

Summary of Use Classes

British and European Standards refer to Use Classes (previously Hazard Classes) for the preservative treatment of timber, based around its eventual end use and its risk of attack. The level of preservative treatment is varied according to the Use Class situation that the timber is exposed to during its life. A greater degree of protection is required as the Use Class increases.

USE CLASS (UC) SUMMARY

- UC 1** — Internal, dry – for example upper floor joists
- UC 2** — Internal, risk of wetting – for example tile battens
- UC 3.1** — Outdoors, coated, above ground – for example window frames
- UC 3.2** — Outdoors, uncoated, above ground – for example fence rails, decking
- UC 4** — Direct soil or fresh water contact – for example fence posts
- UC 5** — Marine use – for example marine pilings