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# IMPORT ANALYSIS

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MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1984



Government  
of Canada

Regional Industrial  
Expansion

Gouvernement  
du Canada

Expansion industrielle  
régionale

Canada

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MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1984



Further information available from:

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- REFERENCES: (1) Customs Tariff: Items 19200-01,  
19200-02, 50600-01 and 50600-12
- (2) Canadian International Trade  
Classification (Cat. #65-502E,  
Statistics Canada)
- (3) Imports by Commodities  
(Cat. #65-007, Statistics Canada)  
Commodity Codes 338-95 & 338-99

SECTION I

SCOPE OF ANALYSIS

This report is based on a detailed examination of Revenue Canada Customs invoices covering imports of medium density fiberboard during the months January to December 1984. The following Canadian International Trade Classification (C.I.T.C.) Import Commodity Codes apply:

- 338-95-10 Particleboard, reconstituted woodboard
- 338-99-20 Particleboard, plastic faced
- 338-99-30 Particleboard, metal faced
- 338-99-90 Building board, wood, not elsewhere specified

SECTION II

ANALYSIS OF IMPORTS

Imports of medium density fiberboard, as reported on documents examined for the period January to December 1984, amounted to a total quantity of 20,008,053 square feet (surface measure) for a value of \$6,658,995. All shipments originated from the United States. Thicknesses of greater than 1/2 inch accounted for 12,467,787 square feet (surface measure) or sixty-two per cent of the total quantity.

During the period analyzed, medium density fiberboard entered Canada under four separate tariff items: 19200-01, 19200-02, 50600-01 and 50600-12 (see Section VI for individual tariff item description and rates of duty). Imports by percentage of total dollar value for each tariff item were as follows:

<u>Tariff Item</u>	<u>% of Total Dollar Value</u>
19200-01	12
19200-02	51
50600-01	1
50600-12	36

The analysis indicates that 9,636,075 square feet (surface measure) or forty-eight per cent of the total quantity entered Canada through the province of British Columbia. The mode of transportation was evenly distributed between truck and rail, each accounting for fifty per cent of the total quantity.

Full details of the analysis are provided in the following tables.

NOTES: Dollar values shown are based on selling price F.O.B. plant, in Canadian dollars. This selling price represents the value paid by the importer, excluding all freight, packing and insurance costs when specified. All trade discounts when applicable are also deducted from the selling price.

Certain thicknesses and sheet sizes were aggregated in order to preserve confidentiality.

Square footage shown is Actual Surface Measure, not converted to standard measure. (See Table 5 for 3/4" equivalent basis).

TABLE 1 - SUMMARY

IMPORTS OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD BY THICKNESS, QUANTITY AND VALUE

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1984

Thickness (Inches)	Quantity (Sq.Ft.)	Value (\$)
3/16	126,722	33,493
1/4	440,688	95,591
5/16	297,928	55,207
3/8	2,092,405	549,721
7/16	1,755,774	519,888
1/2	2,613,907	768,766
9/16	304,248	95,706
5/8	4,406,236	1,422,737
11/16	3,825,142	1,332,424
3/4	2,721,024	1,050,569
7/8	66,822	33,353
1	621,720	290,162
1-1/8	292,582	164,201
1-3/16	170,485	71,381
1-1/4 & 1-1/2	59,528	54,734
Not known	212,842	121,062
TOTAL	20,008,053	6,658,995

QUANTITY  
('000 SQ.FT.)

GRAPH I

VALUE  
(\$'000)

