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Dear Brian

Reference SUMMARY - Twelve-month natural weathering test of weatherboard samples coated with Timbakote

A Timbakote paint system was applied to either machined or band-sawn weatherboards which had been treated with light organic solvent preservative (LOSP) to the H3 preservative category. The samples were exposed on racks in the *Forest Research* exposure site, for twelve months, beginning 30 April 2001. The protocols of EN 927-3* were followed for the preparation and painting of the panels. Once the weathering was completed, the panels were assessed against EN 927- Parts 2 and 3 and weathering performance reported in a comprehensive and standardised way.

The Timbakote system was rated as suitable for **stable end-use** applications, on both machined and band-sawn surfaces, in exterior weathering tests carried out at *Forest Research*, Rotorua. Suitability for **stable end-use** is the highest possible rating (see Appendix) for a coating system. This means that wood coated with a properly applied Timbakote system can be used in situations where a minimal amount dimensional movement of wood is permissible e.g. joinery applications or in any less demanding applications such as tongue and groove cladding, wooden houses and chalets, garden furniture. The weathering of an internal comparison product (ICP) was used to classify the exterior weathering conditions for the exposure test as medium.

This weathering performance test claims limited conformity to EN 927 since the water permeability test (EN 927-5:2000), a test specified by prENV 927-2, is not suitable for LOSP treated samples. This is due to two factors. Firstly, the inability of such samples to achieve a constant weight during the test due to solvent evaporation and secondly to the increased water repellency of the samples (attributable to the residual LOSP treatment solution and water repellents in the LOSP formulation) rather than the paint system under test.

Yours sincerely

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*EN 927:- Paints and varnishes. Coating materials and coating systems for exterior wood.

BS EN 927-1: 1997. Part 1. Classification and selection
DD prENV 927-2:2000. Part 2: Performance specification
BS EN 927-3:2000. Part 3: Natural weathering test
BS EN 927-5:2000. Part 5: Assessment of the liquid water permeability