# FLAME SPREAD TEST

## SHOU-SUGI-BAN (焼杉板)

Shou-Sugi-Ban is a centuries old ancient Japanese tradition of burning wood siding. This method was employed when the Japanese discovered that a heavily charred board used for siding was much more resistant to rot and insects, as well as far less likely to ignite when exposed to sparks or flames. The Shou-Sugi-Ban method was vital in reducing fires but is now primarily used for its aesthetics and improved performance in exterior applications.

## FLAME SPREAD REQUIREMENTS

Most code requirements for wood interior finish materials are expressed in terms of flame spread index numbers. These values are determined in a standard fire test which evaluates the surface burning characteristics of a material. Different maximum flame spread indices are permitted depending upon building occupancy, location of the material in the building, and the presence of sprinklers.

## TEST METHOD

The standard fire test used to evaluate flame spread characteristics of wood building materials in the United States is ASTM E-84, *Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials.*

## CLASSIFICATIONS IN CODE

For regulatory purposes, interior finish materials are classified according to their flame spread. The classes are 0-25 for Class A or I, 26-75 for Class B or II, and 76-200 for Class C or III. For regulatory purposes, the requirement for smoke developed index is usually 450 or less.

## DELTA MILLWORKS

Several of our Shou-Sugi-Ban products have been submitted for certified Flame Spread testing under the ASTM E-84 method. The resuts have consistently yielded a B or II classification. We continually test our products as required for building code conformance.

| PRODUCT | FLAME SPREAD | SMOKE DEVELOPED INDEX |
|---|---|---|
| GATOR, CYPRESS | 30 | 145 |
| TIGER, CYPRESS | 50 | 175 |

If you have a pending project that requires certified flame spread testing and it is not in our current list, please contact us at 512.385.1812. Published test results are available on line or by calling us.