

# Timber In-fills – Safety Alert

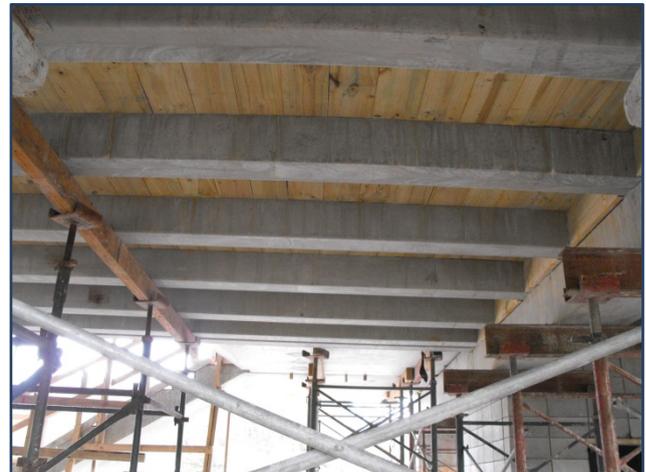
## Description of the Risks Relating to Activity:

Date Issued: 19/09/2016

Timber is a natural product with seen & unseen defects e.g.:

1. Knots & splits that may result in damage.
2. In-fill boards kicked or knocked off the product
3. Weather conditions causing in-fills to move
4. H3 chemical treatment present.
5. Rough sawn timber can be prone to causing splinters when handled.
6. Inhaling treated timber sawdust during cutting process.
7. Muscle or back strain from manual handling.

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)



This does not necessarily cover all possible risks/hazards with this operation & is designed to be used as a reference.

## Pre-Operational Safety Checks

1. Specify 150 or 200 x 25mm thick pinus radiata timber in-fills. No visible defects greater than ¼ of board width.
2. Include note and timber in-fill diagram on shop drawings and provide this notice to our customer at time of tender and with shop drawing approval issue.

### TIMBER INFILLS

EACH PIECE OF TIMBER INFILL MUST BE INSPECTED BY THE PERSON INSTALLING THE TIMBER INFILLS. IF THERE ARE KNOTS OR CRACKS OR OTHER WEAKNESSES ACROSS MORE THAN 1/4 OF THE WIDTH OF ANY BOARD, THEN THAT BOARD MUST NOT BE USED AS A TIMBER INFILL.



REINFORCING MESH SHOULD BE PLACED OVER THE INFILLS PRIOR TO OTHER WORK ON THE FLOOR.

3. Ensure the staff installing the in-fills have read and understand this safe operating practice.
4. Limit maximum clear span to 750mm for 25mm thick boards. Spans greater than 750mm place a prop under or use 40mm thick boards to a maximum clear span of 1200mm.
5. Have props ready to install for longer timber in-fill spans noted above.
6. Have mesh or reinforcement ready to be placed immediately after timber in-fills have been placed.

## During Operation

1. Timber in fills should fit tightly into formed rebate on the edge of the prestressed concrete product.
2. **Contractor to inspect each board** as they place them discarding boards that do not meet this documents defect specification.
3. Refrain from standing on the timber in-fill in place, especially all of your weight on a single board. Step only on the concrete product.
4. Lay mesh immediately after placing the timber in fills.
5. Use dust mask around all cutting.
6. Spread topping concrete evenly when placing and avoid mounding concrete up.

## House Keeping

1. Do not burn waste due to fumes to air and potential damage to domestic fire boxes from treatment chemicals.
2. When finished tidy up the work area; place waste in skips or recycle.

## Related Documents, Regulations, Codes of Practices and Standards

NZS 3603:1993 Timber Structures Standard

This does not necessarily cover all possible risks/hazards with this operation & is designed to be used as a reference.