



## Frequently Asked Questions:

### **What is the drying time?**

The Aquaoil and Timbre Plus range have been reformulated to reduce VOC levels and improve drying time. All these products dry in approx 4 hours depending on temperature and humidity. Aquaoil Gold is still a slow drying coating as well as our timber preservative Quantec with a drying time of approx 24 hours.

### **Do I have to prepare the surface?**

Preparation is vital when using Aquaoil and Timbre Plus. The product has to be able to penetrate into the timber, so a clean sterile surface is paramount for the integrity of the coating. Power washing using Sap-Strip on timber under 12 months old or Dex Prep on old weathered or dirty timber. Fine sanding is recommended for vertical surfaces only to remove any loose coating or fungal growth. Weathering and cleaning on decking surfaces is necessary. We do not advise sanding decking timbers as this can liven up the oils on the surface of the timber and inhibit drying and curing of coatings. If sanding is necessary then cleaning with Sap-Strip will deal with the renewed oils.

For more information, see the *Timber Preparation* link on Quantum Timber Finishes home page.

### **Can I overcoat Gold with Timbre Plus?**

Both systems are compatible. Gold over Timbre Plus or Timbre Plus over Gold. Eco Dex can also be over coated with Gold or Timbre Plus.

### **Can I use Aquaoil or Timbre Plus over an acrylic?**

No, our products need to be able to penetrate the timber and they can't do this over a surface coating. Unless you are prepared to sand the previous coating off, repaint with an acrylic.

### **What is a transparent stain & what is its life span?**

A transparent stain allows you to see the grain of the timber through the coating. We have our range of coloured transparents or our natural transparents; Gold, Timbre Plus and EcoDex. These can all be tinted to the transparent colours which will extend their lifespan.

Life depends on penetration, application and the amount of weather exposure. Recoat time is between 3-5 years on vertical surfaces. UV does the most damage.

### **What's an Opaque stain and what is its life span?**

Opaques give you a total block of colour; Aquaoil Opaques penetrates becoming part of the timber allowing the profile to show through unlike an acrylic which sits on the surface. These have a longer life, approximately 5 - 7 years if applied correctly before re-application. If using the Haze Range the recoat time will be sooner. For horizontal surfaces an annual recoat will be necessary. Simply wash down and re-apply.

### **Why do transparents have a shorter life than Opaques?**

The UV rays getting through the coating degrade the timber beneath the coating. Water sitting on the surface acts like a magnifying glass adding a hundred fold to the damage. Flat and horizontal surfaces always suffer.

### **Will Aquaoil and Timbre Plus coatings crack and peel?**

All the coatings in the Aquaoil and Timbre Plus ranges oxidise at the end of their life. This means they fade away unlike acrylics which tend to crack and peel at the end of their life.



## **Can I have colour and still see the grain of the timber?**

Our transparent range is perfect for this. The full range of transparent colours allow the natural beauty of the timber to show through with a very long life. Formulated here on our premises in Seaford, these are very much in demand.

Nano-Tinted Primer gives you a base transparent colour with top coats of Timbre Plus, Gold or Eco Dex. This is a great system for maximum life.

## **Can Aquaoil or Timbre Plus be watered down or diluted?**

We do not recommend dilution as the life, performance and UV protection may be reduced.

## **Why can't I use EcoDex on my windows and walls?**

EcoDex is a budget range product ideal for easy-to-recoat surfaces like decking, BBQ's, sleepers etc. Painting windows is a job you do not want to undertake every 9-12 months.

## **Why do I need to do my deck so often?**

Being a flat surface exposed to the elements and traffic, it stands to reason it needs to be an annual job. Please refer to our decking system. Hardwoods will need to be recoated more often than softwoods. Australian Hardwoods and Rainforest timbers are very dense and tend to reject coatings.

## **What's the difference between Timbre Plus for Doors and Windows and Timbre Plus Decking?**

Timbre Plus Doors and Windows has a Teflon wax in it which helps repel water. Timbre Plus Decking has a non slip wax much like surfboard wax. When the surface is wet it helps prevent slipping. Timbre Plus Texture incorporates textured beads for extra grip.

## **What's the difference between Gold and Timbre Plus?**

Gold is perfect for broad surface areas and softwoods as it is of thinner consistency and penetrates well into softwoods.

Timbre Plus is thicker to cling to windows and doors. Gold has a red hue whilst Timbre Plus has a yellow hue.

## **What should I use on doors and windows?**

Timbre Plus Doors and Windows. This product is thicker and heavier than our other products giving you more film build, which is needed on these surfaces. Teflon is added to aid beading and to repel water.

## **Can I have a coating that doesn't change the colour of my timber, a clear coating?**

A totally clear external coating will have a very short life. We have added transparent oxides (which act like an umbrella against UV rays) and UV blockers. The transparent oxides enrich the colour of the timber and increase the lifespan of the finish.

## **Can I paint in the hot sun?**

The ideal time to coat external timber is when the temperature is rising, so early morning starts are most productive.

## **What do I fill cracks and holes with?**

Linseed putty or exterior grade fillings.

## **How are lap marks avoided when using transparents?**

You can avoid lap marks by working along the full length of the boards. If the coating appears to dry too quickly, finely mist the timber with water to slow the drying time.



## **How often should I recoat transparents?**

This will depend on exposure and the original amount of product used. Horizontal surfaces and edges will show signs of weathering first. When water stops beading on sills or flat surfaces, it is a good time to recoat. A fine sand to roughen the timber surface and a clean is required before applying 1 or 2 coats.

## **Can I continue to recoat my deck for years.**

There comes a time when the deck has to be sanded back to fresh timber.

This can vary any time between 7-10 years.

Although Quantum coatings oxidise, there will always remain some of the old coating. Over time this tends to become very tired and loses transparency.

With Acrylics this can occur in a much shorter time and you may find sanding back every few years is necessary.

## **What's the difference between Dex Prep and Sap-Strip?**

Dex Prep cleans grey, weathered and dirty timber in preparation for coating. Timber cleaners are normally made from an oxalic acid. Wetting all surrounding areas will stop plant damage and contamination of other surfaces.

Sap-Strip cleans the sap and extractives from the surface of the timber. This stops contamination of the coating which can cause slow drying problems and early adhesion failure caused by these extractives.

## **What happens if it rains during or a short time after coating my deck?**

Ideally a rain-free or dew-free period of 48 hours is recommended.

Water or dampness on uncured coatings can cause milkiess or flat spots.

Don't mop or brush the surface and this milkiess or white spotting will disappear as the coating cures.