

PRODUCTS

Field Dressing

A quick way to seal end cuts

Because water easily moves into wood through its end grain, sealing the ends of pressure-treated decking and framing cut during construction is good practice – it helps to prevent both end cracks and rot. However, not many deck builders actually seal end cuts. Who wants to lug around a can of preservative and a paintbrush?

One alternative is DeckCuts from Ze-Vo. The 4-ounce container is filled with an oil-based clear coating and comes with a sponge applicator the maker says is leak-proof. After making a cut, all you have to do is give the end of the board a swipe to seal out moisture.

Ze-Vo says the treatment helps minimize end checks

and will extend the life of all types of wood decking (it's not recommended for composites, though). The company also makes a product called EndCuts, which is designed to be used on pre-primed lumber and siding.

DeckCuts contains no volatile organic compounds (VOCs). It retails for about \$10 per bottle and is distributed at lumberyards throughout the United States. — S.G.

■ **Ze-Vo**, 508/879-3151, zevoproductsgroup.com.

