

CHINESE DRYWALL ALERT 6-24-09

WHAT WE DO KNOW ABOUT CHINESE DRYWALL:

Contains elevated levels of sulfur compounds as well as elevated levels of strontium compared to US drywall.

Homes with Chinese drywall smell of sulfur gas which not only smells but tarnishes and corrodes certain metals including copper and silver.

Test labs in controlled lab environments can measure elevated levels of sulfur gas emission from small pieces of Chinese drywall.

WHAT HAS NOT BEEN KNOWN:

Measuring actual levels of sulfur gases within a home has proven elusive. And people want to know what the actual levels are in real homes because the levels of gases in real homes are what impact occupant health.

Over 100 homes that smell of sulfur gas and that have tarnished copper wiring and plumbing have had their indoor air tested and always the conclusion has been ... no detectable elevation of sulfur gases vs the outside air. As a result of not finding elevated levels of sulfur gases, these studies concluded and letters were sent out to homeowners that there is “no indication that the conditions in the homes would result in any adverse human health effects.”

No detectable sulfur gas in homes that smell of sulfur gas ... makes no sense!

WHAT WE NOW KNOW:

How can a home that smells of sulfur gas (that is not located on a landfill) have no measurable levels of sulfur gas compared to the outside? We know that *the levels needed to produce detectable odors are significant and should be measurable.*

- ✓ Surprisingly ... gas samples are being collected in bags that are not suitable for collecting such gases and are always taken in the same locations where they find no elevated gases.
- ✓ Surprisingly ... collected gases are being analyzed by equipment that is not designed to analyze such gases.
- ✓ Surprisingly ... samples are being sent to labs that do not have the expertise to properly analyze trace levels of sulfur gases.

All of these problems are easily identified by setting up proper controls. Why was this not done? Why not put a known amount of sulfur gas in a collection bag and make sure that it is measured by the analysis? This is basic science 101.

Using the proper collection techniques, proper collection containers, and by selecting a lab with suitable equipment and expertise **we have now measured significantly elevated levels of indoor sulfur gases in a Chinese drywall home.**

OUR COLLECTION PROCEDURE:

We take a quartz lined .4 liter collection cylinder (under vacuum) and place it at an electrical plate in a Chinese drywall house. We then open the regulator valve and the cylinder draws in gas for approximately 10 minutes. The regulator is then removed and the cylinder is shipped overnight to Centek Labs in Syracuse, NY. The collection technique is quite simple and should be able to be reproduced by any qualified technician.

A recent Centek Lab's analysis is attached. **It is noteworthy that there are significant levels of gases measured.** One sample was taken in a wall cavity and the other inside an actual house at an electrical outlet. We anticipate that the actual levels inhaled by occupants will be lower than these levels because the sulfur gas levels are highest inside wall cavities and close to any openings in the walls.

Looking at the test results ... the Carbon Disulfide level measured in the wall cavity is over .5 ppm. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health toxicity threshold for an *adult* is 1 ppm for *only* 10 minutes.

Occupants of Chinese Drywall homes are exposed to these gases on a continuous basis for months or even years. And of course occupants include children and not just adults. It has yet to be determined what long term exposure of these levels can lead to medically for either children or adults.

Although these numbers are preliminary, they are cause for alarm. It is no surprise to us that we are finding elevated levels of sulfur gases in Chinese Drywall homes. It makes perfect sense. After all, if you have a house that smells like sulfur and is riddled with tarnished and corroded copper and silver, you should be able to measure the gases that are causing it.

Surprisingly, many other air testing companies have been UNABLE to measure elevated levels in homes that exhibited these symptoms and have concluded that there are no elevated gas levels. Such conclusions fly in the face of logic. Of course, if you use the wrong kind of collection container, sample in the wrong place, and use the wrong lab, then you can expect incorrect results.

At this stage there are a lot of unanswered questions. We don't know without taking considerably more samples what the actual elevation levels throughout a home will be. Will the numbers vary from home to home, room to room, and from wall to wall? We anticipate that there will be some variation in the numbers due to the fact that the contaminated gypsum mine which is the source of the Chinese Drywall is heterogeneous. In simple terms, we would expect there to be some variation in compound levels and concentration in the mined gypsum material itself which would lead to different levels of off gassing per piece of drywall.

Potential for variation and some degree of uncertainty do not mean that these numbers have no meaning. They are real measurements inside a real home. Are we measuring significant levels of sulfur gas in Chinese drywall homes? Yes we are. Cause for concern? We believe that it is.

Sincerely,



Gary Rosen, Ph.D.



