

A new wood preservative complements traditional methods

Slow grown, strong wood for straight pine poles, customized according to an electricity company's requirements. Managing Director Janne Monni presents Scanpole's recipe for success with a smile on his face. These poles have been manufactured since the 1940's and today they help secure electricity supply and consequent wellbeing in over 60 countries.

From coal mines to building modern infrastructure

Originally, impregnated timber was used in railway sleepers and support pillars for the mining industry. The poles have traditionally been impregnated with either creosote or copper-salt. Now a new Copper Oil has been introduced to complement the two traditional methods.

Janne Monni explains there are two main reasons why Scanpole wanted to expand its range of wood preservatives:

"Consideration of the environment and prevailing green values are the most important reasons for this development. We want to improve our operations and products responsibly and be ready for future needs. Second, restrictions on creosote

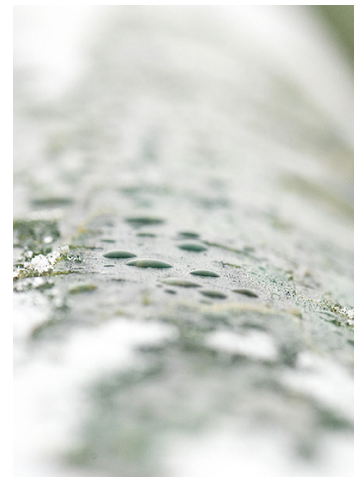
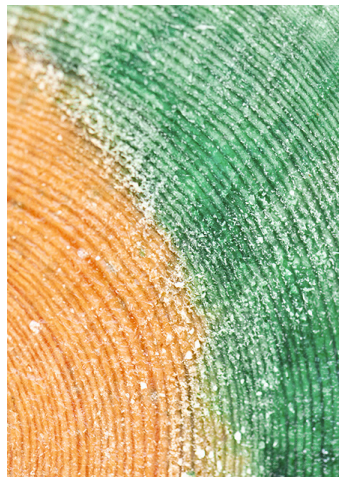
production are possible in the future and demand for an alternative product has risen over some time."

Over 300 types of poles to choose from

After careful background research and in-service tests, Scanpole chose Copper Oil to complement the more traditional wood treatments. The aim is to combine the best qualities of the copper salt and creosote oil and to minimize harmful health and safety impacts. As Janne Monni describes:

"Copper Oil combines the best properties of slow grown Nordic Pine, water-based copper treatment and hydrophobic properties of creosote oil."

Timber treated with Copper Oil is green and fades over time. The surface of impregnated pole is water-repellent.



Managing Director **Janne Monni** shows how the quality of impregnation is monitored at Scanpole. The company has over 300 types of poles in production.





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The first deliveries were dispatched to customers from Ilseng, Norway, earlier this winter. Scanpole experts now look forward to important customer feedback from electricity companies.

Scanpole's newest production line started its operations in Ilseng, Eastern Norway, at the end of 2019, and the first poles are about to be delivered to customers. After 15 years of research and testing, it will be highly interesting to receive customer feedback on the products used in varying locations. Janne Monni explains the versatility

of the new product:

"In addition to poles, the new Copper Oil is suitable for glue-laminated timber and infrastructure timber. If needed, Copper Oil treated products can be classified as consumer products and they are recyclable for alternative use. And importantly, the carbon footprint of wooden products is low."

The production process and quality of the product are carefully controlled, and details of each batch is well documented.





The roots of quality are in the forest

The selection of suitable trees for poles starts in the forest. The best trees are individually selected, marked and classified. These carefully implemented steps ensure durability as well as simple erection and assembly of the pole on the site. All phases

of the operation comply with high quality and environmental standards.

Electricity companies are Scanpole's biggest customers. Electricity poles must endure extreme weather conditions from hot desert to marshland forests. Wooden poles have various benefits – in addition to longevity, as **Janne Monni**

lists their many advantages:

“Wood is lightweight and tough. It is also easy to fabricate, assemble and transport. Today, we also see the benefits of its recyclability. It is an environmentally friendly material. Also, forests act as carbon sinks and consequently wooden products store carbon.”

Koppers Performance Chemicals

The new PoleProtect from Koppers is an oil borne copper wood preservative for the treatment of wood products, such as utility poles, railroad sleepers, agricultural posts and other wooden structures.

“Koppers is proud to introduce this exciting technology, sold under the Koppers “PoleProtect”, “SleeperProtect” and “AgroProtect” brand names. Years of in-service tests prove that this technology is highly effective and provides reliable protection against fungal decay, termite and insect attack. As evidenced by this patented development, we advance our strategy of being a premier wood-based solutions provider.”

Thomas Christensen, European Managing Director
Koppers Performance Chemicals

Scanpole

Part of Iivari Mononen Group
Employees 120
Production plants in Finland,
Norway and the UK
Turnover 40 million euros (2019)

More information

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