



# Sykes Timber

Timber Specialists Since 1862

## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

### PLYWOOD AND WOOD BASED SHEET MATERIALS

#### HEALTH HAZARD DATA:

- Dust Inhalation:  
No distinction is made regarding individual timber species as listed in Schedule 1 of the COSHH Regulations. Hardwood dust has been assigned a maximum exposure limit of 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>. Softwood dust has yet to be assigned a maximum exposure limit but a guidance level of 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> has been set. General exposure to Hardwood and Softwood dust is liable to cause irritation to nose and throat.
- Eye contact:  
Dust particles may cause irritation on contact.
- Skin contact:  
Dust particles or splinters that come into contact with or enter the skin may cause irritation.
- Ingestion:  
May be harmful if particles are swallowed.
- Formaldehyde:  
Most composite sheet materials contain a Formaldehyde based glue, typically made up as follows: -

Phenol Formaldehyde Resin	-	About 81 %
Fillers and Hardeners	-	About 14 %
Water	-	About 5 %

Under certain conditions low level Formaldehyde emissions may occur. These generally fall well below the maximum exposure limit of 2ppm.

Formaldehyde emissions below 1ppm are usually clearly indicated by a strong unpleasant odour, which provides a useful indication of its presence. Should this occur, it is important to ventilate the area adequately.