March 2004

Building Safety

Structural Notes

Related Links

Southern Pine Council
www.southernpine.com

American Wood Preservers' Institute
www.preservedwood.com

American Wood Preservers' Association
www.awpa.com

Western Wood Preservers Institute
www.wwpinstitute.org

Forest Products Laboratory—USDA
www.fpl.fs.fed.us

Arch Wood Protection, Inc.
www.wolmanizedwood.com

Chemical Specialties, Inc.
www.treatedwood.com

Osmose, Inc.
www.osmose.com

U.S. Borax, Inc.
www.borax.com

American Galvanizers Association
www.galvanizeit.org

GalvInfo Center
www.galvinfo.com

Municipality Of Anchorage

Building Safety Division
4700 Bragaw Street

Jim Stubbs
Lead Structural Inspector
343-8325

Treated Wood Industry in Transition

Effective December 31, 2003, the preservative-treated wood industry voluntarily transitioned from Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA-C) used in residential applications to alternative treatments. Testing has shown that certain alternative replacement treatments are generally more corrosive than CCA-C.

The new generations of preserved wood are primarily three types of products—Ammoniacal Copper Quat (ACQ), Copper Boron Azole (CBA), and Copper Azole (CA-B). They are being marketed under such brands as ACQ Preserve® , NatureWood® , and Wolmanized® Natural Select Wood.

Based on testing results, it is known that certain types of ACQ, Copper Azole, and SBC (DOT) with $NaSiO_2$ treated woods are more corrosive than CCA-C treated woods. Testing on Sodium Borate (DOT-Disodium Octaborate Tetrahydrate) treated wood generally indicates corrosion rates less than seen with CCA-C treated wood.

Here is the internet website for Building Safety. You can request an inspection, read the local amendments, or read the old newsletters. Arranging an inspection from this website is EASY; put in the permit # and the autofill takes care of the rest.

www .muni.org/building

2003 Residential Code—Fastener Statement—Section R319.3

Fasteners for pressure-preservative treated wood shall be hot-dipped galvanized steel, stainless steel, silicon bronze, or copper. NOTE: Electro-plated galvanized fasteners are not normally recognized as being corrosion resistant for exterior applications. Aluminum should not be used in direct contact with CCA-C or ACQ treated lumber.

The Pressure Treated Wood Industry recommends hot - dipped galvanized or stainless steel fasteners, anchors, and hardware for use with treated wood. This has been the position of this industry for years and their position has not changed with the transition to the alternative copper-based products. It is important to note that the thickness of galvanized coatings varies. The thicker the galvanized coating, the longer the expected service of the fastener, connector, or other hardware will be. Thicker galvanizing generally extends service life of a product. The treated wood industry recommends use of stainless steel and hot-dipped galvanized connectors and fasteners with treated wood.

Testing has shown that type 304 and 316 stainless steel products corrode substantially less than other alternatives when used with the alternative wood treatments. When using stainless steel or hot-dipped galvanized connectors, the connectors and fasteners should be made of the same material.

For more information refer to hardware manufacturer's product literature, web site, or contact your local supplier.