

New Standardization of Wood Composites' Environmental Friendliness and Current Status of Japanese Wood Composites Technologies

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JISC (Japanese Industrial Standards Committee) proposed to regulate environmental protection measures of wood plastic recycled composites (WPRC). WPRC need to be designed for appropriate marketing to promote this recognition. As WPRC contain certain quantities of recycled materials, new performance quality regulations have to be designated specifying whether the material could be used for construction, whether safety standards are adhered to, and any other concerns that users may have regarding the material.

WPC Corporation, as a Japanese committee member of ISO TC61/SC11/WG11, is working on standardization to explicitly state the following features:

1. Categorize standards for recycled content ratio of main raw materials,
2. Define the type of materials recovered from recycled wood and recycled plastic, and
3. Define physical properties and testing methods of those WPRC.

The strength of the Japanese wood composites market supports various products and technologies. Products beyond decking include louvres, sunshades, rainscreen systems, pergolas, and cladding. Technologies, such as Solid technology, Hollow technology, Foam technology and currently Aluminum Hybrid technology make WPRC curvable and coatable for creative designs and finishes. New Foam technology and Aluminum Hybrid technology are well suited especially as a flexible building material.