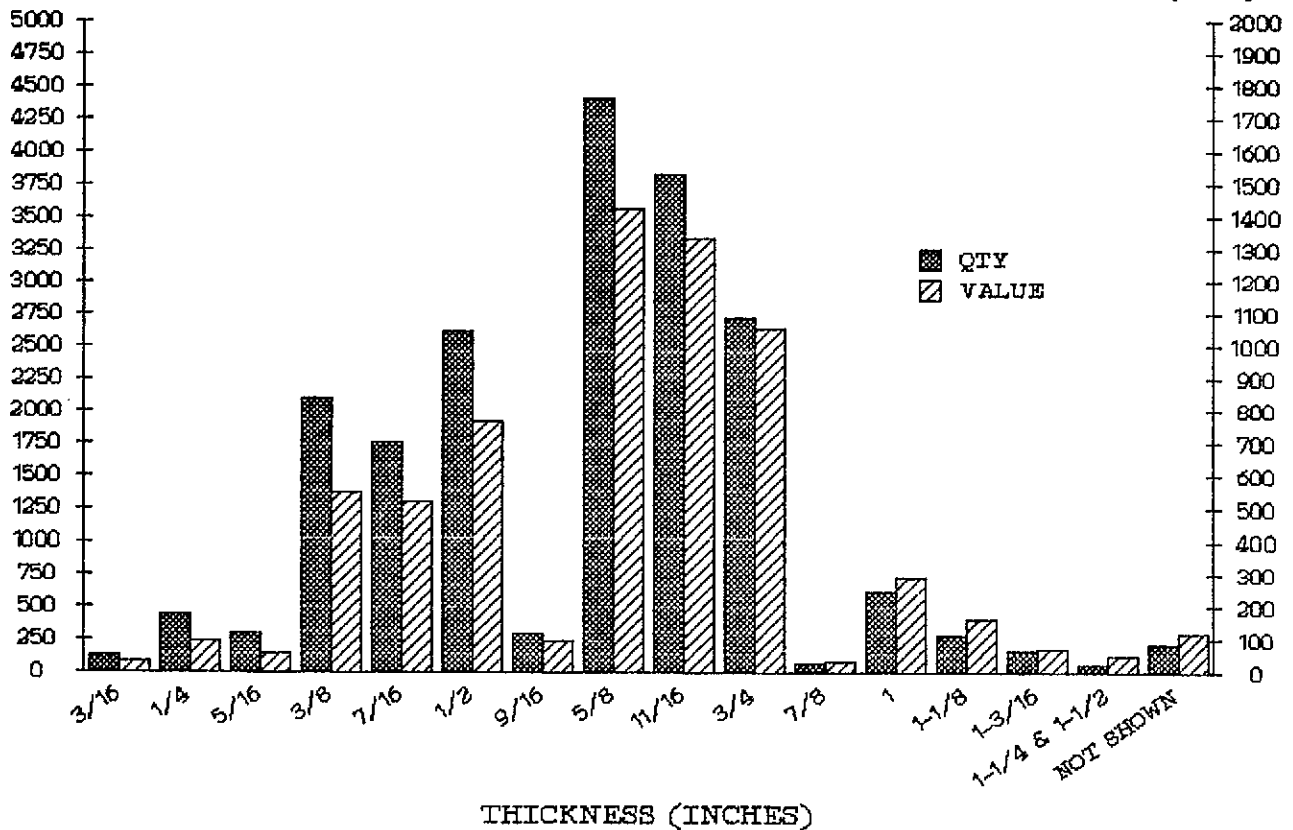


TABLE 2

IMPORTS OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD - BY THICKNESS AND SIZE

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1984

<u>Thickness (Inches)</u>	<u>Size (Inches)</u>		<u>Sheets (No.)</u>	<u>Quantity (Sq. Ft.)</u>	<u>Value (\$)</u>	<u>Import Market Concentration Top 3 Importers (Sq. Ft.)</u>
	<u>Width</u>	<u>Length</u>				
3/16	24 & 60	X 96 & 108	1,307	27,682	6,395	27,682
	48	X 96	3,095	99,040	27,098	99,000
			4,402	126,722	33,493	
1/4	24 & 60	X 96 to 120	962	29,976	6,539	29,976
	48	X 96 to 120	12,235	410,712	89,052	251,512
			13,197	440,688	95,591	
5/16	48 & 60	X 96	7,904	297,928	55,207	295,176
3/8	4 1/8 to 5	X 96 to 120	27,770	93,286	33,162	93,286
	5 1/2 to 5 7/8	X 96 & 108	41,384	159,561	58,060	159,561
	6 1/8 to 7 7/8	X 15 to 120	63,844	220,062	80,494	220,062
	30 & 48	X 84 to 144	453	13,228	3,333	13,228
	48	X 96	25,234	807,488	195,363	652,724
	60	X 96	17,623	704,920	156,113	646,440
	60	X 108 to 144	1,950	93,860	23,196	87,650
		178,258	2,092,405	549,721		
7/16	4 1/8 to 11 1/8	X 96 & 108	49,007	173,182	63,837	173,182
	48	X 96	49,456	1,582,592	456,051	1,033,548
			98,463	1,755,774	519,888	

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TABLE 2 (Continued)

IMPORTS OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD - BY THICKNESS AND SIZE

