



## AGEING

Platowood timber can be used without further finishes. Through hydrothermolysis processing (boiling) solid content matter has been boiled out of the wood, creating a cleaner, more pure product. The timber will age rapidly and more evenly than wood that has merely been through a baking process. Under the influence of sunlight, weather and wind, the wood ages in a natural way. This ageing process does not reduce the durability of the wood, but rather lends a silver-grey hue to the wood eventually. Since Platowood timber is a dark brown color of itself, ageing will begin to show within a few months. During the ageing period the wood surface may appear somewhat stained. This appearance could be amplified by dirt and / or aerosols attaching to the surface of the wood. When wet, a greyed area will gain a darker hue.



Building ECN Petten (The Netherlands). Left: Immediately after delivery. Right: After five years of exposure to the elements.

### Platowood (Weathered) Color

If the wood is not exposed to direct sunlight, as it is, for example underneath a balustrade, the surface will age much slower or not at all. This might cause differences in color with the parts that are exposed to direct sunlight and thus age. In order to have the ageing process take place more gradually, the wood can be supplied with a pre-aged finish, named Platowood Weathered Color. Platowood Weathered Color is available in the shades Light and Dark. The panels will have an aged appearance from the start; this finish will slowly degrade as the timber underneath it naturally ages. In this way, the visual transition stage of the brown timber to a weathered façade is overcome.

Ageing of the surface can be minimized or even avoided by selecting a color from our own color collection: Platowood Color. This range of beautiful colors has been matched to the hydro-thermally modified timber, while keeping in mind the wood sort and whether the surface was, for instance, planed or fine-sawed.

If Platowood natural timber was used, and it has aged, and you would like to restore the original color, that is largely possible by treating the product with a special agent. After that, the timber should be finished with an appropriate paint system, in order for it to keep from ageing again. Platowood can inform you extensively about this.

### Cleaning

Under dark and humid conditions, algae growth on the surface is a real possibility, particularly in autumn and winter. Removal of algae can be achieved using special cleaning agents and / or a high pressure washer. The best time to do this would be in the spring. First test the new cleaning method (or the new cleaning agent) on a small area in order to find out whether this is the right method.