



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects
1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148

Date Received

Repository ☐Reference No.
102504372008 DEC 20 AM 7:48
01-DEC-2008**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name

Address

City

PARTLOW

State

VA

Zip Code

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Evening Telephone Number

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle?
In the absence of an Signature of Owner ☐ YES ☒ NO
your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.
Date 12/8/2008

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side

4X4FWDZ29

Make

FOREST RIVER

Model

WILDWOOD

Model Year

2005

Date Purchased

Feb 2004

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number

RV Wholesalers 937-843-9000

Engine:

No: Cylinders

Fuel Type:

Original Owner

☐

Dealer's City

Lakeview

State

OH

Zip Code

43331

Transmission Type

☐ Antilock Brakes

Powertrain

☐ Cruise Control

Multiple Failure:

Incident Date(s)

18-FEB-2008

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Vehicle Component Code: 980000 UNKNOWN OR OTHER

Failure Mileage

0

Failure Speed

0

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make

Tire Model (Name or Number)

Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)

DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036)

☐ Original Equipment
☐ Prior Repair

Failure Location:

Tire Component Code

Tire Failure Type:

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make:

Date Manufactured:

Model No./Name:

Seat Type:

Installation System:

Child Seat Component Code:

Failed Part:

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash

☐ Yes☒ No

Fire

☐ Yes☒ No

Number of Persons Injured

0

Number of Deaths

0

Reported to Police

N

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).

Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e., parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

TL*THE CONTACT OWNS A 2005 FOREST RIVER TRAILER WILDWOOD 24BH SS. SHE STATED THAT THERE IS FORMALDEHYDE IN THE TRAILER AND IT IS VERY DEADLY. HER PETS HAVE DIED FROM THE FUMES BELIEVED TO BE CAUSED BY THE CARPET/UPHOLSTERY. THEY HAVE TALKED TO SEVERAL AGENCIES DUE TO THE LEVELS OF THE FORMALDEHYDE. SHE STATED THAT THEY ARE UNABLE TO LIVE IN THE TRAILER. THE MANUFACTURER WAS NOTIFIED AND THEY STATED THAT THERE ARE NO FAILURES WITH TRAILER. THE FAILURE AND CURRENT MILEAGES WERE 4000.

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Our camper we have talked to the VA dept of Health and talked to a Toxicity doctor he's told us we should not use our camper at all its just has to much formaldehyde in it from our three testing results so we have a 2005 camper we cant use we had to borrow one and the deal is most every one on VA and all states have the same problem Our camper company told us that .but we are worried most don't know it. The time frame for the ones that have them and are in good health is 10 years before they have cancer bad. If your a baby it can start at any time and if your older with poor health the same thing. If you have pets the less weight they are the faster they will get sick get sick and die. We are being referred to the top toxic doctor at MCV to be tested ourselves scary. WE Feel VA and the all states need to stand up and look into this even if its just to inform people if nothing else to have there campers tested it can be done for a total cost of \$ 40.00

We are private owners of these RV's and they won't respond to us, or help any of us with these toxic trailers.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Patlow VA - [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Scientists asking, why are FEMA trailers to

AMID FORMALDEHYDE CONCERNS, RESEARCHERS SCRUTINIZE MATERIALS USED IN MAKING KATRINA EMERGENCY TRAILERS

BY MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW ORLEANS—While the Federal Emergency Management Agency rushes to move thousands of Gulf Coast storm victims out of government-issued trailers, scientists are tearing the units apart to learn why many have exposed occupants to dangerous levels of formaldehyde fumes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is studying materials used by several companies that provided FEMA with tens of thousands of travel trailers after hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005.

Test results reported this week by the CDC showed formaldehyde levels in hundreds of FEMA trailers and mobile homes were, on average, about five times higher than what people are exposed to in most modern homes. Formaldehyde, a preservative commonly used in construction materials, can cause breathing problems and also is believed to cause cancer.



Jim 'Hawk' Herring, with his dog Koko, talks Thursday about the toxic problems in his Federal Emergency Management Agency trailer in the Lakeview area of New Orleans.

