

English version

Wood preservatives – Field test method for determining the relative protective effectiveness of a wood preservative exposed out of ground contact – Horizontal lap-joint method

Produits de préservation du bois – Essais de champ pour déterminer l'efficacité protectrice d'un produit de préservation du bois hors de contact avec le sol – Méthode avec un assemblage à joint superposé

Holzschutzmittel – Freilandversuche zur Bestimmung der relativen Wirksamkeit eines Holzschutzmittels ohne Erdkontakt – Verfahren mit horizontaler Überlappung (Lap-joint)

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 8 October 2003 for provisional application.

The period of validity of this CEN/TS is limited initially to three years. After two years the members of CEN will be requested to submit their comments, particularly on the question whether the CEN/TS can be converted into a European Standard.

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Foreword

This document (CEN/TS 12037:2003) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 38 "Durability of wood and wood-based products", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This document supersedes ENV 12037:1996.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to announce this Technical Specification: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

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Introduction

The main objective of the method is to evaluate the relative effectiveness of the preservative, applied to jointed specimens of Scots pine sapwood by a treatment method relevant to its intended practical use and as such does not necessarily accelerate decay but reflects probable performance in service.

The method is concerned with the protection against decay after exposure to a wide range of micro-organisms occurring out of ground contact under natural conditions. It takes into account also physico-chemical effects of weathering on the performance of the preservative treated wood.

Since the lap-joints are exposed to natural outdoor conditions during the test period, variations in test conditions from one exposure site to another have to be expected. Differences in climate, especially rainfall, will inevitably influence the general rate of development of decay fungi. However, by comparing the results obtained for the test preservative with those obtained for untreated control lap-joints, the relative protective effectiveness of the preservative under test can be evaluated.

NOTE The procedures described in this Technical Specification are intended to be carried out by suitably trained and/or supervised specialists. Appropriate safety precautions should be observed throughout the use of the Technical Specification.

1 Scope

This Technical Specification describes a method of test for wood preservatives that are intended for use in wood to be exposed to the weather out of contact with the ground without the additional protection of a surface coating.

The method is applicable to the testing of commercial or experimental preservatives applied by techniques appropriate to commercial practice. The method is applicable to chemical products used individually or in combination to prevent the development of decay and/or – optional – the development of disfiguring organisms in wood and, where suitable, in wood-based products.

NOTE 1 The method may also be used to test other treated wood species and naturally durable timbers. It may be adapted for testing the field performance of other wood based systems and treatments designed to enhance durability, for example treated or untreated wood based composites, timber treated with non-biocidal systems, chemically modified or heat treated timber.

NOTE 2 Although the test is used to assess decay, it is possible to use the method to additionally assess stain or each separately when relevant.

2 Normative reference

This Technical Specification incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this Technical Specification only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies (including amendments).

EN 212, *Wood preservatives — Guide to sampling and preparation for analysis of wood preservatives and treated timber.*

3 Definitions, symbols and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of this Technical Specification, the following definitions, symbols and abbreviations apply :

3.1.1

active ingredient(s)

individual chemical compound or compounds included in the wood preservative product to give it specific activity against the particular biological agencies of deterioration

3.1.2

additional process

any process or application of a product, as defined by the supplier, designed to improve the effectiveness of the preservative

3.1.3

penetrating treatment process

process which includes features or procedures intended to overcome the natural resistance of wood to penetration by a wood preservative product in its ready for use form

NOTE Such processes include for example currently practised technologies of diffusion treatments, double-vacuum and vacuum-pressure methods.