



# Perma-Chink Systems News 2015

The Wood Home Care and Maintenance Authority

## Announcement!

PCS manufactured products have a 3-YEAR SHELF-LIFE!

## It's Lifeline™ Season!



Order your free samples today!

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[www.permachink.com](http://www.permachink.com)

## Making a Difference Around the World



### ■ Healthy Living with PCS

Perma-Chink Systems' (PCS) future-oriented, sustainable products take all environmental, ecological and social acceptability issues into consideration. We are constantly looking ahead to the future to develop products for the construction of energy-efficient log and timber homes while applying an environmental mindset that products be free of toxins and have a long life to reduce the number of life-time applications. This holistic approach by Perma-Chink Systems is not limited simply to issues such as sustainable products, but also takes into consideration the aspect of healthy living by bringing the human aspect into the development process. Our environmental focus is reflected throughout the life cycle of our products, starting with Green Chemistry, then Green Manufacturing and finally Green Application and Care.

Green chemistry can be defined as the design, development, and implementation of chemical products and processes to reduce or eliminate the use and generation of hazardous substances and their negative impacts on the environment. The development of a Green finish starts with the selection of the raw materials necessary to formulate a product with the physical properties

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## Making a Difference Around the World

### ■ *Healthy Living with PCS*

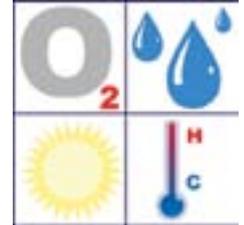
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required to protect a substrate (i.e. wood, metal) from environmental and self-degradation. These raw materials include the resin, surfactants, solvents, biocides, pigments, fillers, colorants and UV inhibitors.

Our Chemists spend countless hours of research to ensure our products are constructed to be environmentally-friendly not only in terms of toxicity but also in terms of longevity. Longevity, or shelf life, is the length of time that a commodity may be stored without becoming unfit for use. The shelf life of our products is an equally important environmental factor in order to reduce the potential impact of undesired disposal that could result from a short shelf life.

**Perma-Chink Systems is proud to introduce our environmentally improved product line with a THREE YEAR shelf life.**

To maximize your Perma-Chink Systems' products shelf life, follow these important storage tips:



- Keep containers sealed and unopened to minimize exposure to oxygen and oxidation of the product.
- Store away from windows and direct sunlight.
- Store away from heaters or forced air vents.
- Store away from exterior walls, if possible.
- Store in a controlled temperature environment (50° - 70°F, 10° - 21°C).

Shelf life of a full unopened container is three years (no contamination from potential airborne contaminants). Product from opened containers should be repackaged into smaller plastic containers sized to be 'full' of product.

We don't build beautiful log homes...  
We make log homes BEAUTIFUL!

**LIFELINE™ Stains and Finishes**  
for your home.

A COMPLETELY NEW EXPERIENCE!

### GOT CHECKS?

See what our *Check Mate 2* can do...



Watch *Sealing Log Checks Video* on [permachink.com/videos](http://permachink.com/videos)

## DIY: From Bleak to Beautiful

### ■ *What a Transformation!*

By Terry Knight

Bob and Jan retired from the busy life of Houston, Texas in 2011, relocating close to their daughter in Campbell, TX. The relocation came with a disappointing cash flow from selling their Houston home during the housing crash, but they were determined to find their dream retirement home. Their search brought them to a foreclosed, abandoned, and vandalized log cabin sitting forlorn on eleven acres. What an eye sore, and what a task to undertake! Bob, already having had a couple of back surgeries, knew this would be quite a job, but he and Jan decided this was the place for them. In early 2014 Bob underwent a final back surgery, which was extremely successful. His new found back relief led him to take on the pending exterior restoration on their home.

Bob called Perma-Chink System's 1-800 number and reached Customer Service Representative, Jennifer Stroud. Bob and Jennifer spoke frequently throughout the restoration process, and recently Perma-Chink Systems received these before and after pictures of the transformation Bob achieved.

Bob and Jan were not sure what, if anything, had been applied to the exterior of the home, so getting the logs back to a bare wood state was the first priority. Bob decided to sand the entire exterior to achieve this using 80 grit sandpaper.



As Bob sanded, more questions came to mind about the best methods to address concerns he found through the process. How should he take care of checks within the logs, log ends, butt-end joints, and log seams? He called Jennifer and discussed the various topics receiving technical guidance, and some free samples to try for the different tasks. It took weeks, but eventually Bob's dedication to sanding revealed the beautiful white cedar that was hidden under the years of neglect.

Once the home was back to a bare wood state and the log ends had been sanded down, Bob was ready to wash the home with *Log Wash™*, ensuring a clean surface.