PHOTOS BY ALEX BRANDON / ASSOCIATED PRESS

CDC director Dr. Julie Gerberding said scientists need time to determine how—and why—formaldehyde levels varied among different models of FEMA trailers. Scientists from the CDC and the University of California's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory also are looking at ways to reduce formaldehyde emissions in

the trailers.

The study was limited to materials in unoccupied government trailers. Gerberding said other studies indicate formaldehyde levels in manufactured homes are steadily decreasing "in a fairly significant manner."

"Mainly because the manufacturers don't want this problem," she said, "so

they're learning how to use new materials and changing their processing."

Kevin Broom, spokesman for the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association, said Friday the industry would adjust its manufacturing techniques if the government adopts stricter formaldehyde standards than those already set by the U.S.

Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"We in the RV industry are committed to following the science and making sure our products are safe," Broom said in a statement.

FEMA said its New Orleans office received nearly 70 phone calls from concerned residents after Thursday's announcement.

Sherry Gremillion, 45, a waitress still living in a St. Bernard Parish trailer park, said she can't afford an apartment large enough to accommodate her family or close enough to her job. FEMA expects to close the trailer park by March 15.

"I fell asleep crying last night," she said Friday. "I don't think I'm going to make it."

Hundreds of Gulf Coast trailer dwellers are suing manufacturers in federal court, accusing the companies of furnishing FEMA with shoddily constructed units that jeopardized their health. By law, FEMA can't be named as a defendant in the consolidated litigation until next month at the earliest, according to plaintiffs lawyers.

Critics claim FEMA should have reacted sooner to concerns that formaldehyde is to blame for a host of ailments

FEMA trailers house students at University

reported pants.

"They something were ju would ha Daniel B. represen er occup

Another said trailers "real cul

"Obviously lots of I didn't trailers," lawyer f rent and pants.

s toxic?



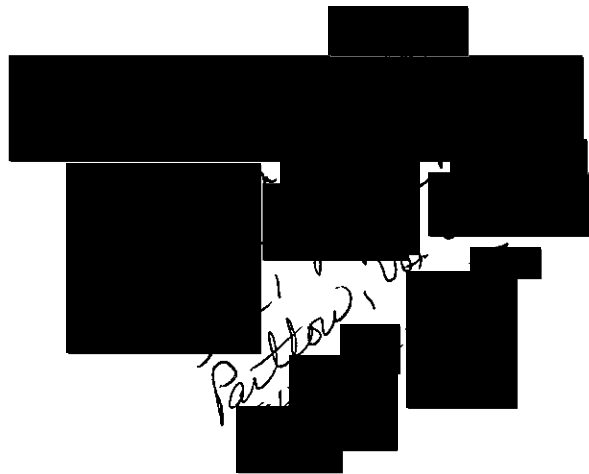
FEMA trailers were used to house students and faculty at University of New Orleans.

reported by trailer occupants.

"They knew full well something was wrong. They were just hoping nothing would happen," said attorney Daniel Becnel Jr., who says he represents about 5,000 trailer occupants.

Another plaintiffs lawyer said trailer makers are the "real culprits."

"Obviously, FEMA made lots of mistakes, but FEMA didn't manufacture these trailers," said Tony Buzbee, a lawyer for hundreds of current and former trailer occupants.



Formaldehyde and Camping - How Dangerous is It?

By Dusti Sparks-Myers, published Nov 05, 2008

Published Content: 17 Total Views: 839 Favorited By: 4 CPs

If you ask one resident of Fredericksburg, Virginia, she will tell you just how dangerous she and her husband believe formaldehyde to be. Three years ago, they bought a new recreational travel trailer because her family spent most of their spring, summer, and fall months camping. They decided a larger trailer with more amenities would be the way to go, especially since they also took their four Chihuahua dogs with them on every trip. Therefore, in 2004, they purchased a brand-new 2005 Forest River Wildwood fifth-wheel travel trailer, believing they would be able to go camping at any time of the year in comfort and safety.

