



**NSAI**  
Standards

Irish Standard  
I.S. EN 335:2013

# Durability of wood and wood-based products - Use classes: definitions, application to solid wood and wood-based products

## I.S. EN 335:2013

*Incorporating amendments/corrigenda/National Annexes issued since publication:*

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English Version

## Durability of wood and wood-based products - Use classes: definitions, application to solid wood and wood-based products

Durabilité du bois et des matériaux à base de bois -  
Classes d'emploi: définitions, application au bois massif et  
aux matériaux à base de bois

Dauerhaftigkeit von Holz und Holzprodukten -  
Gebrauchsklassen: Definitionen, Anwendung bei Vollholz  
und Holzprodukten

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 5 February 2013.

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## Foreword

This document (EN 335:2013) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 38 “Durability of wood and wood-based products”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by September 2013, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by September 2013.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 335-3:1995, EN 335-1:2006 and EN 335-2:2006.

Compared to EN 335, parts 1 to 3, the main modifications are as follows:

- 1) the former three parts of EN 335 have been combined;
- 2) the subclasses 3.1 and 3.2 have been redefined;
- 3) the subdivision of use class 4 has been omitted.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

## **Introduction**

This standard gives general definitions of use classes for different service situations and is relevant to solid wood and wood-based products.

This standard gives information on the biological agents that can attack wood and wood-based products in defined situations.

The possibility of alignment between the three service classes of Eurocode 5 (EN 1995-1-1) and the five use classes of EN 335 has been carefully studied. It is important to note that the two systems use different criteria to achieve different results.

Annex A gives guidance on relationships between use classes and service classes.

Annex B gives additional information for the assignment of use classes.

Annex C gives information on biological agents.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard is applicable to solid wood and wood-based products.

This European Standard defines five use classes that represent different service situations to which wood and wood-based products can be exposed. This standard also indicates the biological agents relevant to each situation.

A use class is not a performance class and does not give guidance for how long wood and wood-based product will last in service.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 1001-2:2005, *Durability of wood and wood-based products — Terminology — Part 2: Vocabulary*

EN 1995-1-1, *Eurocode 5 — Design of timber structures — Part 1-1: General — Common rules and rules for buildings*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 1001-2:2005 and the following apply.

### 3.1

#### **service situation**

situation of exposure of the wood element in use

### 3.2

#### **wood-based product**

any products containing wood

Note 1 to entry: For instance solid wood panel, laminated veneer lumber (LVL), plywood, oriented strand board (OSB), resin-bonded particleboard, cement-bonded particleboard or fibreboard, modified wood are wood-based products.

## 4 Use classes: application to wood and wood-based products

### 4.1 General

The differences between the use classes are based on differences in environment exposures that can make the wood or wood-based products susceptible to biological deterioration.

NOTE Border line and extreme cases of use of wood and wood-based products exist. This can cause the assignment of a use class that differs from that defined in this standard (see Annex B).

### 4.2 Use class 1 (UC 1)

Situations in which the wood or wood-based product is inside a construction, not exposed to the weather and wetting.

The attack by disfiguring fungi or wood-destroying fungi is insignificant and always accidental.

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