

LIGHT ORGANIC SOLVENT PRESERVATIVE (L.O.S.P.) TREATED TIMBER

What are Light Organic Solvent Preservatives?

LOSP preservatives contain fungicides and insecticides incorporated into light oil or organic solvent carrier such as white spirits. LOSP's are impregnated into timber to provide protection against decay, termites and wood boring insects in dry interior (H2) applications and it is not suitable for external or ground contact use or where frequent wetting will occur.

Types of LOSP used in South Africa

- Tributyltin naphthenate-permethrin (TBTN-P)
- Azole-permethrin (ZP)

Note - TBTOL (Tributyltin oxide-lindane) is no longer allowed to be used in South Africa.

Where is LOSP treated timber used?

LOSP treated timber is applied in interior joinery and finishes such as flooring, interior wall cladding, balustrades, handrails, skirting etc. but can also be used as interior structural load-bearing beams and roof truss material.

Safety Precautions

Handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- It is recommended that solvent resistant gloves are worn if the timber is freshly treated or still damp from the treatment process.- Wear an organic vapour filter mask (activated carbon) when machining LOSP treated timber.- Wear safety glasses or goggles when using power tools on treated timber.- Wear an impervious work apron to protect clothing when working with solvent-damp timber.- Wash hands after handling treated timber and before eating, drinking and smoking.- Do not transport LOSP treated timber in an enclosed space that includes occupants.
Storage and disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prior to use LOSP treated timber should be stored in well ventilated areas and under roof cover, away from any source of ignition.- Packs should be opened at least a week before use to allow for any residual solvent in the inner boards to evaporate.- Off-cuts and sawdust should be disposed of through normal waste collection and disposal services- Treated off-cuts should not be used as domestic heating or cooking fuel.- Treated off-cuts and waste are not recommended to be supplied for mulching and animal bedding.
Use/ Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- LOSP treated timber should not be used until free of solvent vapour evaporation, and not where it will be in direct contact with foodstuffs, countertops, cutting boards, food preparation surfaces and drinking water.

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