

Wood composite components - factory finished joinery

Application guidelines

Wood composite materials are increasingly replacing the wooden glazing bars, decorative moulds, and cover strips used in timber window and door manufacturing. A wide variety of profiles can be produced by extruding a heated mixture of wood fibre and polymer through appropriately shaped dyes. The resulting product is water and rot resistant, with good dimensional stability.

Once coated with an opaque finish, the composite component blends into the wood frame. Its resistance to warping and distortion on exterior exposure minimises the risk of water ingress at traditionally weak points in a timber window construction, extending maintenance cycles and ultimate service life.

Coating wood composite

Wood composite components are coated for decorative reasons, to blend with the surrounding timber, and not generally for protection. Applying a decorative factory finish is usually straightforward. However, because of their resin rich surface, some extra care is necessary to achieve adequate adhesion of the paint film to the composite component.

Special adhesion promoting primers give optimum adhesion and can be readily topcoated with Teknos topcoats. However, in most cases the normal Teknos topcoat used in the manufacturing of the door or window will give a commercially acceptable result provided the following guidelines are followed.

- Lightly abrade the composite with a fine grade sanding pad to dull the surface, taking care not to scratch it, then solvent wipe to remove dust, oil and grease.
- Apply the topcoat using the normal process steps.
- Take care not to over apply the coatings. Water based paints take longer to through dry and cure on non absorbant surfaces, so excessive paint thickness will increase the time taken to develop full adhesion and water resistance.
- Try to allow an extra day before external exposure, particularly if the weather is cold or wet.
- Do not use oer standard primers as this will cause cracking in the paint film.

