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Agrément Certificate

15/5227

Product Sheet 2

SWISSPEARL CLADDING PANELS

SWISSPEARL NOBILIS, ZENOR, PLANEA AND KANDOR PANELS

This Agrément Certificate Product Sheet⁽¹⁾ relates to Swisspearl⁽²⁾ Nobilis, Zenor, Planea and Kandor Panels, cement composite panels for use as exterior wall façade decorative panels in timber-frame and metal-frame buildings.

(1) Hereinafter referred to as 'Certificate'.

(2) Swisspearl is a registered trademark of Eternit (Schweiz) AG.

CERTIFICATION INCLUDES:

- factors relating to compliance with Building Regulations where applicable
- factors relating to additional non-regulatory information where applicable
- independently verified technical specification
- assessment criteria and technical investigations
- design considerations
- installation guidance
- regular surveillance of production



KEY FACTORS ASSESSED

Strength — the products can accept the wind loads likely to be met in the UK and have adequate impact resistance (see section 6).

Performance in relation to fire — the panels have a Class A2-s1, d0 classification in accordance with BS EN 13501-1 : 2005 (see section 7).

Weathertightness — the installed products are not weathertight and must be used in conjunction with a suitable vapour permeable membrane (see section 8).

Durability — the products are durable and will have a service life of at least 30 years (see section 12).



The BBA has awarded this Certificate to the company named above for the products described herein. These products have been assessed by the BBA as being fit for their intended use provided they are installed, used and maintained as set out in this Certificate.

On behalf of the British Board of Agrément

Date of Second issue: 28 March 2019

John Albon
Chief Scientific Officer

Claire Curtis-Thomas
Chief Executive

Originally certificated on 26 June 2015

The BBA is a UKAS accredited certification body – Number 113.

The schedule of the current scope of accreditation for product certification is available in pdf format via the UKAS link on the BBA website at www.bbacerts.co.uk Readers are advised to check the validity and latest issue number of this Agrément Certificate by either referring to the BBA website or contacting the BBA direct.

Any photographs are for illustrative purposes only, do not constitute advice and should not be relied upon.

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Regulations

In the opinion of the BBA, Swisspearl Nobilis, Zenor, Planea and Kandor Panels, if installed, used and maintained in accordance with this Certificate, can satisfy or contribute to satisfying the relevant requirements of the following Building Regulations (the presence of a UK map indicates that the subject is related to the Building Regulations in the region or regions of the UK depicted):



The Building Regulations 2010 (England and Wales) (as amended)

Requirement:	A1(1)	Loading
Comment:		The products can sustain and transmit wind loads to the substrate wall. See sections 6.1 to 6.6 of this Certificate.
Requirement:	B4(1)	External fire spread
Comment:		The products are unrestricted by this Requirement. See section 7.1 of this Certificate.
Requirement:	C2(b)(c)	Resistance to moisture
Comment:		The products do not provide a watertight facing, but will resist the passage of rainwater to the supporting structure. See sections 8 and 9 of this Certificate.
Regulation:	7	Materials and workmanship (applicable to Wales only)
Regulation:	7(1)	Materials and workmanship (applicable to England only)
Comment:		The products are acceptable. See sections 12.1 and 12.2 and the <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.
Regulation:	7(2)	Materials and workmanship (applicable to England only)
Comment:		The product is unrestricted by this Regulation. See section 7.1 of this Certificate.



The Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (as amended)

Regulation:	9	Building standards applicable to construction
Standard:	1.1	Structure
Comment:		The products can sustain and transmit wind loads to the substrate wall. See sections 6.1 to 6.6 of this Certificate.
Standard:	2.6	Spread to neighbouring buildings
Comment:		The use of the products are unrestricted with reference to clause 2.6.4 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ of this Standard. See section 7.1 of this Certificate.
Standard:	2.7	Spread on external walls
Comment:		The use of the products is unrestricted with reference to clause 2.7.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ of this Standard. See section 7.1 of this Certificate.
Standard:	3.10	Precipitation
Comment:		The products do not provide a watertight facing but will resist the passage of rainwater to the supporting structure, with reference to clauses 3.10.5 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and 3.10.6 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ of this Standard. See section 8 of this Certificate.
Standard:	3.15	Condensation
Comment:		The products can contribute to satisfying this Standard, with reference to clauses 3.15.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and 3.15.5 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ . See section 9 of this Certificate.

