

InSIGHT

Keeping you informed of the latest Koppers Performance Chemicals and Industry News.



Issue 14 - December 2021

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Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter.

As we approach the end of another disrupted year I would like to sincerely thank all of our customers and suppliers for their continued support. As the state borders start opening up (and hopefully staying open) the travel and customer visits undertaken by our staff will resume and return to a regular routine.

Whilst we have all learned how to do business and provide good levels of service using today's technology, there is no replacing the benefits of in-person visits and

discussions. I know I am looking forward to catching up with our staff and customers in person over the coming months. I also want to reassure our customers that their safety and that of our staff is a priority. All of our staff are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and any of our staff who will be travelling and visiting customers will be utilising Rapid Antigen Tests as another layer of protection for our customers, our staff and their families.

2022 is shaping up to be an exciting year for **KPC Australia** as we look to undertake a number of capital projects to continue to improve our efficiency in warehousing, manufacture and distribution of our products. Like many businesses, we have experienced supply chain disruptions over the last year and whilst we have coped well and managed these situations we have identified areas where we can make further improvements to our operations.

KPC is proud to be involved with a number of industry initiatives providing both funding and the time and expertise of our staff. These initiatives include the support of the Timber Framing Collective (more on this is in our newsletter) as well projects looking at the performance of treated landscaping timbers in bushfire prone areas and another project looking at identifying ways to reuse / recycle treated timber.

I appreciate that for many of our customers, this Christmas will be busy performing some much needed maintenance work and upgrades to equipment. I do however hope that everyone does have some opportunity to take a break and enjoy some time with family and friends.

On behalf of the entire team at Koppers Performance Chemicals I would like to once again thank you for your support and wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe 2022.

Elias Akle



Maintenance Checklist

With Christmas fast approaching, most treatment plants close for maintenance for good hygiene and efficiency in the treatment plant and storage areas. Some maintenance can't be done in these areas during the usual production cycle.

The following is a reminder of just some of the typical jobs that need to be done over this period. Your end of year maintenance program may include but not be limited to:

- Sweep out all debris (do not allow to enter flood line outlet) and clean off removable solids with a high-pressure hose.
- Check for wear from contact with wire ropes or chains and repair if necessary.
- Repair or replace gratings over flood line outlets. Ensure the grating does not restrict the flow of liquid.
- Check rails and anti-flotation rails for alignment and wear.
- Remove the door seal and clean out the groove. Clean off all accumulated grease and dirt from the door surfaces and groove and inspect for cracks, wear or corrosion.
- Clean and inspect the door hinges or mechanisms for wear or damage. Lubricate bearings.

- Trolleys come in many shapes and sizes and these are subject to harsh punishment and usually require regular major overhauls. Inspect and report damage.
- Check for leaks to tanks and associated pipework, valves and fittings.
- Vacuum pumps require very little maintenance which is largely restricted to checking shaft seals, bearing lubrication and general wear.
- Check and clean any filters in the plant area. Collect and store any debris.
- Wash down plant and drip pad with high pressure hose. Clean out silt traps and sumps. Check bunds for water tightness and repair or reseal where necessary.
- Check safety showers, wash-down facilities and building security.
- All waste debris should be stored in appropriate drum packaging for disposal and be stored on the drip pad area.
- Contact your Koppers Rep for waste disposal recommendations.
- If you have a computerised control system, now would be a good time to check that anti-virus software is up to date and that the system is operating well and that hardware will provide reliable service in the upcoming year. If you are using the Koppers PCS, talk to your KPC representative.

Of course maintenance of vacuum and pressure pumps and other specialised equipment should be done in accordance with each manufacturer's specifications.

Anti-Mould

Early predictions of a wet summer in most parts of Australia have come true and it looks like we are now in a "La Nina" weather pattern with extraordinary rain along the East Coast in particular, resulting in flooding in some areas. Not surprisingly, there have been some reports of mould on some treated timber product and it is a good time to ensure that you have adequate supplies of your anti-mould products and that concentrations and dosage are adequate.

Talk to your KPC representative if you need assistance.



