



Merseyview Road, Halebank, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 8LN

### Guidelines for the Storage of Ladders.

Pole Ladders that have been manufactured by Haydock Access Ltd. are inspected to quality standards prior to despatch. Ladders are placed on skids on a level floor and each ladder is individually skidded. Skids are placed 1 ft. from each end of the ladder with a minimum of one additional skid usually placed in the middle. All skids are of the same thickness giving the lift a height consistency.

Stacks of ladders should not exceed 10 no. In addition, if possible, stacks of the same length should be stored in a cool environment, away from direct sunlight, preferably in a well-ventilated area. Ladders of different sizes can be stored in the same stack, however, the longest ladder should be at the bottom of the stack, i.e. 10 mtrs. at the bottom, 3 mtrs. at the top.

### Effects of changing weather conditions on ladders.

The logs which are used to manufacture pole ladders typically have a moisture content of approximately 40%. Bearing in mind that the atmospheric moisture content is 19% and even lower in the summer months the log/ladder will lose moisture. If there is a particular spell of warm weather (or the ladder is exposed to extreme temperatures, e.g. direct sunlight during a period of time) the rate of moisture loss can cause a ladder to twist. When a ladder starts to move, the only thing that will prevent it twisting any further is an application of moisture, i.e. hosing/spraying. Generally, if a ladder is going to twist, it will twist within the first three days from despatch.

The guidelines given should prevent this, however with timber being a natural product, it is very difficult to completely eliminate this problem. These steps should enable you to minimise twist.

### Splits.

Similar to the above, splits are caused when timber dries out and cracks appear on the stiles of the ladder. Splits are allowed under the British Standard 1129 within a certain tolerance, i.e. a straight split is tolerated and these can be filled without losing any of the strength properties of the product. The Standard states that splits can be filled to a maximum of 9 mm, beyond this they are not tolerated. Only ladders that fall within the British Standard are despatched by Haydock Access Ltd. and therefore it is extremely unlikely that we would credit a ladder for splits. Obviously, there are exceptions to the rule, but if a log were split, it would not leave the factory.

I hope these guidelines will reduce the amount of potential problems and if you have any queries, please contact the writer.

For and on behalf of

HAYDOCK ACCESS LTD.

A. HAYDOCK.