Standard:	7.1(a)	Statement of sustainability
Comment:		The products can contribute to meeting the relevant requirements of Regulation 9, Standards 1 to 6 and therefore will contribute to a construction meeting a bronze level of sustainability as defined in this Standard.
Regulation:	12	Building standards applicable to conversions
Comment:		Comments in relation to the products under Regulation 9, Standards 1 to 6 also apply to this Regulation, with reference to clause 0.12.1 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ and Schedule 6 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ .
		(1) Technical Handbook (Domestic). (2) Technical Handbook (Non-Domestic).



The Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 (as amended)

Regulation:	23(a)(i)	Fitness of materials and workmanship
Comment:	(iii)(b)(i)	The products are acceptable. See sections 12.1 and 12.2 and the <i>Installation</i> part of this Certificate.
Regulation:	28(b)	Resistance to moisture and weather
Comment:		The products do not provide a watertight facing, but will resist the passage of rainwater to the supporting structure. See section 8 of this Certificate.
Regulation:	29	Condensation
Comment:		Walls clad with the products can contribute to satisfying this Regulation. See section 9 of this Certificate.
Regulation:	30	Stability
Comment:		The products can sustain and transmit wind loads to the substrate wall. See sections 6.1 to 6.6 of this Certificate.
Regulation:	36(a)	External fire spread
Comment:		The products are unrestricted by this Regulation. See section 7.1 of this Certificate.

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

Information in this Certificate may assist the client, designer (including Principal Designer) and contractor (including Principal Contractor) to address their obligations under these Regulations.

See sections: 1 *Description* (1.3), 3 *Delivery and site handling* (3.1 and 3.3) and 14 *Health and safety* of this Certificate.

Additional Information

NHBC Standards 2019

In the opinion of the BBA, Swisspearl Nobilis, Zenor, Planea and Kandor Panels, if installed, used and maintained in accordance with this Certificate, can satisfy or contribute to satisfying the relevant requirements in relation to *NHBC Standards*, Chapters 6.1 *External masonry walls*, 6.2 *External timber framed walls* and 6.9 *Curtain walling and cladding*.

CE marking

The Certificate holder has taken the responsibility of CE marking the products, in accordance with harmonised European Standard EN 12467 : 2012. An asterisk (*) appearing in this Certificate indicates that data shown are given in the manufacturer's Declaration of Performance.

1 Description

1.1 Swisspearl Nobilis, Zenor, Planea and Kandor Panels are grey/white fibre-reinforced cement panels finished with coatings on the top face. The panels satisfy the requirements of Category A, Class 4 to EN 12467 : 2012, for use as exterior non-load bearing, decorative panels for wall claddings in timber- and metal-frame constructions.

1.2 Nobilis panels are finished with a glazed acrylic top coat, and Zenor, Planea and Kandor panels with an opaque acrylic top coat. The panels are available in a range of colours. A factory-applied anti-graffiti coating is also available but the effectiveness of this coating has not been assessed and this aspect of performance is outside the scope of this Certificate.

1.3 The products have the following nominal characteristics:

Thickness* (mm)	8.0 and 12.0
Width* (mm)	1220 and 1250
Length* (mm)	3050
Weight (kg·m ⁻²)	15.2 and 22.8
Mechanical resistance*	Category A, Class 4 ⁽¹⁾
Density (kg·m ⁻³)	1550
Minimum bending strength (N·mm ⁻²)	18
Water permeability*	Pass
Dimensional variations*	Pass
Durability against warm water*	Pass
Durability against soak/dry*	Pass
Durability against freeze/thaw*	Pass
Durability against heat/rain*	Pass
Fire classification*	A2 s-1, d0.

(1) Category A – sheets intended for applications where they may be subjected to heat, high moisture and severe frost. Class 4 – minimum Modulus of Rupture (MOR) in the wet condition is 18 MPa.