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## DIY: From Bleak to Beautiful

### ■ *What a Transformation!*

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He then addressed energy efficiency and prevented water infiltration concerns with *Energy Seal™* in Natural Pine (#520) to seal the butt-end joints.

To ensure upward facing checks were not allowing water to infiltrate, *Check Mate 2®* in Light Brown was applied where necessary.

Bob completed the exterior of their home in August of 2014, and found the experience to be very rewarding. For an individual who had limited mobility prior to his last surgery, the ability to do the work himself, and see the house transform from bleak to beautiful was, as Jan stated, “so good for him”!



Next Bob applied *Lifeline™ Ultra-2 Cedar* (#885) to his walls, allowing the *Energy Seal* and *Check Mate 2* to blend with the finish. His final step was *Lifeline Advance* (Satin).

Dreams can be achieved with dedication and hard work, as Bob proved. Both Bob and Jan reached out to Jennifer’s manager stating, “I felt you should know what a valuable employee you have in Jennifer and what a great job she does in representing the Perma-Chink product line”.

Perma-Chink Systems would like to thank Bob and Jan for sharing their stunning accomplishments and kind words.

**Please share your log home's before and after project pictures with us.**

**The winner of the best pictures will get a free gallon of Log Wash!**

**Please e-mail your pictures to [nadia@permachink.com](mailto:nadia@permachink.com)**

## Log Home Maintenance 101

### ■ *It's not as Difficult as One Might Think*

By Tony Huddleston

Log home living in today's world can be linked to the same pioneer spirit that helped many of our ancestors forge a new world. The spirit that dwells in so many of us tells us that we want something different from all the rest. Something that enables us to have a different way of expressing our lifestyle that embodies the individuality in some of us that separates us from the masses.

Today's log homes are not the same homes our ancestors built. As they were often built strictly as a necessity for their families, there were very few thoughts put to it other than shelter and protection from the elements and predators.

Log homes of today are engineered to be structurally sound and take advantage of energy-saving features. They are no longer viewed as "cabins"; they are primary homes and second homes or vacation getaways.

Having said that, all of the engineering, planning, and choices you make should also include planning for scheduled maintenance on your home. **Maintenance should not be viewed as a chore or just an expense, it should be considered as an investment in your homes' longevity and value.** Properly cared for, log homes will appreciate in value, rather than depreciate.

If you are new to the lifestyle of log homes, then you may have some questions or reservations as to how maintenance should be done. With a little planning and timely execution it is not as difficult as it may seem.

Start with the basic: A walk around your home at least twice a year will help you become acquainted with your home and the condition of the sealants and finishes. Pay close attention to the South and West sides of your home as those are normally the areas that catch most of the sun, and the ultraviolet rays that come with sunlight will cause those areas to show the quickest signs of needing maintenance. Many folks are under the impression that you always have to re-stain the entire home, when in fact all you may need is a touch up on the weathered side.

During your walk around, pay attention to the sealing system on your home, especially around doors and



windows. As checking and fissure development is a naturally occurring process in large timbers, make note of any checks that face upward to catch water and hold moisture that may cause problems. Take special note of any that run behind door and window trim that may allow moisture to work its way to the interior. Also look for any telltale signs that your stain or finish is beginning to need attention. Fading, peeling, or dark areas under the finish are good indicators that it is time for a maintenance coat.

Plan on washing your home at least once a year to remove all pollen, dirt and other airborne pollutants that may have settled on the surface, and no it does not always mean you have to pressure wash the home. *Log Wash™* and a garden hose will remove most unwanted contaminants without hurting your homes finish. Any landscaping such as shrubs, bushes and vines should be trimmed back so as not to interfere with air circulation on your walls. The walls should be allowed to have good air circulation and landscaping that is touching the home will over time possibly scuff the finish and provide too much moisture to remain on the surface.

Remember those upward facing checks mentioned earlier? Those should be filled with *Check Mate 2™* as it will stand up to the natural opening and closing movement during climatic changes in weather. Inexpensive caulks may not fill the bill in this application, and actually may do more harm than good by creating troughs to catch even more water. Select a product that is designed for that purpose, and follow the directions provided to achieve success. Again any sealant that needs replacing or repairing should be done at the same time as well.

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# Log Home Maintenance 101

By Tony Huddleston

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While you are doing your walk-around, look for any evidence of insect activity that could be the start of some unpleasant results. Things to look for include sawdust or “frass” that may be left from the activity of powder post beetles, also look for any signs of termite tunnels that lead from the ground up to the base log or lower plate. Take the proper action to eradicate these types of pests by calling the local pest control guy to help you with removal and prevention. Carpenter ants are pesky insects that do not actually eat the wood for food purposes, but they do damage by creating nesting areas in and around the home. Keeping your finish in good shape to prevent moisture accumulation will help to deter these pests, since all insects need water to survive. Store firewood away from the house as it is a haven for insects.

