



Supporting you with Smart Solutions

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Data Sheet

Fire Rating & Performance of Duratuff Select Vinyl Cladding

Duratuff Vinyl Cladding is recognised as a safe option when choosing a cladding system that is a fire preventative. So why does Duratuff provide such good fire ratings and performance? It is mainly composed of vinyl or otherwise known as PVC. Due to the chlorine base, Duratuff will not ignite quickly and is inherently flame retardant. The distinguishing characteristics of Vinyl Cladding include:

- *High temperature at which it ignites*
- *Low natural combustibility*
- *Slow flame spread and;*
- *Its failure to continue to burn in the absence of a flame source*

All organic materials will ignite. What determines the safety of the material is how high the temperature reaches before it goes up in flames. PVC won't ignite, even from direct contact from another flame, until it reaches about 387°C and won't self ignite until around 454°C. The common timber framing ignites from a flame at 260°C and self ignites at 410°C, significantly lower than Vinyl Cladding.

The National Fire Protection Association's National Electrical Code recognises the strong fire safety traits of vinyl through its approved use as a residential wiring insulator. Amongst these beneficial features include the idea that Vinyl Cladding will not independently sustain combustion in air with a normal concentration of oxygen, therefore it extinguishes more easily.

Vinyl Cladding was put to the test under the Standard Test Method for Surface of Materials Using a Radiant Heat Energy Source and the results were exceptionally positive. Millions of homes have been wired using safe vinyl-sheathed electrical systems for decades. The results unfolded that PVC is a material with one of the lowest radiant panel index's. This means it does not release a large amount of energy when it burns and will not readily spread flames on its own.

