



## ecodek® 38mm x 88mm Superstiff Bearer

The 38mm x 88mm profile is intended for use as a bearer profile to support various composite and timber decking products and must be installed to the following specification:

- Bearer must be supported at a maximum of 1000mm between centres for most applications such as residential decks, boardwalks etc.
- The bearer can be supported on rubber packers or adjustable pedestals (available from us).
- Must be installed with the 88mm dimension as the upright.
- Each bearer must be supported in at least 3 places.
- At least 2 inter-connecting beams perpendicular to main supports (commonly called 'stringers' or 'noggins') should be used on each bearer span to prevent movement over time.
- Bearer must not overhang its support by more than 100mm.
- Must be pre-drilled to the same depth as the decking screw with an appropriately sized drillbit (for most composite decking screws we recommend a 3.5mm drill bit). This is very important to ensure that the screws do not overheat (and therefore weaken) whilst being screwed in.
- Bearer is designed to take live loads only. Any static loads must be positioned over then bearer supports.
- Maximum loadings: UDL of 9.6kN/m<sup>2</sup> live load (i.e. non-static). Point load of 4.5kN live load mid span to BS 1195:1998.
- N.B. Screwing through the product is not best practice, but if absolutely necessary then we recommend a 6x120mm wafer head timber connector screw and the hole must be pre-drilled with a 6mm drill bit. Do not screw within 20mm of the edge of the profile in case of splitting. We advise using joist hangers wherever possible to minimize through-holes in supports.

