



# LIGNIA® DELIVERS BEAUTY AND HIGH PERFORMANCE IN ONE PRODUCT

LIGNIA is the high-performance modified timber produced in the UK for architects, designers and other professionals to specify for the construction industry. LIGNIA is a highly-durable real wood that delivers beauty, high performance and sustainability through a unique modification process.

LIGNIA starts out life as a softwood (radiata pine) from FSC\*-certified managed plantations, and we modify it in our manufacturing plant in Wales, giving it the appearance and properties of hardwoods.

Using proprietary grading rules we ensure the wood used is carefully selected from large-diameter pruned logs which are cut to produce heart-free boards free of warp and with minimal surface defects.

This is then modified under controlled conditions to produce timber of suitable consistency and quality.

Classified as small movement, LIGNIA has many applications and is often used for decking, flooring, cladding and general joinery such as doors and window frames. LIGNIA comes with a 50-year warranty against rot and fungal decay in above-ground uses and matches or even exceeds in some categories the performance of hardwoods such as ipe or European oak.

LIGNIA undergoes extensive testing at test facilities in the UK, France, Germany and North America, proving that the product is a real alternative to tropical hardwoods, thus making it a highly sustainable choice in construction specification.





# LIGNIA, the modified softwood that delivers like a hardwood.

LIGNIA's patent-pending process for modifying softwood involves treating it with a formulated phenol and formaldehyde (PF) resin and then kilning it; on curing, the PF resin condenses to produce a large chemically-stable molecule 'locked' into wood at a molecular level via our proprietary 'ligniafication' method. The result of this process reduces the already low levels of formaldehyde present, to meet the stringent emission requirements for internal applications in regions around the world.

The timber's properties are enhanced to include increased durability against rot and greater stability, density and hardness with a consistently built-in golden-brown colour.

With its greater durability properties and small movement, it provides all of the advantages of wood as a construction material, with none of the age-old drawbacks.

LIGNIA is produced in the UK in a major modified timber manufacturing plant and is available via distributors all over the world.

Combining technology and nature to help preserve tropical rainforests.





As a modified FSC\* timber LIGNIA is well-placed to offer the construction and joinery sectors an ecologically-viable alternative to the use of uncertified hardwoods, thus helping to reduce deforestation. Climate change and the increasing demand for natural resources by a growing global population, pose significant threats to sustainable development, and so the role that certified wood plays as a renewable material resource is becoming evermore crucial.

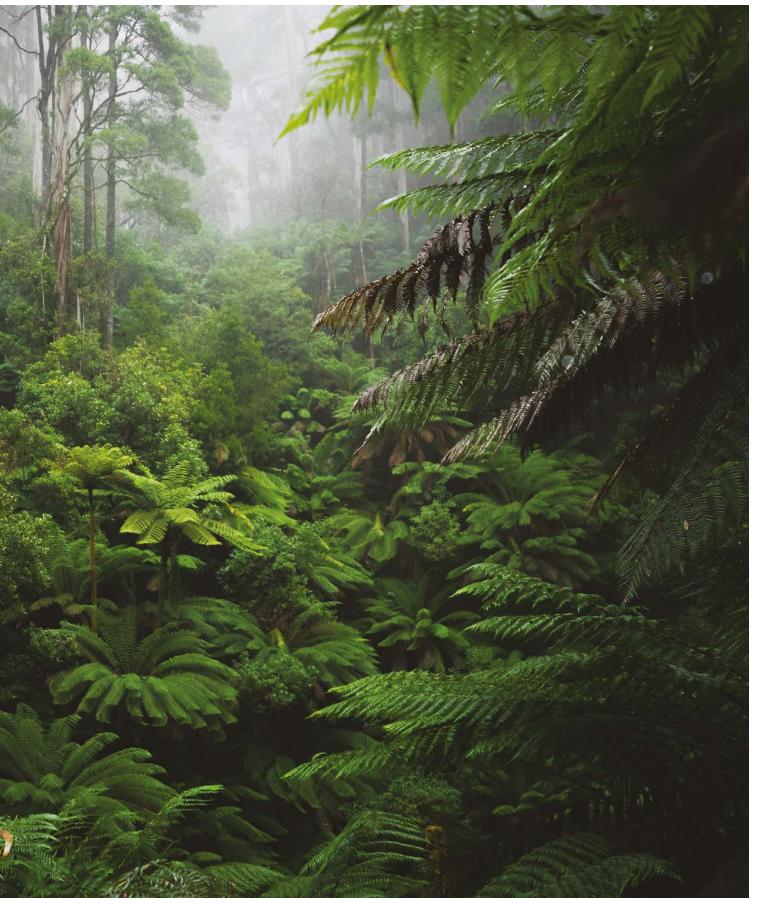
Not only is LIGNIA manufactured from FSC\*-certified wood, but our ligniafication process also improves the durability of the wood, and so products manufactured using LIGNIA have a longer service life, thereby locking-up carbon for a longer period of time. This also reduces the demand for timber because products need replacing less frequently.

