

CERTIFICATION

NF Certification Reference System: Gypsum plasterboard



Identification No.: **NF081**
Revision No.: **Revision 7**
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NF Certification Reference System - Gypsum plasterboard
Revision no: 7



This certification reference system has been submitted for validation by the CSTB Technical Department. It was approved by the AFNOR Certification Managing Director on 24/07/2018 for acceptance into the NF certification system.

It cancels and replaces all previous versions.

As a certifying body accredited by the COFRAC under the number 5-0010, accreditation range available at www.cofrac.fr, CSTB undertakes to draft certification reference systems that guarantee an appropriate level of requirements for the quality of the products, their suitability for use and their durability.

This certification reference system may therefore be revised, in whole or in part, by CSTB, after the interested parties have been consulted. The revision of the certification reference system is approved by the AFNOR Certification Managing Director.

MODIFICATION HISTORY

Modified Part	Revision no.	Date brought into application	Modification made
The whole document	7	01/09/2018	Formatting in accordance with the NF reference system template. Inclusion of addendum no.1 in revision 6 Inclusion of Technical Document NF081-1 "Test Methods for the determination of squareness and the mechanical characteristics of gypsum plasterboard"

Part 1

Application

1.1 Scope

This certification reference system currently concerns gypsum plasterboard intended for the production of interior fixed works for partitions, false walls, vertical cladding or horizontal or sloping ceilings.

This reference system currently covers:

- Gypsum plasterboard compliant with standard EN 520+A1 with thicknesses of 9.5, 12.5 – 15 – 18 and 25 mm. Only plasterboard of types A, I, F and H1 are covered by this reference system (the types can be combined).
- Gypsum plasterboard compliant with standard EN 14190 (e.g. plasterboard with 4 tapered edges, the transversal edges of which have been shaped during a secondary operation)

Currently, the following characteristics are not certified by the NF mark - Gypsum plasterboard:

- types D and R defined in standard EN 520+A1
- type H2 defined in standard EN 520+A1.

Case of Extended Usage

This case concerns gypsum plasterboard covered by this reference system but for which the complementary specifications are:

- Either defined in specifications submitted and validated by CSTB,
- Or defined in a valid Technical Appraisal or Technical Application Document;

These specifications concern the following certified characteristics:

- Deformation under load
- Residual deformation
- Bending strength
- Surface hardness
- Board width (e.g. boards in 18/900)

As part of Extended Usage, the values given in the Technical Appraisal, the Technical Application Document or the specifications are certified by the NF mark and replace the threshold values defined by this reference system.

The NF mark strives to inspect:

- the safety characteristics for people, pets and goods when required in consideration of the normal, routine use of the products,
- and/or the fitness for use
- and/or the durability of the products,
- and/or any complementary characteristics to enable them to stand out in the market

1.2 Certification added value

Certification is a recognition by a third party of the compliance of characteristics demonstrating the added value of gypsum plasterboard and, in particular, its compliance with the requirements defined in standard NF DTU 25.41 "Gypsum plasterboard works - Gypsum wallboards

The certified characteristics of the NF Gypsum plasterboard application are the following:

- i. According to Standard EN 520 + A1 (▶ product performances expected in compliance with the standard):
 - Length, width and squareness of the boards;
 - Width of the tapered edges;
 - Water absorption on the surface and by immersion of H1 type boards;
 - Surface hardness of type I boards;

- ii. With a performance level higher than the one specified in standard EN520+A1:
 - Board thickness;
 - Depth of tapered edges;
 - Bending strength, longitudinal and transversal directions; (*)
 - Deformation under load, longitudinal and transversal directions; (*)
 - Surface hardness of type A, H1 and F boards; (*)

- iii. Other characteristics:
 - Surface density;
 - Residual deformation, longitudinal and transversal directions (*)
 - In the case of Extended Usage: deformation under load, residual deformation, bending strength and surface hardness stated in a Technical Appraisal, a DTA or specifications.

(*): The certified characteristics marked with an (*) correspond to characteristics defined in the DTU 25.41; the certified performance level complies to that specified in the DTU 25.41 for the defined usage"

CSTB is responsible for assessing the certified characteristics, with the following control measures:

	Admission	Continued monitoring
<p>Production audit carried out by a qualified technical auditor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Verification that the production inspections and records have been carried out: raw materials, production, finished products, - Verification of the quality command provisions: metrology, packaging, storage, traceability, product marking, processing of non-conformities and customer complaints, - Supervision of certified characteristics tests carried out by the applicant. 	Yes	<p>Yes</p> <p>Frequency: 1 annual audit (1)</p>
<p>Tests carried out by a laboratory recognised by the certifying body (independent and competent):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Samples taken by the certifying body and completed on the applicant/holder's site. 	Yes	<p>Yes</p> <p>Frequency: 1 annual test campaign (2)</p>

Monitoring during the first year of admission: Two audits are systematically conducted six months and one year after admission of a new production unit.

The audit frequency can be increased to 2 annual audits if critical non-conformities are observed.

(2): Continuous monitoring must allow the certified characteristics of all the certified products to be checked. If necessary, if the qualified auditors have not had enough time during the audits over a period of three years to supervise all the certified products, an additional day of audits will be scheduled. During this day, the qualified auditor will supervise the testing of the certified products that have not been sampled during the last 3 years.

1.3 Applying for certification / Certification contract

Any legal entity:

- manufacturing products within the scope defined above and that can comply with the technical requirements described in Part 2 of this document,
- or distributing products within the scope defined above for which the manufacturer complies with the technical requirements described in Part 2 of this document,

may request the right to use the NF mark – Gypsum plasterboard.

Such requests are referred to as “applications” while the entities making them are referred to as “applicants”.

The applicant submits its application to the certifying body. It is accompanied by all the useful information concerning the given products, the production conditions and quality control to ensure compliance of the products with this certification reference system.

An application form and the list of information to be supplied to support an application are appended to this certification reference system.

During a period of 10 working days, beginning on the date of receipt by the certifying body of its application for certification, the applicant has the right to desist from its commitments, for any cause whatsoever, by sending a registered letter with return receipt to the certifying body.

The Certification contract is composed of the completed and signed application letter, possibly accompanied by the estimate; it is governed by all the documents referenced to this application letter (NF mark general rules, certification reference system, complementary technical requirements, etc.).

The contract is entered into for an unlimited term.

The holder may terminate, with no further legal formality, NF certification for all or some of their certifications for any reason whatsoever, in particular when activity has ceased.

Such termination takes effect only after the expiration of a period of 15 days beginning on the date of receipt by CSTB of the registered letter with return receipt, remitted by the holder, communicating the termination with no further legal formality of the NF certification for one of the reasons defined above.

Beginning at the date when the termination takes effect, the holder undertakes to no longer use in any way whatsoever, nor reproduce on any medium whatsoever the NF mark for the products, the certification of which has halted.

The certifying body reserves the right to halt an NF certification. The certifying body then specifies the transitional procedures and conditions before the definitive halting of the certification concerned.

The contract is governed by French law. If there is any problem with interpretation, execution or validity of the Contract, the Parties agree to solve their differences out of court unless there is an emergency that justifies calling in competent jurisdiction acting in summary proceedings.

If the Parties are unable to resolve their differences within three (3) months from their emergence, the dispute will be taken by the most diligent Party before the competent French courts.

Note 1: Particular case of an admission request in a country subject to special vigilance

After observing a number of tensions throughout the world, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs defined alert areas for each country under the following conditions:

<http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/conseils-aux-voyageurs/conseils-par-pays/>

- Green areas for normal vigilance;
- Yellow areas for reinforced vigilance;
- Orange areas inadvisable unless for imperative reasons;
- Red areas highly inadvisable.

In accordance with the recommendations of the French Government, with a view to ensuring the safety of CSTB personnel and its subcontractors (hereafter referred to as “the Auditors”), any admission applications for certification made by entities whose sites to be assessed within the framework of certification are situated on the territory of a country classified in orange- or red-alert areas shall not be taken into consideration by CSTB.

As regards certification applications made by entities whose sites to be assessed within the framework of certification, during the admission or follow-up stages, are situated on the territory of a country classified in a yellow-alert area, Auditors are allowed to travel provided the audited entity makes arrangements locally and entirely at its own expenses for the transport and accommodation of Auditors so that their safety may be ensured.

Within 10 days prior to any travel, the applicant/holder shall provide CSTB with the Auditors’ travel and accommodation conditions required to ensure their safety. CSTB may make observations and justify additional requests; it reserves the right to cancel any business trip if the conditions submitted do not provide sufficient guarantees for safety.

Note 2: Specific case of production subcontracting by an applicant

The applicant may subcontract part of the manufacture of their products covered by this certification reference system.

If so, they undertake to:

- be responsible for the effectiveness of the production control system as a whole in accordance with this certification reference system;
- be able to provide, on the one hand, the specifications that define the inspection operations that they impose on their subcontractor in order to comply with the requirements in this certification system and, on the other hand, the evidence regarding the subcontractor’s skills in complying with those requirements.

Note 3: Specific case of a new application in the context of a withdrawal or suspension of a certificate following a penalty

When CSTB announces the withdrawal of a certificate following a sanction, the holder loses his/her right to use the NF mark. They become a former holder. Former holders may not submit a new certification application for a product, service or person that is identical to the product, service or person at the source of the decision to withdraw the certificate, unless they provide CSTB with evidence deemed satisfactory demonstrating that curative and corrective actions have been implemented since the withdrawal decision, bringing the product, service or person into strict and sustainable compliance with all the Certification requirements.

Likewise, when CSTB announces the suspension of a certificate following a sanction, the holder loses his/her right to use the NF mark until CSTB removes the suspension. The suspension can be removed when the holder provides CSTB with evidence deemed sufficient to demonstrate that curative and corrective actions have been taken since the suspension decision, so that the product or service or person strictly complies with all Certification requirements over the long term.

1.4 Applicant's commitment

Before making their application, applicants must make sure that they meet the conditions defined in this certification reference system concerning their product and the sites concerned. It is the applicants' responsibility to make sure that the regulations applicable to their product are respected.

They shall commit themselves to meeting the same conditions during the whole duration of the use of the NF mark.

