

IDENTITY: Wood, Sawdust

Section I – Manufacturer Information

Wood Products
Box 287
Kingsfield, ME 04947

Telephone Number for Information:
(207) 265-2151
Date Prepared: Unknown

EMERGENCY NUMBER: (800) 424-9300 (Chemtrec)

Section II – Hazard Ingredients/Identity Information

Wood dust (general) hardwoods, Softwoods 100%

Section III – Physical/Chemical Characteristics

Boiling Point:	Specific Gravity:
Vapor Pressure:	Melting Point:
Vapor Density:	Evaporation Rate:

Solubility in Water:

Appearance and Odor: Dust of varying size, odor, texture and color.

Section IV – Fire and Explosion Hazard Data

Flash Point (Method Used):	Flammable Limits:
LEL:	UEL:

Extinguishing Media: Dry chemical, carbon dioxide, water spray or foam. For larger fires use water spray. Fog or foam.

Special Fire Fighting Procedures: Move container from fire area if possible. Do not scatter spilled material with more water than needed for fire control. Dike fire control water for later disposal. Use agents suitable for type of surrounding fire. Avoid breathing hazardous vapors, keep upwind.

Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards: The finely divided wood dust presents a dangerous fire and explosion hazard when exposed to heat or flame. The larger dust present a moderate to dangerous fire and explosion hazard when exposed to heat or flame.

Section V – Reactivity Data

Stable or Unstable? Stable under normal temperatures and pressures.

Conditions to Avoid:

Incompatibility (Materials to Avoid): Strong oxidizers: fire and explosion hazard.

Hazardous Decomposition or Byproducts: Thermal decomposition products may include toxic oxides of carbon.

Hazardous Polymerization May Occur or Will Not Occur? Will Not Occur

Conditions to Avoid: Finely divided dusts may ignite easily. Larger dusts usually require longer exposure time to heat a flame before ignition occurs.

Section VI – Health Hazard Data

Routes of Entry

Inhalation: Yes

Skin: Yes

Ingestion: Yes

Eye: Yes

Carcinogenicity:

NTP: Positive human carcinogen (furniture and cabinet making industry). An excess risk of nasal adenocarcinoma has been reported in workers in this industry. This excess risk occurs mainly in those that are exposed to wood dusts.

IARC Monographs: Positive human carcinogen (furniture and cabinet making industry). An excess risk of nasal adenocarcinoma has been reported in workers in this industry. This excess risk occurs mainly in those that are exposed to wood dusts.

OSHA Regulated:

Health Hazards:

Signs and Symptoms of Exposure:

Inhalation: Acute exposure, depending upon the species of tree, inhalation of wood dust may cause symptoms ranging from sneezing, coughing, rhinorrhea, fever, muscular aches and pains, labored breathing, nasopharyngitis, laryngitis, and bronchitis. The irritation caused by some wood dusts may cause sinus inflammation and nose bleeds. These symptoms have been attributed to an allergic type reaction and appear to be very species specific. Pulmonary sensitization to specific species have been documented. Pneumonitis and extrinsic allergic alveolitis may also occur among individuals that are susceptible to the wood dust. Studies have shown that the wood dust may cause this condition itself. There is the possibility that microorganisms inhabiting the wood may also be responsible for causing this condition in some individuals. Many of the more exotic woods have been reported to cause nausea and vomiting following inhalation; these woods have also been reported to cause dizziness, giddiness, and cardiac arrhythmias.

Skin: Acute exposure – all wood dusts have been implicated in causing irritation. This irritation is the result of dust particles being trapped in the clothes of the worker and producing abrasions. The chemical agents may cause contact dermatitis with redness, scaling and itching. Severe cases may progress to blistering of the skin. The areas that are most often affected are the face, eyelids, hands and forearms. Splinters from some hardwoods may produce septic wounds that may take an extremely long time to heal.

Eye: Acute exposure – direct contact with wood dust may cause irritation and inflammation.

Mechanical damage of the cornea may also occur.

Ingestion: No data available.

Medical Conditions Generally Aggravated by Exposure:

Emergency and First Aid Procedure:

Inhalation – Remove from exposed area to fresh air immediately. If breathing has stopped, perform artificial respiration. Keep person warm and at rest. Get medical attention immediately.

Ingestion – Treat symptomatically and supportively. Get medical attention immediately. If vomiting occurs, keep head lower than hips to prevent aspiration.

Eyes – Wash eyes immediately with large amounts of water occasionally lifting upper and lower lids, until no evidence of chemical remains (approximately 15-20 minutes). Get medical attention immediately.

Skin – A thorough cleaning of the body, each day as a minimum, is necessary in the prevention of adverse reactions to wood dust. Any wound resulting from splinters or abrasions should be cleaned thoroughly. Splinters should be removed as quickly as possible by qualified medical personnel. If an infection from a splinter wound occurs, seek prompt medical attention. Remove and wash contaminated clothing at the end of each day.

Section VII – Precautions for Safe Handling and Use

Steps to be Taken in Case Material is Released or Spilled: No special precautions indicated

Waste Disposal Method:

Precautions to be Taken in Handling and Storing:

Other Precautions:

Section VIII – Control Measures

Respiratory Protection: Dust mask

Ventilation

Local Exhaust: Recommended

Mechanical:

Special:

Other:

Protective Gloves: Employee must wear appropriate gloves to prevent contact with this substance.

Eye Protection: Employee must wear splash-proof and dust-resistant safety goggles to prevent eye contact with this substance.

Other Protective Clothing or Equipment: Employee must wear splash proof and dust-resistant safety goggles to prevent eye contact with this substance.

Work/Hygiene Practices:

Section IX – Miscellaneous Information

The Eleventh Circuit of the U.S. Court of Appeals vacated the permissible exposure limits that OSHA issued January 19, 1989. They have ceased enforcement of the 1989 PELs and have reverted to enforcement of the previous limits.

The section in the federal register entitled Organic Dusts of the August 5, 1993 memorandum give specifics for the wood dust PEL. Wood dust will be regulated under the classification Particulates Not Otherwise Regulated (PNOR) and will have a PEL of 15 mg/m³ as an eight hour weighted average.

An explanation of the term Threshold Limit Value (TLV). This is the exposure limit recommended by a private professional association called the American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH). These are recommended only and do not carry the weight of the law. HOWEVER, the Hazard Communication Standards requires that this TLV as well as the PEL be listed on your MSDS forms. At present, the TLV for hardwoods is one milligram per cubic meter (1 mg/m³) of air and the TLV for softwoods is five milligrams per cubic meter (5 mg/m³). Both of these is on the eight hour weighted average concentration.

Section X – Additional Information

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