1.4 Ancillary components for use with the products are:

- SFS AP15 blind rivets and TW-S-D12-4.8 x 38 screws — for fixing the panels to steel, aluminium and timber framework
- Luko cut edge impregnation — an aqueous acrylic dispersion for use at edges.

1.5 Accessories for use with the products but outside the scope of this Certificate are:

- EPDM backing strips — ethylene-polypropylene-diene monomer rubber strips in 60, 120 or 150 mm widths used between timber support battens and the panels
- ventilation profiles for use in ventilating cavities
- horizontal I-flashing for joint flashing.

2 Manufacture

2.1 The products are manufactured from cellulose and polymeric fibres, Portland cement, pigments and other constituents using the Hatschek process.

2.2 The uncoated panels are cured for 21 days, then dried and coated on the front and reverse with an acrylic resin-based coating. The coating applied on the front can be translucent or opaque, depending on the type of panel required.

2.2 As part of the assessment and ongoing surveillance of product quality, the BBA has:

- agreed with the manufacturer the quality control procedures and product testing to be undertaken
- assessed and agreed the quality control operated over batches of incoming materials
- monitored the production process and verified that it is in accordance with the documented process

- evaluated the process for management of nonconformities
- checked that equipment has been properly tested and calibrated
- undertaken to carry out the above measures on a regular basis through a surveillance process, to verify that the specifications and quality control operated by the manufacturer are being maintained.

2.4 The management systems of Eternit (Schweiz) AG and Eternit Österreich GmbH have been assessed and registered as meeting the requirements of BS EN ISO 9001 : 2015 by TÜV SÜD Management Service GmbH (Certificates 12 100 40262/07 TMS and 12 100 40262/04 TMS respectively).

3 Delivery and site handling

3.1 Panels are delivered to site shrink-wrapped on pallets, 30 panels per pallet for the 8 mm thickness and 20 panels per pallet for the 12 mm thickness. The total weight per pallet of both sizes is 1800 kg (including the pallet). Packaging bears the panel identification, production date, manufacturer and EN Standard number. The BBA logo and the number of this Certificate are printed on the reverse of the panels.

3.2 The panels should be lifted from the stack from both panel ends. To prevent surface damage during handling, sheets should be lifted clear of the surface of the stack and not dragged across it.

3.3 Panels must be stored flat in stacks (maximum 500 mm high) on firm, level ground, in a sheltered position and away from dampness and direct sunlight.

Assessment and Technical Investigations

The following is a summary of the assessment and technical investigations carried out on Swisspearl Nobilis, Zenor, Planea and Kandor Panels.

Design Considerations

4 General

4.1 Swisspearl Nobilis, Zenor, Planea and Kandor Panels are satisfactory for back-ventilated non-load bearing wall claddings on exterior walls on timber- and metal-frame buildings. It is essential that walls are designed and constructed incorporating the normal precautions to prevent moisture penetration.

4.2 The designer must ensure that the strength and integrity of the intended substrate is commensurate with that required of the cladding system.

4.3 A suitably qualified professional engineer should design the rainscreen cladding support system to co-ordinate with the building structure and related design loading conditions.

4.4 New brickwork or blockwork walls must be constructed in accordance with the relevant sections of BS EN 1996-1-1 : 2005, BS EN 1996-1-2 : 2005, BS EN 1996-2 : 2006 and BS EN 1996-3 : 2006 and their UK National Annexes, and PD 6697 : 2010, or one of the technical specifications given in the national Building Regulations.

4.5 Timber stud walls must be constructed in accordance with the relevant sections of BS EN 1995-1-1 : 2004 and its UK National Annex, and preservative treated in accordance with BS 8417 : 2011. Guidance on recommended wood preservation is also given in *NHBC Standards 2019, Part 2 Materials, Chapter 2.3 Timber preservation (natural solid timber)*.

4.6 For use of the products in open-jointed rainscreen cladding systems, the following NHBC requirements should be followed:

Rainscreen cladding comprising

- an outer skin of panels which have unsealed, open, baffled or labyrinth (rebated) joints
- a minimum 50mm pressure equalised air gap between the insulation and panels
- an insulated and airtight back wall

Free drainage

- air gaps should be adequately ventilated and the following minimum widths maintained behind all rainscreen panels:
 - 50 mm for panels with open joints, or
 - 38 mm for panels with baffled or labyrinth (rebated) joints
 - open, baffled or labyrinth (rebated) joints should have a minimum 10 mm opening.

