



Preservation COMPASS

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Termite protection requirements clarified

Subterranean termite management continues to present challenges for the Australian building industry, nowhere more so than in Queensland. Although the timber preservation industry now has an armory of products to assist in the protection of timber against termite attack, these products work best in tandem with effective termite barrier systems. Any barrier system used must comply with the deemed-to-satisfy provisions or the performance requirements of the Building Code of Australia (BCA).

From 1 May 2006, a Queensland variation to the BCA requires termite barriers in new construction in Queensland that are not able to be readily replenished or replaced, to have a design life of 50 years.

Osmose Australia General Manager Elias Akle, says the directive may have caused some concern amongst timber treaters, especially those who treat framing that carries a 25 year limited warranty. "In short the level of the warranty for treated timber is not the relevant concern. The changes impact mainly on termite barrier systems, such as physical mechanisms and chemical spray techniques."

"The Building Code of Australia requires an effective barrier system to be used in new house construction, unless all the primary building elements are constructed from termite resistant materials," says Mr Akle.

He points out that the advice from Building Codes Queensland makes it clear that treated timbers complying with Australian Standard (AS) 3660.1 (Appendix D) is deemed to be termite resistant. Therefore, H2 LOSP treated timber or H2F framing would be deemed a termite resistant material.



"The Building Code of Australia requires an effective barrier system to be used in new house construction, unless all the primary building elements are constructed from termite resistant materials."

The advice from Building Codes Queensland also makes it clear that there is a distinction between warranties and design life, and that it is not necessary for the warranty offered to be of 50 years duration. In fact it states that it would be unreasonable to expect such a warranty to be provided. It is sufficient for the termite treatments to comply with AS3660.1.

"The purpose of the Queensland variation to the termite management provisions of the BCA is to ensure that a reasonable assurance, based on scientific data, is given by a system providing that there will be no loss of function of a termite management system over a design life of not less than 50 years. The legislation does not intend to require, and it is unreasonable to expect, a supplier to warranty their system for 50 years," says the news flash from Building Codes Queensland. ☉

Osmose®

Preservation Technology at Work

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FIEA Timber Preservation Conference

Osmose is proud to be a key sponsor of the FIEA, who will be running "Timber Preservation 2006", the technology update held every second year on timber treatment, which will provide practical updates on new products, processes and trends impacting on timber preservation in Australasia. It runs in Rotorua NZ on 13-14 September and again in Twin Waters on the Sunshine Coast on 18-19 September 2006. Mark the dates into your diaries. Like the previous series, this practical series of workshops, discussion groups and managed exhibitions will build on the huge turnout from across the wider industry just two years ago.

In Australia, in addition to larger industry associations such as A3P and TABMA, the two key industry bodies, the Timber Preservers Association of Australia and the LOSP Timber Treathers Association will be linking in technical and other meetings on the Wednesday after Timber Preservation 2006. This will ensure the industry is able to best capitalise on the programme and their attendance on the Sunshine Coast. Programmes for the September series will be distributed by the FIEA, participating associations, companies and sponsors. For further information on the September series, contact Brent Apthorpe on +64 3 470 1902.

FIEA
CONFERENCE 06



ACQ treated product markets will expand over time, especially from users such as local councils and government agencies.

Osmose worked with Permapole on design, technical specifications, engineering work and marketing aspects of the plant upgrade.



Permapole - reputation for premium quality and customer service

Permapole, one of the largest producers of treated pine roundwood in Western Australia, is situated 45 kilometres south of Perth on the South Western Highway at Cardup. The company has won a reputation for premium quality and customer service.

Permapole manufactures a range of treated Lifewood® CCA and NatureWood® ACQ® products, including fencing, agricultural and horticulture posts, viticulture trellising and landscaping products such as sleepers. The majority of products are wholesaled to large distribution chains.

In April 2005, Permapole investigated the possibility of converting one of its two CCA cylinders to ACQ. According to Executive Director Grey Egerton-Warburton this initiative was motivated by the number of inquiries received for alternative ground contact preservative treatments.

He advises that since the commissioning of the upgraded plant the market response has been greater than expected. "Permapole is experiencing a high demand for ACQ treatment across the full product range",

says Mr Egerton-Warburton.

