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**elastic technology
for the repair, maintenance
and conservation of wood**



Window Care Systems BV is the result of a co-operative relationship between various professional parties independently involved in the long-term repair, maintenance and conservation of wood.

This long-term approach dates back to 1980. At that time, the Dutch Ministry of Housing granted a subsidy for a practical research programme into the causes and problems of wood deterioration, particularly in windows, doors and doorframes. On the basis of the research results and an inventory of many thousands of projects inside and outside the Netherlands, an idea to develop a problem-solving concept incorporating all the experience and knowledge that had been collected on the subject was born.

window care systems




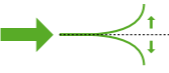








the result of research & development and practical experience

Window Care Systems commenced an exhaustive development programme in 1987. This resulted in the introduction of a total concept for long-term maintenance of wood in 1989. The vision behind this concept was, and continues to be, repair instead of unnecessary replacement. Our resulting systematic concept consists of a complete package of knowledge, work methods, equipment, products, and accessories for a real solution to the problems.

In order to develop an innovative elastic technology for joints, sealing, and repairs, we gathered knowledge and expertise from the aircraft industry and co-operated intensively with the application companies to develop practical work methods and useful equipment. Our first branch opened in England in 1992 and it is this wealth of experience that affords Window Care Systems its enviable position at the forefront of the market. When it comes to the practical repair, maintenance and conservation of wood, our vision has consistently been confirmed across the world. Currently our products are utilised in various climate zones in a wide variety of international projects in Europe, the USA, the Caribbean and the Far East.

Our company brochure familiarises you with our philosophy, know how and 1-2-3- maintenance system providing cost-effective solutions for the long-term conservation of wood. Of course we are always available to provide you with suggestions, ideas and additional information when necessary. After all, achieving quality and durability of joinery repairs requires teamwork.



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Wood is a beautiful and fascinating natural product. Harvested from the earth in its natural form for its unique structure and characteristics, wood has been a favoured building material through the ages. Desired for its adaptability of use, texture and aesthetic appeal, wood surrounds us in the form of frames, walls, floors, doors, windows and doorframes. Despite the advent of alternative materials in the form of metals, renders, concrete and plastics with claims of longevity, wood's popularity has not waned, being one of the few materials to retain its superior qualities through effective care and maintenance.



the long-term elastic technology is the solution conservation of wood

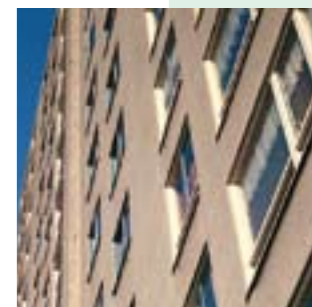


The right products and expertise

Nature has provided wood with long life and a high degree of robustness, even for softwoods such as pine. However, like all natural organisms, wood needs to be handled with care.

The biggest enemies of wooden structures are the effects of weather. Moisture, in particular, can cause much damage by penetrating wood via open joints, horizontal glazing lines and end-grain – often witnessed in windows, doors and doorframes. Preventative measures achievable through the use of elastic technology will ensure connecting constructions meet strict certification requirements for watertightness and durability, eliminating this common problem.

In this brochure you can read everything about our vision and approach that contribute to the long-term conservation of wood, cost effectively, for new, existing, or older wood.





Wood that is used outdoors is constantly exposed to the climatic effects of sun, wind, snow and rain. However, wood is also subject to moisture ingress from the interior environment as a result of condensation through ineffective glazing putties. Adequate protection against these influences is often underestimated. The problem is shrugged off or there is insufficient interest and insight into the measures that need to be taken.

The consequences of this are great. Damage occurs from untreated problems resulting in costly repairs, inconvenience and disruption. Instead of preventative and remedial work, all too frequently we see wooden structured windows and doorframes being unnecessarily replaced. Studies have shown that only 2-5% of the wood that is replaced is affected by decay. This means that over 95% of perfectly healthy wood is thrown away as waste completely unnecessarily without any consideration for the financial and environmental implications.