4.7 Additional guidance on recommended cavity widths is given *NHBC Standards 2019*, Part 6, Chapters 6.2 and 6.9.

4.8 The strength and stability of the sub-frame fixings have not been assessed and are outside the scope of this Certificate.

5 Practicability of installation

The products are designed to be installed by a competent contractor experienced with these types of products.

6 Strength

Wind loading



6.1 Under wind loading, the most likely mode of failure will be pull-through of the fixings owing to wind suction.

6.2 Wind loads should be calculated by a suitably qualified and experienced individual in accordance with BS EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 and its UK National Annex. The higher pressure coefficients applicable to corners of the building should be used.

6.3 The characteristic wind load resistance of the panels, allowing for a normal wind load factor of 1.5, is as shown in Table 1, provided the designer ensures that:

- fixing of the support timber batten/metal rails to the substrate wall has adequate pull-out resistance for the calculated loads
- the system's fixings have adequate pull-out strength for the calculated wind loads (see section 6.2)
- the vertical timber battens or metal rails are no more than the fixing centres shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Wind load resistance ($kN\cdot m^{-2}$)

Fixing type	Fixing spacing(mm)		
	480	530	600
Screw (4.8 x 38 mm with 12 mm diameter head)	1.3	1.1	0.9
Rivet (4.0 x 18 mm with 15 mm diameter head)	1.3	1.1	0.9

6.3 Higher allowable wind pressures can be achieved by reducing the spacing between support rails.

6.4 When calculating wind loads, the higher pressure coefficients applicable to corners of the building should be used.

6.5 The adequacy of a proposed installation should always be checked by a suitably qualified and experienced individual, who should include in the calculation the adequacy of the fixing of battens to the substrate (outside the scope of this Certificate).

6.6 As the cladding is open-jointed, the supporting wall must be able to take the full wind load and any racking loads. It should be assumed that the panels do not contribute in this regard.

Impact resistance

6.7 The panels have adequate resistance to the hard and soft body impacts likely to occur in practice. They are suitable for use in areas where there is little possibility of impact or abrasion damage, ie at low levels in areas of restricted access or at higher levels in public areas.

7 Performance in relation to fire



7.1 The panels have a Class A2-s1, d0* classification in accordance with BS EN 13501-1 : 2002 and therefore the cladding is not subject to any restriction on building height or proximity to boundaries⁽¹⁾.

(1) Report reference Nr 230011574-3 and Nr 230003556-1, conducted by MPA NRW. Reports available from the Certificate holder upon request.

7.2 For resistance to fire, the performance of the wall incorporating the cladding can only be determined by tests on the complete construction by a suitably accredited laboratory and is not covered by this Certificate.

7.3 Cavity barriers should be used to satisfy the requirements of the national Building Regulations.

8 Weathertightness



8.1 The panels are not airtight, watertight or water-vapour tight. They must be backed with a breather membrane acting as a vapour permeable water barrier, incorporated behind the cladding under supporting battens. The breather membrane must satisfy the requirements of BS 5250 : 2011 and have a vapour resistance of less than $0.6 \text{ MN}\cdot\text{s}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$.

8.2 Provision must always be made to allow water that has penetrated behind the cladding to drain away.

9 Condensation risk



9.1 When using the products, consideration should be given to the overall design using the recommendations of BS 5250 : 2011 to minimise the risk of condensation.

10 Proximity of flues

When installing the products in close proximity to certain flue pipes, the provisions of the national Building Regulations should be satisfied.

11 Maintenance



11.1 Periodic inspections should be carried out to assess the need for cleaning, maintenance painting and localised repairs, and to replace elements such as fixings, seals and flashing. Advice regarding re-coating and maintenance procedures can be obtained from the Certificate holder.

