

◆ What about the chemicals leaching out of the timber in service?

While it is true that some leaching may occur over time, the amount is very small and is very unlikely to pose any health or environmental risks in normal situations. The nature of the CCA preservative is that it becomes well fixed and bonded within the wood structure after the treatment process. This small amount of leaching can be further reduced or eliminated by painting or staining the timber. Painting, staining or sealing timber for exterior exposure is recommended in any case to minimise weathering effects such as splitting and warping.

◆ What about my kids?

Are they at risk from playing on Tanalised CCA treated timber decks and play sets?

The great majority of the available, credible scientific evidence indicates that there is minimal, if any appreciable risk to children from contact with clean CCA treated timber in normal domestic and civic applications. However, Koppers Arch appreciate that some users may regard any degree of potential risk, however small, as unacceptable. Alternatives treatments such Tanalised Ecowood are available and can be specified in preference. In addition, existing CCA treated structures can be painted or sealed with surface coatings to further reduce or eliminate any potential exposure.

◆ What about pets, animals and plants?

With a few exceptions, Tanalised CCA treated timber is safe for applications involving contact with plants and animals.

- ◆ Do not use with parrots, or other birds that gnaw on wood.
- ◆ Do not use for bee hive construction.
- ◆ Do not use for lining of fish ponds.

◆ So where can I get independent opinions on all this?

The National Registration Authority in Canberra.
Your state EPA.
The CSIRO Division of Forest Products.
Worksafe Australia.
Your state timber and building advisory services.
The Timber Preservers Association of Australia

For further information about Tanalised CCA, or any other Tanalised timber product, contact;

Your **Tanalised** timber supplier, or;
Koppers Arch Wood Protection (Aust) Pty Limited

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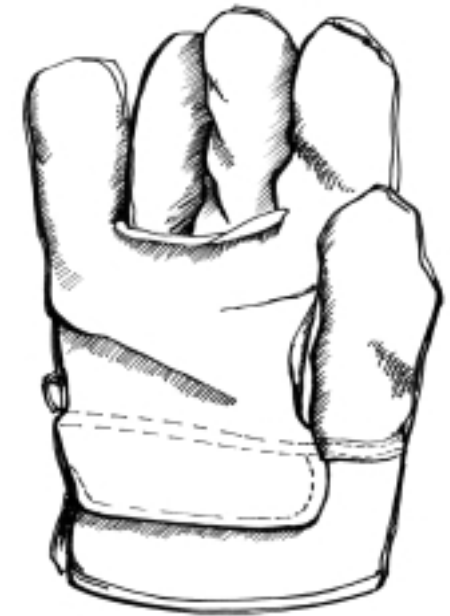
www.tanalised.com

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KOPPERS ARCH

SAFETY & HANDLING GUIDELINES TANALISED® CCA TREATED TIMBER



TANALISED®

◆ What is Tanalised CCA Treated Timber?

CCA stands for Copper Chromium Arsenate and this wood preservative has been in use for over 50 years in Australia and overseas. The treatment process is carried out in dedicated industrial pressure impregnation facilities that are EPA licensed. Neither the CCA preservative nor the industrial process are directly available to the public.

Treatment of timber with CCA provides very cost effective protection against decay fungi and termites. The main benefit is greatly increased durability and service life for outdoor or ground contact applications where normal timber would otherwise be rapidly degraded by decay and termites. Treatment levels and specifications are set by Australian Standards and state legislation in NSW and Queensland.

◆ Is it safe?

Why use such toxic chemicals?

Any preservative must be toxic to some extent in order to make the timber inedible, repellent or immune to the various types of wood destroying organisms such as decay fungi and termites. However, the CCA chemical is safe for normal use when impregnated and fixed within the wood structure, subject to certain simple precautions that are outlined in this leaflet.

All wood preservatives must be approved by the National Registration Authority which is a Federal Government agency under the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry – Australia. If CCA was judged to pose unacceptable risks or hazards to the community and environment, then it would not be approved for use.

◆ So what do I need to do to handle the timber safely?

- ◆ Only use Tanalised CCA treated timber that is dry, clean and free of surface residues and deposits.
- ◆ Keep the work area clean. Do not allow treated wood dust to accumulate.
- ◆ Avoid inhaling the treated wood dust. Wear a filter mask or ensure that there is adequate air extraction while power sawing, machining, sanding or performing any operation where wood dust is generated.
- ◆ Protect the eyes while using power tools or any work where particles may be ejected.



- ◆ Wear light work gloves when handling the material (to minimise risk of splinters), and wash hands after work and before eating, drinking or smoking.

◆ Immediately clean and protect any cuts or abrasions to the skin that occur while working with treated timber.



- ◆ Brush or wash sawdust off skin or clothes.
- ◆ Wash wood dust contaminated work clothing and safety equipment before reuse.
- ◆ Do not burn CCA treated timber off cuts or waste for any purpose. Toxic fumes and residues may be produced.

It must be stressed that individual sensitivity to exposure can vary widely. Wood dust alone has been identified as a potential health hazard and exposure limits have been set. In the unlikely event that any undesirable effects occur, such as skin or eye irritation, soreness of the throat, unusual tiredness or headache, stop work and review your personal protection measures. Consult your doctor or work site safety advisor if any unusual symptoms persist after handling the product. Material safety data sheets are available from Koppers Arch for further information.

◆ How do I dispose of my off-cuts and left-overs?

CCA treated timber is not a hazardous waste. For domestic and light trade users, off-cuts and redundant pieces can be disposed of through normal waste collection services for landfill disposal. However, disposal of large volumes of this type of waste (>0.5 tonnes per month) from a manufacturing operation or demolition sites may require special approval.

Unfortunately, options for recycling Tanalised CCA treated timber are currently limited. Do not include CCA treated timber waste with general green and wood wastes for composting. Do not burn as a means of disposal.

