

Send Feedback To:

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Template for Timber Grading and Treatment SOP Pilot Feedback

Date	17 May 2011
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SOP Treatment / Grading	Clause No./ Subclause No./ Annex	Paragraph/ Figure/Table/ Note	Comment (justification for change)	Proposed change
The process of assuring that structural timber was being presented to the market in an efficacious and safe manner required improvement.	1.1.1	N/A	There is no evidence that this is the case with specialty timber species in New Zealand. The issue is with variability of radiata pine.	Replace reference to "structural timber" with "structural radiata pine" and adjust whole SOP to become appropriate for both radiata pine and specialty species.
To implement and operate a system which provides assurance to timber users, the public (consumers) and the DBH that structural timber used in building and housing meets the required quality standards, is safe to use, fit for purpose and has been produced in a way that ensures the safety of	2.1.1		Interpretation of such safety is subjective. Authoritative rules must reflect special circumstances, practical solutions and be reasonable. Assurance to the level provided for in SOP or NZS 2622:2004 for specialty species is unreasonable and unjustified	Remove the requirements for verification of specialty species under special circumstances (to be developed in conjunction with NZFFA).

NOTE Columns 1, 2, 4, 5 are compulsory.

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people and the environment has been protected.				
Alternative species shall be verified (using an Acceptable Solution or by specific design).	6.1.2		Acceptable solutions are not available for alternative species and specific design requires acceptance of timbers natural variability. This does not appear to be the case (2.1.1 above) thus alternative solutions could require every piece tested for strength and stiffness.	Practical solutions are required. Change to: Alternative species do not require verification but shall meet the requirements of the Strength Grade allocated, based on visual grading in accordance with NZS3631 and conservative allocation of grade using data (8.4.3 below) on strength and stiffness of species.
This document does not replace the requirements of NZS3622 but rather provides additional guidance for Structural timber producers on selected areas. Where there are discrepancies between this SOP and NZS 3622, the requirements of this SOP take precedence.	6.1.6		Appropriate so that improvements can be made as suggested here.	SOP needs to override NZS 3604:2011 and allow specialty timbers to not require verification under appropriate circumstances.
An initial evaluation is needed for all species or grades of structural timber.	8.4.3		Appropriate for determining strength and stiffness parameters for specialty timbers.	This data could be used for conservative allocation of grades for specialty timbers species so that verification is not necessary.