



ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Sustainability and environmental issues are important and Tuffdip is committed to ensure that our products are sustainable and both environmentally and socially responsible.

The principle task of Tuffdip bituminous waterproofing is to protect materials against the ingress of water and humidity, thus prolonging their life¹, optimising efficacy and sustaining their capital value.

Tuffdip is a bitumen based product containing very small amounts of other substances to increase elasticity and the bonding potential to wood. The dried product is effectively an elasticised bitumen.

Specific toxicological and ecological data is not available for the dried mixture therefore published information has been extracted relating to the components of the material.

When dried, the major component of this material has a high molecular weight and is insoluble in water. It is not considered to have an effect on aquatic organisms. Leaching studies² (in the Netherlands) on Bitumen have shown that there is virtually no leachate and water can be returned to the environment without impact.

The use of Bitumen in roofing and roadway construction shows that Bitumen is a persistent substance that does not biodegrade.

The main constituent of this material has an octanol : water partition coefficient (log Kow) in excess of 6 and therefore has the potential to bio-accumulate, however the high molecular weight and low water solubility make the bio-availability to aquatic organisms extremely limited and hence unlikely.

The material in liquid form (refer to Tuffdip Safety Data Sheet) is not classified as "Dangerous" under Directive 67/548/EEC as amended and in the dried form certainly poses no additional hazards³.

¹ **TRADA Information sheet SW14-4** - "Timber below approximately 20% moisture content is not considered to be at risk from fungal decay"

² **BITUMEN WATERPROOFING ASSOCIATION** - Environmental Declaration - Tests have shown that leaching of substances according to Dutch regulations NEN1 7375 are, for all regulated substances, significantly below the Dutch Quality Soil Decree regulatory limits. Source: Dak & Milieu, Holland

³ **BRITISH REFINED BITUMEN ASSOCIATION** - Bitumen is a non-ecologically toxic product which presents no danger to plant and aquatic environments.