He went on to say, "I believe that the demand for ACQ treated products will expand even further over time, especially from users like local councils and government agencies who are now using ACQ treated products for playgrounds, public park structures and landscaping applications."

Osmose Territory Manager Chris Tzioutzioutklaris said: "The conversion at Permapole was made easier by the fact that there were two existing cylinders and work tanks, and that key staff were in tune with what needed to be done to make the conversion a success.

The staff at Permapole worked closely with Osmose on the design and required alterations but completed much of the on-site work themselves. We were very pleased with the outcome, the work was completed in early December 2005." ☎

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Bunnings Warehouse now stocking
ACQ treated decking

Bunnings choose ACQ® decking

Trend setter and market leader in Australia's \$25 billion home improvement sector Bunnings Warehouse now stocking ACQ-treated decking.

Since opening its first store in Victoria in 1994, Bunnings Warehouse has developed into Australia's leading do-it-yourself and building materials retailer. The company is still expanding, with plans for more Bunnings Warehouse stores throughout Australia and New Zealand over the next few years.

Bunnings National Buyer for timber Gerard McMahon says "that as far as Bunnings is concerned the reason for moving to an alternative to CCA treated decking was solely the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) ruling on CCA products". That decision has now resulted in a relationship with Tasman KB for the supply of ACQ decking to all Bunnings outlets in Queensland, NSW and Victoria.

Mr McMahon adds that the decking product now carried by Bunnings appears very similar to that formerly treated with CCA. "After an initial settling in period we have had hardly any reaction from customers. As far as we are concerned its business as usual."

Mr McAndrew (TKB) stressed that in its supply relationship with Bunnings, TKB is extremely careful to ensure that advice on treatment type and product selection is based on sound science and commercial realities. He said, "CCA will remain a satisfactory cost-effective treatment option for most other external applications." 🌐



ERMA

New Zealand

NZ guidelines positive advance for industry

The Best Practice Guideline for the Safe Use of Timber Preservatives & Antisapstain Chemicals sets out the requirements for the design and operation of plants using timber preservatives and antisapstain chemicals to ensure that they satisfy New Zealand occupational health and safety and environmental protection legislation.

Executive Officer of the New Zealand Timber Preservation Council Kevin Hing, said "the guidelines replace the Code of Practice that had been in operation since 1994 and were designed to assist treatment plants comply with health and safety and environmental requirements".

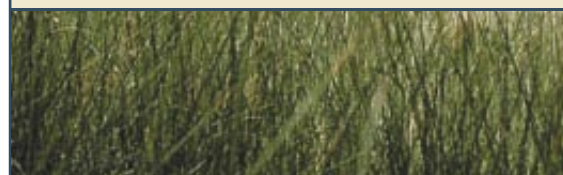
The guidelines are the result of work undertaken by a committee representing the timber preservation industry, Department of Labour, Environmental Risk Management Authority (ERMA), local government and unions.

They have been endorsed by Department of Labour and ERMA as a means of complying with relevant parts of the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, the Hazardous Substances & New Organisms Act 1996 and aspects of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Mr Hing confirmed that the guidelines had been developed in consultation with timber preservation technology companies, timber treaters, government agencies and other stakeholders.

Osmose New Zealand Technical Sales Manager Terry Smith, said the new best practices guidelines capture a lot of important, valuable information in the one place. "It will be a very useful tool for timber treaters in assisting them to comply with regulatory requirements and technical standards."

"The preparation of the guidelines was a positive exercise for the industry. It involved a comprehensive consultation process that got the industry working collaboratively. Osmose was very pleased to be involved in the exercise and with the final result," said Mr Smith. 🌐



HEADLINE NEWS

February 2006

Weather: 35° and sunny

NZ Broadcasting Standards Authority upholds complaint

Decisions of the New Zealand Broadcasting Standards Authority (BSA) in February 2006 held that items broadcast on TV One in Close Up on 11 July 2005 and One News on 12 July 2005 which suggested that the product TimberSaver® might not be fit for purpose were, in the case of the Close Up item, unbalanced, inaccurate and unfair and, in the case of the One News item, inaccurate and unfair.