Soon after first using the travel trailer, both began having problems with headaches, respiratory difficulties, and sinus infections after spending a week in the camper; however, at first they had not connected those conditions to the trailer itself. Then, by January 2006, the dogs began to get sick. By May 2007, they had lost three dogs, two from heart and lung illnesses and another one died from bone cancer. When their veterinarian suggested they have the trailer tested, they found out about formaldehyde poisoning.

Initial testing showed the toxic levels in the travel trailer to be 0.119 ppm (parts per million) when the levels considered normal were 0.1 ppm - the level at which EPA and other agencies agree that negative acute health issues can occur. The Virginia State Health Department advised them this result was double what was considered safe. They were referred to a doctor who deals only with people that have been in a toxic environment and which could possibly cause them to become seriously ill or even develop cancer. The couple was also warned to stay out of the trailer, to not use it for any camping or to use anything that had been used or stored inside of it. Two more testing kits showed no improvement in the level of formaldehyde. They had just become one of the many victims of "formaldehyde poisoning".

The symptoms formaldehyde poisoning may produce are numerous and people suffering from them may be unable to work or engage in recreational activities. Formaldehyde may cause several diverse symptoms with one or more of the following: Nosebleeds, seizures, migraines, headaches, coughing, wheezing, pain, dizziness, irritated skin and burns, irritation of the eyes, nose, or throat, difficulty breathing, itching, respiratory problems, pulmonary illnesses with injury, and injury to the gastrointestinal tract. All have all been associated with formaldehyde found in the manufacture of many stick built homes, pre-fabricated and manufactured housing structures, including recreational units. Once sensitized to formaldehyde, individuals appear to be more prone to having additional symptoms in a shorter amount of time.

Formaldehyde is often used as a chemical in embalming and as glue in many building materials and is one of the most used chemicals in the world. Formaldehyde is currently one of the biggest problems found in the FEMA trailers that have been used for victims of hurricanes Rita and Katrina in the past few years. People in other parts of the United States were also developing an assortment of illnesses. Testing of many recreational vehicles, travel trailers, and campers, manufactured by the same people who made the FEMA trailers, found formaldehyde levels far exceeding what is considered safe. Formaldehyde can cause cancer and it has been classified as a carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer. It has also been listed as a probable carcinogen by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

During their research, the family found out that the CDC testing of air quality in FEMA trailers in 2008 revealed Pilgrim, Gulf Stream, Keystone, and Forest River trailers as the worst offenders. They also found that their camper was not covered for any health issues arising out of the levels of formaldehyde. Airing out the camper, as suggested by the manufacturer, did not lessen the levels of formaldehyde. In fact, during the summer, the levels were even higher due to the out-gassing of formaldehyde from the materials used to build the camper from the heat and humidity.

After numerous emails, regular mail, and telephone calls, the family has been very frustrated in not being able to either get the Forest River manufacturer to fix the problem or take the trailer back or refund their purchase price. Their agent, who runs a large local Forest River dealership, has tried to help with little success and is angry himself with the company. He told the family there may not even be a "safe camper".

Currently, there are few standards for using materials containing formaldehyde in any building with the exception of mobile homes. However, some states and at least two congressional committees are studying the problem of formaldehyde in recreational vehicles. It is hoped that these new investigations could lead to stricter formaldehyde standards. In the meantime, this Virginia family is stuck with an expensive, but unusable toy in their yard.

In Iowa, FEMA has agreed to retest formaldehyde levels in the trailers. Previous testing had been done with a view to wards low readings and was not done to mimic actual effects on people living in them. Attorneys in New Orleans, LA are working to combine cases involving FEMA trailers into a class action lawsuit, which could span over thousands of individual cases over touching and breathing the potentially dangerous fumes from the use of shoddy materials that began out-gassing formaldehyde. U.S. District Judge Kurt Engelhardt also held that the federal government is not entitled to immunity from these cases because evidence exists that shows FEMA delayed testing even after complaints were being made. Why would they delay testing? Because they knew, they may be held legally responsible. Others, like the Virginia family, are seeking information on how to file against these same manufacturers of FEMA trailers for the same reasons.

