

Specialised Knowledge

WECOBIS provides basic knowledge on various topics and arranges them in the following categories:

- **General Information**

This category provides information on main components, typical characteristics of a product or the fields of application of building product groups.

- **Tendering Assistance**

The user finds building product-specific information on planning and tendering.

- **Seals & Declarations**

Information on Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) and environmental labels like Blauer Engel (Blue Angel) is presented in a transparent manner.

- **Assessment Systems**

With the focus on assessment systems for sustainable building, WECOBIS offers especially prepared knowledge on building materials for certain BNB criteria profiles.

- **Technical Information**

Information on technical qualities, e.g. relevant DIN standards, a list of building rules or CE-labeling, complement aspects focused on health and the environment.

Planning & Tendering Assistance

The comprehensive information in WECOBIS helps planners and developers in different ways in choosing materials and products in terms of the environment, health and quality.

- **Building Product Group-Specific Assistance**

In the WECOBIS building product groups the user can find information on tendering assistance of other providers. Statutory requirements can also be found there, such as on issues relating to safety in the workplace in connection with processing problematic building products.

- **General Planning and Tendering Information**

“Planning & Tendering Assistance” contains an overview of all relevant aspects of several planning phases. You can find advice on e.g. which necessary ecological material criteria must be decided during the certain planning phases.

- **Ecological Material Requirements for Certain Areas of Performance**

WECOBIS offers text modules that can be used to phrase ecological material requirements for planning and tendering purposes. The structure is based on the material groups, their fields of application and possible harmful substances.

myWECOBIS

With myWECOBIS, the planner has frequently used contents “handy” and can apply the WECOBIS knowledge actively to his/her planning routines.

- **Convenient Functions**

myWECOBIS offers functions like “Remember”, “Last Viewed” or the “Media Pool” that allow for structured working with extensive contents.

- **Project Folder**

Registered users can create their own projects in order to store and manage individual environmental and health data. The project folder is structured by building components in accordance with German Standard DIN 276.

- **Project Folder Output**

Information assigned to building components is filed in a structure manner and is quick to retrieve. For example, printed project folders can be integrated directly into a planning meeting.

BNB-Relevant Content

Under “Assessment Systems”, WECOBIS offers specific contents for processing the following BNB criteria profiles:

- **Criteria Risks to the Local Environment – New Construction (BN_1.1.6)**

The objective is to reduce or avoid materials dangerous to ground water, surface water, soil and air in connection with new buildings. WECOBIS offers an overview for this purpose showing, for example, which groups of hazardous materials could be relevant to a group of building products.

- **Criteria Risks to the Local Environment – Refurbishment (BK_1.1.6)**

In this module, the user will find information on hazardous materials contained in products that are no longer approved, but may still be part of the existing building stock.

- **Criteria Indoor Air Quality (3.1.3)**

The main focus is on ensuring indoor air quality with respect to VOCs and formaldehyde. WECOBIS provides information on the installation, processing and interactions of building products.

- **Criteria Dismantling, Separation and Utilisation (4.1.4)**

As for the BNB criteria profile 4.1.4, WECOBIS provides concentrated information on possible environmental and health aspects concerning relevant building products.



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation,
Building and Nuclear Safety

WECOBIS

Basic Knowledge on Environmental and Health
Aspects for the Selection of Construction Material

www.wecobis.de

WECOBIS

WECOBIS is a web portal providing basic knowledge for healthy and ecofriendly construction. You will receive comprehensive product-neutral information on components, hazardous emissions within life cycle phases, interactions of different building materials or legal requirements.

Thus, WECOBIS assists with the ecological selection of products and is directed at construction specialists and anyone who is interested in sustainable construction – architects, specialist planners, construction workers and building users.

Editor

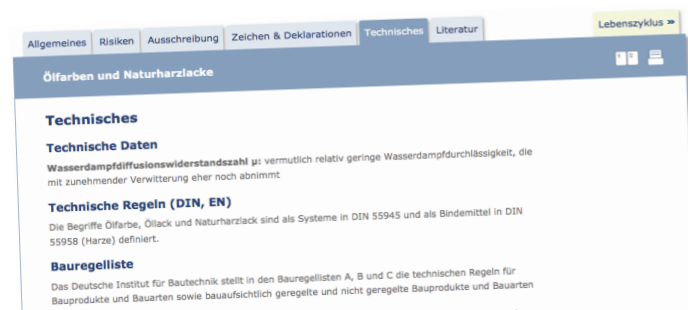
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Scientific Advisory Board

A Scientific Advisory Board specifies the main contents and proposes topics for further development.

Integration with Federal Sustainable Building

WECOBIS is part of the planning tools that are used in the implementation of the Guideline for Sustainable Building and in the application of the Assessment System for Sustainable Building (BNB) in the federal sector.



WECOBIS offers a structure based on specialist information and the various life cycle phases (resources, production, processing, use and reuse).

The contents are applied in practice:

- [Planning & tendering assistance specific to building materials.](#)
- [myWECOBIS for filing and storing contents of user's own projects.](#)
- [Quick info on classifying building product groups according to BNB requirements.](#)

Environmental and Health Aspects of Building Materials

WECOBIS categorises environmental and health aspects according to the life cycle phases. The right building materials can be selected with the support of the following WECOBIS functions:

- [Development of material concepts for sustainable planning.](#)
- [Pre-selection of certain product groups based on environmental and health aspects.](#)
- [Classification of building material according to criteria under the Assessment System for Sustainable Building \(BNB\).](#)
- [Definition of quality levels in the planning process with regard to the selection of construction materials.](#)
- [Planning with building materials in overall comprehensive terms across all life cycle phases.](#)

Life Cycle



Reuse

Use

Processing

Production

Resources

Wood Fibre Insulation*

General Information
The on-site cutting of the panels produces softwood dust. Care must be taken to ensure proper ventilation and dust extraction. For example, as possible, use protective clothing.

Resources

Main Components

Basic Material: up to 96% saw mill waste from spruce, fir, pine

Adhesives: none (wood resin = lignin)

Additives: approx. 1% aluminium sulphate for activating the lignin
+ water-repellent effect
+ chalk-binding/pH lowering

Hydrophobic Treatment (if necessary): approx. 2% paraffin emulsion, natural resin emulsion

Aspects of Health and the Environment

Production/Availability

Use of Recycled Material/Production Waste

Wood fibre insulation is produced from remains from wood processing or from hardly usable wood (chips, smallwood and pit wood, storm and snow-felled timber). As a renewable resource, wood is sufficiently in stock and generally sourced from local waste wood to minimise transport costs to the production plant.

free of charge

product-neutral

independent

*Excerpt from www.wecobis.de

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