In relation to both complaints, the BSA made orders under Sections 13 and 16 of the Broadcasting Act 1989, requiring Television New Zealand Ltd (TVNZ) to broadcast statements approved by the BSA that contained a summary of the BSA's decisions. The BSA ordered TVNZ to pay costs to Osmose and also to pay costs to the Crown.

In the case of the Close Up item, the Broadcasting Standards Authority held that TVNZ's broadcast was not balanced in relation to the suitability of the product. The Broadcasting Standards Authority accepted that "there is a significant body of evidence, arising from the accreditation process, to indicate that when used properly TimberSaver® is a satisfactory product that performs well."

The Authority considered: "... that to provide balance, once the item challenged the suitability of the product, it also needed to provide the scientific conclusions which were the basis for the product's accreditation by the Building Industry Authority. Without this information, viewers were left largely uninformed about the scientific evidence supporting the quality and suitability of the product for its intended purpose."

The Authority also considered that "the lack of balance in this item was not remedied by a later One News item which reported that TimberSaver® had "been given an initial all-clear" by the Department of Building and Housing, and it would perform if used correctly."

The Broadcasting Standards Authority also held that the item breached the Code of Broadcasting Standards' requirements for accuracy and fairness, as TVNZ failed to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the information sources used in the current affairs programme were reliable. In this regard, the Authority stated:

"... that the only scientific basis in the item for the claims about TimberSaver's lack of durability was the evidence

given by Dr Wakeling. In those circumstances, the Authority finds that TVNZ had an obligation to ensure that he was independent, with no apparent conflict of interest."

The Authority concluded that viewed as a complete package the item was unfair to Osmose. The company was not given a reasonable opportunity to defend its TimberSaver® product.

In the case of the One News item, the Broadcasting Standards Authority held that the One News item breached the requirement for accuracy under Standard 5 of the Code. The Authority said it appeared there was no evidence to support TVNZ's statement that TimberSaver® left timber vulnerable to borer or rot.

The Authority also found that the One News item contravened the Guideline to Standard 5 which provides that broadcasters should refrain from broadcasting material which is misleading or unnecessarily alarms viewers.

The Authority considered that the inaccuracy was not sufficiently corrected by a subsequent One News item on 19 August, almost six weeks later, reporting that there was no evidence to suggest the product won't perform if used correctly. The Authority said that statement was neither sufficiently strong nor explanatory to override the message in the first item and was unlikely to reassure viewers.

The Authority also found that the One News item breached the Guideline to Standard 5 which requires broadcasters to take all reasonable steps to ensure that information sources for news programmes are reliable because TVNZ had no source for a claim made regarding the length of time it would take before homeowners would see signs of any rot.

In relation to fairness under Standard 6 of the Code, the Authority also found that the One News item left the impression that TimberSaver® was a defective and substandard product and therefore that Osmose, as the manufacturer of TimberSaver®, was treated unfairly in the broadcast. Accordingly, the Authority upheld the complaint that the item was unfair to Osmose and in breach of Standard 6.





Image supplied by Pine Solutions

Used as a glue-line synthetic termiticide and insecticide *Determite* has assisted companies to grow markets for engineered wood products.

***Determite*®, growing markets for engineered and framing products**

Determite® is playing a central role in improving product and market performance of engineered wood and solid pine framing products. Its application as a glue-line insecticide has assisted companies to grow and develop new markets for engineered wood products, whilst *Determite*'s use in expanding blue framing markets is acknowledged by market leaders.

Carter Holt Harvey Market Engineer Alan Ross said they have found using *Determite* in their hySPAN® and hyJOIST® beams to be an effective and odourless treatment process, applied to the glueline during manufacture to achieve termite protection.

Osmose's Director – Business Development, Steve Crimp, reiterated comments about operational efficiency and cost benefits arising from the use of *Determite* as an additive to glue lines in engineered wood products. "The *DeterMite* product is added to the glue during manufacturing. This treatment process has obvious cost benefits, not to mention that some engineered beams are manufactured to 14 metres and they just won't fit into most traditional treatment cylinders."