If you believe you are suffering from illnesses caused by formaldehyde, contact your doctor and your state or local health department immediately. Research the problem of formaldehyde in recreational vehicles, travel trailers, and campers on the Internet. One site with a great deal of comprehensive information is Toxic Trailers at <http://www.toxictrailers.org/>.

To file a complaint about formaldehyde in a mobile home, go to HUD's manufactured housing complaint page: www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/mhs/mhssaa.cfm.

The OSHA Formaldehyde Fact Sheet found at http://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data_General_Facts/formaldehyde-factsheet.pdf tells what employers are required to do about handling formaldehyde and keeping records on exposure of employees to the chemical.

More information on the government Oversight Committees can found found at <http://oversight.house.gov/story.asp?ID=1751>.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has information on formaldehyde at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/substances/formaldehyde/index.html>.

The Fredericksburg, VA people are

at

Pacton, Va.



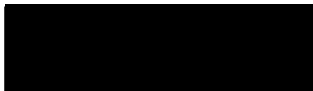
ADVANCED CHEMICAL SENSORS INC.

101 Glades Road • Boca Raton, FL 33432
(561) 338-3116 • FAX: (561) 338-6737



Reviewed by: *[Signature]*
Laurence D. Locker, Ph.D.
Laboratory Director

TO:



Partlow

VA



DATE:

10/8/2008

FORMALDEHYDE VAPOR ANALYSIS REPORT

SAMPLE NO	DATE	NAME	EXPOSURE TIME (hr)	CONCENTRATION (ppm)
GE8530	09/29/08 to 09/30/08	[Redacted]	7:00 — 19:00 = 36.00 micrograms/cubic meter	0.119 148.

In Master Bedroom "Closed" Air Test

The U.S. EPA and The American Lung Association recommend a maximum level of 0.1 ppm for formaldehyde in indoor air. Because some people may be sensitive to lower concentrations, the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry has recommended Minimum Risk Levels (MRL's) that depend on the duration of personal exposure.

Below the MRL, there are no significant health effects in most people.

MRL=0.04ppm (1 to 14 days exposure)

MRL=0.03 ppm (14 to 364 days exposure)

MRL=0.008 ppm (365 or more days exposure)

The level measured is above the recommended limit. An additional test is recommended for corroboration before any costly remedial action is taken.

Method of Analysis: NIOSH Method 2016

Date Received: 10/06/08

Date Analyzed: 10/07/08

35318

Page 1 of 1

The values reported are the average concentrations for the monitoring period used, based on the information provided by the user.

Analysis results for unexposed samples ("Blanks"), used for quality assurance testing, are not subtracted from the sample results reported.

Subj: **Info on our wildwood camper**
 Date: 6/26/2008 7:15:28 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
 From: [REDACTED]
 To: [REDACTED]
 CC: ahouck@etecinc.org, DeICPeace@house.state.va.us, senatorhouck@comcast.net

Dear [REDACTED] this is just some info we need help getting through vacation leaving our pets home is not a option buying the filter would be much better

Has the federal government made recommendations to protect human health? We had our trailer tested and the results said the level of formaldehyde was 0.105ppm. We talked to a chemist and she said we got a result of 0.105 The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends an exposure limit of 0.016 ppm. that we where at this level level almost 10 x higher then the safe limit

Really if we can not take our pets we will not go, The camper was purchased to allow us to take our pets, i the pets are not safe in our camper then it is of no use to us,

Info

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Division of Toxicology and Environmental Medicine
1600 Clifton Road NE, Mailstop F-32
Atlanta, GA 30333
Phone: 1-800-CDC-INFO • 888-232-6348 (TTY)
FAX: 770-488-4178

Has the federal government made recommendations to protect human health?

The EPA recommends that an adult should not drink water containing more than 1 milligram of formaldehyde per liter of water (1 mg/L) for a lifetime exposure, and a child should not drink water containing more than 10 mg/L for 1 day or 5 mg/L for 10 days.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has set a permissible exposure limit for formaldehyde of 0.75 parts per million (ppm) for an 8-hour workday, 40-hour workweek.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends an exposure limit of 0.016 ppm.

<http://www.childrenshoaltrust.org/PDF/Child%20Health%20Statement.pdf>

Gas prices getting you down? Search AOL Autos for fuel-efficient used cars.

