



**NSAI**  
Standards

Irish Standard  
I.S. EN 438-1:2016

# High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) - Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) - Part 1: Introduction and general information

**I.S. EN 438-1:2016**

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

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I.S. xxx: Irish Standard — national specification based on the consensus of an expert panel and subject to public consultation.

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SWiFT xxx: A rapidly developed recommendatory document based on the consensus of the participants of an NSAI workshop.

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## National Foreword

I.S. EN 438-1:2016 is the adopted Irish version of the European Document EN 438-1:2016, High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) - Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) - Part 1: Introduction and general information

This document does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

**Compliance with this document does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.**

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**EUROPEAN STANDARD**

**EN 438-1**

**NORME EUROPÉENNE**

**EUROPÄISCHE NORM**

February 2016

ICS 83.140.20

Supersedes EN 438-1:2005

English Version

## High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) - Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) - Part 1: Introduction and general information

Stratifiés décoratifs haute pression (HPL) - Plaques à  
base de résines thermodurcissables (communément  
appelées stratifiés) - Partie 1: Introduction et  
informations générales

Dekorative Hochdruck-Schichtpressstoffplatten (HPL)  
- Platten auf Basis härthbarer Harze (Schichtpressstoffe)  
- Teil 1: Einleitung und allgemeine Informationen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 13 December 2015.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of 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 United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels**

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## European foreword

This document (EN 438-1:2016) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 249 "Plastics", the secretariat of which is held by NBN.

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 August 2016, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by August 2016.

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 438-1:2005.

EN 438, *High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates)*, consists of the following parts:

- *Part 1: Introduction and general information*
- *Part 2: Determination of properties*
- *Part 3: Classification and specifications for laminates less than 2 mm thick intended for bonding to supporting substrates*
- *Part 4: Classification and specifications for Compact laminates of thickness 2 mm and greater*
- *Part 5: Classification and specifications for flooring grade laminates less than 2 mm thick intended for bonding to supporting substrates*
- *Part 6: Classification and specifications for Exterior-grade Compact laminates of thickness 2 mm and greater*
- *Part 7: Compact laminate and HPL composite panels for internal and external wall and ceiling finishes*
- *Part 8: Classification and specifications for design laminates*
- *Part 9: Classification and specifications for alternative core laminates*

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations 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.

**EN 438-1:2016 (E)****1 Scope**

This part of EN 438 gives an overview of the standard, and provides guidance in the selection and application of test methods and specifications contained in EN 438-2, EN 438-3, EN 438-4, EN 438-5, EN 438-6, EN 438-7, EN 438-8 and EN 438-9.

This European Standard is applicable to high-pressure decorative laminate(s) (HPL) produced by using a high pressure process.

**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 438-2, *High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called Laminates) — Part 2: Determination of properties*

EN 438-3, *High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) — Part 3: Classification and specifications for laminates less than 2 mm thick intended for bonding to supporting substrates*

EN 438-4, *High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) — Part 4: Classification and specifications for Compact laminates of thickness 2 mm and greater.*

EN 438-5, *High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) — Part 5: Classification and specifications for flooring grade laminates less than 2 mm thick intended for bonding to supporting substrates*

EN 438-6, *High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) — Part 6: Classification and specifications for Exterior-grade Compact laminates of thickness 2 mm and greater*

EN 438-7, *High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) — Part 7: Compact laminate and HPL composite panels for internal and external wall and ceiling finishes*

EN 438-8, *High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) — Part 8: Classification and specifications for design laminates*

EN 438-9, *High-pressure decorative laminates (HPL) — Sheets based on thermosetting resins (usually called laminates) — Part 9: Classification and specifications for alternative core laminates*

EN 13329, *Laminate floor coverings — Elements with a surface layer based on aminoplastic thermosetting resins — Specifications, requirements and test methods*

**3 Terms and definitions**

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.



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