11.2 Normally, cleaning will not be required as rain will periodically wash away dust, environmental dirt, etc. However, if particular environmental conditions lead to a dirty surface, the panels should be washed with a garden hose or with high-pressure cold water. The Certificate holder's advice should be sought in cases of more difficult chemical soiling.

12 Durability



12.1 The durability and service life of the panels will depend upon the building location, façade aspect, immediate environment, intended use of the building and general condition of the products.

12.2 In common with all fibre-cement materials, the matrix material will carbonate and become brittle with time. When subjected to normal conditions of exposure and use, the panels will have a service life of at least 30 years.

12.3 There may be some fading of colour over long exposure periods, but such fading will be consistent across any one elevation.

12.4 The coating on the panels is not resistant to continual abrasion (see section 6.7).

Installation

13 Procedure

13.1 The panels should be installed in accordance with the Certificate holder's instructions and this Certificate on timber and metal sub-frames, and at the spacings shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Distances to panel edges and joint⁽¹⁾ widths (mm)

Dimension	Spacing (mm)	
	Horizontal	Vertical
Distance to panel edge (min)	30	60
Distance to panel edge (max)	100	100
Panel joints for metal sub-frame	6-8	5-8
Panel joints for timber sub-frame	6-8	6-8

(1) Joints should have a minimum 10 mm opening.

13.2 The panels may be fixed to vertical timber supports securely fixed to the substrate and levelled to give a flat fixing surface. Panels may also be fixed directly to metal supports using rivets into the metal rails.

13.3 Structural expansion joints must be applied to the sub-framing and cladding in the identical position and to the same extent in accordance with the building design.

13.4 A breather membrane must be laid along the wall, with minimum laps of 150 mm.

13.5 The panels are fixed at two points in accordance with the Certificate holder's instructions, using either SFS AP15 blind rivets in pre-drilled 9.5 mm diameter holes or TW-S-D12-4.8 x 38 screws with 5.5 mm pre-drilled holes.

13.6 Horizontal joint flashing should be used to prevent water from dripping into the ventilation cavity when using timber battens. All battens at vertical joints and intermediate battens must be fully covered by EPDM backing strips which are stapled to the battens. The strips should be used as a single piece top to bottom or lapped with a 40 mm overlap.

14 Health and safety

When using power saws and sanders, dust extraction equipment should be used to control dust levels. The Certificate holder's Safety Data Sheet must be consulted for further details.

15 Cutting

15.1 All panels leave the factory sealed on all six faces. If panels are cut on site, each cut must be treated by hand-application of Luko cut edge impregnation.

15.2 The Certificate holder provides an optimising computer programme to minimise offcut waste. When cutting is required, the panels are cut using a diamond-tipped blade or carbide metal blade with staggered teeth. Any dust generated should be removed immediately from the panel surfaces, see section 14.

16 Repair

Damaged panels must be replaced as soon as possible, following the Certificate holder's instructions.

17 Tests

17.1 Tests were carried out and the results assessed to determine:

- water absorption
- water vapour impermeability
- alkali immersion and adhesion
- resistance to abrasion
- resistance to staining
- resistance to algal growth.

17.2 An assessment was made of existing data to BS EN 12467 : 2012 in relation to:

- dimensions
- density
- bending strength
- water impermeability
- warm water
- soak/dry
- freeze/thaw
- heat/rain.

18 Investigations

18.1 The manufacturing process was evaluated, including the methods adopted for quality control, and details were obtained of the quality and composition of the materials used.

18.2 An assessment was made of test data relating to:

- fire classification to EN 13501-1 : 2005
- accelerated artificial weathering and colour stability
- resistance to hard/soft body impacts
- resistance to wind loads
- pull-through resistance of screws and rivets.