Subj: RVW
Date: 6/11/2008 10:07:22 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]

It was really good talking with you this morning. I do appreciate your business and all the business you have sent us. That really helps. The more volume we can do – the lower prices we can offer so thanks again. I have two Forest River numbers that could help you. Forest River corporate office – 574.398.4600 and the main wildwood number is 574.533.5934. honestly I don't know where these numbers will take you or who will answer. Two people you may ask for would be the vice president [REDACTED] – and the head boss at wildwood is [REDACTED] I have only spoke with [REDACTED] once but we speak with [REDACTED] several times per year and he is a very good man to deal with. Good luck Bill and thanks again for your business. [REDACTED]

Make : FOREST RIVER
Model : WILDWOOD Year : 2005
Manufacturer : FOREST RIVER, INC.
Crash : No Fire : No Number of Injuries: 0
ODI ID Number : 1 Number of Deaths: 0
Date of Failure: February 18, 2008
VIN : [REDACTED]

Summary:

TL - THE CONTACT OWNS A 2005 FOREST RIVER TRIALER WILD WOOD 24BH SS. SHE STATES THAT THERE IS FORMALDEHYDE IN THE TRAILER AND IT IS VERY DEADLY AND SHE HAS HAD PETS THAT HAVE DIED FROM THE SMELL. THEY HAVE TALKED TO ALOT OF AGENCY THE LEVELS OF THE FORMALDEHYDE IS VERY HIGH THEY HAVE STATED THAT THE TRAILER IS NOT IN GOOD USE ANYMORE. THE MANUFACTURE HAS BEEN CONTACTED AND THEY DO NOT WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE PROBLEM AND THEY STATED THAT THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH TRIALER.THE FALIURE AND CURRENT MILEAGE WAS 4000.

Look up: TOXICTRAILERS.COM

Once these toxic trailers are purchased, they will be resold to people who don't know they were toxic trailers and aren't aware of the risk. They will also be purchased by people who don't think formaldehyde is a problem. **Forest River, INC** should just recycle these instead of putting them back on the market.

The government is selling travel trailers that were banned from use as emergency housing in disasters because many had toxic levels of formaldehyde. The units are being sold through the General Services Administration as "scrap." As of Oct. 27, there has been 10,000 units that could be designated as scrap and sold under federal law. The units are not intended as housing, a spokeswoman said, but could be used as office space or for storage.

The issue of formaldehyde exposure drew national attention when FEMA and the CDC allowed high levels of formaldehyde in temporary housing supplied for Hurricane Katrina victims. Many later complained of health problems they associated with the toxic indoor air. As many as 42% of children who were housed in trailers after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita have complained of respiratory illnesses that may be linked to formaldehyde exposure.

A letter from Forest River, INC: I believe you are inaccurate of a few things so would like to take the time to clarify.

1st, we have been waiting per your request to allow [REDACTED] at Rv Wholesalers to quote on shipment as you did not feel comfortable with our bonded transport and I have not had conversation with [REDACTED] in any way regarding your unit as you were in contact with not me so I know of nothing you are referring to about quote not being told.

2nd, We can still as agreed to under goodwill not warranty as your warranty has expired quite awhile ago repair your leak on the rear of your unit as a gesture of good business practice nothing more or nothing less

3rd, I have absolutely no idea what you are referring to about units being returned because people are scared, we have not had ONE unit returned under my involvement **in regards to formaldehyde and will not refund yours.** We cannot give you a loaner unit as we have no such thing as we are a manufacturer not dealer but if you will allow us to fix your unit in very short time we can have repairs completed not to have you out of unit more than one weekend. In closing we need to put closure to this and will only leave offer of goodwill open till August 31, 2008. If you would like to bring unit we would cover gas you would need to keep copy of all gas only receipts both ways, for you to inspect trailer and sign off on completed repairs.

Miller said manufacturers and suppliers just need to re-think their manufacturing processes to figure out how to cut costs.

Forest River, INC bought there wood from China.

