



# Opportunities and Challenges in the Development of Non-metallic wood Preservatives

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# Viance?

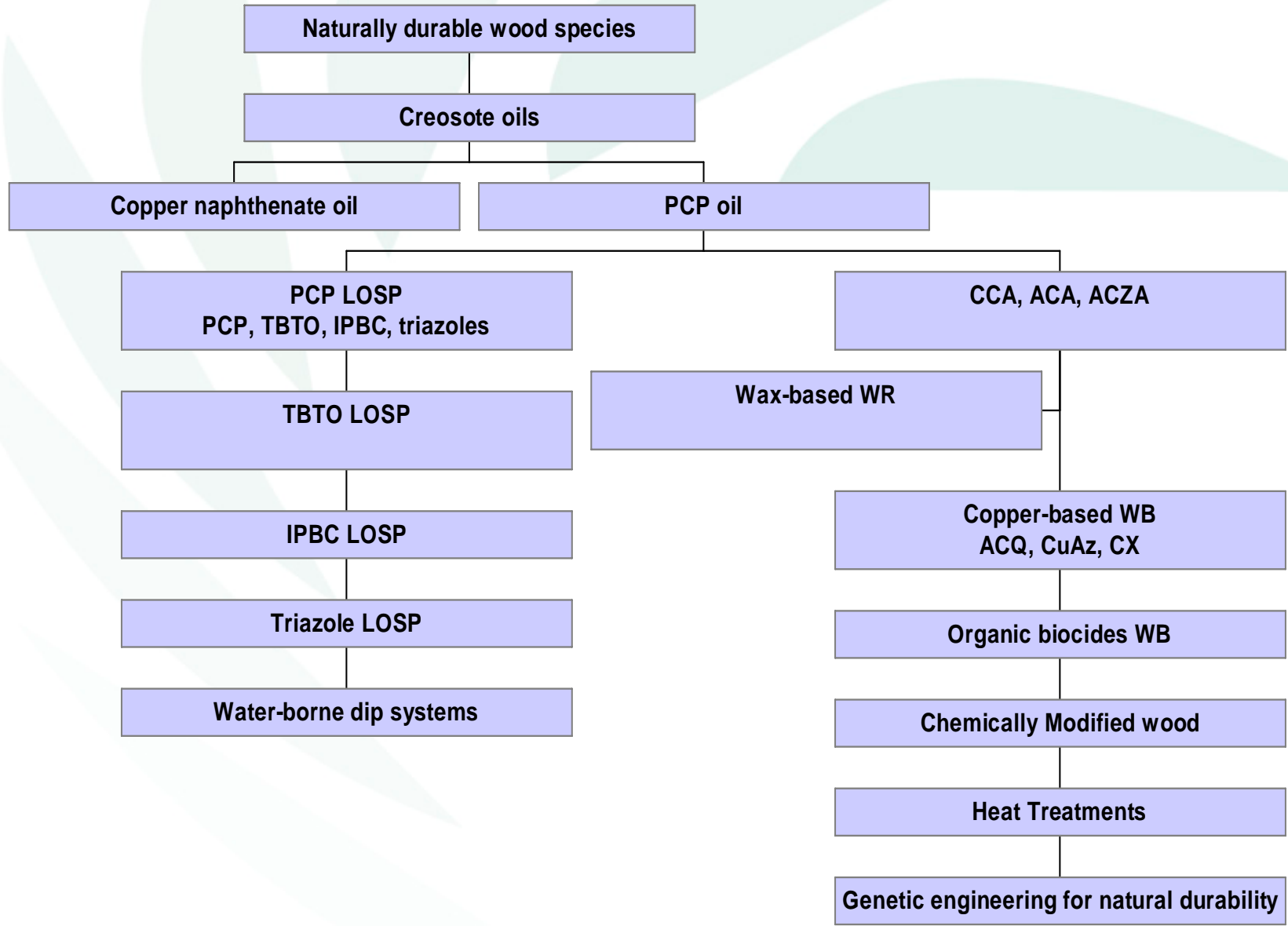
- A joint venture between Rockwood and Rohm and Haas
- Incorporation of CSI and ROH's world wide wood protection interests (including Acima)
- Combines CSI's technology and customer orientation in wood protection with ROH technologies across a broad range of biocide and surface protection areas





Our world has changed and continues to do so

# Preservation Family Tree



# The world has changed

- Arsenicals gone for residential uses
- Chromium too
- Copper products predominate

# Observations

- Environmental concerns and market perceptions will continue to lead to evolutionary change over time
- Sinking biocide base
- many currently used actives are disappearing because:
  - cost of new studies
  - uncertainty of the review process
  - future profitability estimations
  - products will be simply discontinued
- Improving product margins needed to sustain the industry
- Must evolve to compete with increasing challenges from non-wood products

# What is an “Organic” Preservative?

- Synthetic biocide
- Non-metallic material
- Composed of C, N, O
- Other element may be S, P, X
- Usually biodegradable
- Highly varying toxicity
- Triazoles, Quats, Iodo, Isothiazolones,
- Oxathiazine, halo-aromatics, insecticides, etc

Organic?

v.

Carbon Based ?

v.

Non-metallic ?



# Desirable attributes of wood preservatives

- Performance against decay and insects (termites)
- Cost effectiveness
- Operational
  - Analysis
  - Treatability
- Appearance of treated products
  - in store
  - in service
- Minimal environmental impact
  - Leaching and depletion
  - Eco-toxicity



