

# TOUCHING LIVES AT HOME, WORK AND PLAY:

Sustainable, Durable Decorative Panels Engineered with Endless Design Possibilities

## 2018-19 SURFACE & PANEL BUYERS GUIDE

Specifying composite panels and decorative surfaces made easy!

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The 2019 *Surface & Panel Buyers Guide*, sponsored by the Composite Panel Association (CPA), provides the most comprehensive product and specification information available for North American composite panel and decorative surfacing materials. Included within are design solutions using a wide array of standard and specialty products.

### DECORATIVE SURFACES

Decorative surfaces offer nearly limitless options for design, functionality and reproducibility. They are used in a wide variety of wood-based applications, including cabinets, mouldings, flooring, furniture, countertops, store fixtures, doors and shelving. Composite panels provide an ideal substrate for decorative surfaces – affordable, consistent, uniform in strength and free of defects.

Decorative surfaces can be broadly separated into two categories: overlays and coatings. Overlays include thermally fused laminate (TFL), film overlays (3D laminates, 2D laminates, etc.), decorative foils, high pressure laminates (HPL), light basis weight papers, wood veneer and heat transfer foils. Coatings are utilized in both liquid and powder forms.

### COMPOSITE PANELS

Wood-based composite panels, such as medium density fiberboard (MDF), particleboard, engineered wood siding and trim (EWST) and hardboard can be engineered to meet any project requirements. Customers can specify physical and mechanical properties, as well as surface characteristics, to create end-products with ideal attributes. These composite panel products are produced from renewable and recycled wood fiber. By their very nature, composite panel products are among the greenest materials in the world and a great choice for environmentally conscious consumers.

The particleboard and MDF facilities in this Guide offer third-party certified products to meet the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's TSCA Title VI regulation, "Formaldehyde Emission Standards for Composite Wood Products," that went into effect June 1, 2018. The regulation excludes hardboard and EWST products. CPA maintains a current list of certified and exempt facilities at [CompositePanel.org](http://CompositePanel.org).

Some particleboard and MDF facilities also voluntarily certify formaldehyde emissions to the Canadian Standards Association (CAN/CSA- 0160-16), Formaldehyde emissions standard for composite wood products, or the Department of Housing and Urban Development Standard 24 CFR Part 3280 Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards.

### Other Green Building Programs

The most prominent U.S. green building certifications are the USGBC LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) v4 Rating System, Green Building Initiative (GBI) Green Globes and National Green Building Standard (NGBS).

### ENVIRONMENTAL CREDITS

The following program is designed to recognize the environmental efficacy and/or green building claims of composite panel products available in the marketplace.

### Eco-Certified Composites

CPA 4-11 Eco-Certified Composite (ECC) Sustainability Standard is predicated on life cycle inventory and other verifiable environmental practices. CPA 4-11 requires compliance with U.S. EPA TSCA Title VI



and highlights the responsible use of wood fiber by composite panel manufacturers in North America and includes the CPA Carbon Calculator, an expert tool developed to assess the life cycle and carbon footprint of composite panels. Visit [ECCProducts.org](http://ECCProducts.org) and click on "ECC Certified Companies" for a comprehensive list of program participants.

### SECTIONS OF THE GUIDE

- **SPECIFYING SURFACES & PANELS VIGNETTES** provide examples of applications in specific environments.
- **PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS** detail the characteristics of the materials, common applications and key physical properties.
- **PRODUCT GUIDES** provide company-specific product information for the major manufacturers and suppliers of these panel and surfacing products, including designations for Eco-Certified Composites (ECC) and no-added formaldehyde (NAF) and Ultra Low Emitting Formaldehyde (ULEF) products.
- **SALES CONTACT INFORMATION** is an alphabetical list of all panel and surface companies listed in the guide.

### ABOUT THE COMPOSITE PANEL ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1960, the Composite Panel Association (CPA) is dedicated to advancing the North American wood-based panel and decorative surfacing industries. CPA represents both industries on technical standards, industry regulation and product acceptance.

CPA General Members include the leading manufacturers of MDF, particleboard, engineered wood siding and trim, and hardboard (representing more than 90 percent of North American manufacturing capacity). CPA Associate Members include manufacturers of decorative surfaces, furniture, cabinets, mouldings, doors and equipment, along with laminators, distributors, industry media and adhesive suppliers.

CPA is a vital resource for both manufacturers and users of industry products. As a highly regarded and accredited standards development organization, CPA publishes the industry's American National Standards (ANS). CPA operates an International Testing and Certification Center (ITCC) and manages the Grademark Certification Program, the largest and most stringent testing and certification program for North American composite panel products.

CPA also compiles and publishes proprietary industry economic performance data and technical bulletins on the use of industry products and other educational materials. The association partners with *Surface & Panel* magazine in producing this annual Buyers Guide and the *Material, Technology & Design Symposium*, a unique event for manufacturers, distributors, and specifiers that want to know the latest in composite wood materials, technology and design, and take advantage of unparalleled networking opportunities with the North American composite panel industry.

CPA offers extensive information about the products referenced in this guide and the composite panel industry at [CompositePanel.org](http://CompositePanel.org).

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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