the proof of durability comes from practical experience

total vision based on expertise and wisdom



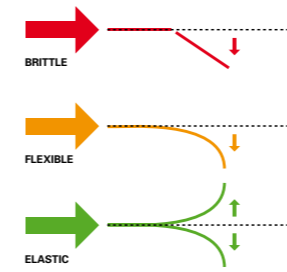
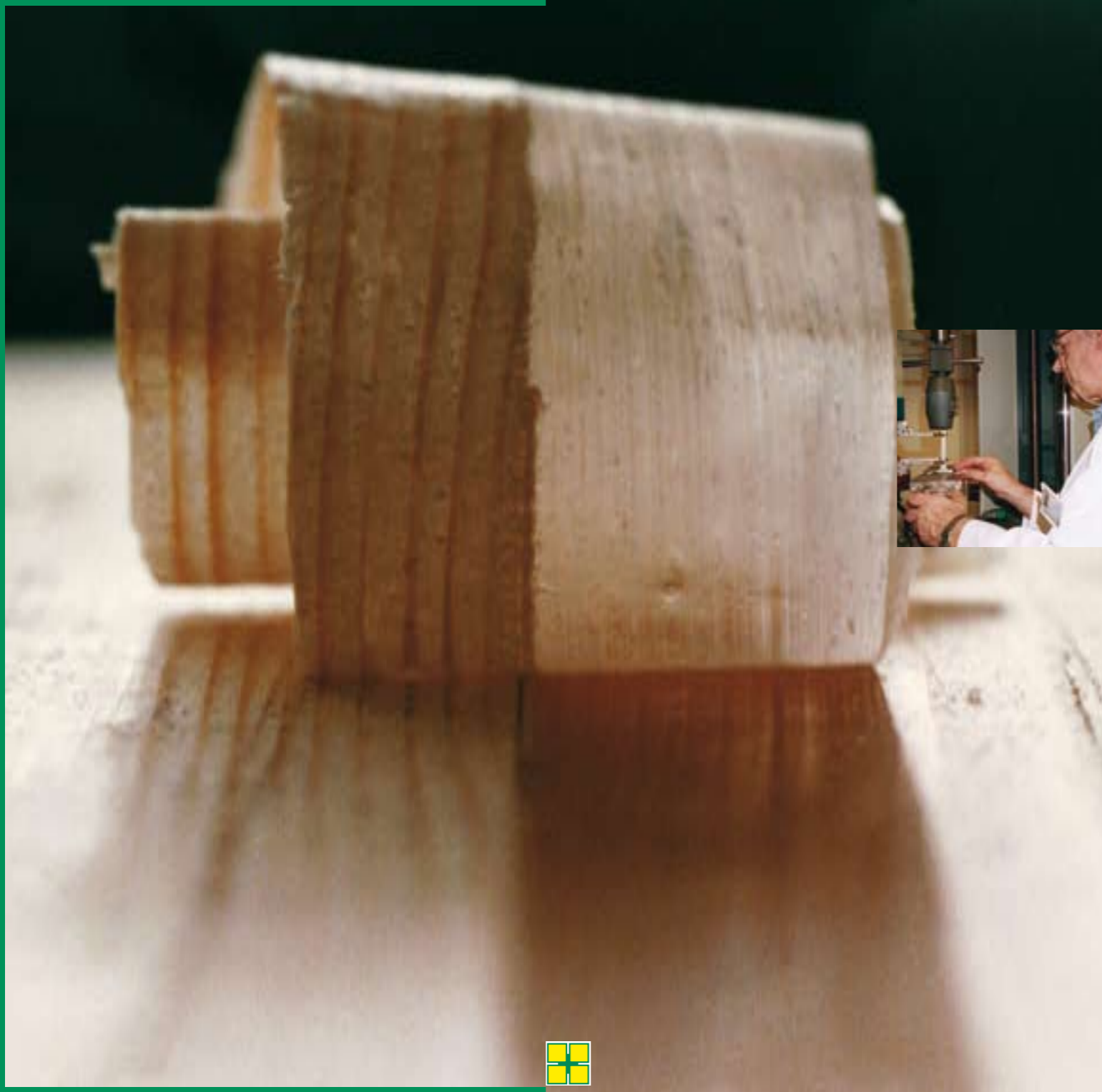
Practical studies yield hard facts

In 1989 Window Care Systems introduced an entirely new vision and technology with respect to the long-term conservation of wood. These innovations are based on exhaustive practical studies and painstaking research in co-operation with respected institutes. This resulted in new elastic product technology coupled with well thought out work methods.

The total vision that we developed with respect to the conservation of wood consists of a number of interconnected steps. An optimal effect of maintenance and conservation can only be ensured by problem analysis, knowledge transfer, expertise, work methods, products and equipment forming a consecutive chain. Only then is a long-term solution possible. You can benefit from this systematic approach.

By way of mutual effort we can give wood as a building material the value it actually deserves.





Due to the influences of moisture and temperature fluctuations wood is constantly in motion. This can easily be seen particularly, at the joints of such items as windows, doors and doorframes.

