

## Certificate

Isovolta Österreichische Isolierstoffwerke AG, A-2355 Wiener Neudorf, Austria, produces double-faced high-pressure decorative laminates **MAX<sup>®</sup>-EXTERIOR**, originally named '**MAX<sup>®</sup>-BAUCOMPACT** sheets' (compact laminates). This product is intended for outside applications as e.g. facade elements in buildings. As requested, we confirm that we were charged by Isovolta with a long-term observation and performing of accompanying tests which show the suitability of this product for such applications.

These observations and tests concerned **MAX<sup>®</sup>-BAUCOMPACT** sheets installed 1978 as a balcony face-plate in an apartment house in A-3430 Langenzersdorf, Rebschulg. 5 (near Vienna, Austria). The sheets of type IS 150 SBV, colour/surface-code 65 HS, have been installed in this building; they have a nominal thickness of 8 mm. Following tests were performed on samples drawn from the building in a time interval of 12 years by our institute:

- flexural test \*)
- tensile test \*)
- resistance to immersion in boiling water \*)
- resistance to moisture \*)
- resistance to colour and gloss change \*)
- visual examination of the surface (concerning weathering of the resin matrix and liberation of cellulose fibres)
- ability to be easily cleaned

Fresh produced sheets of the same type were always used as reference material. The results of these examinations were reported in Test reports and/or Expert opinions No. **20786** (1986), No. **29683** (1993) and **39886** (1998).

Based on results of these tests we **CERTIFY** that the examined double-faced compact laminate **MAX<sup>®</sup>-BAUCOMPACT**, now called **MAX<sup>®</sup>-EXTERIOR**

- certainly shows signs of **ageing** in its outward appearance (slight colour and gloss differences, weathering of the surface)
- but its **mechanical strength** (safety) is **not** significantly reduced.
- The dirty surface of the exposed sheet can be **easily cleaned** with a solution of a common household cleaner (surfactant).

**The examined material comply with the requirements set in relevant product standard (EN 438, Part 1) and valid for fresh produced laminates also after 20 years of outside exposure.**

The condition of the exposed laminate allows the estimation that its **durability** in the above mentioned application is at least further **30 years**.

  
Dr. Otakar Seycek  
Head of Department



Vienna, 1999-11-25

\*) Test was carried out in accordance with the relevant product standard valid at the time (the last time EN 438) or according to standardised general material test method (e.g. DIN 54 001 and DIN 67 530). The test method is an accredited procedure in Austrian Plastics Institute.

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