

Proposal for legal inspection of parquet, block flooring, strip flooring and composite wood flooring

By the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI), Ministry of Economic Affairs

Background:

Parquet, block flooring, strip flooring and composite wood flooring have been widely used as a kind of building materials these days. The public is concerned about pollution of indoor air by formaldehyde emitted from adhesive bonded wood products and demands restriction on the use of formaldehyde glue in parquet, block flooring, strip flooring and composite wood flooring products. The BSMI, after having consulted with interested parties, intends to regulate formaldehyde of these products.

Proposed date of implementation:

- 1 August 2008

Products (HS/CCCN codes) covered:

HS/CCCN 4409.10.00.00.7	Coniferous wood (including strips and friezes for parquet flooring, not assembled) continuously shaped (tongued, grooved, rebated, chamfered, V-jointed, beaded, moulded, rounded or the like) along any of its edges, ends or faces, whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed (inspection scope: Parquet, Block flooring, Strip flooring and Composite wood flooring)
HS/CCCN 4409.20.00.00.5	Non-coniferous wood (including strips and friezes for parquet flooring, not assembled) continuously shaped (tongued, grooved, rebated, chamfered, V-jointed, beaded, moulded, rounded or the like) along any of its edges or faces, whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed (inspection scope: Parquet, Block flooring, Strip flooring and Composite wood flooring)
HS/CCCN 4412.13.20.00.5	Processed plywood, with at least one outer ply of tropical wood specified in Subheading Note 1 to this Chapter, each ply not exceeding 6 mm thickness (inspection scope: Parquet, Block flooring, Strip flooring and Composite wood flooring)
HS/CCCN 4412.14.20.00.4	Other processed plywood, with at least one outer ply of non-coniferous wood, each ply not exceeding 6 mm thickness (inspection scope: Parquet, Block flooring, Strip flooring and Composite wood flooring)
HS/CCCN 4412.19.20.00.9	Other processed plywood, with both outer plies of coniferous wood, each ply not exceeding 6 mm thickness (inspection scope: Parquet, Block flooring, Strip flooring and Composite wood flooring)
HS/CCCN 4412.22.22.00.2	Other processed plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood, with at least one outer ply of non-coniferous wood, with at least one ply of tropical wood specified in Subheading Note 1 to this Chapter (inspection scope: Parquet, Block flooring, Strip flooring and Composite wood flooring)
HS/CCCN 4412.29.20.00.7	Other processed plywood, veneered panels and similar

HS/CCCN 4412.92.22.00.7	laminated wood, with at least one outer ply of non-coniferous wood (inspection scope: Parquet, Block flooring, Strip flooring and Composite wood flooring)
HS/CCCN 4412.99.20.00.2	Other processed plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood, with both outer plies of coniferous wood, containing at least one ply of tropical wood specified in Subheading Note 1 to this Chapter (inspection scope: Parquet, Block flooring, Strip flooring and Composite wood flooring)
HS/CCCN 4418.30.00.00.2	Other processed plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood, with both outer plies of coniferous wood (inspection scope: Parquet, Block flooring, Strip flooring and Composite wood flooring)
HS/CCCN 4418.30.00.00.2	Parquet panels, of woods (inspection scope: Parquet, Block flooring, Strip flooring and Composite wood flooring)

Inspection standards:

CNS 2871, CNS 11341, CNS 11342

Inspection items:

Formaldehyde emission.

Conformity assessment procedures:

Registration of Product Certification (RPC) Scheme (Module II + IV, V or VII) or Type-Approved Batch Inspection (TABI) Scheme

Registration of Product Certification (RPC) Scheme

Under this procedure, manufacturers must have their products type-tested by the BSMI or designated testing laboratories recognized by the BSMI (Module II) before applying for registration of their products. Manufacturers or importers will also be required to ensure by declaration that all products made at their manufacturing facilities are in conformity with the prototypes submitted for type testing in Module II.

For Module IV or V, manufacturers may establish a quality system complying with the requirements of ISO 9001 and obtain ISO 9001 certificates from the BSMI or certification bodies recognized by the BSMI.

For Modules VII, manufacturers may establish a quality system that complies with the requirements stipulated by the BSMI and obtain a factory inspection report issued by the BSMI or inspection bodies recognized by the BSMI.

Products will be allowed to use the Commodity Inspection Mark, the letter “R” and the identification number given by the BSMI, after they are certified and registered with the BSMI. These products can then pass through customs directly without any further inspection. The application fee and annual fee for RPC is NT\$5,000 for each type of product, and a RPC certificate is valid for three years.

Type-approved Batch Inspection (TABI) Scheme

Under this procedure, manufacturers or importers shall have their products type-tested by the BSMI or designated testing laboratories recognized by the BSMI, and then file an application for type approval with the BSMI, in Taipei or at branch offices, depending on where the manufacturer or importer is located.

After manufacturers or importers have obtained a type-approval certificate, they are required to file an application for inspection with the BSMI each time before their products are to be released from the production premises or arrive at the port of entry. The BSMI will then review the application and accompanying documents according to the simplified procedures. Additional samples may be required for further testing if it is deemed necessary. The fees for type testing vary by product and depend on the testing laboratories. The fee for a type approval is NT\$3,500, and a type approval certificate is valid for three years.

Further information on the two procedures is also available on the BSMI web site at <http://www.bsmi.gov.tw/wSite/ct?xItem=8673&ctNode=811>

Locations to apply for Type Testing:

- The BSMI, its branches (not including Tainan and Hualien branches) or designated testing laboratories recognized by the BSMI

Locations to apply for Registration of Product Certification, Type Approval or Type-approved Batch Inspection:

- The BSMI or its branches.

Time required for Registration of Product Certification or Type Approval:

- Fourteen working days. (This does not include the time for corrective actions by the applicant due to deficiencies in the documents or samples; another 7 days may be required if additional tests are required)

Rate for Type-approved Batch Inspection:

- 2.5‰ of CIF.