



## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY INFORMATION

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Company Name: Nevamar Decorative Surfaces  
Product: Nevamar® high pressure laminate

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Into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we at Nevamar® Decorative Surfaces renew our commitment to preserve our environment and enhance the quality of life in the communities we serve. Our environmental focus is manifested in many initiatives - both large and small - that reflect the strength of that commitment. At Nevamar, we will continue to advocate expanded awareness and encourage new ideas that help keep our promise to preserve a vibrant and healthy environment.

**Does Nevamar high pressure laminate contain renewable material? If so, what makes it renewable?**

A large component of the high pressure laminate is paper - kraft and decorative print, both renewable resources. Up to 60% of the product is comprised of paper.

**Discuss potential for recycling materials from local suppliers. Provide any information available regarding environmental impacts during extraction of raw materials, manufacturing, processing, and transport of your product.**

The laminate manufacturing process at Nevamar consists of pressing melamine resin impregnated pattern paper over layers of phenolic resin impregnated kraft paper under closely controlled pressures and temperatures. The back is sanded to maintain a uniform thickness and to facilitate bonding. All of our treaters and presses are permitted for air emissions by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environment Control (DHEC). Our discharge of non-contact cooling water used to cool the presses is controlled by NPDES permits, which require extensive sampling and control. The state agency DHEC regularly inspects the facility to ensure that we are in compliance with all permits. Nevamar strictly adheres to a policy of 100% compliance with all environmental requirements.

Up to 60% of laminate is comprised of paper. Of this paper, more than 33% is of residue wood chips collected from the lumber manufacturing process. These residue chips are converted into pulp for the paper making process. Additionally, up to 10% of trimmings in the paper making process are recycled back into making more paper (post industrial recycle content).



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### **Describe the use of sustainable wood products.**

The majority of paper component in our product is sourced from a supplier who implements Sustainable Forestry Initiative<sup>SM</sup> Standard (SFIS), which encourages active management of the resource to protect forest health and maintain or improve forest productivity. SFIS supports the development of forest plantations with appropriate species on sites where they are suited. Furthermore, SFIS supports responsible scientific research, including contribution of biotechnology to our wood supply.

### **Has the product been evaluated for out-gassing and what contaminants and quantities are present?**

Nevamar high pressure laminate was tested by National Particleboard Association according to Formaldehyde Test Method-2 1985, Large Chamber Test Method and found to have emissions below the sensitivity of the test.

### **Installation/Maintenance.**

- **Briefly describe the recommended installation process**

The application, fabrication and installation of Nevamar laminates should be in accordance with ANSI/NEMA standards LD3, latest edition, section on "Application, Fabrication and Installation".

### **Can the installation of your product involve a low or "0" VOC adhesive? If so, what product(s) do you recommend?**

Nevamar laminates can be fabricated with adhesives systems that have low or "0" VOC, such as 3M<sup>TM</sup> Fastbond<sup>TM</sup> water based contact adhesive, or Borden Chemical Inc's Wonderbond for fire rated applications. Contact manufacturers for product data and application procedures.

- **Please rate the durability of your product as light, normal or heavy usage and provide documentation in support of the product's expected life span.**

Nevamar high pressure laminate is manufactured with the Armored Protection<sup>TM</sup> surface, which provides almost 3 times the ANSI/NEMA standard for wear resistance. This technology protects the laminate surface and keeps it looking new longer. The product therefore does not require frequent replacement thereby maximizes the raw material resources used to make the product. Under normal usage, the product's replacement will be driven more by consumers' changing design preferences than by performance.



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### Manufacturing/Distribution

- **Where is your product manufactured?**  
Nevamar® high pressure laminate is manufactured in Hampton, South Carolina.
- **Where are your distribution centers located?**  
Nevamar maintains regional warehouse/customer service centers for high pressure laminates:  
Aurora, IL    Charlotte, NC    Dallas, TX  
Reno, NV    Westampton, NJ

Additionally, Nevamar is distributed through more than 100 independent wholesale locations throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico. These wholesalers supply manufacturing facilities in their local and regional areas with Nevamar laminates that are then typically fabricated or assembled into a building product that will be installed by a tradesman. Usually, this final assembly is within 500 miles of the project site.

- **What steps has your company taken to reduce waste in manufacturing regarding, but not limited to, raw materials, energy consumption, water and air quality, etc.?**
  - ♦ **Waste** - We work diligently to reduce waste and recycle waste wherever possible. Waste paper, scrap metal and pallets are all recycled. In addition, approximately 91% of sander dust and scrap from the manufacturing process is composted and used in farming applications or chopped for oil well drilling packing material.

A paper waste recycling program is in effect that collects off-grade kraft and print papers at various intermediate steps in the manufacturing process, paper roll cores and wrappers, as well as shipping pallet and skid recycling. This effort diverts in excess of 1 million pounds from land filling to recycling annually.

All Nevamar Decorative Surfaces facilities also recycle other materials such as scrap metal, acetone, light bulbs, etc.

- ♦ **Air quality** - We meet all permit requirements for visible emissions from the facility. Air emission from our cutting and sanding operation are routed through dust collection systems that are greater than 99% efficient. To reduce air emissions, fumes from resin manufacturing are incinerated in our boilers.
- ♦ **Hazardous waste** - We actively work to reduce the amount of hazardous waste generated. The two manufacturing facilities have reduced hazardous



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waste generation by 45% since 1999. Hazardous waste is incinerated, rather than being landfilled.

- ◆ **Water** - Non-contact cooling water is used for the manufacturing process. We employ a closed loop system to recycle 60-95% of cooling water depending on ambient temperatures.
- **How is your manufacturing facility powered? Please provide system type and energy usage.**

The facility uses electricity, natural gas and fuel oil to operate. The boilers generate steam, which is then used in the manufacturing process.

- **Is there a corporate policy endorsed at the executive level regarding the collection and recycling of consumables and the operational procedures thereof?**

Nevamar Decorative Surfaces management and employees are committed to managing resources wisely as an environmental and economic imperative. We firmly believe that an essential part of our business strategy is to make products in a safe and healthful workplace, to manage natural resources wisely, and to continually improve our environmental performance.

We are 100% compliant with all environmental requirements by state agencies. Applicable standards include Clean Air Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, National Pollution Discharge and Elimination System, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, Emergency Planning Community Right to Know Act, Drinking Water Act, Spill Response and Countermeasure.