



NEW ZEALAND TIMBER PRESERVATION COUNCIL

Incorporated

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NEWSLETTER Issue 22 May 2006

CIRCULATE TO:

G.M.

Site Mgr

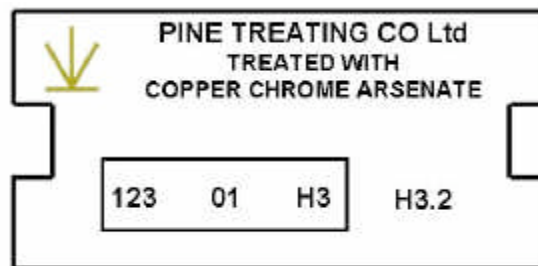
Plant Mgr

Plant Op

Sales Mgr

CCA Labelling Australia

By now all licensees supplying CCA treated timber into Australia should be complying with their labelling requirements. All this timber should now carry the words "Treated with copper, chrome, arsenate". See our sample label below. Note that it is critical that only the plant number, chemical number and Australian hazard class number should be placed inside the border.



NZS 3640

Applications have been made to make the following amendments to the treatment standard, NZ 3640.

- To add Boron at 0.8% to H3.1. This is primarily for fascia, weatherboard and external joinery and will be required to be pre-primed at treatment plant site. The pre-priming requirement will apply to any boric framing that may be produced to this hazard class as well.
- To reduce the retention for copper naphthenate H3.1 to 0.05%. This is primarily for fascia, weatherboard and exterior joinery and while there is no requirement for it to be primed at the treatment plant site, it is designed to have a paint system applied. This treatment will be restricted to pieces up to 30 mm thick.

It is expected that these alterations to the standard will be effective in late May although some discussion around boron taking place at the moment could delay this.

NZS 3602

Over the past year or so it has become apparent that there are anomalies in this standard that should be corrected. We are putting together a list of those anomalies so that representations can be made to appropriate people to request that amendments be made.

If you are aware of any shortcomings in NZS 3602 please let me know.

EEL's for Azoles

Work is currently underway to establish a reasonable, universal EEL (environmental exposure limit) for azoles. Currently there are EEL's set for various proprietary products but they are inconsistent.

Representations are being made to ERMA but we understand that this could be a very long drawn out process. Major concerns we have are that:

- The use of azoles in crop spray formulations could impact/influence any EEL set for timber preservatives.
- EEL's should be consistent across proprietary brands with the same actives.
- The established EEL should be realistic and reasonable.

WES Study

The proposed Department of Labour study of workplace exposure standards for LOSP treated timber will be deferred indefinitely. We understand that the number of complaints received by the Department about the effects of LOSP treated timber has decreased. However this is not to say that the Department is totally relaxed. Treaters need to continue to ensure that all steps are taken to eliminate any potential health risks to users.

Tank Certification

We recently sent out an information pack to all licensees. The pack outlined the steps required for certification of tanks and the time frame for this.

The critical first task was to appoint TPC as the assessor. This needed to have been completed in March. If you haven't already appointed an assessor, TPC or someone else, you should complete the form included in the information pack and return it to us urgently. That's all you need to do at this stage.

TPC has put proposals to both Department of Labour and ERMA to rationalise the requirements of both government departments and to make things as simple as possible as well as inexpensive. The responses have been promising and we hope, over the next few months, to be able to iron out a practical and reasonable requirement that will suit all licensees and will mean consistency across the board for the whole timber preservation industry. The main thing is not to panic, we will have someone on your site shortly – but **not** until we are happy that the legislation you are required to comply with is reasonable, which is not the case at present.

We will keep you posted on this.

The only thing licensees need to do right now is engage a test certifier. Completing the form previously supplied and returning it to us will do the trick. If you have misplaced the form, contact us for another one.

LOSP Treaters Group

This group met on 12 April to discuss matters of common interest. Issues considered included:

- Proposed amendments to NZS 3640:2003.
- EEL's for azoles.
- New, proposed penetration pattern for treating glulam H3 in AS/NZS 1604 Part 5. Members of the group have been given information about schedules that will allow them to achieve the penetration pattern. Thanks to Ahead Lumber, Jenkin Timber and Taranaki Sawmills for this data.
- Proposed Department of Labour WES study.
- Solvent “flash off” and dealing with customer demands. We have informed the major merchant chains and the Frame & Truss Manufacturers Assn of our concerns regarding demands for early delivery of LOSP treated timber. Discussions are being held with Department of Labour about liability and “chain of custody”.

Technical Committee

The committee met in Rotorua on 27 April 2006. The main items discussed were:

- Proposed changes to NZS 3640. It was agreed that amendments to NZS 3640 impact on NZS 3602 the timber used in building standard. A number of shortcomings in NZS 3602 have been identified and submissions will be made to Standards New Zealand seeking appropriate changes.
- Changes to standards dealing with analysis of treated timber and design and operation of treatment plants.
- Sampling and analysis – establishment of laboratory procedure protocols, analysis of H1.2 cores, IPBC analysis method, CCA analysis of TAE instead of copper.
- Environmental exposure limits for timber preservatives.

WOODmark® Promotions



We continue to promote the WOODmark® brand whenever the opportunity arises.

WOODmark® has been in existence since 1987 and in that time it has become recognised as New Zealand's only national quality assurance programme for treated timber. Despite this there is always a need to educate a whole group of people such as merchant staff, builders, landscapers, building designers and specifiers and building regulators about treated timber and the benefits of the WOODmark® programme.

Recently we have participated in events for trade customers at:

Mitre 10 Mega Stores, Petone, Dunedin and Hornby.
Bunnings Warehouse, North Shore

We have also conducted staff education sessions at each of the above stores plus Mitre 10, Colombo Street, Christchurch and Hampton ITM, Christchurch.

Presentations have also been made to a number of architectural practices in Christchurch and North Shore and to building officials at Christchurch City Council, North Shore City Council and Palmerston North City Council. We also had a display stand at the Building Officials Institute conference held in Christchurch in April.

These promotions are ongoing and focus on:

- Outlining the need for timber treatment.
- Describing treatment processes and the approved preservatives.
- Describing the hazard classes, discussing uses in each hazard class and outlining the branding and identification of treated timber.
- Describing the WOODmark® programme, what it means, what it stands for and why they, as users, specifiers and regulators can benefit from the WOODmark®.

The majority of comments we are getting at the moment surround the need for better identification of treated products on building sites.

We will be continuing this promotional activity as and when opportunities arise.

Sampling & Analysis

Everyone should by now know what is required of them regarding their responsibilities to the Timber Preservation Quality Manual.

It is pleasing to see the majority of operations getting back up to speed with their internal testing regime (Appendix 2). Please feel free to ask on our rounds what is required should you still be unsure.

Remember – if your process or chemical formulation changes, you are required to make the necessary changes to your TPQM and implement them as required.

Should you be sending any samples to a laboratory for analysis yourselves please note the following changes for required sample length:

1. Boron – 10 sapwood samples at 180mm long.
2. IPBC & azoles – two sets of 10 samples 30mm long.

This is due to extra testing requirements for core loadings and penetration tests.

Also, LOSP treaters need to ensure that samples supplied to the TPC are correctly flashed off. We have had instructions that the laboratories will not accept freshly treated samples for health and safety reasons.

You may have already seen the new “Best Practice Guideline” for timber preservatives. We are presently working on an audit checklist to accompany this document which our auditors will be using shortly to assess your site for compliance. This document is available from our TPC office or our auditors will carry a certain amount of copies on the road should you wish to purchase a copy.

First round sampling was good with minimal failures countrywide – just what we like to see.



Kevin Hing