



IS 13000:1990 – Silica Asbestos Cement Flat Sheets — Specification

Silica-asbestos-cement flat sheets, also known as fibre cement sheets, are composite construction materials made from a mixture of silica, asbestos fibres, cement, and other additives. These sheets have been widely used in construction for their durability, strength, and resistance to heat, moisture, and weather. However, asbestos is a known **health hazard** when fibres are inhaled, so its use has been restricted in many countries, although it is still used in some regions, including parts of India.

These sheets are cured by **high pressure steam curing** process known as **autoclaving** and are different from water or humid cured asbestos cement flat sheets conforming to IS 2096: 1966. Quality parameters for silica-asbestos-cement flat sheets include **composition, dimensions, colour, general appearance, durability, density and safety**. These sheets are mainly used for their durability, weather resistance, and affordability for **false ceilings, partitions, block boards, sign boards, outdoor hoarding, wall panelling, cladding and for cable trays**.

This Indian Standard, originally published in 1990, specifies the requirements for **materials, classification, dimensions and tests** for silica asbestos cement flat sheets. Parameters are defined for composition and colouring matter. Classification of sheets is done on the basis of bending strength and density. Key tests include test for bending strength, density, thickness, straightness and squareness of edges. The standard also prescribes safety rules sheet for delivery by manufacturer.

A **warning sign** is also pasted on the sheets to caution those engaged in handling of asbestos and products containing asbestos so as to enable them to take necessary precautionary measures against the risks from exposure to asbestos dust.

The first amendment to IS 13000 introduces updates to nominal dimensions of sheets and the test for thickness.

In summary, **IS 13000** is your assurance that the Silica-asbestos-cement flat sheets you use are safe, durable, and of high quality. Look for the BIS mark to ensure they meet these standards, giving you peace of mind for your safety and your car's performance.