

AN OVERVIEW OF UPDATED CSA 080 SERIES

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Summary

In 2007, the CSA Technical Committee (TC) on Wood Preservation began developing a new edition of the CSA Standard O80 Series *Wood Preservation*. Through the dedication of the TC members, the Standard series was completely rewritten in the internationally recognized Use Category format..

The presentation is divided into the following categories:

2. Canadian Standards Association: Who we are
3. The CSA Technical Committee on Wood Preservation (A366TC)
4. History of the CSA O80 Series
5. CSA O80 Series-08 *Wood Preservation*: Then and now

The primary purpose is to update CWPA members on the work of the CSA Technical Committee, specifically significant advancements made by the members in producing the 2008 edition of the CSA standard on Wood Preservation..

1. Canadian Standards Association: Who we are

Established in 1919, the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) is the oldest and largest accredited Standards Development Organization (SDO) in Canada. CSA is a national, independent, not-for-profit membership association, serving business, all three levels of government and consumers in Canada and the global marketplace with over 3000 standards related products & services.

CSA's overriding purpose is to make standards work for people and business. We are recognized as a credible, neutral third party providing efficient and effective collection of stakeholder input on defined issues to support informed decision-making.

As Canada's largest standards development organization, CSA has developed considerable expertise in conducting consultations, most of them national in scope, to

solicit views and achieve consensus amongst a wide variety of stakeholders within governments, the non-government sector, research groups, academia and the private sector.

CSA manages over 120 Technical Committees in the construction sector, and has approximately 300 construction sector standards, which serve the needs of residential, commercial, institutional, industrial and civil infrastructure sectors. Many of CSA construction standards are referenced in the National Building Code as well as provincial/territorial building codes.

Our experience is well supported by the significant engineering, operational, process, and regulatory experience of the technical experts, who are our members and stakeholders. Their expertise and knowledge can be drawn upon as needed, as the deliverables are being developed.

2. The CSA Technical Committee on Wood Preservation (A366TC)

The CSA Technical Committee (TC) on Wood Preservation consists of technical experts in the area of wood preservation. Together, the members work to continually improve the CSA O80 Series of standards. Typically, the TC meet once per year, with additional face to face meetings or teleconferences as needed to carry out critical work.

These members actually develop and write the standards, which ensures the broadest expert input possible. CSA staff act as a facilitator for the TC to ensure all voices are heard. No single group dominates the agenda, nor decides outcome.

The TC on Wood Preservation contains balanced representation from three essential interest group: Regulators, Producers and Users. A balanced-matrix approach ensures our standards have the consensus of the TC and take into consideration all thoughts, issues and suggestions. Through the balanced-matrix approach, a CSA project manager moderates the process to ensure all participants are given an equal voice. This way, the final standard meets everyone's needs.

Content is decided through consensus, resulting in a more accepted, more applied standard that is recognized by all affected stakeholders.

3. History of the CSA O80 Series

In 1954, the first edition of the CSA O80 Series *Wood Preservation* was first published, containing 35 separate specifications. Even then, a relationship had been established between CSA and American Wood Preserver's Association (AWPA). This relationship still exists today, as the CSA TC work with AWPA to align the structure and requirements of the upcoming 10th edition of CSA O80 Series..

By 2004, the CSA TC on Wood Preservation determined that the 35 standards contained within the O80 Series were not user-friendly in the current format, and decided to redevelop O80 Series into a more user friendly and internationally accepted structured known as the Use Category System (UCS). The UCS is designed to facilitate selection of the appropriate wood species, preservative, penetration, and retention (loading) by the specifier and user of treated wood by more accurately matching the species, preservative, penetration, and retention for typical moisture conditions and wood biodeterioration agents to the intended end use.

In March 2008, the 10th edition of CSA O80 Series-08 was published in record time, and this timing allowed consideration for referencing by the 2010 National Building Code of Canada (NBCC).

4. CSA O80 Series-08 *Wood Preservation*: Then and now

A dedicated team of subcommittee members spent over 100 meeting hours transferring technical requirements from the CSA O80-97 to the new UCS format established in the CSA O80 Series-08.

As a result of the careful review by the TC members, the following significant technical and editorial revisions were made to the standard:

(a) Consolidation from thirty-four into six standards, as follows:

- CSA O80.0, *General requirements for wood preservation*, specifies requirements and provides information applicable to the entire Series of Standards. It deals with subjects covered by CSA O80.0 in the previous edition.
- CSA O80.1, *Specification of treated wood*, is intended to help specifiers and users of treated wood products identify appropriate requirements for preservatives for various wood products and end use environments. It deals with subjects covered by portions of the Commodity Standards (CSA O80.1 to CSA O80.36) in the previous edition.
- CSA O80.2, *Processing and treatment*, specifies minimum requirements and process limitations for treating wood products. It deals with subjects covered by portions of the Commodity Standards (CSA O80.1 to CSA O80.36) in the previous edition.
- CSA O80.3, *Preservative formulations*, specifies requirements for creosote and copper naphthenate and deals with subjects covered by CSA O80.202 and CSA O80.203 in the previous edition. The Technical Committee on Wood Preservation intends that CSA O80.3 will be used to accommodate additional preservative formulations (if any) in future editions of this Series of Standards.
- CSA O80.4, *Hydrocarbon solvents*, specifies requirements for Type A and C hydrocarbon solvents and deals with subjects covered by CSA O80.201 in the

- previous edition. The Technical Committee intends that CSA O80.4 will be used to accommodate additional hydrocarbon solvents (if any) in future editions of this Series of Standards.
- CSA O80.5, *Additives*, specifies requirements for four types of additives and deals with subjects covered by CSA O80.204 to CSA O80.207 in the previous edition. The Technical Committee intends that CSA O80.5 will be used to accommodate additional additives (if any) in future editions of this Series of Standards.
- (b) The current edition of this Series includes requirements for ACQ-C and CA-B.
- (c) Requirements for alkaline copper quat, Type D, have been added.
- (d) Requirements for cooling towers and residential treated products have been added.
- (e) Although there are no fire retardant treatments standardized by the Standards at this time, minimum requirements for fire retardant treatments have been specified.

5. Conclusions

Standardization requires the dedication of many individuals. By working together, we provide uniform requirements, both nationally and internationally that improve efficiency, safety and quality. Standards also highlight the proactive attitude the Canadian market is taking, an attitude that is noticed internationally.

Standards touch your life every day, affecting nearly every product or service you use. They help to ensure that products and services live up to your expectations. Standards hasten the implementation of new technology and provide market access. They promote interconnectivity and harmonization among products and components, and help open doors to new markets.

They also have a role to play in supporting positive public policy. Consensus-driven, collaborative solutions embrace all stakeholders and form the basis for voluntary or mandatory verification programs. Ones that may serve as viable alternatives to regulation.

CSA are pleased to have worked with the Wood Preservation industry for over half a century, and look forward to doing our part to help advance the industry further in the future.