Applicants undertake to:

- 1 accept and comply with the conditions set down and defined in the certification reference system specific to the field of products concerned and, in particular, to:
 - Present for certification products that conform to the current regulations concerned,
 - Implement the changes required by the developments of the certification reference system which are communicated by the certifying body,
 - Use the NF mark under the conditions defined in the certification reference system and for the products certified only,
 - Responsively follow up on the decisions taken by the certifying body as part of certification (in particular, to specify and implement corrective actions in response to any disparity detected or apply a decision of sanction).
- 2 pay the certification fees (management, audit and tests, if need be) in accordance with the price list in force;
- 3 not submit any counterfeited products for certification;
- 4 take the necessary measures:
 - to conduct the audit, including the supply of elements to be examined such as: documentation and records, access to the relevant equipment, locations, production areas, staff and client's subcontractors,
 - for the participation or non-participation of third-party observers during the audit, where appropriate.
- 5 examine and record all complaints:
 - Provide these records to the certifying body and auditors on request,
 - Take all appropriate actions in relation to these complaints and the imperfections observed in the products which have consequences for their conformity with the certification requirements,
 - Provide documents pertaining to the actions undertaken.
- 6 reserve the trade name of the product presented only for certified products in compliance with the Technical Requirements concerned;
- 7 efficiently apply the production control system established in order to meet the requirements of the certification reference system;
- 8 apply the controls that fall to them so that maintenance of the right to use the NF mark may be granted;
- 9 inform, without delay, the certifying body of any modifications made to the basic file delivered with the NF mark usage right application (in particular any modifications made to the product(s) that is/are the subject of the application);
- 10 inform the certifying body of any definitive or temporary halt in production that concerns the certificate;

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- 11 make statements and provide communication on certification consistent with the scope of certification;
 - 12 neither use their product's certification in such a manner as to bring the certification body into disrepute nor make any statement regarding their product certification that the certification body may consider misleading or unauthorised, in particular:
 - Not use the NF mark in any abusive way or in any way that does not conform to the current certification reference system,
 - Not use the certifying body's logo.
 - 13 upon suspension, withdrawal or termination of certification, discontinue their use of all advertising materials that contain any reference thereto, take action as required by the certification reference system and take any other required measure;
 - 14 communicate to the certifying body, at its request, all the printed advertising materials and catalogues referring to the NF mark;
 - 15 if copies of the certification documents are provided to others, reproduce them in their entirety or as specified in the certification reference system;
 - 16 in making reference to their product certification in communication media, such as documents, brochures or advertising, comply with the requirements of the certifying body;
 - 17 for all participants of the certifying body or its qualified sub-contractors, ensure that all the safety provisions relating to working conditions, sites and equipment conform to current local regulations.

Failing compliance with all of the commitments, the applicant may incur halt to or suspension of the examination of their dossier.

1.5 Publication

The certifying body reserves the right to publish the certificates to provide the best possible information to users.

The characteristics certified, the list of holders of the NF mark and/or the NF certificates are made public via the certifying body's website.

Part 2

The Certification Scheme

The certification scheme for the NF Gypsum plasterboard application consists of this certification reference system, which references:

- the NF mark General Rules, which set the organisation and conditions for the use of the mark,
- the standards referred to in § 2.2.1,
- the additional technical requirements referred to in § 2.2.2.

This certification reference system is consonant with the framework of the certification of products and services other than alimentary, as provided for in the Consumer Code (articles R 433-1 to R 433-2 and L 433-3 to L 433-11). It specifies the conditions for applying the General Rules of the NF mark to products defined in Part 1.

2.1 Regulations

The granting of the right to use the NF mark can in no way substitute CSTB's responsibility for the legal responsibility on the company which holds the NF mark usage right.

As regards the regulatory requirements covered by this certification reference system, the applicant/holder shall submit to the certifying body during the certification audits the documentary evidence defined in the regulations and attesting to the compliance of their product with the regulatory requirements.

NOTE: If the documentary evidence is not managed or available on the site where the audit is being conducted, this evidence shall be submitted to the certifying body, using any appropriate means, before the certifying body ends its assessment.

The applicant/holder is held responsible to the certifying body for any inaccurate, deceptive and/or non-compliant documentary evidence with regard to the definition of documentary evidence as laid down in the regulations.

The certifying body's tasks do not lie in proving conformity of a product to the regulatory requirements listed in this document. Those tasks are strictly incumbent upon the bodies approved by the authorities in charge of applying each of the regulations concerned.

The main regulations applicable for launching products on the French market and for which the applicants/holders shall submit to the certifying body a document attesting to the conformity of their products with the regulations are listed below.

Regulations	Documentary evidence required
Regulation (EU) no. 305/2011 of the European Parliament and Council of 9th March 2011.	Declaration of performances
Decree No.2011-321 of 23 March 2011 regarding the labelling of construction and decoration products concerning their VOC emission rates.	Product labelling

<p>Article L.121-2 of the French Consumer Code: "A marketing practice is deceptive if it is committed in one of the following circumstances: ...2° If it is based on allegations, indications or presentations which are false or likely to mislead and concerning one or more of the following elements: ...b) The key characteristics of the product or service, i.e.: its essential qualities, its composition, its accessories, its origin, its quantity, its mode and date of manufacture, the conditions of its use and its fitness for use, its properties and the expected results of its usage, and the results and main characteristics of the tests and controls conducted by the product or service"</p>	<p>Trade name of the product</p> <p>Commercial presentation of the product (brochures, website, etc.)</p>
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2.2 The standards and additional specifications

For the references that indicate a date of implementation or an index, only the version cited is applicable. For references that do not indicate a date of implementation or index, the most recent version of the reference document applies (including any amendments).

2.2.1 APPLICABLE STANDARDS

The products that are covered by this certification reference system shall meet the requirements defined in the following standards:

- NF EN 520+A1: 2009 "Gypsum plasterboards - Definitions, requirements and test methods"
- NF EN ISO 9001 revision 2008 (applicable until 15 September 2018) and
- NF EN ISO 9001 revision 2015 (applicable as of 15 September 2015).

2.2.2 COMPLEMENTARY TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

In addition to the requirements set out in the previous paragraphs, the products shall comply with the complementary technical specifications laid down below.

- NF DTU 25.41: 2012 – Building works – Gypsum plasterboard works – Gypsum wallboards

For some certified characteristics as defined below, more restrictive specifications are applied:

If applicable:

- NF EN 14190: 2014 "Gypsum board products from reprocessing – Definitions, requirements and test methods"

2.2.2.1 Board thickness.

Apparatus: According to article 5.4.2 of standard EN 520 +A1

Operating procedure: According to article 5.4.3 of standard EN 520+A1

Specifications:

The thicknesses must be measured and compared to the nominal thicknesses.

The tolerance must be ± 0.4 mm.

The range between the 6 measurements for the same board must not exceed 0.80 mm.

The difference between the thicknesses measured on 6 boards must not exceed 1.0 mm.

2.2.2.2 Edge profiles and ends.

Depth of tapered edges:

Apparatus: According to article 5.6.2.2 of standard EN 520 +A1

Operating procedure: According to article 5.6.2.3 of standard EN 520+A1 with the difference that the measurements are made 5 mm from the edge.

Specifications:

Min. threshold	For 95% of the results:		Max. threshold
0.7 mm	≥ 0.8 mm	≤ 2.3 mm	2.5 mm

Width of the tapered edges:

Apparatus: According to article 5.6.1.2 of standard EN 520 +A1

Operating procedure: According to article 5.6.1.3 of standard EN 520 +A1.

Specifications:

Min. threshold	Max. threshold
40 mm	80 mm

The threshold being the limit value which must not be exceeded.

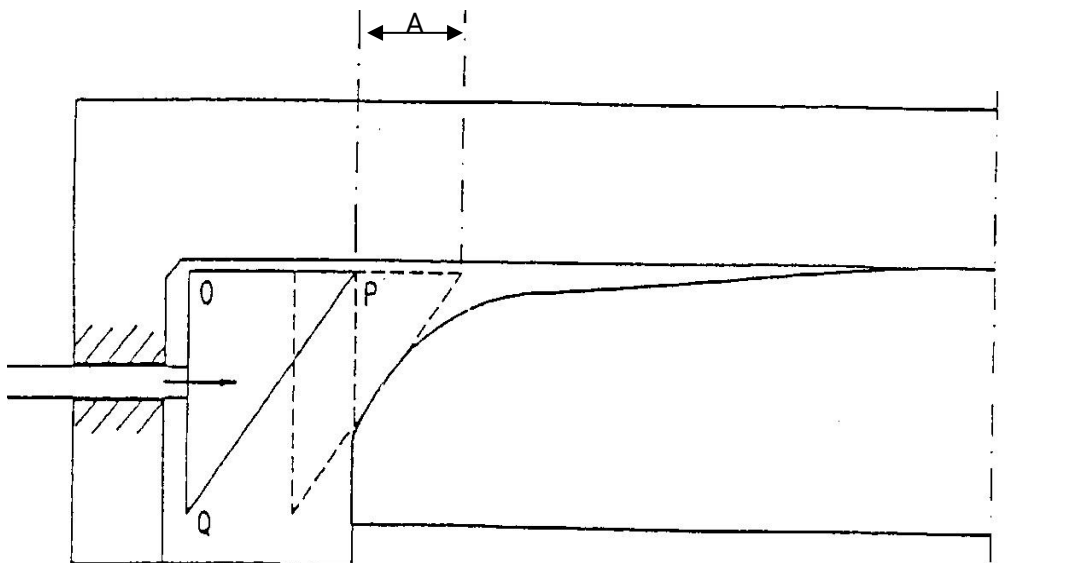
Specific case of boards with semi-rounded tapered longitudinal edges (mixed) and semi-rounded edges

Measurement of the rounded part of the edges - measurement of movement A.

The dimensions and tolerances are defined in specifications submitted to CSTB when the application is submitted.

The measurement principle and method are described below:

Figure 1: Measuring principle for semi-rounded edges:



Determine the movement A of a shim in the shape of a right-angled triangle from a starting position (1) summit P in line with the straight edge of the board to a position (2) such that the PQ hypotenuse is tangential to the rounded edge.

