



Wood Properties and Processing

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Message from the Guest Editor

Wood based materials are CO₂-neutral, renewable, and considered to be environmentally friendly. The huge variety of wood species and wood-based composites allows a wide scope of creative and aesthetic alternatives to materials with higher environmental impacts during production, use and disposal. Modern building and construction practice would not be possible without use of wood or wood based composites. The positive aspect of decomposability of waste wood can turn into the opposite when wood or wood based materials are exposed to weathering, moisture oscillations, different discoloring and degrading organisms. Protective measures are therefore unavoidable for many outdoor applications. Resistance of wood against different aging factors is always a combined effect of toxic or inhibiting ingredients on one hand, and of structural, anatomical or chemical ways of exclusion of moisture, which is one of the most important factors for deterioration. In order to predict service life of wood various models can be applied.





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