**How well do non-metallic systems meet the requirements of a good preservative system?**

# Non-metallic Preservative Systems

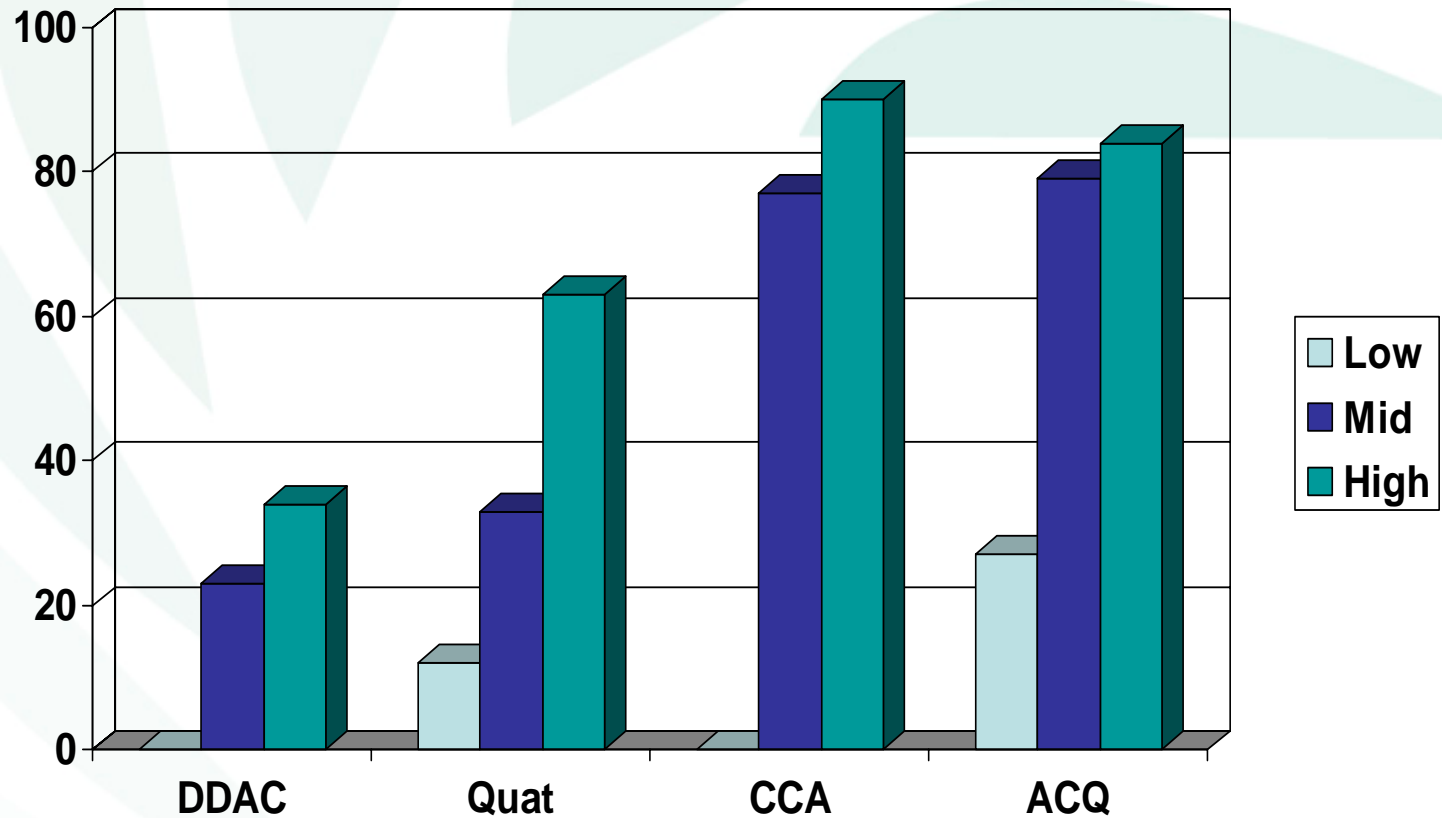
## R & D challenges

- Active ingredients can be significantly more expensive
- Activity spectrum limited
  - More complex cocktails
  - Multiple actives
  - Registration hurdles
- Insolubility in water complicates formulation
  - Emulsions
  - Treatability especially in refractory species
- Operational issues
  - Solution stability
  - Penetration and retention determination complexity
- Resistance to weathering
  - Color
  - Surface UV degradation
  - Mold
- Cost/Performance

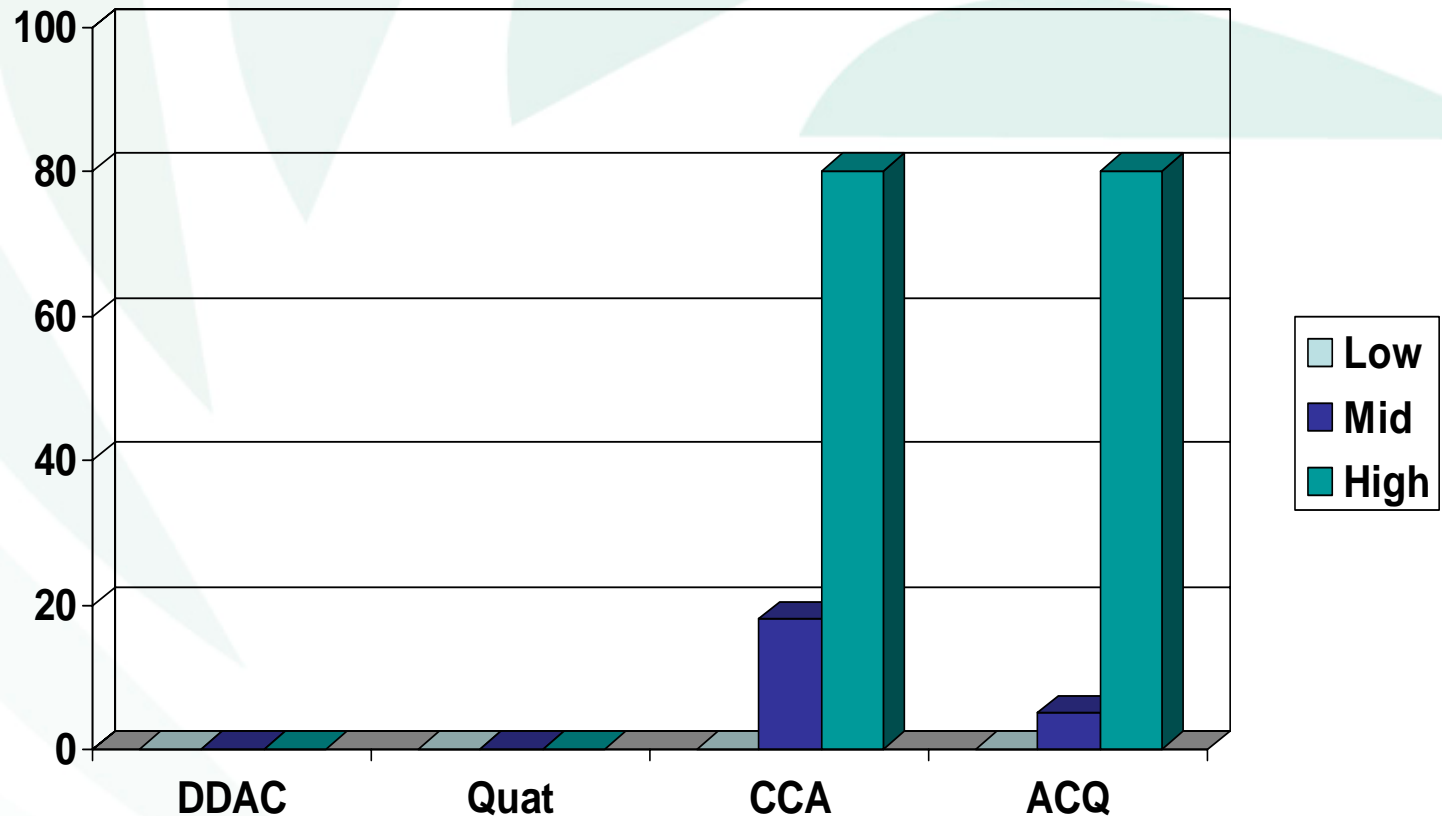
# Non-metallic Wood Protection Systems Opportunities

