Resin Bleed
Causes and Recommendations

Resin is a natural compound produced by all trees and can manifest as a sticky liquid when a tree is cut or punctured. In timber such as weatherboards, resin may mobilize (bleed) when in extreme, hot conditions.

If such resin bleed occurs, while unsightly, it can be effectively dealt with and does not weaken or damage the timber itself.

Using a light coloured paint, which has a Light Reflectance Value (LRV) of 45 or higher, greatly reduces the potential for resin bleed. Please read the Light Reflective Value information on this page.

The Australian/New Zealand Standard, AS/NZS 2311:2009 Guide to the Painting of Buildings in section 2.2.5(i) states that "Dark Colours in exterior situations increase the absorption of heat and this may have a deleterious effect on the paint coatings and substrate materials". Dark colours increase the absorption of heat which in turn heats the substrate and can liquefy solid pitch in the wood. North facing and extreme climate regions are more susceptible to resin bleed and regular washing and maintenance of the paint surface is also recommended.

Resin bleed will tend to follow areas (blocks) of wood that have higher levels of solid pitch in the substrate. These areas become liquid under extreme (high) temperatures and are drawn through the paint, bubbling on the outside board.

Remedial Preparation

Allow the liquid resin to finish bleeding and harden which can take 12-18 months. Scrape off the surface resin & sand back the affected area with P40 or P60 sandpaper, using a low speed power sander, or hand sanding. It is important to avoid softening the resin by heating it. Ensure that the sanded surface is kept dry and free of any dust or any other dirt.

Sealing & Finishing

1. Wipe the prepared surface with Mineral Turpentine, & apply one coat of Zinsser Bin Primer Sealer, or alternatively Taubmans Silvafros Aluminium paint.
2. Ensure that the instructions on the tin are followed and apply 2 coats of oil-based primer undercoat and allow to dry.

The undercoat should cover any remaining bare timber, and lap slightly on the surrounding feathered areas of the layers of the previous coating.

When undercoat is fully dried, sand lightly with a P180 sandpaper and apply 2 finishing coats.

Do not sand through to the Zinsser Bin Primer Sealer, or to the Silvafros Aluminium Paint, as some water-based paints can react with the Zinsser Primer, and or the Silvafros Aluminium paint.

Please treat the above as a "recommendation" and note this process is also recommended by other timber manufacturers.

Below are extreme examples of Resin Bleed. The paint used on this weatherboard has a LRV of 10, where SPP recommends an LRV of 45+. This further enhances the potential for resin bleed.