




MEDITE EXTERIOR is an MDF panel developed specifically for use in a wide range of external applications in accordance with MDF-H2 as defined in EN 622 part 5 and gives all the design freedom of interior MDF.

This information sheet provides the correct use of MEDITE EXTERIOR MDF and are specifically designed to ensure both longevity and performance of this product in service. It is therefore essential that these recommendations are strictly followed.

CONSTRUCTION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Before processing a minimum of 3 – 4 days conditioning is recommended to allow the panels to reach equilibrium moisture content. Air must be allowed to move freely over both surfaces to reduce the risk of the boards warping
- All edges should be rounded to 3mm radius to improve coating retention and maximise maintenance intervals
- Flat surfaces/areas where water can collect should be avoided. Surfaces should have 15° inclination to allow water to naturally run off
- All gaps/holes should be sealed to prevent water entering the construction
- Fixings and fasteners must be corrosion resistant. Best practice for fixings must be followed
- If the coating is damaged during installation the necessary repairs should be performed in line with the coating manufacturers guidelines
- D4 class or equivalent adhesives must be used



MEDITE EXTERIOR is an MDF panel developed specifically for use in a wide range of external applications and gives all the design freedom of interior MDF. Developed at MEDITE's world class MDF facility in Clonmel, MEDITE EXTERIOR broadens the range of the MEDITE family of high performance MDF products.

APPLICATIONS

MEDITE EXTERIOR is used as a substitute for softwood, hardwood, plywood, plastic and metal in non-stressed applications. It can be used for a wide range of external applications including: external signs, shop fronts and external woodwork including fascias, exterior mouldings, door parts - raised and fielded panels, garden furniture components, exterior display stands, marine craft interiors and sports score boards. MEDITE EXTERIOR is suitable for conditions in accordance with MDFH (Option 2) as defined in EN 622 part 5. Boards of this type are suitable for use in Hazard Classes 1, 2 and 3 environments of EN 335-3 provided an appropriate coating system is used. To ensure durability, MEDITE EXTERIOR must be adequately sealed on all surfaces and edges with an exterior grade coating system. Direct contact with soil must be avoided. As with all natural products, linear movement will take place if MEDITE EXTERIOR is exposed to changes in relative humidity. Therefore, as a precaution, an expansion gap of 5mm per 2440mm is recommended.

PERFORMANCE

MEDITE EXTERIOR has been proved to withstand extremes of weather through an extended programme of exposure tests. MEDITE EXTERIOR complies with the V100 test method as per EN 1087-1. In this test, the pieces are boiled for two hours prior to testing for internal bond strength. MEDITE EXTERIOR complies with requirements for general purpose boards for use in exterior conditions (type MDF.H, Option 2) according to the product standard developed by European MDF manufacturers.

APPEARANCE

MEDITE EXTERIOR is distinguishable from other MEDITE MDF products by its grey identification colour.

CONDITIONING

The moisture content of MEDITE EXTERIOR is in the range of 5-9% at the time of manufacture. Changes in dimensions of wood and wood-based sheet materials occur due to changes in relative humidity. For this reason, MEDITE EXTERIOR panels should be conditioned to the final environment for two to three days before cutting and fixing.

MACHINING/FINISHING

Cut or profiled edges of MEDITE EXTERIOR should first be sanded with 150-240 grit, prior to painting. Paint companies offer suitable coatings for exterior wood-based products. The choice of paint system will depend on the specific application, desired final appearance and durability required. The following recommendations apply to all applications: MEDITE EXTERIOR must be fully sealed on all surfaces and edges with an exterior grade system. Prior to finishing of edges, the corners must be slightly rounded (3mm radius minimum) by light sanding. Edges that are slightly rounded, rather than square and sharp, will hold paint better. Transparent or clear stains/topcoats are not recommended, due to the potential for degradation of the substrate by transmitted ultra violet rays.

Some exterior varnishes with UV absorbers are available; paint manufacturers should be consulted as to suitability. The recommended method of painting for both faces and edges is to seal, prime and topcoat. Individual paint companies will advise on specific coating systems.

The primer/sealer must be applied to achieve a minimum 50-micron dry film thickness and the topcoat applied to 50-micron dry film thickness. If water-based coatings are used they should be force-dried after application.

MEDITE[®] EXTERIOR

FIRE RATING

MEDITE EXTERIOR is expected to achieve a fire class rating of Euroclass D within the European classifications.

AUTHORITY

MEDITE EXTERIOR is manufactured under an NSAI registered I.S. EN ISO 9001 quality management system.

SUPPLY

MEDITE EXTERIOR is produced in the following standard panel sizes: 1220 x 2440mm, 1220 x 2745mm, 1220 x 3050mm and 1525 x 2745mm.

Standard thicknesses produced are: 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 22 and 25mm. Other sizes and thicknesses available on request subject to minimum order quantities.

