

## **ENVIRONMENT HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **Sustainability**

Woodstock and ecoligna dyed veneers made from Birch, Oak, Ash, Walnut, Beech, Cherry, Elm, Pine, Sycamore, Maple, Silkwood and Tulipwood come from the US, Canada and Europe/the EU. They are from sustainably harvested and managed forests or wood-lots. Sustainable harvest means that the amount of timber that grows back each year is greater than, or equal to, the amount harvested. Such forests are managed in accordance with strict laws and regulations to protect biodiversity, endangered species, water quality and other environmental values.

Sustainable wood veneers have many environmental benefits:

- Low embodied energy
- Carbon storage – growing trees absorb carbon dioxide which is then “locked up” for the life of the tree and wooden products made from that tree.
- Land use and biodiversity – Sustainably managed native forests are a natural ecosystem and consequently have high biodiversity. Plantations also support a reasonable degree of biodiversity.
- Wood is a renewable resource
- Veneer is one of the most environmentally efficient and economical ways to use beautiful timbers because one cubic metre of veneer can cover more than 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> of panel surface

### **Supporting information on sustainability:**

- USA – [“Assessment of Lawful Harvesting & Sustainability of US Hardwood Exports”](#)
- Canada – [“Canadian Forest Products: A Legal and Sustainable Choice”](#)
- EU – European Commission [“Sustainable Forest Management”](#)

### **FSC® certified veneers**

Some Woodstock and ecoligna veneers are available as independently certified to be from well-managed forests under the FSC® forest management scheme. Briggs holds a current FSC® Chain of Custody certificate. Whenever FSC® veneers required, please contact Briggs Veneers to check current availability. Please note that the veneer specification and order placed on Briggs needs to specify FSC® for each of the products required to be FSC®. FSC® Chain of Custody Certificate Numbers: SGSHK-COC-002954, SGSHK-CW-002954

### **E0 Formaldehyde emissions**

Natural wood veneer in its raw state has no added formaldehyde and emissions from natural wood are well below Super E0 (0.03 ppm). Woodstock, ecoligna and Tabu veneers do not have any added formaldehyde and emissions are less than 0.1mg/m<sup>2</sup>.hr (= E0). Additionally wood veneer is exempt from the formaldehyde emissions section of the Greenstar tools: download [Formaldehyde Statement Natural Timber Veneer](#).

### **VOC's**

Raw veneer has negligible VOC's (volatile organic compounds). Woodstock/ecoligna veneers are coloured with water-based dyes and do not have any added solvents or VOC's. Any contribution to VOC's and formaldehyde in veneered panels is not generally due to the veneer, but due to the substrate, glues and coating. If the finished veneer panels are required to be E0 and low VOC, please specify all substrates, glues and coatings to be E0 and Low VOC.

### **Health and Safety**

The dyes used in Woodstock/ecoligna veneers veneer do not contain any toxic components such as Lead, Cadmium, Chromium, Mercury or Polybrominated biphenyls.

As in all wood working operations, it is essential that adequate protection is taken against the contact and the breathing of wood dust when processing, and that normal workplace hygiene practices are followed.

*As it is not possible to cover all associated manufacturing materials, conditions, products and methods, the end-user is responsible for carrying out the necessary tests and trials to check that the veneer, coating type, fabrication methods, associated materials and cleaning products/methods are suitable for the application.*