Timber has an excellent strength to weight ratio which makes it an outstanding material for supporting a roof. Industrial preservative pre-treatment of trusses provides the additional benefit of long term protection against the risks of fungal decay and insect attack in service.

The House Longhorn Beetle (*Hylotrupes bajulus*)
The risk posed by the House Longhorn beetle is one extremely good reason for treating roof trusses. Such protection is already specified in the Building Regulations in certain areas in the South East region, where it is mandatory for all softwood used in construction of roofs to be pre-treated to prevent infestation. This large beetle already poses a potential threat to buildings in the South East but there are signs that global warming and climate change could lead to suitable breeding conditions developing wider afield, with many more instances of infestation in the future. Increasing summer temperatures mean that these beetles will spread and the regions in which they survive will expand. The government has already drawn attention to the need for builders to take such future changes into account when designing today’s new houses. Builders should always use pre-treated timber for roof construction in order to take into account the threat of House Longhorn Beetle and the likelihood of more widespread occurrence as our climate warms up. By preserving timber now, we ensure such environmental and cost benefits are realised for years to come.

Design:
There is such flexibility of design with timber roof trusses that they can be engineered to support small domestic roofing or large span industrial buildings up to 20 metres across. Attic trusses allow for extra living space while using the same building footprint.

Preservation:
Preserving the timber in the roof ensures that the structural integrity remains constant. It is a hidden benefit that the householder can obtain at minimal extra initial cost to the roof structure. Preservative treatment adds value to any roof by significantly improving the expected service life. It minimises the need for any future costly remedial treatments and refurbishment.
Important Information

Protim Clearchoice is the brand name for wood pressure treated with an organic based preservative.

- Wear a dust mask and goggles when cutting or sanding wood.
- Wear gloves when working with wood.
- Wash work clothes separately from other household clothing before re-use.
- All sawdust and construction debris should be cleaned up and disposed of after construction.
- Do not burn preserved wood.
- Do not use preserved wood for mulch.
- Only preserved wood that is visibly clean and free of surface residue should be used.
- Do not use preserved wood under circumstances where the preservative may become a component of food, animal feed, or beehives.
- Preserved wood should not be used where it may come into direct contact or indirect contact with drinking water.
- Use fixings, hardware or any metal products as recommended by their manufacturer.
- If wood is to be used in an interior application and becomes wet during construction, it should be allowed to dry before being covered or enclosed.
- Some preservative may migrate from the wood into soil/water or may dislodge from the preserved wood surface upon contact with skin. Wash exposed skin areas thoroughly.
- Mould growth can and does occur on the surface of many products, including treated or untreated wood, during prolonged surface exposure to excessive moisture conditions. To remove mould from treated wood surfaces, wood should be allowed to dry. Typically, mild soap and water can be used to remove surface mould.
- Disposal Recommendations: Preserved wood may be disposed of in landfills or burned in commercial or industrial incinerators or boilers in accordance with National and Regional regulations.
- Protim Clearchoice preserved wood is compatible with most coatings, glues and sealants and can normally be coated with most wood finishes 48 hrs after treatment. Before you start, we recommend you apply the finishing product to a small test area before finishing the entire project to ensure it provides the intended result before proceeding. Protim Clearchoice preserved wood may be glued with resorcinol, phenol/resorcinol or urea formaldehyde glues. Protim Clearchoice preserved wood is compatible with most sealants and mastics, always follow manufacturer’s recommendations.
- For more information visit www.osmose-europe.com

Use An End Coat Preservative

Any surface exposed by drilling or cutting must be re-treated with a cut end preservative. Failure to re-treat will affect the value of the preservative. It is recommended that the re-preserved ends are not put in the ground or in direct contact with water. Rip sawing, thicknessing and planing are not permitted unless the timber is subsequently re-preserved to the original specification.