

## HOOVER TREATED WOOD PRODUCTS, INC.

# *TECHNICAL NOTE*

[www.frtw.com](http://www.frtw.com) or 1-800-TEC-WOOD (832-9663)

## KILN DRIED AFTER TREATMENT (KDAT)

Wood is a natural material; it gains or loses moisture to maintain equilibrium with the surrounding environment. Wet treated woods moisture content is above the fiber saturation point and dimensions are at their maximum. As wood dries below the fiber saturation point, the dimensions shrink. Installed wet, treated lumber will dry unevenly. The outside surfaces of the lumber, especially those exposed to direct sunlight, will dry before the inner volume of the material. When shrinkage around this larger volume occurs, stresses develop that result in checks, splits, warp, cup or twist. *Kiln drying after treatment (KDAT)* controls the rate of drying so that these adverse conditions are avoided.

**KDAT** is recommended for **CCA** and **Dura Guard** preservative treatments. **KDAT** meets building code or industry standard requirements for moisture content of 18% for plywood and 19% for dimensional lumber.

### ADVANTAGES OF KILN DRYING AFTER TREATMENT (KDAT)

**Reduced Shrinkage.** When wood gets wet it expands and as it dries contracts. On the job site **KDAT** wood can be installed without significant shrinkage or movement.

**Stable.** Wet treated wood exposed to ambient weather conditions and direct sun light tends to check, split, warp, cup or twist. **KDAT** material is uniformly dried to consistent moisture content and is far more stable when exposed to the elements. For treated wood that is destined for a manufacturing process, **KDAT** is recommended as wood dimensions are more consistent for milling or machining.

**Light weight.** Hoover's **KDAT** lumber and plywood is lighter and easier to handle than wood that is wet from treatment. Board footage can be maximized for more economical shipping.

**Stronger.** Wood strength and stiffness is a function of moisture content, i.e., dry wood is stronger than wet wood.

**Can be finished or sealed more promptly.** Manufacturers of coatings and adhesives do not recommend the use of their products with wet wood, untreated or treated. Paints, stains, coatings or adhesives should be applied to **KDAT** wood per the manufacturer's specifications.

**Cleaner.** Wet treated wood may exhibit mold or mildew. **KDAT** lumber and plywood is delivered in water resistant covering which keeps it clean, dry, and ready for use.