



## FORMICA BENCHTOP BLANKS

Chemwatch Independent Material Safety Data Sheet

Issue Date: 28-Oct-2011

A317LP

CHEMWATCH 4762-05

Version No:2.0

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### Section 1 - CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

#### PRODUCT NAME

FORMICA BENCHTOP BLANKS

#### PRODUCT USE

Used for the construction of furniture and cabinetry.

#### SUPPLIER

Company: The Laminex Group

Address:

90- 94 Tram Road

Doncaster

VIC, 3108

Australia

Telephone: +61 3 9848 4811

Emergency Tel:**1800 039 008**

Fax: +61 3 9840 6513

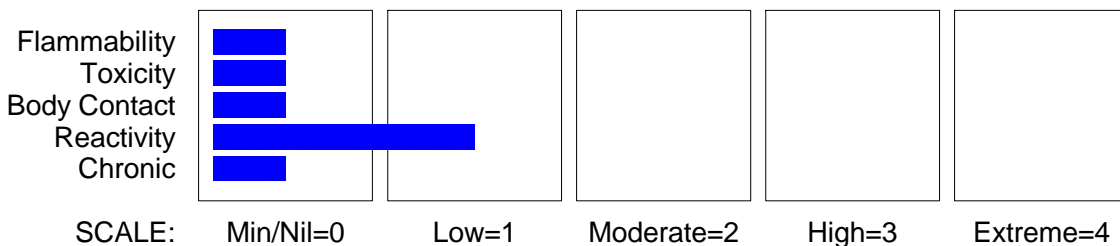
Website: [www.thelaminexgroup.com.au](http://www.thelaminexgroup.com.au)

### Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

#### STATEMENT OF HAZARDOUS NATURE

NON-HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE. NON-DANGEROUS GOODS. According to NOHSC Criteria, and ADG Code.

#### CHEMWATCH HAZARD RATINGS



#### RISK

•None under normal operating conditions.

Dust generated from shaping, cutting and sawing operations carried out on this product will contain cured binder/wood particles and may contain wood dust without binder.

Wood dust is a hazardous substance according to the NOHSC criteria.

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Section 2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

and "may cause Sensitisation by inhalation and skin contact" (R42/43) and "may cause cancer by inhalation" (R49)

## Section 3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

NAME	CAS RN	%
laminated wood panel containing soft wood particles bonded together with melamine/ urea/ formaldehyde resin	25036-13-9	10-30
phenol/ formaldehyde resin	9003-35-4	<10
urea/ formaldehyde resin	9011-05-6	<10
paraffin wax	8002-74-2	<2
paper		<2
dust from sawing and forming operations will contain wood dust softwood	Not avail.	NotSpec
cured binder		NotSpec
cured product contains formaldehyde.	50-00-0	NotSpec

## Section 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

### SWALLOWED

- - Immediately give a glass of water.
- First aid is not generally required. If in doubt, contact a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor.

### EYE

- If this product comes in contact with eyes:
  - Wash out immediately with water.
  - If irritation continues, seek medical attention.
  - Removal of contact lenses after an eye injury should only be undertaken by skilled personnel.
  - Generally not applicable.

### SKIN

- If skin contact occurs:
  - Immediately remove all contaminated clothing, including footwear.
  - Flush skin and hair with running water (and soap if available).
  - Seek medical attention in event of irritation.

### INHALED

- - If fumes, aerosols or combustion products are inhaled remove from contaminated area.
- Other measures are usually unnecessary.

### NOTES TO PHYSICIAN

- Treat symptomatically.

## Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

### EXTINGUISHING MEDIA

- - Water spray or fog.
- Alcohol stable foam.
- Dry chemical powder.
- Carbon dioxide.

continued...

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Section 5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

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## FIRE FIGHTING

- - Alert Fire Brigade and tell them location and nature of hazard.
- Wear breathing apparatus plus protective gloves.
- Prevent, by any means available, spillage from entering drains or water courses.
- Use water delivered as a fine spray to control fire and cool adjacent area.
- DO NOT approach containers suspected to be hot.
- Cool fire exposed containers with water spray from a protected location.
- If safe to do so, remove containers from path of fire.
- Equipment should be thoroughly decontaminated after use.

## FIRE/EXPLOSION HAZARD

- Combustible. Will burn if ignited.
- Combustion products include: carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), and minor amounts of, hydrogen cyanide, other pyrolysis products typical of burning organic material.

## FIRE INCOMPATIBILITY

- - Avoid contamination with oxidising agents i.e. nitrates, oxidising acids, chlorine bleaches, pool chlorine etc. as ignition may result.

## HAZCHEM

None

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## Section 6 - ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

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### MINOR SPILLS

- - Clean up all spills immediately.
- Secure load if safe to do so.
- Bundle/collect recoverable product.
- Collect remaining material in containers with covers for disposal.

### MAJOR SPILLS

- - Clean up all spills immediately.
- Secure load if safe to do so.
- Bundle/collect recoverable product.
- Collect remaining material in containers with covers for disposal.

**Personal Protective Equipment advice is contained in Section 8 of the MSDS.**

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## Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

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### PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING

- - Avoid generating and breathing dust
- Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
- Wear nominated personal protective equipment when handling.
- Use in a well-ventilated area.
- Use good occupational work practices.
- Observe manufacturer's storing and handling recommendations.

### SUITABLE CONTAINER

- No restriction on the type of containers. Packing as recommended by manufacturer. Check all material is clearly labelled.

### STORAGE INCOMPATIBILITY

- - Avoid reaction with oxidising agents.

