

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY



[A guide to how the manufacturing process of Wilsonart® Laminate affects the environment.]



Wilsonart® Laminate

[Working *With* the Environment

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: THROUGH PRODUCTS

Based on recovered material content in our kraft papers, our finished laminate contains about 22% recovered material, by weight.

- Only renewable forest products are used in our laminates. They contain no heavy metals, rain forest timber or tropical hardwoods.
- Our products do not contain, nor are they manufactured with, ozone-depleting substances.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: THROUGH PROCESSES

Recycling Process Scrap

- Scrap kraft paper used as protective padding in our presses is recycled into cereal boxes and drywall backing.
- Laminate scrap is ground, bagged and sold to the oil industry as a drilling fluid additive, which prevents the loss of this potentially contaminating fluid into the earth.
- Scrap metal from aging equipment and maintenance functions is recycled into angle iron and rebar.
- Scrap melamine-treated paper is recycled into dinnerware, electrical components and buttons.
- Aluminum foil still used in some laminate texturing is recycled into other aluminum sheet products.
- Metal banding, cardboard packaging and plastic containers from incoming goods are recycled into usable materials.

An estimated 20 million pounds of material is recycled and conserved annually.

Pollution Prevention

- All PCB transformers have been removed from service and replaced with non-PCB containing devices.
- Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) from our truck fleet's air conditioners are captured and recycled by licensed service technicians.
- Truck fleet and forklift drain oil is saved and rebled into new marine grade fuels.
- Worn fleet truck tires are removed, recapped and reinstalled from 2 to 4 times before being removed from service (when they are sent to a recycling facility).
- No hazardous wastes are generated in the decorative paper treating process.

Reducing Demand on Resources

- Use of reusable stainless steel plates in lieu of aluminum foil for laminate surface texturing has nearly eliminated the need for aluminum foil.
 - Heat from the incineration of dust generated by sanding the back side of laminate, and incineration of fumes given off by the curing resins in our ovens, is used to produce steam for our laminate presses, reducing natural gas use.
 - Wash water from the cleaning of paper-treating equipment is reused in the phenolic resin treating process in lieu of tap water.
 - Reducing our laminate sample size by 32% reduced our material requirements and eliminated nearly 375 tons of laminate waste in sample production.
-



LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (LEED)

By specifying Wilsonart Laminate in your projects, you may be eligible for LEED points in the following areas:

Recycled Content (MR Credit 4)

Wilsonart High Pressure Decorative Laminate has a recovered material (pre-consumer or post-industrial) content of approximately 22% by weight. This is not to be confused with post-consumer recycled content.

Local/Regional Materials (MR Credit 5) Wilsonart High Pressure Decorative Laminate that is sold in the United States is manufactured either in Temple, Texas, or in Asheville, North Carolina.

Certified Wood (MR Credit 7)

Wilsonart International uses Kraft paper sourced by suppliers who are third party certified to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard (SFI). The SFI is endorsed by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC).

Low-Emitting Materials (EQ Credit 4.4)

Wilsonart Adhesive H2O meets the VOC requirements of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule #1168, for contact adhesives applications.

Wilsonart Laminate and Adhesives do not contain urea-formaldehyde resins.

WHEN IT COMES TO THE ENVIRONMENT, WE'RE ALL IN IT TOGETHER.

For almost 50 years, Wilsonart International has been a responsible member of the global community. And in recent years, as our manufacturing and distribution networks have grown into a worldwide network, our impact on the environment has become an increasingly important part of our culture. The fact is, environmental responsibility is a policy to us, not a one-time project. It's simply good business. Here are just a few of the ways we address the environmental issues we face on a daily basis.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: THROUGH PARTNERS

Wilsonart International has many partners and suppliers who share our vision for a clean and safe environment, and who take measures of their own to ensure their practices and efforts meet high environmental standards. For example, our primary kraft paper supplier was awarded the National Geographic Society's Chairman's Award for Resource Conservation and Education, the North American Waterfowl Management Plan Committee's Blue Heron Award, and the Ecological Society of America's Corporate Award.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: THROUGH COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

We work hard to make sure that Wilsonart Laminate is an environmentally responsible material from raw material through to installation. We haven't yet solved the concern about what happens to laminate after it has served its purpose, but we're working on it! Because laminate is a durable material, products clad in laminate may still serve a useful purpose after the original owner has discarded them. We encourage our customers to look for charitable organizations where they can donate serviceable laminated furniture.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: THROUGH INDOOR AIR QUALITY

The GREENGUARD Environmental Institute™ has awarded its GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality Certification to Wilsonart high pressure laminate. All Wilsonart Laminate product types were tested, and will continue to be tested, under the stringent GREENGUARD Standards for low-emitting products.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: THROUGH WORKING TOGETHER

You can help us focus our efforts even more by inquiring about recycled content in our products, and by asking about alternative substrates and adhesives. If you have resource or cost-saving ideas of an environmental nature, we'd like to hear from you. Please contact our environmental staff at 254-207-7000.

For more information on Wilsonart Laminate and the environment, visit us on the Web at www.wilsonart.com/environment.



© 2006 The paper used for this brochure is manufactured with alternative fiber (50% sugar cane pulp & 50% recycled fiber).



BR0450-06