

MEMBER BENEFITS



Advancing the wood-based panel and decorative surfacing industries

MEMBERSHIP

Founded in 1960, the Composite Panel Association (CPA) is dedicated to advancing the North American wood-based panel and decorative surfacing industries. CPA represents both industries on technical, regulatory, quality assurance and product acceptance issues. CPA and its members are committed to product advancement and industry competitiveness.

GENERAL MEMBERS include the leading manufacturers of particleboard, medium density fiberboard (MDF), hardboard and engineered wood siding/trim, representing more than 90% of North American manufacturing capacity.

General Members pay annual dues plus monthly dues based on each mill's reported shipments. A member company's cumulative mill shipments determine the dues rate ranging from \$0.21 to \$0.24 cents per million square foot (MMSF).

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS include manufacturers of decorative surfaces, furniture, cabinets, mouldings, doors and equipment, along with laminators, distributors, industry media and adhesive suppliers. All are committed to product advancement and industry competitiveness.

Associate membership is open to any firm with a direct business relationship with the North American composite panel industry and whose membership would not jeopardize the viability of the programs of the Composite Panel Association. Associate Member dues are based on annual North American gross sales of the entire legal business entity and not limited to composite panel industry segment sales. Dues are paid annually ranging from \$2,000 to \$5,500.

BENEFITS

NETWORKING

COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION—CPA is a member-driven organization working in concert with its professional staff. Member companies and their employees are encouraged to actively participate on the association's committees: Production-Technical, Marketing, Environmental and Public Affairs. These committees, comprised of industry peers, manage association programs and ensure that issues important to the industry are effectively addressed.

ANNUAL MEETINGS—The association sponsors two meetings each spring and fall offering unique networking opportunities with all CPA member attendees. Meetings feature educational workshops on substantive industry issues, valuable business meetings to develop association policies, programs and budgets and exhibit and sponsorship opportunities to promote member products and services. Attendance is an exclusive benefit for CPA members.

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE REPORTS

CPA compiles and publishes the most definitive industry performance data on North American shipments, plant capacity, safety performance and downstream market demand. Members-only access to monthly, quarterly and annual reports is available on CPA's website.

- North American Shipments and Downstream Markets
- North American Capacity
- Thermally Fused Laminate Shipments
- Mill Safety Data Report
- R.E. Taylor Wood Markets Newsletter
- RISI Particleboard and MDF Commentary

ADVOCACY

Serving as the composite panel industry's chief advocate and steward, the association provides leadership on federal, state and provincial regulatory and legislative matters of interest to industry, particularly those with environmental implications.

INDUSTRY AND PRODUCT PROMOTION

A core association objective is to promote the use and preference of composite panels, including downstream products and applications. The association offers several programs and opportunities for members to spotlight their products throughout North America.

WEBSITES—CPA maintains two comprehensive websites:

- **CompositePanel.org:** The association's primary website that features exclusive "members only" content including industry performance reports, industry presentations, upcoming events, on-line registration for meetings and a variety of CPA publications. All members are featured on the site alphabetically and by product category with a page dedicated to their products and services.
- **DecorativeSurfaces.org:** CPA's marketing website dedicated to promoting the use of industry products and offers a dynamic product locator for visitors to search by multiple criteria.

SURFACE AND PANEL BUYER'S GUIDE—

The association partners with Surface & Panel magazine to publish an annual buyers guide, a comprehensive listing of composite panel and decorative surfacing products produced by CPA members. The guide is distributed to 35,000 of specifiers and users of North American panels and decorative surfaces. Members who meet the criteria are listed for free.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS (CEU'S)—

CPA is an approved provider of continuing education courses for the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and has developed several courses to educate architects and designers about the benefits of sourcing wood-based composite panels and decorative surfaces.

PUBLICATIONS—CPA offers fact sheets and technical bulletins covering a wide range of topics and specifications about the attributes of composite panel products. All are available on the CPA website to members at no charge.

The association publishes a weekly e-newsletter for members titled *@the edge* providing up-to-date industry and association news.

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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP

✓ STAY CURRENT

Make sure you and your co-workers are signed-up to receive CPA's weekly e-newsletter, *@the edge*®

✓ GET CONNECTED

Request password access to CPA's members-only website www.CompositePanel.org

✓ PROMOTE YOUR PRODUCTS

Update your company's web listing with product information, links and contact information

✓ GET INVOLVED

Participate in one of CPA's member-driven committees to provide input and industry leadership on association programs and activities

✓ NETWORK

Attend CPA's Annual Meetings to network with industry suppliers and customers while attending valuable business meetings and educational sessions

PRODUCT ASSURANCE

INDUSTRY STANDARDS

The association sponsors the key product standards for the industry and addresses technical issues bearing on product performance. As a highly regarded and accredited standards developer, CPA writes, publishes and maintains industry product standards.

- ANSI A208.1, Particleboard
- ANSI A208.2, Medium Density Fiberboard for Interior Applications
- ANSI A135.4, Basic Hardboard
- ANSI A135.5, Prefinished Basic Paneling
- ANSI A135.6, Engineered Wood Siding
- ANSI A135.7, Engineered Wood Trim
- Voluntary Compendium of Standards for Decorative Overlays

CPA GREEN

The Eco-Certified Composite™ (ECC) Sustainability Standard is the voluntary industry standard developed by CPA for manufacturers of composite wood or agrifiber-based panels, as well as finished products (including components and laminated panels) made with particleboard, medium density fiberboard (MDF), hardboard, engineered wood siding and engineered wood trim. The standard focuses on life cycle inventory and other verifiable environmental practices and highlights the

responsible use of wood fiber by composite panel manufacturers. The basis of the standard includes the CPA Carbon Calculator, a tool developed by a third party expert to assess the life cycle and carbon footprint of composite panels made at a particular manufacturing plant.

LABORATORY AND CERTIFICATION SERVICES

CPA operates an independent International Testing and Certification Center (ITCC) in Leesburg, Virginia and manages the Grademark Certification Program, the largest and most stringent testing and certification program of its kind for North American composite panel products. The association also helps manufacturers create in-plant quality control programs through educational programs and on-site assistance.

The ITCC is a recognized and ACLASS accredited testing laboratory to support industry certification programs and conduct product testing. These activities include verification that physical and mechanical properties and emission values meet specified standards.

VISIT ITCCLAB.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

For More Information—Contact CPA at Subscribe@CompositePanel.org



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