Centek Laboratories, LLC

Date: 23-Jun-09

CLIENT: Ceritified Mold & Allergen Free Corp
Lab Order: C0906026
Project: 6-16-09
Lab ID: C0906026-001A

Client Sample ID: 6-16-09 Wall
Tag Number: 28
Collection Date: 6/16/2009
Matrix: AIR

Analyses	Result	**Limit	Qual	Units	DF	Date Analyzed
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FIELD PARAMETERS

Lab's Vacuum Reading

-2

FLD

"Hg

Analyst:

6/17/2009

LOW LEVEL SULFURS BY TO-15

TO-15

Analyst: LL

1-Propanethiol	ND	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:13:00 PM
Carbon disulfide	590	5.0	E	ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:13:00 PM
Carbonyl sulfide	27	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:13:00 PM
Dimethyl sulfide	ND	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:13:00 PM
Ethyl mercaptan	ND	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:13:00 PM
Hydrogen Sulfide	350	5.0	E	ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:13:00 PM
Isopropyl mercaptan	ND	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:13:00 PM
Methyl mercaptan	ND	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:13:00 PM
Surr: Bromofluorobenzene	95.7	70-130		%REC	1	6/20/2009 2:13:00 PM

NOTES:

E - Estimated value. The amount exceeds the linear working range of the instrument.

Qualifiers:	B	Analyte detected in the associated Method Blank	E	Value above quantitation range
	H	Holding times for preparation or analysis exceeded	J	Analyte detected at or below quantitation limits
	JN	Non-routine analyte. Quantitation estimated.	ND	Not Detected at the Reporting Limit
	S	Spike Recovery outside accepted recovery limits	.	Results reported are not blank corrected
	**	Reporting Limit		

Centek Laboratories, LLC

Date: 23-Jun-09

CLIENT: Ceritified Mold & Allergen Free Corp
Lab Order: C0906026
Project: 6-16-09
Lab ID: C0906026-002A

Client Sample ID: 6-16-09 House
Tag Number: 18
Collection Date: 6/16/2009
Matrix: AIR

Analyses	Result	**Limit	Qual	Units	DF	Date Analyzed
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FIELD PARAMETERS

Lab's Vacuum Reading	-2			"Hg		Analyst: 6/17/2009
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LOW LEVEL SULFURS BY TO-15

TO-15

Analyst: LL

1-Propanethiol	ND	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:54:00 PM
Carbon disulfide	17	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:54:00 PM
Carbonyl sulfide	ND	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:54:00 PM
Dimethyl sulfide	ND	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:54:00 PM
Ethyl mercaptan	ND	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:54:00 PM
Hydrogen Sulfide	450	5.0	E	ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:54:00 PM
Isopropyl mercaptan	ND	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:54:00 PM
Methyl mercaptan	ND	5.0		ppbV	1	6/20/2009 2:54:00 PM
Surr: Bromofluorobenzene	99.6	70-130		%REC	1	6/20/2009 2:54:00 PM

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	S	Spike Recovery outside accepted recovery limits	.	Results reported are not blank corrected
	**	Reporting Limit		



GARY ROSEN, PH.D.

(www.Mold-Free.org www.Green-Buildings.org)

**PROPERTY DAMAGE APPRAISALS, EXPERT TESTIMONY, MOLD ASSESSMENT, MOLD REMEDIATION, WATER DAMAGE, MOLD RELATED CONSTRUCTION DEFECTS, ODORS, SICK HOMES, INSURANCE DISPUTES
ASSESSMENT & REMEDIATION OF CHINESE DRYWALL**

Florida Licenses

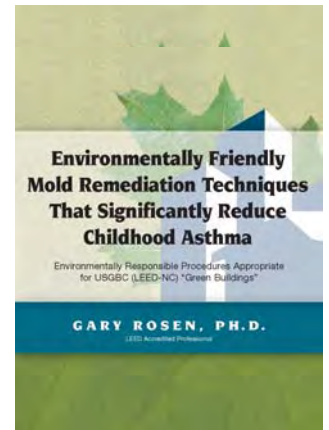
- Florida Licensed Building Contractor: CBC1250821
- Florida Licensed Real Estate Broker: BK698126
- FLDFS Approved CE Training Provider for Property Adjusters. Provider ID: 366921
- Florida Licensed Independent Insurance Adjuster/ Insurance Claim Appraiser: D082664
- Florida CILB Approved CE Course Provider. Provider ID: PVD826

Professional Mold Liability Insurance

- **\$5M policy for mold and microbial matter – updated to include testing Chinese drywall**

Current Mold and Water Damage Related Certifications

- IAQA/AIAQC Certified: Board Certified Indoor Environmental Consultant
- IAQA/AIAQC Certified: Certified Mold Remediator
- IICRC Certified: Applied Structural Drying; Applied Microbial Remediation Technician; Water Restoration Technician



Chinese Drywall Expertise

- Extensive experience with assessing and remediating Chinese drywall.
- Author: Chinese Drywall Q&A.

