

Claymark Centurion™

# Frequently Asked Questions



**claymark**®  
new zealand  
INGRAINED PRECISION™



# What is Claymark Centurion™?

**Claymark Centurion** is the next generation of treated finger-jointed Pine for exterior and interior trim and sidings applications.

## Why use Claymark Centurion?

**Claymark Centurion** is manufactured from the highest quality New Zealand Radiata Pine logs produced at Claymark's two sawmill locations in the Central North Island of New Zealand.

**Claymark Centurion** is supported by an industry leading 50-year limited warranty against decay/rot and insect attack.

**Claymark**® products are FSC Certified.

## Why is this significant?

Sourcing raw material from homogeneous, sustainable yield forests is important, but equally so are the consistency factors associated with the sawing and kiln drying operations.

Because **Claymark Centurion** is manufactured exclusively from lumber cut at **Claymark** sawmills and dried in Claymark's own kiln's, there is a consistency factor inherent in the **Centurion**. Other manufacturers purchase raw material (lumber/blocks) from multiple outside sources and/or countries.

## How is Centurion treated?

**Centurion** is treated using the next generation **Tru-Core**® process. The **Tru-Core** process is a unique physical – chemical infusion process by which wood protection agents (a mixture of several recognized wood preservatives) are mixed with specially designed adjuvants, known as TANO compounds that enable the treatment to “walk” into the wood to reach the center of the board. Preservative penetration occurs within 24 hours. Many of the wood protection components become “fixed” in the wood. Other wood protectant elements become “substantive” and resist weathering effects over many years of exterior use.

## Does the Centurion treatment fully penetrate the wood?

Yes, the **Tru-Core** process penetrates both sapwood and heartwood, thereby achieving FULL penetration. Conversely, the treatment process utilizing light organic solvent preservative (LOSP) penetrates only the sapwood. The advantage in the field for the installer is that with **Centurion** the need to re-treat cut surfaced ends or drilled holes with a preservative is reduced.

## Does this mean I don't have to prime field cut ends?

No, all trim board surfaces exposed by job site field cuts must be re-primed with a 100% Acrylic-Latex primer. Lengthwise rip cutting, machining, or profiling requires surface to be treated with a preservative, such as **Woodlife**® Classic Clear Wood Preservative, or a generic zinc naphthnate, prior to repriming.

## How should Claymark Centurion be stored?

Until installed, **Centurion** needs protection from direct sunlight, water saturation, dirt and other elements. **Centurion** should be stored in a dry location off of the ground on blocks and be protected with a waterproof cover. Bundles should not be completely sealed as good air circulation is required.

## Should any special steps be taken before interior installation?

The indoor installation of **Centurion** requires special care as the product should be installed only after the moisture content of the wood is brought into equilibrium with the internal environment. This can be achieved by storing the product in the same indoor environment where the product will be installed. The longer the time period the product is able to stabilize with the internal environment the less potential there is for product shrinkage, enlargement, cupping, or warping after installation.

## How soon does Centurion need to be painted after installation?

A topcoat should be applied as soon as possible, and in any event, no more than 120 days after installation. Highest industry wood and paint product practices should be followed in application. Paint should be applied according to manufacturer's specifications and recommended spread rates. Paints with vinyl-based resin combinations should not be used. Brush application of primers and topcoats ensures best coverage and protection. For best topcoat results, two coats of a high quality, 100% Acrylic Latex paint should be applied at the recommended spread rates.

## How is Claymark Centurion primed?

**Centurion** is machine coated with two coats of PPG 100% Acrylic Latex primer and undercoat. This machine applied process has several advantages over field coating.

- Evenly coated all four sides
- Wood protected from sun and weather damage
- Quality control standards are easily maintained in the factory
- Even film thickness
- Reduced environmental impact

## Many products claim to be eco-friendly, but lack leading environmental certification. Is Centurion FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified?