Many tropical forests contain high-value trees such as teak and mahogany and often, these are harvested illegally; the resulting felling and extraction of trees can lead to significant forest damage. Harvested from FSC\* plantations, LIGNIA is tailored to have many properties similar to these tropical hardwoods making it a desirable and sustainable alternative. The trees used by LIGNIA are harvested like a crop, with less taken out than what grows each year. By choosing LIGNIA we can all increase the planet's forested lands and have no need to cut down so many slow-growing hardwood trees.

Additionally, at end of life, LIGNIA products can be re-fashioned and turned into other products or items, thus further extending its life. It can also be used as biomass fuel with heat and energy recovery, reducing the need to burn fossil fuels.







# THE SCIENCE BEHIND LIGNIA'S MODIFICATION PROCESS

LIGNIA is modified in LIGNIA Wood Company's manufacturing plant in Barry, in the UK, and is engineered to last a lifetime. Before the modification begins LIGNIA's team grades the softwood to make sure it is of suitable appearance and with limited defects. The ligniafication process involves taking FSC\* certified softwood (radiata pine), kilning it and then treating it with resin. The resin is 'locked in' at molecular level by curing it which gives it the performance and appearance of hardwoods.

LIGNIA's PF resin contains a large number of small molecules including phenol and formaldehyde. However, once cured, molecules combine to produce a large polymer which is low in emissions. Formaldehyde, a key element of our resin, is a naturally-occurring product that is found in all organic forms of life, in trees, fruit, vegetables, fish, and animals including humans; in fact, we humans produce approximately 40 grams of formaldehyde each day in our bodies (see right). The resin used is a low-formaldehyde resin.

Once LIGNIA is cured the PF is only present in minute quantities. LIGNIA wood is tested independently on a regular basis under BS EN 120 and meets European Emissions Standards E1. Using the JIS 1460A, LIGNIA's formaldehyde emission levels are 0.3mg/l, the lowest classification under the standard.

LIGNIA also has a Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) certificate from the HPVA Laboratories in the USA. The certificate shows a result that is below the limit of quantification, ie less than 0.008 ppm.

# What is formaldehyde?

Formaldehyde naturally occurs in every wood product on the market and also in the food we eat including fruit, vegetables and poultry. It's a simple organic chemical compound made up of hydrogen, oxygen and carbon.

All life forms on our planet including bacteria, plants, trees, fish and animals (including humans) make formaldehyde, usually every day. It's an essential compound which is present in quite high concentrations in all tissues and in fact is used in the human body to manufacture essential amino acids.

Formaldehyde does not accumulate in the environment or within plants, animals or people as it is metabolised quickly and exhaled. Every time you cut the grass in your garden you are breathing in formaldehyde in very safe levels.





# INNOVATION FROM LIGNIA

LIGNIA Wood Company is based in Barry in South Wales, UK in a 50,000 sq.ft state-of-the-art manufacturing plant that is dedicated to modifying timber for the marine and construction sectors. The team is run by real experts in timber who understand not just the mechanics and science of wood but also the end applications in the yachting and building world. LIGNIA has its own R&D plant and research team that are led by wood scientists who are specialists in modifying timber and who carry out continuous testing using LIGNIA's own test rigs that face the sea.

LIGNIA has a modern customised factory but the actual site is over 100 years old with most of this time being dedicated to working with wood.

LIGNIA thus continues a proud tradition of working with wood on one single site. LIGNIA's team is dedicated to producing the finest modified timber for the building sectors around the world.





