

Background

Likewise to the world, the current pandemic situation has posed a huge challenge for the wood panel and decorative surface industry to drive demand from its consumers. During the lockdown period, CenturyPly employed its entire Research and Development unit to work on and come out with a sustainable solution for its customers by addressing one of the key issues faced by customers – the fear against VIRUS. While technology had enabled CenturyPly much earlier to address other kinds of microbes like fungus and bacteria, this challenge took days of back breaking work, research and tedious development to use a form of nano technology ingrained on the surfaces of plywood and laminates that enable them to kill the virus that comes in contact with it. This indigenous effort is a stamp of new India's resolve to fight adversity with cutting edge technology. A testimony to Self Reliant India.

What is ViroKill and how does it work?



CenturyPly uses specially designed Nanoparticle based Self Doctoring Surface Treatment against microorganisms through AAAA (A-4) complete safety protection mechanism for manufacturing its plywood and laminates. These particles are by nature, anti-microbial, anti-fungal, anti-bacterial and anti-viral. This technology has been branded as ViroKill.

The highly activated and energized Nanoparticles physically rupture and kill microbes that come in contact with it through contact killing mechanisms, always keeping the surfaces safe and hygienic.

Is Virokill certified by any independent agency ?

CenturyPly ViroKill products were duly tested at one of the most renowned testing laboratories, the Biotech Testing Services (BTS) located in Mumbai. As per the standards, the following tests were carried out:

- (1) Antimicrobial Efficacy Test (both Antibacterial Efficacy and Antifungal Efficacy of specified microbes) has been done as per JIS Z 2801:2010 international standard.
- (2) Antiviral Efficacy Test of specified virus has been done as per ISO 21702:2019 international standard.

The following testing standards were followed to carry out the tests: The Test Results (attached) certify that CenturyLaminates and CenturyPly products have 99.99 % efficacy against virus. Virus coming in contact with CenturyLaminates and Century Plywood surfaces would have their cell walls ruptured and get killed.

The process of killing mechanism starts instantly and it may take anywhere from a few minutes to a few hours to complete it, depending on the local configuration. However, it will not kill any viruses in the surroundings of the furniture. Also, mishandling of the product, like exposure to excessive sunlight, excessive temperature, humidity, moisture may affect the efficiency of the performance.

The specific type of nanoparticle which is used by CenturyPly in their products is in the approved list of materials against viruses of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This specific nanoparticle is also certified against virus protection by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, through the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

Does ViroKill work against COVID-19?

While, a) The test certifies killing of 99.99% virus b) It is about virus which is a positive-sense single-stranded RNA Virus close to COVID-19 Virus as a category and c) There are many published scientific papers and reports available which support that the specific nanoparticle being used in manufacturing is strongly effective against many viruses, however, there is no test specifically available, as of now, for materials to be tested for COVID-19. Hence, CenturyLaminates & CenturyPly is not in a position to claim that it can be used as a form of any protection against COVID-19.

Does the surface cleaning deplete the properties of ViroKill?

Our prescribed surface cleaning methods shall not deplete the properties of ViroKill.

Is it hazardous to health?

No, ViroKill is completely safe and doesn't have any health hazards.

Are all the other properties retained along with the ViroKill properties?

Yes, all the other product properties are as applicable and will be retained.

What products of CenturyPly & CenturyLaminates will be using this technology?

Currently, CenturyPly is using specific nanoparticles in manufacturing of the following:

- Plywood:-Architect Ply/Architect Plus, Club Prime/710 Plus, Bond 710/Pro710, WIN MR, IS:710 Marine/Firewall/CenturyTeak
- Blockboards- Club Prime, Bond 710, Win MR

CenturyLaminates will be using this in:

- All laminates

CenturyVeneers will be using this in:

- Senzura Woods

How long will the effects of ViroKill treatment remain?

Nanoparticles are effective throughout the lifetime of the furniture as they are embedded in the polymer matrix system. Unless and until the surface is not chemically and physically damaged, the effects of ViroKill won't be depleted.

Is the treatment done on the surface or throughout the product construct?

It is a surface treatment of the products.

Is ViroKill thermostable? What is the effect of moisture or direct sunlight on it?

Yes, it is thermostable. This surface treatment is non-leachable and normal exposure to humidity, moisture or sunlight does not affect the antiviral properties. However, any structural damage of the surface by chemical or physical treatment may affect the ViroKill properties.

Does it cover anti-bacterial and anti-fungal properties?

Yes, ViroKill has additional anti-bacterial and anti-fungal properties.

Is it safe for any interior usage?

Yes, ViroKill is completely safe for interior usage.

Is it safe for human contact?

Yes, it is completely safe for human contact.

Does the treatment react to external polishing or painting?

No, it doesn't react to external polishing or painting.

Does ViroKill have any warranty cover in line with the product warranty?

ViroKill is a special treatment and doesn't affect the functioning of the product. So, the existing standard warranty terms on manufacturing defects are applicable.

How is ViroKill treated CenturyPly plywood different than any existing CenturyPly plywood?

Any CenturyPly plywood manufactured after 1st July 2020 will have this property.

Is it safe if a child comes in contact with this product?

Yes, it is completely safe and doesn't have any health hazards.

Since how long have the ViroKill properties been present in CenturyLaminates?

The manufacturing of CenturyLaminates along with Silver Nano Technology has been in practice for the last 5 years. Thus, CenturyLaminates have had anti-bacterial and anti-fungal properties for the last 5 years. The recent R&D efforts and the test results corroborate that now, the products additionally offer Virus killing properties, too.