



Arch
Timber
Protection

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COSHH and treated timber

The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH Regulations) aim to protect employees and others, including members of the public, from the effects of work with substances hazardous to health.

“Substances Hazardous to Health” means

- a) Substances listed under the Chemical (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 1994 (as amended) as being very toxic, toxic, harmful, corrosive, sensitising or irritant.
- b) Any substance for which a Workplace Exposure Limit (WEL) has been set.
- c) Substantial quantities of any dust.
- d) Micro-organisms.
- e) Any other substance creating a comparable hazard.

*Treated timber is defined as an **article** and not a substance. If the timber is received in a surface dry condition, which it should be, no extra precautions are necessary over and above those required when handling untreated timber.*

To assist you in determining what health and safety precautions are necessary when handling treated timber, Arch Timber Protection produces Consumer Information Sheets for timber treated with its products. Product Safety Data Sheets are of minimal use as the information contained is not relevant to the treated timber article.

Note: Wood dust (both hardwood and softwood, whether treated or untreated) has an WEL of 5mg.m³ 8-hour time weighted average and this will require controls to be exercised in the amount and type of sawdust (e.g. respirable) produced.

Timber treated with Arch Timber Protection wood preservatives

Arch Timber Protection wood preservatives are approved and cleared for use under the Control of Pesticides Regulations and are safe for use as directed.

This approval includes the process used to apply the wood preservative and the condition of the surface of the timber before it can be released from the treatment plant into the supply chain.

*Treated timber should be surface dry before release from the treatment plant to the consumer. This is a requirement under the Control of Pesticides Regulations for **all** wood preservatives and has to be adhered to by timber treatment companies.*

Note: If treated timber is surface dry but appears damp, gloves should be worn when handling.

Consumer Information

Consumer Information Sheets are available from Arch Timber Protection.

These aim to provide information to help you carry out an overall health and safety risk assessment in handling and using the timber and determine the control measures required.

Product Safety Data Sheets

Arch Timber Protection is required to supply Product Safety Data Sheets to the timber treatment companies for the products it supplies. These cover the concentrated products as supplied and the precautions to be taken during the use of the product in the timber treatment process and during handling of the timber directly after treatment. They are not relevant to the treated timber article.



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Disclaimer: Whilst every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information contained in this document, Arch Timber Protection gives no undertaking to that effect and no responsibility can be accepted for reliance on this information.

Arch Timber Protection updates its literature as and when necessary. Please ensure you have an up to date copy.