

Dust Collection

WOODWORKING APPLICATIONS

Dust from Woodworking

Wood dust can come from many woodworking industries. Mainly sawmills, wood shops, and any industry in which wood dust is created. The use of equipment such as saws, planers, sanders, routers, drills and others can generate wood dust. There are health risks associated with dust inhalation as well as combustible dust.

When deciding on dust collector filters for woodworking applications, it is important to consider the type of wood being dealt with and the health risks associated with them.

Filter Selection

Media selection should be considered. Some options that we have include:

- 80/20 Cellulose / Polyester
- Nanoweb/Nanofiber
- Spunbond Polyester



WOOD DUST & HEALTH HAZARDS

Types of Wood

Depending on the various types of woods, there are health effects associated with each type. Oak for example can cause asthma. No matter the type of wood though, any dust generated from woodworking can have health effects.

Skin / Eye Irritation

Wood dusts can be bad for one's health. One of the most common ways it affects a worker is skin and eye irritation. It can cause dermatitis and other allergic reactions.

Other Health Hazards

The main health effects include:

- Skin/Eye Irritation
- Occupational Asthma
- Decreased Lung Function

Some wood dusts are considered carcinogenic and is known to cause certain cancers such as:

- Pharynx / Larynx Cancer
- Nasopharynx / Nasal Cavity Cancer
- Lung Cancer

Fine Particles

There are dusts that the human eye can see such as sawdust and woodshavings, but there are even finer dust particles that we can't see. These particles are the most dangerous because they can go deep into the lungs and scar lung tissue.

Combustible Dust

When wood dust accumulates, it poses a risk of combustion. These dust explosions are a huge safety concern, which can injure or even kill workers. Facilities must comply with NFPA regulations on preventing dust explosions and the handling of combustible particulate.

OSHA Regulations

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) also has regulations in place on controlling wood dust. Their permissible exposure limit on wood dust is 15mg/m³. The most common industry with the most exposure is related to furniture construction.

If these regulations are not followed, it can result in fines and potential legal issues with workplace safety.

Dust Collector Filters

It is important to have collectors set up to capture and control the dust that is produced. At Environmental Filter, we manufacture dust collector cartridge filters for many applications including woodworking.



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