The measured movement must be between the extreme values for the range defined for each model around a median value also defined for each theoretical profile.

The measuring device rests on the upper surface of the sample and presses against the longitudinal edge of the board at the end (straight edge): the bearing width of the device must be at least 4 cm to ensure the measurement is reproducible.

The sampling, number of measurements and the testing frequency are those defined for the measurement of tapered edges (article 5.1 in standard NF EN 520+A1).

NOTE: In this case, measurement of the depth of the tapered edge is conducted 15 mm from the edge; for the rest, measurement of the tapered edge remains unchanged.

Specific case of boards with bevelled or tapered short edges

The dimensions and tolerances are defined in specifications submitted to CSTB when the application is submitted.

Specific case of boards with bevelled long edges.

The dimensions and tolerances are defined in specifications submitted to CSTB when the application is submitted.

Presentation of results

The results obtained on each edge will be the subject of statistical analysis, preferably monthly:

- Average for each edge,
- standard deviation,
- minimum
- maximum

2.2.2.3 Board squareness

The test method used to determine the squareness of the boards is defined in Technical Document 081-1.

Specifications:

The squareness must be less than 2.5 mm per metre of width.

2.2.2.4 Deformation under load, Residual deformation and Bending strength (bending failure load)

The test method used to determine the mechanical characteristics of the boards is defined in Technical Document 081-1.

Specifications:

The minimum bending failure loads are given in table A.

Deflection under load must be less than the values in table A.

Residual deflection must be less than 0.50 mm.

Table A

Thickness of the board (mm)	Longitudinal direction (L) ⁽¹⁾				Transversal direction (T) ⁽²⁾			
	Total load applied in daN (including preload)	Maximum deflection (mm)		Minimum failure load (daN)	Total load applied in daN (Load + preload)	Maximum deflection (mm)		Minimum failure load (daN)
		Under residual	load			Under residual	load	
9.5	20	2.8		40	12	1.9		17
12.5	30	2.4		60	16	1.2		21
15	40	1.9	0.50	75	20	0.9	0.50	26
18	50	1.5		100	24	0.7		40
25	70	1.0		140	32	0.7		55

⁽¹⁾ Test specimen placed with the facing side downwards

⁽²⁾ Test specimen placed with the facing side upwards

2.2.2.5 Surface hardness

Apparatus: According to article 5.12.2 of standard EN 520 +A1

Operating procedure: According to article 5.12.3 of standard EN 520 +A1

Specifications:

The diameter of each depression measured in accordance with article 5.12 NF EN 520+A1 must not be greater than:

- 15 mm for type I boards (high hardness):
- 20 mm for other types of board (A, F, H1):

2.2.2.6 Surface density

Apparatus: According to article 5.11.2 of standard EN 520 +A1

Operating procedure: According to article 5.11.3 of standard EN 520 +A1.

Specifications:

Calculate the surface density of each test specimen by dividing its weight (kg) by its surface area (m²).

The average obtained for the test specimens from the same board must be greater than the values in table B:

Table B

	Board thicknesses				
	9.5 mm	12.5 mm	15 mm	18 mm	25 mm
SURFACE DENSITY	≥ 6.5 kg/m ²	≥ 8.5 kg/m ²	≥ 10 kg/m ²	≥ 13 kg/m ²	≥ 17 kg/m ²

2.2.2.7 Water absorption on the surface and by immersion

Only H1 type boards are covered by this certification reference system.

Apparatus: According to articles 5.9.1.2 and 5.9.2.2 of standard EN 520 +A1

Operating procedure: According to articles 5.9.1.3 and 5.9.2.3 of standard EN 520 +A1.

Specifications:

Water absorption on the surface	≤ 180 g/m ²	Facing side and back
Water uptake by immersion	≤ 5%	

2.2.2.8 Other additional specifications: Gypsum plasterboard covered by a Technical Appraisal, a Technical Application Document, or Extended Usage specifications (Uel)

These specifications are clearly stated in the Technical File and the Technical Specifications of the relevant Technical Appraisals or the Technical Application Documents.

SUMMARY OF SPECIFICATIONS

CHARACTERISTICS		Board thicknesses					OBSERVATIONS
		9.5 mm	12.5 mm	15 mm	18 mm	25 mm	
SURFACE DENSITY		≥ 6.5 kg/m ²	≥ 8.5 kg/m ²	≥ 10 kg/m ²	≥ 13 kg/m ²	≥ 17 kg/m ²	
THICKNESS		± 0.4 mm	± 0.4 mm	± 0.4 mm	± 0.4 mm	± 0.4 mm	Maximum range between the 6 measurements for the same board: 0.80 mm. Maximum difference between the thicknesses recorded on the 6 boards: 1 mm.
LENGTH		+0, -5 mm	+0, -5 mm	+0, -5 mm	+0, -5 mm	+0, -5 mm	
WIDTH		+0, -4 mm	+0, -4 mm	+0, -4 mm	+0, -4 mm	+0, -4 mm	
SQUARENESS		≤ 2.5 per m of width	≤ 2.5 per m of width	≤ 2.5 per m of width	≤ 2.5 per m of width	≤ 2.5 per m of width	
DEPTH OF TAPERED EDGES		0.8 to 2.3 mm	0.8 to 2.3 mm	0.8 to 2.3 mm	0.8 to 2.3 mm	0.8 to 2.3 mm	≥ 0.8 mm guaranteed for 95% of the results ≤ 2.3 mm guaranteed for 95% of the results limit values: min. 0.7 mm, max. 2.5 mm
WIDTH OF TAPERED EDGES		40 to 80 mm	40 to 80 mm	40 to 80 mm	40 to 80 mm	40 to 80 mm	
DEFORMATION UNDER LOAD SL	Maximum deflection	≤ 2.8 mm	≤ 2.4 mm	≤ 1.9 mm	≤ 1.5 mm	≤ 1.0 mm	(1) - (2)
	Total load applied	20 daN	30 daN	40 daN	50 daN	70 daN	Preload of 3 daN included
RESIDUAL DEFORMATION SL		≤ 0.50 mm	≤ 0.50 mm	≤ 0.50 mm	≤ 0.50 mm	≤ 0.50 mm	(1) - (2)
RESISTANCE SL		≥ 40 daN	≥ 60 daN	≥ 75 daN	≥ 100 daN	≥ 140 daN	(1) - (2)
DEFORMATION UNDER LOAD ST	Maximum deflection	≤ 1.9 mm	≤ 1.2 mm	≤ 0.9 mm	≤ 0.7 mm	≤ 0.7 mm	(1) - (3)
	Total load applied	12 daN	16 daN	20 daN	24 daN	32 daN	Preload of 3 daN included
RESIDUAL DEFORMATION ST		≤ 0.50 mm	≤ 0.50 mm	≤ 0.50 mm	≤ 0.50 mm	≤ 0.50 mm	(1) - (3)
RESISTANCE ST		≥ 17 daN	≥ 21 daN	≥ 26 daN	≥ 40 daN	≥ 55 daN	(1) - (3)
SURFACE HARDNESS		≤ 20 mm	≤ 20 mm	≤ 20 mm	≤ 20 mm	≤ 20 mm	For high hardness boards (type I): ≤ 15 mm
WATER ABSORPTION ON THE SURFACE - for H1 type boards		≤ 180 g/m ²	≤ 180 g/m ²	≤ 180 g/m ²	≤ 180 g/m ²	≤ 180 g/m ²	Facing side and back
WATER UPTAKE BY IMMERSION - for H1 type boards		≤ 5%	≤ 5%	≤ 5%	≤ 5%	≤ 5%	

(1) 300 mm x 400 mm test specimens - preload of 3 daN, bending indicator at 0

(2) - **SL**: test specimen placed with the facing side downwards.

(3) - **ST**: test specimen placed with the facing side upwards.

In the case of Extended Usage (Uel), refer to the corresponding Technical Appraisal or the DTA, and possibly to the specifications submitted to CSTB as part of examination of the admission.

2.3 Modification declaration

This paragraph specifies the information that the holder of the right to use the NF mark must provide to CSTB and the procedures they must follow in the event of any modifications to:

- the holder;
- the manufacturing plant;
- the quality organisation of the manufacturing plant;
- the product.

Failure to respect this obligation as observed by CSTB may lead to a suspension or withdrawal of the right to use the NF mark.

In the cases not provided for earlier, CSTB determines whether the modifications bring the certification into question and if it is necessary to carry out a complementary quality assurance operation.

Depending upon the results of the examination, CSTB communicates the appropriate decision.

2.3.1 MODIFICATION CONCERNING THE HOLDER

The holder shall communicate in writing to CSTB any legal modification of their company or any modification in their company name.

In case of merger, liquidation or absorption of the holder, all rights to use the NF mark, from which they might benefit, automatically stop.

A new admission application may be submitted and its examination may be streamlined depending upon the modifications made.

2.3.2 MODIFICATION CONCERNING THE MANUFACTURING UNIT

- Regarding production transfers:

Any transfer (total or partial) of the manufacturing unit of a certified product to another production site entails an immediate halt in the NF marking by the holder on the products concerned.

The holder shall declare this transfer in writing to CSTB which will organise an audit of the new production unit and, as the case may be, have tests carried out.

The visit may be reduced or even cancelled when the new manufacturing unit is already familiar to CSTB.

The procedures of assessment and of renewal decision of the certification are the same as those for admission as described in Part 3 of this certification reference system.

- Regarding production process modifications:

The holder shall prove that the modification of the production process does not have an impact on the performances of the product's certified features (Cf. § 2.4.2 : § 8.5.6. 9001 V15); they inform CSTB of this.

2.3.3 MODIFICATION CONCERNING THE MANUFACTURING UNIT'S QUALITY ORGANISATION

The holder shall declare in writing to CSTB any modification relative to their quality organisation that may affect the conformity of the production to the requirements of this certification reference system.

In particular, it shall declare all modification of certification of its quality management system. If the distribution is carried out by a third party, where appropriate, the holder shall undertake to immediately inform CSTB of any modification made to the distribution of their products and, in particular, any halt in supply by the designated third party.