TIMBER FRAMING COLLECTIVE

PUTTING TIMBER IN THE FRAME

A Collective Voice for the Australian Timber Framing Industry

Featured in past editions of this Newsletter, the work of the Timber Framing Collective is growing with an expanding presence on social media and a current focus on Timber Supply. The next stages of the work of the Collective is proceeding examining the carbon story of wood and its environmental credentials and also why it “feels” good to build with timber. If you would like to learn more about the work of the Collective, join the social media conversation and support the work see

<https://timberframingcollective.com.au>



Timber Framing #UltimateRenewable

An open letter from the timber framing industry.

Building and construction is currently experiencing a perfect storm.

The COVID-19 pandemic has unexpectedly generated a substantial increase in residential building activity. This unprecedented demand for materials, together with COVID-19 related supply challenges, is creating limited availability of key resources and resulting in longer lead times in many sectors, including the timber framing industry.

And, at the same time, Australians are choosing to use more timber than ever before.

There are two main reasons for this:

- Government stimulus packages and low interest rates have seen new house approvals reach their highest ever numbers, and at the same time we're witnessing record demand for house renovations.
- More people working and studying from home has driven an increase in the home alterations and improvements market, and also encouraged a move to rebuild in regional and coastal areas.

Let's get the job done.

The industry knows that timber is in high demand and is geared to providing a strong and stable supply. However, the current building boom has defied most predictions and we're now having to double down on our efforts to give Australians the timber they need.

Local sawmills are working harder than ever to optimise production and the vast majority of Australian produced timber still stays here in Australia – with just 2% of domestic softwood sales earmarked for export (mainly low grade product unsuitable for structural use).

At the same time, importers of framing timber are pro-actively seeking out additional sustainable sources and working with Government to streamline the import process to further speed up and improve supply.

We don't want to let anyone down, that's why we're doing all we can to increase efficiency, streamline production and reduce timber waste.

We're also investing considerable time and effort to advise and promote Government policy that supports more tree planting, to further reduce the potential risk of not being more self-sufficient in timber products.

The future is looking positive.

We understand the frustrations of not having the tools to do the job. It not only affects productivity and profits – but also staff morale, customer confidence and company reputation.

To all those affected by the increased demand for timber, we want you to know that we recognise your concerns and are here to offer our full support.

In addition, we continue to encourage significant new investment in timber growing, sourcing and production technology, helping to create a sure and stable supply for the future. And that means we'll be growing more trees, removing more carbon from the atmosphere and creating a cleaner, better world for everyone.

It's a challenge right now but we're strong enough to weather the storm. If we work collectively together, we can grow together.

timberframingcollective.com.au



Timber demand is driving opportunities.

Timber Framing #UltimateRenewable



Increased timber demand. The full story.

Timber Framing #UltimateRenewable

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TIMBER QUEENSLAND PRESENTS

DELIVERING DURABILITY: UNDERSTANDING TIMBER TREATMENT, FINISHES & COATINGS



Timber Queensland Webinar.

Add December 15th to your calendar.

Koppers is proud to partner with Timber Queensland in helping to deliver an upcoming webinar titled "Delivering Durability" in conjunction with Hyne Timber and Cabots/Intergrain.

The three topics and speakers will be:

Glue-Laminated Timber: Design for Durability - Stefan Gerber, Engineering &

Sales Manager GLT, Hyne Timber

Introduction to timber treatment - Nick Livanes, Business Development Manager,
Koppers Performance Chemicals

Understanding timber finishes, coatings & maintenance regimes - Gareth
Connell, Cabot's & Integrain

Timber is not only a sustainable and renewable resource, it is tactile and satisfying to work with and can deliver structures of great beauty and functionality. Successfully delivering a durable structure is a synergistic combination of good design and detailing, correct specification of naturally durable and preservative treated timber products and good finishes and ongoing maintenance. This webinar will discuss the combination of elements to deliver a truly durable structure. Nick will discuss the building code requirements for durability, a brief introduction to the new preservative treatment standards and introduce the preservative treatment options available in Australia.

If you would like your staff or customers to attend this free webinar, follow the link here:

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

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