



BRANZ Appraised

Appraisal No. 380 [2021]

AUTEX GREENSTUF® INSULATION

Appraisal No. 380 [2021]

Amended 09 March 2023



BRANZ Appraisals

Technical Assessments of products for building and construction.



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Product

- 1.1 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation is a range of polyester fibre thermal insulating material. The insulation is pre-cut to suit a range of thermal insulation requirements and framing set-outs in walls, ceilings and roofs of buildings.

Scope

- 2.1 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation has been appraised as a thermal insulating material for framed or part-framed walls, ceilings and roofs of domestic and commercial buildings.

Building Regulations

New Zealand Building Code (NZBC)

- 3.1 In the opinion of BRANZ, Autex GreenStuf® Insulation, if designed, used, installed and maintained in accordance with the statements and conditions of this Appraisal, will meet or contribute to meeting the following provisions of the NZBC:

Clause B2 DURABILITY: Performance B2.3.1 (a) not less than 50 years, B2.3.1 (b) 15 years and B2.3.2. Autex GreenStuf® Insulation meets these requirements. See Paragraphs 8.1 and 8.2.

Clause E3 INTERNAL MOISTURE: Performance E3.3.1. Autex GreenStuf® Insulation contributes to meeting this requirement. See Paragraphs 13.1 and 13.2.

Clause F2 HAZARDOUS BUILDING MATERIALS: Performance F2.3.1. Autex GreenStuf® Insulation meets this requirement.

Clause H1 ENERGY EFFICIENCY: Performance H1.3.1 (a) and H1.3.2 E. Autex GreenStuf® Insulation contributes to meeting these requirements. See Paragraphs 14.1 and 14.2.

Technical Specification

4.1 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation is manufactured from thermally bonded polyester fibres. The fibres are blended, carded and thermally bonded to produce rolls and pads which are cut to the required size. Autex GreenStuf® Insulation is available as set out in Table 1.

Table 1: Autex GreenStuf® Insulation product range

R-value	Nominal Thickness [mm]	Width [mm]	Length [mm]	Product Weight [gsm]
GreenStuf® Thermal Wall Pads				
1.3	45	560	2,400	2,700
2.2	90	360 or 560	1,160	1,950
2.5	90	360 or 560	1,160	3,250
3.2	140	360 or 560	1,160	2,250
3.6	140	360 or 560	1,160	3,100
GreenStuf® Thermal Wall Roll				
2.6	140	580 or 870	8,620 or 9,770	1,650
2.9	140	580 or 870	7,330 or 9,770	1,850
GreenStuf® Thermal Ceiling Roll				
1.8	100	580 or 870	10,780 or 14,370	1,025
2.9	185	580 or 870	7,330 or 9,770	1,500
3.2	190	580 or 870	7,330 or 9,770	1,700
3.4	140	870	6,000	2,850
3.6	210	580 or 870	7,330 or 8,050	2,050
4.1	210	870	5,000	2,750
GreenStuf® Thermal Ceiling Pads				
2.9	115	870	2,400	2,650
3.6	140	870	2,400	3,900
GreenStuf® Double Layer System				
6.8 [2x3.4]	280 [2 x 140]	870	6,000	5,700

4.2 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation is green in colour and is packaged in green compression polythene packaging with labelling in compliance with AS/NZS 4859.1.

4.3 Accessories used with Autex GreenStuf® Insulation, which are supplied by the insulation installer, are plastic strapping and fixings.

Handling and Storage

5.1 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation must be stored under cover and in dry conditions. Heavy objects must not be stacked on the packs. The packs must be stored in an orientation that avoids excessive compression of the product.

5.2 In general, insulation products are sensitive to the length of time they are stored under compression packaging. Product that does not recover to its nominal thickness may not achieve the stated thermal resistance [R-value].

