

**C.O.S.H.H. (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health)  
Product Safety Data – Hazard Factors****Product**

Timbmet supply the following products:

- Hardwood - Sawn and moulded
- Softwood - Sawn and moulded
- Plywood /Blockboard/Chipboard -Decorative and constructional
- Medium Density Fibreboard (MDF)
- Doors & Door Blanks
- Hardwood Flooring

**General Background**

There are no particular hazards to health caused by touch or contact with the products. Persons should take reasonable care when manual handling large, bulky or heavy items. Mechanical aids or team lifting should be considered for the more significantly weighted products. Gloves can be worn to protect the hands from small splinters. Splinters should be removed promptly.

**Dust**

Additional machining operations require control in accordance with the COSHH Regulations and the EH40 listing concerning Occupational Exposure Limits (both are available from HMSO outlets and good bookshops). Health guidance notes record that the maximum dust exposure limit is 5mg / m<sup>3</sup> over an 8 hour time weighted average.

Some people exhibit symptoms of allergic reaction to certain types of wood dust, (running eyes, sneezing, skin irritation). Persons affected by the allergy should not be exposed to the dust. No lasting health damage is likely to result.

**Formaldehyde**

MDF and sheet materials can contain small amounts of formaldehyde in the resins and glues used in their manufacture. The amount of vapour released is extremely small. Normally there are no significant health hazards and good ventilation will minimise any exposure.

**Control Methods**

Efficient dust extraction and ventilation systems should be in place for machining and re-work routines.

**Fire and Explosion**

- Use water to extinguish.
- Very fine dust suspended in the atmosphere is a potential explosion risk. Smoking should not be permitted.

**Personal Protective Equipment**

Use dust masks and safety glasses as necessary. Overalls are recommended for machining routines. Consult competent retailer for appropriate types of equipment (respiratory filters/masks etc)

**First Aid**

Inhalation of dust – Take fresh air and clear nasal passages.

Eye contact – Flush with water, seek medical advice if problem persists