



## January 2010 Newsletter

### Preservative Special Issue

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## ***New shelter Sheds***

Are you settling for the “same old same old” in park shelters? OSA may not be the largest manufacturer of shelter sheds but the selection above show that we have the ability to provide solutions outside “the box”. The modified Lindsay shelters with pioneer posts give aesthetics that are unique to OSA. The Hume6 shelter with steel posts features a true open cupola and, when seated inside looks as a rotunda should. The tiered seat is designed with skateboard parks in mind. This shelter took one month from inception to supply.

When Avis was No. 2 in car rentals their logo was ‘we try harder’, and that is what we do too. Call Andre on 07 54624255 concerning your shelter shed options. We have some very useful tools on our website to make using our shelters very easy. See the links at the end of this e-newsletter.

## ***When is a preservative not a preservative?***

As design professionals, the word 'preservative' should conjure up well proven timber preservatives such as CCA, ACQ and, Tanalith E. We should also be very aware of the different hazard levels from H1 through to H6. These H levels are defined in AS 1604 Specification for preservative treatment - Sawn and round timber. These preservatives are impregnated into the timber through a vacuum and pressure process (VPI) using very expensive machinery under controlled and monitored conditions. Timber treated to these levels does not come with an expiry date! What then does the word 'preservative' on a can of a paint-on product imply?

The term 'preservative' is controlled by the APVMA (Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority) so a manufacturer cannot legally call a product a 'preservative' unless the APVMA has been provided with, and has accepted, scientific evidence that the product is effective in a certain application and make very specific claims about the duration of its effectiveness. An example is Thomson White's In Ground Paste, a copper naphthenate (CN) emulsion paste. On the can we read where the product is to be used - Situation: Timber already in use or *treated according to AS1604* and inground contact or other damp situations (emphasis ours). We also read its effectiveness. Retreatment should be done every 3 to 5 years. So clearly this inground 'preservative' does not have the effectiveness that you are expecting from H rated preservatives. It is really only a supplemental aid - not the prime treatment of the timber.

There is still a valuable place for such products and we would not consider building a structure without treating cut ends and timber to timber interfaces with a CN Emulsion. But such products must not be considered as a substitute for correct preservative treatment and correct selection of natural durability. CCA has good UV blocking ability (not ACQ or Tanalith E) whereas neither CCA, ACQ nor Tanalith E are water repellants. Their effectiveness is enhanced by products such as OSA's Tanacoat which contain both water repellants and UV blockers.

When considering the use of paint on 'preservatives' read the claims very carefully. Does it have any? To my knowledge there is no paint on product that will achieve H3 or better protection. Not too long ago, a decking oil manufacturer was reported to the APVMA, and action taken for making unsubstantiated preservative claims about its product.

If you have any questions on timber preservation, talk to OSA. If we do not know the answer we will try hard to find out.

For more timber information:

[http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/pdf/timber\\_notes.php](http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/pdf/timber_notes.php)

## ***A160 vehicle bridge***

Outdoor Structures Australia (OSA) has developed a range of high load capacity vehicle bridges for use on public and private roads. This bridge complements OSA's timber vehicle bridge that is normally used in residential developments servicing an individual block.

By utilising galvanised steel girders and decking with Boral Bridgewood we ensure a long, low maintenance life. See [http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/pdf/t44\\_a160\\_traffic\\_bridges.pdf](http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/pdf/t44_a160_traffic_bridges.pdf)

### **Links**

Full OSA showcase

<http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/gallery.php?gid=93&SID=18>

Design tools for OSA shelter sheds

[http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/tpd\\_shelter.php](http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/tpd_shelter.php)

Regards

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