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English Version

**Durability of wood and wood-based products -
Interpretation document for standards related to efficacy
requirements and specifications of wood preservatives**

Durabilité du bois et des produits dérivés - Document
d'interprétation des normes relatives aux exigences
d'efficacité et aux spécifications des produits de
préservation du bois

Dauerhaftigkeit von Holz und Holzprodukten -
Anwendungsdokument für Normen zu Anforderungen
an die Wirksamkeit und Eigenschaften von
Holzschutzmitteln

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TR 17810:2022) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 38 “Durability of wood and wood-based products”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

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Introduction

CEN standards are regarded as the preferred reference for the assessment of the efficacy of wood preservatives for the authorization of biocidal products in the European market, in compliance with the Biocidal Products Regulation (528/2012).

Efficacy requirements are specified in EN 599-1 (preventive action) and EN 14128 (curative action).

This document aims to provide information on the technical and scientific background of the test methods listed in the CEN standards, in particular those published by CEN/TC 38, as well as to outline the tools available to support efficacy claims for wood preservatives.

1 Scope

This document is intended to facilitate the interpretation and use of the European Standards where the testing and specification of wood preservative products are described. It aims to assist users (manufacturers, specifiers, authorities, etc.) to correlate the choice of selected test methods, wood substrates and biological agents with the efficacy requirements of wood preservatives based on their claimed target organisms and end use. This document is a source of supplementary information to the relevant standards and cannot be used as a standalone document.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 599-1:2009+A1:2013, *Durability of wood and wood-based products - Efficacy of preventive wood preservatives as determined by biological tests - Part 1: Specification according to use class*

EN 1001 (all parts), *Durability of wood and wood-based products - Terminology*

EN 14128, *Durability of wood and wood-based products - Efficacy criteria for curative wood preservatives as determined by biological tests*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 599-1, EN 1001 (all parts) and EN 14128 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

4 General principles

The test methods and efficacy criteria discussed in this document characterize the ability of a preservative to protect wood from attacking organisms. The techniques adopted in each of the test methods are not intended to reproduce any particular industrial wood treatment, but to obtain satisfactory penetration and distribution of the preservative in the test specimens. It should also be emphasized that the test conditions are the most favourable for wood decay and, in the case of laboratory tests, the decay organisms used were selected as representative of a wider variety of organisms that can affect the wood in use. In general, the test methods make it possible to determine the preventive or the curative action of a preservative against wood destroying organisms, e.g. insects, fungi and marine borers. In the case of preventive treatments, the test requirements for a preservative are specified in EN 599-1 and depend on the use class as defined in EN 335. In the case of curative treatments, the test requirements for a preservative are specified in EN 14128.