



Project of Note



WINERY TAPS INTO TREATED WOOD FOR EXPANSION

Bethel Heights Vineyard, located in the Eola Hills, outside of Salem, Oregon, is one of Oregon's premium wineries. The winery was established in 1984, and is recognized for making some of the best wine in the state, especially Pinot Noir. In 1994, an above ground barrel room was added onto the original facility, and by 1996, it was time to expand again.

WaterLeaf Architecture and Interiors, Portland, designed a new entrance, office and tasting room stacked above a second barrel room, this time located below grade. Locating the new barrel room below grade would decrease thermal fluctuations, and allow ground humidity to be naturally introduced via the floor in an alternating pattern of gravel beds and concrete floor slabs. Higher humidity levels have the advantage of decreasing evaporative losses to the wine stored in barrels. Separating the barrel room and tasting room is a wood floor framing system, comprising glu-laminated girders and beams supporting a 2x6 T&G wood decking. The framing was left exposed in the barrel room, and to deal with the higher than normal levels of humidity, pressure treated wood was specified for the project. CCA was used on the decking and columns, and Copper-8-Quinolinolate for the glu-laminated girders and beams.

Many wineries also use treated wood for grapestakes in their vineyards to train and support the vines.

Treater: Permapost Products.

NEW USE CATEGORY SYSTEM INTRODUCED IN AWWPA 1999 BOOK OF STANDARDS

Beginning with the 1999 Book of Standards, the Use Category System (UCS) is published in parallel with the Commodity Standards (C) section.

The UCS was developed as a format revision of the C standards and is not intended to make substantive technical changes to those standards. The UCS contains definitions of the various Use Categories, a Service Conditions section, a Treated Wood Use Selection Guide, a list of AWWPA accepted preservative systems, a Guide to Use Categories and various Appendices relating to specific product types such as sawn products, poles, piling or fire retardant applications. The UCS may now be used instead of the C standards to specify products with the temporary exception of processing information.

For copies of the 1999 Book of Standards, contact AWWPA, 817-326-6300.

DEADLY DECK COLLAPSE DEMONSTRATES NEED FOR PROPER CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS.

A wedding celebration near Salem, Oregon, turned to tragedy when an outdoor deck collapsed plunging 26 people to the rocks and brush 40 feet below. Sadly, a 70-year old guest was killed and 25 others seriously injured when the deck gave way minutes after the wedding ceremony.

According to Chuck Monschein, Building Inspector Supervisor for Marion County, the primary cause of the deck collapse was an advanced case of dry rot in several supporting beams. The substructure was constructed with non - pressure-treated Douglas fir -- and over 30% had been destroyed by dry rot. "You could take a chunk of (the wood), squeeze it and see all the moisture come out. You can't build (this type of construction) with non pressure-treated wood," said Monschein.

This incident -- like other less tragic deck collapses reported every year -- demonstrates the need for home owners to regularly inspect or have their decks inspected by a professional for structural integrity. When repairing or building a new deck use only appropriate building materials.

As for materials, the most common and reliable choice is pressure-treated wood. In fact, to be in compliance with the Uniform Building Code, a deck's substructure (where its wood members are embedded in the ground, come into contact with the earth, or exposed to weather) must be treated wood or a naturally resistant species.

Treated wood used in ground contact must be treated to a level of 0.40 pounds of water-based preservative per cubic foot (pcf) of wood and must be incised before treatment. Wood that is used as a foundation to support structures



should be treated to a level of 0.60 pcf and above ground applications need 0.25 pcf. If using an oilborne preservative such as penta or copper naphthenate for support structures, it should be treated to .50 pcf and .060 pcf respectively.

Contractors and purchasers should be certain the wood matches its intended use. The appropriate use and retention level should appear as either an end tag or ink stamp on every piece of wood. Users should also look for a CheckMark logo to find the mark of an accredited American Lumber Standards Committee inspection agency which monitors quality assurance for the pressure treating industry.

Of course, for a deck to be safe, it must be built properly for structural stability. When heavier than normal loads are expected (e.g., large groups, hot tub, etc.) or when a deck is built more than just a few feet off the ground, the Institute recommends that a professional be consulted for design assistance.

Properly built decks, made of properly specified and produced treated wood, routinely provide years of service without structural worries. For more information on treated wood products, contact WWPI.