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Section 7 - HANDLING AND STORAGE

## STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Store away from incompatible materials.

## Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

### EXPOSURE CONTROLS

Source	Material	TWA ppm	TWA mg/m <sup>3</sup>	STEL ppm	STEL mg/m <sup>3</sup>	Notes
Australia Exposure Standards	paraffin wax (Paraffin wax (fume))		2			
Australia Exposure Standards	wood dust softwood (Wood dust (soft wood))		5		10	Sen
Australia Exposure Standards	formaldehyde. (Formaldehyde (h))	1	1.2	2	2.5	Sen

The following materials had no OELs on our records

- melamine/ urea/ formaldehyde resin: CAS:25036- 13- 9
- phenol/ formaldehyde resin: CAS:9003- 35- 4
- urea/ formaldehyde resin: CAS:9011- 05- 6 CAS:39327- 95- 2 CAS:56779- 89- 6 CAS:57608- 68- 1 CAS:57657- 45- 1 CAS:57762- 61- 5 CAS:60267- 46- 1 CAS:60831- 80- 3

### EMERGENCY EXPOSURE LIMITS

Material	Revised	IDLH
formaldehyde.	0	20

### MATERIAL DATA

FORMALDEHYDE.:

MELAMINE/ UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

PHENOL/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

- for formaldehyde:

Odour Threshold Value for formaldehyde: 0.98 ppm (recognition)

NOTE: Detector tubes for formaldehyde, measuring in excess of 0.2 ppm are available commercially.

Formaldehyde vapour exposure:

Primary irritation is dependent on duration of exposure and individual susceptibility.

The following are typical symptoms encountered at various exposure levels.

0.1 ppm - Lower level of mucous eye, nose and throat irritation

0.8 ppm - Typical threshold of perception

1-2 ppm - Typical threshold of irritation

2-3 ppm - Irritation of eyes, nose and throat

4-5 ppm - Increased irritation, tearing, headache, pungent odour

10-20 ppm - Profuse tearing, severe burning, coughing

50 ppm - Serious bronchial and alveolar damage

100 ppm - Formaldehyde induced chemical pneumonia and death

Despite the intent of the TLV Ceiling recommendation it is believed that 0.3 ppm will not protect that portion of the workforce (up to 20%) reported to be responsive to low ambient concentrations. Because of the dose-related carcinogenic activity for rat and mouse inhalation of formaldehyde, the report of macromolecular adducts in the upper and lower respiratory tracts of nonhuman primates following inhalation of formaldehyde, the human case reports of upper respiratory tract malignant melanoma associated with

formaldehyde inhalation and the suggestive epidemiologic data on human cancer risk, the TLV Committee recommends that workplace formaldehyde air concentrations be reduced to the lowest possible levels that can be achieved using engineering controls.

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## Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

Odour Safety Factor(OSF)

OSF=0.36 (FORMALDEHYDE).

PARAFFIN WAX:

WOOD DUST SOFTWOOD:

■ It is the goal of the ACGIH (and other Agencies) to recommend TLVs (or their equivalent) for all substances for which there is evidence of health effects at airborne concentrations encountered in the workplace.

At this time no TLV has been established, even though this material may produce adverse health effects (as evidenced in animal experiments or clinical experience). Airborne concentrations must be maintained as low as is practically possible and occupational exposure must be kept to a minimum.

NOTE: The ACGIH occupational exposure standard for Particles Not Otherwise Specified (P.N.O.S) does NOT apply.

FORMICA BENCHTOP BLANKS:

Not available

PHENOL/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

■ Odour Threshold Value for phenol: 0.060 ppm (detection)

NOTE: Detector tubes for phenol, measuring in excess of 1 ppm, are commercially available.

Systemic absorption by all routes may induce convulsions with damage to the lungs and central nervous system.

Exposure at or below the recommended TLV-TWA is thought to protect the worker from respiratory, cardiovascular, hepatic, renal and neurological toxicity. Workers or volunteers exposed at or below 5.2 ppm phenol have experienced no ill-effects. Because phenol as a vapour, liquid or solid can penetrate the skin causing systemic effects, a skin notation is considered necessary. Although ACGIH has not recommended a STEL it is felt that ACGIH excursion limits (15 ppm limited to a total duration of 30

minutes with brief excursions limited to no more than 25 ppm) and NIOSH Ceiling values are sufficiently similar so as to provide the same margin of safety.

Odour Safety Factor(OSF)

OSF=25 (PHENOL).

PARAFFIN WAX:

■ Sensory irritants are chemicals that produce temporary and undesirable side-effects on the eyes, nose or throat. Historically occupational exposure standards for these irritants have been based on observation of workers' responses to various airborne concentrations. Present day expectations require that nearly every individual should be protected against even minor sensory irritation and exposure standards are established using uncertainty factors or safety factors of 5 to 10 or more. On occasion animal no-observable-effect-levels (NOEL) are used to determine these limits where human results are unavailable. An additional approach, typically used by the TLV committee (USA) in determining respiratory standards for this group of chemicals, has been to assign ceiling values (TLV C) to rapidly acting irritants and to assign short-term exposure limits (TLV STELs) when the weight of evidence from irritation, bioaccumulation and other endpoints combine to warrant such a limit. In contrast the MAK Commission (Germany) uses a five-category system based on intensive odour, local irritation, and elimination half-life. However this system is being replaced to be consistent with the European Union (EU) Scientific Committee for Occupational Exposure Limits (SCOEL); this is more closely allied to that of the USA.

OSHA (USA) concluded that exposure to sensory irritants can:

- cause inflammation
- cause increased susceptibility to other irritants and infectious agents
- lead to permanent injury or dysfunction
- permit greater absorption of hazardous substances and
- acclimate the worker to the irritant warning properties of these substances thus increasing the risk of overexposure.

for mineral oils (excluding metal working fluids), pure, highly and severely refined:

Human exposure to oil mist alone has not been demonstrated to cause health effects except at levels above 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (this applies to particulates sampled by a method that does not collect vapour). It is not advisable to apply this standard to oils containing unknown concentrations and types of additive.

WOOD DUST SOFTWOOD:

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## Section 8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

■ Wood dusts produce dermatitis and an increased risk of upper respiratory disease. Epidemiological studies in furniture workers show an increased risk of lung, tongue, pharynx and nasal cancer. An excess risk of leukaemia amongst millwrights probably is associated with exposure to various components used in wood preservation.

