

# BRANZ **Type Test**

## FH 5449-TT [2014]

### **CONE CALORIMETER TEST AND NZBC VERIFICATION METHOD C/VM2 APPENDIX A PERFORMANCE OF FIBROUS PLASTER SHEET**

**CLIENT**  
NZ Fibrous Plasterers Association  
58 Victoria St  
Onehunga 1061  
Auckland



This Laboratory is accredited by International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ). The tests reported herein have been performed in accordance with the laboratory's scope of accreditation.

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# TEST SUMMARY

## Objective

To conduct cone calorimeter testing and reduce the data in accordance with ISO 5660 on client supplied specimens for the purposes of determination of the Group Classifications in accordance with;

- New Zealand Building Code (NZBC) Verification Method C/VM2 Appendix A

## Test sponsor

NZ Fibrous Plasterers Association  
58 Victoria St  
Onehunga 1061  
Auckland

## Description of test specimen

The product as described by the client as Fibrous Plaster Sheet.

## Date of test

12 February 2014

## Test results

For the purposes of compliance with the relevant building code documents, the following classification is considered applicable to the tested sample as described in Section 1.

Building Code Document	Group Number Classification
NZBC Verification Method C/VM2 Appendix A	1-S

## LIMITATION

The results reported here relate only to the item/s tested.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This report is issued in accordance with the Terms and Conditions as detailed and agreed in the BRANZ Services Agreement for this work.



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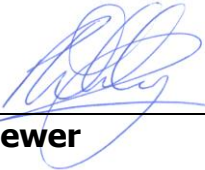
# SIGNATORIES



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Senior Fire Engineer/Fire Testing Team Leader  
IANZ Approved Signatory

## DOCUMENT REVISION STATUS

ISSUE NO.	DATE ISSUED	EXPIRY DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	19 February 2014	19 February 2019	Initial Issue



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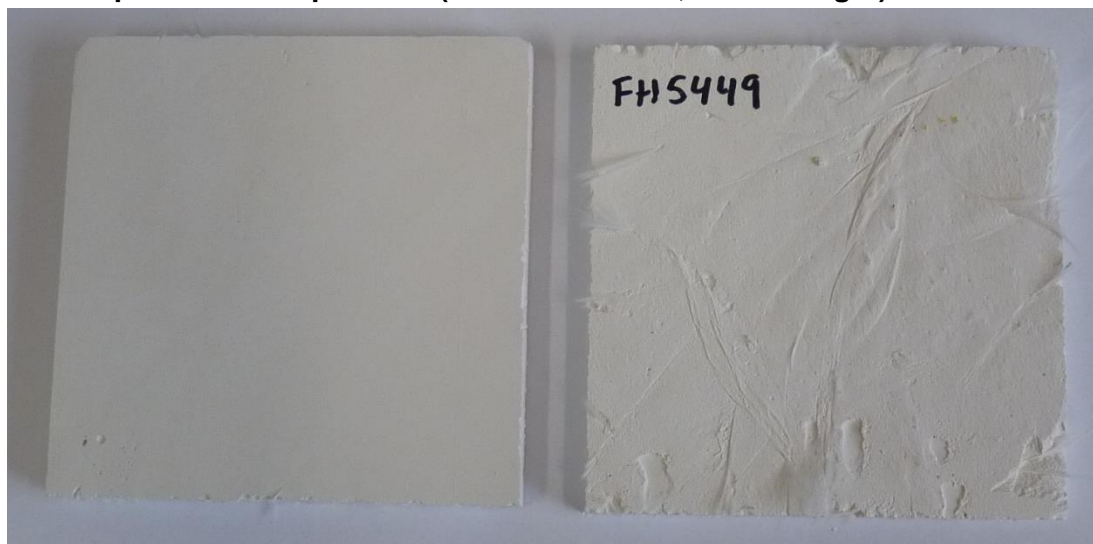
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# 1. GENERAL

The product submitted by the client for testing was identified by the client as Fibrous Plaster Sheet, a plaster sheet reinforced with fibreglass manufactured by Plastercraft 2000 Ltd. The sample has a smooth exposed face with a natural white plaster colour. The back side has exposed shredded fibreglass. Figure 1 illustrates a representative specimen of that tested.

Figure 1 Representative specimen (front face on left, back on right)



## 1.1 Sample measurements

The following physical parameters were measured for each specimen prior to testing.

