Comparison of Traditional Methods for Testing Paint Adhesion and Service Life with New Methods for Service Life Prediction

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# The problem!





Effects of short-term weathering of wood before painting (1-16 weeks)

On long-term paint performance (10-20 years)



#### Western redcedar during preweathering

Following the preweathering

Boards were removed from fence and painted, then divided into 2 groups.

One group was tested for paint adhesion

Second group was placed back on the fence



Tensile test: Alkyd primer adhesion to smooth-planed western redcedar





#### Failed interphases: Tension test



#### Adhesion failure, latex primer: Tension test





#### Block shear test: Acrylic latex primer

#### Painted boards after 17 years

outdoor exposure near

Madison, Wisconsin



Painted panels on test fence near Madison Wisconsin after 17 years



16 weeks preweathering prior to painting WRP, Alkyd primer, Acrylic latex top coat



8 Weeks preweathering prior to painting WRP, Alkyd primer, Acrylic latex top coat



4 weeks preweathering prior to painting WRP, Alkyd primer, Acrylic latex top coat



2 weeks preweathering prior to painting WRP, Alkyd primer, Acrylic latex top coat



1 Week preweathering prior to painting WRP, Alkyd primer, Acrylic latex top coat



**0 Weeks** preweathering prior to painting WRP, Alkyd primer, Acrylic latex top coat

Rating <sup>10</sup>

Paint evaluations

WRP Alkyd primer 10 Latex top coat 87





Years of exposure

### Comparison of paint adhesion

With paint performance



#### Paint wood as soon as possible

Pretreatment of weathered surface with a WRP prior to painting improved paint performance slightly

Poor paint adhesion correlated well with decreased service life

### **Predicting service life**

#### on the basis of

# **Reliability-Based Methods**

### Service Life Prediction (SLP)

"The ability to determine service life in less than real time with statistical confidence and reasonable accuracy"

### Service Life Prediction (SLP)

### How do we do this?

Many types of materials Many different climates Inconsistent weather Subjective evaluations

#### Conventional SLP Metrology Outdoor Aging



### Reliability-Based SLP Methodology

#### Instrumented Outdoor Exposure



### Laboratory Tests

Control and measure UV radiation Temperature Moisture/relative humidity Cyclic movement

### **Outdoor Exposure**

Measure **UV** radiation Rainfall/snow **Relative humidity Temperature** Wind Cyclic movement



**Sealant Degradation** 

Change in modulus

Loss of adhesion

Cracking

Can these changes be tracked during outdoor exposure

Sealant response in residential construction during outdoor exposure

Changes in relative humidity/moisture cause dimensional changes of wood

This in turn causes cyclic movement of sealant joints used with wood

Sealants were tested using wood to induce cyclic movement





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### Sealant specimen

## Force transducer (Load cell)





Weather and materials response data collection at the outdoor exposure site near Madison



















Stress/strain for two different sealants All data for two-month exposure

Stress (kPa)



Stress/strain, high modulus sealant Only the data collected at  $-18^{\circ}C$ 



Stress/strain further selected, 0-7% strain

Stress (kPa)

The degradation of materials is not linear over the exposure period, but rather occurs more rapidly during certain "critical" times.

We need to know what the weather and the material response was during these "critical" times

By linking the materials response to the weather, it is possible to determine the critical factors to emphasize during laboratory tests.