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## Product Guide Specification

Specifier Notes: This product guide specification is written according to the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) 3-Part Format, including *MasterFormat*, *SectionFormat*, and *PageFormat*, as described in *The Project Resource Manual—CSI Manual of Practice*.

The section must be carefully reviewed and edited by the Architect to meet the requirements of the project and local building code. Coordinate this section with other specification sections and the Drawings. Delete all “Specifier Notes” when editing this section.

Section numbers are from *MasterFormat 1995 Edition*, with numbers from *MasterFormat 2010 Update* in parentheses. Delete version not required.

### SECTION 06415 (12 36 23.13)

#### HIGH-PRESSURE DECORATIVE LAMINATE COUNTERTOPS

Specifier Notes: This section covers VT Industries high-pressure decorative laminate (HPDL) countertops. Consult VT Industries for assistance in editing this section for the specific application.

#### PART 1 GENERAL

##### 1.1 SECTION INCLUDES

Specifier Notes: Edit the following list as required for the project.

- A. High-pressure decorative laminate countertops.
- B. Environmental high-pressure decorative laminate countertops.

##### 1.2 REFERENCES

Specifier Notes: List standards referenced in this section, complete with designations and titles. This article does not require compliance with standards, but is merely a listing of those used.

- A. ANSI A208.1 – Particleboard.
- B. ANSI A208.2 – Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF) for Interior Applications.
- C. Architectural Woodwork Institute / Architectural Woodwork Manufacturers Association of Canada / Woodwork Institute ([www.awinet.org](http://www.awinet.org) / [www.awmac.com](http://www.awmac.com) / [www.woodworkinstitute.com/asserrata.com](http://www.woodworkinstitute.com/asserrata.com)):
  - 1. AWI/AWMAC/WI Architectural Woodwork Standards, Section 11 – Countertops.
- D. California Air Resources Board (CARB) ([www.arb.ca.gov](http://www.arb.ca.gov)):
  - 1. Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) to Reduce Formaldehyde Emissions from Composite Wood Products, Section 93120, Phase II.
- E. Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) ([www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org)).
- F. GREENGUARD Standards for Low-Emitting Products ([www.greenguard.org](http://www.greenguard.org)):
  - 1. GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality Certified.
  - 2. GREENGUARD Children & Schools Certified.
- G. Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association (KCMA) ([www.kcma.org](http://www.kcma.org)):
  - 1. ANSI/KCMA A161.2 – Performance Standards for Fabricated High Pressure Decorative Laminate Countertops.
- H. National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) ([www.nema.org](http://www.nema.org)):
  - 1. ANSI/NEMA LD 3 – High Pressure Decorative Laminates.

### **1.3 SUBMITTALS**

- A. Comply with Section 01330 (01 33 00) – Submittal Procedures.
- B. Product Data: Submit manufacturer’s product data, including preparation and installation instructions.
- C. Shop Drawings: Submit manufacturer’s shop drawings, including plans, elevations, sections, and details, indicating the following:
  - 1. Dimensions.
  - 2. Materials.
  - 3. Front edge.
  - 4. Backsplash.
  - 5. Joints.
- D. Samples: Submit laminate manufacturer’s sample chips with pattern and finish numbers.
- E. Certification:
  - 1. Submit manufacturer’s certification that countertops comply with specified requirements and are suitable for intended application.

2. Submit certification of compliance to ANSI/NEMA LD 3 from manufacturer of high-pressure decorative laminate sheets.

Specifier Notes: Include the following paragraph for projects requiring LEED certification/credit assistance.

- F. Environmental Documentation:
  1. Submit manufacturer's environmental documentation for the following LEED credits:
    - a. Recycled Content.
    - b. Regional Materials.
    - c. Certified Wood.
    - d. Low-Emitting Materials - Composite Wood and Agrifiber Products.

G. Cleaning Instructions: Submit manufacturer's cleaning instructions for countertops.

H. Warranty: Submit manufacturer's standard warranty.

#### **1.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE**

A. Manufacturer's Qualifications: Manufacturer regularly engaged, for preceding 10 years, in manufacture of high-pressure decorative laminate countertops of similar physical characteristics to those specified.

B. Installer's Qualifications:

1. Installer regularly engaged, for preceding 5 years, in installation of similar high-pressure decorative laminate countertops to those specified.
2. Approved by manufacturer.

#### **1.5 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING**

A. Delivery: Deliver countertops to site in manufacturer's original, unopened containers and packaging, with labels clearly identifying product name and manufacturer.

B. Storage:

1. Store countertops in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
2. Store in clean, dry, and well ventilated area indoors protected from direct sunlight.
3. Store flat on level surface, a minimum of 4 inches above floor.
4. Cover to keep clean, but permit air circulation.

C. Handling: Protect countertops during handling and installation to prevent damage.

#### **1.6 ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS**

A. Maintain environmental conditions before, during, and after storage and installation in accordance with AWI/AWMAC/WI Architectural Woodwork Standards, Section 11 – Countertops.