Table 1 Physical parameters

Specimen ID	Initial properties		Overall apparent density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )
	Mass (g)	Mean thickness (mm)	
FH5449-1-50-1	104.4	10.5	994
FH5449-1-50-2	101.2	10.5	964
FH5449-1-50-3	96.1	10.5	915



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## 2. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

### 2.1 Test standard

The tests were carried out and data reduced according to the test procedures described in ISO 5660: (2002), Reaction-to-fire tests – Heat release, smoke production and mass loss – Part 1: Heat release rate, and Part 2: Smoke production rate. The sample preparation and test procedure are as described in 2.4 and 2.5.

### 2.2 Test date

The tests were conducted on 12<sup>th</sup> of February 2014 by Mr Lukas Hersche at BRANZ Limited laboratories, Judgeford, New Zealand.

### 2.3 Specimen conditioning

All specimens were conditioned to moisture equilibrium (constant weight), at a temperature of  $23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$  and a relative humidity of  $50 \pm 5\%$  immediately prior to testing.

### 2.4 Specimen wrapping and preparation

All tests were conducted and the specimens prepared in accordance with the test standard. The spark igniter and the stainless steel retainer frame were used. All specimens were wrapped in a single layer of aluminium foil, covering the unexposed surfaces.

### 2.5 Test programme

The test program consisted of three replicate specimens as identified in the above table, tested at an irradiance level of  $50 \text{ kW/m}^2$ . All tests were carried out with the specimen horizontal, and with a nominal duct flow rate of  $0.024 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ .



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### 3. TEST RESULTS AND REDUCED DATA

#### 3.1 Test results and reduced data – NZBC C/VM2

Table 2 Test results and reduced data – NZBC C/VM2

Material	Test specimens as described in Section 1 (in accordance with ISO 5660)			Mean	
	Specimen test number	FH5449-1-50-1	FH5449-1-50-2		FH5449-1-50-3
Time to sustained flaming	s	No Ignition	No Ignition	No Ignition	NA
Observations <sup>a</sup>		-	-	-	
Test duration <sup>b</sup>	s	600*	618*	618*	612
Mass remaining, $m_f$	g	85.8	81.8	77.1	81.6
Mass pyrolyzed	%	17.8%	19.2%	19.8%	18.9%
Specimen mass loss <sup>c</sup>	kg/m <sup>2</sup>	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.1
Specimen mass loss rate <sup>c</sup>	g/m <sup>2</sup> .s	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.4
Heat release rate					
peak, $\dot{q}_{max}''$	kW/m <sup>2</sup>	3.0	7.6	7.9	6.2
average, $\dot{q}_{avg}''$					
Over 60 s from ignition	kW/m <sup>2</sup>	0.7	2.5	2.2	1.8
Over 180 s from ignition	kW/m <sup>2</sup>	0.2	1.0	0.9	0.7
Over 300 s from ignition	kW/m <sup>2</sup>	0.2	0.7	0.8	0.5
Total heat released	MJ/m <sup>2</sup>	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.4
Average Specific Extinction Area	m <sup>2</sup> /kg	0.7	NR	NR	0.7
Effective heat of combustion <sup>d</sup> , $\Delta h_{c,eff}$	MJ/kg	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2

Notes :

<sup>a</sup> no significant observations were recorded

<sup>b</sup> determined by \*  $X_{O_2}$  returning to the pretest value within 100 ppm of oxygen concentration for 10 minutes  
\*\* 30 minutes after time to sustained flaming

<sup>c</sup> from ignition to end of test;

<sup>d</sup> from the start of the test

+ value calculated using data beyond the official end of test time according to the test standard.

NR not recorded



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## 4. SUMMARY

The test standards requires that the mean heat release rate (HRR) readings over the first 180 s from ignition for the three specimens should differ by no more than 10% of the arithmetic mean of the three readings. In the event of this criterion not being met, a further three specimens are required to be tested.

