

ENGINEERED WOOD PRODUCTS

hyPLANK®



**The versatile
scaffold plank**

The natural solution for you.

**CarterHoltHarvey**
Woodproducts Australia



hyPLANK proven performance

Since first introduced to Australian scaffolding more than two decades ago, hyPLANK® has established a reputation for safe and reliable performance. The strong yet lightweight laminated veneer lumber scaffolding plank is now used extensively throughout the industry in place of conventional timber, and where modular systems cannot accommodate the size and shape of the scaffolding requirement. hyPLANK is also used to considerable advantage where corrosion is a hazard for metal planks.

Benefits

- Proven performance to AS 1577
- Tough and long lasting
- Lightweight and versatile
- Sourced from managed plantation forests



hyPLANK used in Transfield Worley/Woodside Gas Project in Western Australia

Technical Data for hyPLANK

HyPLANK Sizes	Approximate Mass	Per AS 1577 – 1993 scaffold planks	
		Working Load Limit (WLL)	Maximum Span
Width x Thickness	kg/m	kg	m
230 x 40	5.7	210	1.8

Availability

230 x 40 hyPLANK is standard ex stock in 1.8, 2.4, 3.0, 3.6, 4.2 and 4.8 m lengths. Other sizes and lengths available to order.

Quality Control and Product Certification

hyPLANK is manufactured in a quality controlled process as required by AS/NZS 4357. Compliance with process based quality control requirements is third party audited by the Engineered Wood Products Association of Australasia (EWPAA). The audits, together with end product testing and market inspection, are used as the basis for Product Certification by the EWPAA as a JAS-ANZ accredited Product Certification body. JAS-ANZ stands for the government established “Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand” which exists as the peak organisation for accreditation of Product Certification bodies.



Proof testing process

Care, storage and maintenance

At the time of despatch hyPLANK is suitable for use as a scaffold plank based upon meeting the performance requirements of AS 1577.

Care in the use and storage of hyPLANK will ensure continued safe performance for maximum service life.

Maintenance, entailing regular inspection and proof testing is necessary to ensure that planks reaching the end of their service life and no longer safe for use are detected and removed from service.

The following recommendations for care in use, storage and maintenance are provided to assist users to maximise service life whilst maintaining required levels of safety. These care, storage and maintenance recommendations are to be used as a guide only and are not intended to replace basic safety, storage and maintenance practices.

Avoid Damage

hyPLANK may be damaged and rendered unsafe by misuse. Based on examples of misuse that have been commonly observed, we recommend as follows:

- Do not use planks over spans greater than those recommended.
- Do not drop hyPLANK from excessive heights.
- Do not drop heavy materials onto hyPLANK.
- Do not allow vehicles to drive over hyPLANK – do not use as crossover boards or duckboards for vehicles.
- Do not use hyPLANK as a saw bench – even shallow saw cuts reduce strength.
- Take precautions against slag burns from oxy cutting or welding.

hyPLANK that has been subjected to these or any other types of misuse may be damaged and should be tested to verify they remain fit for purpose. Note that fractures resulting from overload may not be readily apparent by inspection – proof testing may be the only means of detection.

Chemical Effects

hyPLANK will be largely unaffected by exposure to moderate strength acids or alkalis (pH range 2 to 10). Strong acids and alkalis will however attack the naturally occurring lignin which binds wood fibre and, in time, may cause a reduction in strength. For planks used in these environments regular proof testing is recommended.

Decay

Ordinarily, scaffold planks in service, installed upon scaffolding and subject to the normal wetting and drying from weather do not usually remain wet for protracted periods and in these circumstances decay is unlikely.

Typically where planks have decayed, the decay has resulted from wet planks being stored away closely stacked with little or no ventilation. Any circumstance in which planks remain constantly wet for protracted periods (months) is likely to result in fungal decay.

Planks that show any evidence of fungal decay (such as mould on the surface etc) should be dried and tested for verification of strength before use.

The following recommendations for storage are made to reduce the likelihood of reduced service life due to decay.

Recommendations for storage

Wet planks

- Stack on level bearers well clear of the ground with spacers (stickers) between each layer.
- Locate stack in a dry, well ventilated location and align stickers with bearers.
- A minimum of three bearers/stickers per layer is recommended.

Dry planks

- Store under cover – no special requirement.
- Store outside – stack as for wet planks. Cover to keep dry.

Maintenance

Regular inspection and strength testing is recommended. The frequency of testing depends upon the nature of use. Any plank subject to trauma or showing any obvious signs of misuse should be withdrawn from use pending verification of strength by proof testing.

Proof Testing

AS 1577, Appendix B provides a protocol for strength testing of scaffold planks. Whilst the Standard defines the minimum strength requirements the procedures given in Appendix B are not suitable for verifying the strength of individual planks, which should be done via a proof test.

A simplified proof test method has been designed to verify the strength of individual hyPLANKs against the minimum strength requirements defined in AS 1577. Details of the test equipment and test method are available either by calling the technical enquiries number at the end of this brochure or from your hyPLANK supplier.



hyPLANK Specification

hyPLANK is structural laminated veneer lumber (LVL) manufactured in accordance with AS/NZS 4357-1995, Structural laminated veneer lumber and meeting the performance requirements for scaffold planks specified in AS 1577 - 1993, Scaffold planks.

Veneer	Thickness	3.5 mm (Nominal)
	Species	Radiata pine
	Quality D	AS/NZS 2269
	Joints	Scarf
Moisture	Content	7%-15%
Dimensional Tolerances	Length	-0, + 6 mm
	Width	-0, + 3 mm
	Thickness	-0, + 3 mm
Density (Mean)	580 kg/m ³ (approximately)	
Adhesive	Phenolic AS 2754.1	
Bonds	Type A (Marine)	AS 2098.2 AS 2754.1
Finish	Unsanded faces, sawn edges. Arrises removed by chamfering.	

Marking

Each plank is permanently indent branded along the edge with the following information.

- hyPLANK – for identification.
- AS 1577 – indicating compliance with performance requirements.
- Working load limit (WLL) in kilograms.
- Maximum span in metres.
- The Engineered Wood Products Association of Australasia (EWPAA) Product Certification mark.

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For quick, clear product answers, our technical support phone line **1800 808 131** links you to our expanded, engineering support team. Our experienced support team can assist with enquiries ranging from sizing and design to installation advice.

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