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## SAIA Guidelines on Purchasing Engineered Wood Scaffold Planks

Items that should be considered when using this checklist as a tool for making purchasing decisions.

- Ultimately, the purchasing decision comes down to the purchaser. **This list is not intended to be used as a “Pass/Fail”**, but rather to arm plank purchasers with an aid in the decision making process.
- Only those items that are listed in **bold** and have an underlined reference are regulated. Other items in this list are based on best known practices within the industry.
- Many of these items have a “Yes” or “No” answer. However, many of them are not as simple as that. Certain quality management systems and proof loading techniques may have greater merits than others. As such, it is advisable to understand the manufacturer’s quality assurance process rather than just if it exists.
- All items should be checked. Address any unchecked items with the manufacturer or supplier.
- Questions may arise; it is recommended that the buyer contact their manufacturer and the SAIA directly for answers.

### Physical/Mechanical Properties:

- Each scaffold plank is **capable of supporting the one person loading requirement when the plank is supported on a 10-foot span. ANSI A10.8-2011 5.2.1**
- Each scaffold plank meets the OSHA capacity requirement by following provisions in paragraph 5 of ANSI A10.8-2011 and OSHA 1926.451(a).**
- Plank surfaces (top and bottom) are not obscured by any coating or finish. Finishes or treatments are allowed provided that they are not opaque. ANSI A10.8-2011 5.2.12 and OSHA 1926.451(b)(9)**

### Manufacture:

- The plank is manufactured under a quality management system (e.g. ISO 9001).
- The manufacturing process is inspected by a third-party agency.
- All adhesives used in the manufacture of the plank meet the requirements of ASTM D2559.
- Each plank is proof-loaded prior to shipment as part of the quality assurance system (e.g. ANSI A10.8-2011 5.2.1).

Identification:

- All planks bear the seal of an independent, nationally recognized third-party inspection agency. [ANSI A10.8-2011 5.2.10](#)**
- Information on planks is embossed on the sides for means of long-term identification.
- Plank emboss includes a means of identifying the manufacturer (e.g. manufacturer name/logo or product brand name) and an identification of the manufacturing mill number.
- Date of manufacture is included on the plank for traceability to manufacturing data.
- The plank is clearly identified that it is intended to be used as "SCAFFOLD PLANK"
- All chemically treated (e.g. fire-retardant) planks are readily identified as such. Identification should indicate that chemically treated planks are safe for either interior or exterior use or both.

Literature:

- Allowable design properties are published by the manufacturer. [ANSI A10.8-2011 5.2.9](#)**
- Tables indicating maximum span are published by the manufacturer consistent with industry-accepted criteria. [ANSI A10.8-2011 5.2.11](#)**
- Planks are designed so that they do not deflect more than 1/60<sup>th</sup> of the span under design load. [OSHA 1926.451 \(f\)\(16\)](#)**
- Design properties include appropriate adjustments such as wet use and fire-retardant treatment.
- Product name on literature matches product name on plank
- The species or species mix used in manufacture is identified
- Literature includes manufacturer recommendations on the following:
  - Proper storage and handling
  - Visual inspection
  - Mechanical evaluation

Manufacturer/Supplier:

- The manufacturer/supplier will supply a certificate of insurance upon request.
- The manufacturer/supplier offers a warranty covering the quality of the manufacture of the product.
- The manufacturer/supplier is an active member in SAIA, Scaffold Shoring Forming Institute and/or other industry trade or professional associations.
- The manufacturer/supplier has ability to respond to technical questions and field problems.

*This checklist was compiled by members of the SAIA Platform Council workgroup~@Scaffold & Access Industry Association*

