



Innovative New Uses for Soy

Soy Becomes Important Part of Particle Board



Columbia Forest Products continues to turn to soy to help improve their line of plywood products. The company has announced that it will begin producing formaldehyde-free PureBond particle board in the first quarter of 2007.

Columbia's PureBond formaldehyde-free technology involves a patented, soy-based adhesive cooperatively developed by Columbia, the College of Forestry at Oregon State University and Hercules Incorporated. Hercules has awarded Columbia a license to utilize its patented adhesive system on an exclusive basis for all of Columbia's North American decorative panel markets. PureBond particleboard will be manufactured at the company's Hearst, Ontario, facility, which

will also turn the board into finished hardwood plywood and melamine panels.

"The soybean checkoff supports all industrial uses of soy," says Todd Allen, United Soybean Board New Uses chair and a soybean farmer from West Memphis, Ark. "Soy is a great, environmentally friendly adhesive, used in a wide variety of products, including particleboard."

Columbia's PureBond formula is derived naturally then enhanced with a proprietary resin, giving it a particularly strong bonding and water-resistance qualities. This process also enables Columbia to completely eliminate formaldehyde from its standard veneer-core decorative panel production. The PureBond panels eliminate formaldehyde from both press and product emissions, which is good news for everyone, including Columbia's employees.

The company's formaldehyde-free decorative panels are also compliant with the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards. LEED is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design construction and operation of high-performance green buildings. The standards focus on five areas of human and environmental health: water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. The architectural community has put a growing focus on indoor air quality, and the formaldehyde-free panels are a great fit to improve indoor air quality.

To learn more about Columbia Forest Products and its line of environmentally friendly products go to <http://www.columbiaforestproducts.com/>. To learn more about soy products used in the building and construction industry and other industrial applications, visit www.unitedsoybean.org/newuses and click on the "Products Guide" link.

USB is made up of 64 farmer-directors who oversee the investments of the soybean checkoff on behalf of all U.S. soybean farmers. Checkoff funds are invested in the areas of animal utilization, human utilization, industrial utilization, industry relations, market access and supply. As stipulated in the Soybean Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service has oversight responsibilities for USB and the soybean checkoff.