

State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

EXECUTIVE ORDER W-19-002

Relating to CARB Approval of Third-Party Certifiers under
section 93120.4, Title 17, California Code of Regulations

Benchmark Holdings, LLC

WHEREAS, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has adopted the “Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) to Reduce Formaldehyde Emissions from Composite Wood Products” (title 17, California Code of Regulations, sections 93120-93120.12), which establishes formaldehyde emission standards for composite wood products;

WHEREAS, section 93120.3(b) of the ATCM requires that manufacturers of composite wood products must verify compliance with the formaldehyde emission standards by using a third-party certifier (TPC) approved by CARB;

WHEREAS, the ATCM requires TPCs to: 1) verify the accuracy of the emission test procedures and facilities used by composite wood product manufacturers to conduct formaldehyde emission tests; 2) monitor manufacturer quality assurance programs; and 3) provide independent audits and inspections;

WHEREAS, section 93120.4 of the ATCM sets forth the process for the CARB Executive Officer to approve TPCs;

WHEREAS, section 93120.4(b)(1) of the ATCM requires that applications to become CARB-approved TPCs must be submitted to the Executive Officer in writing and must contain: 1) evidence of actual field experience in the verification of laboratories and wood products, to demonstrate how applicants will be able to competently perform the requirements for TPCs of composite wood products listed in section 93120.12, Appendix 3, of the ATCM; 2) evidence of the ability to properly train and supervise inspectors; 3) evidence of a current “product certification agency” accreditation; and 4) a list of the composite wood products that the applicant is applying to verify and evidence that the applicant is qualified to verify these products;

WHEREAS, Professional Service Industries, Inc. (PSI) submitted an original application dated April 22, 2008, and deemed complete on April 23, 2008;

WHEREAS, section 93120.4(b)(4) of the ATCM provides that the Executive Officer shall approve the application and issue an Executive Order if the evidence submitted by the applicant is sufficient to demonstrate that the applicant can competently perform the tasks specified in section 93120.12, Appendix 3, of the ATCM;

WHEREAS, PSI was issued Executive Order W-08-002, signed on May 14, 2008;

WHEREAS, section 93120.4(b)(4) of the ATCM allows CARB-approved TPCs to apply for re-approval by CARB by submitting an updated application;

WHEREAS, PSI submitted an updated application for re-approval to CARB on April 14, 2010, which was approved and PSI was issued Executive Order W-10-002, signed on May 11, 2010;

WHEREAS, PSI submitted a request and supplementary documentation to CARB on April 4, 2011 for approval of the Wood and Wooden Product Testing Center of Nanjing Forestry University as a subcontractor that would provide accredited laboratory services for PSI;

WHEREAS, PSI was issued Executive Order W-10-002A, signed on April 19, 2011, listing the Wood and Wooden Product Testing Center of Nanjing Forestry University as a subcontractor to provide accredited laboratory services (PSI subsequently discontinued the agreement with Nanjing Forestry University);

WHEREAS, PSI notified CARB on October 31, 2011, that the ownership of PSI was transferred to Benchmark Holdings, LLC (BMH or the "applicant");

WHEREAS, on October 31, 2011, the applicant requested that BMH be named on an updated Executive Order in place of PSI, and for approval of Advanced Testing Services as a subcontractor that would provide accredited laboratory services for BMH;

WHEREAS, the request and supplementary documentation submitted on October 31, 2011, and November 2, 2011 by BMH, respectively, indicated that the change of ownership was complete and that the subcontractor was qualified to provide accredited laboratory services for BMH, and the applicant had a contractual agreement with Advanced Testing Services to provide accredited laboratory services;

WHEREAS, because of the change in company ownership and the applicant's request to add Advanced Testing Services as a subcontractor to provide accredited laboratory services, it was appropriate that Executive Order W-10-002A be superseded by Executive Order W-10-002B;

WHEREAS, BMH submitted an updated application for re-approval to CARB on January 15, 2013. As a part of the application, BMH requested that the company hereafter be referred to as Benchmark International (BMI), a subsidiary of BMH. The updated application was approved and BMI was issued Executive Order W-13-002, signed on February 22, 2013;

WHEREAS, BMI submitted an updated application for re-approval to CARB on January 30, 2015, which was approved and BMI was issued Executive Order W-15-002, signed on June 12, 2015;

WHEREAS, BMI submitted an updated application for re-approval to CARB on March 17, 2017, which was approved and BMI was issued Executive Order W-17-002, signed on May 23, 2017;

WHEREAS, BMI submitted an updated application for re-approval to CARB, dated April 8, 2019 and requested to change their name back to BMH to be consistent with U.S. EPA's reference to their company; the application was deemed complete on May 8, 2019;

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer finds that the completed updated application demonstrated the TPC's ability to continue to comply with section 93120.4(b)(1) of the ATCM; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer approved BMH's request for re-approval, and it is appropriate that Executive Order W-17-002 be superseded by this Executive Order W-19-002.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that BMH is hereby approved as a TPC and is issued the following number designating them as a CARB-approved TPC: **TPC-2**.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that BMH is a CARB-approved TPC for the following composite wood products: hardwood plywood, particleboard, and medium density fiberboard.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that this approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. BMH must provide their CARB-approved TPC number to each manufacturer it has contracted with for services, as specified in section 93120.12, Appendix 3, of the ATCM.
2. BMH and their subcontract laboratory listed in Attachment A must participate in an inter-laboratory comparison of their primary and/or secondary chamber facilities.
3. If BMH wishes to use a subcontractor other than those listed in Attachment A, BMH must submit a request to the Executive Officer in writing and must provide evidence to demonstrate that the subcontractor can competently perform the tasks for which it is employed. BMH shall not use any subcontractors unless the Executive Officer approves the request in writing.

4. BMH shall immediately notify the Executive Officer if any accreditation or certification provided in support of their initial application is renewed, allowed to expire, or revoked within the duration of this Executive Order.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that this Executive Order W-19-002 supersedes Executive Order W-17-002, which was issued on May 23, 2017.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that this Executive Order shall have a duration of two years from the original date it was executed; within 120 days prior to the expiration of the Executive Order, BMH may apply for re-approval by submitting an updated application to the Executive Officer as provided in section 93120.4 of the ATCM.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the Executive Officer may review and, for good cause, modify or revoke this Executive Order as provided in section 93120.4(d) of the ATCM. The Executive Officer shall not modify or revoke this Executive Order without affording BMI the opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the procedures specified in title 17, California Code of Regulations, section 60055.1 et seq.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that BMH must maintain records in electronic or hard copy form for two years, for review by CARB upon request, as specified in section 93120.12, Appendix 3, of the ATCM.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that on or before March 1 of each year, BMH must provide an annual report to CARB for the previous calendar year, as specified in section 93120.12, Appendix 3, of the ATCM.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that BMH must notify the Executive Officer in writing within 30 days of any change in their ability to carry out the responsibilities of this Executive Order.

Executed at Sacramento, California this 5th day of June, 2019.



Richard Boyd, Chief
Risk Reduction Branch
Transportation and Toxics Division

Attachment A

List of Subcontractors for Benchmark Holdings, LLC (TPC-2) Under Executive Order W-19-002

Company Name	Company Contact Information	Subcontractor Function
Advanced Testing Services	<u>Contact:</u> Ms. Wendy Galletta 610 South Second Street Springfield, Oregon 97477 Phone: (541) 744-3638 Email: wendy.galletta@hexion.com	Accredited Laboratory