



## Ambro Environmental Policy



Ambro openly accepts the environmental challenges placed on them by the design community. We continually seek better products to use, and put practices in place that make our products a better choice for the environment. This attitude and the fact that we embrace design, uniqueness and custom building results in what we hope to be products that keep their beauty for a long time.

### **Eco Specifier**

Ambro has undertaken to be registered on the Eco Specifier web site. This involves a rigorous analysis of the business and gives specifiers an objective snapshot of our product offerings and their effect on the environment. Ambro is now listed on the Eco Specifier web site.

[www.ecospecifier.com.au](http://www.ecospecifier.com.au)

### **FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) Certification.**

*"The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is an international organization that brings people together to find solutions which promote responsible stewardship of the world's forests."* From [www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org)

Ambro is researching the possibilities of offering a line of products with only FSC certified timbers. We are attempting to do this with minimal cost implications to the projects we are involved in. To do so we also need to become FSC Certified to cover the chain of custody requirements – that is our intention

[www.fsc.com.au](http://www.fsc.com.au)

### **Current day to day Processing**

Following are a list of the current activities that Ambro undertakes from day to day that are the beginnings of our efforts to assist in decreasing our impact on the environment

### **Waste**

While waste is kept to a minimum (for our own cost benefits), we

separate our waste into General \ Timber recycling \ & Plastics. Our Wood dust is captured in bins that are re-used in other industries, eventually ending as fertilizer for the Vineyards

### **Water**

Water is not used for any of our manufacturing processes. The minimal water we use for cleaning comes from captured rain water. We have no processes that use water (only for cleaning – minimal), we have rain water tanks

### **Timbers**

All timbers come from managed forests. In Australia this typically means a selective logging program is used, whereby typically 10% of a designated area is felled and then left until it regenerates and then process is repeated.

What is a managed forest?

Managed Forests are forests that typically are thinned by 10% for the tress and then left alone for 10 years, before the process repeats itself. Thinning a forest allows the sun light to penetrate below the canopy, allowing young trees to flourish, often reaching the top of the canopy in 1-2 years. Thinning also reduces the impact of bush fires as the older trees are cleared before they lose dead limbs (perfect for rapid fire spread). As a whole Australia is replenishing it's stock of timbers, that is to say that for every tree felled, another is growing in its place. This means that our overall coverage is the same year to year

### **Adhesives**

We are continually researching new Adhesives to use which are considered environmentally friendly, we have achieved this for some of our processing, and continue to develop areas were we can use better materials. Our current fusion bonding system does use some formaldehyde. Please consider that this does make up a very small proportion of the product. In September 2007 we learnt of a new fusion system that



we are now testing, this will result in zero formaldehyde emission. We should be fully operational with this new technology by 2008.

#### **Core**

The core for 90% of our products is HMR particle Board. HMR PB is all Low Formaldehyde emission as per Australian Standards. PB is made from renewable resources (generally plantation pine), and makes use of off cuts from sawmills. All Australian manufacturers of panelled products comply with the LFE (Low Formaldehyde Emission) Standard, which is designated E1 in the Australian Standard. Particle board made to Australian standards will ensure that formaldehyde stays below the workplace exposure limit set by national Occupational Health and Safety Commission. LFE for Australian panels are less than .1ppm (parts per million). Research shows that at these levels there is no adverse health effects expected for the most sensitive individuals. Environmentally, all particle board and MDF is made from plantation, fast growing trees, making the board used an environmentally sustainable product.

#### **Coatings**

Ambro uses 2 types of coatings. The first we call a **UV finish**, which comprises 80% of the total finishing. The second type is a hand sprayed solvent based finish, this system is used for the remainder of finishing requirements.

- **UV finishes** refers to a coating that is cured with UV lamps. This type of application applies 100% Acrylic Solid in a wet form, it is then cured via UV lamps – emitting no VOC's (Volatile organic Compounds).
- **Solvent Based** Typically 88% goes in to the atmosphere as VOC's. While filters are used, they cannot trap all omissions.

#### **Acrylic**

Inert material (no off gassing) – we are able to recycle the acrylic

#### **New Products**

The most exciting thing for Ambro is the development of our new

products. We have recently developed our fire rated doors which will have full approval in 2008. These doors could possibly become fully "GREEN" doors. Recycled cores, oiled/waxed finishes, timber veneer construction, and certified adhesives only. We look forward to presenting this to you

Kind regards  
**Daniel Mentzel**  
Commercial Director