

TECHNICAL SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

HANDLING AND USE OF PLYWOOD, UNCOATED AND COATED

IMPORTANT NOTICE: These technical safety instructions give instructions and recommendations for the safe handling and use of plywood. This instruction is written by Estonian Plywood AS, following the structure of the safety data sheet (SDS) in accordance with European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) guidance. However, this document is not a safety data sheet - plywood is not a substance or mixture, but an article, thus providing a SDS is not regulated by the REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals) regulation.

To avoid unnecessary compliance and conformity issues arising, it should be noted, that for us there is no legal obligation to provide an SDS and this instruction is done to communicate information down the supply chain. The potential hazards of plywood in case of professional use are related to intrinsic properties of plywood, and not to its composition (e.g. plywood is a combustible material, mechanical processing of plywood may generate dusts, which are potential health hazard and use of personal protective equipment to avoid inhaling is not dependent on raw materials used in manufacturing process).

SECTION 1: Identification of the substance/mixture and of the company/undertaking

1.1. Product identifier

Product name : ESTPLY BIRCH, ESTPLY FORM, ESTPLY DECK

1.2. Relevant identified uses of the substance or mixture and uses advised against

Plywood for structural or non-structural applications, technical class EN 636-2 or EN 636-3 and plywood bond quality according EN 314-2 class 3: Exterior conditions.

1.3. Details of the supplier of the technical safety instructions

Manufacturer : Estonian Plywood AS

Address: Kase, Viruvere, 48435 Jõgeva vald, Estonia

Telephone number: +372 7769000

E-mail address of competent person responsible for technical safety instructions: harti.vahermets@estply.com

SECTION 2: Hazards identification

2.1 Classification of the substance or mixture

This product is an article and not listed as a hazardous mixture.

2.2 Label elements

No hazard pictogram(s), signal word(s), hazard statement(s) and precautionary statement(s) are assigned for plywood according to CLP regulation.

2.3 Other hazards

During processing (sawing, sanding) plywood may generate wood dust, and concentrated dust of organic materials has explosion hazard, when in contact with an ignition source.

Wood dust is a potential health hazard, workers should wear personal protective equipment to avoid inhalation of dust.

SECTION 3: Composition/information on ingredients

Our plywood is a composition of birch wood (ca 85%) and polymeric material resulting from condensation of phenol-formaldehyde resin and carbonate hardener (ca 6%), containing also ca 9% of moisture. Coated plywood contains in addition minor amounts of paper and polymeric material resulting from thermal treatment of resol and/or amino resin. Ingredients present in the product are in non-hazardous amounts or not classified as hazardous. This product may release small quantities of formaldehyde (CAS No. 50-00-0) in gaseous form, however strictest regulations of ULEF (Ultra-low-emitting formaldehyde) are met.

SECTION 4: First aid measures

The health effects listed below are not likely to occur unless dust or fumes are generated by processing.

If you have inhaled or swallowed dust, cough, spit out, and blow nose to remove dust, rinse mouth and throat with lots of water. If you have inhaled fumes, go out into the fresh air. Obtain medical attention if irritation/rash develops or persists, in case of severe allergic reaction call a physician, or emergency medical service.

In case of extensive skin contact: Remove contaminated clothing. Brush off loose particles from skin. Wash affected area with soap and water. Obtain medical attention if irritation/rash develops or persists. If exposed or concerned: Get medical advice/attention.

If you get dust in your eyes, rinse eyes immediately with water, especially under the eyelids. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. Obtain medical attention, if irritation develops or persists.

SECTION 5: Firefighting measures

5.1 Extinguishing media:

Suitable extinguishing media: water, carbon dioxide (CO₂), firefighting foam and sand.

Unsuitable extinguishing media: none known.

5.2 **Explosion Hazard:** Product itself is not explosive but if dust is generated, dust clouds suspended in air can be explosive, if getting into contact with an ignition source.

5.3 Advice for firefighters

Follow established procedures for extinguishing wood source fire.

SECTION 6: Accidental release measures

6.1. Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

Pick up, vacuum or sweep wood dust for recovery (burning) and/or disposal, in accordance with local authorities. Avoid generation of dust during clean-up. Use the personal protective equipment recommended in Section 8 of this technical safety instruction.

6.2. Environmental precautions

Although none specifically required for wood dust, it is good practice to prevent releases into the environment. If a large quantity of dust is inside a building, prevent it from entering drains and ventilation systems.

6.3 Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up: Pick up and arrange disposal avoiding dust generation.

If dust is generated: Non-sparking tools should be used. Use explosion proof vacuum with HEPA filter during cleanup. Keep all ignition sources away from spill to avoid potential for dust explosion. If sweeping is required use a dust suppressant.

SECTION 7: Handling and storage

7.1. Precautions for safe handling

Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practices. Minimize dust generation. Do not breathe dust. Wash hands and exposed skin after handling. Do not eat, drink or smoke in the working environment. Wear suitable personal protective equipment, if dust or fumes are generated during processing. For personal protection see section 8.

