



MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

REV. 5-12

WOOD DUST

I. IDENTIFICATION

TRADE NAME: Wood Dust

SYNONYMS: None

CAS NO.: None

DESCRIPTION:

- Particles generated by any manual or mechanical cutting or abrasion process performed on wood products.

II. PHYSICAL DATA

Boiling Point.....Not Applicable
Specific Gravity.....Variable; dependent on wood species and moisture content
Vapor Density.....Not Applicable
% Volatiles of Volume.....Not Applicable
Melting Point.....Not Applicable
Vapor Pressure.....Not Applicable
Solubility in H₂O (% by wt.).....Insoluble
Evaporation Rate (Butyl Acetate = 1).....Not Applicable
pH.....Not Applicable
Appearance and Odor.....Light to dark colored granular solid

III. HEALTH HAZARD DATA

RESPIRATORY EXPOSURE LIMIT

1. ACGIH

Substance/Chemical Name	CAS No.	Unit	8-hour TWA Limit	STEL	Ceiling Limit
Allergenic wood dust	-	mg/m ³	1	-	-
Non-allergenic, softwood wood dust	-	mg/m ³	2.5	-	-

2. OSHA PEL (*All softwoods and hardwoods except Western Red Cedar*)¹

TWA: 5.0 mg/m³

STEL (15 min.) 10.0 mg/m³

ROUTES OF EXPOSURE

- Exposure to wood dust can occur through inhalation and eye or skin contact.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF EXPOSURE

1. Acute exposure: Acute exposure to wood dusts can result in eye and skin irritation, asthma, erythema, blistering, erosion and secondary infections of the skin, redness, scaling, itching, and vesicular dermatitis.
2. Chronic exposure: Chronic exposure to wood dusts can result in dermatitis reactions, asthma, pneumonitis, and coughing, wheezing, fever and the other signs and symptoms associated with chronic bronchitis. Chronic exposure may also result in nasal cancer.

IV. FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA

Flash Point.....Not Applicable

Auto ignition Temperature.....Variable; typically 400-500° F

Explosive Limits in Air.....40g/m³ (LEL)

Extinguishing Media.....Water, CO₂, Sand

Special Fire Fighting Procedures

- Wet down wood dust with water 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.

Explosion Hazard.....Strong to severe explosion hazard if hazardous wood dust "cloud" contacts an ignition source.

¹ In *AFL-CIO vs. 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 PEL's were: TWA-5.0 mg/m³; STEL (15 MIN.) - 10.0 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 this 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 non-compliance with the 1989 PEL's.

V. REACTIVITY DATA

CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO INSTABILITY

- Stable under normal conditions

INCOMPATIBILITY

- Avoid contact with Oxidizing agents, drying oils and open flame. Product may ignite at temperatures in excess of 400° F.

HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS

- Thermal-oxidative degradation of wood produces irritating and toxic fumes and gasses, including CO, aldehydes and inorganic acids.

CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO POLYMERIZATION

- Not Applicable

VI. PRECAUTIONS AND SAFE HANDLING

EYE CONTACT

- Avoid eye contact. Flush with saline/water until dust particles are removed.

SKIN CONTACT

- Avoid repeated or prolonged contact with skin. Body bathing and clean clothes are recommended after exposure.

INHALATION

- Avoid repeated or prolonged breathing of wood dust in air.

OXIDIZING AGENTS, DRYING OILS, OPEN FLAME

- Avoid

VII. CONTROL MEASURES

VENTILATION

- Provide adequate general and local exhaust ventilation to maintain healthful working conditions

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- Provide and wear goggles or safety glasses. Other protective equipment such as gloves and approved dust respirators may be needed depending upon dust conditions.

VIII. FIRST AID PROCEDURES

EYES

- Flush with water to remove dust particles, if irritation persists, get medical attention.

SKIN

- Get medical advice if a rash or persistent irritation or dermatitis occur, and before returning to work where wood dust is present.

INHALATION

- Remove to fresh air. Get medical advice if persistent irritation, severe coughing, breathing difficulties occur, before returning to work where wood dust is present.

INGESTION

- If wood or wood dust is swallowed, seek immediate medical attention; do not induce vomiting.

IX. CLEAN-UP PROCEDURES

RECOVERY AND DISPOSAL

- Shovel, sweep, blow and/or vacuum spills for recovery or disposal. Avoid creating hazardous dust conditions. Provide good ventilation where dust conditions may occur.
- Place recovered wood dust in a container for proper disposal.

DISCLAIMER

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