## **PART 2 PRODUCTS**

## 2.1 MANUFACTURER

- A. VT Industries, Inc., 1000 Industrial Park, PO Box 490, Holstein, Iowa 51025. Toll Free (800) 827-1615. Phone (712) 368-4381. Fax (712) 368-4111. Website www.vtindustries.com. E-mail info@vtindustries.com.

## 2.2 HIGH-PRESSURE DECORATIVE LAMINATE COUNTERTOPS

- A. High-Pressure Decorative Laminate Countertops Conformance: GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality Certification.
- B. Performance Requirements: Meet performance requirements of the following, unless otherwise specified:
  - 1. ANSI/KCMA A161.2.
  - 2. AWI/AWMAC/WI Architectural Woodwork Standards, Section 11 – Countertops.
  - 3. GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality Certified.
  - 4. CARB Phase II.
- C. Styles:

Specifier Notes: Specify required styles. Delete styles not required.

- 1. “Afton” postformed double-waterfall full-wrap ogee edge
- 2. “Barcelona” postformed double-waterfall ogee edge.
- 3. “Caprice” postformed no-drip edge.
- 4. “Classic” laminate self edge.
- 5. “Classic Style B” raw front edge and scribe.
- 6. “Futura” postformed double-radius edge.
- 7. “Marbella” postformed pencil edge.
- 8. “Nova” postformed 180-degree wrap edge.
- 9. “Ora” postformed full wrap pencil edge.
- 10. “Tempo” postformed waterfall edge.
- 11. “Valencia” postformed full-wrap ogee edge.

- D. Types:

Specifier Notes: Specify required types. Delete types not required.

- 1. Postformed countertops with integral backsplashes.
- 2. Single-roll countertops.
- 3. Double-roll countertops.

- E. Grade: Premium, in accordance with:
  - 1. AWI/AWMAC/WI Architectural Woodwork Standards, Section 11 – Countertops.

Specifier Notes: Specify the brand of laminate.

2. Manufacturer: [Formica] [Nevamar] [Panolam] [Pionite] [Wilsonart].

F. High-Pressure Decorative Laminates:

1. Conformance: ANSI/NEMA LD 3.
2. Type: Postforming (HGP).

G. High-Pressure Special-Use Decorative Laminates:

Specifier Notes: Specify chemical-resistant and/or high-wear decorative laminates, as required.

1. Chemical-Resistant Decorative Laminates:

- a. Description: Chemical-resistant overlay and decorative alpha cellulose surface papers, impregnated with melamine resins, bonded under heat and pressure to kraft papers impregnated with phenolic resins.
- b. Postforming.

2. High-Wear Decorative Laminates:

- a. Conformance: ANSI/NEMA LD 3, Grade HGP, High Wear.
- b. Type: Postforming.

H. Laminate Patterns and Finishes:

Specifier Notes: Specify laminate patterns and finishes by **one** of the following **four** methods. Delete sentences not required. Consult VT Industries for pattern and finish selections.

1. Patterns and Finishes:

- a. Pattern Name: \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Pattern Number: \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Finish Number: \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Patterns and Finishes: As specified in Schedules Article of this section.

3. Patterns and Finishes: As indicated on the Drawings.

4. Patterns and Finishes: Selected from manufacturer's full range of available selections.

I. Substrate:

Specifier Notes: Other substrate materials include F/R particleboard, M/R particleboard, plywood, MDF, and Medix. Consult VT Industries for availability and technical information.

1. Particleboard: ANSI A208.1, 45-pound density.
2. Thickness: 3/4 inch.

J. Adhesives: Water-based polyvinyl acetate (PVA).

K. Backing Sheets:

1. Conformance: ANSI/NEMA LD 3.
2. Type: Phenolic backer.

Specifier Notes: Specify VT Industries environmental series of high-pressure decorative laminate countertops for projects requiring LEED certification/credit assistance.

### 2.3 ENVIRONMENTAL HIGH-PRESSURE DECORATIVE LAMINATE COUNTERTOPS

- A. FSC-Certified, Environmental-Series, High-Pressure Decorative Laminate Countertops: “EQcountertops”.
- B. Performance Requirements: Meet performance requirements of the following, unless otherwise specified:
  - 1. ANSI/KCMA A161.2.
  - 2. AWI/AWMAC/WI Architectural Woodwork Standards, Section 11 – Countertops.
  - 3. GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality.
  - 4. GREENGUARD Children & Schools.
  - 5. CARB Phase II.
- C. Styles:

Specifier Notes: Specify required styles. Delete styles not required.

- 1. “Afton” postformed double-waterfall full-wrap ogee edge
- 2. “Barcelona” postformed double-waterfall ogee edge.
- 3. “Caprice” postformed no-drip edge.
- 4. “Classic” laminate self edge.
- 5. “Classic Style B” raw front edge and scribe.
- 6. “Futura” postformed double-radius edge.
- 7. “Geneva” postformed modern drop ogee edge.
- 8. “Nova” postformed 180-degree wrap edge.
- 9. “Ora” postformed full wrap pencil edge.
- 10. “Tempo” postformed waterfall edge.
- 11. “Valencia” postformed full-wrap ogee edge.