- Performance
- Moisture control in wood in service
- Stabilization of wood from weathering exposure in service
- Depletion of preservatives and control mechanisms
- Specificity towards biodeteriogens and their impacts
- Weathering in service
- Mold control in storage
- Surface stain in service
- Treatments of refractory species
- Retention and penetration determination

# Above ground test 15 years Hilo



# Above ground proximity test 15 years Hilo



# Test methods matter

- In above ground testing, the methodology used can provide quite different results
- Test site differences provide different results with different test methods
- Which one is correct?
  - Depends on how you view the hazard
  - Are you looking for best case or worst case scenarios?
  - Depends on the climate where the product will be used
  - Depends on the application envisaged

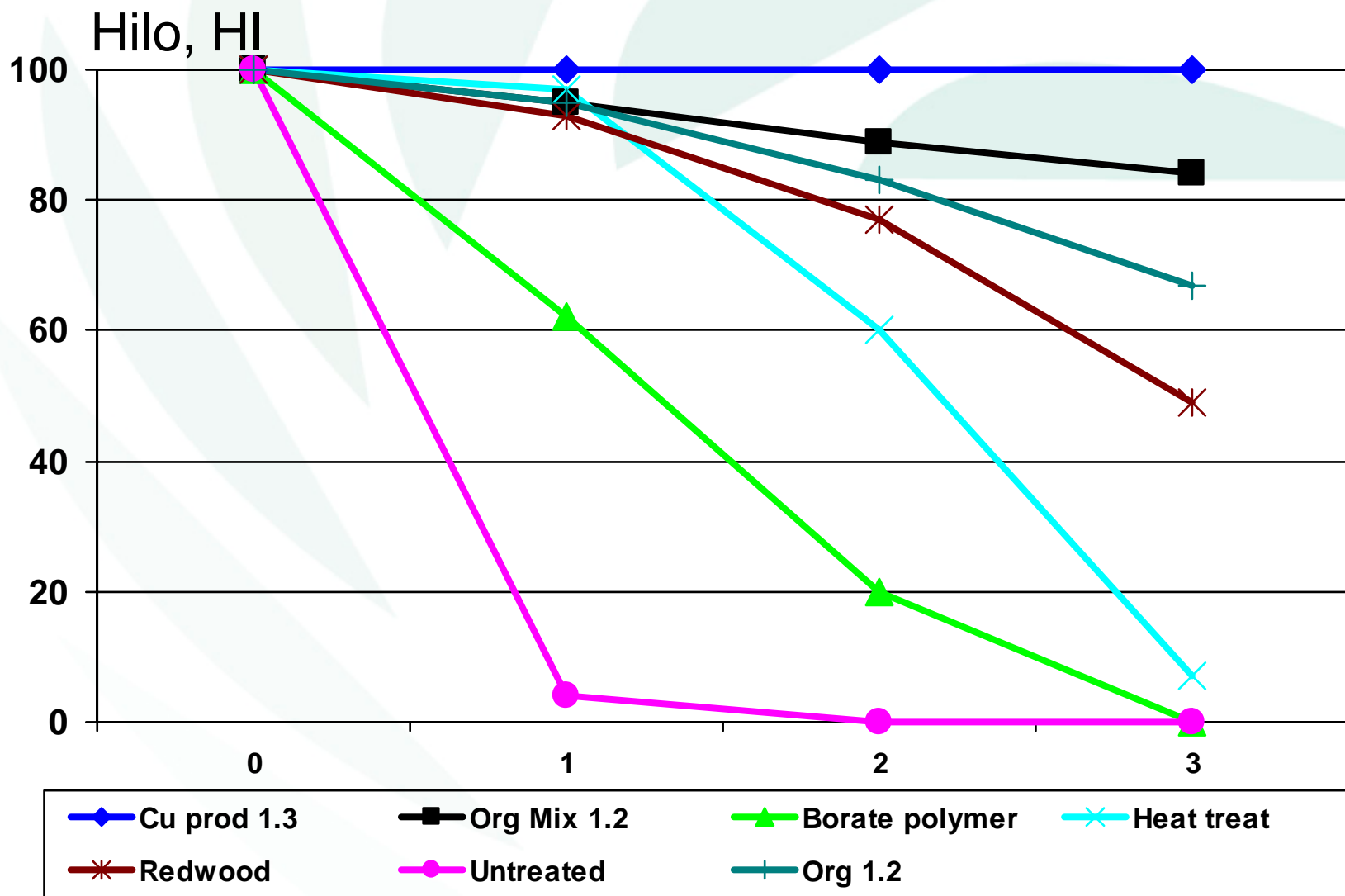
# How good do our treatments need to be?

