

INTERNATIONAL TIMBER - OUR STORY

Balancing growing environmental consciousness with increasing demand for timber products demands a real commitment to minimising impact on the natural world.

International Timber is the UK's leading importer and distributor of sustainable timber and panel products. We are the timber specialists, providing responsibly sourced products and services for construction and joinery projects in every corner of the economy.

Wood is both a versatile and a renewable raw material, and 'building green' using wood helps to keep carbon out of the atmosphere, mitigating climate change. In line with this, sustainability and responsible sourcing are the foundation stones upon which our business is built; all our softwoods and hardwoods are chain of custody certified and legally verified where applicable.

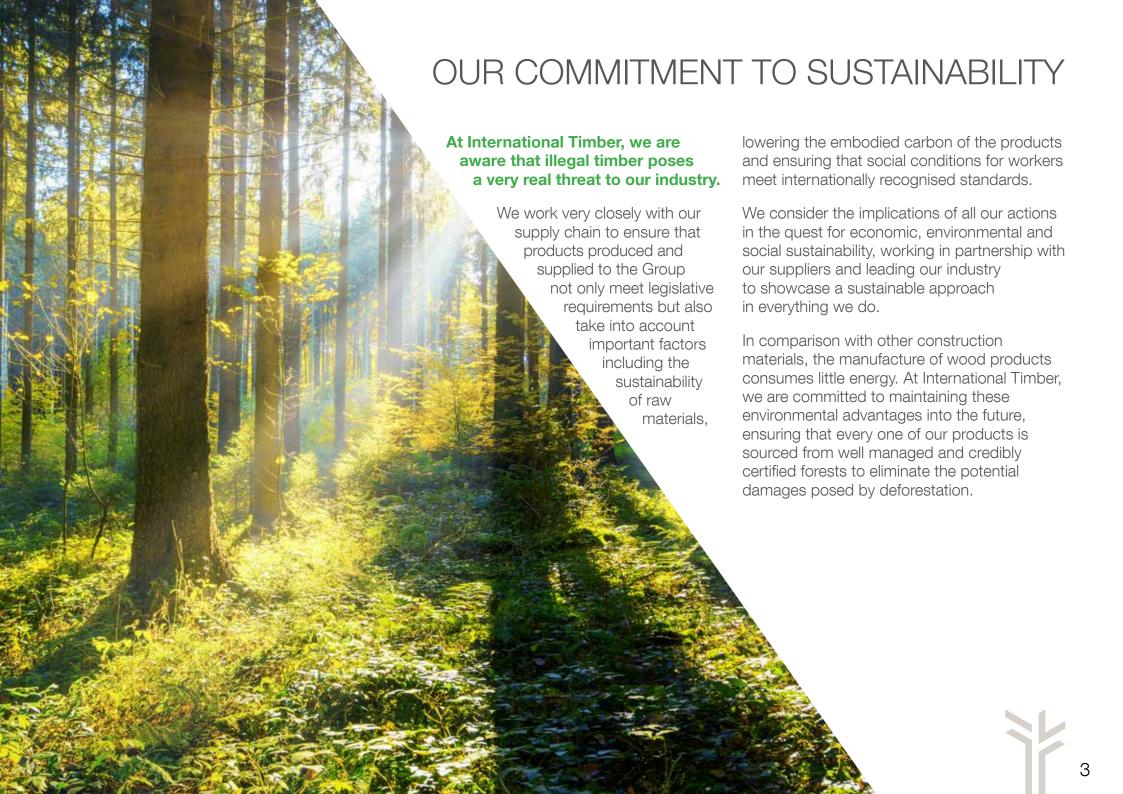
We operate from four sites in the UK, offering a fast and responsive service. All our sites are ISO9001, ISO14001, ISO45001, FSC® and PEFC® certified.

As an integral part of STARK Building Materials UK Limited, International Timber has the resource to invest continuously in facilities, stock and advanced production equipment, keeping products and services at the leading edge in terms of technology, efficiency and environmental awareness.











Wood offers us a better way to build. As they grow, trees store carbon dioxide. Even after harvesting, wood products continue to store most of this carbon. Of all the main building materials, timber is the most environmentally friendly and can dramatically reduce the carbon footprint of built structures.

Our wood products are helping to reduce energy consumption right across the life cycle when compared with other structural building products that utilise large amounts of fossil fuels in production.