Any temporary halt in the internal quality assurance operation for a certified product entails an immediate halt in the NF marking of this product by the holder, who must inform CSTB of this.

CSTB then communicates to the holder a decision to suspend the right to use the NF mark for a specific duration following which, if the right of use cannot be re-established, this holder's right to use the NF mark will be withdrawn.

The right to use the NF mark may only be reinstated following an audit and test assessment conducted at the holder's factory.

2.3.4 MODIFICATION CONCERNING THE CERTIFIED PRODUCT

Any modification to the certified product when compared with the application dossier likely to have an effect on the product's compliance with the requirements in the certification reference system, shall be declared in writing to CSTB.

According to the modification declared, CSTB determines whether this is a certification extension application.

2.3.5 TEMPORARY OR DEFINITIVE HALT IN PRODUCTION

Any definitive or temporary halt in the manufacture of the certified product (or range or products) or any abandonment of a right to use the NF mark shall be declared in writing to CSTB, specifying the time necessary to sell off the inventory of the NF-labelled products. The suspension or withdrawal of the right to use the NF mark is notified to the holder of the NF mark by CSTB. When the period indicated by the holder expires, the product is removed from the list of certified products.

Any temporary halt in the manufacture of the certified products (or range of products) must be the subject of a suspension of the right to use the NF mark for a maximum period of 6 months, renewable once. The total duration of the suspension of the right to use the NF mark for these products must not exceed one year. Lifting of the suspension may only be announced following an audit and test assessment conducted at the holder's factory.

2.3.6 MODIFICATION CONCERNING THE DISTRIBUTION CIRCUIT

The holder shall commit to informing CSTB of any modification to the distribution of the certified products as soon as they become aware of such modification and, in particular, whenever they stop supplying a distributor who holds the right to use the NF mark, which means that the right to use the NF mark is no longer maintained.

The distributor whose right to use the NF mark has been maintained shall commit to informing CSTB of any modifications in their supplies that would result in the right to use the NF mark no longer being maintained. The distributor's right to use the NF mark can only be validated after a new examination in accordance with Part 3 of this certification reference system.

2.4 The quality management provisions: audit reference system

2.4.1 PURPOSE

Applicants/holders and their distributors holding a right of use are each responsible for the right to use the NF mark for the relevant product.

Applicants/holders shall implement all the necessary ways and means to permanently guarantee the product's conformity with this certification reference system. In addition, they must manage their external service providers using all methods to assess all the component elements of a product or external service(s) for which they are the applicant or holder of the right to use the certification mark.

This paragraph sets the minimum provisions that the applicant/holder shall implement in terms of quality management to ensure that the products are manufactured respecting the certification reference system at all times.

The quality system depends in part on the establishment by the applicant/holder of a set of organisational measures ensuring conformity of the delivered products with the standards and additional specifications, if applicable. These measures are described in paragraph 2.4.2 below.

2.4.2 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Applicants/holders shall have implemented the ways and means that they possess, the existence and effectiveness of which are assessed based on the requirements of standard NF EN ISO 9001, revision 2015.

If the manufacturing unit is not NF EN ISO 9001-certified, the applicant/holder must justify the introduction of a range of organisational provisions and a production control system to control conformity with the standards and additional specifications for the delivered products that meet at least the requirements in this certification reference system.

The audits are carried out according to Table 1 as follows. This table indicates the specific requirements in Standard NF EN ISO 9001 which must be verified in the context of the certification.

As part of an audit, all the necessary requirements identified on the shaded lines in Table 1 below, shall be audited. All the other requirements pertaining to quality management shall be audited over a period of 3 years.

Possible reduction:

If the manufacturing unit has a certified quality management system that conforms to standard NF EN ISO 9001, the audits may be "streamlined". Only the requirements identified on a "shaded" line in Table 1 are to be audited.

This reduction is possible as long as:

- the ISO 9001 certificate includes within its scope and domain the sites and activities covered by the certification mark; and
- the ISO 9001 certificate is issued by a certifying body accredited by the COFRAC or by a member of the EA (European cooperation for Accreditation) or by a member of the IAF (International Accreditation Forum) - see signatories on the COFRAC website www.cofrac.fr, and
- the last ISO 9001 audit report from the body is forwarded to CSTB prior to the body's audit or examined during the body's audit.

Table 1 (Applicable requirements)

§ ISO 9001: 2008	§ ISO 9001: 2015	REQUIREMENTS	MINIMUM EVIDENCE EXPECTED	APPLICABLE (NA = not applicable)
4. Context of the organisation				
-	4.1.	Understanding the organisation and its context	-	NA
-	4.2.	Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties	-	NA
1	4.3.	Determining the field of application for the quality management system	-	NA
4.1.	4.4.	Quality management system and its processes	-	NA
5. Leadership				
5.1.	5.1.	Leadership and commitment	-	NA
5.3.	5.2.	Policy	-	NA
5.5.1 / 5.5.2.	5.3.	Organizational roles, responsibilities and authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Organization chart * Description of responsibilities and authorities (examples: organisation chart, job sheets, etc.) * Person appointed to be responsible for organizing and efficiently implementing the production system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <To be used for persons responsible for inspection or with a direct impact on critical points in making the product.> All the items except: * ISO 9001 V15: § 5.3 c,d
5.5.3.	7.4.	Communication		NA
6. Planning				
-	6.1.	Actions to address risks and opportunities	-	NA
5.4.	6.2.	Quality objectives and planning to achieve them	-	NA
-	6.3.	Planning of changes (SMQ)		NA

§ ISO 9001: 2008	§ ISO 9001: 2015	REQUIREMENTS	MINIMUM EVIDENCE EXPECTED	APPLICABLE (NA = not applicable)
7. Support				
6.1.	7.1.1.	Resources – General	-	NA
6.3.	7.1.3.	Infrastructure	-	NA
6.4.	7.1.4.	Environment for the operation of processes	Evidence of the maintenance of the work environment. Examples: storage of a product and its components to protect them from bad weather, adapted ambient conditions, etc.	■ <To be considered for processes related to the products/services to be provided>
7.6.	7.1.5.	Monitoring and measuring resources	* List of the inspection, measuring and test equipment used on the product/service production site and/or in the laboratory, * Identification of the equipment used to determine their validity, * Planning for the verification or calibration of the equipment having an impact on the validity of the results (in particular the equipment used to perform tests on certified characteristics), * Evidence of the verification and/or calibration operations (e.g. equipment data sheet, verification or calibration report, etc.), * Evidence of connection to national or international standards (where possible), * Validation of software used to monitor and measure the specified requirements, where appropriate.	■ <To be considered for processes related to the products/services to be provided>
-	7.1.6.	Organisational knowledge	-	NA
6.2.	7.2.	Competence	* Compliance with test methods and inspection provisions. * Actions planned to acquire the necessary competencies (training, tutoring, etc.), where appropriate.	■ <To be used for persons responsible for inspection or with a direct impact on critical points in making the product.>
6.2.2.d	7.3.	Awareness	-	NA

§ ISO 9001: 2008	§ ISO 9001: 2015	REQUIREMENTS	MINIMUM EVIDENCE EXPECTED	APPLICABLE (NA = not applicable)
4.2.	7.5.	Documented information	<p>* List of the internal and external documented information. Examples: Procedures, operating methods, test methods, inspection instructions, quality records,</p> <p>* Evidence of control of internal and external documents Example: Availability of the applicable version of the test method, the reference system, the inspection provisions, etc.</p>	<p>■ <To be considered for processes related to the products/services to be provided></p> <p>All the items except: * ISO 9001 v08: § 4.2.1, 4.2.2</p> <p><i>Note: Quality Manuals are no longer required.</i></p>
8. Operation				
7.1.	8.1.	Operational planning and control	-	<p>NA</p> <p><i>Note: Operational control: Same as § ISO 9001 v08 7.5.1. / 7.5.2. and § ISO 9001 v15: 8.5.1.</i></p>
7.2.	8.2.2.	Determining requirements for products and services	-	NA
7.3.	8.3.	Design and development of products and services	-	NA
7.4.	8.4.	Control of externally provided processes, products and services	<p>* List of service providers</p> <p>* Contract / order defining the requirements of the applicant / holder of the certification</p> <p>* Evidence of the verification of raw materials, components (§ 2.4.2.1), services purchased</p> <p>* Evidence of the verification of subcontracting conditions: transport, handling, tests (§ 2.4.2.2), etc.</p>	<p>■ <To be used for raw materials, bought-in components and external services affecting the quality of the product/service ></p> <p><u>External providers:</u> * supplier of raw materials, components, services integrated into the product/service * subcontractor of external services (e.g. tests, handling, transport, etc.)</p> <p><i>(*) Specific case of applicants/holders subcontracting part of their production</i> CSTB audits the subcontractors (as provided for in the certification reference system)</p> <p>All the items except: * ISO 9001 v08: § 7.4.1. * ISO 9001 v15: § 8.4.1.</p>

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§ ISO 9001: 2008	§ ISO 9001: 2015	REQUIREMENTS	MINIMUM EVIDENCE EXPECTED	APPLICABLE (NA = not applicable)
7.5.1 / 7.5.2.	8.5.1.	Control of production and service provision	<p>* Information defining the characteristics of products and services. Examples: product plan / description of the service, etc.</p> <p>* Information defining the activities to be carried out and the results to be obtained. Examples: operating method(s), working instruction(s), test method(s), certification reference system (expected performance)</p> <p>* Monitoring and measurement activities. Examples: monitoring plan, inspection procedures and instruction(s), test method(s), etc.</p> <p>* Conservation of documented information proving the conformity of products/services with the acceptance criteria <i>(Same as § 8.2.4. ISO 9001 v08 and § 8.6. ISO 9001 v15)</i></p>	■
7.5.3.	8.5.2.	Identification and traceability	<p>* Identification/Marking of the product in accordance with the requirements in the Certification reference system</p> <p>* Marking of commercial documents in compliance with this certification reference system.</p>	<p>■</p> <p><To be considered in all cases for identification (and for traceability, where relevant)></p>
7.5.4.	8.5.3.	Property belonging to customers or external providers	-	NA
7.5.5.	8.5.4.	Preservation	Verifying that the product is preserved throughout the production line (identification, handling, storage, packaging, transport, etc.)	■
-	8.5.5.	Post-delivery activities	-	NA
-	8.5.6.	Control of changes (<i>in production / service provision</i>)	<p>* Evidence of the control pertaining to the modifications in the manufacturing process / service provision, in particular the impact of modifications on the product's performance (3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - modification review, - person authorising the modification and all the necessary related actions. 	■

