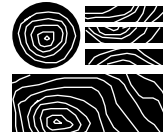


Treated Wood News



Summer 1999



Provided by Western Wood Preservers Institute

Project of Note

Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge Comes Back To Life

The treated wood boardwalk is part of a major expansion of the visitor center at Nisqually National Wildlife refuge located just



off Interstate 5 in southern Puget Sound. The refuge is home to a large number of both resident and migratory birds as well as several species of Pacific Salmon.

The new ACQ treated walkway replaces an older structure which was

lost to the winter flood of 1996. When completed later this year, the project will be over 1 mile in length and will give refuge visitors easy access to both sensitive wetlands and upland areas, while minimizing the impact of these visitors on the environment. Park officials expect to have over 100,000 people visit the refuge each year. Labor for the project has been supplied in a large part by the Washington Conservation Corps.

Pressure treated wood was a natural choice for this project because of its ability to blend in with the environment and its long-standing performance record in similar applications.

Treater: Superior Wood Treating, Sumner, WA

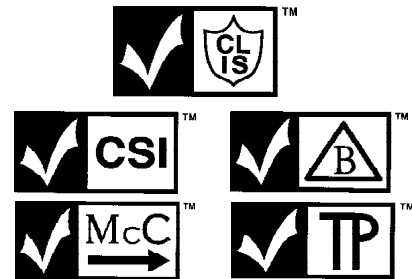
CheckMark Quality Assurance Identification Program

Most treaters in the West are now marking treated wood that is under the American Lumber Standard Committee (ALSC) quality assurance program with end-tags and stamps carrying the new CheckMark logo.



W W P I developed the logo to help the trade easily recognize and distinguish the different ALSC accredited agencies' quality marks. The CheckMark can only be applied to treated products under the ALSC inspection program and included in the AWWPA End Use Categories of the Treated Wood Enforcement Regulations. The CheckMark can never appear on products outside the program and can never appear without the logo of an accredited ALSC inspection agency. To meet the strict requirements of the Uniform Building Code, treated products must bear the mark of an ALSC accredited

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JUST CHECK FOR IT.

AWPA's Use Category System to Replace "C" Standards

The American Wood Preservers Association (AWPA), the standards-setting organization for treated wood products in the U.S. is initiating a new format called the Use Category System for a portion of its standards. This system will eliminate referencing the Commodity or "C" Standards for wood products and replace them with the appropriate Use Category Standards. It is important to note that the technical content of the standards *will not change* – only the formatting of the commodity standards.

There are several reasons dictating the change. First and foremost was for simplification. When implemented, the architectural and specifying community will only have to put what is necessary to specify treated wood in a short document without all the extraneous information that the treating industry needs to produce the product. Additionally, the International Standards Organization (ISO) is moving to develop a new standard for treated wood based on exposure category criteria, and the U.S. has signed the World Trade Agreement which endorses international standards.

The rationale is to place all treated wood commodities within a series of different exposure categories. Each exposure has a different degree of biodegradation hazard and/or product service life expectation. The standards will consist of seven use categories, based on exposures and expected product performance, ranging from weather-protected to saltwater marine and fire retardant applications.

In general, as the Use Category number increases, there is a consequent increase in the

required preservative retention. Depending on the dimensions of the treated product, the depth of penetration requirement may also increase. Bottom line, this should result in a much simplified and more logical method of referencing, locating and specifying treated wood products for users. In fact, the AWPA Book of Standards will be streamlined considerably as the consolidated Use Categories replace the oftentimes voluminous "C" Standard nomenclature.

The implementation schedule for the new system is well under way. Currently, the data is out for comment and some changes will likely be made before the document is final. The Use Category System will become official with the publication of the 1999 Book of Standards (Fall, 1999) where existing "C" Standards and the Use Category System will be published side by side in the book for one, and possibly two years. After that, the existing "C" Standards will be dropped from AWPA's Book of Standards.

The full implementation and knowledgeable use of the new system will obviously take some time. Therefore, WWPI will keep users and specifiers of treated wood up to date with continuing articles in the *Treated Wood News*.

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CheckMark Quality Assurance Identification Program

inspection agency. Now with the CheckMark, it is easy for code officials to find the inspection agency's mark.

The treating industry legitimately produces products that do not require ALSC oversight; such as landscape timbers for non structural applications and non incised decking products which carry their own manufacturer's warranty.

For more information on the CheckMark Identification Program, contact WWPI.

Copper Naphthenate treated glu-lam and piling provide quality and aesthetically appealing construction for the Nisqually Wildlife Education Center (Glu-lam treated by Remapost Products).

