

VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS (VOC) IN FURNITURES

GREEN PULSE

減少VOC • 生活更健康

VOC from office equipments put our health at risk

According to information of World Health Organization, the number of deaths incurred by indoor pollution reaches 2.8 million every year. The worsening indoor pollution not only jeopardizes human health, but also costs the global economy billions of dollars every year.

While office workers are tensed up with workloads in their daily routines, they also succumb to potentially high health risks. Office furniture, including desks, chairs and cabinets may emit various kinds of volatile organic compounds (VOC) which impinge on indoor air quality of the workplace. Common health symptoms related to VOC include eye discomfort, fever, dryness, headache, tiredness, sore discomfort, etc..

The impact of pollution in office environment may be even more destructive than air pollution, water pollution and noise pollution. It will inadvertently dampen staff morale and motivation, thus minimizing work efficiency and quality.

Hence, low-VOC office furniture can help protect the office environment and employees' health, boosting company's productivity and efficacy.

The Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturers' Association (BIFMA) has developed the low emission standards of Formaldehyde and VOC (**BIFMA X7.1-2005**)

About BIFMA

BIFMA International is a non-profit-making trade association of furniture manufacturers and suppliers. The 260-member association accounts for over 80% of the market value of the furniture industry in North America.

Most of the Chinese-made furniture are exported to US. However, it comprises only around 10 percent of the total imports of US market while Canada accounts for 60 percent. Compliance with BIFMA standards will definitely ease access to US market.



The Industry Voice for Workplace Solutions

SGS and BIFMA

SGS is a member of BIFMA and we are equipped with BIFMA-accredited testing capabilities and expertise to assess BIFMA standards.

SGS Hardgoods Laboratory is able to provide VOC-emission testing services, which include:

Total VOC content

Formaldehyde content

Total Aldehydes content

4-Phenylcyclohexene content



For enquiries, please contact:

Man CHAN

☎ + 852-27747168 ✉: tsuman.chan@sgs.com

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