Ulica Tomaža Godca 5 | 4264 Bohinjska Bistrica | Slovenia T +386 4 57 95-800 | F +386 4 57 95-867 info@lipbohinj.si | lipbohinj.si



Instructions for Use and Maintenance of Formwork Panels

STRUCTURE

The three-ply solid wood formwork panels are made of three glued laminated layers of spruce or fir wood. The two external layers consist of longitudinal lamellas glued together sideways, while the middle layer is made of crosswise boards framed with head and side battens. This design guarantees the appropriate bending strength and the plywood-type structure of the panel. A high-quality water-resistant glue is used. Excellent surface protection and edge seal ensure the long service life of the panels. The panels are delivered in packages secured with steel straps and wrapped in foil to minimise exposure to weather and UV rays.

USAGE

The formwork panels are mostly used in construction for concrete shuttering. Before usage, the user/contractor should check whether the panel surface quality is sufficient for the desired concrete surface quality. As the formwork panels are made of solid wood, wood texture can be visible on the concrete surface. Therefore, the formwork panel producer does not undertake any responsibility for the quality of the concrete surface. After use, traces of the edge protective varnish on the concrete surface may also be visible.

The panels are supported at intervals as specified in the diagram of intervals in the producer's brochure.

When assembling or disassembling formwork panels, utmost attention should be paid to minimising the damage to the panels through the use of saws, nails or other fasteners. You should also be careful not to damage the surface of the boards with a hammer or sharp objects. Such damages inevitably affect the quality of the concrete surface.

Before applying concrete, the panels should always be treated with formwork oil and thoroughly moistened/sprinkled with water in order to minimise the risk of the concrete sticking to the panels. You should be very careful when removing the shuttering especially if the panels are nailed, screwed or fastened in any other way. It is essential to prevent the falling of the panels from greater heights and any resulting damage which might occur.



LIP Bohinj, d.o.o.

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MAINTENANCE

After use, the panels should be cleaned of all residues and placed on a flat surface. For the protection of the shuttering, a paraffin paste or formwork oils should be used in accordance with the producer's instructions. The panels should be kept in a covered and shady place. If stored outdoors, the panels should be covered with a sheet shall (a tarpaulin plane) protecting them against harmful weather conditions (sun, rain). If the panels are exposed to the sun, splits and/or cracks may appear on the outer layer. Such panels must be properly moistened with water before next use! Apart from that, fading (discolouration) may appear on the surface protection, which, however, does not significantly affect the functionality of the panel. Due to the components and the colours of wood, the panels may stain brownish when exposed to rain.

WARNING

In extreme weather conditions (significant deviations from normal humidity and temperature, or longer periods of dry and hot weather) you should take extra care of the shuttering, mostly making sure that the panels are not exposed to the heat of the sun for longer periods. Should you fail to do so, longitudinal cracks on the outer layer may appear, which significantly affect the lifetime of formwork panels and the quality of the concrete surface. Such panels should be properly moistened with water before use, otherwise they might be permanently damaged due to the intrusion of the concrete emulsion into the cracks!

Moreover, wooden formwork panels contain certain wood components, such as tannic acid or resins, which might cause stains on the concrete surface.

