

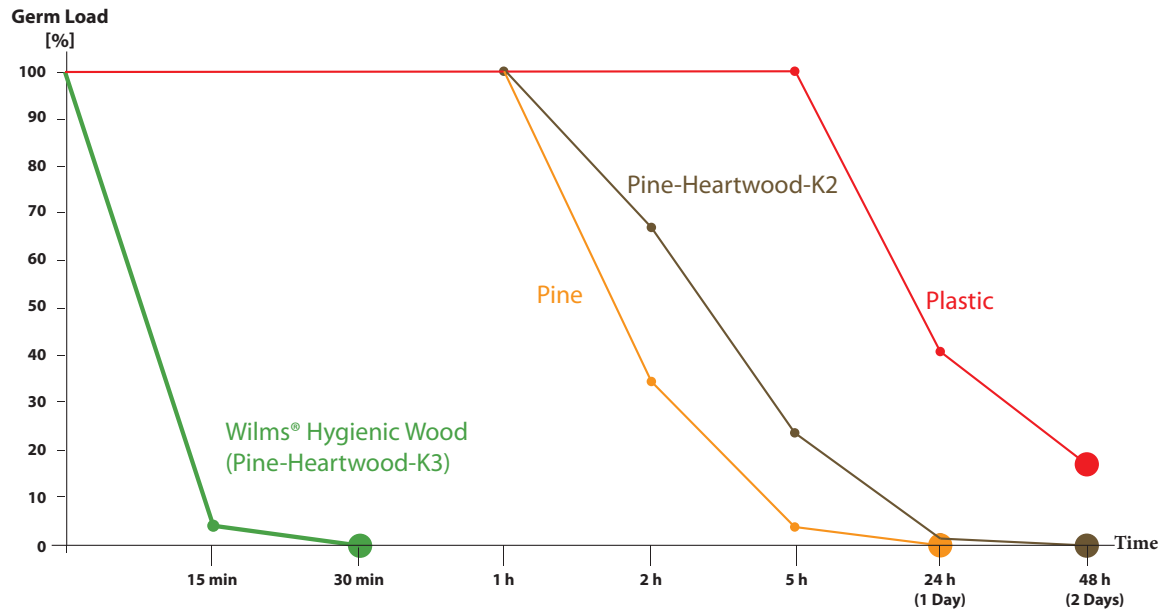
# Hygienic and phytosanitary properties of wood and wood products\*

## Objectives

Is it possible to increase the hygienic properties of pine heartwood?

## Approach

Samples of pine heartwood were processed differently and then each  $1 \times 10^6$  cfu / cm<sup>2</sup> (total number of bacteria live per sq. cm) were infected E.coli bacterium. The development of bacterial populations was observed during a 48 hour period and is shown in the following diagram.



Germ load on Wilms® Hygienic Wood, Pine-Heartwood-K2, Pine und Plastic \*

## Result

After a washing and drying procedure „K3“ the pine heartwood killed germs far faster than the other wood. This method improves the hygroscopic properties of the wood so that the wood is able to absorb liquids much faster. Test organisms that are located in the liquids are therefore more in contact with the contents of the wood. This patented procedure (EP-Nr. 1005964) is used for Wilms® Hygienic Wood.

## Conclusion

The Wilms® patented washing and drying procedure greatly improved the hygienic properties of pine heartwood.



## Implementation

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\* Data: Schönwälder, Annett (2000), S. 51; Graphical composition: Fa. Wilms GmbH