Technical Literature

- 6.1 This Appraisal must be read in conjunction with:
- GreenStuf® Thermal Ceiling Insulation Data Sheet, GS_NZ_DS_Thermal Ceiling Insulation_May22_RC, May 2022.
 - GreenStuf® Thermal Wall Insulation Data Sheet, GS_NZ_DS_Thermal Wall Insulation_May22_RC, May 2022.
 - GreenStuf® Thermal Ceiling and Wall Insulation Install Instructions, GS_NZ_THP_II_Thermal Insulation_Aug22_CT, Aug 2022.
- 6.2 All aspects of design, use, installation and maintenance contained in the Technical Literature and within the scope of this Appraisal must be followed.

Design Information

General

- 7.1 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation is intended for use as thermal insulation to meet the requirements of the NZBC. Autex GreenStuf® Insulation can be used to meet the minimum schedule method R-values of the NZBC Verification Methods H1/VM1, H1/VM2, NZBC Acceptable Solutions H1/AS1 or H1/AS2. Greater construction R-values can be achieved where specific design is used. For construction R-values, refer to the BRANZ House Insulation Guide. Product R-values and dimensions are given in Table 1.
- 7.2 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation R-values have been determined by testing to AS/NZS 4859.1.
- 7.3 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation is designed to be friction-fitted between wall, ceiling or roof framing. Autex GreenStuf® Insulation can also be laid directly over ceiling lining, over ceiling battens or joist/truss chords. In other horizontal situations, it must be adequately supported by galvanised wire netting or some other suitable durable material. Autex GreenStuf® Skillion Roof Blanket Insulation is designed to be friction-fitted between rafters.
- 7.4 When insulation is double layered over new or existing insulation, the possibility of compression of the bottom layer must be avoided or reduction of R-values for the bottom layer of the formed system must be considered.
- 7.5 Where the insulation is installed in exterior walls, the insulation material nominal thickness must be selected to provide a snug close fit, which touches all sides of the insulation cavity between the wall underlay and the interior wall lining.
- 7.6 Where the insulation is retrofitted in external walls without a wall underlay, and with direct-fixed claddings, the insulation must be at least 20 mm thinner than the framing to allow a gap of at least 20 mm between the insulation and the wall cladding. Horizontal straps must be stapled into the sides of the wall studs at 300 mm centres maximum as support before the insulation is installed. Refer also to NZS 4246, Section 5.4.2.
- 7.7 When the insulation is installed in a wall with a drained cavity, it is recommended that specific wall products with a controlled nominal thickness be used. Where the stud spacings are greater than 450 mm, an intermediate means of restraining the insulation from bulging into the cavity must be installed in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 9.1.8.5.
- 7.8 To prevent moisture transfer and to provide roof ventilation, a separation of 25 mm minimum is required between the insulation and any rigid substrate or flexible roof underlay. Selecting specifically designed skillion roof insulation products with a controlled thickness can assist with this requirement.
- 7.9 The building envelope must be constructed to ensure the insulation remains dry during installation and throughout the life of the building.
- 7.10 The clearance requirements for heating appliances and downlights must be met and reference made to the manufacturer's instructions and NZS 4246.

Durability

- 8.1 The durability assessment of Autex GreenStuf® Insulation to meet the requirements of the NZBC is based on the difficulty of access and replacement, and the ability to detect failure of the insulation, both during normal use and maintenance of the building.

Serviceable Life

- 8.2 Where the building is maintained so that the provisions of the NZBC E2 and E3 Clauses are met, and where the insulation is not crushed or exposed to conditions that will diminish its thermal performance, Autex GreenStuf® Insulation can expect to have a serviceable life of at least 50 years.

Maintenance

- 9.1 Insulation that has become damp must be removed and the cause of dampness repaired. Cavities must be clean and dry before replacing with new Autex GreenStuf® Insulation. NZS 4246 gives guidance on thermal insulation maintenance due to water damage.