§ ISO 9001: 2008	§ ISO 9001: 2015	REQUIREMENTS	MINIMUM EVIDENCE EXPECTED	APPLICABLE (NA = not applicable)
8.2.4.	8.6.	Release of products and services	* Provisions for the control of products/services; records of the results of inspections and compliance with the acceptance criteria (§2.4.2.3) * Name of the persons responsible for releasing the finished products/services	■
8.3.	8.7.	Control of nonconforming outputs	* Provisions for processing non-conformities, including customer complaints, and implementation of those provisions (§ 2.4.2.4) * No dispensation granted as regards the performance of a certified characteristic	■
9. Performance evaluation				
8.2.3.	9.1.	Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation	-	NA
8.2.2.	9.2.	Internal audit	-	NA
5.6.	9.3.	Management review	Management review report	NA
10. Improvement				
8.5.	10.1.	General		NA
8.5.2.	10.2.	Non-conformity and corrective action	* Implementation of corrective actions to deal with non-conformities pertaining to a certified product, including customer complaints (§ 2.4.2.5) * Effectiveness of the action taken.	■
8.5.3.	10.3.	Continuous improvement	-	NA

The applicant/holder shall possess the necessary ways and means for the controls and tests defined by the standards, reference documents and additional specifications mentioned in Paragraph 2.2 of this reference system. The applicants/holders agree to carry out reliable and regular verification of their production:

- Control of the product components,
- Inspection during production,
- Verifications and tests carried out on finished products.

2.4.2.1 Verifications of the product's components

Applicants/holders are required to carry out a control of all components used in the manufacture of their certified products upon reception, and in all cases prior to use.

The "receipt" internal quality control operation specified by the applicant/holder shall cover:

- the inspection methods for products upon receipt that assess compliance and/or regularities in relation to the expected characteristics,
- including, as applicable, rules for collecting product samples.

This inspection covers all control actions carried out by the supplier. For example: compliance sheet issued after a systematic inspection prior to delivery, which the applicant/holder requires the supplier to perform, supplier certified according to Standard NF EN ISO 9001 for relevant products or certified supplies; etc.

2.4.2.2 Subcontracting tests

Applicants/holders may subcontract the tests to an external laboratory, on the condition that this subcontracting is covered by a contract or an order. Subcontracting is possible if the following conditions are met:

- subcontracting the tests does not result in a disruption to the production process;
- subcontracting the tests does not result in a disruption to the production process and batch release (due to waiting time for results, for example).
If tests concerning the certified characteristics are subcontracted, the Applicant/holder must take all the necessary measures to avoid delivering or marketing production batches for which it does not have knowledge of the results of the tests carried out by the subcontractor.
- the conditions for subcontracting tests are formalised in the contract or order and must define the applicable test method, the testing frequency, the requested waiting times for results, the notification of results in writing, the procedure in case of non-compliant results and the type of equipment used;
- the subcontractors' laboratory where the test is carried out must be accredited according to standard NF EN ISO/CEI 17025, otherwise the party requesting the test (holder of the certification mark) must ensure that the equipment used is compliant (calibration, test configuration, etc.) and the staff carrying out the test have the necessary skills.

2.4.2.3 Inspection during production and on finished products

During production

Control during production shall be put in place by the applicant/holder. This applies to the product in its intermediate states at the main production stages, as well as compliance with the setting instructions for the production tools (production machines, equipment).

Control instructions shall be formalized and made available to the operators. The results of the controls are recorded at each control. If the results of the controls indicate that the product does not meet the requirements of this Certification Reference System, the necessary corrective actions must be implemented immediately.

In the case of gypsum plasterboard, the control is carried out during the following phases:

- dosing;
- mixing;
- shaping;
- cutting;
- drying.

Each of these phases is continuously managed using measuring devices, recorders and control devices allowing the operating setpoints to be displayed and checking the operating parameters (flow rates, speeds, temperatures).

The following controls are conducted at least every two hours on the production line:

At the mixer:

The controls conducted at the mixer depend on the production process and are defined in specifications submitted to CSTB.

During cutting:

- size checks:
 - length
 - width
 - thicknesses
 - tapered edges
- visual inspection of the appearance and marking

Exiting the production line:

- visual inspection of the appearance, stacking, banding
- weight
- moisture
- size checks—at least 1 control per week will be conducted by the laboratory personnel to cross-check the values obtained on the production line, on the following characteristics:
 - length
 - width
 - thicknesses
 - tapered edges

However, if the frequency of these controls is used as evidence for streamlining controls on the finished product, the Applicant/holder must take particular care to ensure that:

- the methods and frequency of the controls are formalised,
- the specifications are specified and known by the operators,
- the results are systematically recorded.

On finished products

Applicants/holders are required to verify the characteristics of the finished products before delivery and are responsible for putting this control in place. The controls and tests of finished products manufactured by the applicant/holder are carried out according to the standards and additional specifications mentioned in this certification reference system.

Inspections on finished products are carried out by the applicants/holders themselves in their own manufacturing plants.

Applicants/holders shall take random samples at the end of the production line and carry out the controls and tests on these samples. The samples taken must be representative of the dimensions of the products covered by this certification reference system.

The method for collecting the samples required for testing must be clearly specified in the applicant's/holder's quality plan and must not be left to the sole discretion of the operator.

Applicants/holders shall record the results of the previous inspections. If the results of the standard controls are inconclusive, the controls must be reinforced and the causes of the malfunction must be identified so that corrections can be made by carrying out, if necessary, production controls.

At the machine outfeed, the laboratory samples at least 1 board per 8-hour shift per type, per family and per board thickness.

If production is less than 8 hours, 1 board is sampled from the production batch in question representatively.

The laboratory controls are conducted at constant mass.

The manufactured products are therefore identified in stock by production batch.

The following tests are carried out on each board sampled by the laboratory personnel:

- appearance
- size: thickness, length, width, squareness, size of the edge tapers. If continuous control on the production line is carried out in accordance with the "Exiting the production line" article (including squareness), this control is not required; otherwise, it is.
- bending strength on 2 test specimens per board (1L and 1T)
- deformation under load on 2 test specimens per board (1L and 1T)
- surface hardness at 3 points on the sampled board
- surface density

Specific controls for water-repellent boards:

- water absorption on the surface - on 1 board - 2 samples (1 back and 1 facing)
- total water absorption by immersion - on 1 board - 1 sample.

Some characteristics can be checked by different methods to those stated in the standard. In this case, the correlation must be clearly established.

2.4.2.3.1 Additional check (CS)

Each time that results which are non-standard or outside the tolerances are observed during internal inspections, an additional check (retest) must be systematically carried out.

For mechanical tests:

The additional check will be conducted on a single board as follows:

Two test specimens are taken from the tested board. Two cases are possible:

- The values obtained on the two test specimens are good. The batch is considered to be accepted
- One of the retest values is non-standard or outside the tolerances: the batch is blocked. The holder shall determine the quantities to be declassified and shall conduct a new check on the new batch.

For the size measurements:

The additional check will be conducted on two other boards as follows:

One board before and one board after the moment the problem was detected so as to include the production in question.

Several scenarios are then possible:

- The value is confirmed by the two retests. The search must be widened;
- Only one of the two retests is non-standard. In this case, the search must be widened from the non-standard value.

The different results thus obtained and the measures taken must be recorded in the test register. If they appear in another document, a reference pointing to this document must be included on the register.

If a product is non-compliant and declassified, the values corresponding to the declassified batch are:

- Either not taken into account in the statistical analysis,
- Or taken into account. In this case all the information concerning this batch must be included.

If the batch is not declassified, all the values must be included in the calculations.

2.4.2.3.2 Processing a non-compliant product

If the results of the control or test indicate that the product does not meet the requirements of this certification reference system, the necessary corrective actions must be implemented immediately.

The non-compliant products shall be isolated and identified adequately.

Under no circumstances may they be shipped in NF-marked packaging.

Products that are definitively non-compliant can be destroyed or eliminated as waste. If they are not eliminated, they must have the mark removed or be rendered unusable and identified as a non-compliant product

Once the fault has been corrected, the subsequent first production must undergo the control or test that revealed the non-compliance to prove that production is now compliant.

Measures must be taken by the applicant/holder to ensure the declassification of production as soon as a non-compliant result is detected.

If, exceptionally, a non-compliance is detected after the products have been shipped to the customer, the latter must be immediately informed to avoid any damaging consequences.

The test results shall be utilised by the operator or the supervisor to whom they are remitted, so as to verify at least the compliance or non-compliance with the internal specifications and with the specifications in this certification reference system.

2.4.2.3.3 Recording inspection results

The results of the controls conducted under the responsibility of the applicant/holder must be suitably recorded as and when they are obtained on ad hoc registers.

If this data is recorded by a computerised procedure, the applicant/holder must ensure that this data can be easily consulted by the auditor and that the latter can easily obtain hard copies during his/her visit.

The registers are archived and kept such that they can be found quickly in facilities offering a suitable environment to minimise deterioration or damage and avoid losses. It must be possible to consult them upon request.

“Raw materials” folder

The results of controls conducted by the holder on raw materials are recorded in this folder:

- execution dates,
- identification of the raw material batch,
- results of measurements,

The results of controls carried out by the supplier, if applicable

“Record of Quality Assurance Operations During Production” folder

The results of controls carried out throughout the production line (at the mixer, during cutting, at the machine outfeed) are recorded in this folder, together with any observations concerning production that may be useful to understand the results. It may be composed of several logbooks in which the values are recorded.

“Record of Controls on Finished Products” folder

The results of controls carried out on the finished products are recorded in this folder together with decisions made in the event of faulty results.

