

# SOUTH AFRICAN WOOD PRESERVERS ASSOCIATION

## PROTOCOL

FOR THE REQUIRED PROPERTIES AND THE REGISTRATION  
WITH THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
OF SURFACE COATING WOOD PRESERVATIVES  
FOR USE ON CUT ENDS OF TREATED TIMBER  
(END SEALS)

## **Introduction:**

When timber that is treated with a wood preservative is subsequently cross cut, so as to reduce the length of that timber, untreated timber may be exposed. This is highly likely in the case of poles where untreated heartwood will probably be exposed if the poles are cut to a reduced length.

The exposed untreated timber should be coated with an end seal product, so as to restore the envelope of treated wood surrounding the heartwood.

## **Properties required in an end seal product**

- Water Repellency

An end seal should preferably be, but is not necessarily required to be, water repellent.

- Fungal and Insecticidal Protection

An end seal is required to provide protection from both fungal and insecticidal attack.

- Leachability

An end seal shall be leach resistant if the timber to which it is applied is to be used in an outdoor application. End seals no matter how much resistance they may have to leaching, are not suitable for H4, H5 and H6 Hazard conditions (i.e. in ground contact; in heavy wet soils; in fresh water; in sea water.)

If a pole which has been cut to length is to be used under the above mentioned conditions, then the uncut end of the pole should be the end planted in the ground / water and the exposed cut end may be coated with an end seal.

- Ready For Use

All end seal products shall be supplied in a ready-to-use form. They may not be, nor shall they be required to be, diluted in any way.

- Application

End seals shall be in a form which will allow them to be easily applied by means of brush, spray or dip without the need for heat or dilution or any other requirement to render the end seal workable.

- Solvent

An end seal may be either organic solvent based or water based.

- Form

An end seal may not be a film forming product.

- Environmental Requirements

Notwithstanding that the active ingredient/s of an end seal are required to be toxic to fungi and insects, the product should be as environmentally acceptable as possible. The content of the active ingredients should be no greater than what is required in order to be effective.

### **Compulsory Technical Information**

- Active Ingredients

An end seal product shall contain sufficient active ingredient so that when applied to the timber it will give protection to the timber from attack from both fungi and insects.

Satisfactory Efficacy Data in respect of the active ingredients shall be provided with every application for the registration by the National Department of Agriculture of an end seal.

In the event that efficacy data is not available or cannot be easily obtained, then suitable documented information from the manufacturer of the active ingredient may be supplied, provided that such information is based on properly conducted trials.

- A copy of the proposed label to be affixed on each container of end seal shall be submitted with the application for registration. The requirements for the information needed to be displayed on the label may be obtained from the National Department of Agriculture as can the form for registration.