



WILLIAMS SCOTSMAN, INC.
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Totum Consulting
Terry Devlin, Project Manager
15130 Ventura Blvd., Suite 327
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September 29, 2015

RE: Formaldehyde in modular buildings; Beverly Hills School District

Dear Mr. Devlin,

Thank you for your inquiry concerning formaldehyde. As you may be aware, many building materials have formaldehyde as a component of the material. It can be found in homes, offices, and all types of construction. Furthermore, furniture and shelving built of pressed wood or particle board emits formaldehyde due to the glues used in their manufacture. Consequently, it is a common element that we live with every day. Williams Scotsman's portable classrooms and mobile office buildings are built of the same materials found in homes, stick built schools, and offices. Therefore our mobile offices and classrooms potentially have trace elements of formaldehyde too.

It is not the presence of formaldehyde that is of concern. It is the concentration of the vapors given off from certain building materials and furniture that can become an irritant if not properly ventilated. Typically more formaldehyde vapors will be emitting into the room air from brand new materials that have not fully cured. As the new materials age the emissions decrease or cease.

While Williams Scotsman is not a manufacturer, it has received assurances from the manufacturers of its buildings that all material components containing formaldehyde do not exceed standards established by the Federal Government. Likewise the HVAC systems used in our buildings comply with ASHRAE standards.

If there is a concern regarding formaldehyde, and, for that matter, any possible toxin that could be in the air, attention to maintenance is the best recommendation. Maintain the buildings by keeping them clean, airing them out whenever possible, and running the HVAC systems according to recommended practice. For example, making sure that intake vents for fresh air are open, filters are regularly replaced, and any leaks are promptly reported and repaired by school maintenance authorities will help keep your building in good operating condition. If the building sits idle for any length of time it should be thoroughly aired out and the HVAC system run prior to its next occupancy.

If you have any specific questions or concerns regarding the equipment provided from Williams Scotsman, please contact your local Williams Scotsman representatives.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Horwath

Risk Manager

Williams Scotsman, Inc. – an Algeco Scotsman Company