Timber is non-toxic. It's safe to handle, and does not break down into environmentally damaging materials. It's completely biodegradable at the end of its useful lifespan, when it can be recycled or even used as a biofuel.

At International Timber, we're committed to investing in new opportunities to develop this versatile and renewable raw material to meet the changing needs of industry.



ACCOYA® – OUR PLANET'S LEADING LONG LIFE WOOD

Sustainably sourced with FSC® certification, Accoya® modified wood provides the perfect combination of stability, durability and versatility across a wide range of applications.

Our Accoya® products are born as fast growing pine trees (pinus radiata) in managed forests.

At maturity – around thirty years – these trees are harvested and modified in a process known as acetylation. This process creates a wood which is exceptionally durable and dimensionally stable.

Acetylation is a chemical reaction first studied on timber over a hundred years ago. It uses a substance closely related to the main constituent of vinegar to modify key wood molecules such that they will no longer bond to water molecules. This severely inhibits the uptake of water in cell walls, resulting in huge improvements in the performance

of sustainably-grown softwood such that it matches or betters the rot resistance and stability of the best hardwoods in applications such as external joinery, cladding and decking

So how does that differ from the more traditional pressure treatments? Pressure treatments rely on biocides to kill rot fungi whereas acetylation prevents rot by keeping water out of the cell walls thus effectively making the wood indigestible to rot fungi. Acetylation also acts all the way through a piece of wood whereas pressure treatments only protect the outer few millimetres. Acetylation is therefore a more effective, longer lasting and environmentally-friendly way to improve the performance of wood than pressure treatment.

The process does not affect the natural appearance of the wood. The modified timber is non-toxic so can be recycled in the same way as any natural timber.



ACCOYA® PERFORMANCE CREDENTIALS

Accoya® is a tried and tested product, with a track record from a diverse portfolio of products across the globe. Accoya® is used by wood scientists as the benchmark against which other treatments and modified timbers are measured.





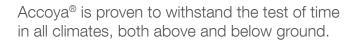


Accoya® is warranted worldwide for 50 years for above ground projects.

Accoya® is warranted worldwide for 25 years for in ground and/or freshwater environments.

Accoya® is significantly less likely to swell, shrink or distort than unmodified timbers.