**Claymark Centurion** is manufactured, warehoused, and shipped under the strict guidelines of the Forest Stewardship Council. **Claymark** logs come from FSC certified forests, and **Claymark** has FSC certification chain of custody from its saw milling operations to its US based distribution facilities.

## What are proper nailing practices with Centurion products?

Hand nailing is recommended to make sure that the heads are flush. It is important when using nail guns to properly adjust them for a flush finish. If improperly adjusted, they may erroneously sink the nails too deep, breaking the seal of the primer. For the same reasons, counter sinking nails is discouraged. Hot-dipped galvanized, stainless steel, or aluminum nails should be used to prevent discoloration or disintegration.

For Siding, special care needs to be taken to prevent splitting. The use of thin, ring threaded or spiral threaded shanks with blunt points will minimize splitting, while providing maximum holding power. Pre-drilling around corners and edges can also prevent splitting.

Textured heads can enhance paint adhesion and reduce glossy spots, thereby providing (producing) a better looking finish.

## What are some proper exterior installation techniques?

All **Centurion** products should be installed according to the highest Industry Standards. Wood damage may result from unprotected exposure to moisture and severe climate. Moisture problems are generally avoidable through the use of the best construction materials available and proper construction techniques.

### Installation instructions:

- Avoid marring and scuffing **Centurion** during cutting and handling.
- All end and edge cuts must be re-coated to help limit water migration which may contribute to swelling, grain raise, warping, twisting, cupping, extractive bleeding, and long-term peeling problems.
- Vertical trim pieces should not have exposed end grain.
- Use stainless steel or aluminum nails to prevent discoloration. Hot dipped galvanized nails also work very well.
- Avoid overdriving nails that can break factory finish seal.
- Trim should be designed to shed water.
- Do not install against cement and install at least 8 inches above the ground level to prevent moisture or pest damage.
- Epoxy, resorcinol, or urea formaldehyde should be used at joints that aren't covered with a exterior grade 100% Acrylic Latex Topcoat.
- Allow for 1/8" expansion gaps.
- Avoid miter cuts in exterior applications.
- Apply caulk around windows, doors, corners, and where **Centurion** meets chimneys.
- Use high performance, paintable, acrylic, silicone acrylic, polysulfide, or polyurethane caulks and sealants.
- Bow or slope rails to shed water and incorporate kerfs on the underside to act as drip grooves.
- Do not install **Centurion** siding during the rainy season. Allow to acclimate before installation.
- Drain and ventilation holes should be installed on columns wrapped in **Centurion**.
- Butyl or Silicone-based caulks work best to fill the gap where siding butts up with trim boards.

## What species of wood is used?

**Centurion** originates from FSC Certified, plantation grown sustainable yield New Zealand Radiata Pine forests, in even-aged stands and in topographical regions which minimize the development of tension and compression wood.

## Does Claymark have a proven performance record?

**Claymark** is a proven performer with an unsurpassed record of quality and performance. **Claymark** solid Clear Radiata Pine is the product on which **Claymark** has built its reputation for uncompromising quality. **Claymark** now brings the same confidence in its **Centurion** line of exterior and interior trim and siding products.

## Why acrylic versus oil based primer/top coat?

Timber siding manufacturers have traditionally used Alkyd (Oil) based coatings as they are well researched. However, the negative environmental aspects coupled with worker health and safety issues stigmatize these coatings. The use of solvents in coatings has regulatory issues, which makes their use unattractive from a manufacturing, storage and labeling, and user risk viewpoint.

**Centurion's** Machine Applied Primer and Undercoat Acrylic technology is VOC compliant and is formulated with no hazardous ingredients. These products are environmentally friendly and present minimal health hazards for the applicator while maintaining a high standard of coating performance.

## Where can I buy Claymark Centurion?

In the U.S. please call Claymark USA at 877-287-4406 for a complete list of dealers and/or distributor near you.