

# FORMICA® LAMINATE BY FORMICA GROUP MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET



## SECTION 1: PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

### MANUFACTURER

Formica Corporation  
10155 Reading Road  
Cincinnati OH 45241, USA

### COMPANY PHONE NUMBER

1-800-FORMICA™

### MANUFACTURER'S EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

**USA (Chemtrec)** 1-800-424-9300  
**Internationally** 1-703-527-3887

### PRODUCT NAME

Formica® Brand Laminates

### Issue Date

November 17, 2012

### Product Codes

DecoMetal, BasicMetal, ColorCore2, Compact,  
ColorThru Compact, Access Floor Tiles, Chemtop2, Fire-rated  
and High Pressure Laminate

## SECTION 2: HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

### EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

No known hazards for material as supplied. During fabrication operations such as sawing, sanding, drilling, routing, cutting, etc. dust consisting of cured resin, paper fiber and minute amounts of formaldehyde are generated at the point of operation. Formaldehyde may be released in minute but detectable amounts when material is shipped or stored in bulk quantities.

**Appearance/Odor:** Thin to thick, rigid laminate sheets, various thicknesses/colors. No significant odor.

### WARNING

**SANDING, SAWING, DRILLING, ROUTING, ETC. OF THIS MATERIAL MAY GENERATE AIRBORNE NUISANCE DUST. THIS DUST MAY CAUSE EYE, NOSE, SKIN, AND UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT IRRITATION. USE OF APPROPRIATE PERSONAL PROTECTION AND/OR ENGINEERING CONTROLS (SUCH AS LOCAL EXHAUST VENTILATION) SHOULD BE EMPLOYED WHENEVER SANDING, SAWING, DRILLING, ROUTING, ETC. THIS MATERIAL.**

**Potential Health effects:** Dust generated during fabrication of this material may cause irritation of the eyes, nose skin and upper respiratory tract. Asthmatic conditions maybe aggravated by the dust generated.

**Likely Routes of Exposure:** Eye contact, skin contact and inhalation

**Eyes:** Dust generated during installation or fabricating could cause eye irritation (tears, blurred vision and redness). In case of eye contact with dusts, rinse affected eye for at least 15 minutes with clean water. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

**Skin:** The dust generated during installation or fabrication may cause moderate skin irritation. Avoid prolonged skin exposure to dust. Rinse skin with mild soap if contact occurs. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

**Ingestion:** Not likely to occur and not expected to cause a significant toxic response. However, ingestion of dust could cause irritation of the mouth, throat and stomach. If this occurs, rinse mouth with clean water. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

**Inhalation:** Sanding, sawing, drilling, routing or cutting of this material may generate airborne dust that may cause eye, nose and upper respiratory tract irritation. Use appropriate personal protection and/or engineering controls (such as local exhaust ventilation whenever sanding, routing, sawing, drilling, cutting, etc. on this material.

**Medical Conditions Aggravated by Exposure:** Dust may cause skin irritation for people with pre-existing skin conditions. Asthmatic conditions may be aggravated by additional dust exposure.

**Target Organs:** Lungs (from dust generated during fabrication only).

## SECTION 3: COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS

This product does not contain regulated levels of NTP, IARC, or OSHA listed carcinogens.

COMPONENT	CAS #	% BY WT.
Paper/Fiber	NA	40–70
Resins	NA	30–50

## SECTION 4: FIRST AID MEASURES

**Eye contact:** If dust gets into the eyes, immediately rinse affected eye for at least 15 minutes with clean water. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

**Skin contact:** If excess dust gets onto the skin, remove contaminated clothing and wash before reuse. Wash skin with soap and water. Seek medical attention if irritation occurs.

**Ingestion:** If dust gets into mouth, rinse mouth with clean water. Seek medical attention if necessary.

**Inhalation:** If excess dust is inhaled, move to fresh air. Seek medical attention if symptoms such as wheezing and/or shortness of breath occur.

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## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET CONTINUED



### SECTION 5: FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

This material is a Class A combustible material. Use water spray, carbon dioxide or dry chemical foam to extinguish flames. Use water to keep cool and prevent rekindling of material.

**Unusual Fire or Explosion Hazards:** Sanding, sawing, drilling, routing, cutting, etc. of this material may generate a Class ST-1 dust. Safety precautions and proper ventilation as recommended by NFPA-68 for Class ST-1 dusts should be followed to prevent this or any Class ST-1 dust from presenting an explosion hazard.

**Suitable Extinguishing Media:** CO<sub>2</sub>, water, foam.

**Possible Products of Combustion:** Various oxides of carbon and nitrogen, ammonia and formaldehyde.

**Protection of Firefighters:** Combustion products may be irritating to eyes, skin and the respiratory tract. Firefighters should wear self-contained breathing apparatus and full fire-fighting turnout gear.

### SECTION 6: ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

**Personal Precautions:** Material is non-hazardous as supplied. Review personal protection measures in Section 8.

**Methods for Clean-up:** Recover undamaged materials for reuse or reclamation. Sweep or pick up scrap material and place in disposal containers.

### SECTION 7: HANDLING AND STORAGE

**Handling:** Prevent dust from entering eyes. Do not breathe dust. Avoid prolonged skin contact with dust and/or filings. Cut, drill, saw, sand, finish, etc. in well-ventilated areas.

**Storage:** Keep away from strong chemicals, solvents and excessive heat. Prolonged or extreme heat can cause damage to the surface.

