Axolotl

METAL·GLASS·CONCRETE

SPECIFICATION DATA SHEET - AXOLOTL INGRAIN
For the information of Specifiers and Trades

Product Description

The Axolotl Ingrain product refers to the application of Axolotl metal or concrete coatings onto timber surfaces.
Ingrain products featured in the Axolotl range include coatings onto Engineered Oak, Solid Oak and Oregan. Other species of timber may be used, please contact Axolotl for suitablity.

Timber is a natural product and may split or move if exposed to unsuitable humidty or weather. Axolotl coatings are directly bonded to this substrate, any movement in the timber will directly effect the coating and could lead to cracking or chipping.
Ingrain combines two natural materials, any changes or movement is considered complimentary to the product and should not be considered a defect.

Aclimatisation
The moisture content of timber is the percentage weight of water present in the timber compared to the weight of timber with all water removed. Moisture content varies with changes in the humidity and temperature in the surrounding air. To minimise the movement of installed timber (swelling on moisture uptake, shrinkage on moisture loss) due to changes in moisture content, it is important to lay and fix the timber close to the average moisture content of timber in the environment in which it is to be laid. In coastal areas - where higher humidity can be expected - moisture content ranges from 9% to 14%. Timber is usually supplied with an average moisture content of between 10% and 12.5%; most boards can be expected to be within a few percentage points of the average.

Cupping
Cupping is a “ripple like” effect. It is the result of the top of the boards being drier than the bottom. When timber loses moisture it shrinks and when it picks up moisture it expands. Possible causes are: dampness under the timber causing the bottom of the boards to pick up moisture faster than it can be expelled, air conditioners or heaters drying out the timber from the top, or sunlight through a window, which will also dry out the top of boards. The wider the board, the more exaggerated cupping can appear. To minimise the visual effect of cupping, it is a good idea to run timber in the direction of the main light sources.

Expansion
Expansion gaps of 10 mm should be provided at all walls and other fixed obstacles which are parallel to the run of boards. Intermediate expansion joints should also be provided in larger areas (width at right angles to boards exceeding 6 metres), to give an equivalent gap of 10 mm every 6 metres (approx. 1.5 mm every 800 mm).

Movement
As timber flooring is a hygroscopic product (i.e., it has a variable moisture content), it will move with changes of moisture to its local atmosphere. In spells of low humidity, your boards will expel moisture and shrink, which may cause gaps to appear in the floor; however in periods of high humidity, the floor will expand and gaps may close. The wider the board, the more likely it is to show cupping and movement. If your site is particularly dry (usually due to air conditioning) or damp, it would be advisable to opt for a narrower board. This won’t stop movement or cupping, but the effect may be minimised.

Finishes
As timber will continue to move throughout its life due to changes in atmospheric conditions, we recommend to coat panels individually to allow the boards to move independently of one another. Axolotl coatings have a level of flexibilty that will move with the timber.

Coating prejointed boards bonds the edge of the boards together, which may result in irregular gaps or cracking if the timber expands or contracts.

Moisture Content
Timber should be supplied between 9 and 14% moisture content. In most instances for use in Sydney, it is recommended that the timber be between 10 and 12%.

Timber Species
Certain timber species are more suitable for particular environments or applications. Axolotl recommends discussing the project with the builder or architect to assist with the specification.
Engineered species are recommended for internal applications only, they can have benefits of lower costs, and can be a more stable product.

Supply of Timber Substrate
If the substrate is supplied by the client, the timber species should be confirmed with Axolotl for suitability. For best results a sample piece can be coated prior to proceeding with the order.

All timber must be supplied raw with the grain exposed via wirebrushing or sandblasting. The grain pattern will read through the coating. If timber is not supplied with exposed grain Axolotl can expose the grain at an additional fee.

If timber is supplied in lineal form it will be coated on one face, with overspray allowed on edges and back face - unless otherwise specified.

Axolotl is able to supply timber substrate in the above species. Panels can be supplied tongue and groove or with flat edges, please contact us for sizes and availabilty. Supply of the timber substrate may increase the provided lead times.

Installation
Axolotl does not install Ingrain products. Timber panels should be installed as per builder or installers recommendations. It is preffered for no mechanical fixing to pierce through the surface coatings. Tongue and Groove or shiplap style boards may be used for concealed fixing.

Maintenance
Clean Axolotl Ingrain surfaces with a soft damp cloth, and mild detergents only. Do not saturate with water. Never use any solvents, thinners, caustics or powder cleansers. Do not use abrasives as this will potentially scratch, or remove the ageing.

Aging
Patina's are added to the copper, bronze and brass metals either through the application of chemicals or heat.
Each individual panel will react slightly differently, creating an intended inconsistency found in natural aged metals.

Lead Times
Please confirm lead times prior to delivery / commencement of work. The minimum time required for any work carried out in our factory is generally 15-20 working days, however this may increase for large quantities, or if Axolotl is supplying the substrate.

NOTE FOR SPECIFIERS -

PLEASE ENSURE SPECIFICATION SHEET IS COPIED & ATTACHED TO TENDER DRAWINGS FOR THE REFERENCE OF ALL RELEVANT TRADES.

For further information, technical assistance or costing please contact:

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