Impairment of nasal mucociliary function may occur below 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> and may be important in the development of nasal adenocarcinoma amongst furniture workers exposed to hardwoods.

Certain exotic hardwoods contain alkaloids which may produce headache, anorexia, nausea, bradycardia and dyspnoea.

The softwood TLV-TWA reflects the apparent low risk for upper respiratory tract involvement amongst workers in the building industry. A separate TLV-TWA, for hard woods, is based on impaired nasal mucociliary function reported to contribute to nasal adenocarcinoma and related hyperplasia found in furniture workers.

### PERSONAL PROTECTION

#### EYE

- - Safety glasses with side shields.
- Chemical goggles.
- Contact lenses may pose a special hazard; soft contact lenses may absorb and concentrate irritants. A written policy document, describing the wearing of lens or restrictions on use, should be created for each workplace or task. This should include a review of lens absorption and adsorption for the class of chemicals in use and an account of injury experience. Medical and first-aid personnel should be trained in their removal and suitable equipment should be readily available. In the event of chemical exposure, begin eye irrigation immediately and remove contact lens as soon as practicable. Lens should be removed at the first signs of eye redness or irritation - lens should be removed in a clean environment only after workers have washed hands thoroughly. [CDC NIOSH Current Intelligence Bulletin 59], [AS/NZS 1336 or national equivalent].

#### HANDS/FEET

- - Wear chemical protective gloves, eg. PVC.
- Wear safety footwear or safety gumboots, eg. Rubber.

#### NOTE:

- The material may produce skin sensitisation in predisposed individuals. Care must be taken, when removing gloves and other protective equipment, to avoid all possible skin contact.
- Contaminated leather items, such as shoes, belts and watch-bands should be removed and destroyed.

#### OTHER

- - Overalls.
- P.V.C. apron.
- Barrier cream.
- Skin cleansing cream.
- Eye wash unit.

Avoid breathing dust when sawing or grinding.

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When cutting wear approved dust respirator to avoid inhalation of wood dust created during the cutting process.

#### RESPIRATOR

- Type BAX-P Filter of sufficient capacity. (AS/NZS 1716 & 1715, EN 143:2000 & 149:2001, ANSI Z88 or national equivalent)

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The local concentration of material, quantity and conditions of use determine the type of personal protective equipment required. For further information consult site specific CHEMWATCH data (if available), or your Occupational Health and Safety Advisor.

### ENGINEERING CONTROLS

■ Engineering controls are used to remove a hazard or place a barrier between the worker and the hazard. Well-designed engineering controls can be highly effective in protecting workers and will typically be independent of worker interactions to provide this high level of protection.

The basic types of engineering controls are:

Process controls which involve changing the way a job activity or process is done to reduce the risk.

Enclosure and/or isolation of emission source which keeps a selected hazard "physically" away from the worker and ventilation that strategically "adds" and "removes" air in the work environment. Ventilation can remove or dilute an air contaminant if designed properly. The design of a ventilation system must match the particular process and chemical or contaminant in use.

Employers may need to use multiple types of controls to prevent employee overexposure.

- Local exhaust ventilation is required where solids are handled as powders or crystals; even when particulates are relatively large, a certain proportion will be powdered by mutual friction.
- Exhaust ventilation should be designed to prevent accumulation and recirculation of particulates in the workplace.
- If in spite of local exhaust an adverse concentration of the substance in air could occur, respiratory protection should be considered. Such protection might consist of:
  - (a): particle dust respirators, if necessary, combined with an absorption cartridge;
  - (b): filter respirators with absorption cartridge or canister of the right type;
  - (c): fresh-air hoods or masks
- Build-up of electrostatic charge on the dust particle, may be prevented by bonding and grounding.
- Powder handling equipment such as dust collectors, dryers and mills may require additional protection measures such as explosion venting.

## Section 9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### APPEARANCE

Manufactured pressed board, made from wood particles bonded together with resin.

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Solid.			
Does not mix with water.			
Floats on water.			
State	Solid	Molecular Weight	Not Applicable
Melting Range (°C)	Not Available	Viscosity	Not Available
Boiling Range (°C)	Not Available	Solubility in water (g/L)	Immiscible
Flash Point (°C)	Not Available	pH (1% solution)	Not Applicable
Decomposition Temp (°C)	Not Available	pH (as supplied)	Not Applicable
Autoignition Temp (°C)	>220	Vapour Pressure (kPa)	Not Applicable
Upper Explosive Limit (%)	Not Available	Specific Gravity (water=1)	0.70- 0.75
Lower Explosive Limit (%)	Not Available	Relative Vapour Density (air=1)	Not Available
Volatile Component (%vol)	Not Available	Evaporation Rate	Not Applicable

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## Section 10 - STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

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### CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

- Product is considered stable and hazardous polymerisation will not occur.  
*For incompatible materials - refer to Section 7 - Handling and Storage.*

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## Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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### POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS

#### ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

##### SWALLOWED

- The material has NOT been classified by EC Directives or other classification systems as "harmful by ingestion". This is because of the lack of corroborating animal or human evidence. The material may still be damaging to the health of the individual, following ingestion, especially where pre-existing organ (eg. liver, kidney) damage is evident. Present definitions of harmful or toxic substances are generally based on doses producing mortality rather than those producing morbidity (disease, ill-health). Gastrointestinal tract discomfort may produce nausea and vomiting. In an occupational setting however, ingestion of insignificant quantities is not thought to be cause for concern.

##### EYE

- Although the material is not thought to be an irritant (as classified by EC Directives), direct contact with the eye may produce transient discomfort characterised by tearing or conjunctival redness (as with windburn).

##### SKIN

- Skin contact is not thought to have harmful health effects (as classified under EC Directives); the material may still produce health damage following entry through wounds, lesions or abrasions.

