

November 27, 2007

Re: Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS's)

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to your recent request, I have enclosed a copy of an advisory letter regarding Material Safety Data Sheets. Please note that many building materials are "articles" and would not expose employees to health hazards under normal conditions of use. Associated Materials Inc. Siding products, as well as Vinyl Windows and Window Accessories, are articles and do not require Material Safety Data Sheets, as per the Code of Federal Regulations, 29CFR 1910.1200 (b)(6)(v) and defined in 29CFR 1910.1200 (c).

Should you require any additional assistance, please contact me at 1-800-257-4335 (ext. 2389).

Sincerely,



Nicholas D. Thompson
Technical Manager - Siding

Enc: Advisory Letter
Circd. Federal Regulations 29CFR1910

TO OUR VALUED BUILDING PRODUCTS CUSTOMERS:

Associated Materials Incorporated is committed to providing accurate health and safety information on the products that we manufacture or distribute. We have a program to continually review our products to determine which products require Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and to revise our Material Safety Data Sheets to provide the most current information available.

Most products manufactured by Associated Materials Incorporated are "articles" and would not expose employees to health hazards under normal conditions of use or in a foreseeable emergency. We do not provide Material Safety Data Sheets for these "articles".

Other products are not "articles" and must have a Material Safety Data Sheet, according to regulations of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). For all such items manufactured by Associated Materials Incorporated, a MSDS is prepared and provided to our distributors. When Associated Materials Incorporated distributes products made by others, we ensure that Material Safety Data Sheets, and updated information, are provided to other distributors and employers. As a retail distributor to commercial customers, we will provide a Material Safety Data Sheet upon request.

We strive to improve the ways in which we communicate safety information and product safety information, so that it is clear and complete. Material Safety Data Sheets and safety information are under ongoing review and will be updated as needed. We appreciate your continued business and assure you that we will take the steps necessary to provide Material Safety Data Sheets where needed.

NOTE: Material Safety Data Sheets, their need, and applicability are discussed in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 29, Part 1019, Subpart Z, Section 1910.1200.

29cfr1910.1200(b)(1)

This section requires chemical manufacturers or importers to assess the hazards of chemicals which they produce or import, and all employers to provide information to their employees about the hazardous chemicals to which they are exposed, by means of a hazard communication program, labels and other forms of warning, material safety data sheets, and information and training. In addition, this section requires distributors to transmit the required information to employers. (Employers who do not produce or import chemicals need only focus on those parts of this rule that deal with establishing a workplace program and communicating information to their workers. Appendix E of this section is a general guide for such employers to help them determine their compliance obligations under the rule).

29cfr1910.1200(b)(6)

This section does not apply to:

29cfr1910.1200(b)(6)(v)

Articles (as that term is defined in paragraph (c) of this section);

29cfr1910.1200(c)

Definition.

Article means a manufactured item other than a fluid or particle: (i) which is formed to a specific shape or design during manufacture; (ii) which has end use function(s) dependent on whole or in part upon its shape or design during end use; and (iii) which under normal conditions of use does not release more than very small quantities, e.g., minute or trace amounts of a hazardous chemical (as determined under paragraph (d) of this section), and does not pose a physical hazard or health risk to employees.