Measures to prevent fire: Keep product away from hot surfaces and other similar ignition sources. During processing (sawing, sanding) plywood may generate wood dust and concentrated dust has explosion hazard, when in contact with an ignition source.

Measures to prevent dust generation: When processing (sawing, sanding) plywood, use dust collection system or good ventilation. Concentrated dust has explosion hazard, when in contact with an ignition source.

Measures to protect the environment: Although none specifically required for wood dust, it is good practice to prevent releases into the environment. If a large quantity of dust is inside a building, prevent it from entering drains and ventilation systems.

Advice on general occupational hygiene:

Not to eat, drink and smoke in work areas. Wash hands after use. Remove contaminated clothing and protective equipment before entering eating areas.

7.2. Conditions for safe storage

Store in a dry place. Keep storage site away from hot surfaces and other similar ignition sources.

When stacking on top of each other, make sure to have pallets/legs in same places with previous one, to avoid forces in unsupported areas. Also when stacking, comply with all applicable health and safety regulations, fire and building codes.

SECTION 8: Exposure controls/personal protection

The measures listed below are relevant in case dust or fumes are generated by processing. Plywood may release small quantities of formaldehyde (CAS No. 50-00-0) in gaseous form, however strictest regulations of ultra-low-emitting formaldehyde are met, thus during storage and use of plywood produced by Estonian Plywood, generation of formaldehyde concentrations close to the occupational exposure limits is not likely.

Provide general ventilation or local exhaust ventilation to minimize exposure to dust or fumes.

During processing (sawing, sanding, etc.) of plywood individual protection is needed. Act in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practices.

Eye/face protection: Wear goggles or safety glasses with side-shields.

Respiratory protection: If engineering controls and ventilation are not sufficient to control exposure to dust or fumes then an appropriate dust mask, air-purifying respirator with particulate filter (HEPA) or any other suitable personal protective equipment should be used.

Occupational exposure limit (OEL) values for wood dust are 2 mg/m³ (TWA 8 hours), organic dust 5 mg/m³ (TWA 8 hours). OEL values for formaldehyde in Estonia (2024):

0,37 mg/m³ or 0,3 ppm (TWA 8 hours), 0,74 mg/m³ or 0,7 ppm (STEL 15 min).

SECTION 9: Physical and chemical properties

9.1. Information on basic physical and chemical properties

Physical state	Solid
Odour	Natural wood odour
Melting point/freezing point	Not applicable
Boiling point	Not applicable
Flammability	Combustible material
Explosion limits	Not applicable for plywood. Lower explosion limit for wood dust is 40 g/m ³ .
Flash point	Not applicable

Auto-ignition temperature	250-300 °C
Decomposition temperature	Not applicable
pH	Not applicable
Kinematic viscosity	Not applicable
Solubility	Insoluble
Partition coefficient	Not applicable
Vapour pressure	Not applicable
Density	660-720 kg/m ³
Relative vapour density	Not applicable
Particle characteristics	Not applicable

SECTION 10: Stability and Reactivity

Reactivity	Not reactive
Chemical stability	Stable
Possibility of hazardous reactions	Will not react
Conditions to avoid	Described in SECTION 7
Incompatible materials	Strongly oxidizing agents
Hazardous decomposition products	Does not decompose when used for intended uses. Thermal decomposition may produce: formaldehyde and other gases generated from thermal decomposition of any wood including carbon oxides (CO, CO ₂) and variety of volatile organic compounds.

SECTION 11: Toxicological information

There are no studies available concerning the toxic effects of ESTPLY products. Moreover, there is no reason to conduct them.

–ESTPLY's main raw material is wood). Other materials (e.g. liquid, glue, resin, hardener etc.) used in plywood production, are subject to REACH and they have been registered by the suppliers. As suppliers have not reported presence of Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) above 0,1% w/w w-% (content that would require communication to our customers or to ECHA), there is no reason to assume that SVHC are present in EstPly products on a concentration level above 100 ppm (0,01 %).

SECTION 12: Ecological information

There are no studies available concerning the ecotoxic effects of ESTPLY products on organisms, or accumulation of those products in them. The ESTPLY products do not contain substances, which meet the criteria of PBT/vPvB.

SECTION 13: Disposal considerations

ESTPLY end-of-life products are classified as non-hazardous waste. Disposal must be in accordance with local and national waste management legislations. It is recommended to reuse or recycle as material. When this is not appropriate anymore, the recommended method is incineration with energy rev.

SECTION 14: Transport Information

Plywood and coated plywood transport is not regulated under ADR, IMDG and IATA Regulations.

SECTION 15: Regulatory information

EstPly products are not regulated by REACH, they are not hazardous articles. Legislation on formaldehyde content of construction materials is applicable.

SECTION 16: Other information

Date of issue: version 1 27.02.2024
Date of review: n/a