##### INHALED

- The material is not thought to produce adverse health effects or irritation of the respiratory tract (as classified by EC Directives using animal models). Nevertheless, good hygiene practice requires that exposure be kept to a minimum and that suitable control measures be used in an occupational setting.
  - Hazard relates to dust released by sawing, cutting, sanding, trimming or other finishing operations. New boards or freshly cut surfaces may have a pine/wood/resin odour which will dissipate with ventilation. When cutting, wood dust will be created which is classified as a Hazardous Substance according to the criteria of NOHSC.Atmosphere should be checked and if necessary suitable arrangements made to reduce the level of vapours in the breathing zone for persons working in the area.

##### CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

- This manufactured article is considered to have low hazard potential if handling and personal protection recommendations are followed.

##### TOXICITY AND IRRITATION

- unless otherwise specified data extracted from RTECS - Register of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances.

PHENOL/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

WOOD DUST SOFTWOOD:

FORMALDEHYDE.:

MELAMINE/ UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

- Contact allergies quickly manifest themselves as contact eczema, more rarely as urticaria or Quincke's oedema. The pathogenesis of contact eczema involves a cell-mediated (T lymphocytes) immune reaction of the

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## Section 11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

delayed type. Other allergic skin reactions, e.g. contact urticaria, involve antibody-mediated immune reactions. The significance of the contact allergen is not simply determined by its sensitisation potential: the distribution of the substance and the opportunities for contact with it are equally important. A weakly sensitising substance which is widely distributed can be a more important allergen than one with stronger sensitising potential with which few individuals come into contact. From a clinical point of view, substances are noteworthy if they produce an allergic test reaction in more than 1% of the persons tested.

FORMALDEHYDE.:

WOOD DUST SOFTWOOD:

■ WARNING: This substance has been classified by the IARC as Group 1: CARCINOGENIC TO HUMANS.

FORMICA BENCHTOP BLANKS:

■ Not available. Refer to individual constituents.

MELAMINE/ UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

TOXICITY

Oral (rat) LD50: >5000 mg/kg

IRRITATION

Nil Reported [Manufacturer]

PHENOL/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

TOXICITY

Oral (rat) LD50: >2500 mg/kg

Dermal (rabbit) LD50: >5000 mg/kg

[Manufacturer Mon]

IRRITATION

Skin (rabbit): 3/8 - Moderate - Draize

Eye(rabbit):40/110 Moderate - Draize

■ The material may produce moderate eye irritation leading to inflammation. Repeated or prolonged exposure to irritants may produce conjunctivitis.

The material may cause skin irritation after prolonged or repeated exposure and may produce on contact skin redness, swelling, the production of vesicles, scaling and thickening of the skin.

UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

TOXICITY

Oral (rat) LD50: 8394 mg/kg

Inhalation (rat) LC50: >167 mg/m<sup>3</sup>/4h

Dermal (rat) LD50: >2100 mg/kg

Oral (mouse) LD50: 6361 mg/kg

IRRITATION

Skin (rabbit): 500 mg/24h- SEVERE

Eye (rabbit): 0.1 ul/24h - SEVERE

■ NOTE: Substance has been shown to be mutagenic in at least one assay, or belongs to a family of chemicals producing damage or change to cellular DNA.

Somnolence, impaired liver function tests, changes in leucocyte (WBC) count recorded.

PARAFFIN WAX:

TOXICITY

IRRITATION

Skin (rabbit): 500 mg/24 hr- Mild

Eye (rabbit): 100 mg/24 hr- Mild

■ The materials included in the Lubricating Base Oils category are related from both process and physical-chemical perspectives;

The potential toxicity of a specific distillate base oil is inversely related to the severity or extent of processing the oil has undergone, since:

- The adverse effects of these materials are associated with undesirable components, and
- The levels of the undesirable components are inversely related to the degree of processing;
- Distillate base oils receiving the same degree or extent of processing will have similar toxicities;
- The potential toxicity of residual base oils is independent of the degree of processing the oil receives.
- The reproductive and developmental toxicity of the distillate base oils is inversely related to the degree of processing.

Unrefined & mildly refined distillate base oils contain the highest levels of undesirable components, have the largest variation of hydrocarbon molecules and have shown the highest potential carcinogenic and mutagenic activities. Highly and severely refined distillate base oils are produced from unrefined and mildly refined oils by removing or transforming undesirable components. In comparison to unrefined and mildly refined base oils, the highly and severely refined distillate base oils have a smaller range of hydrocarbon molecules and have demonstrated very low mammalian toxicity. Mutagenicity and carcinogenicity testing of

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residual oils has been negative, supporting the belief that these materials lack biologically active components or the components are largely non-bioavailable due to their molecular size.

Toxicity testing has consistently shown that lubricating base oils have low acute toxicities. Numerous tests have shown that a lubricating base oil's mutagenic and carcinogenic potential correlates with its 3-7 ring polycyclic aromatic compound (PAC) content, and the level of DMSO extractables (e.g. IP346 assay), both characteristics that are directly related to the degree/conditions of processing.

Highly and Severely Refined Distillate Base Oils

Acute toxicity: Multiple studies of the acute toxicity of highly & severely refined base oils have been reported. Irrespective of the crude source or the method or extent of processing, the oral LD50s have been observed to be >5 g/kg (bw) and the dermal LD50s have ranged from >2 to >5g/kg (bw). The LC50 for inhalation toxicity ranged from 2.18 mg/l to > 4 mg/l.

When tested for skin and eye irritation, the materials have been reported as "non-irritating" to "moderately irritating"

Testing in guinea pigs for sensitization has been negative

Repeat dose toxicity: . Several studies have been conducted with these oils. The weight of evidence from all available data on highly & severely refined base oils support the presumption that a distillate base oil's toxicity is inversely related to the degree of processing it receives. Adverse effects have been reported with even the most severely refined white oils - these appear to depend on animal species and/ or the peculiarities of the study.

