

January 22, 2004
TO OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS

As you may already know, the EPA mandated that beginning January 1, 2004 CCA (Chromated Copper Arsenate) treated lumber be discontinued for use in residential and other applications. Because of this, most lumber is now being treated with ACQ (Alkaline Copper Quaternary) compounds. ACQ treated lumber contains approximately three times the amount of copper as CCA treated lumber, resulting in a product that is five times as corrosive to steel products.

MBCI has previously warned of allowing Galvalume® panels to come into contact with, or water runoff from, CCA treated lumber. However, because of the increased corrosiveness of the new ACQ treated lumber, there is the additional concern for the fasteners used to attach these panels to a treated wood member.

Currently, MBCI can only recommend stainless steel fasteners for use in ACQ treated lumber. Unfortunately, the issue of increased corrosiveness was not communicated to either our industry or the residential industry in a timely manner. This has resulted in fastener suppliers scrambling to develop a coating for existing fasteners that will offer long term performance in ACQ treated lumber at a cost less than that of stainless steel. Please be assured that MBCI is actively working with our fastener suppliers to be able to provide you additional fasteners approved for use in ACQ treated lumber.

MBCI will keep you updated on future developments with this issue. For now, MBCI strongly recommends that when attaching panels to ACQ treated lumber:

1. use stainless steel fasteners to attach panels, clips, or other accessories to treated wood.
2. do not allow panels or flashing to come into contact with treated wood.
3. do not allow water to drain off of treated wood onto panels or flashing.

Additional information may be obtained at the following links:

[Pressure-Treated Wood: The Next Generation](#) - an article from Fine Homebuilding Magazine

[ACQ Pressure-Treated Wood: Fastener Information](#) - an article from Universal Forest Products

SFS INTEC introduces a new [EVERGRIP™](#) 40-year warranty.

Thank You,
MBCI