**Timberlink Ltd – Site Report TL3**

**Site History**

The Timberlink site extends to 18.4 acres. The Treatment plant area stands on a brownfield site, which was formerly a Polish army training camp during the war with some 30 barrack huts with hundreds of people living there. The stoned land to the west of the main buildings was farmland. The undeveloped land (5 acres) to the west of the landscaped bunds is farmland still being farmed today.

**Site Physical attributes**

The site lies over sandstone within the Shropshire Middle Severn CAMS area. There is a gradual slope over the site from north to south of 4 metres. There is a watercourse that runs North – South through much of the Southeast end of the site to which the site naturally drains.

**Sources of possible contamination - use of dilute chemicals on site**

The site was used for the treatment of timber using a dilute solution of CCA from 1994 until 2005 when its use in the UK was phased out by EU Directive. Since then Tanalith E was used for a short time before Timberlink switched to using BASF Wolman products in 2006. The treatment chemical BASF Wolman CX-8WB is currently used in a dilute solution containing 97.5% water mixed with 2.5% chemical. From the outset the treatment process has been worked as a closed system within a fully bunded area. All chemicals are stored inside in IBCs under lock and key on an impermeable concrete surface. There is no evidence of pollution on site.

**Timber Treatment Plant**

The treatment plants are built to last using 11mm thick steel plate. The treatment pressure vessels are each designed with a solution holding tank below made of steel which sits within a heavily reinforced concrete bund. Additional storage tanks made of steel plate are located within the bunded area.

**Monitoring**

Daily records are taken of each timber treatment charge and this serves as an immediate check as to whether there is any loss of chemical due to a breach in the tanks - which has never occurred. The test results from a monitoring borehole will be attached as document reference TL6.

**Drying Yard**

Half the Drying Yard is roofed over and half unroofed. The roofed over part is primarily used when polytag labelling each piece of timber is required for an order and for the storage of brown treated timber – we have found that brown treated timber retains its colour better when dried under cover.

The Drying Yard has been designed so that all timber is loaded or unloaded from the drying yard externally. A forklift loads the green plant bogeys and a JCB 540 loads the dual plant ones. Timber is stacked to the outside so that it can be removed by forklift for the outer row and by the JCB 540 for rows up to four in. From the outset in 1994 Timberlink has used a dedicated forklift within the Treatment Drying yard so as to eliminate the risk of chemical contamination from forklift wheels spreading to the rest of the site.

The unroofed part enables the combination of the strong westerly winds and the sun to naturally dry out the timber quicker which means that a smaller drying yard area can be used, which minimises forklift movements and the need for further construction so the company’s carbon footprint is reduced.

The concrete in the Drying Yard is 200mm thick built using two layers of A393 mesh with a 200mm high concrete bund surround.

**Working Practices and Operator Competence**

Our working practices have been reviewed by BASF – Wolman and found to be of a very high standard with excellent plant, working systems and levels of training. We are constantly working to upgrade our plant and systems.

Timberlink Ltd

12.5.2015