

# **Technical Bulletin**

**Panolam® Thermofused Laminate** (TFL) product line features a wide selection of solids, woodgrains and abstract patterns selected to meet your most varied design needs. Our expansive color line gives access to hundreds of decorative papers that can be used in both high pressure laminate (HPL) and Panolam® TFL.

You can choose from a wide range of panel sizes, core thicknesses and grades to meet virtually any design, performance or budget challenge.

# **Product Description**

Panolam® Thermofused Laminate (TFL) panels consist of a melamine resin-impregnated decorative paper thermally fused to a substrate such as industrial-grade particleboard or medium-density fiberboard (MDF). Thermal fusion takes place under heat and pressure and permanently bonds the impregnated paper to the substrate.

This process results in melamine panels with extraordinary strength and durability. Panolam® Thermofused Laminate panels are resistant to scuffs, stains, moisture, light and heat.

Panolam® TFL has a hard, long-lasting, water-resistant surface which means lower reject rates throughout your operations:

- less damage occurs at the edgebander
- the panel is more resistant to scratches and abrasions in the shop processes
- the possibility of burnishing is eliminated

Because Panolam® TFL is easy to work with:

- edges are cleaner when trimming panels and machining dadoes
- the overspray of edge glues or finishes is easily removed with solvents
- both sides of panels have finished decorative surface

# Typical Uses

Panolam® TFL panels can be used for a variety of applications where design and practicality are a must. They are ideal for virtually all vertical applications and many horizontal applications, including desktop and office work surfaces. Both Panolam® TFL and Pionite® HPL combined, offer over 300 colors, which allows for the two materials to mix and match perfectly.

There are hundreds of applications for Panolam® TFL:

- Kitchen and bath cabinetry
- Office furniture
- Hospital and medical casegoods
- · Restaurant furniture
- Hotel and motel furniture
- Ready-to-assemble furniture
- · Casegoods and built-ins
- Euro design furniture and cabinetry
- · Store displays
- Closet storage systems
- Computer Furniture

Thermofused laminate panels can be used for most applications where high-pressure laminates would be specified, including horizontal surfaces. Exceptions: high-wear surfaces (i.e. kitchen countertops and checkout counters) or applications where temperatures may exceed 275 °F (135 °C).

## Panolam® TFL Conformance with Standards for Particleboard and MDF Substrates

The table below presents the average performance standards for particleboard and medium density fiberboard (MDF) as specified by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

|                              | Particleboard Requirements<br>ANSI/ A208.1-2016 (Specification Average) |                        |                 |                         | Medium Density Fiberboard Requirements<br>ANSI/ A208.2-2016 (Specification Average) |                  |                      |             |
|------------------------------|---|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---|------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Property                     | M-3i Board  |                        | M-2 Board       |                         | ≤ 15mm or 0.591" MDF  |                  | > 15mm or 0.591" MDF |             |
|                              | Imperial  | Metric                 | Imperial        | Metric                  | Imperial  | Metric           | Imperial             | Metric      |
| Thickness tolerance          |   |                        |                 |                         |   |                  |                      |             |
| panel average from specified | <u>+</u> 0.008"   | <u>+</u> 0.20mm        | <u>+</u> 0.008" | <u>+</u> 0.20mm         | <u>+</u> 0.005"   | <u>+</u> 0.125mm | <u>+</u> 0.005"      | +_ 0.125mm  |
| Variance from panel average  | <u>+</u> 0.004"   | <u>+</u> 0.10mm        | <u>+</u> 0.004" | <u>+</u> 0.10mm         | <u>+</u> 0.005"   | <u>+</u> 0.125mm | ± 0.005"             | +_ 0.125mm  |
| Modules of rupture (MOR)     | 2,176 psi   | 15.0 N/mm²             | 1,885 psi       | 13.0 N/mm²              | 3,130 psi   | 21.6 N/mm²       | 3,130 psi            | 21.6 N/mm²  |
| Modules of elasticity (MOE)  | 362,600 psi   | 2500 N/mm²             | 290,100 psi     | 2,000 N/mm <sup>2</sup> | 313,000 psi   | 2,160 N/mm²      | 313,000 psi          | 2,400 N/mm² |
| Internal bond                | 73 psi  | 0.50 N/mm <sup>2</sup> | 58 psi          | 0.40 N/mm <sup>2</sup>  | 78 psi  | 0.54 N/mm²       | 78 psi               | 0.54 N/mm²  |
| Hardness                     | 500 lbs.  | 2,225 N                | 500 lbs.        | 2,225 N                 | -   | -                | -                    | -           |
| Linear expansion             | 0.40% max   | 0.40% max              | 0.40% max       | 0.40% max               | 0.33% max   | 0.33% max        | 0.33% max            | 0.33% max   |
| Screwholding - face          | 225 lbs.  | 1000 N                 | 202 lbs.        | 900 N                   | 222 lbs.  | 988 N            | 222 lbs.             | 988 N       |
| Screwholding - edge          | 202 lbs.  | 900 N                  | 180 lbs.        | 800 N                   | 177 lbs.  | 787 N            | 177 lbs.             | 787 N       |
| Formaldehyde max. emissions* | 0.09 ppm  | 0.09 ppm               | 0.09 ppm        | 0.09 ppm                | 0.11 ppm**  | 0.11 ppm**       | 0.11 ppm             | 0.11 ppm    |

