

Important Notice

Sell-Through Provision For Panel Manufacturers Supplying California Market

ARB's Composite Wood Products ATCM allows panel manufacturers to sell, supply or offer for sale non-complying products manufactured before the effective date for up to three months after the effective dates. Effective dates vary by products with the earliest beginning January 1, 2009.

For more information on the sell-through requirements, please visit

http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/outreach/sell_thruadvisory.pdf



Some of our important documents are translated in other languages for your convenience.

Those documents are available at:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/factsheet.htm>

or

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compwood.htm>



Information for Hardwood Plywood, Particleboard and Medium Density Fiberboard Manufacturers



For Additional Information
Visit the Composite Wood Products ATCM
Home Page at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compwood.htm>

California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street,
P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, CA 95812

For information in alternative formats:
(916) 323-4916 (voice, ARB ADA Coordinator)
(916) 324-9531 (TDD, Sacramento area only)
(800) 700-8326 (TDD, outside of Sacramento)

CAP_SSD-02/09

California Environmental Protection Agency | AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Composite Wood Products Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM)



Information for Hardwood Plywood, Particleboard and Medium Density Fiberboard Manufacturers

<http://www.arb.ca.gov>
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compwood.htm>

1-800-END-SMOG
1-800-242-4450 (outside of CA)

FACTS ABOUT

California Air Resources Board's Composite Wood Products ATCM

What are composite wood products?

Composite wood products is a general term for wood-based panels made from wood pieces, particles or fibers bonded together with resin. This ATCM focuses on three main products: hardwood plywood (HWPW), particleboard (PB), and medium density fiberboard (MDF). Formaldehyde is emitted into the air from composite wood products when formaldehyde is released from urea-formaldehyde resin in composite wood products.

Who's affected by the regulation?

Composite wood product panel manufacturers, third party certifiers, distributors, importers, fabricators and retailers of finished goods containing composite wood products are subject to the regulation.

What are the health effects of exposure to formaldehyde?

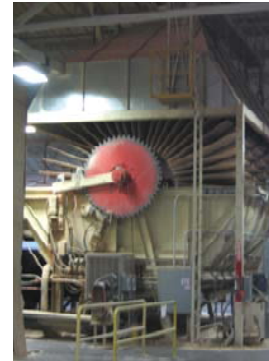
- Nasopharyngeal cancer
- Eye, nose and respiratory irritation
- Asthma exacerbation

What is the purpose of the regulation?

The California Air Resources Board approved the Composite Wood Products ATCM on April 26, 2007. The purpose of this regulation is to limit formaldehyde emissions emitted from composite wood products. Formaldehyde-related cancer risk in adults and children is estimated to be reduced by 40 percent as a result of this ATCM.

When will this regulation be implemented?

This regulation consists of two phases of emission standards. The first phase of the emission standards was implemented on January 1, 2009. The second phase will be implemented over the 2010 to 2012 timeframe.



Important Steps For Manufacturers Seeking Compliance With The ATCM

- Make Contact with a Third Party Certifier (TPC)
- Assess Mill Quality Control
- Assess and Develop Formaldehyde Emission Testing at Mill
- Consult with Resin

Suppliers to Meet CARB Emission Standards



Requirements For All Panel Manufacturers Including Those Who Export Composite Wood Products To California, U.S.A.

Emission Standards - All manufacturers of HWPW, PB and MDF must comply with the emission standards specified in the regulation.

Third Party Certification Program - Composite wood product panel manufacturers must be verified by using a third party certifier approved by California Air Resources Board (ARB). A list of certifiers are available at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/llistoftpcs.htm>. Certification process typically takes one to six months. Approved Ultra Low Emission Formaldehyde (ULEF) and No Added Formaldehyde (NAF) composite wood products are exempt from daily third party certification quality control requirements. For more information on the Third Party Certification Program, visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/certifiers.htm>

Product Labeling - Each panel or bundle of composite wood products must be clearly labeled with the manufacturer's name, product lot number or batch produced, a marking to denote compliance, and the ARB assigned number of the third party certifier.

Chain-of-Custody Documentation - Panel manufacturers are the first link in the chain-of-custody documentation process. They must provide product purchasers a statement of compliance on the bill of lading or invoice.

Recordkeeping - Panel manufacturers must maintain the quality assurance emission test data at the production site. Manufacturers must have records on production information (e.g., description, date of manufacture, lot/batch number); purchaser information (e.g., name, contact information, purchase order or invoice); relevant information on their third party certifier (contact information); records of NAF/ULEF products and records on the disposition of non-complying lots. All records must be kept on site for a period of two years.

Facility Inspection - Manufacturing facilities may be inspected by third party certifiers or ARB personnel. Composite wood product samples collected during an inspection are subject to testing to determine compliance with the emission standards.