



## **FIRE REGULATIONS STANDARDS - Thermally Modified Ash**

Thermally modified wood generally does not have enhanced fire-retardant properties compared to untreated wood. For higher fire safety standards, additional fire-retardant treatments are required to meet stricter building regulations.

### **1. Reaction to Fire Classification (Euroclass)**

- **Euroclass System (EN 13501-1):** This European standard classifies the reaction to fire of building materials. The classification ranges from A1 (non-combustible) to F (easily combustible).
- **Typical Classification for Thermally Modified Timber:** Thermally modified wood, including ash, generally falls under **Euroclass D** or **Euroclass E** for untreated wood. This means it is considered combustible and has a limited contribution to fire growth. For higher fire resistance, additional fire-retardant treatments would be necessary.

### **2. Surface Spread of Flame (BS 476-7)**

- **BS 476-7:** This British standard tests the surface spread of flame for building materials.
- **Classifications:** The classifications range from Class 1 (low surface spread of flame) to Class 4 (rapid surface spread of flame). Without additional treatment, thermally modified ash might achieve **Class 3** or **Class 4**, depending on its thickness and specific treatment process.

### **3. Fire-Retardant Treatments**

- Thermally modified timber does not inherently possess fire-retardant properties. To meet higher fire resistance standards, thermally modified ash can be treated with fire-retardant coatings or impregnated with fire-retardant chemicals.
- After treatment, the wood can potentially reach higher fire classifications, such as **Euroclass B** or **Euroclass C**, depending on the specific fire-retardant product used.

### **4. To increase to Euroclass B**

- UK Hardwoods can offer a service to treat the timber further on your behalf to reach Euroclass B standard. This approximately increases the price by £20 + VAT per SQM. Please enquire with the office team if you would like to know more about this service.