Prevention of Fire Occurring

- 10.1 Separation or protection must be provided to Autex GreenStuf® Insulation from heat sources such as fireplaces, heating appliances and chimneys. Part 7 of NZBC Verification Method C/VM1 and Acceptable Solution C/AS1, and NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS2 provide methods for separation and protection of combustible materials from heat sources.

Downlights

- 10.2 Recessed luminaires shall be one of the specified luminaire types and installed in accordance with NZBC Verification Method C/VM1 and NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS1, Section 7.4.
- 10.3 Insulation materials must maintain a clearance of 100 mm to undefined recessed luminaires in existing buildings.

Fire Affecting Areas Beyond the Fire Source

Control of Internal Fire and Smoke Spread

- 11.1 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation has a Group Number of 1-S. When used in an occupied space, Autex GreenStuf® Insulation may or may not need to be enclosed by an internal lining depending on the Risk Group. Refer to the relevant NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 and C/AS2 for specific internal surface finish requirements.

External Moisture

- 12.1 The total building envelope must be weathertight and comply with the requirements of NZBC Clause E2 to ensure that the insulation remains dry in use.
- 12.2 The moisture content of the construction materials at the time of installing and enclosing the insulation must meet the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 Paragraph 10.2 a), or lower moisture content if required by the lining manufacturer.

Internal Moisture

- 13.1 Buildings must provide an adequate combination of thermal resistance, ventilation and space temperature to all habitable spaces, bathrooms, laundries and other spaces where moisture may be generated or may accumulate. This does not apply to Communal Non-residential, Commercial, Industrial, Outbuildings or Ancillary buildings.
- 13.2 Roofs and walls of housing complying with the Schedule Method for Compliance with Clause H1.3.2 E will have adequate thermal resistance. Other buildings may require more thermal insulation to satisfy the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution E3/AS1 than that to satisfy the energy efficiency provisions alone.



Energy Efficiency

- 14.1 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation will contribute to meeting the requirements of NZBC Clause H1 Performance H1.3.1 [a] and H1.3.2 E by compliance with NZBC Verification Methods H1/VM1 or H1/VM2, or NZBC Acceptable Solutions H1/AS1 or H1/AS2.
- 14.2 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation R-values have been determined by testing to AS/NZS 4859.1 and are given in Table 1.

Installation Information

Installation Skill Level Requirement

- 15.1 All design and building work must be carried out in accordance with Autex GreenStuf® Insulation Technical Literature and this Appraisal. All building work must be undertaken by competent and experienced tradespersons conversant with Autex GreenStuf® Insulation.

General

- 16.1 Installation of Autex GreenStuf® Insulation must be in accordance with the Technical Literature and this Appraisal. NZS 4246 should be used as a guide for installing insulation in residential buildings.
- 16.2 The product must be installed only when the building is enclosed and when the construction materials have achieved the required maximum moisture content or less.
- 16.3 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation must be released from the packaging and allowed to re-loft prior to installation. The time to loft will depend upon the length of time the product has been packaged and stored.
- 16.4 Autex GreenStuf® Insulation is supplied in roll and pad form [see Table 1] to suit framing layouts. The insulation size must be selected to minimise the number of butt joints and to suit the spacing of framing members. The insulation must be neatly friction-fitted between framing members so that the potential for gaps and convective heat loss is reduced. In wall cavities, the insulation must be neatly friction-fitted between framing members to prevent sagging. In ceilings or roofs, the insulation may be fitted between framing members or fitted over framing members. The insulation must extend to the external top plate. The insulation must not be folded, tucked or compressed. A close even fit provides the most efficient thermal performance. Wherever possible, the insulation should be fitted beneath wiring or plumbing.
- 16.5 The clearance requirements for heating appliances, light fittings and downlights must be followed. Refer also to NZS 4246.

Inspections

- 16.6 The Technical Literature, this Appraisal and NZS 4246 must be referred to during the inspection of Autex GreenStuf® Insulation installations.