## Are we making relevant comparisons?

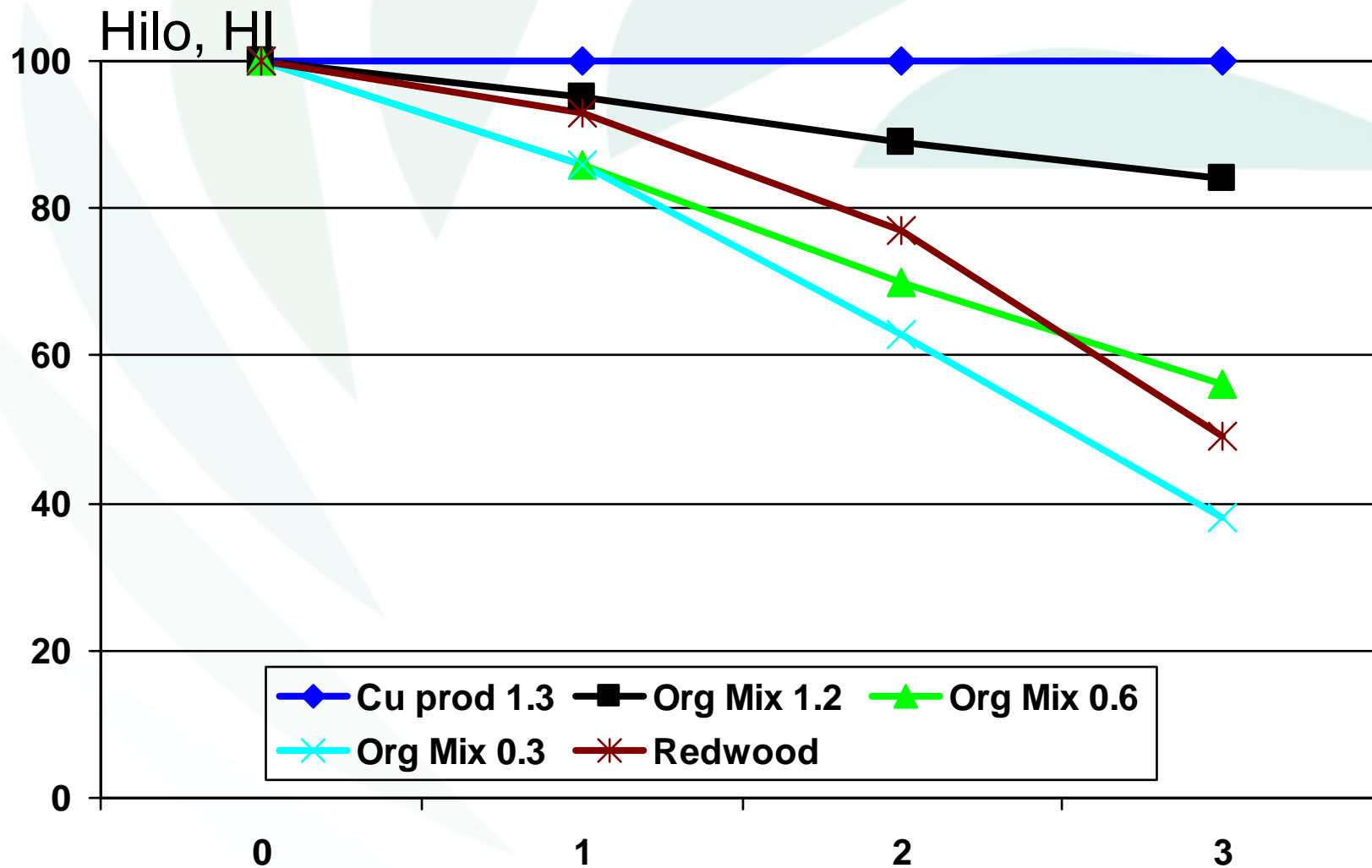
- CCA at 4.0 or 6.4 kg/m<sup>3</sup> was the old standard
- Old-growth heart Coast Redwood (*Sequoia* spp.) was the precursor to treated lumber in the US
- Is old-growth heart Redwood a realistic control and how does it compare with CCA?
- What does the data show?



