April 14, 2004

Fastener recommendations for ACQ treated lumber used in interior environments

It is generally recognized that the potential for fastener corrosion in forest products based building materials used in an interior exposure environment is minimal because the equilibrium moisture content of the wood is maintained at a level that does not support corrosion reactions.

Under normal dry conditions in interior applications where the equilibrium moisture content of the wood in service is below 19%, the performance of fasteners in ACQ treated wood will be similar to that experienced with untreated and borate treated wood.

However, it must also be recognized there may be a greater corrosion potential of fasteners used with untreated, borate treated or ACQ treated wood if failure of the building envelope occurs and the lumber is exposed to high moisture conditions. That possibility should be taken into account when selecting fasteners and metal connectors.

Fasteners and metal connectors that are used with ACQ treated and Borate treated lumber must comply with national and local building code specifications.

Thomas F. Fitzgerald
Vice President, Sales