TSCA TITLE VI CERTIFICATION: DO YOU NEED IT?

KEY COMPLIANCE DEADLINES FOR PANEL MANUFACTURERS

As of today, if you manufacture hardwood plywood or laminate panel products with veneer, you are required to have formaldehyde emissions certification from a third-party certifier approved by CARB and recognized by EPA.

- **JUNE 1, 2018:** Must be CARB or EPA TSCA Title VI certified to manufacture composite wood products in the U.S.
- **MARCH 22, 2019:** All manufacturers must be EPA TSCA Title VI certified

For those who make laminated products*, it’s more complicated. You must be certified if you:

- Laminate a panel* product with wood veneer
- Sell that product as a panel, and
- Don’t sell finished goods* or component parts* to consumers

While some architectural panel manufacturers believe that they should be considered a laminated product producer or fabricator – and therefore claim exemption – the regulation clearly states otherwise.

*See definitions on reverse

IT'S NOT WORTH THE RISK:

- Civil penalties of up to $37,500 per day
- Criminal penalties of up to $50,000 per day

THE EXPERTS AT CAPITAL TESTING℠ CAN HELP:

- We have decades of experience with large and small manufacturers of specialty plywood products
- We develop quality management systems to ensure compliance
- We provide accurate and timely testing services, all conducted in-house
- We provide accredited testing and certification services to manufacturers throughout the U.S. and Canada
- Capital Testing℠ (formerly HPVA Laboratories®) is approved by CARB and is the first third-party agency approved by the EPA for TSCA Title VI certification

If you need certification – or need help deciding if you need certification – contact Capital Testing℠.
KEY DEFINITIONS UNDER TSCA TITLE VI
To read the exact wording, download the regulation:
www.epa.gov/formaldehyde

**LAMINATED PRODUCT** means a product where a wood or woody grass veneer is affixed to a particleboard core or platform, a medium-density fiberboard core or platform, or a veneer core or platform. A laminated product is a component part used in the construction or assembly of a finished good.

A laminated product is produced by either the fabricator of the finished good in which the product is incorporated or by a fabricator who uses the laminated product in the further construction or assembly of a component part.

Under the regulation, a panel cannot be considered a laminated product.

**PANEL** means a thin (usually less than two inches thick), flat, usually rectangular piece of particleboard, medium-density fiberboard or hardwood plywood. Panel producers who emboss or create an irregular surface on composite wood products during pressing are considered panel manufacturers and must be third-party certified.

Cutting panels into smaller pieces, without additional fabrication, doesn't make the panel into a component part or finished good. These companies are considered panel manufacturers and must be third-party certified.

Note that this definition doesn't include items made for research and development, as long as these items are not sold, supplied, or offered for sale.

**FINISHED GOOD** means any good or product, other than a panel, that 1. contains hardwood plywood (with a veneer or composite core), particleboard, or medium-density fiberboard and 2. that is not a component part or other part used in the assembly of a finished good.

**COMPONENT PART** is an object other than a panel that contains one or more composite wood products and is used in the construction or assembly of finished goods.

Laminated product producers and fabricators, though exempt from testing and certification, are still covered by TSCA Title VI. The experts at Capital Testing℠ can provide all needed consulting and supplier evaluation services to evaluate claims of compliance, verify supplier certification records and certificates, perform emissions testing, and develop internal documentation and labeling programs.

Capital Testing℠ also offers due diligence testing. Extensive testing of imported products has shown that emissions and certification are often misrepresented. Demonstrate your commitment to your customers by ordering independent testing to verify suppliers’ emissions and certification claims.

**Capital Testing℠**
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