



Titan Metal Werks, Inc.

Manufacturer of **SplitStop™** High Performance Screws

Subject: Independent Evaluations Supporting the use of SplitStop, ACQ Rated and Composite Screws, finished Triple Zinc with a Co-Polymer Overlay, for use in Copper Quat (ACQ) and Copper Azole (CBA) Pressure Treated Wood formulations.

The issues surrounding a change in pressure treated residential deck material usage, from traditionally CCA to now ACQ and CBA formulations, has generated a flood of questions and a continuing flow of new information. Most of this new information is being provided in response to questions regarding the corrosiveness of these new formulations, specifically as they relate to the fasteners and other metal building components used with, or in close proximity to, the treated lumber. Traditional salt spray exposure testing, the most commonly recognized barometer for fastener durability as it relates to corrosion, does not appear to provide an adequate measure of the extreme reactions that may be taking place due to the introduction of the chemicals being used in these new treating processes. The volume of material available in response to this issue is growing but, unfortunately, includes a great deal of subjective opinion, but little objective evaluation.

Titan Metal Werks uses triple-zinc co-polymer finishes on all it's ACQ Rated and Composite variety screws manufactured as of 1/1/04.

Major treating companies have evaluated triple-zinc co-polymer finishes for use with these new pressure treated wood formulations. Those evaluations, which concluded that those finishes performed well, were objectively reviewed by the ICC-ES and found to be accurate.¹

To access the reports please visit the ICC-ES website by following this hyperlink <http://www.icc-es.org>, or by typing its content into your browser window. Once at the ICC-ES site, choose to view the "Evaluation Reports", then choose "Click.. here for a full list", then choose the quick link "NES Legacy Reports", or follow this link, <http://www.icc-es.org/reports/index.cfm?list=list#nes> directly to that page. Scroll down within this section until you find the following three reports that relate to triple-zinc co-polymer finishes: *NER-669 Issued 5/1/03*, *NER-643 Issued 6/1/02* and *NER-628 Issued 2/1/02*.

¹ The ICC-ES is a nonprofit, public-benefit corporation that was formed on February 1, 2003, when America's four building-product evaluation services officially combined their operations. The four "legacy" evaluation services that came together to form ICC-ES were the National Evaluation Service, Inc., BOCAI Evaluation Services, ICBO Evaluation Service, Inc., and SBCCI Public Service Testing and Evaluation Services, Inc. Through the legacy evaluation services, ICC-ES has a history that goes back more than seventy years.

Each report contains common references to “Corrosion” at paragraph 3.6 and to “Fasteners” at paragraph 4.3. In all cases, triple-zinc with a co-polymer overlay has been specified for use with the new treated lumber. Again, Titan Metal Werks uses the triple-zinc co-polymer finishes on all it’s ACQ Rated and Composite variety screws manufactured as of 1/1/04.

This information, coupled with Titan’s Limited Lifetime Warranty, will enable you to suggest SplitStop ACQ Rated and Composite screws to your residential customers with confidence.

SplitStop stainless steel screws are also available, providing the highest level of corrosion resistance for residential use, and are recommended for use in any commercial application.