18.3 A postal user survey was conducted to assess the products' performance in use.

Bibliography

BS 5250 : 2011 + A1 : 2016 *Code of practice for control of condensation in buildings*

BS 8417 : 2011 + A1 : 2014 *Preservation of wood — Code of practice*

BS EN 12467 : 2012 + A1 : 2016 *Fibre-cement flat sheets — Product specification and test methods*

BS EN 13501-1 : 2002 *Fire classification of construction products and building elements — Classification using test data from reaction to fire tests*

BS EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 + A1 : 2010 *Eurocode 1 : Actions on structures — General actions — Wind actions*
NA to BS EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 + A1 : 2010 UK National Annex to *Eurocode 1: Actions on structures — General actions — Wind actions*

BS EN 1995-1-1 : 2004 + A2 : 2014 *Eurocode 5 : Design of timber structures — General — Common rules and rules for buildings*
NA to BS EN 1995-1-1 : 2004 + A1: 2008 UK National Annex to *Eurocode 5 : Design of timber structures — General — Common rules and rules for buildings*

BS EN 1996-1-1 : 2005 + A1 : 2012 *Eurocode 6 : Design of masonry structures — General rules for reinforced and unreinforced masonry structures*
NA to BS EN 1996-1-1 : 2005 UK National Annex to *Eurocode 6 : Design of masonry structures — General rules for reinforced and unreinforced masonry structures*

BS EN 1996-1-2 : 2005 *Eurocode 6 : Design of masonry structures — General rules — Structural fire design*
NA to BS EN 1996-1-2 : 2005 UK National Annex to *Eurocode 6 : Design of masonry structures — General rules — Structural fire design*

BS EN 1996-2 : 2006 *Eurocode 6 : Design of masonry structures — Design considerations, selection of materials and execution of masonry*

NA to BS EN 1996-2 : 2006 UK National Annex to *Eurocode 6: Design of masonry structures — Design considerations, selection of materials and execution of masonry*

BS EN 1996-3 : 2006 *Eurocode 6: Design of masonry structures — Simplified calculation methods for unreinforced masonry structures*

NA to BS EN 1996-3 : 2006 UK National Annex to *Eurocode 6: Design of masonry structures — Simplified calculation methods for unreinforced masonry structures*

BS EN ISO 9001 : 2015 *Quality management systems — Requirements*

PD 6697 : 2010 *Recommendations for the design of masonry structures to BS EN 1996-1-1 and BS EN 1996-2*

19 Conditions

19.1 This Certificate:

- relates only to the product/system that is named and described on the front page
- is issued only to the company, firm, organisation or person named on the front page – no other company, firm, organisation or person may hold or claim that this Certificate has been issued to them
- is valid only within the UK
- has to be read, considered and used as a whole document – it may be misleading and will be incomplete to be selective
- is copyright of the BBA
- is subject to English Law.

19.2 Publications, documents, specifications, legislation, regulations, standards and the like referenced in this Certificate are those that were current and/or deemed relevant by the BBA at the date of issue or reissue of this Certificate.

19.3 This Certificate will remain valid for an unlimited period provided that the product/system and its manufacture and/or fabrication, including all related and relevant parts and processes thereof:

- are maintained at or above the levels which have been assessed and found to be satisfactory by the BBA
- continue to be checked as and when deemed appropriate by the BBA under arrangements that it will determine
- are reviewed by the BBA as and when it considers appropriate.

19.4 The BBA has used due skill, care and diligence in preparing this Certificate, but no warranty is provided.

19.5 In issuing this Certificate the BBA is not responsible and is excluded from any liability to any company, firm, organisation or person, for any matters arising directly or indirectly from:

- the presence or absence of any patent, intellectual property or similar rights subsisting in the product/system or any other product/system
- the right of the Certificate holder to manufacture, supply, install, maintain or market the product/system
- actual installations of the product/system, including their nature, design, methods, performance, workmanship and maintenance
- any works and constructions in which the product/system is installed, including their nature, design, methods, performance, workmanship and maintenance
- any loss or damage, including personal injury, howsoever caused by the product/system, including its manufacture, supply, installation, use, maintenance and removal
- any claims by the manufacturer relating to CE marking.

19.6 Any information relating to the manufacture, supply, installation, use, maintenance and removal of this product/system which is contained or referred to in this Certificate is the minimum required to be met when the product/system is manufactured, supplied, installed, used, maintained and removed. It does not purport in any way to restate the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, or of any other statutory, common law or other duty which may exist at the date of issue or reissue of this Certificate; nor is conformity with such information to be taken as satisfying the requirements of the 1974 Act or of any statutory, common law or other duty of care.