

Sunbake Obtains EPDs for Three Wood-Based Material Adhesives Supporting the Disclosure of Environmental Information for Wood-based Building Materials and Contributing to the Realization of a Decarbonized Society

Sumitomo Bakelite Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo; President and Representative Director: Shinichi Kajiya) announced that Sunbake Co., Ltd., a group company of Sumitomo Bakelite Co., Ltd. engaged in the manufacture and sale of adhesives for wood-based materials, has obtained Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) for three wood-based material adhesives. EPD is a system for quantitatively disclosing the environmental impacts of a product throughout its life cycle, including greenhouse gas emissions.

The three products covered by the EPDs are the phenolic resin adhesives “SUMITAC™ PL-275” and “SUMITAC™ PL-9001,” which are widely used for wood-based materials, and “SUMITAC™ PL-702,” a lignin-modified phenolic resin adhesive that was commercially launched in 2024. With these EPDs, customers can use third-party-verified data to improve the accuracy of life cycle assessment (LCA) and carbon footprint of products (CFP) calculations for building materials and buildings.

Background

In the construction sector, there is an increasing need to establish environmental data for the building materials used in construction. Efforts to measure and reduce whole-life carbon—the greenhouse gas emissions generated throughout the entire life cycle of a building—are advancing both in Japan and overseas. Against this backdrop, EPDs, which disclose environmental information on building materials and other products based on third-party verification, are becoming increasingly important. Their use in LCA and CFP calculations for buildings and building materials is also expanding.

In Japan, systems and frameworks for calculating the life-cycle carbon emissions of buildings are being developed, and there is growing demand for building material and material manufacturers to provide environmental data.

In response to these developments, Sunbake has worked to establish environmental information for its wood-based material adhesives by utilizing the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism’s support program for the development of CO₂ emission factors and related data. This initiative has led to the acquisition of EPDs for the three products.

Products Covered by the EPDs

■ SUMITAC™ PL-275

General-purpose phenolic resin adhesive

[EPD HUB, HUB-7710](#)

■ SUMITAC™ PL-9001

High-performance phenolic resin adhesive

[EPD HUB, HUB-7709](#)

■ SUMITAC™ PL-702

Lignin-modified phenolic resin adhesive

[EPD HUB, HUB-7708](#)



From left: SUMITAC™ PL-275, PL-9001 and PL-702



information for the product.

Among the products covered by the EPDs, PL-702 is an environmentally considerate product in which part of the raw materials for the phenolic resin adhesive has been replaced with lignin derived from non-edible biomass. The product has been commercially available since 2024. The acquisition of the EPD enables Sunbake to provide third-party-verified environmental

* PL-702 is one of the research outcomes of a project commissioned by the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO).

Significance of Obtaining EPDs and Value for Customers

The EPDs obtained for these products enable customers to use third-party-verified environmental data to assess the environmental impacts of their products and buildings more appropriately.

■ Customers manufacturing plywood and other wood-based building materials

- Use of adhesive environmental data in LCA and CFP calculations
- Use as basic data for obtaining EPDs for building material products
- Response to requests from customers and business partners for environmental information disclosure
- Quantitative evaluation of the environmental performance of building material products



■ Customers in the housing, construction and building materials sectors

- Enhancement of environmental data available for LCA evaluations of buildings
- Improved accuracy of environmental performance evaluations for entire buildings
- Use in ESG information disclosure and decarbonization management
- Use for comparing environmental performance when selecting building materials
- Use in initiatives to reduce environmental impacts across the entire life cycle

Adhesives are an important component of wood-based building materials. Establishing environmental information for adhesives will contribute not only to the advancement of environmental performance evaluations and LCA calculations by manufacturers of wood-based building materials, but also to similar initiatives by housing manufacturers and construction companies.

Future Development

Sunbake will continue to promote greater transparency of environmental information in the field of adhesives for wood-based materials. At the same time, the company will support customers in calculating and disclosing their environmental impacts and contribute to the decarbonization of the entire wood-based building materials supply chain.

Sunbake will also continue to develop and promote environmentally considerate products utilizing lignin and contribute to the realization of a sustainable society by expanding the range of products covered by EPDs.

Sunbake Co., Ltd.

President:	Kazuo Tanaka
Established:	April 2000
Head Office:	Tennōz Isle Parkside Building, 2-5-8 Higashi-Shinagawa, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 140-0002, Japan
TEL:	+81-3-5462-4933
Technology Development Div:	2100 Takayanagi, Fujieda, Shizuoka 426-0041, Japan (Inside the Shizuoka Plant of Sumitomo Bakelite Co., Ltd.)
TEL:	+81-54-635-2425

Product inquiries

Sales Division, Sunbake Co., Ltd.
TEL: +81-3-5462-4933
E-mail: sunbake@ml.sumibe.co.jp