# VISUAL GRADE

# The following may be present:

# **Small Knots**

5mm or less (no limit on numbers).

# **Resin Pockets**

10mm wide, 50mm long totally encased within timber (less than 50mm board thickness) and 10mm wide, 100mm long totally encased within timber (board thickness greater than 50mm).

# Intergrown knot

Tight and totally encased maximum 15mm (in board thickness greater than 50mm only).

# **Resin Streaks**

Three, maximum width 7mm, 100mm in length.

# Surface checking

In external applications LIGNIA may exhibit fine surface checking over a period of time if left uncoated. For horizontal decking applications it is advised to use LIGNIA's rift sawn timber, which is a high performance product that reduces such checks.

# **End Splits**

Not to exceed 150mm in length.

## **Distortion**

See the distortion tables in our 'Visual Grade Specification 2019' brochure.

# Wane

Up to  $^{1}/_{4}$  of board length, 8mm x 8mm for 25mm – 50mm thick boards, up to  $^{1}/_{2}$  of board length, 10mm x 10mm for boards greater than 50mm in thickness.

LIGNIA is supplied FSC\* certified, kiln-dried, with minimal visual defects, random grained (flat sawn).

It is available in the following dimensions:

## **Dimensions:**

FSC° certified, kiln-dried random grain:

22mm, 25mm, 32mm, 38mm thickness (50mm, 63mm, 75mm later in 2019)

75mm, 100mm, 125mm, 150mm, 200mm widths

2.1m - 6m lengths



SUPPLIED ROUGH-SAWN, RANDOM GRAIN, 4 SIDES CLEAR



2016 2019















- Durability Class 1 MPA (60-year minimum life against rot and fungal decay in above ground applications)
- Durability against termites in AWPA E10 subterranean termite (choice) tests, LIGNIA demonstrates high resistance to attack from subterranean termites with only trace, surface nibbles being found (LSU Wood Durability Lab in Baton Rouge, LA)
- Density through modification is increased to an average of 650kg/m³, improving mechanical properties
- Janka hardness test to 5170 N (Avg 60)
- Dimensional stability small movement timber, Tangential movement 0.55%, Radial movement 0.65%
- Superior machining finish with minimal sanding required
- Slip resistance pendulum test BS 7976: 2002 Parts 1 & 3

With shoes:

53 (Avg Dry) 33 (Avg Wet)

Barefoot:

82 (Avg Dry) 44 (Avg Wet)

# **End Sealing of LIGNIA**

It is highly recommended that both ends of LIGNIA wood pieces be end sealed with either paint or wax to prevent moisture ingress, especially when inserted into the ground. LIGNIA has Class 1 durability and is a small movement timber but end sealing is recommended as with all modified timbers.



	LIGNIA	Western Red Cedar	Sapele	lpe	European Oak	Douglas Fir
Ease of fixing	VV	<b>///</b>	<b>VV</b>	<b>V</b>	VV	VV
Hardness	VV	<b>V</b>	<b>VV</b>	VVV	VV	V
Durability fungi	VVV	VV	<b>V</b>	VVV	VV	V
Durability subterranean termites*	VVV	<b>V</b>	<b>VV</b>	VVV	VV	
Dimensional stability	VVV	VVV	<b>VV</b>	N/A	VV	VVV
Weathering	VVV	<b>V</b>			<b>V</b>	
Slip resistance dry	VVV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Slip resistance wet	VVV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Where **VVV** = highest level of performance

# SAFETY DATA

# Handling and storage

# Precautions for safe handling

Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practice. Machining of LIGNIA, like all wood products, generates wood dust. Avoid dust formation since fine dust exposed in the air in sufficient concentrations and in the presence of an ignition source is a potential dust explosion hazard.

Hardwood wood dust has been classified by International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) as a known human carcinogen (Group 1). For this reason, measures should be in place to avoid wood dust inhalation.

No special measures are necessary when handling LIGNIA, as there is no hazard to health caused by touch or any other contact with the boards.

Care should be taken during handling to protect hands from small splinters of wood. It is recommended that gloves and safety glasses be worn when processing and handling.

# Conditions for safe storage including any incompatibilities

Store under dry and ventilated conditions. Keep away from sources of ignition.