Each month the statistical information will be recorded in it (averages, minimums, maximums, standard deviations, etc.) for the inspected characteristics.

The records shall be kept in accordance with the provisions set out in the Applicant/holder’s quality system and at least for 2 years.

2.4.2.4 Provisions for processing non-conformities

These notably include:

- An analysis for identifying the cause of the anomaly,
- An analysis to determine the impact of the anomaly on production since the previous control,
- Management ensuring that the implementation of the corrective actions is effective,

2.4.2.5 Customer complaints

The customer complaint record is audited. For this purpose, holders shall keep:

- a record of all the complaints and appeals pertaining to products covered by this certification reference system;
- a record of the corrective measures adopted, in particular when complaints have revealed a manufacturing anomaly.

The holder shall be able to show the auditor extracts from these records relating to complaints that involve products covered by this certification reference system.

2.5 Marking – General provisions

Marking is an integral part of product certification.

Beyond the identification of a certified product and its traceability, the marking of a product with the NF logo ensures better protection for users and enables the users to be defended against abusive usage and counterfeits.

The reproduction and attachment of CSTB, AFNOR and AFNOR Certification logos are strictly prohibited without the prior agreement of these bodies.

In addition, the statement of the main certified characteristics is intended to make transparent for consumers and users the technical characteristics to which the NF mark relates. It thus enhances the certification and its content.

Under no circumstances is it possible to make reference to the NF mark before the right to use this mark is obtained or to present counterfeit products for certification.

The purpose of the marking rules described hereafter is to guide the holder in complying with Regulatory Requirements and Certification Requirements. The General Rules of the NF mark specify the guidelines for usage, the guidelines for validity and the procedures for penalties for wrongful usage of the NF mark.

Without prejudice to the penalties set down in the General Rules of the NF mark, any erroneous communication of the certified characteristics and any fraudulent use of the NF logo exposes the holder to legal action for, in particular, deceptive marketing practices.

2.5.1 THE NF LOGO

The NF logo shall ensure the identification of each certified product.

The holder undertakes to respect the NF mark's graphic charter. The NF logo and its graphic charter are available from the application administrator.

The NF-certified product must have a distinct designation and identification from non-certified products.

The holder shall not use the NF logo except to single out certified products without there being any risk of confusion whatsoever with other products, especially non-certified products.

To prevent any confusion between certified products and non-certified products, applicants/holders must ensure that the trade names used are not identical or similar (for example: "Prod+" for a certified product and "Prod" for a non-certified product).

It is recommended that the holder submit all the documents upon which the certification mark appears in advance to CSTB.

If the product cannot be marked for technical reasons, CSTB must be contacted to determine a common marking rule.

2.5.2 TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR MARKING

This paragraph describes both the NF logo affixing procedure and the marking of the certified characteristics.

In order to meet the requirements in article R 433-2 of the Consumer Code, the marking must integrate the following elements whenever possible:



www.marque-NF.com

or <http://evaluation.cstb.fr>

Dimensional characteristics: (length, width, thickness)
Useful depth and width of tapered edges and squareness
Surface density
Deformation under useful load, longitudinal and transversal directions
Useful residual deformation, longitudinal and transversal directions
Useful bending strength, longitudinal and transversal directions
Surface hardness (for high hardness type I boards)
Water absorption on the surface (for water-repellent H1 type boards)
Water uptake after immersion (for water-repellent H1 type boards)

It is recommended that the consumer be informed of the main reasons and advantages in using a certified product. The certified characteristics must appear on at least one of the materials (product, packaging or communication media).


2.5.2.1 Marking of the certified products

All certified products, manufactured after the date indicated on the approval of the right to use the NF mark (via an admission or extension procedure) and which comply with the requirements of this certification reference system, must be marked with at least the logo of the mark. As an exception, if the use of the mark logo presents technical difficulties, the gypsum plasterboards may be marked with "NF-CSTB" in capital letters of the same height as the rest of the marking.


Marking must be carried out in a permanent, legible and indelible way on the back or edge of the products, with the following information:

- identification of the manufacturer holder,
- the "NF-CSTB" mark logo
- The statement "Uel" for boards falling under "Extended Usage" (See 0)
- the factory code
- the trade reference, followed by the shape of the edges and the thickness of the board if applicable (e.g. BA 13 [13 mm wallboard]),
- the type of board (A, I F, H1)
- The date and time of manufacture

Example of marking - Routine usage:

Company		Factor y code	Trade reference	Type (A, I, F, H1)	Date and time of manufactur e
	or NF-CSTB				

Example of marking - Extended usage (Uel):

Company		Uel	Factor y code	Trade reference	Type (A, I, F, H1)	Date and time of manufactur e
	or NF-CSTB					

The NF logo can also be printed on the board banding.


2.5.2.2 Marking on the packaging of the certified product or on the product's accompanying document(s) (if applicable)

All packaging for certified products or accompanying documents shall include all the marking components defined in Paragraph 2.5.2: logo of the mark, name of the application, reference to the website and, if possible, the list of the certified characteristics.

If all of this information cannot be included on the packaging, it must include at least:

- the NF mark logo;
- the reference to this certification reference system (NF081)
- CSTB's address
- the link pointing to the evaluation.cstb.fr website where the certificate can be viewed

Example of simplified label to be affixed to pallets - Routine usage:


NF 081
CSTB – 84 avenue Jean Jaurès – Champs sur Marne 77447 – Marne la Vallée Cedex 02
Certified characteristics: see the valid certificate Website: evaluation.cstb.fr

To easily identify products falling under the Extended Usage category (Uel), unique identification visible from the outside must be implemented. This identification results in an orange label being affixed including the statement “Uel - Extended Usage” on each pallet.

Example of simplified label to be affixed to pallets - Extended usage (Uel)


NF 081 - Uel - Extended Usage
CSTB – 84 avenue Jean Jaurès – Champs sur Marne 77447 – Marne la Vallée Cedex 02
Certified characteristics: see the valid certificate Website: evaluation.cstb.fr

Comment: If the product is already marked, marking on the packaging of certified products must be recommended, given that this is one of the ways to promote the mark.

2.5.2.3 Marking on the communication media and documentation (Technical or commercial documents, posters, advertising, websites, etc.)

Reproduction of the NF mark on letterhead used by the holder for correspondence is prohibited, unless the holder has been granted the NF mark for all its manufactured products.

References to the NF mark in documentation shall be made in a way that does not allow for any confusion between certified products and other products. They shall include all the marking components defined in Paragraph 2.5.2: logo of the mark, name of the application, reference to the website and the list of the certified characteristics.

For the French market, this information must be provided in French (Law No. 94-665 of 4 August 1994, relative to the use of the French language). If necessary, the information can also be given in one or more other languages.

For the proper interpretation of this paragraph, the holder should be advised to submit to CSTB in advance all documentation where the certification mark is expected to be used.

2.6 Conditions for terminating marking or for removing the mark in the case of suspension, withdrawal or abandonment

If any product is accidentally non-compliant, the product and its packaging shall not be marked with the NF logo or the logo must be crossed out or concealed to prevent any risk of confusion.

In case of accidental non-compliance observed after the product has been launched on the market:

- The industrialist is responsible for:
 - ❖ immediately informing CSTB
 - ❖ validating the quantities / batch numbers / lead times, etc. in question
 - ❖ planning retroactive declassification and possibly withdrawal from shops

- CSTB is responsible for:
 - ❖ defining the means to check declassification (customer commitment, etc.);
 - ❖ estimating the risk of improper use of the mark, in particular if the certification concerns products/services at risk;
 - ❖ depending on these risks, possibly triggering an on-site inspection (company or shop) or informing the public authorities;
 - ❖ obliging the holder to undertake corrective action and/or on-site inspection. If applicable, suspending or withdrawing the certification.

If the right of use is suspended or withdrawn, the applicant/holder undertakes to cease to mention the NF mark on the products, packaging and commercial documentation upon receipt of the letter of notice sent by CSTB. This obligation is valid not only for the holder but also for the whole sales network of their company, as well as for the dealers called upon to distribute the company's products. Therefore, any holder whose right to use the NF mark is suspended or withdrawn is obliged to inform all of their customers and distributors of this by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt. A copy of these letters together with the acknowledgements of receipt shall be sent to CSTB.

If the right of use is abandoned by the applicant/holder (voluntary termination), the latter shall inform CSTB of the time they deem necessary to clear remaining NF marked products from stock. The right of use will be withdrawn after this time, which may not exceed 6 months. Products manufactured during the period allowed for clearing stocks must not have NF marking.

2.7 Frauds and falsifications

2.7.1 INTRODUCTION

For the Certification of Products or Services, any frauds and falsifications are subject to the sanctions set down in Articles L. 121-2 to L 121-5 of the Consumer Code.

In case frauds or falsifications relating to the use of the NF mark are detected, AFNOR Certification or CSTB reserves the right to institute legal proceedings before the Department of Competition, Consumption and Repression of Frauds for enforcement in compliance with the Law.

For example, the following actions are considered as "wrongful usage":

- to give the same trade name to certified products and to non-certified products;

-
- to cite or provide information from sales manuals, catalogues or any other medium, that does not comply with the certification reference system.

For example, the following actions are considered as “counterfeit”:

- to cite as valid a certificate which is pending but not issued yet;
- to use the NF mark when the right to use the NF mark has not been granted yet.

By registered letter with return receipt, CSTB communicates all wrongful use to the holder who shall immediately take all necessary steps to eliminate such wrongful use.

2.7.2 LEGAL ACTION

Other than the above-mentioned actions, AFNOR Certification or CSTB reserves the right to institute any legal action which it deems necessary, and all third parties which consider themselves to have incurred prejudice, shall also be free, for their own account, to seek appropriate redress.