# Ground proximity test – 3 years



# Ground Proximity test – 3 years



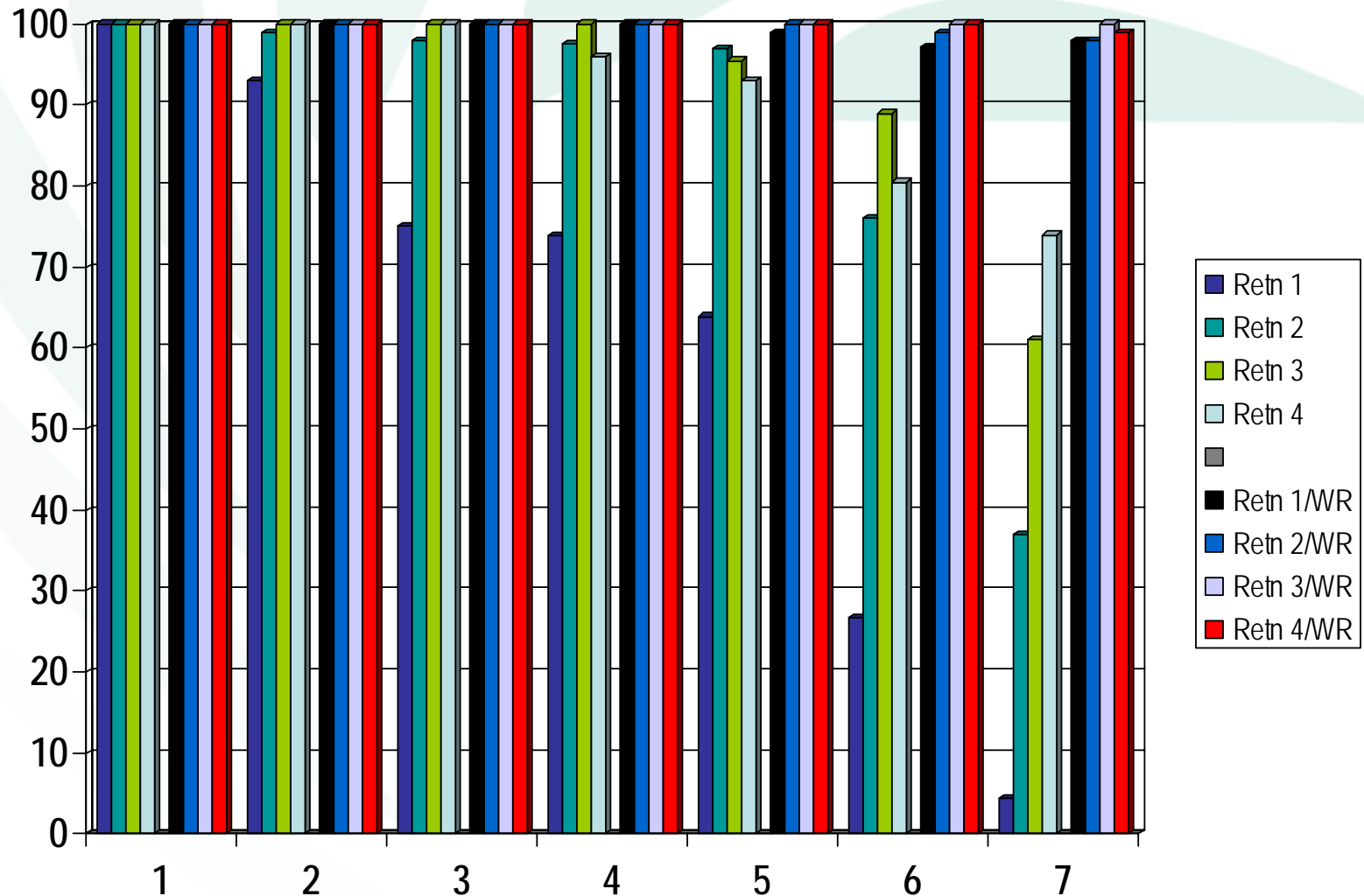


# Control of moisture content and wood stability

- Improves long term performance
- Enhances appearance

# Effect of MC control on the performance of a non-metallic preservative system performance

## Lap-joint test, Hilo, HI – 7 years






Non-metallic system with  
WR/Stabilizer additive

7 years NC





Non-metallic system without  
WR/Stabilizer additive  
7 years NC



CCA + WR

CCA

# Weathering

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- Surface weathering of exposed wood a key negative factor with non-metallic organic preservatives
- Species dependent, but the southern pines are particularly susceptible to deep checking in service
- Unlike metals such as copper and chromium, organic biocides provide little protection
- Some, e.g. quats can accelerate weathering due to interactions with phenolics in lignin













