

Connectors are steel and will corrode and lose load-carrying capacity if exposed to ocean salt air, fertilizers, or other substances that adversely affect steel.

NEW PRESSURE-TREATED WOOD CHEMICALS ARE MORE CORROSIVE TO STEEL

Several new pressure-treated wood alternatives have been created to replace CCA-C. Many of the new preservatives are generally more corrosive to steel connectors, anchors and fasteners.

SIMPSON STRONG-TIE CONNECTORS, ANCHORS AND FASTENERS

We have conducted testing to measure how our products react when used with the new pressure-treated woods. We found that many treated wood products require connectors, anchors and fasteners with greater resistance to corrosion than our standard G90 galvanized connectors and fasteners.

SIMPSON STRONG-TIE SOLUTION

Stainless steel connectors provide the most resistance to corrosion and should be used whenever practical in corrosive environments. If stainless steel is not practical, we recommend our **ZMAX™ (G185)** galvanized products as a minimum standard to help protect against corrosion. ZMAX™ products are coated with a thicker layer of zinc than our standard products. This additional zinc coating improves the product's corrosion resistance.

EXTERIOR APPLICATIONS AND CORROSION

The new pressure treated wood chemicals are not the only form of corrosion that can affect connectors. When connectors are used in exterior applications and are exposed to the elements (*rain, water, soil, fertilizers, etc.*), corrosion also occurs. In these cases, a minimum of **ZMAX™ (G185)** galvanized connectors should be used.

We have many products available in ZMAX. If a product is not available in our ZMAX galvanized finish it will be provided with an HDG (Hot Dip Galvanized) coating. There is no significant difference in corrosion resistance between ZMAX and HDG products. Either can be used to provide the minimum level of corrosion resistance for most pressure treated woods or in any outdoor condition.

VERY IMPORTANT!

Use ONLY stainless steel fasteners with stainless steel connectors.
Use ONLY HDG fasteners with ZMAX™ and post HDG connectors.

PLEASE NOTE: *Many of the new pressure treated woods use chemicals that are corrosive to steel. By selecting connectors that offer greater corrosion resistance (stainless steel, Post Hot-Dip Galvanized, or ZMAX™) you can extend the service life of your connectors. However, corrosion will still occur. You should perform periodic inspection of your connectors and fasteners to ensure their strength is not being adversely affected by corrosion. In some cases, it may be necessary to have a local professional perform the inspections. Because of the many variables involved, Simpson Strong-Tie cannot provide estimates on service life of connectors, anchors or fasteners.*

See www.strongtie.com/info for additional critical information.



ZMAX products are manufactured with G185 galvanized steel in conformance with ASTM A653. HDG products are hot-dip galvanized after fabrication in conformance with ASTM 153. Test results show that both finishes provide a similar level of corrosion resistance. If a product is unavailable in ZMAX, often a HDG product can be substituted. These products require hot-dip galvanized fasteners.



Products are manufactured from Type 316L stainless steel, and provide greater durability against corrosion. Stainless steel nails are required with stainless steel products, and are available from Simpson.