

Preservative Use Classes

The choice of preservative treatment depends on the eventual end use of the timber and consequently its risk of fungal decay or insect attack.

European Standard 335 refers to Use Classes (previously called Hazard Classes) for the preservative treatment of timber, based around its eventual end use and its risk of attack. The level of preservative treatment is varied according to the Use Class situation that the timber is exposed to during its service life. A greater degree of protection is required as the Use Class increases.

The table below explains these Use Classes and highlights the preservative treatment choice for each Use Class.

USE CLASS (UC) SUMMARY

UC 1	Internal, dry for example, upper floor joists		
UC 2	Internal, risk of wetting for example, tile battens		
UC 3* COATED	Outdoors, coated, above ground for example, cladding		
UC 3* UNCOATED	Outdoors, uncoated, above ground for example, fence rails		
UC 4	Direct soil or fresh water† contact for example, fence and deck posts		

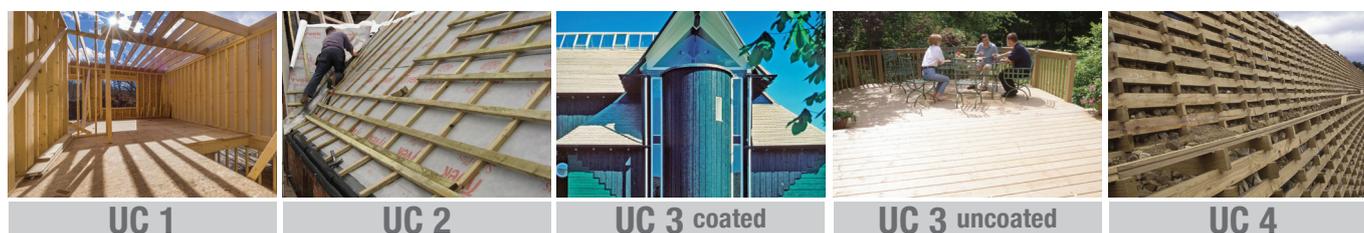
* In accordance with EN 335: 2013 Use Class 3 COATED can also be referred to as 3.1 and Use Class 3 UNCOATED as 3.2.

† Contact us for latest specification details.

The TANALITH family (TANALITH and TANATONE) of high pressure preservative treatments is generally used for applications where there is a medium to high risk of decay or insect attack - outdoor timbers and timbers in ground or fresh water contact.

The VACSOL family of low pressure/dipping preservative treatments is used for applications where there is a low to medium risk of decay or insect attack - general building timbers, joinery, timber frame material.

Where there is a choice of treatments, factors such as the final appearance of the treated timber, the availability of ready treated stocks of timber or the dimensional aspects of the timber components may further determine the final selection.



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