



CARB Phase II Update March 2011

No need to panic. While manufactures' of composite panel products must meet the CARB Phase II requirements by January 1, 2011, Fabricators can sell Non-CARB compliant materials into California through December 31, 2011.

Composite core manufactures began to produce and ship CARB Phase II this November. Most manufactures' will have their production 100% CARB Phase II by the end of 2010. There is an increase in resin and manufacturing cost associated with meeting CARB Phase II formaldehyde requirements. These costs vary by type of core and thickness but will range between \$20-\$30/msf. Metro Hardwoods tracks each "Composite Core" panel with CARB status. The CARB labeling always meets or exceeds the CARB labeling requirements. In other words, if the item is labeled "CARB Phase 1 Compliant", every panel in that SKU meets CARB Phase I. These ratings include "Non-CARB Compliant", "CARB Phase I Compliant" or "CARB Phase II Compliant". CARB Exempt is treated and labeled the same as "CARB Phase II" for fabricators of finished products containing composite wood products.

Sell Through Provisions for fabricators of finished products containing composite wood products				
Product Type	Level	Fabricator Sell Through Provision Phase I*	Level	Fabricator Sell Through Provision Phase II
Hardwood Plywood (Veneer Core)	0.08 ppm	6/30/11	0.05 ppm	NA
Hardwood Plywood (Composite Core)	0.08 ppm	12/31/13	0.05 ppm	1/1/14
Particleboard (PBC TF Melamine)	0.18 ppm	6/30/12	0.09 ppm	6/1/12
MDF (Medium Density Fiberboard)	0.21 ppm	6/30/12	0.11 ppm	6/1/12
Thin MDF (Medium Density Fiberboard)	0.21 ppm	6/30/13	0.13 ppm	6/1/13

* Pre CARB Phase I wood composite materials sell through provisions have been extended to 12-31-2011 due to the slow economic conditions in California. The following Internet link will provide the California Air Resource Board (CARB) advisory explaining the extension of the sell through provisions.
http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/outreach/10_01_advisory.pdf

** There is a conflict in the compliance dates for Hardwood Plywood (Veneer Core) panels. The extension of "Sell Through Provision" for Distributors and Fabricators of "Non-CARB Compliant" panels is later than "Sell Through Provision" for CARB Phase I. This has been acknowledged by the California Air Resource Board but has not been formally addressed or corrected as of December 1, 2010. For the latest information you can check for updates at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compwood.htm>

On June 14th, 2010, the Federal Government passed the "Formaldehyde Standards for Composite Wood Products Act". Download "The_Formaldehyde_Standard_Act.pdf" at: <http://www.wemakegreeneasy.com/carb.html> The Formaldehyde Standards Act is significant because it will use the same standards established by the California Air Resources Board ("CARB"). The Formaldehyde Standard Act requires that EPA must establish new regulations, by January 1, 2013. The national "Sell Through Provisions" for Distributors or Fabricators have not yet been established. For more information regarding the Federal requirements visit: <http://www.bdlaw.com/news-898.html>

Feel free to call or e-mail with questions or clarifications.
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