Dr. Rosen's Educational Background

- UCLA Post-Doctoral Research Fellow (1980) for Dr. Paul D. Boyer, Director UCLA Molecular Biology Institute. Dr. Boyer won the 1997 Nobel Prize in Chemistry
- Ph.D., Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Molecular Biology Institute at UCLA (1979)
- B.S., Chemistry, University of Florida (1975) with Honors

Mold Experience: Mold & Construction Defect Investigations / Testing

- Dr. Rosen has personally performed over 1000 mold and construction defect investigations since 2002.

Mold Experience: Mold Remediation & Construction

- Dr. Rosen has personally performed over 300 mold remediation projects since 2002.

Dr. Rosen's Mold Related Books & Publications:

- *Environmentally Friendly Mold Remediation Techniques That Significantly Reduce Childhood Asthma* Gary Rosen, Ph.D. Published by Hope Academic Press (2007) ISBN 978-0-9794956-6-3 Available on Amazon.com
- *Mold & Mold Toxin Remediation: What You Need to Know Before Purchasing Real Estate.* Gary Rosen, Ph.D. Published by Hope Academic Press (2006) ISBN 9-780-97739-7162-9 Available on Amazon.com
- *When Traditional Medicine Fails: Your Guide to Mold Toxins* Gary Rosen, Ph.D. & James Schaller, M.D. Published by Hope Academic Press (2006) ISBN 1-59196-575-6 Available on Amazon.com
- *Locating Hidden Toxic Mold.* Gary Rosen, Ph.D. Published by Hope Academic Press (2006) ISBN 9-780-97739-7162-9 Available on Amazon.com

CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

ISSUE DATE

5/6/2009

PRODUCER Legends Environmental Insurance Services, LLC 2165 N. Glassell Street Orange, CA 92865 PHONE: (800) 992-6999 FAX: (800) 999-3987 LICENSE #: OC79875	SERIAL #: 1094-1194	THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW.
	COMPANIES AFFORDING COVERAGE	
INSURED Certified Mold Free 2881 W. Lake Vista Circle Davie, FL 33328	INSURER A: American Safety Risk Retention Group, Inc.	
	INSURER B:	
	INSURER C:	
	INSURER D:	
	INSURER E:	


COVERAGES

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES, LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

COMP.	TYPE OF INSURANCE	POLICY NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE	EXPIRATION DATE	LIMITS
A	GENERAL LIABILITY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input type="checkbox"/> OWNER'S & CONTRACTOR'S PROT <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	ENV014767-08-03	10/01/2008	10/01/2009	GENERAL AGGREGATE \$5,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG \$5,000,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$5,000,000 EACH OCCURRENCE \$5,000,000 FIRE DAMAGE (Any one fire) \$50,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$5,000
	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> ALL OWNED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/>				COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Each Accident) BODILY INJURY (Per Person) BODILY INJURY (Per Accident) PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per Accident)
	GARAGE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>				AUTO ONLY - EACH ACCIDENT OTHER THAN AUTO ONLY: EACH ACCIDENT: AGGREGATE:
	EXCESS LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> UMBRELLA FORM <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER THAN UMBRELLA FORM				EACH OCCURRENCE: AGGREGATE:
	WORKER'S COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY THE PROPRIETOR/PARTNERS/EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ARE: <input type="checkbox"/> Included <input type="checkbox"/> Excluded				<input type="checkbox"/> WC Statutory Limits <input type="checkbox"/> Other EL EACH ACCIDENT: EL DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT: EL DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE:
	OTHER Professional Liability Microbial Consulting Cov Drywall Testing E&O	ENV014767-08-03	10/01/2008	10/01/2009	\$5,000,000/\$5,000,000 Limits \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000 Limits \$5,000,000/\$5,000,000 Limits

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS/LOCATIONS/VEHICLES/SPECIAL ITEMS

The certificate holder is hereby named as additional insured with respect of work done by the insured for the certificate holder.

CERTIFICATE HOLDER For Bidding and Information	CANCELLATION SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, THE ISSUING COMPANY WILL ENDEAVOR TO MAIL 30 DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER NAMED TO THE LEFT. BUT FAILURE TO MAIL SUCH NOTICE SHALL IMPOSE NO OBLIGATION OR LIABILITY OF ANY KIND UPON THE COMPANY, ITS AGENTS OR REPRESENTATIVES.  Bill Lohman Principal in Charge _____ AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENCY
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