

Material Safety Data Sheet



A WORLD OF EXPERIENCE
IN ASIAN PANEL PRODUCTS



Panda Panel Agencies Ltd

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

HARDWOOD PLYWOOD

PART I: PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

Products: Chinese plywood - typically Bintangor, Eucalyptus (Red Grandis) Birch or engineered Poplar face and back with Poplar, Eucalyptus or mixed Poplar / Eucalyptus “Combi” core, bonded with urea-formaldehyde, melamine urea formaldehyde or phenol formaldehyde glue.

PART II: PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Description: Unfinished multi-ply composite wood panels (plywood) generally used in a wide range of both “Structural” and “Non-structural” applications. .

Typically provided in size 2440 x 1220mm and thicknesses 3.6 – 25mm but other sizes and thicknesses are also available.

Specific Gravity: Usually less than 1 but varies depending on wood species and moisture content.

Boiling point: Not applicable

Solubility in water: Insoluble

Appearance / Odour: Light red, pink or white face and back veneers with cream / light brown core veneers. Natural wood odour. Appearance and odour may change after a period of time.

PART III: HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS

Component: Wood dust (generated as a waste by-product of further fabrication by user)

Component: Formaldehyde fumes emitted in small and diminishing quantities from the formaldehyde used in the adhesive.

PART IV: FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA

Flash point: About 315° C.

Auto ignition temperature: Varies but typically 200° C to 260° C.

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Explosive limits in air: Not available for hardwood plywood. 40g/m³ (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 hardwood plywood can produce wood dust as a by-product which may present an explosion hazard if dust clouds contact an ignition source. An airborne concentration of 40gms of wood dust per m³ of air is often used as the LEL (Lower Explosive Limit) for wood dust.

PART V: REACTIVITY DATA

Stability: Stable under normal conditions.

Incompatibility: Avoid contact with strong oxidising agents and drying oils. Avoid open flames. Product may ignite in temperatures in excess of 200° C depending on length of exposure.

Hazardous decomposition products: Thermal and / or 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 polymerisation: 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 dermatitis in sensitised 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. Both may aggravate pre-existing 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.

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PART VII: PRECAUTIONS AND SAFE HANDLING

Ventilation: Provide adequate ventilation and dust extraction to keep airborne contaminant concentration levels low and to reduce the possible build-up 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 an 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. Keep fire extinguishers readily available

PART VIII: EMERGENCY AND FIRST AID PROCEDURES

Eyes: Flush with large amounts of fresh 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 occur seek medical attention

Inhalation: Remove to fresh air. Seek medical advice if persistent irritation, severe coughing or breathing difficulties occur

Ingestion: Not applicable

PART IX: SPILL, LEAK, STORAGE AND DISPOSAL

Pick up, vacuum or sweep wood dust spills for recovery, and / or disposal. Avoid creating dusty conditions. Provide good ventilation where dust conditions cannot be avoided during clean-up. Place recovered wood dust in a container for proper disposal. Store in a well ventilated area as product may emit small amounts of formaldehyde. Dispose in accordance with local regulations.

PART X: USER RESPONSIBILITY

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