



Western Wood Products Association

522 SW Fifth Avenue Suite 500 Portland Oregon 97204
503-224-3930 fax: 503-224-3934

www.wwpa.org

August 22, 2012

WWPA
522 S.W. Fifth Ave.
Portland, OR 97204

IMPORTANT NOTICE – NEW CALIFORNIA WOOD DUST WARNING REQUIREMENTS California Proposition 65 Wood Dust Warnings to Consumers Have Changed

We previously sent to you materials outlining your potential responsibilities in meeting annual consumer wood dust warning requirements for California Proposition 65. To see a copy of the letter sent to you, go to: www.wwpa.org/Prop65/wdletter.pdf.

Titanium dioxide (TiO₂) was added to the list of Prop 65 chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer on September 2, 2011 and notification compliance is mandatory by September 2, 2012. According to the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), the titanium dioxide listing is for airborne particles of respirable size and does not cover TiO₂ when it remains bound within a product matrix.

Titanium dioxide is a chemical that is used in edge and end sealers in engineered wood and lumber products, wood stencil paints and inks as a color brightener. Not all ink, paint and sealer formulations used on wood products contain TiO₂ and the presence of the chemical varies across individual product lines by manufacturers. The average consumer cannot differentiate between product coatings that contain titanium dioxide and those which do not. Consumer exposure to respirable TiO₂ would occur only when a wood product is sawn, sanded or machined in an area of the product that contained a (TiO₂) sealer, stencil or similar coating.

WWPA has revised the Proposition 65 wood dust hazard warning to include any substance, including titanium dioxide, which is associated with dust from wood products and known to the State of California to cause cancer.

WARNING: Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products generates wood dust and other substances known to the State of California to cause cancer. Avoid inhaling dust generated from wood products or use a dust mask or other safeguards to avoid inhaling dust generated from wood products.

This new warning should be displayed at the retail point of sale or display of wood products so it will be seen by the wood product purchaser prior to September 2, 2012. To see a list of companies represented by this revised warning go to www.wwpaprop65.com/Info.