

***How can I dispose of preservative treated timber off-cuts? Can I burn them in the factory boiler or not?***

Waste of all kinds is getting more expensive and harder to dispose of. Where possible wood should be treated after being cut to size as untreated wood off-cuts are easier to dispose of.

Untreated wood off-cuts can be burned in small factory incinerators to recover energy or sent for re-cycling in particle board products.

Preservative treated wood off-cuts should only be burned in incinerators that are compliant with current legislation. Most wood-fired boilers providing heat for small factories are not compliant with legislation for the burning of preservative treated wood.

Preservative treated wood off-cuts can be land-filled as non-hazardous waste.

You should discuss disposal options with your waste handler and check on restrictions applicable to your site before burning waste of any sort.

See **Arch TERA Update G3/07** for further advice

***We occasionally use wood shavings to mop up any spills that might occur. What can we do with the wet shavings?***

Wood shavings that have been used to mop up spills should be disposed of in the same way as the respective material involved would be disposed of. For example, if a hazardous material is mopped up using shavings, these shavings must be disposed of as the hazardous material.

If the shavings themselves are hazardous, you may be tempted to mix the wet shavings with a larger volume of dry, untreated shavings to dilute down the hazardous nature of the waste and make the whole batch non-hazardous. **This would contravene legislation.**

See **Arch TERA Update G2/04** for more detailed information.

***What counts as preservative contaminated wood? There are shavings and all sorts of timber round my plant area.***

What actually constitutes preservative contaminated wood is a little complicated.

The short answer is **any wood that is deliberately brought in to contact with treatment concentrate or ready to use treatment solution.**

Wood that has preservative spilled on it accidentally, (eg a pallet), can be incinerated as untreated wood. It can also go to non-hazardous landfill, as other wood can.

Off-cuts from treated wood around a plant would be counted as preservative treated wood. However, untreated wood off-cuts that have preservative spilled on them by accident would not be counted as treated and could be incinerated as untreated wood.

In these circumstances, you must be able to demonstrate that preservative contamination is accidental and not as a result of treatment.

***What are the European Waste Codes applicable to Arch products?***

The waste codes are fully detailed in **Arch TERA Update G2/04**. Copies of these TERA Updates can be obtained by contacting Arch Timber Protection or viewing them directly from the authorised access facility of the Arch Timber Protection web site.

***Where can I find advice on environmental legislation?***

The best place to start is the "Netregs" website. [http://www.netregs.gov.uk/netregs/?version=1&lang=\\_e](http://www.netregs.gov.uk/netregs/?version=1&lang=_e) This is run by the Environment Agency and is regularly updated. You can request regular e-mails to alert you to developments in legislation.

The website summarises its aims as:

*"NetRegs provides free environmental guidance for small businesses in the UK. We will help you to understand what you need to do to comply with environmental legislation and protect the environment. We may even help to save you money by showing you ways to use your resources more efficiently!"*

Links on the site will lead you to information relevant to your business.

### **Advice is OK if you know what you're looking for. How do I find out what applies to me?**

The "Netregs" website has a link to a self-help, interactive tool. This aims to give a self assessment of compliance to existing legislation. It is fairly quick to go through (10 -20 mins) and will highlight areas of legislation you should be aware of based on the activities you undertake at your plant. The link leads you to the Business Link web-site that also contains a lot of other useful information for small businesses.

<http://www.businesslink.gov.uk>

### **My question has not been answered by these FAQ's. Where do I look for an answer?**

Please submit any other waste/environmental related questions to:

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These will be answered as soon as possible and, if of broad interest, will be added to this FAQ document.

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