



**STANDARD MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET (MSDS)  
FURNISHED BY TIMBER HOLDINGS USA, LLC  
HAZARD WARNING FOR UNTREATED WOOD PRODUCTS**

May 2005

TRADE NAME: Wood Dust

SYNONYMS: None

CASE NO.: None

**DESCRIPTION**

Particles generated by any manual or mechanical cutting or abrasion process performed on wood.

**PHYSICAL DATA**

Boiling Point .....	Not Applicable.
Specific Gravity .....	Variable (dependent on wood species and moisture content).
Vapor Density .....	Not Applicable.
% Volatiles by Volume .....	Not Applicable.
Melting Point .....	Not Applicable.
Vapor Pressure .....	Not Applicable.
Solubility in H2O (% by wt.).....	Insoluble.
Evaporation Rate (Butyl Acetate = 1) .....	Not Applicable.
pH .....	Not Applicable.
Appearance and Odor .....	Light to dark colored granular solid. Color and odor are dependent on the wood species and time since dust was generated.

**FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA**

Flash Point .....	Not Applicable.
Auto-Ignition Temperature .....	Variable (typically 400-500°F).
Explosive Limits in Air .....	40 grams/m3
Extinguishing Media .....	Water, CO2, Sand.
Special Fire Fighting Procedures .....	Use water to wet down wood dust to reduce the likelihood of ignition or dispersion of dust into the air. Remove burned or wet dust to open area after fire is extinguished.
Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazard .....	Wood dust is a strong to severe explosion hazard if a dust "cloud" contacts an ignition source.

## HEALTH EFFECTS INFORMATION

Exposure Limit <sup>1</sup> .....	ACGIH TLV®: TWA – 5.0 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ; STEL (15 min.) – 10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (softwood); TWA – 1.0 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (certain hardwoods such as beech and oak). OSHA PEL: TWA – 5.0 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ; STEL (15 min.) – 10 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>
Skin and Eye Contact .....	Wood dust can cause eye irritation. Various species of wood dust can elicit allergic contact dermatitis in sensitized individuals.
Ingestion .....	Not applicable.
Skin Absorption .....	Not known to occur.
Inhalation .....	May cause nasal dryness, irritation and obstruction. Coughing, wheezing and sneezing; sinusitis and prolonged colds have also been reported.
Chronic Effect .....	Wood dust, depending on species, may cause dermatitis on prolonged, repetitive contact; may cause respiratory sensitization and/or irritation. Prolonged exposure to wood dust has been reported by some observers to be associated with nasal cancer. Wood dust is not listed as a carcinogen by LARC, NTP, ACGIH or OSHA.

## REACTIVITY DATA

Conditions Contributing to Instability .....	Stable under normal conditions.
Incompatibility .....	Avoid contact with oxidizing agents and drying oils. Avoid open flame. Product may ignite at temperatures in excess of 400° F.
Hazardous Decomposition Products .....	Thermal oxidative degradation of wood produces irritating and toxic fumes and gases, including CO, aldehydes and organic acids.
Conditions Contributing to Polymerization .....	Not Applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Although OSHA’s Air Contaminants Rule, including OSHA’s wood dust PELs, was struck down in ALF-CIO v. OSHA, 965 F. 2d 962 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992), a number of states have incorporated those provisions 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 these levels.



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## PRECAUTIONS AND SAFE HANDLING

Avoid eye contact.

Avoid repeated or prolonged contact with skin. Careful bathing and clean clothes are indicated after exposure.

Avoid prolonged or repeated breathing of wood dust in the air.

Avoid contact with oxidizing agents and drying oils.

Avoid open flame.

## **GENERALLY APPLICABLE CONTROL MEASURES**

Ventilation: Provide adequate general and local exhaust ventilation to maintain healthful working conditions.

Wear goggles or safety glasses. Other protective equipment such as gloves and approved dust respirators may be needed depending upon dust conditions.

## **EMERGENCY AND FIRST AID PROCEDURES**

Eyes: Flush with water to remove dust particles. If irritation persists, get medical attention.

Skin: If a rash or persistent irritation or dermatitis occur, get medical advice where applicable before returning to work where wood dust is present.

Inhalation: Remove to fresh air. If persistent irritation, severe coughing, or breathing difficulties occur, get medical advise before returning to work where wood dust is present.

Ingestion: Not applicable.

## **SPILL/LEAK CLEAN UP PROCEDURES**

Sweep or vacuum spills for recovery or disposal; avoid creating dust conditions. Provide good ventilation where dust conditions may occur. Place recovered wood dust in a container for proper disposal.

**IMPORTANT:** The information and data contained herein are believed to be accurate and have been compiled from sources believed to be reliable. It is offered for your consideration, investigation and verification. AF&PA makes no warranty of any kind, express or implied, concerning the accuracy or completeness of the information and data herein. AF&PA 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.

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