

▶ TOP 10 FAQs

1. What is LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT?

LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT is a range of premium high grade, solid – no fingerjoints, radiata pine products that are preservative treated with an organic biocide system, and are double primed with an alkyd primer so they are ready for top coating.

2. Where is LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT manufactured?

LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT is manufactured in New Zealand by Tenon Manufacturing, who is the largest producer of clear pine products in NZ. The raw material for LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT comprises high grade clear lumber produced from pruned radiata pine logs sourced from environmentally certified tree farms.

3. What is LOSP treatment?

Unlike traditional dip treatments and newer spray-on treatments that only reach the outside surfaces, LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT is pressure treated. This ensures the biocides penetrate and protect the entire sapwood substrate with precise quantities of preservative. And unlike conventional preservative treatment using waterborne formulations, the LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT active biocides are insoluble in water and are carried into the wood with a mineral spirits carrier. Also included in the formulation are waxes and resins which provide additional water resistance. As part of the treatment process, the bulk of the solvent is recovered, and the majority of that remaining after treatment is flashed off prior to further processing.

4. Are the active ingredients in LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT safe?

Yes. The treatment formulation has been approved by the EPA, and the actives in the formulation are non metallic and are also commonly used in food production and household products:

- Tebuconazole and Propiconazole are EPA approved systemic fungicides used widely to control mould and mildew in agricultural and horticultural applications, e.g. wheat, peaches, cherries, bananas.
- Permethrin is an EPA approved insecticide used in products such as fly sprays, head lice shampoos, and to provide insect control on stored fruits and grains.

5. What about odor?

The slight odor that may be noticeable is white spirits (a light hydrocarbon) vapour. LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT is primed with two coats of alkyd primer, which has been shown to provide superior water resistance. Some residual solvent from the primer and the treatment may be trapped by the slipsheeting used to protect the surfaces in transport, and released when unwrapped. It dissipates rapidly and remains well below the threshold limit values for long term exposure of 100ppm.

6. Will the active chemicals be retained in LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT?

Yes. All the actives in LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT are insoluble in water, and are carried into the wood by the organic solvent (white spirits). The actives are immobilised when this solvent is removed during manufacture.

7. Is LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT an environmentally friendly product?

Yes, LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT is made from FSC[®] certified wood sourced from New Zealand tree farms. Tenon Manufacturing takes its environmental responsibilities seriously:

- Our wood is sourced from sustainable tree farms, grown close to the manufacturing plant, which minimises transport.
- Lumber is dried in our sawmill with heat provided by geothermal energy - a clean, renewable resource, avoiding the use of fossil fuels.
- Our manufacturing byproducts (e.g bark, sawdust and shavings) are sold for other uses, such as particleboard, mulch or as an energy source. As a result of this and developing alternative uses, we have been able to reduce waste to landfill by over 90%.

The proven durability of LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT, together with its environmental credentials, make it a leading choice for exterior applications instead of alternatives such as plastics and composites.

8. What makes LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT stability and paint performance superior?

LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT stability is enhanced by three factors:

- The high grade C & Better Lumber used comes from the outside of pruned (butt) logs and has low tendency for movement/distortion.
- The preservative treatment contains waxes and resins, which act as a water repellent reducing water uptake.
- The two-coat PPG alkyd primer system, applied to all 4 sides and ends, has high water resistance.

Together these factors result in increased stability, which means less cracking and peeling of top coats in service.

9. Does LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT comply with AWP requirements for the UC3A use class (above ground exterior use)?

Yes. LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT is produced in accordance with New Zealand and Australian standards (NZS3640, AS1604.1:H3) which exceed AWP requirements for preservative retention for UC3A use class.

10. Do I have to end seal and prime LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT boards?

No. Because LIFESPAN[®] SOLID SELECT is made from solid clear lengths of New Zealand grown Radiata pine and is free of heartwood, the preservative process penetrates 100% through every piece. So no site application of a preservative to cut ends or rips is required. In order to maximise long term appearance, as good building practice, it is recommended to coat exposed cut ends and mitres with a good quality exterior primer before final painting.