



HYDRAULIC SKIDDING SYSTEMS

General Information about Ekki

Other Common Names: Azobe, Bongossi, Bakundu (Cameroon), Kaku (Ghana), Esore (Ivory Coast), Aba (Nigeria), Endwi (Sierra Leone).

Leading Properties: Ekki is one of the strongest, toughest and most durable (25+ years) timbers available. It is naturally resistant to rot, decay, biological attack, industrial chemicals, abrasion and splitting. It is flame resistant and has extremely high crushing strength.

Distribution: West Africa and extending into the Congo Basin; occurs in evergreen and moist deciduous forests, in freshwater swamp forests, and close to riverbanks.

The Wood: Heartwood dark red, chocolate brown, or purple brown with conspicuous white deposits in the vessels; sapwood up to 2 in. wide, pale pink, well defined. Texture coarse; grain usually interlocked; lustre low; without characteristic odor or taste.

Comparative Strength and Toughness (inch-pound units)

	Ekki	Hemlock/ Fir	White Oak	Spruce
Static Bending Yield Stress	13859	4320	3730	3090
Max. Crushing Strength to grain	10450	3610	3580	2760
Max. Crushing Strength ⊥ to grain	2450	460	716	300
Mod. of rupture in bending	22870	7540	8710	5870
Mod. of elasticity (x 1000)	2732	1610	1510	1320
Max. Tension to grain	1555	407	869	340
Specific gravity	1.1 – 1.3	.64 – .8	.7 – .74	.43 – .8
Janka hardness, side grain	3810	480	1260	378
Janka hardness, end grain	4310	589	1270	414

Sources: Forinek Canada Corp., Forestry Technical Report 21 and the Timber Handbook published by the TNO in Delft, The Netherlands.

Available sizes: Standard jacking timber sizes are 10 cm x 10 cm x 1.0 m (4” x 4” x 40”) But larger sizes are available up to 30 cm x 30 cm x 12 m (12” x 12” x 40’). Ekki is typically delivered clear and defect free with no sapwood and no centre of heart.

Finish: Ekki Jacking Timbers are band sawn to tolerances of +/- 2 mm. The band sawn finish is referred to as “smooth sawn” and saw striations are typically less than 1 mm deep. Cross cutting in the field can be done easily and cleanly but rip sawing in the field is not recommended.

STRONG. SAFE. SIMPLE.