2007 BuildingGreenTop-10 Products

Described below are the Top-10 Green Building Products for 2007, selected by the editors of *GreenSpec*® and *Environmental Building News*™. These products have either been added to *GreenSpec* during the past year (though some may have been on the market longer), or covered in *Environmental Building News*. Additional information on these products is available in the online edition of *GreenSpec* or *Environmental Building News*, both of which are available through the subscription-based *BuildingGreen Suite* (www.BuildingGreen.com).

Collins Pine FreeForm from The Collins Companies

FreeForm is a new FSC-certified particleboard that is produced with no added urea-formaldehyde. A melamine-formaldehyde binder is used rather than industry-standard urea-formaldehyde. Initial chamber testing has shown formaldehyde emissions to be in the range of 0.09 to 0.13 parts per million which meets the recently announced Phase I California Air Resources Board (CARB) standards for formaldehyde emissions—but not the Phase II standards. Within a year, the company anticipates that FreeForm will meet Phase II standards, and it hopes to eventually eliminate formaldehyde-based binders altogether. All FreeForm particleboard carries the Forest Stewardship Council label, designating products sourced from third-party-certified, well-managed forests. In contrast, with many other FSC products, the certification is an option available only at an upcharge. While low-formaldehyde particleboard made with phenolic binders is darker than conventional UF-particleboard (due to the reddish color of phenol-formaldehyde), FreeForm is lighter in color, because melamine binder is white.



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What makes this product green?

- Pre-consumer recycled content
- Certified wood
- · Releases minimal pollutants

LEED Credit relevance:

- ullet MR Credit 4 Recycled content
- MR Credit 7 Certified wood
- IEQ Credit 4 Low-emitting material

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