If left unchecked, termites can cause irreparable damage to buildings but homegrown pest management firm PestBusters has an innovative and eco-friendly solution designed to protect buildings from the tiny terrors.
Termites are one of the most common pests found in buildings. Known as the silent destroyer, these pests are capable of chewing through the wooden structures in buildings without being noticed. However, termites do not stop at wood: they can even chew through plasterboard and electrical wiring. In serious cases of termite infestation, the insects can even cause structural issues to buildings and interiors. In most cases, engaging a Singapore-based termite extermination company is the best (and sometimes only) option to completely eliminate the threat.

POSSIBLE CAUSES OF TERMITE INFESTATION

There are numerous causes for termite infestation but there are three main reasons: moisture, wooden foundations or furniture and cracks or crevices.

1. Moisture

Leaking pipes, drainage issues or a lack of proper airflow are all potential contributing factors to moisture build up in buildings and interiors. This moisture causes wooden furniture to become soggy and damp, attracting both damp wood and subterranean termites. The damp environment suits both of these termite species.
However, the subterranean termite in particular, feeds on softwood and is unable to live in areas without moisture, making these conditions their perfect breeding spot.

2 Wooden Foundations and Furniture

Termites mainly move around through wood or soil, making buildings with wooden foundations, or foundations that are in contact with wood, highly susceptible to termite infestation. Furthermore, these pests feed on wood. Having numerous wooden furniture acts as an attraction to termites, therefore increasing the likelihood of an infestation.

3 Cracks and Crevices

Despite a termite’s main transportation route being through wood or soil, this does not mean that they cannot travel without them. Subterranean termites can build mud tubes, enabling them to travel to wherever they desire. Cracks and crevices then provide these termites with a route straight into buildings, allowing them to build mud tubes through these tiny spaces.

If a building or interior has any of these three "symptoms", it is time to be on high alert for any signs of termite activity.

HOW TO SPOT TERMITES EARLY ON

The best time to stop a termite infestation is during its early stages. To do so, keep an eye out for the following telltale signs of termite activity in places and spaces.

- **Sign 1: Mud Tubes**
  Mud tubes are a sure-fire sign of termite infestation. Often made of soil and dirt, they are transportation tunnels used by subterranean termites. If these are spotted, it would be best to take immediate action and contact a termite extermination specialist.

- **Sign 2: Fine Wood Dust**
  Termites consume wood as their primary choice of sustenance and this makes their excrement take a form that strongly resembles fine wood dust. If you happen to discover an abundance of “fine wood dust” at a particular spot in a building or interior, then there might be a termite problem.

- **Sign 3: Hollow Sounding Wooden Walls or Furniture**
  If cracks and fissures appear on wooden walls or furniture, give it a knock or tap. If the once-solid wooden wall now sounds hollow, there is a high chance that it could be due to termite infestation.

Quickly identifying and eliminating termite problems is crucial in limiting the damage an infestation can cause. Upon discovery of a termite colony, it is highly recommended to immediately seek professional help from termite extermination specialists for efficient removal of these pests.
AN INNOVATIVE & GREEN SOLUTION FOR BUILDINGS

Founded in 1991 and Singapore’s largest locally owned pest management firm, SGBC Member PestBusters utilises only the most innovative and proven pest management systems. When it came to looking for clean, green and poison-free termite control solutions for new building and construction projects, they scoured the globe and found the answer in the form of TermSteel, a pesticide-free and poison-free stainless steel termite management system that is globally recognised to meet the stringent standards required of stainless steel mesh systems.

As a physical termite barrier for buildings, the system will prevent concealed termite entry into a structure for the life of the building without the use of dangerous pesticides or poisons. The system is also flexible enough to be installed in hundreds of ways to suit any construction method and building type. The product completely eliminates the use of repetitive and expensive poison treatments, which sometimes do not achieve the intended outcomes. With no usage of any invasive or harmful substances, the product is not bound by construction limitations or constraints in place after the building is handed over.
The TermSteel system comprises of many components, first and foremost the TS1000 stainless steel woven mesh which is manufactured with an ultra-high grade of custom marine stainless steel which meets all global standards. The other components include the no-pesticide, no-poison TermLok Parge which secures the TS1000 mesh to the other termite resistant materials. The TermBlok Collars are fabricated from the same steel with the mesh and are installed to all service penetrations passing through the concrete slabs (in contact with soil) and secured using the custom TermGrip clamps, providing life-of-structure protection.

The TermSteel system is able to be recycled at the end of its operational lifespan and is also a verified carbon-neutral building product. For its innovative take on sustainability, the product achieved the highest possible 4-ticks Leader rating under the Singapore Green Building Product (SGBP) certification scheme. Usage of highly-rated green building products will help Green Mark projects gain bonus points while improving its overall sustainability.

The system is even more ideal in areas where the water table is high due to prevailing authority regulations where chemicals cannot be used within areas where the water table is higher than half a meter from the topsoil (including basement areas).

As part of its corporate social responsibility efforts, PestBusters has gone a step further with its industry first “Green Singapore Initiative”, where the company will plant two trees to reduce its carbon emissions for each and every project using the TermSteel system.

Text and Images courtesy of PestBusters Pte Ltd
TermSteel®
STAINLESS STEEL TERMITE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Professional Architects And Builders Specify And Trust The TermSteel Stainless Steel Termite Management System.

No Poison
No Pesticide
Anti Termite Management System

TermSteel Is A Leader With 4 Ticks From The Singapore Green Building Council.
BIG
things often have small beginnings