

VACSOL[®] AZURE

GOOD FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

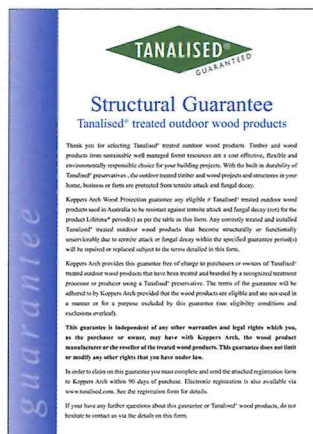


new generation treated timber

DURABLE ENOUGH FOR OUTDOOR ABOVE GROUND CONTACT VACSOL[®] AZURE TREATED TIMBER IS IDEAL BECAUSE IT IS FAMILY FRIENDLY AND HIGHLY RESISTANT TO TERMITES AND WOOD ROT. VACSOL[®] AZURE IS AVAILABLE AS EITHER A CLEAR, PALE GREEN OR PRE PRIMED FINISH.

PEACE OF MIND

Vacsol[®] Azure treated timber is compliant to AS1604 H3 level and is guaranteed* against failure due to termites and decay for up to 25 years. Vacsol[®] Azure treated timber does not use water in the process and hence is dimensionally stable, making it the perfect choice for structural sawn timber, engineered Glulam and LVL beams. The durability of this product is ideally suited to outdoor above ground applications. It is safe in general use around people including children, as well as pets, other animals and plant life.



The light organic solvent preservative used in Vacsol[®] Azure may initially leave the timber with a 'slight solvent' odour. This should disappear within a few days once the boards are open to the air. If a large quantity of Vacsol[®] Azure treated timber is being handled or stored indoors, adequate ventilation must be provided.

The treatment used in Vacsol[®] Azure is non-metallic and is non-corrosive to steel and common metals. However, any timber exposed to weather should be fixed using rust resistant fastenings such as hot-dipped galvanised nails, bolts and plates.

RE-SEALING REQUIREMENTS

Where a piece of timber is cut to length, rebated or drilled it is essential that the newly exposed surfaces are re-sealed with a suitable in-can timber preservative such as Tanalised[®] EcoSeal or Tanalised[®] EnSeal Timber Protective.

Vacsol[®] Azure treated timber should not be rip sawn, re-thickened or heavily planed as these actions may reduce the protection afforded by the treatment.



Vacsol[®] Azure non metallic.

Vacsol[®] Azure has many uses

Vacsol Azure timber complies with all the latest government regulations and is suitable for all H3 hazard level applications and is ideal for exterior above ground building uses such as decking, hand rails, fascia, engineered timber products, floor joists and bearers, playground equipment and many others.

Painting Guidelines

"General weathering and sunlight (UV) destroys timber surfaces if left unprotected, therefore it is strongly recommended that Vacsol[®] Azure treated timber should be painted for all exterior, weather exposed applications to prevent surface deterioration and surface mould."

To ensure that the solvent carrier has dissipated from the timber it is recommended that Vacsol[®] Azure treated timber be allowed to stand for a minimum of seven days after installation prior to painting or staining. Once dry, Vacsol[®] Azure treated timber paints like untreated timber.

For full recommendations please refer to the Arch "Guidelines for Painting Treated Timber".

Primer

- Some Vacsol[®] Azure products are supplied pre-primed. Note that some primers used are only holding primers. You should confirm with the supplier that the primer used is a good quality timber primer, otherwise it should be sanded back and re-primed with a premium quality timber primer as per the manufacturer's directions.



Solid colours

- Apply two coats of premium quality primer.
- Apply two coats of premium quality acrylic or enamel paint as per the manufacturer's directions.

Clear finishes and stains

- Painting or staining should be completed within four weeks of installation.
- Follow good painting guidelines, eg clean surfaces free of loose or weathered timber.



Use of hySPAN & hyJOIST for Weather Exposed Applications

What is weather exposed?

Firstly, there are no hard and fast rules as to what is and what isn't weather exposed. The worst potential effect of external exposure is decay resulting from high moisture content. Any hySPAN® or hyJOIST® element which stays wet for long periods may decay. Roofed over elements are less likely to be frequently wetted by rain and TRADAC in Queensland have evolved the following guideline based on a 30° to the vertical line as illustrated in Figure 1. The parts of the building outside of this line are regarded as weather exposed.

