

TREATED PLYWOOD

There is much conjecture in understanding the bonding of materials to treated plywood. Nuplex's understanding is that there are two basic plywood treatment types.

1. LOSP treatment (light organic solvent preservative)
2. Waterbased treatment

In the first instance the solvent is not the preservative, rather the solvent is the carrier for the preservative into the timber. In the waterbased treatment, the preservative is carried into the timber in a waterbased system.

In either case, for bonding materials to plywood it is not the preservative that is the issue; rather it is the **carrier**.

For bonding the following, we would recommend only plywood that is preserved with a waterbased treatment. In New Zealand this is usually **H3 CCA** treated plywood.

Installation examples requiring waterbased plywood for successful installation:

- Bonding sheet flooring vinyl to plywood with waterbased acrylic adhesives (eg: Duracryl, Unicryl, Supacryl).
- Painting of plywood.
- Application of waterproofing membranes either self adhesive (eg: Bituthene) or torch-on products (eg: Soprema).

It is the responsibility of the contractors using the above product to advise the builders on the required ply type. H3 CCA treated plywood is the better grade so there should be no issue regarding its use.

The manufacturers of LOSP treated plywood claim that the solvent carrier disappears over time. We believe that the risk of using LOSP plywood in the above situations should not be borne by the subcontractor. If the organic solvent is still in the plywood it can:

- Interfere with adhesive and/or the sheet vinyl.
- Interfere with and/or stain paints.
- Interfere with or cause delamination of bitumen type waterproofing membranes.

Note:

- Some plywood (H3 CCA) may have mineral deposits. Sanding and/or pre-treatment may still be required.
- Useful site Koppers Arch Treatments www.khtp.co.nz