

# SAFEGUARDS

SGS CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

HARDLINES

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## US CARB UPDATES: PART 6 EXTENSION ON SELL-THROUGH DATES

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) recently granted an extension of four-months in the enforcement of the Phase 1 sell-through dates for distributors and retailers of composite wood product panels manufactured before January 1, 2009.

In August 2008, CARB published a regulatory advisory on the sell-through provisions for manufacturers, importers, distributors, fabricators, and retailers of composite wood products and finished goods <sup>1</sup>. On January 1, 2009, the Airborne Toxic Control Measure's (ATCM) Phase 1 formaldehyde emission standards took effect for Hardwood Plywood - Veneer Core (HWPW-VC), Particleboard (PB), Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF) and thin-MDF ( $\leq 8$  mm). The Phase 1 formaldehyde emission standards for HWPW-Composite Core (CC) will take effect on July 1, 2009 <sup>2</sup>. To be in compliance, manufacturers of such composite wood products are required to retain the services of a CARB approved independent third party certifier (TPC) to verify that their manufacturing mill production is in compliance with the applicable emission standards.



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<sup>1</sup> Sell-through provision that apply to manufacturers, importers, distributors, fabricators, and retailers of composite wood products and finished goods, Advisory: # 380; August 2008, California Air Resources Board, [More](#)

<sup>2</sup> Composite Wood Products ATCM', California Environmental Protection Agency, Air Resources Board and references therein [Click Here](#)  
California: Formaldehyde Emission Requirements to be Lowered for Composite Wood Products, Safeguards 60/08, SGS Consumer Testing Services, September 2008

<sup>3</sup> Extension of sell-through dates for distributors and retailers of composite wood product panels manufactured before January 1, 2009, Composite Wood Products Regulation Advisory: 09-02, May 29, 2009, California Air Resources Board, [More](#)

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On May 29, 2009, CARB published an advisory to extend the sell-through dates by 4 months for distributors and retailers of composite wood product panels manufactured before January 1, 2009<sup>3</sup>. During this period, these products will not be subjected to civil penalties. Highlights on the 4-month extension are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1

| Item | Business    | Original Effective Date | New Effective Date (4 month extension) |
|------|-------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1    | Distributor | May 31, 2009            | September 30, 2009                     |
| 2    | Retailer    | December 31, 2009       | April 30, 2010                         |

SGS is committed to inform interested parties as development on CARB and other legislation occur.

Throughout our global network of laboratories, we are able to provide a range of services, including analytical testing and consultancy for formaldehyde emission in composite wood products for the US and worldwide markets. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.



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