



Fastener and connector recommendations for ACQ® pressure treated wood

The primary fastener systems recommended for use with Preserve ACQ treated wood are **hot-dip galvanized and stainless steel**.

These are the same fastener systems recommended for all treated wood used in exterior applications by the fastener and connector manufacturers, and are also the same fastener requirements specified in major building codes.

Outdoor, exposed- Decks, fences, landscaping (above ground, ground contact, freshwater contact)

- ✓ Connectors recommended by Viance and the fastener manufacturers for use on decks and other outdoor structures that are exposed and constructed of Copper Azole or ACQ treated wood are the same: Hot dipped galvanized (G-185) or stainless steel. Note that USP Connectors and *Simpson Strong-Tie manufacturers of wide range of innovative fastening products used in outdoor wood construction both recommend the same level of protection for MCA/MCQ treated wood as they do for ACQ treated wood.*

Dry, weather-protected applications

- ✓ In dry, protected applications, where the wood moisture contact will remain below 19% in service, hot dipped galvanized (G-90) can be used in conjunction with ACQ or CA-B.

Aluminum

- ✓ Direct contact of aluminum building products with ACQ pressure treated wood is not recommended. Peel and stick membranes, plastic spacers, or other means of separation should be used when fastening railings, siding, and other aluminum components.

Always follow National or Federal Building code regulations.

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*The user of this information should be aware that there can be a great deal of variability among electroplated, hot-dip and polymer coatings, even within the same product type from the same manufacturer. For this reason, Viance cannot guarantee that any fastener will perform the same way in service that it did in tests.

The information contained herein is intended to provide general guidance only. Viance's recommendations are not intended to imply, guarantee, ensure or warrant in any way that compliance with these recommendations as stated will eliminate corrosion problems and disclaims any and all liabilities in connection with any use of or reliance upon this information. Please consult fastener manufacturer recommendations and local building codes to determine what is best for your application.






Fasteners and Pressure Treated Wood

Wood and connectors both need protection from the elements

Pressure treated wood has been used for decades as a building material where the durability, strength, and the natural characteristics of wood offer enhanced performance over other materials. Without pressure treatment, wood is vulnerable to damage from decay and termites. Just as wood needs protection outdoors, so do the nails, screws, and hangers holding the project together. Outdoor structures can last for many years, and the connectors must be designed to match the life of the structure.

Fasteners and connectors exposed to rain, snow, spray from lawn/garden irrigation heads, deicers, saltwater spray and mist, freshwater contact (docks) may corrode if not designed for use with treated wood or in exterior exposures. This is recognized by the building codes, as well as the preservative and connector/fastener manufacturers.

Performance of ACQ Treated Wood and Fasteners

-  Wood treated with ACQ has performed well in severe exposure environments around the world for over two decades.
-  Commercial experience with Preserve ACQ treated wood demonstrates excellent performance with recommended fasteners in service applications over many years.
-  Results from standard accelerated corrosion tests for all copper based treated wood systems are similar, and fastener recommendations and requirements are the same for all copper based waterborne preservatives used in treated wood for exterior deck construction.

Fastener and Connector Manufacturer Recommendations

Simpson-Strong Tie: recommendations and links

For Exterior Applications, wet or dry (that are not Higher Exposure),

Simpson recommends ZMAX®/HDG (G-185) connectors as a minimum.

- FASTENER FAQ INFORMATION: <http://www.strongtie.com/productuse/ptwoodfaq.html>
- 2013 DECK CONNECTION AND FASTENING GUIDE (Page 18) <http://www.strongtie.com/ftp/fliers/F-DECKCODE13.pdf>

USP Structural Connectors: recommendations and links

For Exterior Applications USP recommends: "Triple Zinc (G185) or USP Gold Coat

- USP TECHNICAL BULLETIN: CORROSION PROTECTION
<http://www.uspconnectors.com/pdf/technical/tech-bulletin-corrosion-protection-advisory.pdf>