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BRITISH BOARD OF AGRÉMENT ASSESSMENT REPORT
Ref: M2/49109
ASSESSMENT OF MEDITE
TRICOYA

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On behalf of the British Board of Agrément

8 Conclusions

8.1 The various Building Regulations include requirements for durability, and effect implicit requirements for preservation. The Northern Ireland Building regulations and insurance based standards have additional explicit requirements for preservation. The tests carried out by BRE and SP Tratek show that the product is effective against leaching, is effective against brown, white and soft rot, has a durability class 1 and meets these requirements.

8.2 The mechanical aspects for handling acetylated timber are the same as untreated timber and the same procedures should be followed to satisfy Manual Handling Operations Regulations, Construction (Design and Management) Regulation and Safety Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations.

8.3 The acetylation process gives a slight acetic acid odour to Medite Tricoya and may alter the character of the dust it produces from it. The routine procedure used to achieve the workplace exposure limit for wood dusts are considered adequate to keep dusts produced when Medite Tricoya is fabricated under proper control.

8.4 It is anticipated that the conditions of use assessed will not present a nuisance in service and it is recommended that tests are conducted to investigate whether painting is effective against acetic acid vapour emission.

8.5 The raw material specification and production schedules used and the controls exercised on the final product were considered sufficient to give a consistent quality at the time of the assessment.

8.6 The BBA has previously concluded that acetylated timber to be not toxic to humans and not eco-toxic. The acetic acid present in Medite Tricoya which is produced from acetylated wood is not toxic to humans and is not eco toxic. In addition, no formaldehyde is added during the manufacture of Medite Tricoya.

8.7 Medite Tricoya achieves its preservative properties by physical means (rather than chemical or biological means). As acetic acid is identified in the Directive as a potential 'basic substance', it is recommended that a decision on the status of Medite Tricoya should be sought from an Expert Group.

8.8 Medite Tricoya is processed using standard techniques and equipment can be painted.

8.9 Medite Tricoya has a slight corrosive effect on aluminium – Medite Europe Ltd's recommendation is to use stainless steel fasteners but the use of such materials has not been assessed by the BBA.

8.10 Medite Europe Ltd has issued a Declaration of Conformity to EN 13986 under the Construction Products Directive 89/106/EEC (certificate number 19.00109) and in accordance with this has applied the CE mark to the product.

8.11 Mechanical testing, accelerated ageing, long term ageing and weathering carried out by WKI and BRE show that Medite Tricoya is capable of meeting the requirements of the various Building Regulations in terms of fitness of materials. Further testing by a laboratory accredited by UKAS, or an accreditation Body holding a mutual recognition agreement with UKAS, is recommended for current production material.

8.12 It is recommended that when a specific use for Medite Tricoya is selected, European fire tests should be conducted to confirm the product's reaction to fire properties.

8.13 For specific uses, such as cladding, further testing is recommended, such as fatigue, wind loading and resistance to impact.

General conclusion

It is concluded that Medite Tricoya is satisfactory for internal and external use as a non-structural general wood based product. It is considered that this report could form the basis of an assessment leading to the award of an Agreement Certificate after full commercial production is established. It is recommended that the points identified in this report are addressed. It is also recommended that further testing by a laboratory accredited by UKAS, or an accreditation Body holding a mutual recognition agreement with UKAS should be conducted and that a factory visit is conducted to investigate the quality system and quality plan used for production in Clonmel followed by on going surveillance visits.