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## AQUAMAX PRODUCT INFORMATION BULLETIN

House Quality - February 2013

### **Aquamax and the building code**

The question has been asked if Aquamax has been appraised by an approved certification supplier like BRANZ for use on houses. When we enquired with BRANZ on oil stains under the building code, they told me they have no record of any linseed oil stains being appraised under the building code nor did they think it would be commonly done. Further investigation found very little reference to the building code other than some companies which make references relating to slip and coefficient suitability in supporting technical information relating to oil stains under the building code. Others simply state you need to ensure the coating will conform to the building code for the purpose you intend to use it for.

Further research on the building code at:

<http://www.dbh.govt.nz/UserFiles/File/Publications/Building/Compliance-documents/B2-Durability-amendment-7-April-2011.pdf>

I found the following B2/VM1 & B2/AS1 clauses where I think penetrating oil stains, like Aquamax, would need to be considered under the building code:

Verification Method B2/VM1

- Durability evaluation/ In-service history 1.1.1 Page 11

Acceptable Solution B2/AS1

- Durability applications 1.0.1 page 13

Comment: page 13

"All *building* work shall comply with the NZBC. This means that *building elements*, both individually and as part of a system, shall meet all the performances required by the applicable NZBC clauses and shall continue to do so for the required durability period. In some cases, *building elements* (e.g. decorative coatings and trim) are not required to satisfy an NZBC performance criterion. Such *building elements* will then have no B2 durability requirement. However, where a *building element* serves two purposes, only one of which must satisfy the NZBC, it shall have the durability appropriate to its location and use. For example, a decorative finish applied to a *building element* required by the NZBC to have an impervious easily cleaned surface will need to satisfy the 5 year durability performance."

- Compliance documents 1.1.1 page 13

- Assessing required durability 1.2.1.f page 14

- Durability requirements of nominated building elements table 1 page 20 protective coatings

### **APL comment**

The building code of the Department of Building and Housing relates to Structural (& Functional) components of buildings made of concrete, wood and earth. The only requirement for Paint Systems on components easy to access or replace, is that the coatings have a life of not less than 5 years. See clauses note above pages 11, 13, 14 & 20. With the exposure history we have on Houses and Fences, Aquamax will far exceed that requirement. We also know Aquamax would also more than satisfy the requirements under the verification method for B2/VM1 1.1.1. Please note in the comments relating to clause 1.0.1, that in some cases coatings are not required to satisfy the NZBC performance criterion.

### **In summary**

From the research we have carried out and the history we have of our products and performance comparison of other penetrating linseed oil stains in the market carried out over 20 years, plus the volumes of satisfied sales we have had customers over the last 15 years on fences and houses, we know **Aquamax is suitable for house application**, providing good surface treatment (in relation to mould) and preparation is carried out (refer to tech data sheet), as would be expected for all penetrating linseed oil stains. As explained above we believe Aquamax complies with any durability requirements under the building code.

***Thus Aquamax is a house quality stain and we emphasise its use on fences because that is the volume market and it is affordable for fences. (It is also worth noting that fence timber is usually inferior to house claddings. Thus as Aquamax performs extremely well on fences it is not surprising it is also brilliant on houses.)***

TM Dalton  
DIRECTOR