### SECTION 8: EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

#### EXPOSURE GUIDELINES

OSHA PEL	ACGIH TLV
15mg/m <sup>3</sup> Total Dust	10mg/m <sup>3</sup> Inhalable
5mg/m <sup>3</sup> Respirable Dust	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup> Respirable

**Engineering Controls:** Provide adequate ventilation to maintain exposure levels below applicable limits. The use of local exhaust ventilation is recommended during fabrication work. Dust generated is a Class ST-1 dust and precautions recommended by NFPA-68 should be followed.

**Eye/Face Protection:** Wear safety glasses when sawing, sanding, drilling or routing.

**Skin Protection:** Wear appropriate gloves when installing, transporting, sawing, cutting, drilling, routing or handling uninstalled pieces.

**Foot Protection:** No special protection required.

**Respiratory Protection:** Where airborne concentrations of dust are expected to exceed the allowable exposures, a NIOSH-approved respirator should be worn, chosen based on the form and concentration of the contaminant. Respirator usage must be in accordance with the OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard, 29 CFR 1910.134.

**General Hygiene Considerations:** Wash thoroughly after sawing, cutting, drilling, or routing. Have eyewash facilities immediately available.

Additional information is available in ASTM E1132-99a.

### SECTION 9: PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

<b>COLOR</b>	Various
<b>ODOR</b>	None
<b>PHYSICAL STATE</b>	Solid sheet product
<b>PH</b>	Not applicable
<b>FREEZING POINT</b>	Not applicable
<b>BOILING POINT</b>	Not applicable
<b>FLASH POINT</b>	Not applicable
<b>EVAPORATION RATE</b>	Not applicable
<b>FLAMMABILITY</b>	Not applicable
<b>UPPER FLAMMABILITY LIMIT</b>	Not applicable
<b>LOWER FLAMMABILITY LIMIT</b>	Not applicable
<b>VAPOR PRESSURE</b>	Not applicable
<b>VAPOR DENSITY</b>	Not applicable
<b>SPECIFIC GRAVITY</b>	1.45
<b>SOLUBILITY (WATER)</b>	Not applicable
<b>AUTO-IGNITION TEMPERATURE</b>	Not applicable
<b>PERCENT VOLATILE, WT. %</b>	Zero
<b>VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUND (VOC) CONTENT, WT. %</b>	Zero. Product as supplied is fully cured and chemically inert, VOC release is extremely low.

### SECTION 10: STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

**Stability:** Stable

**Conditions to Avoid:** Avoid exposing to oxidizers, strong chemicals, alkaline solutions and solvents.

**Incompatible Materials:** Avoid strong acids and alkaline solutions which will damage the surface appearance of the material. If spills occur, remove immediately from the material.

**Hazardous Decomposition Products:** Thermal decomposition product may include various oxides of carbon and nitrogen may be released.

**Hazardous Polymerization:** Will not occur.

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## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET CONTINUED



### SECTION 11: TOXICOLOGY INFORMATION

#### ACUTE EFFECTS

**Oral LD50:** Not known  
**Dermal LD50:** Not known  
**Inhalation:** See Section 2  
**Eye Irritation:** See Section 2  
**Skin irritation:** See Section 2  
**Sensitization:** No data for product

#### CHRONIC EFFECTS

**Carcinogenicity:** This product may contain trace amounts of formaldehyde which is listed by IARC as carcinogenic. The ACGIH lists formaldehyde as a suspect human carcinogen. NTP lists formaldehyde as carcinogenic. **WARNING** Substance contained in this product known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm – formaldehyde.

**Mutagenicity:** No data for product  
**Reproductive Effects:** No data for product  
**Developmental Effects:** No data for product

### SECTION 12: ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

**Ecotoxicity:** No data for product  
**Persistence/Degradability:** No data for product  
**Bioaccumulation/Accumulation:** No data for product  
**Mobility in Environment:** No data for product

### SECTION 13: DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

**Disposal:** Material is non-hazardous and no special treatment is required for disposal. Disposal in landfill must be in accordance with federal, state and local regulations.

### SECTION 14: TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

**DOT:** Not Regulated

### SECTION 15: REGULATORY INFORMATION

**WARNING SUBSTANCE CONTAINED IN THIS PRODUCT KNOWN TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO CAUSE CANCER, BIRTH DEFECTS OR OTHER REPRODUCTIVE HARM – FORMALDEHYDE.**

### SECTION 16: OTHER INFORMATION

NFPA Labeling

**Health – 1    Fire – 0    Reactivity – 0**

0 = minimal hazard, 1 = slight hazard, 2 = moderate hazard,  
 3 = severe hazard, 4 = extreme hazard

#### ACRONYMS

**ACGIH** = American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists  
**ASTM** = American Society for Testing and Materials  
**DOT** = Department of Transportation  
**IARC** = International Agency for Research on Cancer  
**NFPA** = National Fire Protection Agency  
**NIOSH** = National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health  
**NTP** = National Toxicology Program  
**OSHA** = Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
**PEL** = Permissible Exposure Limit  
**TLV** = Threshold Limit Value  
**TSCA** = Toxic Substance Control Act  
**TWA** = Time Weighted Average  
**Mg/m<sup>3</sup>** = Milligrams per Cubic Meter of Air

Prepared by: Formica Corporation, John Foged, REM

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GreenGuard Environmental Institute  
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 Cincinnati, Ohio 45241  
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