

Press Release 2024-10-09

media.woodsafes.com

Woodsafe welcomes the Nordic Swan Ecolabel's proposed revision for increased safety and sustainability of fire-protected wood

Woodsafe Timber Protection is pleased that the Nordic Swan Ecolabel has acknowledged the criticism directed at the current classification of sustainable and durable wood for outdoor use: "Durable/resistant wood for outdoor use 086." In a proposal that is now out for consultation to relevant parties, including Woodsafe, the Nordic Swan Ecolabel suggests a revision of its labeling to include the standard EN16755 EXT. This revision means that the long-term sustainability of fire protection in exterior applications will be taken into account in a way that enhances safety for the environment, lives, and property.

Thomas Bengtsson, CEO of Woodsafe, comments:

" We are very positive about the Nordic Swan Ecolabel taking this step. Ensuring that fire-protected wood products retain their protective properties over time, especially in challenging environments like outdoor applications, is crucial for guaranteeing safety in our buildings and protecting both people and property. It is encouraging that the Nordic Swan Ecolabel is taking responsibility and acting to improve the labeling."

Woodsafe has long advocated for the use of the EN16755 EXT standard as the basis for assessing fire-protected wood in exterior environments. By including this standard, which considers the hygroscopic properties and durability of fire protection agents over time, the Nordic Swan Ecolabeling will become more reliable and focused on safety.

The Nordic Swan Ecolabel's revised proposal is now out for consultation to various industry stakeholders, where Woodsafe will contribute its expertise and experience in fire protection to ensure a safer future for timber construction.

Facts about the revision and why it is important:

- **Standard EN16755 EXT:** This standard ensures that fire-protected wood products are tested and classified to withstand prolonged exposure in damp and challenging outdoor environments.
- **Current Labeling:** The Nordic Swan Ecolabel's current classification mainly focuses on chemical content and rot resistance, but does not sufficiently consider the durability of fire protection over time, which can lead to a false sense of security for users.
- **Fire safety and durability:** To ensure that buildings and structures made with fire-protected wood remain safe over time, especially in the facades of multi-family homes, it is important that the fire protection agent retains its functionality, even after several years of exposure to moisture and weather.

For more information, contact Woodsafe:

Thomas Bengtsson, CEO
Thomas.bengtsson@woodsafes.com

Peter Johnson, Product and Development Manager
peter.johnson@woodsafes.com

WOODSAFE®

Woodsafe Timber Protection AB is a manufacturer working exclusively with industrial fire retardant treatment of solid wood and plywood. The company's operations are subject to third-party manufacturing control and, since 2008, is the only manufacturer with two systems and type approval certificates according to Boverket BBR and Plan, -och Bygglagen PBL (SFS 2010:900).

Woodsafe Timber Protection AB was Europe's first CE-marked manufacturer of fire retardant treated wood and our quality and management system is certified according to ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 45001:2018. Annually we handle more than 1400 projects with distribution all over Europe and parts of the world.

Reference projects include the world's tallest wooden skyscraper, Mjøstårnet in Brumunddal, the world's largest oak roof Gardermoen Pir Nord, Ilulissat Icefjord - UNESCO World Heritage Centre in Greenland, and Cederhusen. The WOODSAFE® brand is owned by Woodsafe Timber Protection AB.'