

◆ **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 chemicals used in Tanalised Ecowood are considered to be of low human toxicity and should pose no threat. 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 Ecowood timber decks and play sets?

No. Tanalised Ecowood is a new generation treated timber product that has been specifically developed with these types of concerns in mind. For example, Tanalised Ecowood conforms to the latest US EPA and the European Union regulations regarding treated timber for consumer and residential use that will come into force in 2004.

What about pets, animals and plants?

With a few exceptions, Tanalised Ecowood 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 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;
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SAFETY & HANDLING GUIDELINES TANALISED® ECOWOOD



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◆ What is Tanalised Ecowood?

Tanalised Ecowood is timber that has been vacuum pressure impregnated with Tanalith E copper based wood preservative. The treatment process is carried out in dedicated industrial pressure impregnation facilities that are EPA licensed. Tanalith E is a new generation wood preservative that is based on copper and an synthetic co-biocide called tebuconazole.

Treatment of timber with preservative provides 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 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 preservative constituents present in Tanalised Ecowood are harmless to humans when fixed within the treated timber.

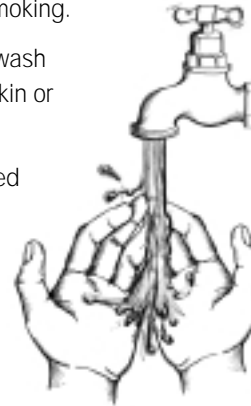
All wood preservatives must be approved by the National Registration Authority which is a Federal Government agency under the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry – Australia. New wood preservatives such as Tanalith E which is used in Tanalised Ecowood are carefully screened by a number of government agencies such as the Federal Department of Health, the National Occupational Health & Safety Commission and Environment Australia. Thus, consumers can be assured that these products do not represent unacceptable risks to their families, the community or the environment.

◆ So what do I need to do to be handle Tanalised Ecowood safely?

- ◆ Only use Tanalised Ecowood 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 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.
- ◆ Brush or wash sawdust off skin or clothes.



- ◆ Wash wood dust contaminated work clothing and safety equipment before reuse.
- ◆ Koppers Arch recommend that treated timber NOT be burned for any purpose by consumers. Tanalised Ecowood has a low hazard potential if burned, but to the normal user it may be indistinguishable from other treated timber that is potentially hazardous when burned.

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?

Tanalised Ecowood 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.

Do not include Tanalised Ecowood timber waste with general green and wood wastes for composting. Do not burn as a means of disposal.