D4 CLASSIFICATION

MEDITE EXTERIOR meets the requirements of class D4, durability category, of BS 4965, making it suitable as a substrate for decorative laminated plastics and veneers in areas of frequent prolonged exposure to running or condensed water.

SERVICE

For further information and/or technical advice regarding processing and painting/finishing MEDITE EXTERIOR, please contact MEDITE Technical Support Personnel:

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All MEDITE MDF products supplied for use in the construction and civil engineering industries are CE marked according to the requirements of the harmonised European standard for wood based panels EN 13986. This provides the necessary assurance to customers and users that MEDITE conforms with the European MDF standard, EN 622-5 and meets all the essential requirements for the Construction Products Directive that are relevant to the product.

In accordance with the provisions of Third Party Certification required within the Final Regulations Order of the Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) all MEDITE MDF products are CARB Phase 2 Compliant. The approved Third Party Certifier (TPC) Entwicklungs-und Prüflabor Holztechnologie GmbH (EPH – TPC No W-08-010) is contracted by MEDITE to perform the quarterly assessment of the factory production control and to have the stipulated formaldehyde tests carried out by the accredited EPH test laboratory.

MEDITE EXTERIOR EN 622 TYPE MDF.H (OPTION 2) TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION SHEET

PROPERTY	RANGE	TEST METHOD	UNITS	4.0	>6.0	>9.0	>12.0	>19.0
				to 6.0mm	to 9.0mm	to 12.0mm	to 19.0mm	to 25.0mm
Internal Bond	Min	EN 319	N/mm ²	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.0
Modulus of Rupture	Min	EN 310	N/mm ²	40	40	40	35	35
Modulus of Elasticity	Min	EN 310	N/mm ²	4,000	4,000	4,000	3,500	3,000
Screw Holding Face	Min	EN 320	N	-	-	-	1200	1200
Screw Holding Edge	Min	EN 320	N	-	-	-	1000	1000
Moisture Content	Min-Max	EN 322	%	5-9	5-9	5-9	5-9	5-9
Thickness Tolerance	Min-Max	EN 324-1	mm	+/-0.15	+/-0.15	+/-0.15	+/-0.20	+/-0.20
Thickness Swelling (24hrs)	Max	EN 317	%	15.0	10.0	7.0	5.0	4.0
DIMENSIONAL MOVEMENT								
Length/Width		EN 318	%	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.25
Thickness		EN 318	%	6.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.0
AFTER BOIL TEST - EN1087-1								
Internal Bond	Min	EN 319	N/mm ²	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.15

The results as listed above are based on the minimum specification requirements for all MEDITE EXTERIOR Grade MDF manufactured by MEDITE EUROPE DAC. All board parameters are in compliance with EN 622 parts 1 & 5 for type MDF.H (Option 2). As part of the MEDITE EUROPE DAC ongoing product development programme, the right to modify these product specifications without notice is reserved. No formaldehyde is added to the softwood fibres during manufacture of MEDITE EXTERIOR. Free formaldehyde is less than 1.0mg/100g using EN 120 test method, complying with the lower levels required by CARB phase 2.

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V 05/17

COATING RECOMMENDATIONS

- MEDITE EXTERIOR must be fully coated to a high-quality standard for any exterior application
- As MEDITE EXTERIOR is a wood-based panel it can absorb low levels of water
- Moisture content should be below 10% before processing and coating application
- All edges and machined surfaces must be effectively sealed to help prevent moisture ingress
- High moisture ingress can negatively impact the durability and appearance of coatings
- Coating specifications and guidelines set out by the coating manufacturer must be followed e.g. surface preparation, wet film thickness and drying techniques
- All surfaces and edges should be coated with the same system
- All uncoated edges and surfaces of prefabricated components must be fully coated prior to assembly or exposure to weathering
- Customers should review the location of a site to determine if it would classify as high risk for surface biological growth and would necessitate a biocide additive in the paint formulation

MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

All coating systems will require regular maintenance and eventual recoating.

Moulds and algae growths can occur on any timber or wood-based panels. Their presence is related to temperature, humidity, wetting and the presence of atmospheric mould spores.

- 1) Inspect all joinery at least once a year
- 2) Repair any small areas of coating damage as soon as possible in line with the coating manufacturers recommendations
- 3) Wash surfaces with a solution of warm water and liquid detergent, ensuring the water is changed frequently
- 4) Rinse thoroughly with clean water
- 5) Use deionised water for best results
- 6) The build-up of dirt on joinery surfaces can encourage mould growth
- 7) Check joinery for signs of algae or mould growth
- 8) Treat affected areas with a solution of one-part household bleach to two-parts water
- 9) Allow 20 minutes to act and wash off with cold water and a stiff nylon brush
- 10) Use deionised water for best results
- 11) Recoat the joinery when advised by the coating manufacturer

It is recommended that customers contact the coating manufacture for expertise and guidance.

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