

Fire Protection of Wood and Structures with Mineral Paints



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Abstract

The paper presents the results of fire tests of mineral paint for wood and structures based on it. Mineral paint tests were carried out in accordance with the EN 13823: 2010 + A1: 2014 (SBI method) procedure, namely: the rate of heat release, smoke generation, total heat release, total smoke generation, indices of ignition rate and smoke content were determined. It has been established that mineral paint is characterized by non-combustibility, absence of flaming particles and droplets, burning droplets; lateral flame spread to the edge of the substrate. Mineral paint, during the fire test, has low heat generation, smoke generation and combustion rate. The indicated indicators are achieved due to the compositional composition of the mineral paint and primer, as well as the mechanism of their action. The composition of the primer prevents the destruction of lignin and fibres of cellulose and hemicellulose due to the reflection of heat fluxes and their distribution within the paint layers. In the paint layers, under the influence of a temperature gradient, a two-stage process of dehydration of mineral components occurs, as a result of which vapours of physical and chemically bound water are released with the formation or formation of a porous layer of anhydrous aluminosilicates of a zeolite-like composition. The formation of a porous structure contributes to both heat dissipation and resistance to high temperatures. In the investigated mineral paint, the indices of the ignition rate indices (FIGRA0.2MJ, W/s), smoke content (SMOGRA, m²/s²) and total smoke production (TSP600s, m²) are 1.3, 25 and 2 times lower than the indices regulated by the standard.

Keywords: Fire protection; Wood; Mineral Paints

Abbreviations: THR: Total Heat Release; TSP: Total Smoke Production

Introduction

The use of mineral paints and coatings for fire protection of wood and structures based on it is relevant today [1-5]. The purpose of the work was to study fire retardant mineral paints for wood according to European standards Testing ISO/IEC 17025 RISE Research Institutes of Sweden AB. RISE has by performed a fire test according to EN 13823:2010+A1:2014 (SBI method). The test is for informatory purpose. According to information, the products have the following composition (Table 1): fire protective mineral coating consisting of paint applied on to a plywood board with Euro class D-s2,d0 and a nominal thickness of 9mm. The test results relate to the behavior of the test specimens of a product under the particular conditions of the test; they are not intended to be the sole criterion for assessing the potential fire hazard of the product in use.

Criteria

According to Table 1 in "Fire classification of construction products and building elements – Part 1: Classification using test data from reaction to fire tests", EN 13501-1:2019. To meet class

"B-s1,d0", construction products excluding floorings and linear pipe thermal insulation products have to meet the following limits when tested according to EN 13823:

- FIGRA0.2 MJ \leq 120 W/s
- LFS < edge of specimen
- THR600s \leq 7.5 MJ
- SMOGRA \leq 30 m²/s²
- TSP600s \leq 50 m²
- No flaming droplets / particles within 600s.

Additionally, construction products excluding floorings and linear pipe thermal insulation products have to meet the following limits when tested according to EN ISO 11925-2: Flame tip must not reach 150mm vertically from the point of application of the test flame, within 60s from the time of application. 30s exposure time. Deviation from standard. Only one test was carried out, instead of the three stipulated in the standard. The paint system

was mounted according to EN 13823:2010, 5.2.2 d. It was applied to a plywood board by RISE. The short wing had less paint applied than nominal, see measured data on page 5 below. The short

wing constitutes 33% of the specimen surface approximately. The backing board was standing directly behind the plywood board. The plywood board fulfil the requirements given in EN 13238.

Table 1: Fire protective mineral coating.

	Paint	Content	Nominal Amount, Wet Weight (kg/m ³)
Layer 1	primer	Water glass 80%, aluminum powder 10%, organic supplements 10%	0.25-0.30
Layer 2	paint	Water glass 80%, metakaolin 25-30%, silica 5%, organic supplements 10%	0.5
Layer 3	paint	Water glass 50-55%, metakaolin 25-30%, silica 5%, organic supplements 10%	0.3

Method of Smoke Calculation

The smoke production rate, SPR, of the burner was calculated using data from the auxiliary (secondary) burner: Graph of heat release rate (HRRav) (Figure 1); Graph of smoke production rate (SPRav) (Figure 2); Graph of total heat release (THR) (Figure 3); Graph of total smoke production (TSP) (Figure 4); Graph of fire growth rate index (FIGRA) (Figure 5); Graph of smoke growth rate

index (SMOGRA) (Figure 6).

