

Laminate Finishes



INSPIRATION



BLACK



COGNAC



FINESSE



MAPLE



ROYAL-MAHOGANY



SAND BANK



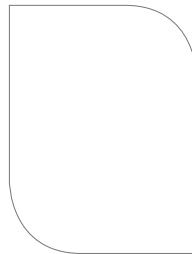
SHADOW-OAK



STAINLESS



TUXEDO



WHITE

PERFORMANCE STANDARD FOR TERMOSET (MELAMINE) DECORATIVE PANELS, ALA 1992 (1) (2)

The need for product users to establish minimum performance levels for an intended products application has led to the LAL-1992 Thermoset Decorative Panels Performance Standard sponsored by the American Laminators Association (a non-profit trade association).

Thermoset Decorative panels have a melamine or polyester resin - impregnated web, pressure bonded and thermally fuses to a cellulosic substrate, such as particle board, medium density fiberboard or other wood based cores. This product is widely used for a growing range of decorative applications, from cabinets and fixtures to office furniture and displays to floating floor systems. Thermally fused decorative panels are considered to be permanent laminates and referred to as Permalam decorative panels. Unlike many decorative panels which the decorative overlay is simply glued to the substrate - and can come unglued - the process used to thermally fuse the melamine or polyester decorative overlay to the substrate avoids glue failure.

The Performance Standard for Thermoset Decorative Panels - ALA 1992 establishes minimum performance requirements based on test which measure the product's ability to perform under actual in-service conditions. Tests for example, measure resistance to wear, scuffing, staining, cleanability, light, high temperatures, radiant heat, boiling water and impact. The performance test are identical to those used by the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) for testing HIGH-Pressure decorative laminates. The minimum requirements to comply with ALA 1992 for solid colors meet or exceed NEMA Standard LD 3-1991 for High-Pressure decorative laminates.

Minimum Requirements to Comply with ALA 1992

	ALA 1992 Low Pressure	NEMA-LD91 High Pressure
WEAR A measure of the ability of a decorative overlaid surface to maintain its design or color when subjected to abrasive wear.	400 Cycles 125 Cycles Woodgrains	400 Cycles
SCUFF A measure of the ability of a decorative overlaid surface to maintain its original appearance when exposed to scuffing.	NO EFFECT	NO EFFECT
STAIN A measure of the ability of a decorative overlaid surface to resist staining or discoloration by contact from 29 common household substances	NO EFFECT (1-23) MOD. (24-29)	NO EFFECT (1-23) MOD. (24-29)
IMPACT A measure of the ability of a decorative overlaid surface to resist fracture due to spot impact by steel ball dropped from a measured height.	15 NO EFFECT	15 NO EFFECT
RADIANT HEAT A measure of the ability of a decorative overlaid surface to resist spot damage when subject to a radiant heat source.	60-SEC. NO EFFECT	60-SEC. NO EFFECT
CLEANABILITY A measure of the ability of a decorative overlaid surface to be cleaned, using a soft sponge.	NO EFFECT 10 Strokes to clean	SLIGHT
LIGHT A measure of the ability of a decorative overlaid surface to retain its color after exposure to a light source having a frequency approximating sunlight.	SLIGHT	SLIGHT
BOILING WATER A measure of the ability of a decorative overlaid surface to maintain its color and surface texture when subjected to boiling water.	NO EFFECT	NO EFFECT
TEMPERATURE A measure of the ability of a decorative overlaid surface to maintain its color and surface texture when subjected to high temperature (356 degrees F.).	SLIGHT	SLIGHT