



DECKPLY (FORMPLY) SAFETY DATA SHEET

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This Safety Data Sheet (SDS) is written by Big River Group (BRG) in accordance with Worksafe Australia Guidelines. As such, the information contained herein must not be altered, deleted or added to. BRG will issue a new SDS when there is a change in product specifications and/or Worksafe Australia guidelines/regulations. BRG will not accept responsibility for any changes made to its SDS in content by any other person.

IDENTIFICATION OF MATERIAL & SUPPLIER

Products:	AS/ZS6669 - Formply
Supplier:	Big River Group
UN Number:	None allocated
Registered Trade Name:	None allocated
Dangerous Goods Class:	None allocated
Hazchem Code:	None allocated
Poisons Schedule:	None allocated

Use: Formwork, residential, commercial, industrial and marine construction, furniture and fitments, or general purpose building materials.



WOOD VENEER PLYWOOD PRODUCTS

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION/PROPERTIES:

Appearance:

The products are manufactured as pressed boards of varying thickness. They are made from wood veneers of a range of species which are bonded together with thermo set adhesives. The external surface may contain a craft paper impregnated with a Phenol Formaldehyde adhesive.

Odour:

No distinctive odour. Newly manufactured plywood and fresh machined surfaces tend to have the odour of the wood species from which the plywood is manufactured.

Boiling Point	Not Applicable
Vapour Pressure	Not Applicable
Vapour Density	Not Applicable
Melting Point	Not Applicable
Solubility in Water	Highly insoluble
Flash Point	Not Applicable
Specific Gravity	0.50-1.00
Flammability	Fine airborne dust, generated when the product is machined, can ignite spontaneously
Auto Ignition Temperature	>220°C

Components:

Substance Chemical Entity	CAS No.	Properties by weight
Wood Veneer	None	>92%
Phenol formaldehyde resin or	40798-65-0	<8%

Note:

The above components are bonded together under heat and pressure. The process cures the resin. However, small amounts of formaldehyde may be released from the finished product. In newly manufactured plywood, which is the worst case scenario, formaldehyde emissions have been measured in the range 0.03-0.05ppm using the large scale chamber test material, the current emission levels tested and approved are Super E0 for all plywoods which are below 0.03ppm.



HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

Health Effects:

This product in its natural form, is not classified as hazardous according to criteria of Worksafe Australia.

In well ventilated storage areas and work places utilising these products the concentration of formaldehyde in the air will not exceed the World Health Organization standard of 0.1ppm for the general environment and it will be well below the Worksafe Australia occupational Exposure Standard of 1.0ppm on a time weighted average (TWA).

Sealing Plywood with Pain, varnish or other surface finishes further reduces any emissions.

The known health effects of the constituents of the board are as follows;

Cured Resin:

The cured resin is inert & not likely to contribute to health effects.

Formaldehyde:

Formaldehyde gas is irritating to the nose, throat, eyes and skin. It is recommended that storage areas be well ventilated to avoid any irritating effects of a build-up of formaldehyde.

As plywood products have emission levels of 0.03 to 0.05ppm well below the WHO recommended level of 0.1 ppm, under reasonably foreseeable circumstances it is unlikely that the presence of traces of formaldehyde in the product poses any health risk.

Worksafe Australia has classified formaldehyde as a Category 2 carcinogen - probable carcinogenic to humans - on the basis of evidence that inhalation of gas caused nasal cancer in experiments with rats. In the experiments, groups of rats were exposed to formaldehyde for six hours a day, five days a week for up to two years at concentrations of 0, 2.0, 5.6 and 14.3ppm. Fifty percent of those exposed at 14.3ppm, one percent exposed to 5.6ppm, but none exposed to 2.0 or 0ppm developed nasal cancers.

There have been more than thirty epidemiological studies involving over 150,000 people occupationally exposed to formaldehyde. These, and studies of behaviour to toxicity, indicate that exposure to formaldehyde below the Worksafe Australia occupational Exposure Standard of 1ppm TWA will not result in an increased risk of cavity cancers in humans.

Wood Dust:

When the boards are machined (sawn, sanded, drilled, routed, planed, etc.) wood dust is produced. Wood dust and splinters may cause irritation of the nose and throat, eyes and skin. Some woods may also be sensitizers, and some people may develop allergic dermatitis or asthma. Inhalation of wood dust, both hardwood and softwood, may increase the risk of nasal and Para nasal sinus cancers.