Brittle and flexible products that are used for joining, sealing, or repairing wood cannot cope with the movements of the wood. After a while these non-elastic products result in premature break down.

the substrate is always in motion

the aircraft industry as a frame of reference



Our application to wooden structures

Only products based on elastic technology can constantly keep up with movements in the substrate. This is due to the unique combination of internal strength and optimal restoration capacity. This means moisture does not have a chance to penetrate into wood from the exterior via open joints, end-grains or areas affected by wood decay or through horizontal glazing lines from both the exterior and the interior. The application of the elastic technology allows the wood to remain dry.

This is the basis from which Window Care Systems developed its innovative elastic system for joining, sealing, and repairing wood. The aircraft industry was used as a model as it typically connects, fastens, and seals its structures using a very high level of elastic technology. It is widely acknowledged that no better example exists when it comes to such qualities as strength, reliability and longevity.

The resulting information was translated into specific product applications with respect to many types of wood structures such as doors, windows, and doorframes. During that development we also paid considerable attention to practical requirements in terms of facilitating the application procedures.

We carry out stringent testing procedures for reliability and durability at our test station in Ebnit in the Austrian Mountains before any product and system is put into practice. In addition, we seek external stamps of approval from institutes such as TNO, a recognised leader in the field of test standards for durable restorations. Only after products are given the seal of approval are they released to the market.





Open joints, flaking and weathered paint systems, decayed areas and the break-down of glazing putties are familiar problems. These are the result of little or no attention being paid to the structure or the wrong treatment being applied in maintenance. Traditional maintenance consisting of 'painting' alone is not the answer. The first work phase must always be to analyse the problems by means of inspection and inventory. This forms the basis for long-term solutions with regard to restoring an unhealthy substrate. The conditioning of the substrate and the effective sealing of glazing lines play an important role in the Window Care Systems total approach.

a healthy substrate from problem to durable system is the basis



Well thought out work methods are the answer
Once the problems have been identified, the right work methods must be used to restore the substrate. Window Care Systems has developed specific work methods for all types of substrate problems. These were developed in co-operation with experts from the industry.

Combining these tested work methods with the correct knowledge of the substrate, the choice of elastic products and the proper equipment, allows the desired result to be achieved, both in terms of preventative and curative treatment. Only if the substrate is healthy is there any point in applying a paint system. Dealing with wooden structures via the 1.2.3 maintenance system ensures the durability of the paint system and low maintenance costs for many years.





Inspection and inventory, preventative and curative work methods, elastic technology....? The first time you hear these terms they may sound a bit complicated and strange. Practice teaches us, however, that we can transfer this knowledge quickly and above all practically. We do this broadly and thoroughly using tools ranging from product demonstrations to complete courses of training. From the very start of Window Care Systems in 1989 one of our most important objectives was to pass on knowledge and experience to everyone involved in the conservation of wood.

results through the proven work methods and technology transfer of knowledge

From expert to wood repair specialist

Some ten years ago wood restoration was a realm of speciality that did not exist as part of the daily work of a maintenance company. But this has changed a lot thanks to developments in material technology, work methods and visions with respect to the durable restoration of wood and wooden structures. Companies are now specialising more in maintenance and particularly, wood restoration. This is a direct result of property managers demanding improved value for money from the maintenance budget. Consequently, wood restoration has become a more cost-effective programme.

Knowledge is the key word and Window Care Systems pays considerable attention to the transfer of knowledge and experience. We have established our own training programme with the aim of producing experts in wood restoration.

We have also prepared a special information programme for property managers. In our training courses we pay detailed attention to the execution of inspections and inventories, working with products, equipment, accessories and applying work methods. In terms of long-term maintenance, glass sealing is an equally important element.

Another programme component is working safely with and controlling the quality of the wood restoration carried out. Our recognised training courses come with a certificate of attendance.





Window Care Systems is committed to research and development based on effective feedback from our specifiers and contractors. We are always happy to meet you face-to-face to discuss experiences and questions you may have.

You'll find we have an open and friendly approach. We believe that teamwork equals strength and that by working together we can create truly durable systems with a cost-effective result.

teamwork equals communication is our key word more strength

Sharing international experience on repair technology

When it comes to service and communication, you can expect a lot from us. Our project advisers and application specialists pay practical visits and are pleased to organise demonstrations, lectures, and seminars. During these gatherings we explore the possibilities of the long-term conservation of wood discussing topics such as inspection, inventory and practical repair solutions with our work methods, products and equipment. We are always pleased to share our international experience on repair technology. In short, we encourage a two way communication.

We are always pleased to share our international experience on repair technology. After all, your expertise enables us to ensure that our vision, products, and approach fulfil your repair and maintenance requirements in practice.





