



# DHW Technical Guideline

## TG005 Aluminium Composite Panels – Fire Safety

### 1. Purpose

This guide sets out DHW's requirements for aluminium composite panels on non-residential projects. This guide should be circulated as appropriate to consultants.

### 2. Background

In the wake of incidents including the Grenfell Tower fire, fire safety concerns have emerged regarding the use of potentially combustible cladding products. Aluminium Composite Panels (ACPs) with a high polyethylene content are of particular concern due to the material's combustibility.

#### 2.1. Statewide Cladding Audit

On 4 July 2017, the Building Commissioner announced that, in response to the Grenfell Tower fire, the WA Building Commission would expand its initial audit of aluminium composite panels (ACPs) into a comprehensive state-wide cladding audit, targeting all high-risk, high-rise buildings with cladding. Similar audits were undertaken in other states including South Australia, Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.

Further information about the state-wide cladding audit is available on the Building Commission web site; <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/multi-step-guides/compliance-audits-investigations-and-reports/state-wide-cladding-audit>.

### 3. DHW Projects

On request from customer agencies, DHW is managing the replacement of ACP on a range of non-residential Government projects. In some cases, limited amounts of ACP are being retained subject to specific Performance Solutions.

DHW has adopted a principle of avoiding all combustible cladding materials (using the definitions of the NCC) on its non-residential projects (including single-storey Type C buildings) wherever alternative materials are available. Combustible cladding is not accepted on any building type adjacent to or over egress points and along egress routes from buildings (for example school verandahs, entry porches of aged care and health sector buildings).

Document Control				
TRIM reference	2025/04669 DOC02666797			
Effective date	Aug 2015			
Next revision	November 2026			
Content owner	Building and Technical Services			
Enquiries	Consult with content owner or <a href="mailto:principal.architect@dohw.wa.gov.au">principal.architect@dohw.wa.gov.au</a>			
Version	Revision date	Author	Reason	Sections
V1.0	07/08/2015	BTS	Initial release	All
V1.1	15/03/2017	BTS	Include document reference number (TG005)	Title
V1.2	10/11/2017	BTS	Revision	All
V1.3	24/08/2018	BTS	Revise Version Control Protocol Revise Principal Architect	Document Control Document Approval
V1.4	06/07/2021	BTS	Revise BMW references	All
V1.5	Oct - 2025	BTS	Update to DHW	All

Document approval
<p>This guideline was endorsed and approved for use on 3 November 2025 by:</p> <p>Dean Wood, Principal Architect</p> <p>Department of Housing and Works</p>

---

#### Disclaimer.

The information in this publication is general and does not take into account individual circumstances or situations. While care has been taken in preparing this document, the State of Western Australia, its agents, or employees, accept no responsibility or liability for decisions or actions taken, or not taken, as a result of any data, information, statement or advice, expressed or implied, contained within. To the best of our knowledge, the content was correct at the time of publishing. The content within should not be relied upon as a substitute for independent legal and other professional advice.