



ADVANTAGES OF VENEERED / MDF PRODUCTS OVER SOLID WOOD PRODUCTS

1. The WoodTrends products by Sound Seal use a dimensionally stable veneered MDF system. Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF) is a high grade, composite material made from recycled wood fibers and resin, with no added urea-formaldehyde. MDF is more stable than solid wood, standing up better to changes in heat and humidity. Solid wood panels and tiles typically expand and contract both, horizontally and vertically as temperatures and humidity rise and fall. Over time, even high quality solid wood can warp and those beautiful straight lines you had at installation can move. A veneered MDF product will stay straight throughout the life of the product — having no issues with movement, warping etc.
2. The dimensional stability of veneered MDF has the advantage of keeping its product Class A fire rating for the life of the product. Solid wood products give rise to a variable equilibrium moisture content, which can result in poor dimensional stability and low resistance to microbiological decay. Fire retardants can be hygroscopic and thus attract water into the wood structure. Veneered MDF products are dimensionally stable, reducing or eliminating the risks of attracting water which can negate the effects of the fire retardants.
3. Veneered MDF products are a greener, more environmentally friendly system. MDF uses approximately 95 percent of a harvested tree where solid wood products only utilize approximately 60 percent of a harvested tree. Veneered MDF products make use of the smaller branches and twigs that solid wood cannot. Veneered MDF panels and tiles require far fewer trees to make the same square footage of finished product as a solid wood panel or tile.

Sound Seal prides itself in being a progressive company, committed to promoting environmentally friendly products. The LEED credits for our WoodTrends products are as follows:

- **Credit MA 4.1** — 5% Recycled Content
- **Credit MR 4.2** — 10% Recycled Content
- **Credit MR 6** — Renewable Resources (bamboo veneer, a rapidly renewable grass, is available on all of our WoodTrends products)
- **Credit MR 7** — Certified Wood (many of our available veneers are FSC Certified)
- **Credit EQ 4.1** — Low-Emitting Materials (WoodTrends uses a latex based adhesive)
- **Credit EQ 4.4** — Low-Emitting Materials; Composite Wood (WoodTrends panels and tiles are available with both a Class A & Class C fire rated MDF with no added urea-formaldehyde)