

THE

CONSTRUCTION

SPECIFICATIONS

INSTITUTE SUITE 404 1717 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 TEL: 202-462-6643

June 28, 1968

File: SPEC-DATA

WH F. Micarta

Mr. Phil Mixsell
c/o U. S. Plywood
777 Third Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10017

Dear Mr. Mixsell:

We have prepared a SPEC-DATA* manuscript based on the literature supplied by U. S. Plywood, on Fire-Resistant Micarta. It is nearly complete, but we need the answers to a few questions in order to put the finishing touches to the manuscript. We cannot find the following information in any of the brochures supplied to us:

1. What limitations are there on the product? Is there any particular location where Micarta should not be used, such as areas of alternate high and low extremes of humidity or temperature, near continual moisture, or in areas exposed to acid or alkaline solutions or fumes?
2. The literature states that Micarta can be applied to a variety of substrates. Specifically, what substrates are suitable; what substrates should be avoided? For example, can it be applied to gypsum wallboard? Do any substrates require priming before application? What adhesives are suitable?
3. What should be used to patch substrates before installation: speckling compound, patching plaster, or a special compound?
4. Where can the reader of this SPEC-DATA* sheet look for information on suitable application methods? The literature states that most standard methods for applying wood paneling can be used. What are these methods? Which methods cannot be used? (Nailing? Is nailing the only method to avoid?)
5. How long does it take to obtain delivery of Fire-Resistant Micarta, on the average? (The U. S. Plywood SPEC-DATA* sheet on Glasweld is a good example of the type of information required. That sheet states that Glasweld is normally available from stock within one week, but that a mill order



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--over 100 pieces--requires from six to fourteen weeks.)

6. What is the cost range of Fire-Resistant Micarta? (Again, the Glasweld sheet is a good example of the type of information required.)
7. None of the literature indicates the guarantee on the product. What will the manufacturer do in the event of failure; e.g., will he replace at no cost, replace material only, refund money, etc.? The statement should cover conditions, provisions, length of time, etc. Also, in this instance, who is the guarantor: U. S. Plywood or Westinghouse?

A copy of the manuscript is enclosed for your information. Upon receipt of the answers to the questions we will be able to complete the manuscript and to send it to U. S. Plywood for final review and approval.

Sincerely,

Albert C. Schoner
Albert C. Schoner
Director Programs Promotion

ACS/kih

Encl: Manuscript

PRODUCED BY THE
IN MISSISSIPPI CASES 3/13/92

1. PRODUCT NAME

Fire-Resistant laminated plastic.
Westinghouse Fire-Retardant Mi-
carta

2. MANUFACTURER

Distributed solely by:

U. S. Plywood

A Division of U. S. Plywood

Champion Papers, Inc.

777 Third Ave

New York, N. Y. 10017

Phone: (212) 935-3500

3. PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Basic Use: Fire-Resistant Mi-
carta is recommended for wall sur-
faces in schools, churches, hospitals,
and other commercial and industrial
buildings requiring a Class I fire-
retardant rating. Widely used as
interior surfacing for ships and
ocean liners, it is the only decora-
tive, high-pressure laminate acceptable
for use in "passenger-only" vessels.

Limitations: _____

Composition and Materials: ~~Fire-~~

Resistant Micarta consists of asbestos sheets combined with a melamine resin, laminated under heat and pressure.

Applicable Standards: National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) Standard LD 1-1964, for laminated thermosetting decorative sheets.

Federal and military specifications MIL-T-37174 (ships); L-T-41a; L-P-5080; AA-14225.

Approved samples of Micarta are on file at the National Bureau of Standards for use by Veterans Administration hospitals and by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Approved by the United States Coast Guard for maritime applications in accord with Coast Guard regulations.

Micarta 1/8-inch kickplate meets
federal specifications FF-H-IIIa.

Sizes: Standard widths are 24,
30, 36, and 48 inches. Standard
lengths are 60, 72, 84, 96, 120
and 144 inches.

Sizes up to a maximum of 80 by
144 inches are available on special
order.

Colors: Fire-Resistant Micarta
is available in all standard Micarta
wood grains, finishes, colors, and
patterns. Refer to Westinghouse
brochure This Is Westinghouse
Micarta, for detailed information.

