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External Cladding News 9/10/2018

New legislation in the UK will effectively Ban Combustible materials from the exterior of new buildings in the UK over 18m tall, including apartments, schools, care homes, student halls and hospitals.

The decision has attracted some criticism from fire fighters who feel the ban should apply to all buildings, regardless of height.

UK Housing Secretary James Brokenshire announced the ban at his party's conference in Birmingham this week, 15 months after the Grenfell Tower Fire, where flammable cladding was responsible for the rapid spread of a conflagration that claimed 72 lives in west London.

The policy applies to buildings currently under construction but not to buildings already clad with flammable material—some 470 apartment blocks, according to UK government figures. In future the only materials allowed are those classed as A1 or A2 under European Reaction to Fire classification system, which includes materials such as metal, stone, glass and plasterboard.

New Zealand Group Number according to NZBC Clause C3.4(a) using ISO 9705:1993	Australian Group Number according to NCC Specification C1.10 Clause 4 using ISO 9705:2003	European Classification using to EN 13501-1:2007+A1:2009
Group Number 1-S	Group 1, and a smoke growth rate index not more than 100	Class A1, A2 or B and Smoke production rating s1 or s2
Group Number 1	Group 1	Class A1, A2 or B
Group Number 2-S	Group 2, and a smoke growth rate index not more than 100	Class C and Smoke production rating s1 or s2
Group Number 2	Group 2	Class C
Group Number 3	Group 3	Class D
Group Number 4	Group 4	Class E and F

WA Government move on Combustible cladding

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The WA Government has introduced building regulations to restrict the use of combustible material on building facades of high-risk buildings.

The new building regulations **prevent the use of performance solutions** by restricting the use of combustible cladding to those that can demonstrate compliance under the Building Code of Australia's (BCA) new verification method.

This method also includes the requirement for sprinklers in high-risk buildings.

The BCA was updated, in March, to remove any ambiguity around the use of combustible cladding on buildings.

Any combustible cladding proposed to be used on those buildings needs to demonstrate it has passed the large-scale fire test required under Australian Standard AS 5113 or receive approval from the Building Commissioner.

The update to the BCA and the introduction of the new building regulations will substantially prevent the use of dangerous polyethylene (PE) cladding or an expanded polystyrene cladding in a building façade.

These amendments are not retrospective.

Source: *Government of Western Australia—Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety*

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