

NOTICE

Material Used for Preserved Wood Foundations

Preserved wood used in foundations (PWF) designed and constructed under the Alberta Building Code 1997 (ABC) must be stamped or marked appropriately for their intended purpose. This mark differs from, and must be present in addition to, grade stamps and markings found on non-treated dimensional lumber and plywood. It has come to the attention of Alberta Municipal Affairs that some PWF material in the marketplace may not exhibit the appropriate markings.

PWF lumber and plywood must be marked with the following information:

- identification of the certification agency accredited by the Standards Council of Canada;
- the initials PWF and FTB (French translation for PWF);
- the designation O322 (CSA Standard O322);
- the preservative used in treatment (e.g. CCA for copper arsenate); and
- a four-digit symbol of which the first two numbers denote the treatment plant and the last two numbers indicate the year of treatment.

Manufacturers, distributors, designers and builders are responsible for ensuring lumber and plywood used in preserved wood foundations carry the appropriate treatment marks. (ABC 1.2.1.9)

For further information please call 1-866-421-6929 or e-mail safety.services@gov.ab.ca.

References:

- Alberta Building Code 1997
- CAN/CSA-S406-92 "Construction of Preserved Wood Foundations"
- CSA-O322 "Procedure for Certification of Pressure-Treated Materials for Use in Preserved Wood Foundations"
- CSA O86.1 "Engineering Design in Wood (Limit States Design)"