

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

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## PART I: PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

**Products:** Domestic and imported urea-formaldehyde or phenol formaldehyde bonded unfinished or UV (clear, prime, pigment) coated hardwood industrial stock panels with veneer, particleboard or MDF cores, bending panels, melamine on particleboard, raw particleboard, strawboard, hardwood veneer, engineered veneer, bark mulch, wood chips

**Synonyms:** Hardwood plywood, prefinished plywood, melamine, particleboard, wheatstraw agrifiber, hardwood veneer, Russian birch, Baltic birch, bending plywood, flexible plywood, bark dust

**Trade Names:** Classic Core™, Classic Lam™, Classic Core II™, Melawood™ Europly™, JayCore™, UV Wood™, CFP 60's™, SP Birch™, Imperial Birch™ firststep™

**Manufacturer:** Columbia Forest Products  
Corporate Office  
7820 Thorndike Road  
Greensboro, NC 27409

Contact: Ang Schramm, Tech Services Mngr.  
Emergency Phone: 334-616-7745  
1-800-637-1609  
www.columbiaforestproducts.com

## PART II: HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS

**Component:** **Wood dust<sup>1</sup>** (Generated as waste by-product of further fabrication by user)

**CAS No.:** None

**Exposure limits:**

ACGIH TLV Softwoods and most hardwoods (except Beech, and Oak)	<u>PEL</u> 5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TWA	<u>STEL</u> 10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
ACGIH TLV Certain Hardwoods (i.e. Beech and Oak)	(15 min) 1 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TWA	N/A
OSHA All soft and hard woods (except Western Red Cedar)	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TWA	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
OSHA Western Red Cedar	2.5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TWA	N/A

**Component:** **Formaldehyde gas** emitted in small and diminishing quantities from Urea Formaldehyde adhesive, or in natural form from green wood chips and bark as formalin and other naturally occurring acetaldehydes. Phenolic formaldehyde adhesive systems not regulated.

**CAS No.:** 50-00-0

**Exposure limits:**

OSHA	0.75 ppm TWA	2 ppm
ACGIH TLV	0.3 ppm Ceiling	
HUD	0.3 ppm @ .13 ft <sup>2</sup> /ft <sup>3</sup>	

Formaldehyde gas emissions from industrial stock panels tested under prescribed conditions for manufactured housing applications.

### **PART III: PHYSICAL PROPERTIES**

Description:	Unfinished and UV Finished multi-ply composite wood panels consisting of various combinations of hardwood or decorative veneer faces, bonded to other wood veneers, particleboard, medium density fiberboard, lumber, or hardboard. Generally used in cabinets, furnishings, laminated block flooring, and in other non-structural applications. Typically provided as 4' X 8' panels, but available in other sizes. Thicknesses range from under 1/8" to over 1".
Specific gravity:	Usually less than 1, but varies depending on wood species and moisture content.
Boiling point:	Not applicable.
Solubility in water:	Insoluble.
Appearance/Odor:	Normal for natural wood. Light to dark in color. Color and odor vary by species and expired time since processing.

### **PART IV: FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA**

Flash point:	600° F for wood.
Autoignition temp.:	Varies (typically 400° F to 500° F)
Explosive limits in air:	N/A for hardwood plywood. 40 g/m <sup>3</sup> (LEL) for wood dust.
Extinguishing media:	Water, carbon dioxide, sand
Special fire fighting procedures:	Follow established procedures for extinguishing wood source fire.
Unusual fire and explosion hazard:	Hardwood plywood does not present an explosion hazard. Sawing, sanding, or machining of hardwood plywood can produce wood dust as a by-product which may present an explosion hazard if a dust cloud contacts an ignition source. An airborne concentration of 40 grams of wood dust per cubic meter of air is often used as the LEL for wood dust.

### **PART V: REACTIVITY DATA**

Stability:	Stable under normal conditions.
Incompatibility:	Avoid contact with strong oxidizing agents and drying oils. Avoid open flame. Product may ignite at temperatures in excess of 400° F, depending on length of time of exposure.
Hazardous decomposition products:	Thermal and/or thermal oxidative decomposition of wood can produce irritating and toxic fumes and gases, including carbon monoxide, hydrogen cyanide, aldehydes, organic acids, and polynuclear aromatic compounds.
Conditions to avoid:	High temperatures and high relative humidity increase the rate of formaldehyde emissions. Avoid open flames or other ignition source.
Storage:	In a cool, dry place, away from ignition sources. Provide adequate ventilation.
Hazardous polymerization:	Not applicable.

### **PART VI: HEALTH AND HAZARD DATA:**

Eye contact:	Gaseous formaldehyde may cause temporary irritation or a burning sensation. Wood dust can cause mechanical irritation.
Skin contact:	Both formaldehyde and wood dust from various species of wood may evoke allergic contact dermatitis in sensitized individuals.
Ingestion:	Not likely to occur.
Inhalation:	Wood dust and/or formaldehyde may cause nasal dryness and/or irritation. Coughing, sneezing, wheezing, sinusitis, prolonged colds, and headaches have

also been reported. Both may aggravate preexisting respiratory conditions or allergies. Wood dust may also cause nasal obstruction.

Chronic effects: Depending on species, wood dust may cause dermatitis on prolonged, repetitive contact. Formaldehyde and/or wood dust may cause respiratory sensitization and/or irritation. Pre-existing respiratory disorders may be aggravated by exposure.

