

IMPORTANT NOTICE

EXSULITE ADVISORY NOTE



Dear Customer:

You may have seen recent media coverage about the use of cladding in multi-residential apartment buildings.

In late December 2020, the Victorian Planning Minister prohibited the use of expanded polystyrene products for external insulation and finish (rendered) wall systems in multi-storey buildings. The prohibition was made under a power in the Building Act which allows the Minister to ban certain cladding products that the Minister considers are likely to cause a risk of serious injury, death or severe property damage.

The Declaration will come into force on 1 February 2021 but the ban will not have retrospective effect on cladding products installed, approved for installation, or included in a permit application prior to 1 February 2021.

We have received a number of queries in relation to Exsulite Thermal Façade Cladding.

The prohibition only applies to multi-unit residential buildings at least two storeys high and commercial buildings at least three storeys high that are building class 2-9.

Exsulite is for use on class 1 buildings, being standalone single or horizontally attached dwellings and small guest or boarding houses less than 300m². Exsulite continues to be approved for use in class 1 buildings. It has NCC Compliance 2019 supported by CodeMark Certification for use on Volume Two Class 1 buildings as defined by the NCC.



Domestic or residential buildings – single, standalone single houses and horizontally attached houses, such as terrace houses, row houses or townhouses. This class includes two sub-classifications:

- Class 1a – a single dwelling or one of a group of attached dwellings, e.g. a terrace house
- Class 1b – a boarding house, guest house or hostel with a floor area less than 300 m².

Exsulite is also approved for use in residential housing class 1 housing in bush fire prone areas up to BAL 29 regions, when installed in accordance with current CodeMark Certificate of Conformity Exsulite Specification & Construction Drawings.

For further details please refer to our website: www.exsulite.com.au.

For further information about the description of building classes, please refer to NCC Website: <https://www.abcb.gov.au/Resources/Publications/Education-Training/Building-classifications>.

If you have any queries, please contact your builder.

8 February 2021

Consumer Questions & Answers:

Q: Isn't the use of polystyrene cladding banned?

A: It is banned on apartment buildings (class 2-9), multi-unit residential buildings at least two storeys high and commercial buildings at least three storeys high.

Q: Can Exsulite be used on houses?

A: The National Construction Code allows the use of expanded polystyrene cladding for houses which are class 1 buildings.

Q: Is polystyrene cladding combustible?

A: All organic building materials similar to polystyrene foam are combustible.

Q: How do I find out more information?

A Visit your state-based building regulator website.

Q: Can I get insurance for my house if I use polystyrene cladding?

A: Insurance companies providing policy cover for buildings and set premiums according to the residual risk. We recommend you investigate which insurance provider best suits your needs. Please refer to the insurance council of Australia for more details. <https://www.insurancecouncil.com.au/for-consumers>.

Q: What maintenance does the Exsulite system require?

A: To help reduce maintenance keep your render/texture surface clean and aesthetically pleasing, Dulux recommends a final 3rd protective coloured membrane topcoat is applied to the render/texture as part of the manufacturers specification to provide low dirt pick-up, a washable surface & increased stain resistance.

Q: How do I wash my render to remove stains & dirt?

A: A Render/texture with no protective membrane topcoat can be difficult to clean subject to the extent and depth of the staining and/or dirt that has been accumulated. To improve washability, it is recommended that a membrane topcoat is applied.

Q: How does the system perform against impact and knocking?

A: Impact resistance is similar to that of other non-masonry rendered nonstandard substrates. Any minor render scuffs and/or damage can be repaired depending on the extent of the damage.