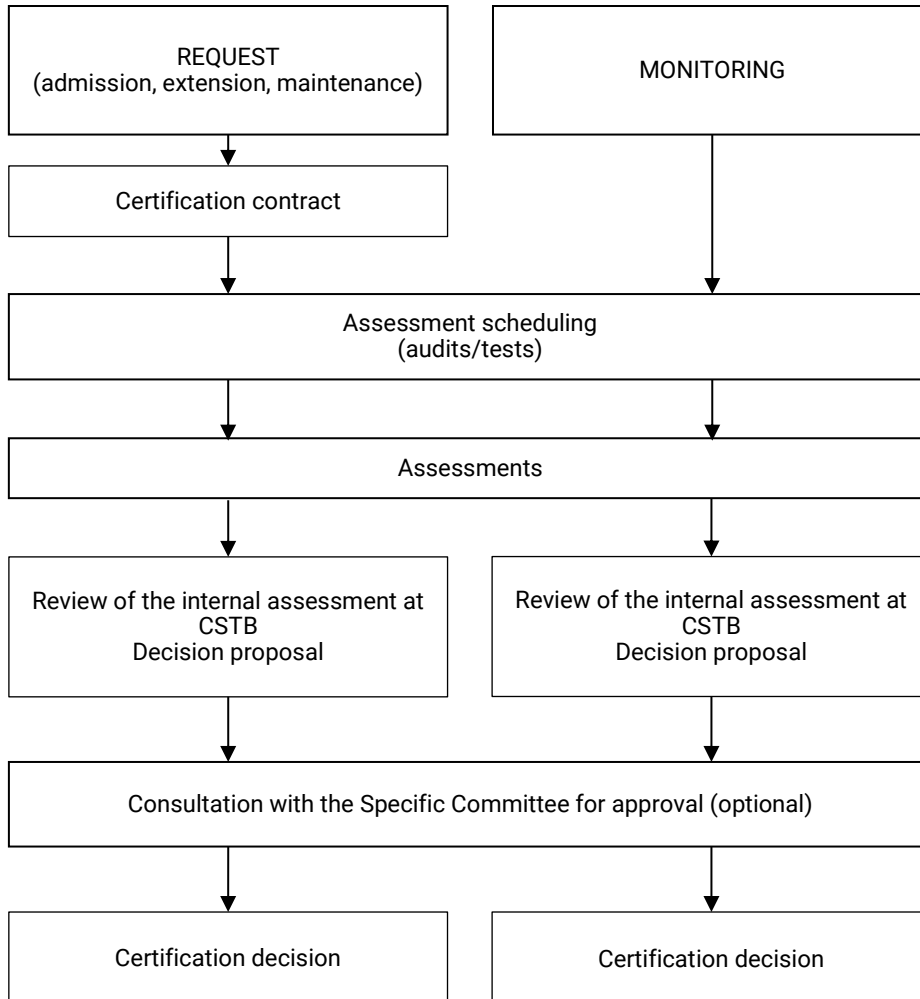
Part 3

Certification Process

3.1 General

- Definition of the applicant (see part 5);
- Definitions of the various types of application (admission application / complementary admission application / extension application / maintenance application):
 - An application for admission is made by an applicant not having the right to use the NF mark for the Gypsum plasterboard application. It corresponds to a product (or a range of products) coming from a specific design process and/or manufacturing unit and/or a specific sales location, defined by a trademark and/or with a specific reference to the product submitted and the technical characteristics;
 - A complementary admission and/or extension application is made by a holder and applies to a new product / a modified product on the same manufacturing site;
 - A maintenance application is made by a holder and applies to an NF-certified product intended to be sold under another trademark and/or with a specific reference to the product without any modification to the certified characteristics; A new application for admission for a product (or a range of products) following the withdrawal of the right to use the NF mark as a result of a sanction in the event of deceptive marketing practices in application of Articles L 121-2 to L121-5 from the Consumer Code.

3.2 Certification application process



The conditions for obtaining a certification and the certification follow-up procedure are described in Parts 1 and 2 of the Appendix to this certification reference system.

3.3 Audits

3.3.1 ADMISSION AUDITS

The purpose of audits is to make sure that the measures defined and implemented by the applicant in the manufacturing unit meet the requirements in Part 2 of this certification reference system and technical document 1.

This entails checking, before admission, the existence and effectiveness of the measures taken in the quality field as well as the product quality control operations by the applicant. These are the admission audits conducted by the auditor.

All the ways and means (premises, installations, equipment) enabling the auditor to carry out the mission incumbent upon him/her, shall be placed at his/her disposal free of charge, along with persons qualified to implement them.

In the event of any dangerous situation in relation to the certifying body's safety requirements, the auditor reserves the right to withdraw.

An audit report is prepared and addressed to the applicant.

Special case of a mock audit

Prior to an admission audit, a mock audit may be suggested in order to review the situation. It complies with the requirements in COFRAC's doctrine no.5 of CERT REF 04. A mock audit shall in no way constitute advisory action.

The conditions for intervention are as follows:

- A mock audit shall be limited to one single intervention per site prior to an admission audit;
- The sole purpose of a mock audit is to make a factual assessment of an entity's state of readiness with regard to the certification criteria, by identifying any possible deviations without recommending any solutions;
- A mock audit shall not constitute a comprehensive assessment of the applicant's quality system;
- A mock audit shall be set out in a written audit report addressed to the applicant. Should a deviation be identified, the audit report shall not be supplemented by deviation sheets. The administrator shall not make any pronouncement on the relevance of the corrective actions;
- The duration of a mock audit shall be far shorter than the scheduled duration of an admission audit. It is equivalent to 1 day;
- A mock audit may not be considered comparable to an admission audit.

Later on, if certification is requested, an admission audit will be conducted in full. This may not be conducted by the auditor who carried out the mock audit.

3.3.1.1 Case of an initial admission application (new manufacturing plant)

The audit normally lasts 2 days per manufacturing unit.

The audit duration may be adapted according to the risk: level of development of the quality system, organisation of the company (process, laboratory, etc.).

3.3.1.2 Complementary admission application (application for a new product on a site that is already certified)

The steps described in Paragraph 3.3.1 above apply, with the specific consideration that the audit can be accompanied by a follow-up audit.

3.3.1.3 Case of an extension application (request for modification of a product that is already certified)

The steps described in Paragraph 3.3.1 above apply with the following specifics:

- The performance of an audit and tests in the factory is not mandatory for a minor modification (change of length or width, for example). In this case, the applicant shall supply CSTB with all the evidence proving that the modified product complies with all the requirements of this reference system.
- If an audit has to be conducted, it can be combined with a follow-up audit.

3.3.2 FOLLOW-UP AUDITS

Follow-up audits are intended to check, following admission, that the provisions defined are still being maintained.

All of the provisions described in Paragraph 3.3.1 apply.

Checks

The auditor carries out at least the following audits, taking into account the information collected during the previous audit, the results of the last checks and any remarks made by the Specific Committee:

- verification of the effective application of the corrective measures announced as a result of any observations made during the previous audit;
- verification of the compliance with the holder's quality requirements set out in this certification reference system;
- verification of the self-inspection records since the last audit, statistically for at least one certified product and for the products sampled for mark laboratory tests;
- verification of the sales documents;
- Verification of the changes in the characteristics of the certified products.

An audit report is prepared and addressed to the holder.

The audit normally lasts 2 days per manufacturing unit.

The audit duration may be adapted according to the risk: level of development of the quality system, organisation of the company (process, laboratory, etc.).

Normal monitoring:

During the first year of admission, two audits are systematically conducted six months and one year after admission of a new production unit.

The normal frequency is then 1 annual audit for each manufacturing unit benefiting from a right to use the NF mark.

Heightened monitoring:

In the event of breach of the requirements in this certification reference system, or if the Specific Committee makes a reasoned request, a heightened monitoring procedure can be initiated for a given period. This monitoring can be adjusted up to double the normal frequency of audits, with or without increased monitoring by the applicant and sampling for test purposes in the manufacturing unit and/or in the distribution network.

In addition, any critical deviation observed during an audit, whether or not combined with a sanction, may justify a transition to heightened monitoring. The latter will be initiated by CSTB, possibly after recommendation from the Specific Committee, for a set period including or not stricter holder's inspection and sampling for testing.

3.4 Sampling

The auditor has the necessary samples taken as required from stock and/or the manufacturing unit for testing.

If the tests cannot be performed in the factory laboratory, the samples are sent by and under the responsibility of the applicant/holder to the mark laboratory in charge of conducting the tests. In this case, an information sheet recording the sampling carried out is prepared on site by the auditor and handed over to the applicant/holder.

It is accepted that if these samples cannot be taken, the holder will send the sample(s) requested by CSTB to the mark's laboratory, within the time required. If the holder does not send the sample(s) to the mark's laboratory within the time required by CSTB, penalties may be applied to them (sanction, suspension).




Samples taken as part of an initial admission or a complementary admission

For all new types of board for which the right to use the NF mark is requested, the auditor samples 6 boards from at least two different production batches from the production available in stock.

The samples intended for mechanical and water absorption testing are cut out of the selected boards in the presence of the auditor, who marks them with a distinctive sign. They are weighed and conditioned before testing according to the specifications set out in part 2 of this reference system.

During the audit, the auditor also samples a summary of the results obtained by the plant laboratory during self-inspections carried out on the finished products.

These results are exploited after audit indicating the following for each type of board and each certified characteristic:

-  the number of results obtained;
-  the minimum and maximum values;
-  the number of results outside tolerance.

Sampling carried out in the context of follow-up

For a given board type and thickness, the sample size is 3 boards of one of the production runs available in stock, if possible on 2 different pallets.

The samples intended for mechanical and water absorption testing are cut out of the selected boards in the presence of the auditor, who marks them with a distinctive sign. They are weighed and conditioned before testing according to the specifications set out in part 2 of this reference system.

The set of samples taken over a 3-year period shall cover all the certified boards.

3.5 Testing

3.5.1 ADMISSION TESTS

The tests are carried out in the applicant/holder's laboratory in accordance with the standards and complementary specifications set out in Part 2 of this certification reference system. This laboratory shall have equipment that is appropriate to perform tests under the conditions required by the standard (or the reference test method).

For any new product for which the right to use the mark is requested, the tests are conducted on 6 boards from at least 2 different production batches.

For each board, the results shall comply with the specifications set out in part 2 of this reference system. No retest will be conducted during the audit.

If it is not possible to carry out the tests in the applicant/holder's laboratory, the samples are to be sent by the applicant/holder to the test body defined in paragraph 4.3 of this reference system. In this case, the auditor establishes a sample sheet during the audit, which is to be included with the samples.

