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From: Chinese Drywall Screening LLC [mailer_response@emailcounts.com] on behalf of Chinese Drywall Screening LLC [Howard@chinesedrywallscreening.com]
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2011 2:22 AM
To: Howard@chinesedrywallscreening.com
Subject: Chinese Drywall Newsletter - CPSC Update and NAHB Document Release

Chinese Drywall - CPSC Update and NAHB Document Release



Note from the sender:

Greetings,
The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) released some documents worth passing along. They have created a bit of a stir in the cdw community as debates on how assessments and remediations should be done. I summarized CPSC's information to the right and added some commentary. Below is a bullet list of items you should be aware of. If not, you may want to Google the topic for more info.

- CPSC and HUD reverse opinion on wiring (see info to the right)
- NAHB releases document on assessments and remediation (stay tuned for comments):
http://www.nahb.org/news_details.aspx?sectionID=148&newsID=12321
- Knauf hire's Moss & Associates to remediate 300 homes as part of pilot program. They started the first house on February 14th. The actual scope being completed goes above and beyond the Remediation Agreement which is reassuring. (I resent previous newsletter about this to those who joined after it was sent)
- No news whether Taishan and other manufacturers will follow similar path to Knauf
- More banks are offering forbearances and trying to help but are still botching it up. On just my 2 condos,

News and Information:

CPSC and HUD Issue Updated Remediation Protocol for Homes with Problem Drywall

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prere/phtml11/11176.html>

CPSC and HUD Identification Guidance

Step 1: New drywall installed 2001-2009 and blackened copper.
Step 2: Two of the following if 2005 -- 2009 or four of the following if 2001-2004

1. S8 test
2. Copper coupon test
3. Markings
4. Headspace test
5. Chamber test

If you have corrosion and markings that match a known corrosive type, then I don't feel it's necessary for additional testing for the initial assessment. If we encounter an odd type or its unknown whether corrosive, then we'll do a coupon test. We'll use XRF to test sulfur deposition to get quick readings. I

GMAC erroneously foreclosed after it was in an agreed forbearance and Wells Fargo reported the other to credit agencies as not paying even though forbearance agreements states they wouldn't.

- Link to PowerPoint on cdw assessments (good for inspectors and remediators)
http://www.chinesedrywallscreening.com/uploads/CDS_ASTM_Meeting_11-16-2010.pdf

I hope everyone is doing as well as they can be. Let me know if there is anything I can help with.

Sincerely,

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also feel it's unnecessary to do four of the above if in the years 2001 to 2002 if markings match MDL Index numbers 18 or 19. After doing thousands of inspections, we don't have any confirmed cases in the years of 2003 and 2004 (doesn't mean they don't exist though and would be interested to hear if anyone has seen). We have only seen one type in the years 2001 and 2002 and it is numbers 18/19 on the MDL index list. (both 18 and 19 appear to be the same). It has unique markings with purple "Made in China" and purple dot that runs continuous across the back making it easy to discover. However, sometimes the printing is faint. It is listed as unknown and I'm currently trying to confirm its origin if anyone knows. Therefore, the first test to do for cases in 2001 and 2002 is to obtain the markings. This is instant, less costly and less time consuming. I heard it was imported into Jacksonville and shipped south down I95. We have cases in 4 or 5 communities along the east coast of Florida. Here are links to MDL site for markings:

www.laed.uscourts.gov/Drywall/images/DrywallMarkings/18_UNKNOWN.pdf
www.laed.uscourts.gov/Drywall/images/DrywallMarkings/19_UNKNOWN.pdf

For years 2005 and after, many of the homes have mixed types of drywall. We feel its best to investigate to find markings of known corrosive types. This is necessary for filing in the MDL and additional testing is not necessary. If you collect samples for testing, there's no assurance that you took the samples from the corrosive types. We had one case of a 2-story townhouse that had the same Taishan markings at 3 locations during initial inspection. After doing preservation of evidence during remediation, it ended up having 7 different types: 3 Chinese and 4 domestic. However, we do recommend additional testing prior to any remediation.

CPSC and HUD Remediation Guidance:

www.cpsc.gov/info/drywall/Remediation031811.pdf

This Remediation Guidance for homes with problem drywall calls for the replacement of all:

1. possible problem drywall;
2. fire safety alarm devices (including smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms);
3. electrical distribution components (including receptacles, switches, and circuit breakers, but not necessarily wiring); and
4. gas service piping and fire suppression sprinkler systems.

This remediation guidance is not intended to address any non-health and safety remediation requirements, nor does it address what, if any, additional elements of a home may require remediation in order to accomplish the principles set forth herein. The Task Force recognizes that additional considerations for repair of economic damages have been included in both

court-ordered remediation plans and voluntary remediation plans agreed upon by various parties, including homeowners and those in the supply chain. This Remediation Guidance **does not address such economic considerations that lie outside the scope of health and safety, but which are nonetheless of great import to all parties involved.**

The staffs of CPSC and HUD are aware that some remediation efforts have included the replacement of electrical wiring, water service plumbing, HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) evaporator coils, furnishings, and carpeting. Homeowners may seek to replace such items, but their replacement is not included in this Guidance because of the absence of a direct connection to safety.

The staffs of CPSC and HUD continue to recognize that other remediation approaches ultimately could prove more cost-effective and/or less invasive, such as the preservation of gas service piping; however, additional study is required on such approaches. Ongoing CPSC staff studies on long-term corrosion, due later in 2011, should provide relevant scientific information.

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