Pine Solutions Australia use *Determite* as a spray-on water-based treatment for H2F blue framing, marketed under their Termini-nator® brand. As does Stora Enso marketing their product as Blue Shield™, Hantec as H2F and IFP as Blue2.

"Blue Pine" framing is the generic industry name for termite protected framing that uses newly developed technology,

such as *Determite*, for the protection of frames and trusses against termite attack.

National Sales and Marketing Manager, Christine Briggs confirmed that *Determite* was a fundamental element of Pine Solution's Termini-nator® termite resistant framing. She said that the decision to use *Determite* was made only after a comprehensive technical review.

"We undertook a thorough technical assessment before we chose *Determite*. The Bifenthrin chemical has a well established and proven record of performance in Australia, plus from safety and building application point-of-view we liked the water-based application technology."

Ms Briggs added that *Determite*'s 25 year warranty was an important consideration. "Our parent company Weyerhaeuser has a 100 year reputation to protect, so we are very conscious of product performance and the assurances we provide and are prepared to stand behind."

Termini-nator carries a fully transferable 25-year warranty against termite damage (see separate warranty for details).

She said the *Determite* treated Termini-nator termite resistant blue framing is much more cost-effective than earlier systems. "The take-up by builders and specifiers has been very positive. We estimate that already around 15-17 per cent of new pine timber frames are now treated with termite resistant blue framing systems. This has doubled in the past three years and I expect to see this trend continue." 🌐

Perma Log - treated logs and custom service

The Perma Log plant at Narangba in Queensland not only produces treated logs for landscape, industrial and agricultural use, but also has the capacity to treat and dry products for customers.

Principal Sam Baker said Perma Log is enthusiastic about adding further value to its treated log products. For instance, its domed bollards are now popular for municipal car park applications.

Mr Baker (pictured right) stressed that the Narangba plant placed importance on its custom treatment and drying service. Using a state-of-the-art Windsor kiln in association with its modern treatment facilities, Perma Log is able to offer customers Lifewood® CCA or NatureWood® ACQ® treatments, plus pre-drying and post-treatment drying options.



Being located just 40 minutes north of Brisbane, the Narangba plant is ideally located to assist companies shipping product further north. Perma Log can treat, dry and dispatch finished products to northern locations and equally offer a service to customers wanting to deliver finished product into the Brisbane area or to locations further south.

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PERMA • LOG

Early signs positive for FramePro™

FramePro™ is a new water-based boron treatment for internal framing applications that meets all the requirements of the H1.2 Hazard Class and complies with the New Zealand Standard NZS 3640 for full penetration of sapwood.

Osmose's New Zealand Technical Sales Manager, Terry Smith, advises that FramePro has significant advantages, being based on the proven performance of Boron.

Terry said, "As a water-based boron treatment it is a low odour product and following treatment, timber doesn't need re-drying or further processing, before it goes on to the building site."

The FramePro preservative is applied to wood using a low uptake vacuum pressure process. Applied directly to kiln dried timber the dimensional change is minimal, based on an increase of only 3-5% moisture content. "The treatment is applied in finished pack form which reduces handling costs and increases flexibility," says Mr Smith.

The use of FramePro for H1.2 applications has been approved by independent quality assurance providers, the New Zealand Timber Preservation Council and AgriQuality.

Although new to the market, FramePro is predicted to be an increasingly attractive option for building and construction industries in the growing New Zealand market for kiln dried, treated framing timber. Two significant treatment plants are now using the product, and interest continues to be high.

A survey of New Zealand companies indicates that, whilst it is early days for FramePro treated framing in terms of customer exposure, initial feed back is encouraging. Preliminary indications are that FramePro has been well received by building trade customers. The minimal, but consistent size variation of the treated framing is not a problem - an important consideration for builders. Comments suggest that early market reaction to FramePro has been positive and that the demand for the product will continue to grow. ⊕



Osmose®

*For further information see separate guarantee documents.

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hySpan® and hyJoist® are trademarks of Carter Holt Harvey.

Termi-nator® is a trademark of Pine Solutions Australia.

Lifewood, NatureWood, PROTIM and FramePro treated timber products are produced by independently owned and operated wood preserving facilities.

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