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Safety Data Sheet

IMPORTANT NOTICE This Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is issued by Weathertex Pty Ltd in accordance with Worksafe Australia Guidelines. As such, the information contained herein must not be altered, deleted or added to. Weathertex Pty Ltd will issue a new MSDS when there is a change in product specifications and/or Worksafe Australia guidelines/regulations. Weathertex Pty Ltd will not accept any responsibility for any changes made to its MSDS in content by any other person.

IDENTIFICATION

Product Name/Names

- Weathertex Sheets
- Weathertex Planks
- Weathertex Primelok Planks

Un Number: None Allocated
Dangerous Goods Class and Subsidiary Risk: None Allocated
Hazchem Code: None Allocated
Poisons Schedule: Not Scheduled
Uses: Exterior wall cladding and exterior signboard

Physical Description/Properties:

Appearance: The products are manufactured as 9.5mm thick, pressed hardboards. They are made from wood fibres, which are reunited under heat and pressure. With the exception of Weathertex Wall Shingles, the products are paint coated on all surfaces. A PVC spline is inserted into the back of Weathertex Primelok.

Boiling Point, °C:	Not Applicable
Vapour Pressure, mm Hg at 25 °C:	Not Applicable
Solubility in Water, g/l:	Negligible
Specific Gravity:	0.9-1.1
Flash Point, °C:	Not Applicable
Flammability Limits, %:	Not Applicable
Autoignition Temp, °C:	Does not auto-ignite

Other Properties:

Early Fire Hazard Indices to AS 1530.3:

Ignitability Index:	14
Spread of Flame Index:	7
Heat Evolved Index:	6
Smoke Developed Index:	4

Ingredients:

Substance CAS No Proportion

Hardwood (mixed eucalypt species)	None	> 95%
Paraffin Wax	8002-74-2	< 4%
Pigmented Primer		< 1%

HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

The boards in their intact state are not classified as hazardous according to the criteria of Worksafe Australia.

Health Effects

The known health effects of the constituents of the board are as follows:

Wood dust: When the boards are machined (sawn, sanded, drilled, routed, planed, etc.) wood dust is produced. Wood dust may cause irritation of the nose and throat, eyes and skin, some woods may also be sensitizers, some people may develop allergic dermatitis or asthma. Inhalation of wood dusts may increase the risk of nasal and paranasal sinus cancers.

Paraffin wax: Wax vapour may be irritating to the nose and throat, eyes and skin if the board is heated to 120° or more.

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Exposure to wood dust produced from machining the boards may result in the following health effects:

ACUTE:

Swallowed: Unlikely to occur but swallowing the dust may result in abdominal discomfort.

Eye: The dust and vapour may be irritating to the eyes causing discomfort and redness.

Skin: The dust and vapour may irritate the skin, resulting in itching and occasionally a red rash. Allergic dermatitis may occur.

Inhaled: The dust and vapour may irritate the nose, throat and lungs, especially in people with upper respiratory tract or chest complaints. Asthma may occur.

CHRONIC:

Repeated exposures over many years to uncontrolled wood dusts and vapours from these boards may increase the risk of allergic dermatitis, asthma or chronic nose or throat irritation in some people. The risk of nasal or paranasal sinus cancers may be increased but if the work practices noted in this MSDS are followed no chronic health effects are anticipated.

First Aid

Swallowed: Drink a glass of water.

Eye: Flush with flowing water for at least 15 minutes, and if symptoms persist seek immediate medical attention.

Skin: Wash with mild soap and running water.

Inhaled: Leave the dusty area.

Advice to Doctor

Treat Symptomatically

PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

Exposure Standards

The Worksafe Australia Exposure Standards published in October 1991 are:

Wood dust: 1 mg/m³ time-weighted average (TWA)

Paraffin wax (fume): 2mg/m³ time-weighted average (TWA)

Engineering Controls

- All work with these boards should be carried out in such a way as to minimise the generation of dust and vapour.
- Under factory conditions, machining should be done with equipment fitted with exhaust devices capable of removing wood dust and vapour at the source. Hand power tools should be fitted with dust bags and used in well ventilated areas.
- Work areas should be well ventilated. They should be cleaned at least daily, and dust removed by vacuum cleaning or wet sweeping method.

Personal Protection

Skin Protection: Wear loose, comfortable clothing. Long sleeved shirts and trousers are recommended if skin irritation occurs.

After handling boards, wash with mild soap and water. Do not scratch or rub the skin if it becomes irritated. Wash work clothes regularly and separately from other clothes. Comfortable work gloves (AS/NZS 2161) should be worn.

Respiratory Protection: A class P1 or P2 replaceable filter or disposable half face-piece respirator should be worn when machining. Respirators should comply with AS/NZS 1716 and be selected, used and maintained in accordance with AS/NZS 1715.

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Eye Protection: General use industrial safety glasses or non fogging goggles (AS/NZS 1337) should be worn when machining.

Flammability

- These boards are flammable but difficult to ignite.
- Avoid build-up of dust and keep all storage and work areas well ventilated.
- Avoid sources of radiant heat and flame; and avoid sparks and sources of ignition in all electrical equipment, including dust extraction equipment.
- People must not smoke in storage or work areas.

SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION

Storage and Transport

- The boards should be stored in well ventilated areas away from sources of heat, flame or sparks.
- No special transport requirements are considered necessary.

Spills and Disposal

Off-cuts and general waste material should be placed in containers and disposed of at approved landfill sites, or burnt in an approved furnace or incinerator, in accordance with disposal authority guidelines.

Smoking

Weathertex Pty Ltd recommends that all work areas be non-smoking areas.

Fire/Explosion Hazard

- Burning or smouldering boards or dust can generate carbon dioxide and other pyrolysis products typical of burning organic material.
- Use water or dry foam fire extinguishers.
- Dry dusts in high concentrations can be explosive.

LABELLING

Warning: This is a reconstituted wood product made from wood, and wax. Exposure to wood dust may cause irritation to the eyes, respiratory system and skin, and may cause sensitisation by inhalation resulting in asthma, and by skin contact resulting in dermatitis. In addition, inhalation of wood dust may cause cancer.

Worksafe Australia has established Exposure Standards for wood dust, based on the known health effects. Levels of wood dust must be kept below these Exposure Standards.

Wood products should be handled in accordance with safe work practices to minimise exposure to dust generated during cutting and machining. To assist in this, work and storage areas must be well ventilated and kept clean. Sawing, sanding and routing equipment should be fitted with dust extractors. Wearing a dust mask conforming with Australian Standard AS/NZS 1715 and AS/NZS 1716 and eye protection conforming with AS/NZS 1337 is recommended and is essential if dust levels exceed Worksafe Australia Exposure Standards.

When handling, working or cleaning up, wear protective clothing and gloves. Wash skin and clothing afterwards.

Offcuts, shavings and dust should be disposed of in a manner, which avoids the generation of dust, and in accordance with the requirements of local waste disposal authorities. For further information, refer to the material safety data sheet for this product, or call 1800 040 080.

OTHER INFORMATION

Contact Point

Plant Manager
Weathertex Pty Ltd
Masonite Road, Raymond Terrace NSW 2324

Telephone No: 1800 040 080 Facsimile No: 1800 647 926

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