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# ASTM E 84 (UL 723) Surface Burning Characteristics of "Spotted Gum Timber COB"

A Report To: **SCULPTFORM** 9 Gray Street Golden Square, Victoria 3555 Australia Phone: +61 3 5446 0100 Attention: **Bradley Schwartz** E-mail: bradley.s@sculptform.com Submitted by: **Element Fire Testing** Report No. 21-002-116 4 Pages

March 15, 2021

Date:



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1.0 ACCREDITATION To ISO/IEC 17025 for a defined Scope of Testing by the International Accreditation Service

## 2.0 SPECIFICATIONS OF ORDER

Determine the Flame Spread and Smoke Developed Indices based upon a single test conducted in accordance with ASTM E 84-20 (UL 723), as per Sculptform reference Purchase Order No. PO-024241 and Element Quotation No. 21-002-242817 dated March 4, 2021.

#### 2.1 History of Revision

This is the original.

**3.0 SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION** (Element sample identification number 21-002-S0116)

Shaped lumber material described as, "60mm x 32mm Spotted Gum Timber", and identified as: "Spotted Gum Timber COB"

#### **4.0 TEST PROCEDURE**

The method, designated as ASTM E 84-20 "Standard Method of Test for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials" (technically equivalent test method: UL 723), is designed to determine the relative surface burning characteristics of materials under specific test conditions, where the material under test is mounted so that it forms the ceiling of a horizontal fire tunnel. A specified airflow is introduced through the tunnel and a specified flame is applied to one end. Observations are then made regarding the rate of flame spread along the specimen. Results are expressed in terms of Flame Spread Index (FSI) and Smoke Developed Index (SDI). There is no established relationship between those two values.

Although the procedure is applicable to materials, products and assemblies used in building construction for development of comparative surface spread of flame data, the test results may not reflect the relative surface burning characteristics of tested materials under all building fire conditions.

#### **5.0 SAMPLE PREPARATION**

The plank timber material was constructed into deck sections using wood cross batten strips fastened on the unexposed surface. The test specimen consisted of a total of three prepared deck sections, each approximately 1.25 inches (32 mm) in thickness by 21 inches (533 mm) in width by 96 inches (2438 mm) in length. The sections were butted together to create the specimen length. Prior to testing, the specimen was conditioned to constant weight at a temperature of  $73 \pm 5^{\circ}$ F ( $23 \pm 3^{\circ}$ C) and a relative humidity of  $50 \pm 5^{\circ}$ . Using a handheld dielectric moisture meter, the moisture content of the wood was measured at approximately 8 to 9%. At the time if test initiation, the specimen was self-supporting and the smooth (non-grooved) surface was exposed to the test flame.

The testing was performed on: 2021-03-15

# **6.0 SUMMARY OF TEST PROCEDURE**

The tunnel is preheated to  $150 \pm 5^{\circ}F$  ( $66 \pm 2.8^{\circ}C$ ), as measured by the floor-embedded thermocouple located 23.25 feet (7087 mm) downstream of the burner ports, and is allowed to cool to  $105 \pm 5^{\circ}F$  ( $40.5 \pm 2.8^{\circ}C$ ), as measured by the floor-embedded thermocouple located 13 feet (3962 mm) from the burners. The tunnel lid is then raised and the test specimen is placed along the ledges of the tunnel so as to form a continuous ceiling 24 feet (7315 mm) long, approximately 12 inches (305 mm) above the floor. Three 8 foot (2438 mm) sections of 0.25 inch (6 mm) cement board are then placed on the back side of the specimen and the lid is then lowered into place.



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Upon ignition of the gas burners, the flame spread distance is observed and recorded every second. Flame spread distance versus time is plotted. Calculations ignore all flame front recessions and Flame Spread Index (FSI) is determined by calculating the total area under the curve for the test sample. If the area under the curve (A) is less than or equal to  $97.5 \text{ min} \cdot \text{ft}$ , then  $\text{FSI} = 0.515 \cdot \text{A}$ ; if greater,  $\text{FSI} = 4900/(195 \cdot \text{A})$ . FSI is then rounded to the nearest multiple of 5.

Smoke Developed Index (SDI) is determined by dividing the total area under the obscuration curve by that established for liquid heptane, and multiplying by 100. SDI is then rounded to the nearest multiple of 5 if less than 200. SDI values over 200 are rounded to the nearest multiple of 50.

#### 7.0 TEST RESULTS

#### **SAMPLE: "Spotted Gum Timber COB"**

| Approx. Time to Ignition (s) | Maximum Flame            | Time to Maximum | Flame Spread | Smoke Developed |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
|                              | Front Distance           | Flame Front (s) | Index (FSI)  | Index (SDI)     |
| 108                          | (ft.): 15.8<br>(m): 4.82 | 593             | 40           | 80              |

## 7.1 Observations of Burning Characteristics

The specimen ignited approximately 108 seconds after exposur eto the test flame.

#### 8.0 INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

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Industry documents such as the International Building Code (IBC) or NFPA 101 Life Safety Code refer to ASTM E 84 (UL 723, NFPA 255) test results using the following material classification categories:

|                    | Flame-Spread<br>Index (FSI) | Smoke Developed<br>Index (SDI) |  |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Class 1 or Class A | 0 - 25                      | 450 Maximum                    |  |
| Class 2 or Class B | 26 - 75 450 Maximum         |                                |  |
| Class 3 or Class C | 76 - 200                    | 450 Maximum                    |  |
| Results Classi     | fication (if applicable):   | Class 2 or Class B             |  |

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Technician.

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For: SCULPTFORM



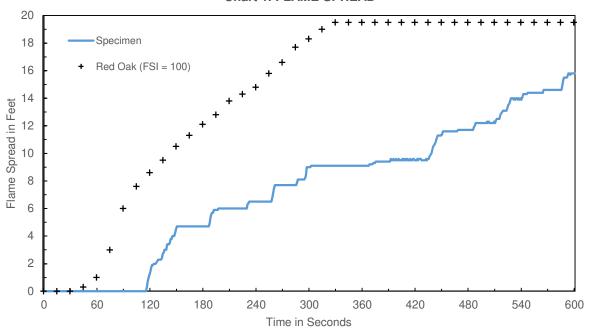
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## 9.0 TEST CHARTS

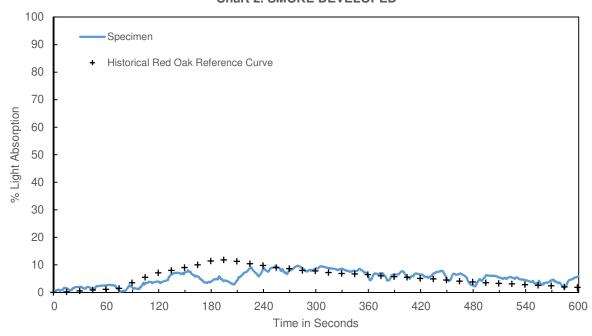
# **ASTM E 84-20 (UL 723)**

# Sample: "Spotted Gum Timber COB"





# **Chart 2. SMOKE DEVELOPED**



| Calculated Flame | Rounded Flame Spread | Calculated Smoke | Rounded Smoke                  | Maximum 23' Air  |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Spread (CFS)     | Index ( <b>FSI</b> ) | Developed (CSD)  | Developed Index ( <b>SDI</b> ) | Temperature (°F) |
| 38.2             | 40                   | 78.3             | 80                             |                  |