Update: talked to HUD they say in the next 12-18 months there going to be so much more info not good info come out about this it will be a top story for a long time, and these people that made these toxic trailers will be paying a high price.

This has been in the papers for months about the FEMA trailers, what there finding out now is that any one that has gotten a trailer or camper or RV in the last few years has the same thing wrong with them as the FEMA ones, only difference is we have stripes, and stickers on the out side to make them prettier and along with that we are not treated the same because we got ours from a RV dealer, the story was ran in the free lance star 2/17/08 by a AP reporter .I have talked to every one I can and they figure our story will be out in 12-18 months, and that's why I'm here there will be a lot of sickness and death in that amount of time, if I save one person the pain we went through then i'll be happy we need more people not willing to put up with this, congress did have a hearing July 10th on the FEMA trailers and there blaming FEMA for not testing the campers before they got them, But as for now the company's are going free, and are free to still make toxic trailers.

AND a little more info when we had our camper tested we were informed that at the levels we had we are not safe even for short amount of time by the company who sold us the camper. They just kept saying its needs aired out more it need aired out more and it would be extremely toxic if we were to stay in it. And its parked in our drive way 6 months of the year with the vents open and the door open all day. And this is a camper that's never been south of the VA border. What difference does that make? Well its the temp, after our first test our dealer them self's said it was not safe to go in, but to be right for VA we should test it at a lower temp the day we tested that day it was a temp of 100 out side, so the second test we did was at a temp of 80 day 60 night and again we failed to a unsafe even for short amounts of time .People can do what they may some campers are not as bad as others , next time you go camping make a sign that says formaldehyde or toxic trailer.com and see how many people come over to you that are just part time campers and tell you there story's of them self's or people they know its sad. I was even told the company's are getting the wood to build your camper from china by one dealer that should tell us something, 80 or 90 hrs a year well that is not much time if you have a rainy day, I believe on our trips that amount of time would not even make 7 days.

We talked to the state health Department and they said we should not even go near our camper and all the materials in it has been contaminated.

<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/FEMATrailers/>

Exposure to formaldehyde has been linked to watery eyes, headaches, depression and even cancer and Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS). People with existing respiratory conditions such as asthma and emphysema have an increased risk of reacting to formaldehyde, which can leach out from plywood, particleboard and fiberboard used in manufactured housing materials, including cabinets, flooring and other wood-based products. Often, it's the glue holding these products together that contains formaldehyde, which "off-gases" over time, so that people can breathe in toxic vapors.

Background:

As the first organization to discover the toxicity of FEMA trailers, the Sierra Club has taken a lead role in fighting for better disaster assistance and emergency housing. As part of these efforts, the Sierra Club and a broad coalition of groups and citizens concerned about public health submitted a petition to the EPA, asking that the EPA adopt the more protective formaldehyde standards already in place in California and extend them to manufactured housing. Exposure to formaldehyde can cause watery eyes, headaches, depression, memory problems and cancer. People with existing respiratory conditions such as asthma and emphysema have an increased risk of reacting to formaldehyde, which can leach out from plywood, particleboard and fiberboard used in housing and furniture. The California standards dramatically reduce formaldehyde off-gassing.

Becky Gillette, now the Sierra Club's formaldehyde campaign director, helped conduct the independent tests and had previously exposed dangerous levels of formaldehyde in FEMA and individual trailers.

Brad Miller, Director of Communications and Government Affairs for the Business and Institutional Manufacturers Association, said at first the California lawmakers wanted to require all manufacturers to independently test their products, even if they were using particleboard made somewhere else. But after bringing their concerns to the California Air Regulation Board, the rules were changed to allow manufacturers to show a document proving that the boards they use comply with the law.

Switching to new soy-based glues, which don't give off formaldehyde, isn't a simple task for suppliers.

Raiman, who has been working closely with the factories in China and Vietnam that make aspenhome's furniture, said soy-based glues are more expensive than the existing glues and take longer to dry, adding more time to the manufacturing process.

Raiman also said there is some concern that the soy-based glues may not hold up as well over time as the current adhesives do, and at the very least, the change means all furniture will become more expensive to produce.

But Miller said it remains to be seen if costs will go up due to the new glues.