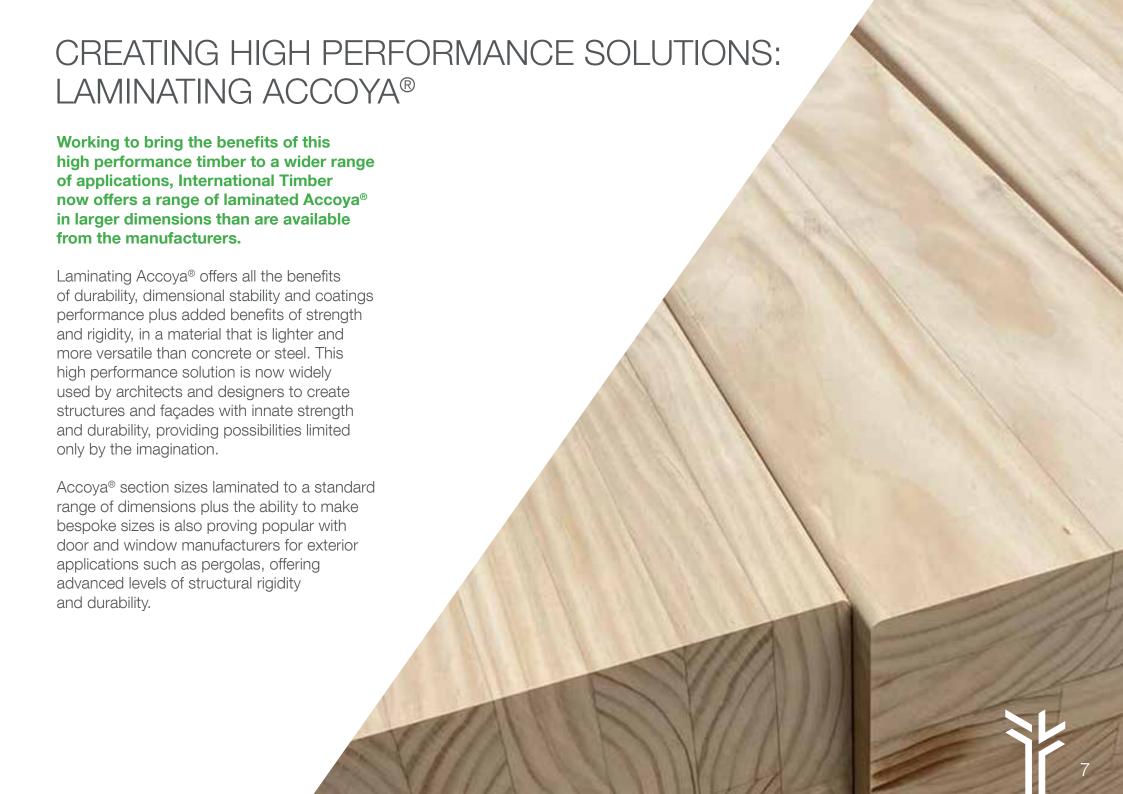


The timber research and development association TRADA has assessed Accoya® wood as having a 70 year minimum service life when used for window construction.



Accoya® is indigestible by a wide range of pests and insects, presenting an effective barrier to attack.







Accoya® is a medium to lightweight timber. Rated as durability class 1, it has a minimum service life expectation of 60 years above ground and 30 years in contact with the ground or freshwater, backed by a warranty for 50 and 25 years respectively.

Accoya[®] is the perfect choice for challenging exterior applications. Swelling and shrinkage is reduced by at least 75%, and the timber can be formed and shaped using conventional methods including steam bending.

Bridges

Accoya® performance properties make the timber suitable for applications in immersed and semi immersed environments.