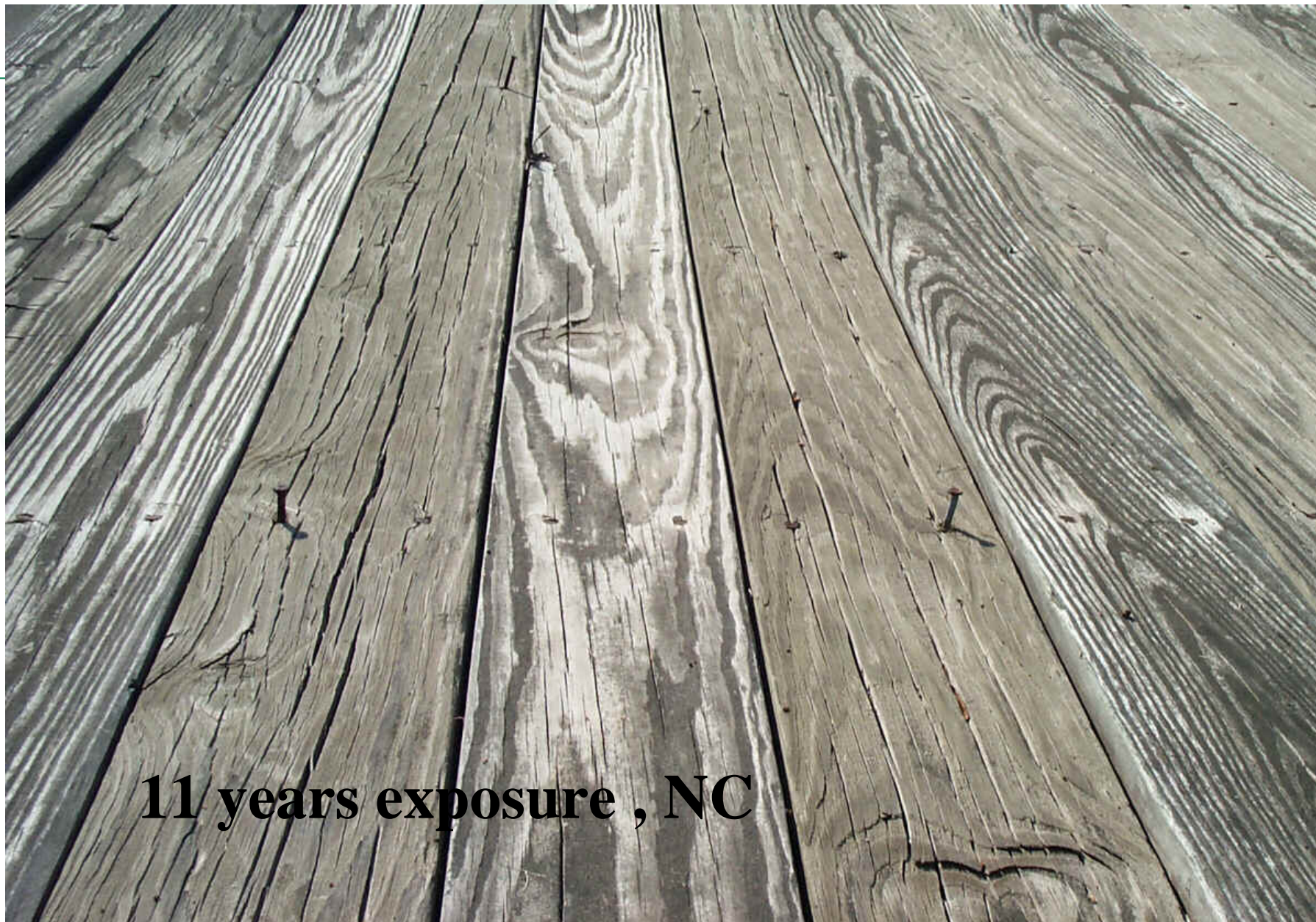












**11 years exposure , NC**

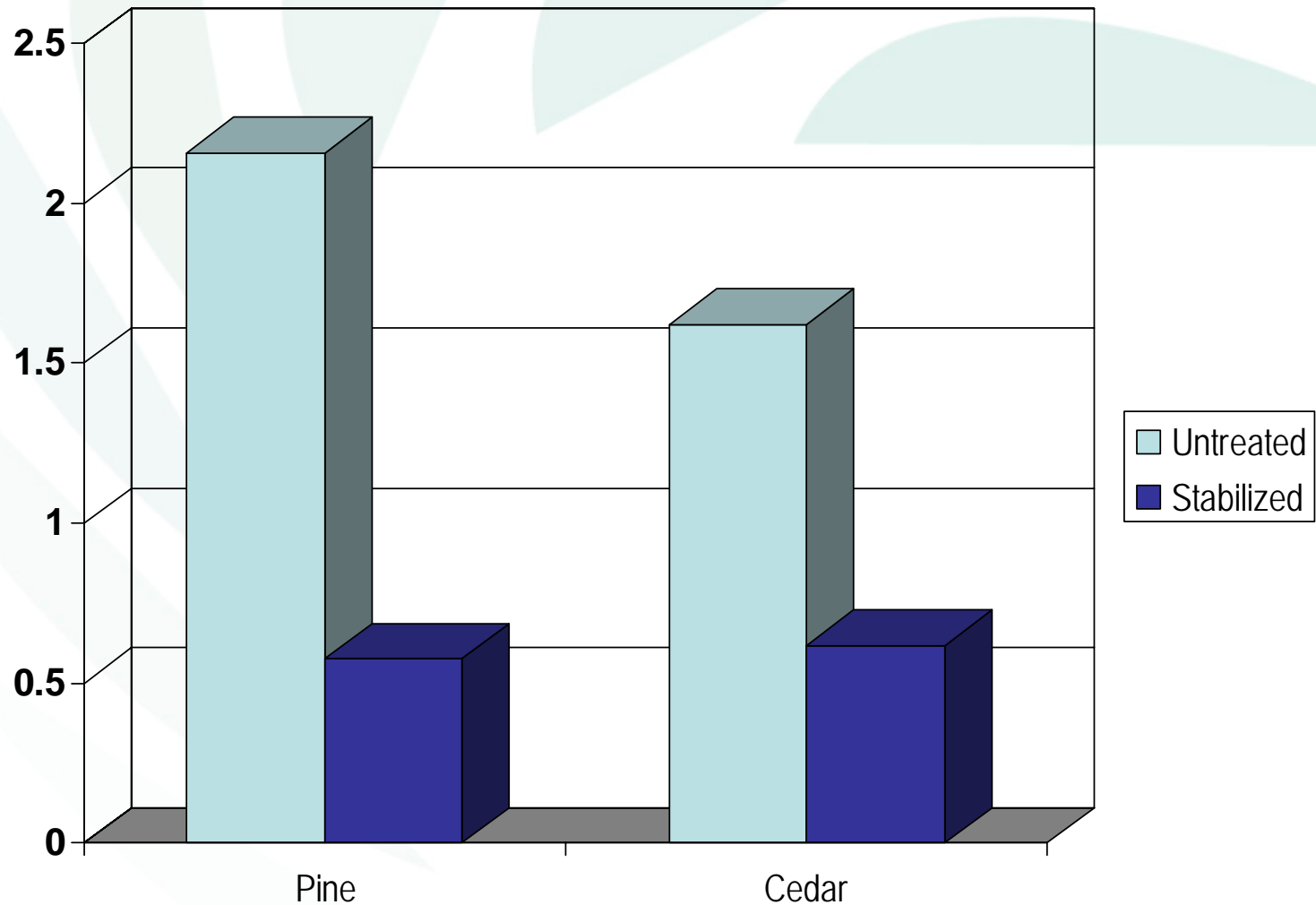








# Cupping of Boards – 2 years exposure











## Relative checking in stabilized and unstabilized non-metallic preservative treated wood

Parameter	Non stabilized	Stabilized
Total check area	146.93	15.5492
Check fraction	0.0475	0.005
Check length	206.469	37.04
# checks	13	3
Mean area	11.306	5.18
Mean Length	15.88	12.34
Mean Width	0.64	0.408

# Mold control in storage

- CCA treatments are quite susceptible to surface mold in storage but molds are usually black or green
- Issue rose to significance with the widespread introduction of copper-based preservatives in 2003
- White molds more obvious on the greener wood substrate
- Overcome with isothiazolones and preservative chemistry modifications
- Now an established flashpoint for retailers in the U.S.
- Newer formulations must meet the mold prevention storage requires that now exist



# Mold control versus no protection



# Mold control in service





















# Biodegradation of non-metallic actives

- Bacterial and fungal degradation
- May be a factor in performance
- Degradation of quats by stain/mold fungi- Ruddick
- Cocktail approach an efficient strategy to counter biodegradation
- Significance/importance not well understood
- Depletion seems to be a more pronounced effect

# Depletion

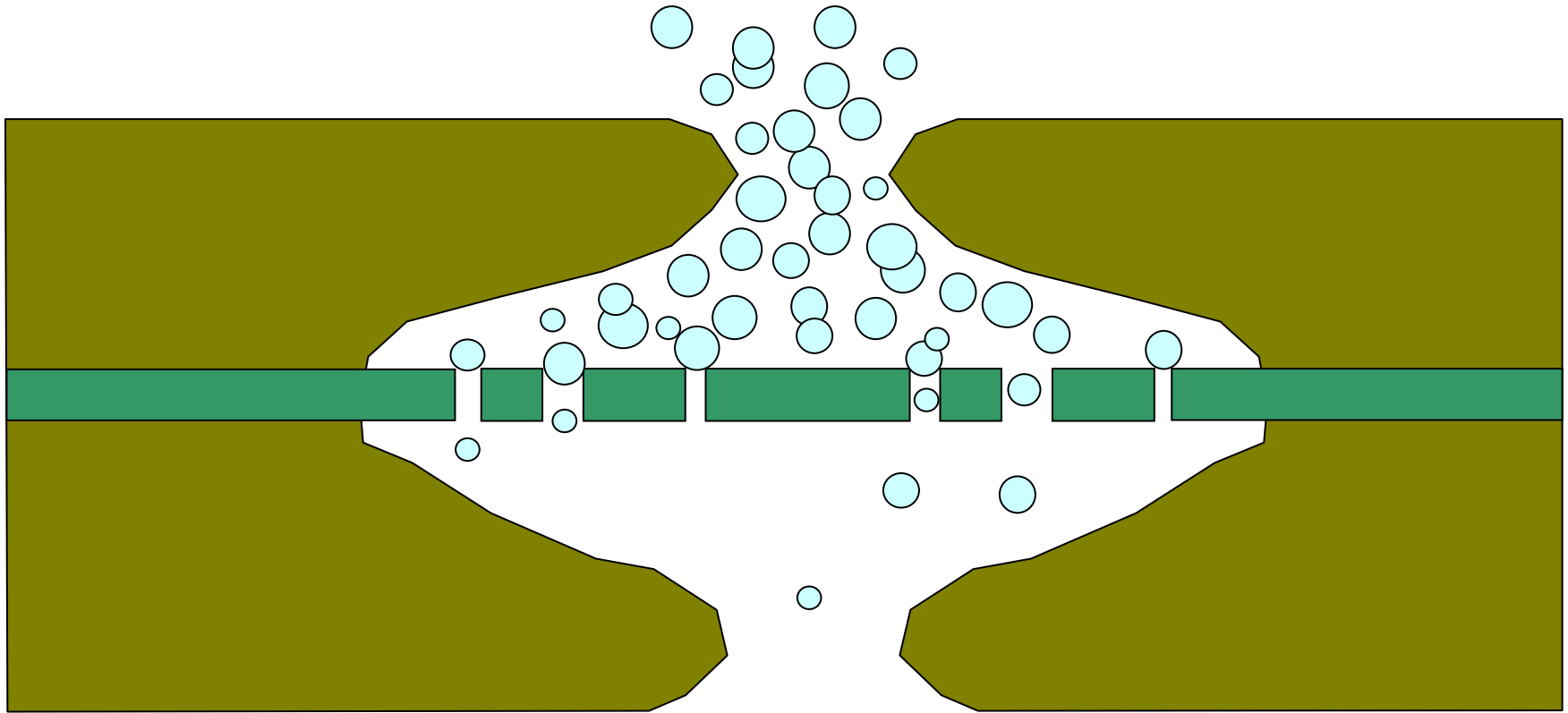
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- Longevity of effectiveness dependent on longevity in the wood
- Non-metallic biocides are generally non-polar
- Fixation by deposition or entrapment as opposed to chemical bonding with lignocellulosic components
- Low solubility in water helps resistance to depletion