THIS IS WRING.
WE HAVE LIMITED
THE GRAYS WHICH
CAN BE USED.

TECHNICAL DATA

See Table 1 for physical proper-
ties of Fire-Resistant Micarta com-
pared to requirements of NEMA stan-
dards for general purpose and post-
forming laminated plastics.

See Table 2 for fire hazard clas-
sifications.

Tables 1 & 2
From WH 5100-10

5. INSTALLATION

Suitable Subsurfaces: Fire-Resistant Micarta can be field applied to ^{most} any flat, structurally sound surface that is suitable for application of laminated plastics in general. Suitable substrates include fire-retardant plywood, fire-retardant fir plywood, and asbestos-cement board.

Preparatory Work: Substrates must be rigid, smooth, even, and free from contaminants such as dirt, oil, plaster, and paint. Nails must be set below surface of substrate. Fill all holes, cracks, splits, and joints that are wider than 1/16 inch; sand flush with surface of substrate.

Methods: Most standard methods of applying wood paneling may be used in the application of Fire-Resistant Micarta.

Precautions: Provide suitable protection for edges and corners of Micarta sheets during handling and erecting, to avoid chipping. At completion, use

only mild soap and water to clean surfaces; do not use abrasive cleaners, strong acids, or alkalis.

Building Codes: _____

Building Codes: Micarta is approved by the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals under calendar number 108-48-20, Vol. II

AVAILABILITY AND COST

Delivery Form: Fire-Resistant Micarta is distributed only through U. S. Plywood and is available nationally through all U. S. Plywood branches or showrooms.

Costs: _____

GUARANTEES

8. MAINTENANCE

Micarta requires only an occasional cleaning with mild soap and water. (Abrasives, acids and alkalis should not be used.)

9. TECHNICAL SERVICES

For specific technical assistance, please contact your local U.S. Plywood branch, or write to:

Director of Technical Services

U.S. Plywood

A Division of U.S. Plywood-

Champion Papers, Inc.

777 Third Avenue

New York, N. Y. 10017

10. FILING SYSTEMS

Additional information, particularly with respect to patterns and colors, may be found in the publication, This is Westinghouse Micarta. Brochures are available on request.

Table 1 -- Properties of Fire-Resistant Micarta

Property	Nema Standards		Test Values	NEMA Test Method
	1/16" General Purpose	.050" Postforming	.050" Fire Resistant	All Types
Thickness	.032" ± .005"	.051" ± .004"	.050" ± .003"	2-2.01
Wear Resistance 2-2.04 Wear Value, cycles minimum Rate of Wear, /100 sq	400 95	400 95	650 95	2-2.02
Boiling Water Resistance, 2-2.03	No effect	Slight dulling	No effect	2-2.03
High Temperature Resistance, 2-2.03	Slight dulling	Slight dulling	Slight dulling	2-2.03
Cigarette Burn Resistance 2-2.04 Seconds	10 minimum	15 minimum	20	2-2.04
Stain Resistance 2-2.05 Reagents 1-20 Reagents 21-29	No effect Superficial stains	No effect Superficial stains	No effect No effect	2-2.05
Color Fastness, 2-2.06	Slight change	Slight change	No change	2-2.06
Moisture Resistance 2-2.07 Weight Increase Thickness Increase	2-10% 2-10%	1% max 2% max	0.5% 0.5%	2-2.07
Dimensional Stability 2-2.08 With Grain Cross Grain	.5% max .9% max	1% max 1.4% max	0.02% 0.04%	2-2.08
Flexural Strength, 2-2.09 Psi, face in tension Modulus, face in tension Psi, face in compression Modulus, face in compression	12,000 800,000 16,000 100,000	12,000 800,000 16,000 100,000	21,100 1,260,000 18,100 1,060,000	2-2.09
Formability, 2-2.11	-	1/8" radius	-	2-2.11

Additional property information for special applications available from the United States Phycod Corporation.

*Results from an independent test laboratory report, not to be regarded as product specifications.

†Since new Micarta postforming grades are regularly made available, check with your Micarta representative for minimum forming radius and application assistance.

Suggest getting this column in bold type