

QUALITY ASSURANCE STRUCTURAL PROPERTIES

Quality assurance of structural timber product produced by the TARMAC group of companies.

All product marketed and supplied by Tarmac conforms to the requirements of relevant Australian Standards and industry guidelines. Tarmac quality assurance programs, developed with industry associations, consultants and training bodies continue to be monitored and upgraded in order to meet current requirements, both from regulatory bodies and consumer requisites.

Specific processes have been developed and implemented to ensure product is of a reliable quality and “fit for purpose”. Quality assurance starts with the resource supply. Variability between populations and suppliers can be immense. Over the 39 years of operation Tarmac has been able to develop and ensure high quality feed stock sources. Training and experience of management and staff are key to the generation of a quality product. Tarmac employs qualified grading staff and machinists, graders and stackers are given comprehensive in-house training in the specific requirements of timber properties, as per AS 2858 for visual grading, on a regular basis. The experience of graders is not limited to visual grading, but the operation of Mechanical Grading Process machines following AS 1748 (& carrying out the visual checking component required for those grades)

Modulus Of Elasticity/Rupture static testing occurs to benchmark each population of stock, for an extra machine calibration and as regular sampling and testing of product evaluation according to AS 4063 and monitoring according to AS 4490. Grading on every piece is carried out on the grading deck by personnel at the out feed of machine and monitored by machinist. Above and beyond grade requirements, aesthetic considerations determine acceptability and undesirable attributes are rejected. Further to the grading process, timber is randomly checked, both from grading deck & packs in process, during production by foreman, head machinist, management and other interested parties. The grade is assigned to the timber only if it conforms to the requirements of above mentioned standards and meets the specific mechanical properties for design purposes as in AS 1720.1 Timber structures Part 1 – Design methods. (table 2.4 for F grades. table H1 for MGP) Testing beyond this is carried out by Dept Primary Industries Queensland at the Horticulture & Forestry Sciences Indooroopilly Science Centre on a regular basis. This enables us to confirm the accuracy of our testing equipment and assure other timber strength characteristic data conforms to design specifications. Although this document merely outlines the program of quality assurance and the many varied checks and balances along the way to producing our product, we hope that you will take it as our guarantee of product conformance.

The Tarmac group is committed to producing the highest possible quality product and have invested considerable resources both human and material in order to supply the industry with a superior product that is consistent and well presented.