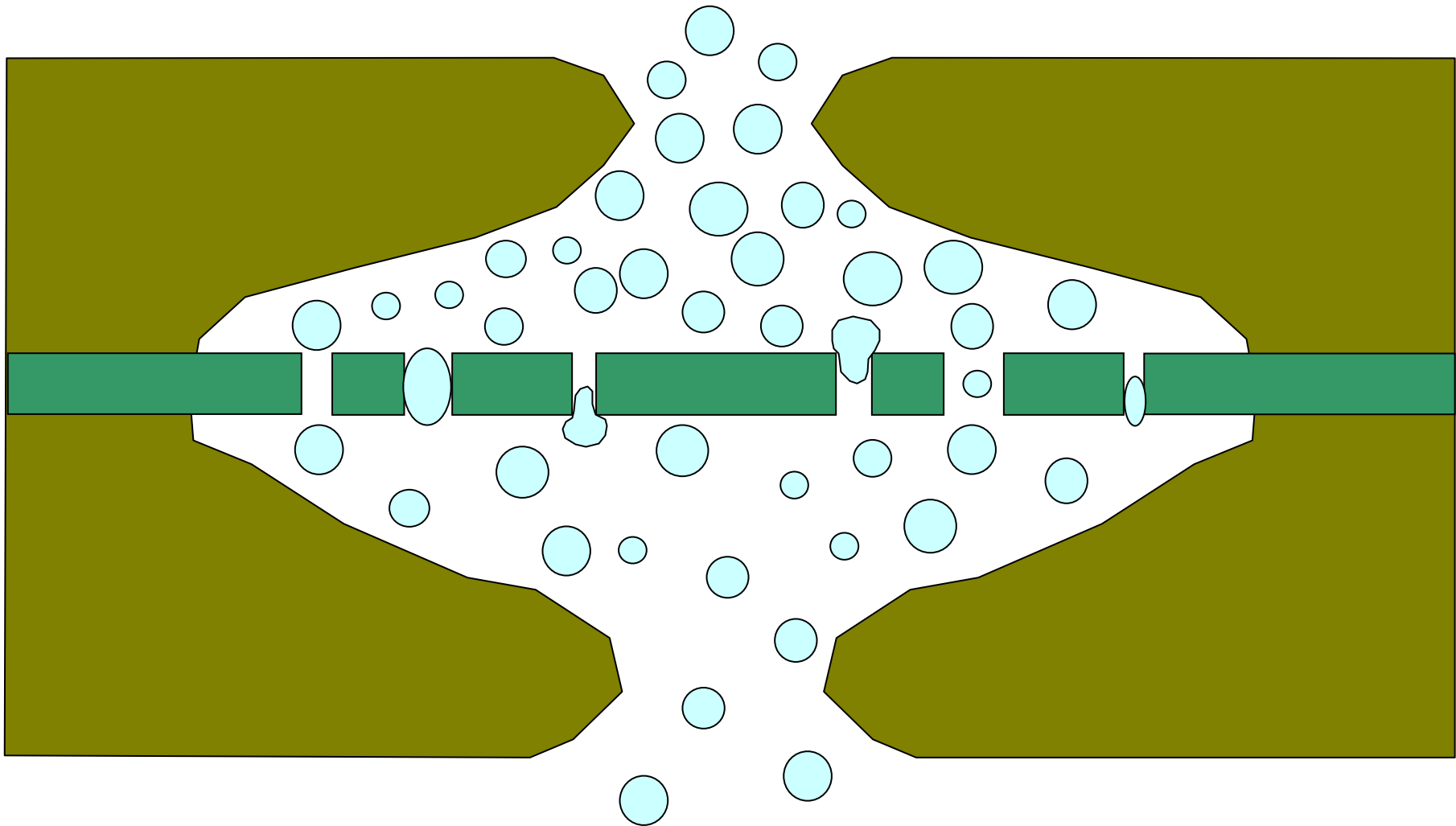
# Treatability of Refractory Species

- Northern pines, Hem-fir, spruces, etc. present special difficulties in treatment with non-solution formulations
- Particulate emulsions and particulate formulations create penetration issues at ambient temperatures
- Some particulate emulsions provide fluid flow allowing ready treatment when treating solutions are used at elevated temperatures
- Technology has been used commercially in the US with an organic preservative system for Northern pines since 2003