- The granulomatous lesions induced by the oral administration of white oils are essentially foreign body responses. The lesions occur only in rats, of which the Fischer 344 strain is particularly sensitive,

- The testicular effects seen in rabbits after dermal administration of a highly to severely refined base oil were unique to a single study and may have been related to stress induced by skin irritation, and

- The accumulation of foamy macrophages in the alveolar spaces of rats exposed repeatedly via inhalation to high levels of highly to severely refined base oils is not unique to these oils, but would be seen after exposure to many water insoluble materials.

Reproductive and developmental toxicity: A highly refined base oil was used as the vehicle control in a one-generation reproduction study. The study was conducted according to the OECD Test Guideline 421. There was no effect on fertility and mating indices in either males or females. At necropsy, there were no consistent findings and organ weights and histopathology were considered normal by the study's authors.

A single generation study in which a white mineral oil (a food/ drug grade severely refined base oil) was used as a vehicle control is reported. Two separate groups of pregnant rats were administered 5 ml/kg (bw)/day of the base oil via gavage, on days 6 through 19 of gestation. In one of the two base oil dose groups, three malformed fetuses were found among three litters. The study authors considered these malformations to be minor and within the normal ranges for the strain of rat.

Genotoxicity:

In vitro (mutagenicity): Several studies have reported the results of testing different base oils for mutagenicity using a modified Ames assay. Base oils with no or low concentrations of 3-7 ring PACs had low mutagenicity indices.

In vivo (chromosomal aberrations): A total of seven base stocks were tested in male and female Sprague-Dawley rats using a bone marrow cytogenetics assay. The test materials were administered via gavage at dose levels ranging from 500 to 5000 mg/kg (bw). Dosing occurred for either a single day or for five consecutive days. None of the base oils produced a significant increase in aberrant cells.

Carcinogenicity: Highly & severely refined base oils are not carcinogens, when given either orally or dermally.

"hydrocarbon wax" describes a group of solid C20 to C36 paraffinic hydrocarbons which are not absorbed in the gastro-intestinal tract and in small quantity will pass through undigested.

Tumorigenic in rats

WOOD DUST SOFTWOOD:

■ Allergic reactions involving the respiratory tract are usually due to interactions between IgE antibodies and allergens and occur rapidly. Allergic potential of the allergen and period of exposure often determine the severity of symptoms. Some people may be genetically more prone than others, and exposure to other irritants may aggravate symptoms. Allergy causing activity is due to interactions with proteins.

Attention should be paid to atopic diathesis, characterised by increased susceptibility to nasal inflammation, asthma and eczema.

Exogenous allergic alveolitis is induced essentially by allergen specific immune-complexes of the IgG type; cell-mediated reactions (T lymphocytes) may be involved. Such allergy is of the delayed type with onset up to

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four hours following exposure.

No significant acute toxicological data identified in literature search.

WARNING: Inhalation of wood dust by workers in the furniture and cabinet making industry has been related to nasal cancer [ I.L.O. Encyclopedia] Use control measures to limit all exposures.

### FORMALDEHYDE.:

#### TOXICITY

Oral (woman) LDLo: 108 mg/kg

Oral (man) TDLo: 643 mg/kg

Oral (rat) LD50: 100 mg/kg

Inhalation (man) TClO: 0.3 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

Inhalation (rat) LC50: 203 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

Dermal (rabbit) LD50: 270 mg/kg

■ The material may produce severe irritation to the eye causing pronounced inflammation. Repeated or prolonged exposure to irritants may produce conjunctivitis.

The material may cause severe skin irritation after prolonged or repeated exposure and may produce on contact skin redness, swelling, the production of vesicles, scaling and thickening of the skin. Repeated exposures may produce severe ulceration.

Asthma-like symptoms may continue for months or even years after exposure to the material ceases. This may be due to a non-allergenic condition known as reactive airways dysfunction syndrome (RADS) which can occur following exposure to high levels of highly irritating compound. Key criteria for the diagnosis of RADS include the absence of preceding respiratory disease, in a non-atopic individual, with abrupt onset of persistent asthma-like symptoms within minutes to hours of a documented exposure to the irritant. A reversible airflow pattern, on spirometry, with the presence of moderate to severe bronchial hyperreactivity on methacholine challenge testing and the lack of minimal lymphocytic inflammation, without eosinophilia, have also been included in the criteria for diagnosis of RADS. RADS (or asthma) following an irritating inhalation is an infrequent disorder with rates related to the concentration of and duration of exposure to the irritating substance. Industrial bronchitis, on the other hand, is a disorder that occurs as result of exposure due to high concentrations of irritating substance (often particulate in nature) and is completely reversible after exposure ceases. The disorder is characterised by dyspnea, cough and mucus production. Tenth Annual Report on Carcinogens: Substance anticipated to be Carcinogen [National Toxicology Program: U.S. Dep. of Health & Human Services 2002].

### CARCINOGEN

Formaldehyde

International Agency  
for Research on Cancer  
(IARC) - Agents  
Reviewed by the IARC  
Monographs

Group

1

### SENSITISER

phenol/ formaldehyde  
resin

Australia Final Report on Hazard  
Classification of Common Skin Sensitisers

Recommended for  
Hazard Classification  
(R43)

No

## Section 12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

PHENOL/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

FORMALDEHYDE.:

MELAMINE/ UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

■ For Formaldehyde:

Environmental Fate: Formaldehyde is common in the environment as a contaminant of smoke and as photochemical smog. Concentrated solutions containing formaldehyde are unstable and oxidize slowly. In the presence of air and moisture, polymerization takes place readily in concentrated solutions at room temperature to form paraformaldehyde.

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**Atmospheric Fate:** In the atmosphere, formaldehyde both photolysis and reacts with reactive free radicals (primarily hydroxyl radicals). Reaction with nitrate radicals, insignificant during the day, may be an important removal process at night. Air Quality Standards : <0.1 mg/m<sup>3</sup> as a 30 min. average, indoor air, non-industrial buildings (WHO guideline).

