

Exterior Use & Storage — PML Engineered Wood Panels

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Title	Technical Note — Exterior Use & Storage, PML Engineered Wood Panels
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Status	Uncontrolled when printed. For technical recommendation on any specific application, consult PML EasBeam.

Hazard class: PML EasBeam engineered wood panels are glue-line treated to Hazard Class H2S or H2 (interior, dry, protected from the weather and wetting) under AS/NZS 1604.1:2021, and carry a 25-year warranty. As manufactured they are **not suitable for weather-exposed or Hazard Class H3 (or higher) applications**.

1. Product

The PML EasBeam product family — Laminated Veneer Lumber (LVL), Multiple-Glued LVL, LVL Cross, and Plywood Panels — is manufactured from plantation Eucalyptus hybrid clone K7 (*Eucalyptus deglupta* × *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*). K7 is not a naturally durable wood: it has no inherent resistance to fungal decay.

Other species are occasionally used on customer request. For any customised product, species, or application, PML EasBeam must **always** be consulted for a technical usage recommendation.

2. Standards and treatment

Preservative treatment. The panels receive a glue-line preservative treatment (bifenthrin) against termites and borers, achieving Hazard Class H2S or H2 in accordance with AS/NZS 1604.1:2021, *Preservative-treated wood-based products* (which consolidated the former AS/NZS 1604.4:2012 for LVL and AS/NZS 1604.3:2012 for plywood), and carry a 25-year warranty. Because the preservative is incorporated into every glue line during manufacture, the full cross-section is protected — cutting, notching, drilling or planing does not require re-treatment. The products are **not** treated against fungal decay.

H2S applies to dry, interior, above-ground use protected from wetting, **south of the Tropic of Capricorn only**; H2 covers the same interior, dry use class across all regions of Australia. Neither extends to exterior or weather-exposed use, or to Hazard Class H3 or higher; see Section 3.

Glue bond. Panels are manufactured with a **Type A phenolic / WBP boil-proof bond**. The bond type governs the panel's resistance to moisture and delamination and should be stated explicitly, as it determines weather and wet-area suitability independently of preservative treatment.

Manufacturing standard. Structural products are manufactured and graded to **AS/NZS 4357 for structural LVL; AS/NZS 2269 for structural plywood**.



3. Suitability and exterior use

As supplied, all PML EasBeam products are rated Hazard Class H2S or H2 and are suitable for interior, dry applications that are protected from the weather and from wetting. The glue-line treatment provides termite and borer protection only; it provides no protection against fungal decay.

As manufactured, the products are **not suitable** for weather-exposed or Hazard Class H3 (or higher) applications — including decks, exterior walls, fascia, cladding, or any location exposed to the weather.

Exterior or weather-exposed use would require, by others:

- Preservative treatment to the appropriate hazard class — H3 minimum for exterior above-ground. The glue-line treatment supplied (H2S/H2) protects against termites and borers in dry interior use but gives no decay protection and no exterior rating. Raising the product to H3 requires additional preservative treatment beyond the glue line. **This is not part of PML EasBeam's manufacturing process.**
- Weather protection of the installed product: painting or coating; facing/sheeting on sun-exposed faces; and sealing or capping of all cut ends and edges. Edge sealing is especially important, as exposed end-grain and edges are the primary path for moisture ingress.

Surface coatings and weather protection manage moisture and UV but **do not raise the hazard class and are not a substitute for preservative treatment.**

- Panel surfaces must not be exposed horizontally to the weather.
- Water entrapment is not permitted.

For any proposed exterior or weather-exposed application, consult PML EasBeam **before** the product is specified or installed.

4. Storage

- Store products under cover, on a solid, straight, dry platform, protected from the weather.
- Ground bearers (skids) must be at least 30 cm high.
- Bearers between packs must be aligned vertically with the ground bearers to avoid twisting or cracking; they must be of suitable size and number and spread evenly.
- Cut the plastic wrapping of each pack open from underneath to allow air circulation and let moisture evaporate from the bundles.
- If products are stored on site for longer than one week, cover the bundles with an additional protective covering.
- Monitor the condition of the product and the protective cover regularly during storage.

5. Handling

- Unload product packs with a forklift or a crane.
- If unloading manually, open the pack and carry the products one by one.
- Do not drag, push or drop the products.