In today’s economic situation, energy conservation has become paramount due to higher energy costs, so you might consider having an energy audit on your home that includes a blower door test to locate any areas that are allowing air to enter or leave the home. In case you are wondering what a blower door test involves, a technician will install a seal over one door in your home and draw a vacuum on the entire structure. Once a certain level is obtained, they will use an infrared camera and check for temperature changes that may indicate a leak. The results will be entered into a software program and it will be determined how much energy you may be losing, and solutions will be offered as to remediation. Many of the leaks can be easily sealed or eliminated by other means, so it does not always involve spending a lot of money. And yes, all homes and buildings do leak in some areas, no matter what construction type they are.

In summary, creating a simple maintenance plan for your home will eliminate the need for more expensive maintenance needs as time goes on. As the very old saying goes, “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure” is also true for log home maintenance. Keep it simple, and your home will love you for it.



Beautify and Protect  
Your Dream

- 1 Restore**

Restoration products to remove old finishes and make dirty or weathered wood look like new.
- 2 Preserve**

Special purpose preservatives to protect against termites, insects, rot, mold & mildew.
- 3 Stain**

Finishes to protect & bring out the beauty of your decks, interior & exterior walls and millwork.
- 4 Seal**

Flexible sealants for every weather-proofing job around your chinked or chinkless style log home.

### FACTORY STORES

Tennessee	1-800-548-3554
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Colorado	1-800-433-8781
Montana	1-800-479-7090
Pennsylvania	1-800-257-4864

### DISTRIBUTORS

Canadian Log Home Supplies	
Eastern Canada	1-800-746-7773
Brock White Canada	
Western Canada	1-877-846-7506
Timeless Wood Care Products	
Michigan	1-800-564-2987
Log Home Center	
Indiana	1-800-773-6223

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Free Workshops, Catalog  
Product Samples

## Log Wash™

### ■ Easy-to-Use Cleaner for Exterior and Interior Wood Surfaces

All of the products typically recommended for general maintenance cleaning like *Spic and Span*™, *Mr. Clean*™ or even mild dishwashing soaps soften finished wood surfaces during the cleaning process. This results in potential finish damage especially if a pressure washer or a brush is used. It turns out that the one thing these cleaners all had in common is their high pH. *Log Wash* cleaner hardens the surface of our finish system with no damage to the finish even with vigorous scrubbing.

#### **So what are some of the attributes that make *Log Wash* such a remarkable product for cleaning bare wood?**

First and foremost is its pH. It is one of only a handful of cleaning products on the market that has a slightly acidic pH similar to that of wood. This means that when applied to wood it does not disrupt the wood's chemistry thus avoiding many of the discolorations attributed to highly alkaline solutions like bleach or strong acids like oxalic acid. Another feature of *Log Wash* is that it's easy to tell when it has been sufficiently rinsed off. While rinsing *Log Wash* it will foam as long as any residue remains on the wood. When the foaming stops it's a good indication that the wall has been adequately rinsed.

One of the biggest surprises we encountered with the use of *Log Wash* on bare wood has been how well it removes some types of discolorations due to tannins or chemical imbalances. There have been several occasions when stubborn discolorations were impossible to remove ended up being no



problem at all with the application of a solution of two cups *Log Wash* per one gallon of water.

Since we started promoting the use of *Log Wash* for cleaning bare wood the number of compliments we receive from homeowners and applicators about its performance has skyrocketed! In addition, the use of *Log Wash* for maintenance cleaning has been proven to extend the life of the finish as well as keeping your home looking beautiful.



If you are finishing Western Red Cedar, Redwood, Walnut or Mahogany, use *Cedar Wash*™, a ready-to-use cleaner, instead of *Log Wash*, for better surface preparation and finish longevity on these specific wood substrates. Read more about *Cedar Wash*™ online: <http://www.permachink.com/wood-cleaners/cedar-wash>



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The Wood Home Care and Maintenance Authority

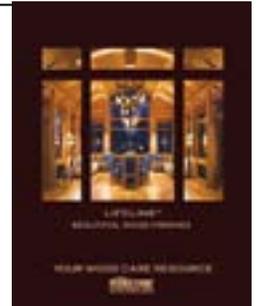
# Don't Miss Out! FREE Workshops

## Spring 2015

- |           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| May 16    | Knoxville, TN   |
| May 16    | Noblesville, IN |
| May 30-31 | Irasburg, VT    |
| May 30    | Petersburg, PA  |
| May 30    | Rifle, CO       |
| June 13   | Knoxville, TN   |
| June 27   | Mercer, ME      |
| June 27   | Rice, MN        |



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