

## Reclassification of Formaldehyde in the EU

December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015

The information contained in this memo is generic and is offered as guidance only. For detailed factory specific advice on handling of chemical products you must consult with the local competent HSE authority.

From 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016 the EU will adopt a new classification for certain raw materials and products containing  $\geq 0.1\%$  free formaldehyde by weight.




From this date the formaldehyde classification is changed from suspected to presumed carcinogen and this means that a certain number of AkzoNobel products will be reclassified.

### How will you know which products are affected?

For products with a content of free formaldehyde lower than 0,1 % there are no changes.

For products with a content of free formaldehyde of 0,1% and higher, you will notice new labels and new Safety Data Sheets.

The products will be marked with the following pictogram(s), depending on the content of free formaldehyde in the finished product:

Concentration of Free Formaldehyde	Pictogram(s)	Text
<0.1 %	-	-
0.1 – 0.2 %		Carcinogen 1B, H350 Contains formaldehyde. May produce an allergic reaction.
0.2 – 1%	 	Carcinogen 1B, H350 Skin Sens. 1, H317

### What is required from you?

From 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016, when working with products containing 0,1% free formaldehyde or more, you will need to up-date the risk assessment for your working process.

Please contact your national authorities for an explanation of your national requirements:

<https://osha.europa.eu/en/about-eu-osha/national-focal-points/focal-points-index>

## How can AkzoNobel help you?

We work continuously with development of new systems in order to give you clear choices. This includes a newly developed range of adhesives that meet the criteria of less than 0.1% free formaldehyde, without any classification.

Below you will find a few examples:

- **LignuPro™ Zero** amino adhesive system for all demanding flooring and furniture applications where Urea Formaldehyde systems are used today
- **LignuPro™ Free** cross-linked emulsion polymer system (EPX) for demanding flooring and furniture applications
- **Adhesive E802** all round dispersion adhesive (PVAc) for furniture applications
- **GripPro™ Plus** melamine adhesive system for load bearing applications such as laminated beams, I-beams and cross laminated timber
- **GripPro™ Light** melamine adhesive systems for applications which require high water and weather resistance, such as multilayer boards, doors, window scantlings and exterior utilities

Please contact your local AkzoNobel representative for more information on these products.

Further advice and information on HSE can be found via the EU-OSHA web site reference earlier.