

EST. 1798

FINE WOOD PRODUCTS

SINCE 1798



410 335-9600

www.mcilvain.com/alpha



CLADDING

OUR PRODUCT COLLECTION



DECKING

INTERIORS

CURATING BEST OF BREED FINISHED WOOD PRODUCTS BASED ON CENTURIES OF RESEARCH



DESTINATIONS



WHY/WHAT IS ALPHA?



We have been manufacturing siding and decking products for centuries for our customers and decided it was time to make our own lines based on everything we have learned over that time. There are 5 key elements that can make or break the final look and performance of your siding or decking specified product. All 5 MUST be considered to achieve your desired final look.



SPECIES

The most important element. If you don't start with a good exterior wood you will never get a top performing product. Moreover trying to disguise a wood with finish isn't a good practice either. eg: if you want a beige finished look don't start with a dark brown wood. If consistent color is your goal then start with a species that isn't highly variable in appearance.



OPACITY

10 out of 10 designers we spoke with wanted to see the grain through the stain. Lower opacity was the hallmark of all our focus groups. Otherwise the product could just be plastic or some other composite. Wood is a luxury product and lower opacity to the finish shows off the natural beauty and color variation...if you start with the right wood (see above)



GRAIN

With the right wood and lower opacity now the grain can change how everything looks. It will also change the final look under finish. If a more consistent look is needed then similar grain will be needed. If a coarse grained wood is chosen then much more variability will appear. This can work for or against the final look.



TEXTURE

Texture such as wire brushing, hewn, or even just smooth will change the look. Heavy texture can provide a more rustic look vs a contempory feel with smoother texture. Additionally a wire brushed texture can even create a vertical grain look on a flat sawn board when your species of choice doesn't present well in vertical grain or isn't available.



PROFILE

The application of your material will dictate your profile. T&G profiles are great for porch roofing or interior flooring but will fail as exterior decking or sometimes, siding. Profile can dictate installation to ensure it is done properly to maximize performance. Careful consideration of profile needs to be done to ensure the look and performance is consistent across the entire project.



410 335-9600

www.mcilvain.com/alpha