**Table 3 Heat release rate**

Specimen ID	Average HRR over 180 s from ignition	Arithmetic mean	% difference from the arithmetic mean
FH5449-1-50-1	0.2	0.7	-66.1%
FH5449-1-50-2	1.0		36.2%
FH5449-1-50-3	0.9		29.9%

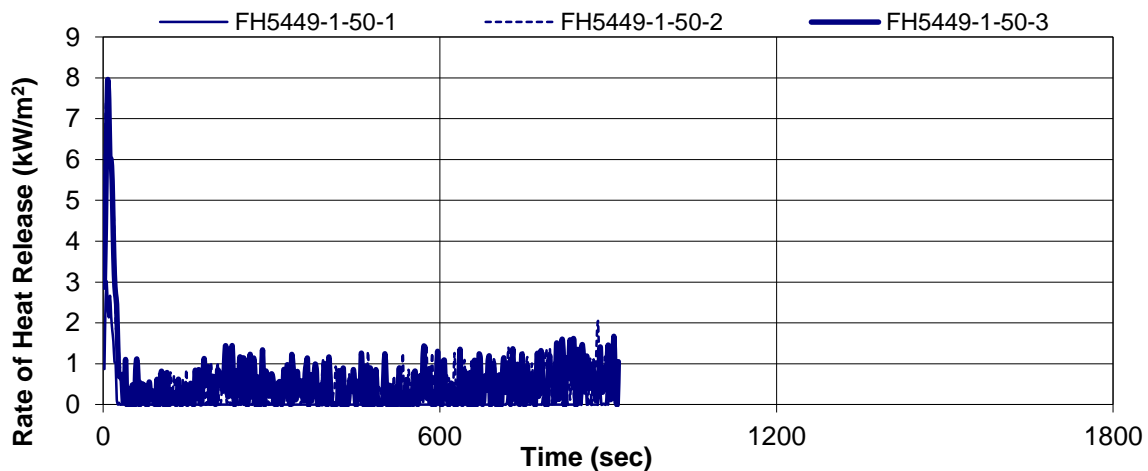
Table 3 identifies all of the specimens exposed to 50 kW/m<sup>2</sup> irradiance exceeded the acceptance criteria. Although the specimens were outside of the variability criteria of the test standard, the same Group Classification was determined for each specimen. A further set of three tests as required by the test standard was deemed not to be necessary and would not be expected to lead to an alteration of the classification.

The report summary for the specimens as described in Section 1, exposed to an irradiance of 50 kW/m<sup>2</sup> is given in table below with rates of heat release illustrated in Figure 2.

**Table 4 Report summary**

Mean Specimen thickness (mm)	Irradiance (kW/m <sup>2</sup> )	Mean Time to Ignition (s)	Mean Peak Heat Release Rate (kW/m <sup>2</sup> )	Average Specific Extinction Area (m <sup>2</sup> /kg)
10.5	50	No Ignition	6.2	0.7

**Figure 2 Rate of heat release versus time**



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## 5. CLASSIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH NZBC VERIFICATION METHOD C/VM2 APPENDIX A

The following classification has been assessed in accordance with the New Zealand Building Code Verification Method C/VM2 Appendix A: Establishing Group Numbers for lining materials. Calculations were carried out according to section A1.3 for predicting a material's group number for each specimen tested. It states that "If a different classification group is obtained for different specimens tested, then the highest (worst) classification for any specimen must be taken as the final classification for that material." The classification for the specimens as described in Section 1 is as follows:

**Table 5 NZBC Group classification and smoke extinction area**

	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Classification
Group number Classification	1	1	1	1-S
Average Specific Extinction Area (m <sup>2</sup> /kg)	0.7	NR	NR	

The tested samples recorded an average specific extinction area less than 250 m<sup>2</sup>/kg. In accordance with Verification Method C/VM2 Appendix A, samples achieving either a Group number classification 1 or 2, and with an average specific extinction area less than 250 m<sup>2</sup>/kg are identified with "S" post-script to the Group number.

## 6. NZBC CONCLUSION

The cone calorimeter testing was carried out on the specimens as described in Section 1. For the purposes of compliance with the NZBC Verification Method C/VM2 Appendix A, the following classification is considered applicable to the material as described in Section 1.

<b>Group Number Classification</b>	<b>1-S</b>
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# BRANZ Type Test Summary

**This is to certify that the specimen described below has been tested by BRANZ Ltd on behalf of**

NZ Fibrous Plasterers Association  
58 Victoria St  
Onehunga 1061  
Auckland

**Test standard:** ISO 5660 Parts 1 and 2  
**Specimen name:** Fibrous Plaster Sheet  
**Specimen description:** Plaster sheet reinforced with fibreglass  
**Orientation:** From the direction tested.

**A full description of the test specimen and the test results are given in BRANZ Test Report:**

Fire Test FH 5449-TT – Test date 12 February 2014

**Regulatory authorities are advised to examine test reports before approving any product.**

**The test results were the basis for the following:**

Building Code Document	Group Number Classification
NZBC Verification Method C/VM2 Appendix A	1-S

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