

When Do I Have to Comply?

All panels that do not meet Phase 1 standards or HWPW-VC that do not meet Phase 2 standard cannot be sold after December 31, 2010.

Finished goods made with composite wood product panels that are not compliant with Phase 1 standards cannot be sold after December 31, 2011.

The more stringent Phase 2 standards will be implemented over the 2010 to 2013 timeframe on all panels and finished goods.

For more information on the sell-through requirements, visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/outreach/advisories.htm>



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 Retailers of Hardwood Plywood, Particleboard, Medium Density Fiberboard, and Finished Goods



This brochure is for guidance only

For additional information about the regulation, visit

<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)

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What Retailers Need to Know

Formaldehyde in Composite Wood Products Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM)



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

Air Pollution Hotline
1-800-952-5588 (within California)
1-800-242-4450 (outside of California)

What is the Composite Wood Products Regulation?

In order to protect public health, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has adopted a regulation to limit the amount of formaldehyde emitted from composite wood products. The regulation establishes formaldehyde emission limits for:

- particleboard (PB)
- hardwood plywood with veneer core (HWPW-VC)
- hardwood plywood with composite core (HWPW-CC)
- medium density fiberboard (MDF)
- thin MDF (tMDF) less than 8 millimeter

All finished goods made with these materials must be made from certified compliant panels.

Inspections

All retail facilities that sell, offer for sale, or supply composite wood products are subject to inspection by CARB staff. CARB staff may purchase products for laboratory testing to determine compliance with the emissions standards.

Here are basic tips for compliance. Check the regulation at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/2007/compwood07/fro-final.pdf> for specific requirements pertaining to your application.

Tips for Compliance

PANEL RETAILERS

Check for Proper Labels

Manufacturers must label bundles or individual panels to show:

1. Manufacturer name
2. Lot or batch number
3. Third Party Certifier number
4. Statement of compliance

Check Invoices

Suppliers must include a statement of compliance on all composite wood panel invoices or bills of lading.



Keep Proper Records

- Retailers must keep records of the date of purchase and the name of the suppliers of HWPW, PB, and MDF.
- Records must be kept for at least two years.

Invoices will normally have all required information.

FINISHED GOOD RETAILERS

Check for Proper Labels

Finished goods containing composite wood products must be labeled by the fabricators to show:

1. Fabricators name
2. Date of fabrication
3. Statement of compliance

Finished goods containing composite wood products that are not labeled are not legal for sale in California after December 31, 2011.

Check Invoices

Suppliers must include a statement denoting compliance with the regulation. Check for a statement on invoices or bills of lading for all products made with HWPW, PB, or MDF.

Keep Proper Records

- Retailers must keep records, such as invoices, of all regulated finished good purchases.
- Records must show the date of purchase and the supplier.
- Records must be kept for at least two years.