# Exposure controls/personal protection

Control parameters			
Exposure limits	Follow workplace regulatory exposure limits for all types of airborne dust (e.g. total dust, respirable dust):		
	Chemical name	Dust, hardwood & softwood	
	European Union	TWA: 5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
	United Kingdom	TWA: 5 mg/m³ 8 hr	
Recommended monitoring procedures	Gravimetric monitorin	g where necessary	
Derived No Level Effect (DNEL)	No information available		
Predicted No Effect Concentration (PNEC)	No information available		

Exposure			
Appropriate engineering controls	Ensure adequate ventilation and/or extraction to minimise airborne dust		
Personal protection	Dust will be generated during processing; individual protection measures (PPE) include:		
	Eye protection	Tightly fitting safety googles to prevent contact with eyes	
	Hand protection	Protective gloves to prevent skin contact	
	Skin and body protection	Long-sleeved clothing	
	Respiratory protection	Tightly with adequate ventilation and/or extraction no respiratory protection required. In case of dust formation, if exposure limits are exceeded or irritation is experienced NIOSH/MSHA approved respiratory protection should be worn. For filtering face piece use P3 or for a powered dust respirator TH2.	

# Stability and reactivity

# Reactivity

Stable

# Chemical stability

Stable

# Possibility of hazardous reactions

Avoid contact with oxidising agents

# Conditions to avoid

Open flames, hot surfaces, sources of ignition

## Incompatible materials

Keep away from strong acids, bases and oxidising agents

# Hazardous decomposition products

CO, CO<sub>2</sub> aldehydes (including formaldehyde) particulate matter and other organic compounds

# Regulatory information

## Restrictions on use

None

# Exposure controls/personal protection

Information on toxicological effects		
General	Exposure to product itself is unlikely to result in any effect. However, exposure to wood dust related to the handling and manufacturing of the product may result in the following:	
Eye contact	Dust contact can lead to irritation	
Skin contact	Irritation	
Inhalation	Irritation of the respiratory tract	
Ingestion	An unlikely exposure route	
Allergy	Repeated and long-term exposure to wood dust can cause an allergic reaction	
Carcinogenicity	Wood dust has been classified by IARC as a known carcinogen	
Reprotoxicity	No data to indicate that wood dust affects the reproductive system	

### Disclaime

All chemicals may pose unknown hazards and should be used with caution. This Safety Data information applies only to the material as packaged. If this product is combined with other materials, deteriorates, or becomes contaminated, it may pose hazards not included in this sheet. It shall be the user's responsibility to develop proper methods of handling and personal protection based on the actual conditions of use. While this Safety Data information is based on technical data judged to be reliable, LIGNIA Wood Company Limited assumes no responsibility for the completeness or accuracy of the information contained. Users should consider these data for information purposes and be responsible for proper use and disposal of materials and the safety and health of employees, customers and protection of the environment.



## Should LIGNIA be sealed at both ends?

Yes, as with all modified timbers, LIGNIA wood should be end sealed on both ends with paint or wax to prevent moisture ingress.

# Can LIGNIA processing waste (shavings, sawdust and offcuts) be used for animal bedding?

No, the UK Environment Agency classifies wood treated with resin as GRADE C wood waste along with particleboard, MDF and plywood. As such it should not be used for the manufacture of animal bedding. Where pieces are too small to manufacture into product, the best route for disposal is via incineration with energy recovery in a WID-compliant incinerator. Biomass is making a significant contribution to the UK's energy security.

## How is LIGNIA made?

Softwood that has been graded to make sure it is of suitable appearance is impregnated with a resin. Wood is next dried, and resin cured at high temperature to lock the resin in place.

## How durable is LIGNIA?

Independent laboratory testing has shown LIGNIA to be Very Durable (Class 1 Durability) against decay fungi. Independent testing has also shown improved resistance against termite attack.

# Is LIGNIA hard wearing?

Although density of LIGNIA is increased the Taber resistance test showed it to be less resistant to wear than hardwoods such as oak and beech.

