

TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARDS FROM SOFTWOOD

Wood is a natural material which reacts to variations in temperature and humidity. To avoid problems and to extend the useful life of our products, we recommend the following:

- **Spraying:** To avoid the boards from drying out we recommend to spray the boards with water during production cycle. You will have less sticking if you use a water-oil emulsion. The correct oil should be specified by your oil supplier and trials done to establish satisfactory results.
- **Storage:** It is important that the Softwood boards will be used as soon as possible after delivery. During shutdown periods (e.g. long winter shutdowns and annual shutdowns in hot weather) wooden boards must be protected against loss of humidity. Direct sun light must be avoided. If boards are subject to direct sunlight, one side will dry out and this can cause warping and open up gaps in the wood and joints.
- **Cleaning:** Our experience has shown that a steel/nylon brush is the best to use for all wooden boards. We recommend: 0,5 mm rippled-wire (40% share) and 1,2 mm nylon (60% share) sweep diameter 200 mm.

→ **Special note – acid leaching from the boards:**

Wood is natural living material. It is possible for acids within the wood to leach out. This can cause discoloration and delayed setting on the underside of the blocks when using soft wood boards, particularly in the case of board-on-block stacking. This is an unavoidable natural process.

→ **General indication:**

The use of hydrophobic release agents or similar agents may cause a closing of the wood cell structure and this causes drying out of the wood followed by cracks. In addition this sealing can cause rotting of the wood.

When using such release agents a material buildup on any kind of boards (wood, plastic, steel) will be monitored. This buildup can only be removed with great effort. The use of special cleaning devices can become necessary (steel brush, scraper, cleaning roll). If the boards are not cleaned well this will cause damage on the board surface and the moulds as well.

Please speak with us about your application - We will then recommend you the best solution from our product range!