



# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

November 2006 (supersedes December 1, 2004)

Number of pages: 4

## PART I: PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

Product: Multiply® brand premium plywood underlayment panels for vinyl, ceramic tile, carpet, wood, and laminate floors. Multiply® brand plywood is manufactured with phenolic adhesive and trembling aspen (botanical name: populus tremuloides michx) innerplies.

Synonyms: Flooring underlayment

Trade Name: Multiply®

Manufacturer: Multiply Forest Products, Inc.  
20 Horseshoe Lane  
Lemont, IL 60439  
www.multiplyplywood.com

## PART II: HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS

Component: **Wood dust**<sup>1</sup> (Generated as waste by-product of further fabrication by user)

CAS No.: None

Exposure limits: ACGIH TLV Softwoods and most hardwoods

PEL      STEL  
5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> TWA    10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

## PART III: PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Description: 3 ply plywood panel with phenolically bonded aspen veneers for use as underlayment beneath resilient floors and tile. This product has a nail pattern printed onto the surface of the panel to facilitate proper installation. The ink used for this pattern is inert and will not stain or bleed into materials adhered to the panel surface.

Specific gravity: Usually less than 1, varies by moisture content.

Boiling point: Not applicable.

Solubility in water: Insoluble.

Appearance/Odor: Normal for natural wood. Light to dark in color. Color and odor vary depending upon expired time since processing.

## **PART IV: FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA**

Flash point:	600° F for wood.
Autoignition temp.:	Varies (typically 400° F to 500° F)
Explosive limits in air:	N/A for hardwood plywood. 40 g/m <sup>3</sup> (LEL) for wood dust.
Extinguishing media:	Water, carbon dioxide, sand
Special fire fighting procedures:	Follow established procedures for extinguishing wood source fire.
Unusual fire and explosion hazard:	Hardwood plywood does not present an explosion hazard. Sawing, sanding, or machining of hardwood plywood can produce wood dust as a by-product which may present an explosion hazard if a dust cloud contacts an ignition source. An airborne concentration of 40 grams of wood dust per cubic meter of air is often used as the LEL for wood dust.

## **PART V: REACTIVITY DATA**

Stability:	Stable under normal conditions.
Incompatibility:	Avoid contact with strong oxidizing agents and drying oils. Avoid open flame. Product may ignite at temperatures in excess of 400° F, depending on length of time of exposure.
Hazardous decomposition products:	Thermal and/or thermal oxidative decomposition of wood can produce irritating and toxic fumes and gases, including carbon monoxide, hydrogen cyanide, aldehydes, organic acids, and polynuclear aromatic compounds.
Conditions to avoid:	Avoid open flames or other ignition source.
Storage:	In a cool, dry place, away from ignition sources. Provide adequate ventilation.

## **PART VI: HEALTH AND HAZARD DATA:**

Eye contact:	Wood dust can cause mechanical irritation.
Skin contact:	Wood dust from various species of wood may evoke allergic contact dermatitis in sensitized individuals.
Ingestion:	Not likely to occur.
Inhalation:	Wood dust may cause nasal dryness and/or irritation. Coughing, sneezing, wheezing, sinusitis, prolonged colds, and headaches have also been reported. May aggravate preexisting respiratory conditions or allergies. Wood dust may cause nasal obstruction.
Chronic effects:	Depending on species, wood dust may cause dermatitis on prolonged, repetitive contact. Wood dust may cause respiratory sensitization and/or irritation. Pre-existing respiratory disorders may be aggravated by exposure.  Prolonged exposure to wood dust has been reported by some observers of European furniture workers to be associated with nasal cancer. IARC classifies wood dust as a known carcinogen to humans (Group 1). This classification is based primarily on IARC's evaluation of increased risk in the occurrence of adenocarcinomas of the nasal cavities and paranasal sinuses associated with exposure to wood dust. IARC did not find sufficient evidence to associate cancers of the oropharynx, lung, lymphatic, and hematopoietic systems, stomach, colon, or rectum with exposure to wood dust. The National Toxicology Program (NTP) has also listed wood dust as a known human carcinogen. Wood dust is not listed as a carcinogen by ACGIH or OSHA. A large case control nasal cancer mortality study in North Carolina, Mississippi, Washington and Oregon (1962-1977) did not demonstrate an association between nasal cancer and occupations normally associated with wood dust.

## **PART VII: PRECAUTIONS AND SAFE HANDLING**

Ventilation:	Provide adequate ventilation and exhaust to keep airborne contaminant concentration levels below the OSHA PELs.
Personal protective equipment:	Wear NIOSH/MSHA approved dust mask or respirator (where the allowable NIOSH/MSHA limits may be exceeded) when installing Multiply. Wear goggles or safety glasses when manufacturing or machining any wood product. Other protective equipment, such as gloves and outer garments may be needed, depending on dust conditions.
Fire prevention:	Avoid open flames or other ignition sources. Keep fire extinguisher readily available.

## **PART VIII: EMERGENCY AND FIRST AID PROCEDURES**

Eyes:	Flush with large amounts of water. Remove to fresh air. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.
Skin:	Wash affected area with soap and water. If rash, persistent irritation, or dermatitis occurs, seek medical attention.
Inhalation:	Remove to fresh air. Get medical advice if persistent irritation, severe coughing, or breathing difficulty occurs.
Ingestion:	Not applicable.

## **PART IX: SPILL, LEAK, STORAGE, AND DISPOSAL**

Pick up, vacuum, or sweep spills for recovery and/or disposal. Avoid creating dusty conditions. Provide good ventilation where dust conditions cannot be avoided during cleanup. Place recovered wood dust in a container for proper disposal. Dispose in accordance with Federal, State, and Local regulations. Disposal is the responsibility of the generator.

## **PART X: KEY TO COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS**

ACGIH:	American Conference of Government and Industrial Hygienists
EPA:	Environmental Protection Agency
HUD:	US Department of Housing and Urban Development
IARC:	International Agency for Research on Cancer
LEL:	Lowest explosion limit
Mg/m <sup>3</sup> :	Milligrams per cubic meter
MSDS:	Material Safety Data Sheet
NTP:	National Toxicology Program
OSHA:	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEL:	Permissible exposure limit
PPM:	Parts per million
STEL:	Short term exposure limit
TLV:	Threshold limit value
TWA:	Time weighted average

## **PART XI: USER RESPONSIBILITY**

**Important:** This information is offered in good faith. It is believed to be accurate and has been compiled from sources believed to be reliable. It is offered for your consideration, investigation, and verification. Multiply Flooring Products makes no warranty of any kind, expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy or completeness of the information and data herein. Furthermore, Multiply Flooring Products will not be liable for claims relating to any party's use of, or reliance on information and data contained herein, regardless of whether it is claimed that the information and data are inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise misleading.

It is the responsibility of the user to comply with local, state, and/or federal regulations concerning the storage, use, processing, and disposal of the product or subsequently generated waste. It is the responsibility of the user to ensure that this MSDS is the most current version.

### **IMPORTANT FOOTNOTE<sup>1</sup>**

#### **CONCERNING OSHA PELs FOR WOOD DUST**

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 mg/m<sup>3</sup>; STEL (15 min.) - 10.0 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (all soft and hard woods except Western red cedar); Western red cedar TWA-2.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

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 PART II 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 OSH Act General Duty Clause under appropriate circumstances for non-compliance with the 1989 PELs.