The preservation of wood in building maintenance and as part of refurbishment programmes, has direct financial advantages in terms of managing maintenance costs and reducing unnecessary expenditure.

cutting your a systemic approach for lasting performance maintenance budget



The proof comes from practical experience

How much money you save with the systematic approach of Window Care Systems depends on a number of factors. A proper maintenance policy should consist of a step by step approach that tracks down the problems, which can then be evaluated technically and financially. This determines the type of maintenance required, the correct tools and methods. By employing a well thought out maintenance plan wood can be kept in optimum condition for a long period of time. For instance a healthy substrate requires less maintenance as the applied paint system is subsequently much more durable. The value afforded by comprehensive maintenance is clearly defined and cost savings returned year on year.

The solid proof of this is delivered in a variety of projects in many countries and in different climate conditions. This conclusion is reached by evaluation of many projects undertaken by Local Authorities, Housing Associations, Private Practices and Contractors. A typical cost saving, for example, is as follows: to repair an existing window frame may cost 15 – 30% of the cost of a complete window replacement.





The Window Care Systems practical approach enables knowledge and experience to be easily transferred. Customers quickly become adept at employing the systematic approach in practical applications, enhancing the quality of their projects and bringing tangible financial benefits. This has resulted in very satisfied customers whose confidence in us is justified daily.

window care work methods applicable everywhere everywhere

Conservation is an international necessity

The results Window Care Systems' technology has achieved in the Netherlands and England have quickly achieved acclaim and become a benchmark for wood care in other countries. As the usage of this approach spreads throughout the world, users are becoming educated about the unlimited possibilities and cost efficiencies of elastic technology as a long-term solution when it comes to conserving wood.

Over the years hundreds of thousands of wooden structures such as windows, doors, doorframes, columns, balconies, fascia, beams, floors, ornaments and antique objects have been restored using our system. The wood in many projects across the world has been restored to good condition using the system. The range of international applications will continue to increase in the years to come.

The vision of 1989 "Window Care Everywhere" will certainly become a reality, because, after all, the long-term conservation of what we build is in the interests of everyone, everywhere in the world.





We must handle the raw materials available to us carefully, especially those from the Earth's primeval forests of which only 20% are still in their original condition. By making conscientious use of the product technology available today when it comes to building with wood, we can leave the primeval forests intact. This also applies to existing buildings, where durable maintenance requires even more attention. Saving instead of replacing must be the basic premise. It is our joint responsibility to be able to show future generations what was built today and in the past.

taking care of conserving today and yesterday for tomorrow mother earth



Focus on Research and Development

Saving instead of replacing is not the only aspect when it comes to dealing with the environment. When it comes to product development, the selection of raw materials is of great importance. After all, this, too, involves the safety of man and animals and has an effect on our environment. We pay considerable attention to this selection. Solvent-free products form the basic premise here. In addition to products, the Research and Development Department of Window Care Systems also exhaustively tests equipment, accessories and work methods. Often the knowledge and experience of specialised research institutes such as the Dutch TNO is also used.

In addition we pay constant attention to the packaging of products, striving to decrease the amount of waste. New, innovative packaging ideas, which are less burdensome on the environment, are currently being developed.





The vision of Window Care Systems is to offer a durable solution when it comes to preserving and maintaining wood in many realms of application everywhere in the world. Products alone cannot provide that solution. A lasting end result depends entirely on the quality of application in full accordance with the recommendation outlined in the 1-2-3 maintenance system. The transfer of know-ledge, well thought out work methods and innovative products are of equal importance.

from product to total system

what matters is the solution

No halfway answers

When it comes to practice, opinions on the topic of price and performance vary. However, the answer is more obvious than you think. What it actually comes down to is whether you opt for a durable solution or whether your choice is determined by costs in the short term.



Compromising quality always leads to disappointment, so there is no halfway answer. This is why the concepts of quality, ease of use and cost effectiveness are fundamental to our systematic approach. Whether you're talking about products, equipment, seminars or training courses, we have made a conscious choice for durable solutions that offer many advantages for the customer and user. This is evident in our financial consideration models based on projects that have been carried out.

Many satisfied users are already enjoying the benefits of our systematic approach to wood care and repair. We are confident that once you turn to Window Care Systems' products, and methods you will never look back. We would like to invite you to explore the possibilities available at the international centre of repair technology.



and finally.....



**replace your putties with
elastic technology for a durable
watertight glazing line!**



Window Care Systems Ltd. is working in Partnership with ICI Trade Paints to provide a total system for the repair, maintenance and conservation of wood.



Dulux ICI Trade Weathershield Exterior Gloss paint system is ideal for use with the Window Care Timber Repair System.

