



THE ULTIMATE  
FLOORING EXPERIENCE



# CARB II Compliance

March 3, 2015

A recent news story has highlighted a major retailer's laminate products, and elevated the issue of formaldehyde content and emissions in laminate products. Since the news story aired, inquiries have come from distributors, retailer and consumers, all seeking information regarding formaldehyde content and CARB II levels. Below clarifies Tarkett's Laminate products, the majority are made in the USA.

**All laminate sold in North America by Tarkett is tested in accordance with and complies with California Air Resources Board (CARB) Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) 93120 Title 17.** The state of California issued this standard in 2008 to reduce the emissions and potential harm of formaldehyde emissions from wood composite products. While all wood products contain a natural level of formaldehyde, high levels can be considered harmful.

Laminate flooring is manufactured using a wood core known as medium density fiberboard (MDF) or high density fiberboard (HDF). The limits put forth in CARB II vary by the thickness of the core board. Products that are less than 8mm must be <0.13 PPM

Products that are 8mm or greater must be <0.11 PPM

In accordance with CARB II, this testing is performed on the HDF board itself, and not on the finished product. All of Tarkett's suppliers are audited and samples are continuously tested for compliance with CARB II.

Tarkett has been on a pursuit of excellence in sustainability since 1957.

In 2010, Tarkett, in conjunction with the EPEA (Environmental Protection and Encouragement Agency) led by Michael Braungart (author of Cradle 2 Cradle and the Upcycle), committed to become a C2C company by 2020; in 2012, Tarkett signed with the Ellen McArthur Foundation Circular Economy 100 as one of the first 10 companies to implement circular economy principles which reinforce the C2C commitment made two years prior.

Our closed loop, circular design strategy includes 4 pillars: good materials, resource stewardship, people friendly spaces and reuse/recycling. This approach demonstrates the importance of understanding our processes and chemistry in order for circular design to work. Since 2010, materials across our 34 global manufacturing plants have been assessed by EPEA, according to Cradle to Cradle principles, in a continuous effort of improvement and optimization and with a road map of 100% completion by 2020.

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