# Will LIGNIA change colour over time?

Yes, in time. As for other timbers, when exposed uncoated outdoors to the weather LIGNIA will silver over time due to interaction of UV and rainfall with the wood surface. Rate of colour change will depend on level of exposure and will differ with geographic location and elevation

# Can LIGNIA be glued and painted?

LIGNIA can be glued and painted in the same way as other timbers. Guidance on suitable adhesives and coatings and their applications are available on request.

# Can LIGNIA be screwed and nailed?

Yes, LIGNIA can be screwed and nailed like any other timber. However, since its average density is  $650 \text{ kg/m}^3$  to avoid splitting of the wood (for thicker pieces) pre-drilling is recommended. Fixings should be at least 20 mm from the ends and 15 mm from edges of boards respectively to avoid splitting.

# How easy is LIGNIA to machine?

LIGNIA saws, planes and sands well to a good finish. Wood working machinery should be set up as if machining a medium density hardwood such as Iroko.

## How stable is LIGNIA?

LIGNIA is classed as a Small Movement timber similar to teak or Western Red Cedar. Small movement timbers are preferred for use externally because fluctuations in environmental conditions result in changes to wood moisture content and shrinkage and swelling of wood. Small Movement timbers shrink and swell less and are more suitable for use in joinery, cladding, decking or outdoor furniture.





## Does LIGNIA contain knots?

LIGNIA is manufactured from timber graded to be 'free' from knots and other naturally occur blemishes such as resin streaks on the faces of the piece. Our grade means only small knots <5 mm diameter and small resin streaks will ever be present at the surface of our LIGNIA products. LIGNIA faces are entirely free from knots or surface blemishes.

# What are emissions from LIGNIA under ambient conditions?

LIGNIA has been tested for formaldehyde emissions using appropriate standards.

Using BS EN 120, LIGNIA was shown to meet the requirements of European Emissions Standards E1 (low emission) classification when tested. Emissions under European E1 Class are 0.1 ppm so our samples are at least 12.5 times lower.

The EPA TSCA Title VI federal regulation emissions limit for formaldehyde is set at 0.05 ppm so LIGNIA emissions are at least 6.25 times lower.

Using the JIS 1460A its emission levels were €0.3 mg/l, the lowest classification available under the test.

LIGNIA also has a Toxic Substance Control act (TSCA) certificate from the HPVA Laboratories in the USA. This shows a result that is below the limit of quantification, ie less than 0.008 ppm.

# Can it be burned?

Yes, the best route for disposal of LIGNIA waste is incineration in a Waste Incineration Directive (WID) boiler with recovery of energy.

# Is dust produced from LIGNIA machining carcinogenetic?

All wood dusts and not just LIGNIA dust are considered hazardous to health since they can cause skin disorders, respiratory problems and nasal cancer. As such, the

same precautions need to be taken when processing LIGNIA as for any other wood or wood product.

# Can LIGNIA be used for structural applications?

The modification process does not reduce the strength of the wood but since LIGNIA is manufactured from wood graded for appearance rather than strength, then it is not suitable for use in structural applications.

## Is LIGNIA sustainable?

Yes, highly. LIGNIA is manufactured from softwood harvested from sustainably managed plantation forests. All timber used is FSC\* Certified. Carbon dioxide sequestered by these trees as they grow remains locked-in the wood over the life of the product. Since LIGNIA products are durable, there is less of a need to replace these, reducing demand for wood to manufacture replacements. Where LIGNIA products cannot be re-used at the end of their service life they are suitable for use as biomass.

## What does the 50-year warranty cover?

The warranty covers LIGNIA against wood destroying fungi in Use class 3 as defined in BS EN 335:2013. This Use class includes situations in which the wood or wood-based product is above ground and exposed to the weather (particularly rain). Typical products which fall under this Use class are decking boards, cladding and windows and exterior doors.

# Will there be any surface checking or splitting?

LIGNIA is manufactured from wood graded to exclude splits and allow only a small number of checks. Care is taken during the modification process to prevent checking and splitting. Every piece of LIGNIA is graded at the end of the modification process as part of our quality control procedures. The Company

provides assurance to its customers about the quality of each piece of LIGNIA through our Selling grade available for each LIGNIA product type. The Selling grade places limits on splits and surface checking in pieces.

# What is the moisture content of LIGNIA?

As with other timbers, the moisture content of LIGNIA will equilibrate to a level that depends on the environmental conditions (i.e. temperature and relative humidity) it is exposed to.

