

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Timber preservation plants**

**Part 2: Treatment area operation**



## **AS/NZS 2843.2:2006**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee TM-006, Timber Preservation and Durability. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 12 May 2006 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 19 May 2006.  
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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

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**RECONFIRMATION**  
**OF**  
**AS/NZS 2843.2:2006**  
**Timber preservation plants**  
**Part 2: Treatment area operation**

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**RECONFIRMATION NOTICE**

Technical Committee TM-012 has reviewed the content of this publication and in accordance with Standards Australia procedures for reconfirmation, it has been determined that the publication is still valid and does not require change.

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## NOTES

# Australian/New Zealand Standard™

## Timber preservation plants

### Part 2: Treatment area operation

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee TM-006, Timber Preservation, to supersede AS/NZS 2843.2:2000, *Timber preservation plant safety code, Part 2: Plant operation*.

The objective of this Standard is to promote the safe operation of timber preservation plant sites and to reduce environmental and occupational hazards.

The objective of this revision is to ensure Australian and New Zealand timber preservation plant sites operate to the world's best practice.

This Standard incorporates information on, and the contents of, *The Australian environmental guidelines for copper chrome arsenate timber preservation plants*, which was prepared by the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC) and The Timber Preservers Association of Australia (TPAA). It also incorporates broad guidelines on the operation of non-CCA treatment plants; specific detailed requirements in these areas may be sourced from other appropriate authorities.

This Standard is Part 2 of the AS/NZS 2843 series on safety in timber preservation and is concerned with the operation of timber preservation plant sites.

The adoption of the requirements of this Standard will assist in preventing and mitigating the health risk of plant personnel and environmental contamination from timber preservation plant sites.

The development of new technology is encouraged. If it can be demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the relevant authority that new technology, which may include cleaner and safer production strategies, obviates the need for some of the requirements of this Standard, the requirements of this Standard may be considered accordingly in respect of timber preservation plant sites exclusively using such technology.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

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## FOREWORD

This Standard is directed towards assisting prevention or mitigation of the health risk of plant personnel and environmental contamination from timber preservation plant sites. This is done by drawing attention to siting, design, and layout procedures.

A timber preservation plant site should be operated so as to minimize risk to the public and to those working therein, livestock and crops in the vicinity of the timber preservation plant site, and the environment generally including the quality of surface and sub-surface water.

The aim of this Standard is to—

- (a) prevent the dispersion of hazardous chemicals to places other than where they are intended to be applied, namely, within the structure of preservative-treated timber; and
- (b) describe the operating procedures designed to reduce the potential for exposure, and preserve the health of personnel engaged in the timber preservation operation by minimizing their physical contact with timber preservatives.

This Standard outlines operation procedures to reduce the potential danger associated with the use of various toxic chemicals in timber preservation plant sites. It is not intended to be definitive about the timber preservation plant site operation.

Safety requirements are prescribed for the operation of timber preservation plant sites, and those responsible for this function should have a thorough understanding of the consequences of faulty operation and unsound practices.

All those responsible for the operation of timber preservation plant sites should be made aware of the requirements for safe and effective handling, storage and transport of pesticides. In this connection, attention is drawn to the AS 1678 series, *Emergency procedure guide—Transport*, and AS 2508 series, *Safe storage and handling information card*.

There are some prescribed procedures for the safe disposal of waste industrial chemicals, the safe disposal of waste material and the safe disposal of concentrate containers. These procedures have been established by various government agencies such as Departments of Agriculture and Environment Protection authorities. Staff involved in timber treatment operations should be conversant with procedures that apply to the location in which the timber preservation plant site is to be operated.

Timber preservatives and treated timber, when used in the manner proposed in this Standard and as recommended in related Australian/New Zealand Standards, will present a much reduced hazard, both to those people who work with the products and to the public at large.

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

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**Part 2: Treatment area operation**

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## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies requirements for the operation of timber preservation equipment used in the treatment area. It deals with these aspects in a manner intended to prevent and mitigate the health risk to treatment area personnel and minimize environmental contamination from timber preservation plant sites. It is applicable to all approved preservatives and, where necessary, specific requirements for some preservative are given, e.g., CCA.

**1.2 APPLICATION**

This Standard is intended to be used by those responsible for the operation of a 'timber preservation plant'. It is also intended to be of assistance to regulatory authorities responsible for approving and certifying 'timber preservation plants'.

## NOTES:

- 1 This Standard is intended to have general application throughout Australia, but in New South Wales the Timber Marketing Act, 1977 and in Queensland the Timber Utilization and Marketing Act, 1987 require prior approval of a preservative treatment and registration of a brand before timber offered for sale in either of the States can be described as preservative-treated. Detailed information about the requirements of such legislation may be obtained from the State government departments concerned.
- 2 Appendix A lists the regulatory authorities involved in some aspects of timber preservation.
- 3 In New Zealand, timber treatment products are required to be under the control of an approved handler. Approved handlers are required to obtain a test certificate to demonstrate that they have met the competency requirements of the *Hazardous Substance (Personnel Qualifications) Regulations*.

**1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The documents referred to in this Standard are listed in Appendix B.

**1.4 DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions given in AS/NZS 2843.1 apply.

NOTE: Figure 1 shows a schematic plan of a timber preservation plant site.