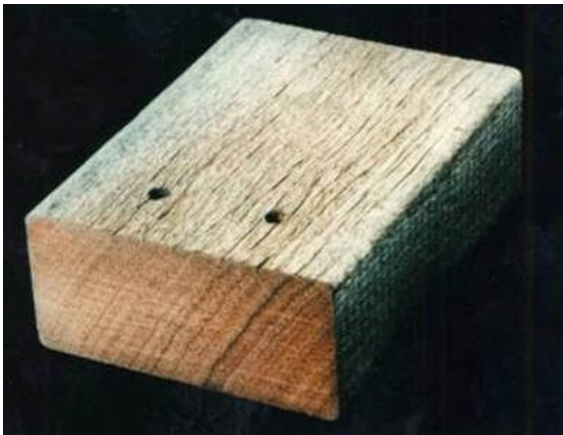

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Naturally Durable Hardwoods vs. Treated Softwoods – Surface Checking

Surface checking is a typical characteristic of all wood decking, though much more limited in hardwood decking versus softwood decking, as evidenced by these pictures of 25-year-old Ipe versus 5-year-old treated pine.



Larger dimensional lumber sizes and timbers may show deeper checks during the acclimation process, which typically reduces once the wood reaches equilibrium. Kiln-dried decking, having been pre-acclimated, tends to be less subject to checking than air-dried decking.