# Hypothetical emulsion particle movement through pits



# Hypothetical emulsion particle movement through pits

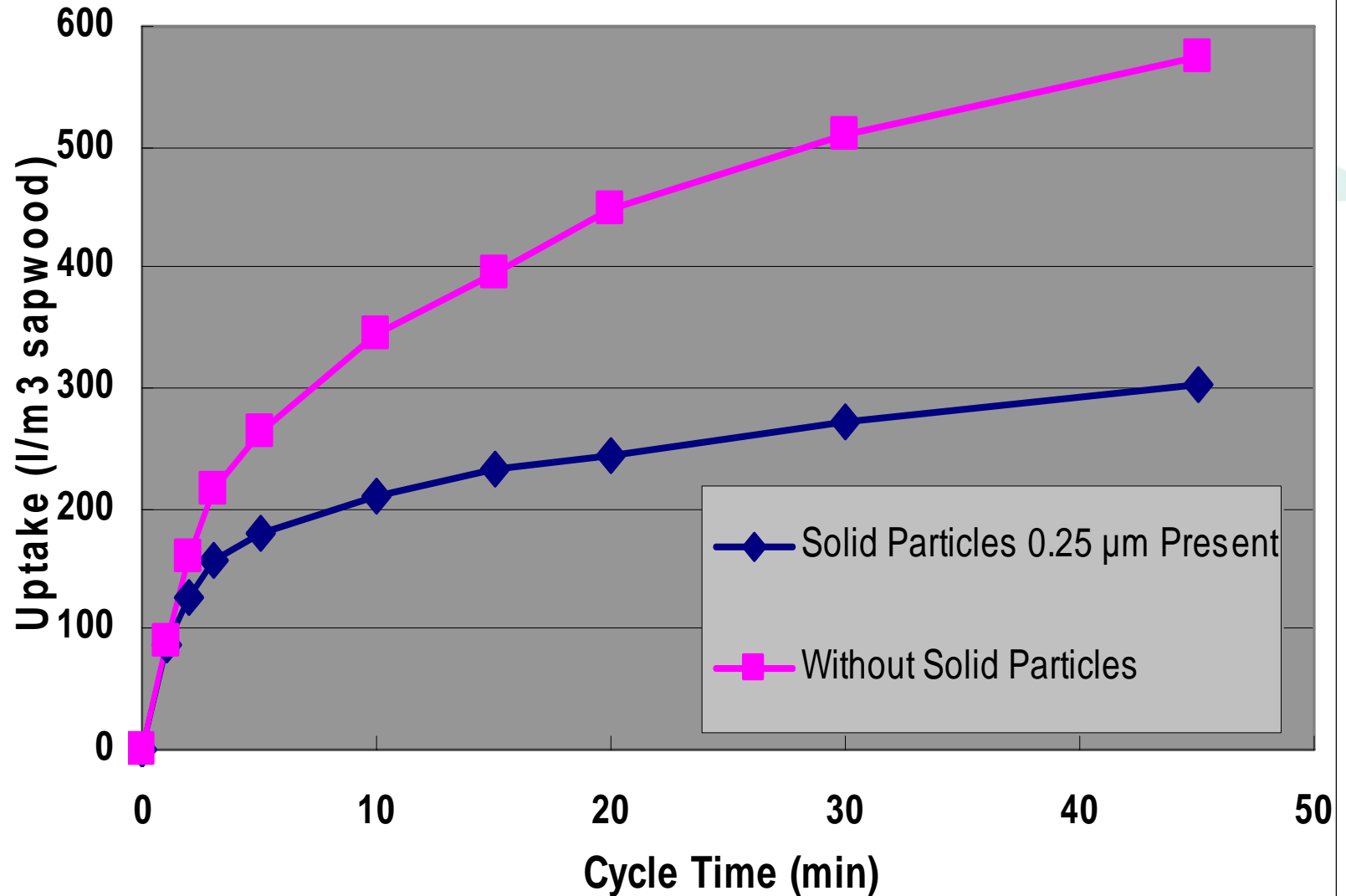




# Emulsion Particle Penetration

- Particle size is important but it is not the only parameter of interest
- “Nano-technology” is not necessarily a magic bullet
- Flow in micro-porous materials
- Shear stability is very important

## Pressure Treatment of End-Matched Red Pine Lumber

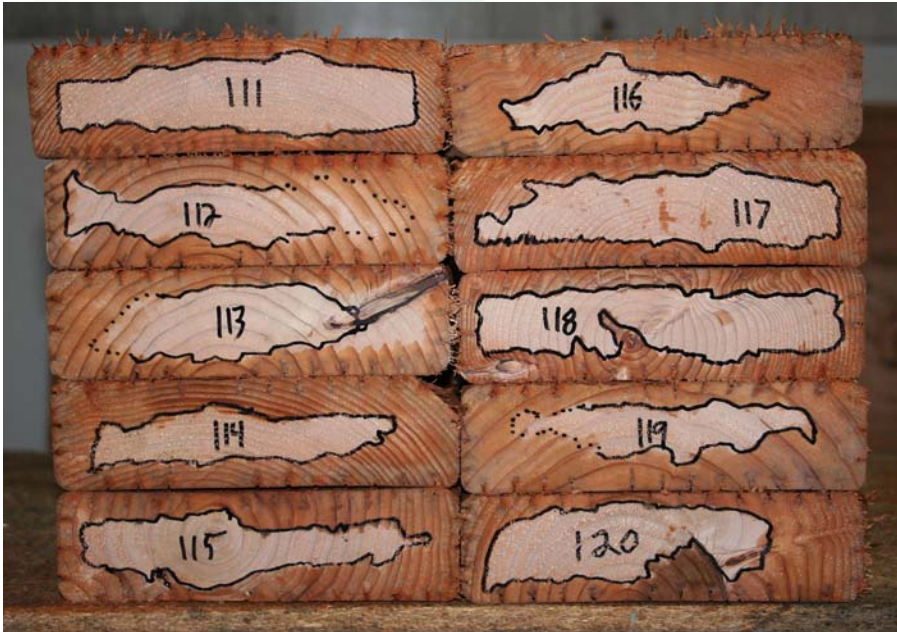


# Penetration and Retention Assessment

- Conventional in-plant and third party quality assurance procedures rely on being able to determine penetration and retention of actives in wood
- Non-metallics typically do not color wood
- Few if any reagents react with non-metallics to produce a colored complex
- Measurement of penetration is difficult
- Use of pigments
- Use of surrogates
- More complex, time consuming analytical procedures required
- Typically more expensive equipment such as HPLC needed

# Preservative Penetration in Matched Samples

Non-metallic  
emulsion  
system



Copper based  
solution system





# Use of a pigment colorant additive to delineate penetration



# Conclusions

- Development of non-metallic preservative systems can be challenging
- A multi-disciplinary approach is essential
- We have a good set of tools in our tool chest but we need to be careful how we use them
- Performance expectations need to be realistic
- Focus on maintaining the long term appearance of treated wood
- Be wary of the “enemy”
- Wood is good.



The logo features the word "Viance" in a bold, dark green sans-serif font. Above the letters "i" and "a" are several stylized, overlapping leaf shapes in varying shades of green. The background of the slide is white with faint, large-scale leaf patterns in a light green color.

# Viance

PRESERVATION INNOVATION

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