



A1 | **Classification of external walls of
buildings based on reaction-to-fire
performance**



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The following are represented on Committee FP-018:

- Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council
 - Australian Building Codes Board
 - Australian Industry Group
 - Australian Institute of Building
 - AWTA Textile Testing
 - Building Research Association of New Zealand
 - Bureau of Steel Manufacturers of Australia
 - CSIRO
 - Engineers Australia
 - Fire Protection Association Australia
 - Fire Protection Association New Zealand
 - Forest and Wood Products Australia
 - Insulated Panel Council Australasia
 - Insulation Australasia
 - Insurance Council of Australia
 - Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association
 - Property Council of Australia
 - Society of Fire Protection Engineers
-

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Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

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Australian Standard[®]

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Classification of external walls of buildings based on reaction-to-fire performance

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Australian members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee FP-018, Fire Safety.

This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (September 2018). The changes required by the Amendment are indicated in the text by a marginal bar and amendment number against the clause, note, table, figure or part thereof affected.

After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this Standard as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

A1 | The objective of this Standard is to provide procedures and criteria for the classification of external walls of buildings according to their tendency to limit the spread of fire via the external wall and between adjacent buildings and limit falling debris that could be hazardous to evacuating occupants and fire fighters.

Further information on the relationship of this standard with the National Construction Code is provided in Appendix A.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

A1 | **Classification of external walls of buildings based on reaction-to-fire performance****1 SCOPE**

A1 | This Standard sets out the procedures and criteria for the classification of external walls of buildings according to their tendency to spread fire—

- (a) via the external wall;
- (b) between adjacent buildings;

and production of falling debris that could be hazardous to evacuating occupants and fire fighters.

This Standard is applicable to all external vertical or near vertical surfaces and covers all types of external wall systems, including façades, outer skins, core materials, cavities and attachments.

A1 | This Standard does not address the fire resistance and load bearing capacity of external walls, the fire hazard properties of internal surfaces or the impact of construction on the fire severity of a fire occurring within a building.

2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES

The following are the normative documents referenced in this Standard:

NOTE: The Bibliography in Appendix D provides details of documents that may be referred to for additional information.

AS

- 1530 Methods for fire tests on building materials, components and structures
- 1530.4 Part 4: Fire-resistance test of elements of construction
- 2484 Fire—Glossary of terms
- 2484.1 Part 1: Fire tests

ISO

- 13785 Reaction-to-fire tests for façades
- 13785-2 Part 2: Large-scale test
- 13943 Fire safety—Vocabulary

BS

- 8414 Fire performance of external cladding systems
- 8414-1 Part 1: Test method for non-loadbearing external cladding systems applied to the masonry face of a building
- 8414-2 Part 2: Test method for non-loadbearing external cladding systems fixed to and supported by a structural steel frame

Australian Building Codes Board

NCC National Construction Code