

Ambro Environmental Policy

Updated: Sept 2010

Ambro openly accepts the environmental challenges placed on them by the design community. We continually seek better products to use, and put practices in place that make our products a better choice for the environment. This attitude and the fact that we embrace design, uniqueness and custom building results in what we hope to be products that keep their beauty for a long time.

Third Party Accreditation

Eco Specifier (www.ecospecifier.com.au)



Ambro is listed on Eco Specifier web site.

Rigorous analysis of the product and gives specifiers an objective snapshot of our product offerings and their effect on the environment.

VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds)

To assure a low VOC emission Ambro is doing a continuous VOC test. The Emissions from a Luminare Product is less than 0.5 mg/m³ at seven days as specified by Green Building Council of Australia Green Star



Certificate: CETEC - VOC Emissions Test

Current day to day Processing

Following are a list of the current activities that Ambro undertakes from day to day that are the beginnings of our efforts to assist in decreasing our impact on the environment.

Waste

While waste is kept to a minimum (for our own cost benefits), we separate our waste into General, Timber recycling & Plastics. Our Wood dust is captured in bins that are re-used in other industries, eventually ending as fertilizer for the Vineyards.

Water

Water is not used for any of our manufacturing processes. The minimal water we use for cleaning comes from captured rain water.

Timbers

All timbers come from managed forests. In Australia this typically means a selective logging program is used, whereby typically 10% of a designated area is felled and then left until it regenerates and then process is repeated.

What is a managed forest?

Managed Forests are forests that typically are thinned by 10% for the tress and then left alone for 10 years, before the process repeats itself. Thinning a forest allows the sun light to penetrate below the canopy, allowing young trees to flourish, often reaching the top of the canopy in 1-2 years. Thinning also reduces the impact of bush fires as the older trees are cleared before they lose dead limbs (perfect for rapid fire spread). As a whole Australia is replenishing it's stock of timbers, that is to say that for every tree felled, another is growing in its place. This means that our overall coverage is the same year to year

Materials

Adhesives

We are continually researching new Adhesives to use which are considered environmentally friendly, we have achieved this for some of our processing, and continue to develop areas where we can use better materials. Most of the bonding systems used by Ambro have been changed from solvent to water based systems. We are continually looking for environmentally friendly options.

Core

The core for 90% of our products is HMR particle board. HMR particle board is all Low Formaldehyde emission as per Australian Standards. Particle board is made from renewable resources (generally plantation pine), and makes use of off cuts from sawmills. All Australian manufacturers of paneled products comply with the LFE (Low Formaldehyde Emission) Standard, which is designated E1 in the Australian Standard. Particleboard made to Australian standards will ensure that formaldehyde stays below the workplace exposure limit set by national Occupational Health and Safety Commission. LFE for Australian panels are less than 1ppm (parts per million). Research shows that at these levels there is no adverse health effects expected for the most sensitive individuals. Environmentally, all particle board and MDF are made from plantation, fast growing trees, making the board used an environmentally sustainable product.

Coatings

Ambro uses 3 types of coatings;
The first is a UV factory rolled finish, which comprises 20% of the total finishing. The second type is a hand sprayed water based finish which comprises 80 of the total finish. It is necessary to have a solvent based sealer for the edges. The solvent based sealer comprises only 2% of the total finish.

UV finishes

UV finishes refers to a coating that is cured with UV lamps. This type of application applies 100% Acrylic Solid in a wet form; it is cured via UV lamps - emitting no VOC's (Volatile Organic Compounds).

Acrylic

Inert material (no off gassing) - we are able to recycle the acrylic.

New Products

The most exciting thing for Ambro is the development of our new products. We have recently developed our 3D high gloss doors which will have full approval in 2010. It was important for Ambro to use environmentally friendly materials. Because of that water based glue is used for most of the fusions.

Kind regards
Daniel Mentzel
Managing Director