Health and Safety

- 17.1 Refer to the Technical Literature and NZS 4246 for guidance on health and safety requirements such as personal protective clothing and installation hazard assessment.

Basis of Appraisal

The following is a summary of the technical investigations carried out.

Tests

- 18.1 Thermal resistance testing of Autex GreenStuf® Insulation in accordance with AS/NZS 4859.1 has been completed. The results have been reviewed by BRANZ technical experts.
- 18.2 BRANZ has carried out an assessment of the fire performance of Autex GreenStuf® Insulation in accordance with NZBC Verification Method C/VM2 [ISO 9705].



Other Investigations

- 19.1 An assessment of the durability of Autex GreenStuf® Insulation has been made by BRANZ technical experts.
- 19.2 The manufacturer's Technical Literature has been reviewed by BRANZ and found to be satisfactory.
- 19.3 Site inspections have been undertaken by BRANZ to assess the practicability of installation.

Quality

- 20.1 The manufacture of Autex GreenStuf® Insulation has been examined by BRANZ including methods adopted for quality control. Details of the manufacturing processes and quality and composition of the raw materials used were obtained and found to be satisfactory.
- 20.2 Autex Industries Limited is responsible for the quality of the product supplied.
- 20.3 Quality of installation of the product on-site is the responsibility of the installer.
- 20.4 Quality of maintenance of the building to ensure the insulation remains dry is the responsibility of the building owner.

Sources of Information

- AS/NZS 4859.1:2018 Thermal insulation materials for buildings.
- BRANZ Bulletin Number 525 Preventing moisture problems in timber-framed skillion roofs.
- BRANZ House Insulation Guide [Sixth Edition], 2022.
- NZS 4214:2006 Method of determining the total thermal resistance of parts of buildings.
- NZS 4246:2016 Energy efficiency - Installing bulk thermal insulation in residential buildings.
- Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment Record of amendments - Acceptable Solutions, Verification Methods and handbooks.
- The Building Regulations 1992.

Amendments

Amendment No. 1, dated 26 August 2022

This Appraisal has been amended to update Table 1.

Amendment No. 2, dated 09 March 2023

This Appraisal has been amended to reflect building code updates relating to NZBC H1 Energy Efficiency and to update Table 1.



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16 April 2021

AUTEX GREENSTUF®
INSULATION



In the opinion of BRANZ, **Autex GreenStuf® Insulation** is fit for purpose and will comply with the Building Code to the extent specified in this Appraisal provided it is used, designed, installed and maintained as set out in this Appraisal.

The Appraisal is issued only to **Autex Industries Limited**, and is valid until further notice, subject to the Conditions of Appraisal.

Conditions of Appraisal

1. This Appraisal:
 - a) relates only to the product as described herein;
 - b) must be read, considered and used in full together with the Technical Literature;
 - c) does not address any Legislation, Regulations, Codes or Standards, not specifically named herein;
 - d) is copyright of BRANZ.
2. **Autex Industries Limited:**
 - a) continues to have the product reviewed by BRANZ;
 - b) shall notify BRANZ of any changes in product specification or quality assurance measures prior to the product being marketed;
 - c) abides by the BRANZ Appraisals Services Terms and Conditions;
 - d) warrants that the product and the manufacturing process for the product are maintained at or above the standards, levels and quality assessed and found satisfactory by BRANZ pursuant to BRANZ's Appraisal of the product.
3. BRANZ makes no representation or warranty as to:
 - a) the nature of individual examples of, batches of, or individual installations of the product, including methods and workmanship;
 - b) the presence or absence of any patent or similar rights subsisting in the product or any other product;
 - c) any guarantee or warranty offered by **Autex Industries Limited**.
4. Any reference in this Appraisal to any other publication shall be read as a reference to the version of the publication specified in this Appraisal.
5. BRANZ provides no certification, guarantee, indemnity or warranty, to **Autex Industries Limited** or any third party.

For BRANZ

Chelydra Percy

Chief Executive

Date of Issue:

16 April 2021