<sup>\*</sup>CARB Phase 2 compliant or better

Typical substrate performance shall equal or exceed standards set by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) for type M-3i or M-2 board. Panolam® TFL thermally fused to western pine substrate may achieve slightly lower impact results.

#### **Panel Sizes and Substrates**

Thickness: 1/4" to 1 3/8" Widths: 49" and 61" Lengths: 73" to 145"

Substrates: Industrial Grade Particleboard, Medium Density Fiberboard. Fire-retardant panels and moisture-resistant panels are available. ZCore ureaformaldehyde-free particleboard with 100% recycled wood fiber is also available.

Please contact your customer service representative for details on custom sizes, thicknesses and substrates.

## **How to Specify**

Surface shall be Panolam® Thermofused Laminate Panels.

| Color Name:<br>Color Number: |  |
|------------------------------|--|
|                              |  |
| Substrate Type.              |  |
| Length:                      |  |
| Width:                       |  |
| ml : 1                       |  |
| Thickness:                   |  |

## **Finish Options**

| Finish             | Description   |
|--------------------|---|
| Cathedral          | Vertical woodgrain finish with cathedrals spaced    |
|                    | across width of sheet.                              |
| Chamois            | Smooth finish.                                      |
| Crystal            | Fine pebble grained finish with a medium reflective |
|                    | value.  |
| High Gloss         | Smooth finish, with high reflective value.          |
| Medium Gloss       | Smooth finish with medium reflective value.         |
| Natural Grain      | Natural-appearing, linear woodgrain finish with low |
|                    | reflective value.                                   |
| Polished Cathedral | Vertical woodgrain finish with cathedrals spaced    |
|                    | across width of sheet with higher reflective value. |
| Satin              | Smooth finish with low reflective value.            |
| Straight Grain     | Vertical woodgrain finish.                          |
| Suede              | Textured finish with low reflective value.          |
| Super Matte        | Smooth, non-reflective finish.                      |
| Textural           | Fine pebble grained finish with a low reflective    |
|                    | value.  |
| Timberline         | Deeply embossed, linear woodgrain finish.           |
| Wood Essence       | Natural-appearing, linear woodgrain finish with low |
|                    | reflective finish.                                  |
|                    |   |

<sup>\*\*</sup>Formaldehyde emissions for MDF with thickness  $\leq$  8mm (0.315") are maximum 0.13 ppm Grade M-3i has an "i" for industrial to differentiate it from Grade M-3