More about the effects of weather exposure

The combined effects of sun, wind and rain are complex. Sun and wind have a drying effect and in this respect are beneficial however cyclic wetting and drying and ultra-violet rays break down the wood surface, increasing porosity and the tendency to retain moisture. Whilst the resultant surface checking and discolouration are adverse to appearance it is the retention of increasing amounts of moisture that ultimately leads to decay of susceptible wood fibre. Fungi consume wood fibre as a food source to cause decay but only if the wood is susceptible and sufficiently damp. In practical terms the two most effective ways of minimising the risk of decay is to,

1. Chemically treat the wood with preservative so that fungi cannot utilise it as a source of food,
2. Limit the availability of moisture.

hySPAN

Where hySPAN is used for weather exposed applications preservative treatment to H3 in accordance with AS 1604.4 is a minimum requirement. In addition, installation detailing to minimise moisture availability is strongly recommended.

In practice, preservative treatment is not 100% effective and therefore it just makes good sense to reduce the possibility of decay by also seeking to exclude as much moisture as is practicable. Examples of such details include painting, the use of cappings and ensuring that joint interfaces do not trap and retain moisture.

Some suggested installation details for hySPAN used as bearer and joists for weather exposed decks are given below.

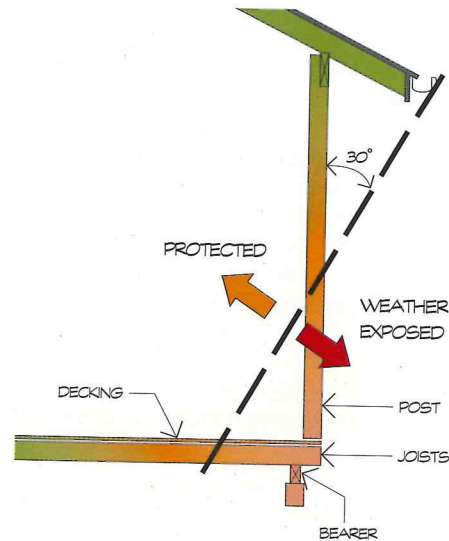


FIGURE 1 WEATHER EXPOSED

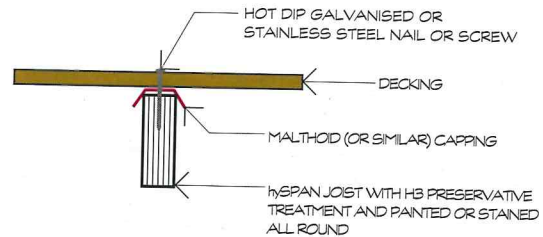
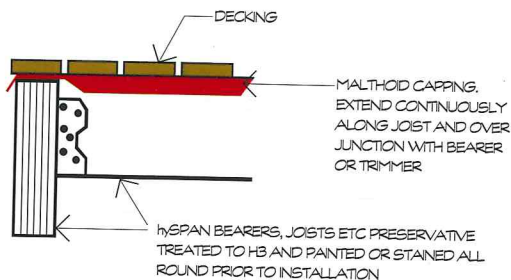


FIGURE 2 DETAILS FOR WEATHER EXPOSED DECKS

hyJOIST

hyJOIST is not recommended for weather exposed applications even with preservative treatment. The top of the bottom flange of hyJOIST is difficult to protect, moisture will pond on the horizontal surface and be retained by accumulated dirt. These factors increase the susceptibility of hyJOIST to degrade and decay from weather exposure even if preservative treated.

hyJOIST used in poorly ventilated (but not weather exposed) sub-floor environments may however be beneficially treated to H3 level to minimise the risk of decay.

Preservative treatment

Preservation treatments conforming to AS 1604.4 fall into two categories – water borne and solvent (or oil) borne. Both are pressure treatments requiring specialised plant and processes in order to obtain suitable penetration of preservative. Water borne processes involve harsh wetting and drying regimes that can affect structural integrity and because of this, solvent (or oil) based preservatives are favoured. For hySPAN and hyJOIST, required to be treated to H3 level, the preferred preservative process is known generically as Light Organic Solvent Preservative (LOSP).

Like most industries the wood preservation industry has its fair share of those that promise more than they deliver. Accordingly, only use hySPAN or hyJOIST with preservative treatment where there is suitable branding or documentation,

- a) clearly identifying the level of treatment as H3 (the minimum for above ground weather exposure - H2 is not adequate)
- b) specifying the Standards reference AS 1604.4 and,
- c) identifying the preservative treatment company.

Because the effect of inadequate treatment may only become apparent some years after installation, it is strongly recommended the above details are recorded (eg a photograph of the branding) and retained for future reference.