

## **General Tools & Instruments**

# FORMALDEHYDE METER DETECTS UNSAFE LEVELS OF TOXIC GAS EMITTED BY FLOORING, WALL BOARD & FURNISHINGS

Recent News about One Company's Products Stirs Consumer Unease

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 5, 2015

(New York, NY) The CBS News Program 60 Minutes recently featured a segment on Lumber Liquidators' Chinese-made laminate flooring. Tests revealed the products emit unsafe levels of formaldehyde—a compound found in the adhesives that bind wood fibers together in the core boards of engineered flooring. At high levels, formaldehyde can cause cancer. Even at low levels, it can induce respiratory problems and irritate the eyes, nose and throat.

With hundreds of thousands of U.S. homes estimated to contain this type of flooring, the health hazard potential is huge.

The new handheld <u>Formaldehyde Meter (FD08)</u> from General Tools & Instruments (General<sup>®</sup>) is an invaluable Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) measurement tool for residential and commercial contractors, remodelers, floor installers and home inspectors. It can determine whether flooring, wall board, carpeting, drapes or other furnishings are emitting unsafe levels of formaldehyde. It is also highly useful to plant managers and operators, and plant safety and environmental health personnel in facilities where formaldehyde is used in resins and bindings, or as a process chemical.

General's Formaldehyde Meter has a range of 0 to 5ppm and a resolution of 0.01ppm. With an accuracy of +/-(5%+0.03ppm), it meets the U.S. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) acceptance criterion for accuracy. The unit has an operating range of 32° to 122°F (0° to 50°C) and also measures temperature and relative humidity. Readings are displayed on a 2 in. (51mm) LCD.

The device tracks, calculates and displays three cumulative formaldehyde gas metrics: 8-hour TWA (Time-Weighted Average), 1-hour average, and 15-minute STEL (Short-Term Exposure Limit).

With the potential health risk posed by formaldehyde in flooring and other construction materials, as well as in furnishings, the General FD08 is an instrument that no contractor, remodeler, floor installer or home inspector should be without.

See General's New Formaldehyde Meter (FD08) at Booth 36007. The instrument is on display and available for order.

(more)

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### *FD08* / *page* 2

### About General Tools & Instruments

Founded in New York City in 1922, General Tools & Instruments (General) is a recognized leader in the design and development of precision specialty hand tools and handheld test instruments. Continually producing innovative products that satisfy consumer needs and demands, the company offers more than 1,200 tools and instruments widely used by professionals, DIYers and hobbyists in a broad range of industries. To learn more about General and its products, visit <a href="www.generaltools.com">www.generaltools.com</a> or call Customer Support at 1-800-697-8665.

#### **CONTACTS:**

<u>For additional product information and hi-res photographs</u>, contact Sue Minichiello, Director of PR Services, SpaceAge Media Consultants, 617-783-2700, sue@spaceage-media.com.

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