# Panolam® Thermofused Decorative Panels Surface Properties

| Test for resistance Description   |  | Panolam® TFL Typical Performance                                    |   |  |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| to:   | A measure of the ability of a decorative overlaid surface  | Solid colors  | Printed patterns  |  |  |
| Wear  | To maintain its design or color<br>when subject to prolonged<br>abrasive wear  | 700-900 cycles  | 125-200 cycles  |  |  |
| Stain   | To resist staining by prolonged contact with 15 common household substances  | Tests 1-10: no effect<br>Tests 11-15: no effect<br>to slight effect | Tests 1-10: no effect<br>Tests 11-15: no effect<br>to slight effect |  |  |
| Cleanability  | To be cleaned following prolonged<br>contact with 15 common household<br>substances (a lower value indicates<br>better cleanability) | 10  | 10  |  |  |
| Light   | To retain its color after prolonged exposure to a light source having a frequency range approximating sunlight through window glass  | No effect to slight effect  | No effect to slight effect  |  |  |
| High Temperature  | To maintain its color and surface<br>texture when submitted to a<br>high temperature   | No effect to slight effect  | No effect to slight effect  |  |  |
| Radient Heat  | To resist any damage when subjected to a radiant heat source of exposure   | No effect after 80 seconds of exposure                              | No effect after 80 second of exposure                               |  |  |
| Boiling Water To maintain its color and surface texture when subjected to boiling water |  | No effect*  | No effect*  |  |  |

<sup>\*</sup>Dark colors may show a slight effect.

#### Care and Maintenance

Panolam® TFL panels should be cleaned with warm water and mild soaps. Do not use bleach or cleansers, which contain abrasives, acids or alkalis. Remove stubborn stains with a non-abrasive liquid cleanser such as Soft-Scrub® or Vim® followed by a clean water rinse. Dry the melamine surface after rinsing.

## **Technical Specifications**

#### Fire Test Data

Based on the Steiner Tunnel Test Method of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM-E-84-97) Standard, typical results are:

Flame spread ...... 90

Smoke developed..... 90

## Formaldehyde Emissions Test Data

Panolam® TFL is manufactured using particleboard substrate panels conforming to the formaldehyde emission requirements for particleboard of the U.S.

#### **Fabrication Standards**

Cabinets constructed with Panolam® TFL panels will conform to the relevant sections of standards set by:

- Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association (KCMA) (ANSI A161.1-2012). Recommended Performance and Construction Standards for Kitchens and Vanity Cabinets.
- Woodworkers Institute of California (WIC)
  Standards for exposed and semi-exposed surfaces of cabinet bodies.

#### **Certifications**

Panolam® TFL is manufactured using particleboard substrate panels compliant with the following standards:

- CARB Composite Wood ATCM:
  - Standard Core: CARB Phase 2
  - ZCore: CARB ULEF
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD): 24CFR 3280

## Delivery, Storage & Handling

- Products must be unloaded under shelter. If the unloading process is performed outdoors, products must be stored under shelter as soon as possible.
- · Never store the products outdoors.
- Store panels in a dry and well ventilated area, away from production lines.
- Do not place panels directly on the floor.
- Avoid extreme temperature during the storage and at the time of use of panels.
- Control the ambient air at 21 °C (70 °F) and relative humidity between 35% and 45%.
- Allow time for panels to reach site temperature before use (minimum 1 to 2 weeks).

#### **Limited Warranty**

Subject to the limitations set forth below, Panolam expressly warrants that our products are reasonably free of defects in material and workmanship, and when properly handled and fabricated will conform, within accepted tolerances, to applicable manufacturing specifications as set forth in our technical brochure. This warranty shall extend to the original buyer for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of shipment of this product by Panolam, and shall not be assignable by the original buyer.

This warranty does not cover damage resulting from accident, misuse, alteration, abuse or lack of reasonable care. Due to the variety of uses and applications to which this product may be put, and because the manufacturer has no control over the end products fabricated, the warranty set forth above is exclusive and in lieu of all warranties, expressed or implied, in fact or by operation of law or otherwise, or arising by course of dealing or performance, custom or usage in the trade, including, without limitation, the implied warranties of fitness for a particular purpose and merchantability, and Panolam shall have no obligation or liability to any person or entity in connection with or arising from the furnishing, sale, installation or repair, use or subsequent sale of any product supplied by it.

Our maximum liability arising out of the sale of the products or their use, whether based upon warranty, contract, tort or otherwise, shall not exceed the actual payments received by us in connection therewith. In no event shall we be liable for special, incidental or consequential damages, including, but not limited to, arising hereunder or from the loss of profits, or loss of use damages, sales of the products.

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