



October 14, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Sustain™ preserved wood with MCA™ technology from PhibroWood, LLC.

Independent corrosion testing was conducted by the State University of New York (SUNY) and Michigan State University (MSU) during 2007. The testing at SUNY (Test report WBS-0704A) was performed following the American Wood Protection Association (AWPA) Standard E12-94 to compare the corrosion of metal coupons in contact with four different wood treatments and untreated wood. The four wood treatment formulations included in the test were: Sustain™ (Micronized copper plus tebuconazole), Copper Azole Type B (CA-B), Copper Quat (ACQ-D) and Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA-C). The testing at MSU, (Test report DPK062007PHIBRO-TECH) was performed following a modified version of the AWPA E12-94 standard and MSU internal protocols to compare the corrosion of typical construction fasteners in four wood treatments and untreated wood. The four wood treatment formulations included in the test were: Sustain™ (Micronized copper plus tebuconazole), Copper Azole Type B (CA-B), Copper Quat (ACQ-D) and Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA-C).

Based on this testing, PhibroWood, LLC and Simpson Strong-Tie Co. Inc. jointly agree that the guidelines for selecting the proper Simpson connector and fasteners for use with Sustain™ preserved wood with MCA™ technology should follow, as a minimum, the recommendations listed in the table below.

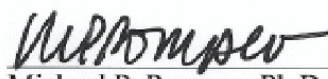
Environment	Sustain™ MCA™
Interior -dry	Low
Exterior - dry	Med
Exterior - wet	Med
Higher Exposure	High
Uncertain	High
<small>Low = Use Simpson standard painted and G90 galvanized connectors as a minimum. Med = Use ZMax™/HDG galvanized connectors as a minimum. Use fasteners which meet the specifications of ASTM A153 or SDS screws with double-barrier coating. High = Use Type 303, 304, 305, or 316 Stainless Steel connectors and fasteners</small>	

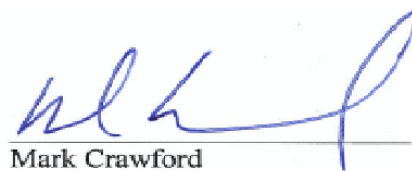
The recommendations are to be considered minimum recommendations and are parallel to the recommendations for CA-B treated wood with no ammonia as Sustain™ does not use ammonia in its treatment. For Sustain™ with preservative treated wood retention levels greater than 0.16 pcf, Ground Contact level, Simpson currently recommends the use of Stainless Steel connectors and fasteners.

See PhibroWood's ESR-2325 which lists hot-dipped zinc coated galvanized steel, stainless steel, silicon bronze or copper fasteners with zinc coating weights that are in accordance with ASTM A153 for all preservative retention levels for additional important information.

Also, prior to product selection, see Simpson Technical Bulletin T-PTWOOD (copy attached) and www.strongtie.com/info for additional important information.

Respectfully,


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Date 10-14-08


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