**Aquatic Fate:** Due to its solubility, formaldehyde will efficiently transfer to rain and surface water and will biodegrade to low concentrations within days. Adsorption to sediment and volatilization are not expected to be significant routes of biodegradation.

**Drinking Water Standard:** Formaldehyde: 900 ug/L. (WHO guideline).

**Terrestrial Fate:** In soil, aqueous solutions of formaldehyde leach through the soil; at high concentrations adsorption to clay minerals may occur. Although biodegradable under both aerobic and anaerobic conditions the fate of formaldehyde in soil is unclear.

**Ecotoxicity:** Formaldehyde does not bioconcentrate in the food chain.

PHENOL/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

PARAFFIN WAX:

WOOD DUST SOFTWOOD:

FORMALDEHYDE.:

MELAMINE/ UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

■ DO NOT discharge into sewer or waterways.

UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

MELAMINE/ UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

■ Urea-formaldehyde (UF) resins cannot be made free of residual formaldehyde. Under ambient conditions and during curing, uncured resins can release free formaldehyde, at rates gradually decreasing over time (Formaldehyde Institute, 1984). In pressed wood products, under high load conditions, even traces of residual, unreacted formaldehyde from the UF resin can result in measurable off-gassing, causing discernible formaldehyde levels in indoor air. High temperatures and humidity, which hydrolyze formaldehyde, promote the release; they can triple or quadruple the rate of release.

Urea also strongly affects the release rate because of an equilibrium reaction in which hydrolysed formaldehyde is consumed, yielding monomethylol urea. Building materials, such as composition boards (e.g., particleboard), which consist of UF resins, can emit formaldehyde for several years after manufacture.

MELAMINE/ UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

PHENOL/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

■ For Phenols:

Ecotoxicity - Phenols with log Pow >7.4 are expected to exhibit low toxicity to aquatic organisms however; the toxicity of phenols with a lower log Pow is variable. Dinitrophenols are more toxic than predicted from QSAR estimates. Hazard information for these groups is not generally available.

UREA/ FORMALDEHYDE RESIN:

Slowly, but not readily biodegradable.

TOC - removal 28 days; 61% BOD<sub>28</sub>; 0.62 mg/mg substance.

Nitrification 28 days; 0.45 mg NO<sub>3</sub>-N/mg substance.

PARAFFIN WAX:

■ for lubricating oil base stocks:

Vapor Pressure Vapor pressures of lubricating base oils are reported to be negligible. In one study, the experimentally measured vapour pressure of a solvent-dewaxed heavy paraffinic distillate base oil was 1.7 x 10<sup>exp-4</sup> Pa . Since base oils are mixtures of C15 to C50 paraffinic, naphthenic, and aromatic hydrocarbon isomers, representative components of those structures were selected to calculate a range of vapor pressures. The estimated vapor pressure values for these selected components of base oils ranged from 4.5 x 10<sup>exp-1</sup> Pa to 2 x 10<sup>exp-13</sup>Pa. Based on Dalton's Law the expected total vapour pressure for base oils would fall well below minimum levels (10<sup>exp-5</sup> Pa) of recommended experimental procedures.

Partition Coefficient (log Kow): In mixtures such as the base oils, the percent distribution of the hydrocarbon groups (i.e., paraffins, naphthenes, and aromatics) and the carbon chain lengths determines in-part the partitioning characteristics of the mixture. Generally, hydrocarbon chains with fewer carbon atoms

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tend to have lower partition coefficients than those with higher carbon numbers. However, due to their complex composition, unequivocal determination of the log Kow of these hydrocarbon mixtures cannot be made. Rather, partition coefficients of selected C15 chain-length hydrocarbon structures representing paraffinic, naphthenic, and aromatic constituents in base oil lubricants were modelled. Results showed typical log Kow values from 4.9 to 7.7, which were consistent with values of >4 for lubricating oil basestocks

**Water Solubility:** When released to water, base oils will float and spread at a rate that is viscosity dependent. While water solubility of base oils is typically very low, individual hydrocarbons exhibit a wide range of solubility depending on molecular weight and degree of unsaturation. Decreasing molecular weight (i.e., carbon number) and increasing levels of unsaturation increases the water solubility of these materials. As noted for partition coefficient, the water solubility of lubricating base oils cannot be determined due to their complex mixture characteristics. Therefore, the water solubility of individual C15 hydrocarbons representing the different groups making up base oils (i.e., linear and branched paraffins, naphthenes, and aromatics) was modelled. Based on water solubility modelling of those groups, aqueous solubilities are typically much less than 1 ppm. (0.003-0.63 mg/l)

**Environmental Fate:**

**Photodegradation:** Chemicals having potential to photolyse have UV/visible absorption maxima in the range of 290 to 800 nm. Some chemicals have absorption maxima significantly below 290 nm and consequently cannot undergo direct photolysis in sunlight (e.g. chemicals such as alkanes, alkenes, alkynes, saturated alcohols, and saturated acids). Most hydrocarbon constituents of the materials in this category are not expected to photolyse since they do not show absorbance within the 290-800 nm range. However, photodegradation of polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) can occur and may be a significant degradation pathway for these constituents of lubricating base oils. The degree and rate at which PAHs may photodegrade depend upon whether conditions allow penetration of light with sufficient energy to effect a change. For example, polycyclic aromatic compounds (PAC) compounds bound to sediments may persist due to a lack of sufficient light penetration

Atmospheric gas-phase reactions can occur between organic chemicals and reactive molecules such as photochemically produced hydroxyl radicals, ozone and nitrogen oxides. Atmospheric oxidation as a result of radical attack is not direct photochemical degradation, but indirect degradation. In general, lubricating base oils have low vapour pressures and volatilisation is not expected to be a significant removal mechanism for the majority of the hydrocarbon components. However, some components (e.g., C15 branched paraffins and naphthenes) appear to have the potential to volatilise. Atmospheric half-lives of 0.10 to 0.66 days have been calculated for representative C15 hydrocarbon components of lubricating base oils