Exposure to the wood dust produced from machining the boards may result in the following health effects.

Acute:

Ingestion: Unlikely to occur, but swallowing the wood dust may result in abdominal discomfort.

Eye: The wood dust may be irritating to the eyes causing discomfort and redness.



Skin Contact: The wood dust may irritate the skin, resulting in itching and occasionally a red rash. Allergic contact dermatitis may occur.

Inhaled: The wood dust may irritate the throat & lungs especially in people with upper respiratory tract or chest complaints. Asthma may occur.

Chronic: Repeated exposure over many years to uncontrolled wood dust from these boards may increase the risk of allergies, dermatitis, asthma or chronic nose or throat irritation in some people. The risk of nasal or Para nasal sinus cancers may also be increased. If the work practices noted in this SDS are followed, no chronic health effects are anticipated.

FIRST AID TREATMENTS

Ingestion: Drink a glass of water.

Eye: Flush with flowing water for at least 15 minutes, and if symptoms persist seek immediate medical attention.

Skin Contact: Wash with mild soap and running water

Inhaled: Leave the dusty area

Advise to Doctor: Treat symptomatically

PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

Exposure Standards:

The Worksafe Australia Exposure Standards for soft wood dust, published October 1991, are:

5 mg/m³ time-weighted average (TWA)
10 mg/3 short term exposure limit (STEL)

Hardwood is:

1 mg/m³ time-weighted average (TWA)
2 mg/3 short term exposure limit (STEL)

Wood dust is also listed as a sensitizer and the Exposure Standard is under review. In the interests of maintaining a safe working environment, it is recommended that workplace exposure to wood dust should not exceed 1.0 mg/m³ TWA.

ENGINEERING CONTROLS

All work with these boards should be carried out in such a way as to minimise the generation of wood dust.

Under factory conditions, machining should be done with equipment fitted with exhaust devices capable of removing wood dust at the source. Hand power tools should be fitted with dust bags.

Work areas should be well ventilated. They should be cleaned at least daily, and wood dust should be removed by vacuum cleaning or by the wet sweeping method.

Skin Protection:

Wear loose, comfortable clothing. Long-sleeved shirts, trousers and comfortable work gloves (AS2161) should be worn if skin irritation occurs.



After handling boards, wash with mild soap and water. Do not scratch or rub the skin if it becomes irritated.

Wash work clothes regularly and if possible separate from other clothes.

Respiratory Protection:

If wood dust exposures are not controlled when machining (sawing, routing, planing, drilling, sanding, etc.) a class P1 or P2 replaceable filter or disposable face piece respirator should be worn. Respirators should comply with AS/NZS1716, and be selected, used and maintained in accordance with AS/NZS1715.

Eye Protection:

Safety glasses or non-fogging goggles complying with (AS/NZS1337) should be worn when machining.

Flammability:

These boards are flammable but difficult to ignite.

Avoid a build-up of wood dust and keep all storage and work areas well ventilated.

Avoid sources of radiant heat and flame, and avoid sparks and sources of ignition in all electrical equipment, including dust extraction equipment.

People must not smoke in storage or work areas.

SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION

Storage & Transport:

The boards should be stored in well ventilated areas away from source of heat, flames or sparks. No special transport requirements are considered necessary.

Spills & Disposals:

Offcuts and general waste material should be placed in containers & disposed of at approved landfill site, or burnt in an approved furnace or incinerator, in accordance with disposal authority guidelines.

Wood dust should be cleaned up by vacuuming or wet sweeping.

Fire/Explosion Hazard:

Early fire hazard properties for softwoods as determined in accordance with AS1530 Part 3.

Ignitability Index	14
Spread of Flame Index	8
Heat Evolved Index	8-10
Smoke Developed Index	2-3

Burning or smoldering boards or wood dust can generate carbon dioxide and other pyrolysis products typical of burning organic material. Dry wood dust in high concentrations can be explosive. Use water or dry chemical powder fire extinguishers:



COMPANY DETAILS

BIG RIVER GROUP PTY LTD

Address: Grafton Plant, Trenayr Road, Junction Hill NSW 2460

Phone number: Grafton (02) 66440900

Fax Number: Grafton (02) 66433328

Email: supplychain@bigrivergroup.com.au