and/or 60 % (the higher numerical value is applied).