

BRIGGS VENEERS

ENVIRONMENT HEALTH & SAFETY **Sustainable Natural Real Wood Veneers**

Sustainability

Briggs Sustainable Natural Real Wood Veneers come from sustainably harvested and managed forests or wood-lots in the US, Canada, Europe/the EU, Australia, New Zealand and Japan. Sustainable harvest means that the amount of timber that grows back each year is greater than, or equal to, the amount harvested. Furthermore, such forests are managed in accordance with strict laws and regulations to protect biodiversity, endangered species, water quality and other environmental values.

Sustainable wood veneers have many environmental benefits:

- Low embodied energy
- Carbon storage – growing trees absorb carbon dioxide which is then “locked up” for the life of the tree and wooden products made from that tree.
- Land use and biodiversity – Sustainably managed native forests are a natural ecosystem and consequently have high biodiversity. Plantations also support a reasonable degree of biodiversity.
- Wood is a renewable resource
- Veneer is one of the most environmentally efficient and economical ways to use beautiful timbers because one cubic metre of veneer can cover more than 1,000 m² of panel surface

Supporting information on sustainability:

- USA – [“Assessment of Lawful Harvesting & Sustainability of US Hardwood Exports”](#)
- Canada – [“Canadian Forest Products: A Legal and Sustainable Choice”](#)
- Australia – [“National Forest Policy Statement: A new focus for Australia’s Forests”](#)
- EU – European Commission [“Sustainable Forest Management”](#)
- New Zealand – All veneer that Briggs sources from New Zealand is plantation grown or FSC

Non-endangered and legal timber

No Briggs’ Sustainable Natural Real Wood Veneer is endangered according to the World Conservation Union’s (IUCN) Red-List (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/#>). Additionally all the veneers that we make from Australian logs and the veneers that we import have been assessed as being of low risk of containing any illegally logged timber.

Greenstar and FSC[®] & PEFC[™] certified veneers

For Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) [Greenstar projects](#), Briggs offers a large number of veneers that are available independently certified to be from well-managed forests under the [FSC[®]](#) and [PEFC[™]](#) forest management schemes*. See the [eco-cert](#) range of FSC[®] and PEFC[™] veneers, and FSC[®] veneers under [Woodstock/ecoligna](#) and [TrueGrain](#) veneers. For information on Greenstar points able to be contributed by FSC[®] and PEFC[™] veneers, please contact the Green Building Council of Australia. Briggs holds current PEFC[™] and FSC[®] Chain of Custody certificates*, giving supply chain integrity from forest to market.

Health, Safety, Formaldehyde, VOC’s

Natural wood veneer in its raw state has no added formaldehyde and formaldehyde emissions are well below Super E0 which is 0.03 ppm (lower than E0). Additionally it should be noted that wood veneer is exempt from Formaldehyde emissions section of the Greenstar tools: see [“Formaldehyde Statement Natural Timber Veneer”](#). Raw veneer has negligible VOC’s (volatile organic compounds). Any contribution to VOC’s and formaldehyde in veneered panels is not generally due to natural veneer, but due to the substrate, glues and coating. If the *finished veneer panels* are required to be E0 and low VOC, please specify all substrates, glues and coatings to be E0 and Low VOC.

As in all wood working operations, it is essential that adequate protection is taken against the contact and the breathing of wood dust when processing, and that normal workplace hygiene practices are followed.

* [Briggs FSC[®] Chain of Custody Certificate](#) No: SGS-COC-002954, Licence Code: FSC-C004099
[Briggs PEFC[™] Chain of Custody Certificate](#) No: SGS-PEFC/COC-0113, Logo Licence No: PEFC/21-31-03

[Download Material Safety Data Sheet- Veneer](#)