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SAVINGS AT THE SAWMILL & KILN

The benefits of using strapping in SAWMILL AND DRY-KILN applications

Deformation of stacked green lumber during kiln drying costs sawmills significant amounts of money in degraded material and labour. Solutions have been put forward to resolve this, such as concrete slabs or hydraulically actuated kiln-mounted plates, but the former is dangerous and time consuming and the latter is only limited to certain facilities.

However, these solutions are not ideal for high-capacity continuous dry-kilns. While effective and efficient, continuous dry kilns present their own unique fire and safety hazards--especially from boards that fall off during the continuous drying process.

Polyester strapping is a much more practical and cost-effective solution. It is much safer and maintains package integrity even when the load is being moved around the yard. This eliminates fallen pieces and the resulting safety issues and labor costs.

It also helps prevent fires at the continuous kiln by ensuring each load maintains its integrity throughout the drying process.

Other benefits include:

- Reduce downgrading due to twisted, crooked and warped pieces (can provide up to a 4% increase in kiln yield)
- Secured package right after stacking
- Helps maintain stickers in place
- Reduced labor costs and increased workplace safety
- Increases fire safety by preventing boards from falling into the kiln

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packaging@samuel.com
www.samuelpsg.com

Canada: 800-607-8727
U.S.A: 800-323-4424


SAMUEL
PACKAGING SYSTEMS GROUP