



PRESERVATION Solutions

SP-11[®] Waterlogged Wood Treatment

SP-11 is a formula of modified polymers and a high flash point solvent that does not contain sulphur (which can cause deterioration). It is designed to treat and preserve waterlogged and excavated wooden artifacts. SP-11 works by displacing the high amount of water in these artifacts and when dried, leaves a thin coating on the wood cell walls, which prevents the cells from collapsing and shrinking. It does not contain silicone, glycol, wax or mineral oil. There are no harmful fumes or foul odors.

Since each artifact to be treated is unique depending upon the size, type of wood, and degradation, the directions listed below are a *general outline* to follow. A treatment method may need to be adapted that works for the particular piece you are conserving. We are available for questions and additional guidance at info@preservation-solutions.com or 1.303.642.3060.

Directions: To avoid eye and skin irritation, splash proof goggles and rubber gloves should be worn. Read the directions completely.

This treatment recommendation is for wood that has continued to remain wet and not dried out.

The wood should first be cleaned with a mild detergent and a fungicide or mild bleach solution. Gently clean the artifact using a soft brush to remove dirt and mud.

If the artifact has been recovered from a saltwater environment, we recommend first soaking it in warm, fresh water to dissolve the salts. Moving fresh water would be ideal, if this is not possible drain the water bath and replace with fresh water as needed until the salts are removed.

Artifacts that have nails can be treated with them intact as SP-11 will remove rust but will not eat iron.

Do not dilute SP-11. To ensure best penetration, the air temperature in the treatment area should be 70-85°F.

There are two methods used to apply SP-11, soaking or brushing.

Soaking: For smaller artifacts, soaking is the most effective. Fill a plastic, rubber, fiberglass, or high quality stainless steel container with enough SP-11 to cover the wood. Do not use other metal containers as they will react with the wood's tannic acid and discolor it.

Apply small stickers under the artifact so that it does not sit directly on the bottom of the soak tank. Although SP-11 will absorb quicker, we recommend soaking for a minimum of 30 days. Complete penetration time depends on the size, type, temperature and degradation of the wood. When finished soaking, remove the wood from the tank, drain until it is not dripping and proceed to drying.

Note: the residual water that is displaced, plus dirt from the wood will settle to the bottom of the soak tank and leave a creamy looking sludge. If SP-11 is going to be re-used on other wood, drain off this sludge with a valve on the bottom of the tank until the liquid runs clear.

Brushing: This method is used for wood that is too large to soak. Place the artifact on top of a piece of plastic or a tarp large enough to wrap up and completely cover the wood. Brush on repeated coats of SP-11 to all sides applying extra coats to the end grains. Keep the wood covered with plastic to prevent the solvent from evaporating while it is being treated. Repeat this brushing process until the wood is saturated with SP-11. When the wood is completely saturated, remove the plastic and proceed to drying.

Drying: It is important to dry the wood SLOWLY in a controlled environment. Ideal drying conditions are 50-70°F with relative humidity at 45-55%. Artifacts should be dried in a room with very little air movement and no direct heat.

Drying time will vary depending on the type (density) and size of the wood and the drying conditions. It may take several years for large pieces to completely dry. Keep a close eye on the artifact by checking it regularly. If you see cracking start, you will need to alter the drying procedure.

First Aid: Do not get in eyes, on skin or on clothing. Causes eye irritation and may irritate skin causing dryness. If in Eyes: Rinse with water for several minutes. If on Skin or Clothing: Wash skin with soap and water. Remove and wash soiled clothing. If skin or eye irritation persists, get medical attention.

Store product in original container in a cool dry area. Keep out of the reach of children

Disclaimer: Being that wood is a natural material and is susceptible to varying degrees of shrinkage, reaction, deterioration, and because of varying climatic conditions, varying experience of the user and may be applied under conditions beyond our control, as seller, we make no warranty expressed or implied as to this material or its use. All information stated herein is accurate to the best of our knowledge and is based on thorough testing.

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