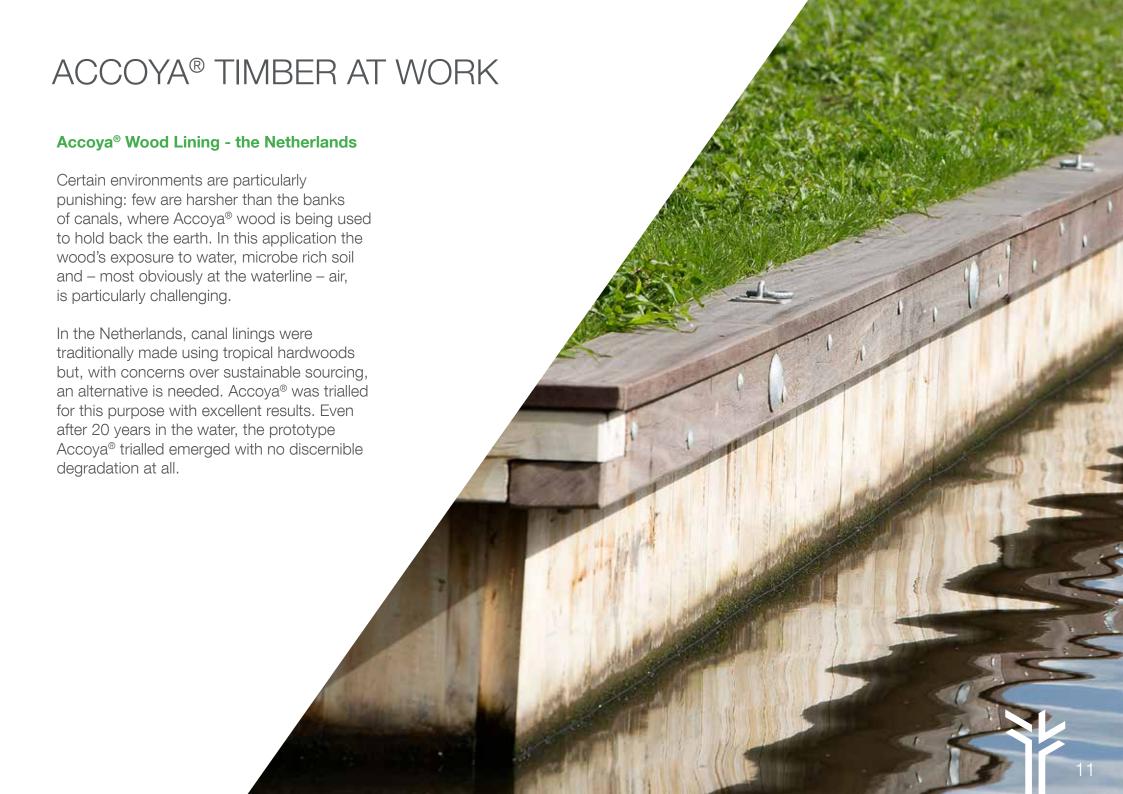
Restoration projects

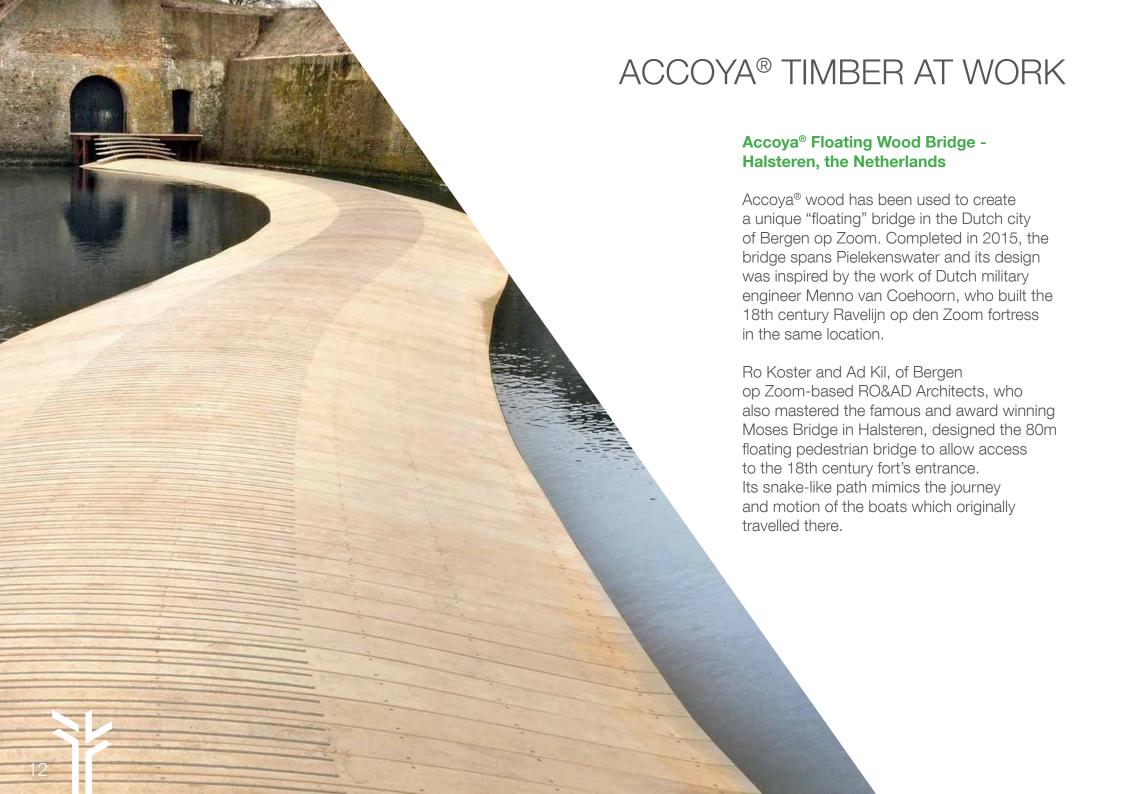
Accoya® weathers naturally and offers all the charm of real wood for environmentally sensitive construction and landscaping projects.















The fenders, an essential part of flood management assets in the Thames Estuary, provide bio-diversity niches in tidal waters, promoting healthy and diverse habitats.

As part of the agency's TEAM2100 programme, the Accoya® fender will be assessed for its suitability to replace the currently-used hardwood fenders in the challenging tidal conditions and contribute to Thames Estuary's Net Zero ambitions - values which ring true with International Timber.

Accoya® has been chosen because of its Gold Cradle to Cradle certification and its unique suitability for this project.

One year on the fender was inspected to assess the durability of the wood, the integrity of the lamination bonds and the degree of colonisation by seaweeds and other marine life. The results were very positive in all respects. There was no sign of any deterioration in the wood or of delamination and the level of colonisation was at least as good as on the reclaimed hardwood fenders to which it is being compared.

It is of course early days in the trial but the results after only one year have given the Environment Agency the confidence to consider Accova® for more applications.