- D. Types:

Specifier Notes: Specify required types. Delete types not required.

- 1. Postformed countertops with integral backsplashes.
- 2. Single-roll countertops.
- 3. Double-roll countertops.

- E. Grade: Premium, in accordance with:
  - 1. AWI/AWMAC/WI Architectural Woodwork Standards, Section 11 – Countertops.

Specifier Notes: Specify the brand of laminate.

- 2. Manufacturer: [Formica] [Nevamar] [Panolam] [Pionite] [Wilsonart].

- F. High-Pressure Decorative Laminates:  
High-Pressure Decorative  
Laminate Countertops

1. Low-emitting, GREENGUARD-certified laminates.
2. Conformance: ANSI/NEMA LD 3.
3. Type: Postforming (HGP).

G. High-Pressure Special-Use Decorative Laminates:

1. Low-emitting, GREENGUARD-certified laminates.

Specifier Notes: Specify chemical-resistant and/or high-wear decorative laminates, as required.

2. Chemical-Resistant Decorative Laminates:

- a. Description: Chemical-resistant overlay and decorative alpha cellulose surface papers, impregnated with melamine resins, bonded under heat and pressure to kraft papers impregnated with phenolic resins.
- b. Postforming.

3. High-Wear Decorative Laminates:

- a. Conformance: ANSI/NEMA LD 3, Grade HGP, High Wear.
- b. Type: Postforming.

H. Laminate Patterns and Finishes:

Specifier Notes: Specify laminate patterns and finishes by **one** of the following **four** methods. Delete sentences not required. Consult VT Industries for pattern and finish selections.

1. Patterns and Finishes:

- a. Pattern Name: \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Pattern Number: \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Finish Number: \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Patterns and Finishes: As specified in Schedules Article of this section.

3. Patterns and Finishes: As indicated on the Drawings.

4. Patterns and Finishes: Selected from manufacturer's full range of available selections.

I. Substrates:

1. Particleboard:

- a. Description: 100 percent pre-consumer recycled wood-fiber particleboard with no added urea formaldehyde, industrial grade.
- b. Conformance: ANSI A208.1, MR 10.
- c. FSC certified.
- d. Thickness: 3/4 inch.

2. MDF:

- a. Description: 100 percent pre-consumer recycled wood fiber with no added urea formaldehyde, industrial grade.
- b. Conformance: ANSI A208.2.
- c. FSC certified.
- d. Thickness: 3/4 inch.

3. Plywood:

- a. No added urea formaldehyde.
- b. FSC certified.
- c. Thickness: 3/4 inch.

- J. Adhesives: Water-based polyvinyl acetate (PVA).
- K. Backing Sheets:
  - 1. Conformance: ANSI/NEMA LD 3.
  - 2. Type: Phenolic backer.
  - 3. Thickness: 0.020 inch, plus or minus 0.005 inch.

## **2.4 FABRICATION**

- A. Shop Assembly: Assemble countertops using high-pressure decorative laminate bonded by suitable adhesive to substrate material in accordance with:
  - 1. ANSI/KCMA A161.2.
  - 2. AWI/AWMAC/WI Architectural Woodwork Standards, Section 11 – Countertops.
- B. Dimensional Tolerances: ANSI/KCMA A161.2.

## **PART 3 EXECUTION**

### **3.1 EXAMINATION**

- A. Examine surfaces to receive countertops.
- B. Notify Architect of conditions that would adversely affect installation or subsequent use.
- C. Do not begin installation until unacceptable conditions are corrected.

### **3.2 PREPARATION**

- A. Prepare surfaces to receive countertops in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- B. Verify casework and supports are plumb, level, square, and secure before installation of countertops.
- C. Inspect countertops before installation to determine they are sound and free from defects and damage.

### **3.3 INSTALLATION**

- A. Install countertops in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and AWI/AWMAC/WI Architectural Woodwork Standards, Section 11 – Countertops.
- B. Install countertops at locations indicated on the Drawings.
- C. Install countertops level, plumb, and square.
- D. Securely anchor countertops to casework and supports.
- E. Install joints to be watertight.

### **3.4 CLEANING**



- A. Clean countertops promptly after installation in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- B. Do not use harsh cleaning materials or methods that could damage surface.

**3.5 PROTECTION**

- A. Protect installed countertops from damage including:
  - 1. Damage during construction.
  - 2. Excessive moisture.
  - 3. Standing water.
  - 4. Direct sunlight.

Specifier Notes: Include a schedule of high-pressure decorative laminate countertops here, if a schedule is required in this section. Include countertop styles, types, patterns, finishes, and locations, as required. Delete this article if a schedule is not required.

**3.6 SCHEDULES**

- A. Countertop Schedule:

**END OF SECTION**