3.5.2 TESTS ON THE CERTIFIED PRODUCT (FOLLOW-UP)

Tests are performed in accordance with the standards and additional specifications set out in Part 2 of the certification reference system. They are carried out in the laboratory of the manufacturing unit under the supervision of a qualified auditor. This laboratory shall have equipment that is appropriate to perform tests under the conditions required by the standard (or the reference test method).

For each type of board, the tests are conducted on 2 of the 3 boards sampled.

The 3rd board is only tested if non-compliant results are obtained on one of the first 2 boards.

The batch is recognised as compliant if for each certified characteristic, at least two of the values obtained are compliant with the specifications set out in part 2 of this reference system.

Part 4

The stakeholders

The NF mark is the property of AFNOR, which has granted AFNOR Certification an exclusive exploitation licence. AFNOR Certification manages and coordinates the NF certification system, which specifies, in particular, the governance rules and the operating conditions applicable to the NF mark

The organisations involved in the procedure for granting the right to use the NF mark and in monitoring the certified products are specified below.

4.1 The certifying body

In conformity with the General Rules of the NF mark, AFNOR Certification assigns the performance of the various functions necessary for the management of the NF mark to the following body, referred to as the mandated body:

Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment (CSTB)

Direction Sécurité Structures et Feu
Division Structure, Maçonnerie et Partition
84, avenue Jean Jaurès
Champs sur Marne
F-77447 Marne La Vallée Cedex 2
☎: +33 (0)1 64 68 88 21

<http://evaluation.cstb.fr/>

CSTB is responsible to AFNOR Certification for the operations with which it is entrusted to award and monitor proper use of the NF mark.

4.2 Audit bodies

The audit functions for the manufacturing unit and, as the case may be, on the utilisation premises, are carried out by the following bodies, designated the audit bodies:

Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment (CSTB)

Direction Sécurité Structures et Feu
Division Structure, Maçonnerie et Partition
84, avenue Jean Jaurès
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The auditors have the inspection right on the premises of any applicant or holder within the framework of their missions.

As part of a subcontracting agreement that CSTB has signed with the following body, the latter can conduct complementary admission and follow-up audits, as requested by CSTB.

AUDIT BODIES AS SUBCONTRACTORS:

QIOS

136, boulevard Saint Germain
F-75006 PARIS
☎: +33 (0)1 42 34 53 29

4.3 Test bodies

Whenever the quality assurance operations carried out within the framework of the NF mark usage include tests on products, such tests are carried out at CSTB's request by the following laboratory, referred to as the laboratory of the mark:

Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment (CSTB)

Direction Sécurité Structures et Feu

Division MPI

84, avenue Jean Jaurès

Champs sur Marne

F-77447 Marne La Vallée Cedex 2

☎: +33 (0)1 64 68 88 21

<http://evaluation.cstb.fr/>

4.4 Subcontracting

The different functions described in Paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3 may be carried out, after opinion from the Specific Committee, where appropriate, by other audit bodies or recognised laboratories with which CSTB has established a sub-contracting contract.

The customer is informed of the subcontracting of a service when the assessment activity programme is established. If necessary, they are formally informed before any activity is started.

4.5 Specific Committee

An impartial consultative authority is established called the Specific Committee, the Secretariat of which is provided by CSTB.

The Specific Committee is requested to give its opinion on the following:

- The initial draft certification reference system or the draft revised version, as specified in the Consumer Code,
- The preparation of advertising and promotional activities that fall within its competence,
- The selection of bodies participating in the certification process, and the examination and implementation of recognition agreements.

It can be consulted about any other question pertaining to the application concerned, and in particular about any interpretation of the certification reference system with a view to taking decisions regarding dossiers in accordance with the certification reference systems and at CSTB's request.

The composition of the Specific Committee is set to respect representation between the different parties concerned, which does not lead to any of them dominating and which guarantees their relevance.

Its composition is as follows:

- A Chairperson and, if applicable, a vice-chairperson chosen from the members of the colleges defined below;
- Manufacturers College (Holders): from 2 to 6 representatives;
- Users'/Specifiers' college: from 2 to 6 representatives;
- Technical and Administrative Bodies' College: from 2 to 6 representatives.

As regards the NF mark, AFNOR Certification is a member of this Specific Committee.

The representatives of audit bodies and mark laboratories have the right to participate in the meetings of the Specific Committee.

The Specific Committee issues decision notifications and its members shall be precluded from receiving any remuneration for the functions entrusted to them.

Members are appointed for 3 years. This mandate is renewable by tacit approval for successive periods of one year up to a maximum of three renewals unless terminated without a valid reason by CSTB or the member by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt, three months prior to expiry of the period in progress when renewal occurs.

The Specific Committee's Chairperson can change every year.

The members of the Specific Committee formally commit themselves to keep confidential all information, particularly of individual character, which is communicated to them.

The Specific Committee may, where appropriate, decide to set up working groups or subcommittees and define their missions and responsibilities. The composition of the working groups is to be validated by the Specific Committee, those working groups being composed of at least one representative of the "Manufacturers" College, one representative of the "Users/Specifiers" College and one representative of CSTB. It may call upon professionals, external individuals or holders that are not members of the Specific Committee.

In the event of decisions or votes, the Specific Committee announces its decision by simple majority of its members present or represented, under the following dual condition:

- real representation of the board representing the applicants or holders, on the one hand, and of the board representing the users and specifiers, on the other hand (non-representation of an interest);
- None of the Colleges has a majority of the people present or represented (predominance of an interest).

If this is not the case, there is either written consultation or a new meeting.

Part 5

Glossary

Applicant / Holder:	<p>Public body which controls and/or is responsible for respecting all the requirements defined in the NF mark certification reference system. These requirements cover at least the following steps: design, manufacture, assembly, quality control, marking, packing and market release and specify the critical points in the different steps.</p> <p>Any person who modifies the container and/or content of the product (for example, packets or loose cement distribution) becomes an applicant and may not be considered as a retailer. Therefore, this person must make a usage right admission application.</p>
Audit:	<p>See Standard NF EN ISO 9001.</p>
Certification Reference System:	<p>Technical document which defines the characteristics that a product, a service or a combination of products and services shall have, and the methods for inspecting the conformity with these characteristics, as well as the methods for communicating on the certification (including the content of the information).</p>
Certification Scheme:	<p>Specific certification system for well-defined products to which the same specified requirements, and specific rules and procedures apply.</p>
Complementary admission:	<p>Application by which a holder wants to benefit from the right to use the NF mark for a new product manufactured at a site that is already certified.</p>
Distributor:	<p>Person who distributes the applicant/holder's products and who does not modify the conformity of the product to the requirements of the NF mark. Distributors may be of the following types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- distributors who distribute the product under the holder's trademark. In that case, no action is to be taken as part of the NF mark.- distributors who distribute the product after changing the trademark. The applicant/holder shall make an application for maintenance of right of use. <p>If the distributor does not wish to have explicit reference to the manufacturer, then an application for admission to the NF mark shall be made by the distributor. In that case, the manufacturing plant is not mentioned on the certificate.</p> <p>Depending on the various operations carried out by the applicant/holder or the distributor, the sites audited and the audit duration within the framework of initial certification or monitoring are to be defined case by case.</p>
Extended usage	<p>Certified characteristic with "better" usage Or new characteristic e.g. Acoustic</p>
Extension:	<p>Application by which a holder requests the extension of their right to use the NF mark for a certified product whose characteristics have been modified.</p>

Granting of the right to use the NF mark:	Authorisation granted by AFNOR Certification and communicated by CSTB to an applicant to affix the NF mark on the product for which the application has been made.
Initial admission:	Application by which applicants request for the first time the right to use the NF mark for a product; they declare that they understand this certification reference system and undertake to respect it.
Maintenance of right of use:	Application by which a holder requests the maintenance of their right to use the NF mark for a product intended to be marketed under a different brand and/or trade reference, but without modifying the certified characteristics. The product can be marketed by another distributor.
Observation:	Remark aiming to draw a holder's attention to a minor non-conformity so as to avoid any propensity that might end up with a warning.
Product:	Element resulting from a process or manufacturing process coming from a specific manufacturing unit, defined by a trademark and/or a specific trade reference with specific technical characteristics.
Receivability:	Study of a dossier which enables the application to be examined. The receivability relates to the administrative and technical parts of the dossier.
Renewal:	Application by which the holder requests the renewal of their right to use the NF mark before the validity of their NF certificate.
Representative:	<p>Public body or individual based in the EEA who represents the applicant/holder outside the EEA and has a written mandate from them signifying that they may act on their behalf and specifying under which context (missions and associated responsibilities and financial aspects, complaints, contact for the certifying body, among others) in the NF mark certification process according to the provisions in the certification reference system.</p> <p>The delegate may be the retailer or importer; their different functions are clearly identified.</p> <p>The representative concept is vital once applicants are outside the EEA. Depending on the markets, the distributor concept may not be relevant.</p>
Subcontracting:	Company which carries out some of the production steps for the certified products, under the control of the NF mark holder.
Suspension:	<p>Decision notified by CSTB which temporarily and for a set period of time cancels the authorisation to use the NF mark. The suspension may be issued as a sanction or in the event that the right to use the mark is temporarily renounced by the holder.</p> <p>Suspension is accompanied by the prohibition on affixing the mark to future production. It shall be for a maximum 6-month period, renewable once, following which a withdrawal of the right to use the NF mark shall be announced if no action has been launched by the holder.</p> <p>The sanction notifications which affect the usage right (suspension/withdrawal) are signed by CSTB Management.</p>

NF Certification Reference System - Gypsum plasterboard
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Warning:	Non-suspensive penalty notified by CSTB. The product is still marked, but the holder must correct the deviations observed within a defined time period. When a warning is accompanied by an increase in the number of inspections, the actions must be launched within a defined time period. The warning may only be renewed once.
Withdrawal of the usage right:	Decision communicated by CSTB to cancel the right to use the NF mark. A withdrawal can be pronounced as a sanction or in case of abandonment of the NF mark usage right by the holder.