**Stability in Water:** Chemicals that have a potential to hydrolyze include alkyl halides, amides, carbamates, carboxylic acid esters and lactones, epoxides, phosphate esters, and sulfonic acid esters. Because lubricating base oils do not contain significant levels of these functional groups, materials in the lubricating base oils category are not subject to hydrolysis

**Chemical Transport and Distribution in the Environment :** Based on the physical-chemical characteristics of component hydrocarbons in lubricating base oils, the lower molecular weight components are expected to have the highest vapour pressures and water solubilities, and the lowest partition coefficients. These factors enhance the potential for widespread distribution in the environment. To gain an understanding of the potential transport and distribution of lubricating base oil components, the EQC (Equilibrium Criterion) model was used to characterize the environmental distribution of different C15 compounds representing different structures found in lube oils (e.g., paraffins, naphthenes, and aromatics). The modelling found partitioning to soil or air is the ultimate fate of these C15 compounds. Aromatic compounds partition principally to soil. Linear paraffins partition mostly to soil, while branching appears to allow greater distribution to air. Naphthenes distribute to both soil and air, with increasing proportions in soil for components with the greater number of ring structures. Because the modelling does not take into account degradation factors, levels modelled in the atmosphere are likely overstated in light of the tendency for indirect photodegradation to occur.

**Biodegradation:** The extent of biodegradation measured for a particular lubricating oil basestock is dependent not only on the procedure used but also on how the sample is presented in the biodegradation test. Lubricant base oils typically are not readily biodegradable in standard 28-day tests. However, since the oils consist primarily of hydrocarbons that are ultimately assimilated by microorganisms, and therefore inherently biodegradable. Twenty-eight biodegradability studies have been reported for a variety of lubricating base oils. Based on the results of ultimate biodegradability tests using modified Sturm and manometric respirometry testing the base oils are expected to be, for the most part, inherently biodegradable. Biodegradation rates found using the modified Sturm procedure ranged from 1.5 to 29%. Results from the manometric respirometry tests on similar materials showed biodegradation rates from 31 to 50%. Biodegradation rates measured in 21-day CEC tests for similar materials ranged from 13 to 79%.

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## Ecotoxicity:

Numerous acute studies covering fish, invertebrates, and algae have been conducted to assess the ecotoxicity of various lubricating base oils. None of these studies have shown evidence of acute toxicity to aquatic organisms. Eight, 7-day exposure studies using rainbow trout failed to demonstrate toxicity when tested up to the maximum concentration of 1000 mg/L applied as dispersions. Three, 96-hour tests with rainbow trout also failed to show any toxic effects when tested up to 1000 mg/L applied as dispersions. Similarly, three 96-hour tests with fathead minnows at a maximum test concentration of 100 mg/L water accommodated fractions (WAF) showed no adverse effects. Two species of aquatic invertebrates (*Daphnia magna* and *Gammarus* sp.) were exposed to WAF solutions up to 10,000 mg/L for 48 and 96-hours, respectively, with no adverse effects being observed. Four-day exposures of the freshwater green alga (*Scenedesmus subspicatus*) to 500 mg/L WAF solutions failed to show adverse effects on growth rate and algal cell densities in four studies

Multiple chronic ecotoxicity studies have shown no adverse effects to daphnid survival or reproduction. In 10 of 11 chronic studies, daphnids were exposed for 21 days to WAF preparations of lubricating base oils with no ill effects on survival or reproduction at the maximum concentration of 1000 mg/L. One test detected a reduction in reproduction at 1000 mg/L. Additional data support findings of no chronic toxicity to aquatic invertebrates and fish. No observed effect levels ranged from 550 to 5,000 mg/L when tested as either dispersions or WAFs.

The data described above are supported by studies on a homologous series of alkanes. The author concluded that the water solubility of carbon chains .C10 is too limited to elicit acute toxicity. This also was shown for alkylbenzene compounds having carbon numbers .C15. Since base oils consist of carbon compounds of C15 to C50, component hydrocarbons that are of acute toxicological concern are, for the most part, absent in these materials. Similarly, due to their low solubility, the alkylated two to three ring polyaromatic components in base oils are not expected to cause acute or chronic toxicity. This lack of toxicity is borne out in the results of the reported studies.

The effects of crude and refined oils on organisms found in fresh and sea water ha been extensively reviewed. sea water. Where spillages occur the non-mobile species suffer the greatest mortality, whereas fish species can often escape from the affected region. The extent of the initial mortality depends on the chemical nature of the oil, the location, and the physical conditions, particularly the temperature and wind velocity. Most affected freshwater and marine communities recover from the effects of an oil spill within a year. The occurrence of biogenic hydrocarbons in the world's oceans is well recorded. They have the characteristic isoprenoid structure, and measurements made in water columns indicate a background concentration of 1.0 to 10 ul/l. The higher molecular weight materials are dispersed as particles, with the highest concentrations of about 20 ul/l occurring in the top 3 mm layer of water.

A wide variation in the response of organisms to oil exposures has been noted. The larvae of fish and crustaceans appear to be most susceptible to the water-soluble fraction of crude oil. Exposures of plankton and algae have indicated that certain species of diatoms and green algae are inhibited, whereas microflagellates are not.

For the most part, molluscs and most intertidal worm species appear to be tolerant of oil contamination.

## WOOD DUST SOFTWOOD:

### FORMALDEHYDE.:

■ Harmful to aquatic organisms.

The material is classified as an ecotoxin\* because the Fish LC50 (96 hours) is less than or equal to 0.1 mg/l

\* Classification of Substances as Ecotoxic (Dangerous to the Environment)

Appendix 8, Table 1

Compiler's Guide for the Preparation of International Chemical Safety Cards: 1993 Commission of the European Communities.