Note: Figure 5 and figure 6 show the time relationships of FIGRA and SMOGRA respectively without applying the threshold values, see EN 13823, paragraph A.5.3 and A.6.3. Therefore, the reported single maximum values of FIGRA0,2MJ, FIGRA0,4MJ and SMOGRA may be smaller than shown in the graphs as the threshold values are applied in this case. Area weight applied (Table 2).

Table 2: Area weight applied.

	Ling Wing (kg/m ²)	Short Wing (kg/m ²)
Layer 1	0.26	0.18
Layer 2	0.5	0.33
Layer 3	0.3	0.2

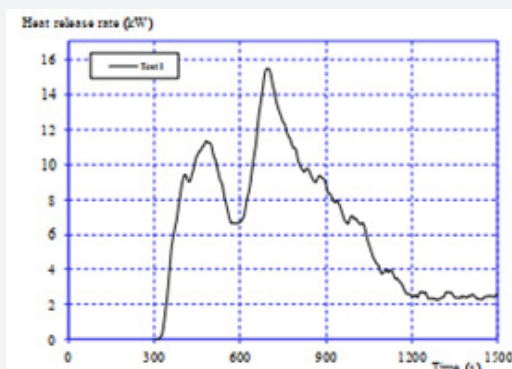


Figure 1: Heat release rate (burner excluded), 30 seconds running average value.

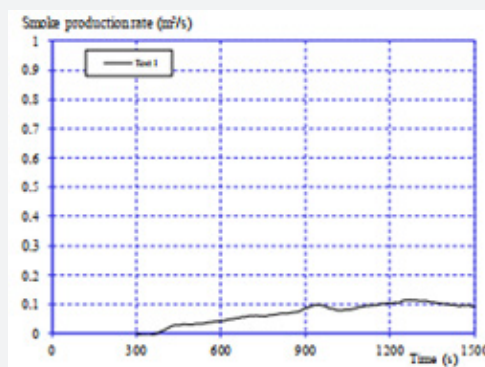


Figure 2: Smoke production rate (burner excluded), 60 seconds running average value.

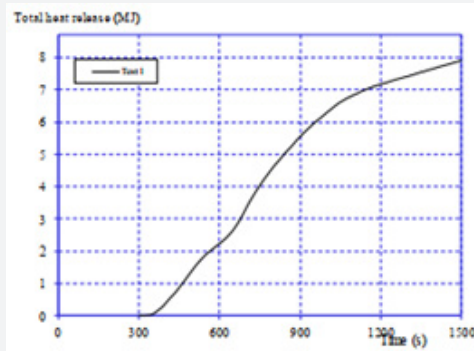


Figure 3: Total heat release (burner excluded).

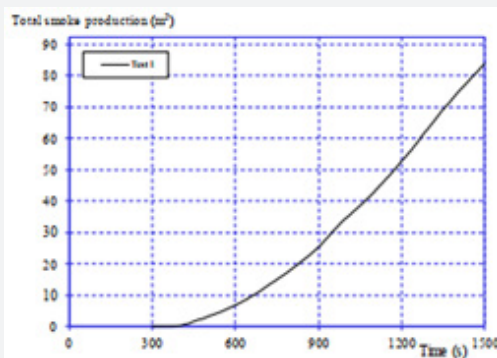


Figure 4: Total smoke production (burner excluded).

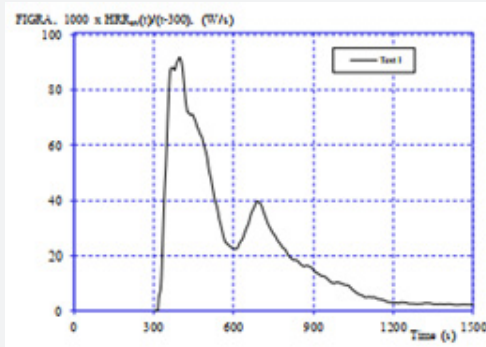


Figure 5: Fire growth rate index.

