



The Combination Door Company

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10/03

Material Safety Data Sheet

Trade Name: Wood Dust

Synonyms: None

CAS Number: 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 Water (% 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
Autoignition Temperature Variable (typically 400° - 500° F)
Explosive Limits in Air 40 grams/M³ (LEL)
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.
Exposure Limit..... ACGIH TLV ^(R):
TWA-5.0 mg/m³
STEL (15 min.) - 10 mg/m³ (softwood)
TWA - 1.0 mg/m³ (certain hardwoods such as beech and oak)

¹ See important footnote below concerning OSHA PELs for wood dust

OSHA PEL
TWA - 15.0 mg/m³ (total dust); 5.0 mg/m³ (respirable fraction)

¹ In AFL-CIO v. OSHA 965 F.2d962 (11th Cir. 1992), the court overturned OSHA's 1989 Air Contaminants Rule, including the specific PELs for wood dust that OSHA had established at that time. The 1989 PELs were: TWA-5.0 mg/m³ STEL (15 MIN.) - 10 mg/m³ (All soft and hard woods except Western Red Cedar); Western Red Cedar; TWA - 2.5 mg/m³

Wood dust is now officially regulated as an organic dust under the Particulates Not Otherwise Regulated (PNOR) or Inert or Nuisance Dust Categories at PELs noted under Health Effects Information section of this MSDS. However, a number of states have incorporated provisions of the 1989 standard 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 the 1989 PELs.

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 Effects.....	Wood dust, depending upon species, may cause dermatitis on prolonged repetitive contact; may cause respiratory sensitization and/or irritation. IARC classifies wood dust as a carcinogen to humans (Group I). This classification is based primarily on IARC's evaluation of increased risk in the occurrence of adenocarcinomas of the nasal cavities and paranasal sinuses associated with exposure to wood dust. IARC did not find sufficient evidence to associate cancers of the oropharynx, hypopharynx, lung, lymphatic and hemotopoietic systems, stomach, colon or rectum with exposure to wood dust.

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 inorganic acids
Conditions Contributing to Polymerization.....	Not Applicable.

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 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 occurs, get medical advice before returning to work where wood dust is present.
Inhalation.....	Remove to fresh air. If persistent irritation, severe coughing, breathing difficulties occur, get medical advice before returning to work where wood dust is present.
Ingestion.....	Not Applicable

Spill/Leak Cleanup Procedures:

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

Important:

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