## Ecotoxicity

Ingredient	Persistence: Water/Soil	Persistence: Air	Bioaccumulation	Mobility
melamine/ urea/ formaldehyde resin	No Data Available	No Data Available		
phenol/ formaldehyde resin	No Data Available	No Data Available	LOW	
urea/ formaldehyde resin	LOW	No Data Available	LOW	HIGH

continued...

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paraffin wax	No Data Available	No Data Available		
wood dust softwood	No Data Available	No Data Available		
formaldehyde.	LOW	LOW	LOW	HIGH

## Section 13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

- - Recycle wherever possible or consult manufacturer for recycling options.
- Consult State Land Waste Authority for disposal.
- Bury or incinerate residue at an approved site.
- Recycle containers if possible, or dispose of in an authorised landfill.

## Section 14 - TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

### HAZCHEM:

None (ADG7)

NOT REGULATED FOR TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS: ADG7, UN, IATA, IMDG

## Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

POISONS SCHEDULE None

### REGULATIONS

#### Regulations for ingredients

**melamine/ urea/ formaldehyde resin (CAS: 25036-13-9) is found on the following regulatory lists;**

"Australia Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)"

**phenol/ formaldehyde resin (CAS: 9003-35-4) is found on the following regulatory lists;**

"Australia Final Report on Hazard Classification of Common Skin Sensitisers", "Australia Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)"

**urea/ formaldehyde resin (CAS: 9011-05-6,39327-95-2,56779-89-6,57608-68-1,57657-45-1,57762-61-5,60267-46-1,60831-80-3) is found on the following regulatory lists;**

"Australia Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)", "GESAMP/EHS Composite List - GESAMP Hazard Profiles"

**PARAFFIN WAX 58 FRJ (CAS: 8002-74-2,12704-91-5,105054-93-1,105845-08-7,115251-23-5,115251-24-6,12704-92-6,12795-75-4,160936-34-5,37220-23-8,37339-80-3,39355-22-1,39373-78-9,51331-35-2,54692-42-1,57572-43-7,57608-84-1,58057-11-7,64742-43-4,64742-51-4,68607-08-9,68649-50-3,70431-26-4,72993-88-5,72993-89-6,72993-90-9,8035-62-9,8044-02-8,8044-79-9,9083-41-4) is found on the following regulatory lists;**

"Australia Exposure Standards", "Australia Hazardous Substances", "Australia High Volume Industrial Chemical List (HVICL)", "GESAMP/EHS Composite List - GESAMP Hazard Profiles", "IMO IBC Code Chapter 17: Summary of minimum requirements", "IMO MARPOL 73/78 (Annex II) - List of Other Liquid Substances"

**formaldehyde. (CAS: 50-00-0) is found on the following regulatory lists;**

"Australia - Australian Capital Territory - Environment Protection Regulation: Ambient environmental standards (Domestic water supply - disinfection by-products)", "Australia - Australian Capital Territory - Environment Protection Regulation: Pollutants entering waterways taken to cause environmental harm (Domestic water supply quality)", "Australia - Queensland Hazardous Materials and Prescribed Quantities for Major Hazard Facilities", "Australia Dangerous Goods Code (ADG Code) - Goods Too Dangerous To Be Transported", "Australia Exposure Standards", "Australia Exposure Standards Currently Under Review", "Australia Hazardous Substances", "Australia High Volume Industrial Chemical List (HVICL)", "Australia Illicit Drug Precursors/Reagents - Category II", "Australia Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)", "Australia National Pollutant Inventory", "Australia Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP) - Appendix C", "Australia Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP) - Appendix F (Part 3)", "Australia Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP) - Schedule 2", "Australia Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP) - Schedule 6", "GESAMP/EHS Composite List - GESAMP Hazard Profiles", "IMO IBC Code Chapter 17: Summary of minimum requirements", "IMO MARPOL 73/78 (Annex II) - List of Noxious

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Section 15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

Liquid Substances Carried in Bulk", "International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) - Agents Reviewed by the IARC Monographs", "International Chemical Secretariat (ChemSec) SIN List (\*Substitute It Now!)", "International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) - High Production Volume List", "WHO Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality - Chemicals for which guideline values have not been established"

## No data for Formica Benchtop Blanks (CW: 4762-05)

No data for wood dust softwood (CAS: , Not avail)

## Section 16 - OTHER INFORMATION

### INGREDIENTS WITH MULTIPLE CAS NUMBERS

Ingredient Name	CAS
urea/ formaldehyde resin	9011- 05- 6, 39327- 95- 2, 56779- 89- 6, 57608- 68- 1, 57657- 45- 1, 57762- 61- 5, 60267- 46- 1, 60831- 80- 3
paraffin wax	8002- 74- 2, 12704- 91- 5, 105054- 93- 1, 105845- 08- 7, 115251- 23- 5, 115251- 24- 6, 12704- 92- 6, 12795- 75- 4, 160936- 34- 5, 37220- 23- 8, 37339- 80- 3, 39355- 22- 1, 39373- 78- 9, 51331- 35- 2, 54692- 42- 1, 57572- 43- 7, 57608- 84- 1, 58057- 11- 7, 64742- 43- 4, 64742- 51- 4, 68607- 08- 9, 68649- 50- 3, 70431- 26- 4, 72993- 88- 5, 72993- 89- 6, 72993- 90- 9, 8035- 62- 9, 8044- 02- 8, 8044- 79- 9, 9083- 41- 4

■ Classification of the preparation and its individual components has drawn on official and authoritative sources as well as independent review by the Chemwatch Classification committee using available literature references.

A list of reference resources used to assist the committee may be found at:

[www.chemwatch.net/references](http://www.chemwatch.net/references).

■ The (M)SDS is a Hazard Communication tool and should be used to assist in the Risk Assessment. Many factors determine whether the reported Hazards are Risks in the workplace or other settings. Risks may be determined by reference to Exposures Scenarios. Scale of use, frequency of use and current or available engineering controls must be considered.

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*This is the end of the MSDS.*