### Is LIGNIA acidic?

No, independent testing and regular QC checks on LIGNIA product have shown it to be pH neutral or slightly alkaline unlike most timbers that are acidic in nature. As it is not acidic, regular stainless steel or other metal fixings can be screwed into LIGNIA wood without causing corrosion.

# What process do you use to modify your timber?

LIGNIA is manufactured using a patent pending resin modification process. During manufacture, wood is fully impregnated with resin. The wood is then dried, and the resin cured through heating under high temperature and pressure to polymerise the resin and 'lock it' into the wood altering its properties throughout the piece.

# How should LIGNIA be disposed of?

LIGNIA must be disposed of in accordance with local regulations. This applies to unused material, processing waste (dust, shavings and offcuts) and to end of life material.

# Is LIGNIA safe to handle?

LIGNIA can be handled like any other timber. On leaving our production facility it is completely dry. However, it is rough sawn and for that reason, we recommend that gloves be worn to avoid splinters.



# CASE STUDY IN CLADDING

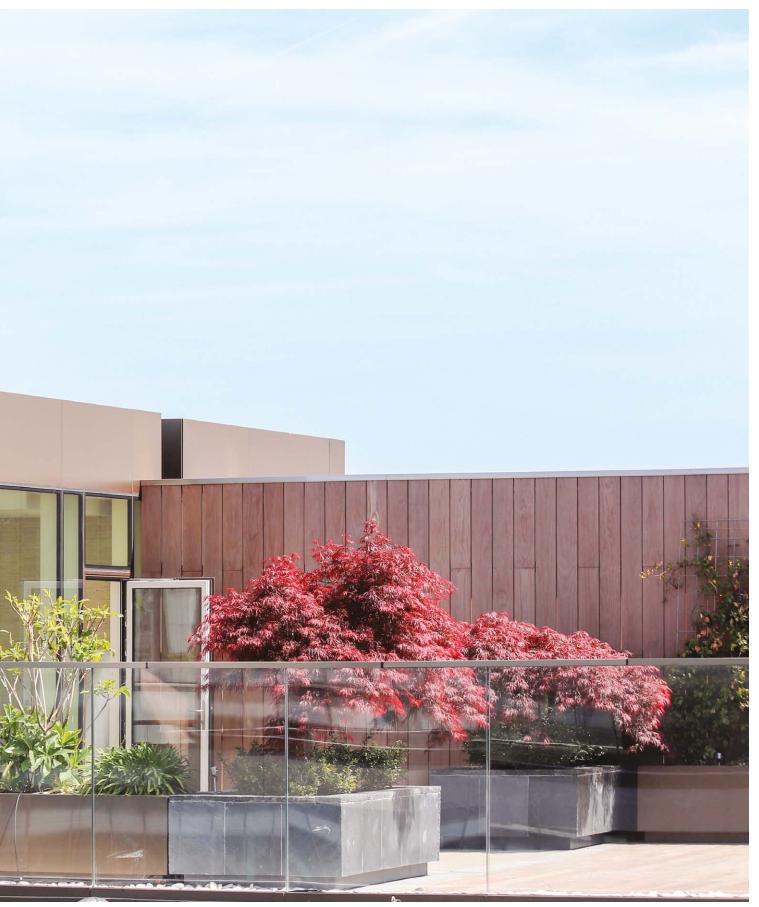
One Tower Bridge is a prestigious development offering luxury five-star living by the banks of the Thames in London. The site, completed in 2017, consists of luxury apartments, a theatre, gymnasium, swimming pool, and commercial and retail sites, along with breath-taking views of some of London's most famous sites.

London-based specialist contractor The Outdoor Deck Company supplied and installed decking, contemporary screens, fencing and seating steps and specified LIGNIA for the high-quality cladding (sidings) and screens seen in this top-floor apartment.

LIGNIA was specified due to the inherent qualities that are derived from its modification process which offers all the advantages of wood as

a construction material, with none of the age-old drawbacks such as rot and fungal decay (LIGNIA is supplied with a 50-year warranty against rot and decay in above-ground applications). LIGNIA's wood is classified as a small movement timber and when combined with its durability and natural beauty was a natural choice in this prestigious development.







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