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**connect**  
make space work

without prejudice:

## Method of Construction / Risk Assessment:

**Unloading the Wall Panels:** The wall panels are unloaded off a van/lorry by one or two workers. The panels are lightweight and can be lifted by one person. Careful manoeuvring of the panels may be needed within a building to reduce the risk of damage to property and panels.

**Erecting the Wall Panels:** The panels lock together to form 'L' or 'T' shapes forming freestanding layouts. The panels come ready made and join together using male to female brackets. They are joined/bolted at the top and bottom. This will usually be carried out by two people using hand-held tools and hand-held battery-powered drills with screw bit fittings. A small 5-step ladder can will be used to reach the top of the panels.

**Workers:** Two workers are required to erect the wall panels successfully.

**Tools:** As described above, the tools used will be hand-held tools, hand-held battery-powered drills and a small stepladder.

**Conclusions of Activity:** This is a low-risk activity.

## Fire Safety of Wall Panels

**Fireproofing Advice:** Connect Exhibitions panels are not made of fire-retardant material and are not supplied as 'Fire-Proofed'. To our knowledge there is no easy way of making 'wooden furniture' (as they should be classed) fire-proof. Over the years we have obviously investigated this and give the following advice and highlight the various options available.

**Emulsions that give a '0-rated' fire-proof surface:** Paints like Timonox Vinyl Matt Brilliant White and Bollom Flameguard Ultra Vinyl Matt Topcoat are a water-based flame-retardant finish that upgrades surfaces fire classification from to Class 0 (BS476).

**Intumescent Paint:** Intumescent paint, is a thick coating paint (normally, 3 layers), can be applied to the panels surface to increase its fire-retardancy.

**Fire-Retardant Sprays & Liquids:** A standard clear odourless liquid for spraying onto most absorbent materials, including paper, card, carpet, cloth, polyurethane, upholstery etc.

**Conclusions of Fireproofing:** The ongoing conversation concerning the application of fireproofing by addition of the various products on offer (above) is inconclusive, but if the client requires a higher level of fire-protection then these products can be applied, with various levels of ease, but may cause damage to the surface of a panel and create problems if the surface needs repeated re-painting (i.e. exhibitions).

**Emulsion Cover:** Connect Exhibition wall panels are made of plywood and so by design are combustible, but the primed layer of water-based emulsions applied on the surfaces help with the reduction to the surface spread of flame.

**Fire Access:** The panels are to be used in a exhibition areas and not to be used in escape access corridors or stairwells, escape route areas or high-risk areas.

**Disclaimer:** All statements and references in this document are advisory, as they cannot be specified because of the changing nature of the materials and products, and the individual needs and specifications of client use. Connect Exhibitions Ltd cannot be held responsible for any error in judgement, in the case of fire-control, or damage incurred, as a result of using and purchasing our products.