Prolonged exposure to wood dust has been reported by some observers of European furniture workers to be associated with nasal cancer. IARC classifies wood dust as a carcinogen to humans (Group 1). This classification is based primarily on IARC's evaluation of increased risk in the occurrence of adenocarcinomas of the nasal cavities and paranasal sinuses associated with exposure to wood dust. IARC did not find sufficient evidence to associate cancers of the oropharynx, lung, lymphatic, and hematopoietic systems, stomach, colon, or rectum with exposure to wood dust. The National Toxicology Program (NTP) has also listed wood dust as a known human carcinogen. Wood dust is not listed as a carcinogen by ACGIH or OSHA. A large case control nasal cancer mortality study in North Carolina, Mississippi, Washington and Oregon (1962-1977) did not demonstrate an association between nasal cancer and occupations normally associated with wood dust.

Formaldehyde is listed by IARC as a human carcinogen. NTP includes formaldehyde in the Annual Report on Carcinogens. Formaldehyde is regulated by OSHA as a potential cancer agent. Some rats exposed under laboratory conditions to 14 ppm formaldehyde (a level far exceeding human tolerance limits, and far exceeding that normally found in the workplace) for two years developed a nasal cancer. The Universities Associated for Research and Education in Pathology (UAREP) has stated in a report, Epidemiology of a Chronic Occupational Exposure to Formaldehyde, (December, 1987,) that: "1: For no malignancy in man is there convincing evidence of a relationship with formaldehyde exposure; and 2: Furthermore, that if a relationship does exist, the excess risk, in absolute terms, must be small."

## **PART VII: PRECAUTIONS AND SAFE HANDLING**

Ventilation: Provide adequate ventilation and exhaust to keep airborne contaminant concentration levels below the OSHA PELs, and to reduce the possible buildup of formaldehyde gas, particularly when high temperatures and relative humidity occur. Avoid dusty conditions, and observe same ventilation for wood dust as indicated for formaldehyde.

Personal protective equipment: Wear goggles or safety glasses when manufacturing or machining any wood product. Wear NIOSH/MSHA approved respirator when the allowable limits may be exceeded. Other protective equipment, such as gloves and outer garments may be needed, depending on dust conditions.

Fire prevention: Avoid open flames or other ignition sources. Keep fire extinguisher readily available.

## **PART VIII: EMERGENCY AND FIRST AID PROCEDURES**

Eyes: Flush with large amounts of water. Remove to fresh air. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

Skin: Wash affected area with soap and water. If rash, persistent irritation, or dermatitis occurs, seek medical attention.

Inhalation: Remove to fresh air. Get medical advice if persistent irritation, severe coughing, or breathing difficulty occurs.

Ingestion: Not applicable.

## **PART IX: SPILL, LEAK, STORAGE, AND DISPOSAL**

Pick up, vacuum, or sweep spills for recovery and/or disposal. Avoid creating dusty conditions. Provide good ventilation where dust conditions cannot be avoided during cleanup. Place recovered wood dust in a container for proper disposal. Store in well ventilated area as product will emit small amounts of formaldehyde. Dispose in accordance with Federal, State, and Local regulations. Disposal is the responsibility of the generator.

## **PART X: KEY TO COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS**

ACGIH:	American Conference of Government and Industrial Hygienists
EPA:	Environmental Protection Agency
HUD:	US Department of Housing and Urban Development
IARC:	International Agency for Research on Cancer
LEL:	Lowest explosion limit
Mg/m <sup>3</sup> :	Milligrams per cubic meter
MSDS:	Material Safety Data Sheet
NTP:	National Toxicology Program
OSHA:	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEL:	Permissible exposure limit
PPM:	Parts per million
STEL:	Short term exposure limit
TLV:	Threshold limit value
TWA:	Time weighted average

## **PART XI: USER RESPONSIBILITY**

**Important:** This information is offered in good faith. It is believed to be accurate and has been compiled from sources believed to be reliable. It is offered for your consideration, investigation, and verification. Columbia Forest Products makes no warranty of any kind, expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy or completeness of the information and data herein. Furthermore, Columbia Forest Products will not be liable for claims relating to any party's use of, or reliance on information and data contained herein, regardless of whether it is claimed that the information and data are inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise misleading.

It is the responsibility of the user to comply with local, state, and/or federal regulations concerning the storage, use, processing, and disposal of the product or subsequently generated waste. It is the responsibility of the user to ensure that this MSDS is the most current version.

### **IMPORTANT FOOTNOTE<sup>1</sup>**

#### **CONCERNING OSHA PELs FOR WOOD DUST**

In AFL-CIO v. OSHA 965 F. 2d 962 (11th Cir. 1992), the court overturned OSHA's 1989 Air Contaminants Rule, including the specific PELs for wood dust that OSHA had established at that time. The 1989 PELs were: TWA - 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>; STEL (15 min.) - 10.0 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (all soft and hard woods except Western red cedar); Western red cedar TWA-2.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

Wood dust is now officially regulated as an organic dust under the Particulates Not Otherwise Regulated (PNOR) or Inert or Nuisance Dust categories at PELs noted under PART II of this MSDS. However, a number of states have incorporated provisions of the 1989 standard in their state plans. Additionally, OSHA has announced that it may cite companies under the OSH Act General Duty Clause under appropriate circumstances for non-compliance with the 1989 PELs.