



International Committee of the Decorative Laminates Industry



HPL

HPL

A success story

HPL is more than just a surface. It is a modern, highly attractive and multifunctional material. With outstanding performance and environmental features, HPL is a versatile material that can be customized to fulfill the needs of designers in many different areas.

Developed in the first half of the 20th century, HPL was used in many innovative ways, including as a surface material in the kitchen of a zeppelin. Since that time HPL has successfully evolved into an indispensable choice for surfaces in both interior and exterior applications.



counter and wall covering



facade



coffee bar



indoor design



kitchen design



table top

HPL The material

One reason for the great success of HPL is the nearly boundless variety of décor.

In order to understand the enormous range of visual and texture design varieties of HPL, it is necessary to take a closer look on the way it is produced.

HPL is made of resin impregnated cellulose layers, which are consolidated under heat and high pressure:

- **Overlay paper**, which serves to improve the abrasion-, scratch- and heat-resistance
- **Decorative paper**, which defines the design and is composed of printed patterns providing solid colors
- **Kraft paper**, which is used as core material

HPL according to product standard EN 438 can be produced in stationary or continuous presses.

High pressure laminates (HPL) are different than HPL Compact concerning both the thickness and the composition of the layers.

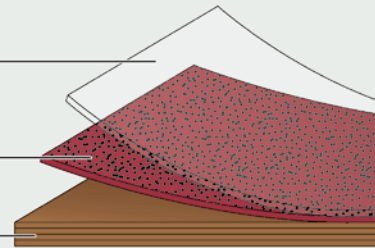
A variety of surface textures (e.g. high gloss, matte, wood grain etc.) can be created in the surface using steel press plates.

HPL

Overlay

Decorative paper patterned
or unicoloured

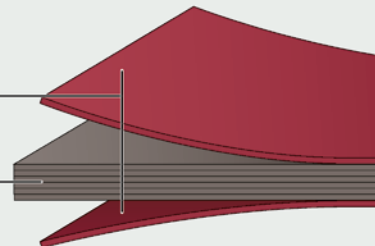
Core paper



HPL Compact

Decorative paper
with or without overlay

Core paper



HPL

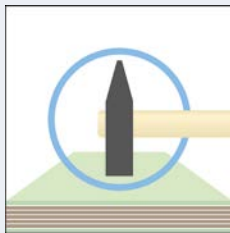
Outstanding product features

Another reason for the continuing success of HPL are the outstanding product features. HPL in the European market has to fulfil the guidelines of the EN 438 and ISO 4586 standards. These standards define more than 20 characteristics HPL must meet.

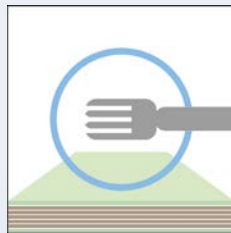
The most important product features are:

Furthermore, HPL is moisture resistant, impact resistant, dirt resistant, anti-static and easy to clean.

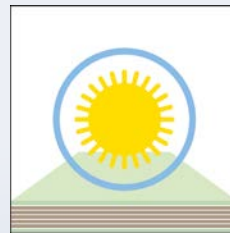
Starting from 0.5 mm thickness, it is available in standard, postforming and fire retardant quality. The sum of all HPL properties makes HPL superior to other surfaces.



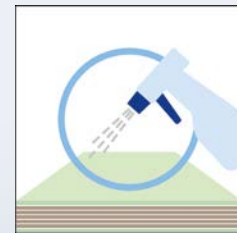
impact resistant



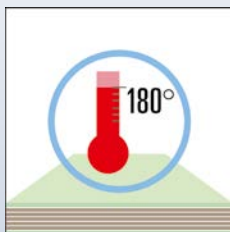
abrasion- and scratch-resistant



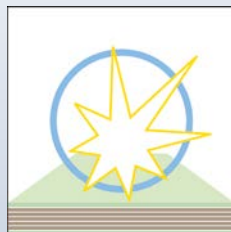
light resistant



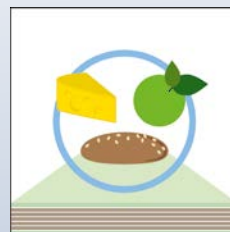
resistant to chemicals



heat resistant (up to 180° C)



hygienic



food safe



commercial construction (kitchen and wall covering)

HPL The sustainable surface material

HPL consists largely of natural cellulose and resins and can therefore be disposed of easily.

HPL is environmentally neutral. From a current perspective, it represents the ideal choice and provides a cast-iron guarantee in terms of meeting the ecological demands of the future, when environmental conditions will continue to tighten. An Environmental Product Declaration (EPD according to EN ISO 14020 type III) is available.

HPL is environmentally neutral because:

- the properties allow the material to have a very long service life
- the use produces virtually no emissions
- it consists of 70 per cent cellulose and 30 per cent resins
- HPL waste can be reused by being processed through officially approved industrial incineration units

HPL

The ideal surface for all aspects of living

Due to their product features and the constant development HPL expands to more and more areas of application, such as kitchen, office and living room furnishings, bathrooms, interior finishes, wall and façade coverings, construc-

tion of retail and trade fair units, vehicle manufacture and many others.

Due to its surface properties, HPL is useful for laboratory furnishings and within the healthcare system.

store design



interior door



worktop in kitchen



HPL is post-formable which allows for creating continuously rounded edges, a feature of particular benefit to novel applications in office furniture and home furnishing. HPL is manufactured with a decorative surface on one side only and is typically bonded to a substrate such as MDF or particleboard.

HPL Compact boards, with thickness starting at 2 mm, can be manufactured with a decorative surface on both sides. HPL Compact boards are moisture resistant, antistatic, and provide a high level of impact resistance which can be beneficial in vandal proofing applications. HPL Compact boards do not require a separate substrate material or edge banding and can be used in exterior applications.

interior fitting with acoustic elements





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About the ICDLI

The ICDLI is the international representation of the European laminates manufacturers.

Today, it numbers 25 members from 12 countries.

The expertise of the members is utilized in different commissions for economic, technical, standardization and public relations.

Members



Associate members

