

TimberTech Terrain Decking

Two new colors, lower price for capped composite

by Scott Gibson

TimberTech has expanded its Earthwood Evolutions line of composite decking with two new colors in a lower-priced Terrain Collection. The offerings — brown oak and silver maple — are in addition to TimberTech's Tropical and Natural decking lines.

The core of the decking is made from reclaimed wood fiber and a combination of recycled and virgin high-density polyethylene plastic, according to TimberTech. A plastic cap completely encapsulates each board.

What makes the Terrain decking different is a scalloped underside that reduces the amount of material in each board and allows the company to sell the decking for about 20% less than other Evolutions decking. Exact retail pricing wasn't announced.



Planks come with a 25-year fade and stain warranty. They're available with a grooved profile for hidden fasteners or a solid profile that can be face-screwed, in lengths of 12, 16, and 20 feet, along with matching fascia. Boards are about 5 3/8 inches wide and 1 inch thick and span 16-inch on-center framing.

Scott Gibson is a freelance writer in East Waterboro, Maine.

■ **TimberTech**, 800/307-7780, timbertech.com.

Lighting Strips

Low-voltage lights can be used indoors or outdoors

Kichler Lighting's TaskWork LED lighting tapes come in strips up to 20 feet long, with different versions for indoor and outdoor installations.

Fully dimmable, the 24-volt light strips are available with a range of white and colored lamps. Whites include a 2,700-degree Kelvin (K) warm white light, a 3,000 K pure white light, and a 4,000 K cool white light. (For reference, sunlight has a color temperature of about 5,500 K). Color options are red, green, blue, and yellow; the company also offers a color-changing tape controlled by an infrared remote.

Customers can select high- or low-lumen output, depending on how the lighting will be used. The 200-lumen-per-foot version is best for task lighting, the 100-lumen-per-foot for accent lighting.

One side of the tape is coated with an adhesive that sticks even to rough surfaces. The strips plug in or can be direct-wired to a power supply, and are available in a variety of



lengths as well as in 100-foot rolls.

LEDs have an estimated life span of 40,000 hours and come with a three-year warranty. Prices vary depending on the type of strip. — S.G.

■ **Kichler Lighting**, 866/558-5706, kichler.com.

For more information about these products, go to <http://exteriorproducts.hotims.com>.

Trex Transcend Color

Tiki torch is the new hue

A variegated light brown with reddish brown streaks, “tiki torch” is the eighth and newest color in the Trex Transcend palette.

The company says Transcend decking — a composite of wood flour and polypropylene, 95 percent of which is recycled — won’t rot, warp, or crack. Its surface is designed to resist fading, scratching, and mold, and according to the company, food and drink spills can be washed off easily with soap and water.

Planks come in 12-, 16-, and 20-foot lengths with two edge profiles: grooved for the Trex hidden fastening system and square.

Transcend decking retails for about \$3.50 per lineal foot



and is covered by a 25-year limited fade and stain warranty. Matching 1x8 and 1x12 fascia boards are also available. —S.G.

■ **Trex**, 800/289-8739, trex.com.

For more information about this product, go to <http://exteriorproducts.hotims.com>.

Pressure-Treated Pine

Planks come with lifetime warranty

Recently re-launched by Universal Forest Products, ProWood pressure-treated wood now carries a limited lifetime warranty against fungal decay and termite damage.

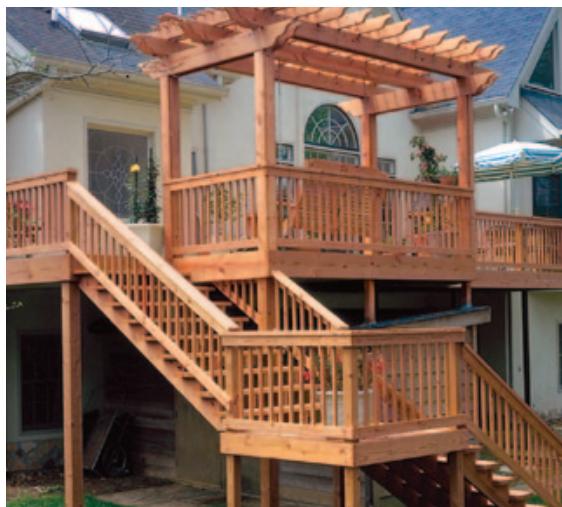
The wood is treated with micronized copper azole (MCA), which the company says gives wood a more natural look than other types of pressure treatment and is less corrosive to fasteners. Offcuts and scraps can be taken to a landfill but shouldn't be burned.

Universal's pressure-treated product line used to include some hard-to-treat dense pine species that were guaranteed for shorter periods of time. The southern yellow pine the company now uses instead can be treated to uniform standards at the company's 20 treatment plants.

The ProWood line includes dimensional lumber, decking, and finished products such as fencing and railing. Options include a version that's kiln-dried after treatment, and another that's treated with Dura Color, a pigmented waterborne preservative guaranteed not to fade for two years.

Retail pricing for Dura Color decking is about 85 cents per lineal foot, which Universal hopes will make it an attractive alternative to select cedar. — S.G.

■ **Universal Forest Products**, 800/598-9663, ufpi.com. ♦



For more information about this product, go to
<http://exteriorproducts.hotims.com>.