

MILL DIRECT

CAUTION!!

WOOD DUST

For All Untreated Wood and Untreated Wood Products

SAWING, SANDING OR MACHINING WOOD PRODUCTS CAN PRODUCE DUST WHICH CAN CAUSE A FLAMMABLE OR EXPLOSIVE HAZARD.

WOOD DUST CAN CAUSE LUNG, UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT, EYE AND SKIN IRRITATION. SOME WOOD SPECIES MAY CAUSE DERMATITIS AND/OR RESPIRATORY ALLERGIC EFFECTS.

IARC – INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER – HAS CLASSIFIED WOOD DUST AS A HUMAN CARCINOGEN (GROUP 1)

- Avoid dust contact with ignition source.
- Sweep or vacuum dust for recovery or disposal.
- Avoid prolonged or repeated breathing of wood dust in air.
- Avoid dust contact with eyes and skin.

FIRST AID: If inhaled, remove to fresh air. In case of contact, flush eyes and skin with water. If irritation persists, call a physician.

See Material Safety Data Sheet for detailed information.

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MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET WOOD DUST

TRADE NAME: WOOD DUST (UNTREATED)

SYNONYMS: NONE

CAS 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 Vol.	Not Applicable
Melting Point	Not Applicable
Vapor Pressure	Not Applicable
Solubility in H ₂ O (% 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 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/m ³ (LEL)
Extinguishing Media	Water, CO ₂ , 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 explosive hazard if a dust “cloud” contacts an ignition source.

HEALTH EFFECTS INFORMATION:

Exposure Limit	ACGIH TLV TWA – 5.0 mg/m ³ STEL (15 min.) – 10.0 mg/m ³ TWA – 1.0 mg/m ³ (certain hardwoods)
OSHA PEL ₁	TWA – 15.0 mg/m ³ (total dust) 5.0 mg/m ³ (respirable fraction)

MILL DIRECT

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 know to occur
Inhalation	May cause nasal dryness, irritation and obstruction; Coughing, wheezing and sneezing; Sinusitis and prolonged colds have been reported.
Chronic Effects	Wood dust, depending on species, may cause dermatitis on prolonged, repetitive contact, may cause respiratory sensitization and/or irritation. IARC classifies wood dusts as a carcinogen to humans (GROUP 1). This classification is based primarily on IARC'S evaluation of increased risk in the occurrence of Aden carcinomas of the nasal cavities and Para nasal sinuses associated with exposure to wood dust. IARC did not find sufficient evidence to associate any other type of cancer 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 products irritating and toxic fumes and gases, including CO, aldehydes, and organic 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 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.

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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 advice before returning to work where wood dust is present.
Ingestion:	Not Applicable

SPILL/LEAD 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 dust disposal.

¹ In AFL-CIO V. OSHA 965 f. 2d 962 (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 (ALL SOFT AND HARDWOODS, 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 the 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 OSHA ACT GENERAL DUTY CLAUSE UNDER APPROPRIATE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE 1989 PELs.

DISCLAIMER

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