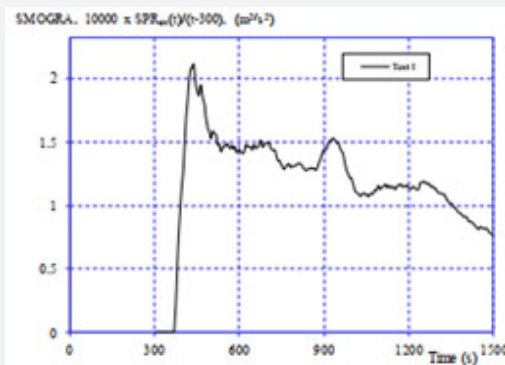


Figure 6: Smoke growth rate index.

Conditioning

According to EN 13238 and EN 13823:2010. Constant mass: mass 1: 3695g; temperature (23 ± 2) °C; mass 2: 3694g; relative

humidity (50 ± 5) %; time: 24 h. The results of tests of fire-retardant mineral paint before and after exposure to a fire flame are shown in figure 7 and figure 8. The results of firing tests are given in table 3 and table 4.



Figure 7: The vertical outer edge of the long wing at a height of 500mm above the floor of the trolley.



Figure 8: Impact of flames in the burner corner.

Table 3: Test parameter explanation on EN 13823:2010+A1:2014 (SBI method).

Parameter	Explanation
Test start	Start of data collection
End of test	26:00 (min:s) after test start
HRRav, maximum, kW	Peak heat release rate of material between ignition of the main burner and end of test (burner heat output excluded), as 30 seconds running average value
SPRav, maximum, m ² /s	Peak smoke production Rate of material between ignition of the main burner and end of test (burner heat output excluded), as 60 seconds running average value
FIGRA0,2MJ, W/s	Fire growth rate index is defined as the maximum of the quotient HRRav(t)/(t-300s), multiplied by 1000. During 300 s ≤ t ≤ 1500 s, threshold value 3 kW and 0.2 MJ
FIGRA0,4MJ, W/s	Fire growth rate index is defined as the maximum of the quotient HRRav(t)/(t-300s), multiplied by 1000. During 300 s ≤ t ≤ 1500 s, threshold value 3 kW and 0.4 MJ
SMOGRA, m ² /s ²	Smoke growth rate index is defined as the maximum of the quotient SPRav(t)/(t-300s), multiplied by 10 000. During 300 s ≤ t ≤ 1500 s, threshold value 0.1 m ² /s and 6 m ²
THR600s, MJ	Total heat release of the sample during 300 s ≤ t ≤ 900 s
TSP600s, m ²	Total smoke production of the sample during 300 s ≤ t ≤ 900 s

Table 4: Test results.

Test No	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3	Average	Control to EN 13823
General information					
Test start, min:s	0:00	-	-		
Auxiliary burner ignited and adjusted, min:s	2:00	-	-		
Main burner ignited, min:s	5:00	-	-		
Main burner stopped, min:s	26:00:00	-	-		
Observations					
Flaming droplets or particles	No	-	-		
Burning droplets or particles, > 10 s	No	-	-		
Lateral flame spread until the edge, LFS	No	-	-		
Fire performance, see on figure 3 to figure 6					
FIGRA0,2MJ, W/s	92	-	-	=	≤ 120
FIGRA0,4MJ, W/s	90	-	-	=	-
SMOGRA, m ² /s ²	1.2	-	-	=	≤ 30
THR600s, MJ	5.5	-	-	=	-
TSP600s, m ²	25	-	-	=	≤ 50

Conclusion

As a result of the test carried out according to the procedure EN 13823: 2010 + A1: 2014 (SBI method), it was found that mineral paint intended for fire protection of wood and structures based on it is characterized by: non-combustibility, absence of flaming particles and drops, burning drops; lateral flame spread to the edge. Mineral paint, during the fire test, has low heat generation, smoke generation and combustion rate. In the studied mineral paint, the indices of the indices of the ignition rate, smoke content and general smoke production are 1.3, 25 and 2 times less than the indicators regulated by the standard.

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