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1984

<u>Thickness (Inches)</u>	<u>Size (Inches)</u>		<u>Sheets (No.)</u>	<u>Quantity (Sq. Ft.)</u>	<u>Value (\$)</u>	<u>Import Market Concentration Top 3 Importers (Sq. Ft.)</u>
	<u>Width</u>	<u>Length</u>				
1/2	3 1/2 to 5 3/16	X 96	14,772	44,417	18,118	44,417
	5 9/16 to 24	X 17.5 to 108	18,489	102,608	39,703	101,810
	48	X 96 to 144	43,355	1,388,954	417,466	970,378
	60	X 62,84,120 & 144	1,199	40,243	10,315	38,983
	60	X 96	21,945	877,800	237,243	824,880
	60	X 108	3,553	159,885	45,921	132,930
			103,313	2,613,907	768,766	
9/16	13 1/2 & 48	X 30 3/8 to 120	10,527	304,248	95,706	294,040
5/8	12 to 24 1/2	X 72 to 144	3,835	44,827	16,664	41,899
	25 to 27 1/2	X 96 to 144	5,240	93,122	23,563	93,122
	28 to 36	X 72 to 144	15,980	461,623	116,760	396,503
	48	X 96	43,413	1,389,216	497,555	888,224
	48	X 108,120 & 144	898	35,768	11,781	35,768
	60	X 96	40,807	1,632,280	516,817	1,439,600
	60	X 108	11,802	531,090	171,024	468,225
	60	X 120, 144 & 216	2,815	218,310	68,573	213,510
		124,790	4,406,236	1,422,737		

TABLE 2 (Continued)

IMPORTS OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD - BY THICKNESS AND SIZE

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1984

<u>Thickness</u> (Inches)	<u>Size (Inches)</u>		<u>Sheets</u> (No.)	<u>Quantity</u> (Sq. Ft.)	<u>Value</u> (\$)	<u>Import Market</u> <u>Concentration</u> <u>Top 3 Importers</u> (Sq. Ft.)
	<u>Width</u>	<u>Length</u>				
11/16	10 5/16 to 37 1/2	X 17 1/2 to 96	7,977	41,264	17,311	38,464
	48	X 96	39,498	1,263,936	495,954	861,632
	48	X 108	12,796	460,656	163,987	460,656
	48	X 120	1,220	48,800	19,241	48,800
	60	X 72, 76 & 84	281	8,947	2,830	8,947
	60	X 96	17,444	697,760	229,747	608,800
	60	X 108	8,874	399,330	142,300	356,490
	60	X 120	8,292	414,600	133,329	346,050
	60	X 144	7,846	470,760	120,009	445,200
	Not Known	Not Known	2,380	19,089	7,716	19,089
			<u>106,608</u>	<u>3,825,142</u>	<u>1,332,424</u>	
3/4	48	X 96	37,109	1,187,488	470,367	777,568
	48	X 108, 120 & 144	580	22,140	9,635	16,260
	60	X 60 to 84	5,753	173,997	69,484	173,997
	60	X 96	13,629	545,160	203,658	417,240
	60	X 108	12,103	544,635	206,118	396,585
	60	X 120, 144 & 216	2,668	172,940	63,659	159,280
	Not Known	Not Known	7,979	74,664	27,648	74,664
		<u>79,821</u>	<u>2,721,024</u>	<u>1,050,569</u>		
7/8	13 to 54	X 16 3/4 to 110	1,630	26,468	13,340	26,468
	60	X 96, 108 & 144	797	35,030	17,007	27,290
	Not Known	Not Known	804	5,324	3,006	5,324
		<u>3,231</u>	<u>66,822</u>	<u>33,353</u>		

TABLE 2 (Continued)

IMPORTS OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD - BY THICKNESS AND SIZE

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1984

Thickness (Inches)	Size (Inches)		Sheets (No.)	Quantity (Sq. Ft.)	Value (\$)	Import Market Concentration Top 3 Importers (Sq. Ft.)
	Width	Length				
1	30, 36 & 42	X 60, 64 & 72	1,900	28,225	11,536	28,225
		X 60, 64 & 108	797	17,823	6,362	17,139
		X 96	2,545	81,440	34,447	58,240
	60	X 60 to 90	382	10,745	4,443	10,745
	60	X 96	4,258	170,320	82,395	120,160
	60	X 108	1,270	57,150	28,490	46,800
	60	X 113, 144 & 216	852	74,767	36,995	74,767
	60	X 120	<u>3,625</u>	<u>181,250</u>	<u>85,494</u>	<u>127,750</u>
				15,629	621,720	290,162
1 1/8	24 to 48	X 72 to 144	648	18,307	8,863	10,617
		X 60, 96, 120 & 144	1,534	66,690	33,236	53,890
		X 108	<u>4,613</u>	<u>207,585</u>	<u>122,102</u>	<u>205,605</u>
			6,795	292,582	164,201	
1 3/16	48 & 60	X 72, 96 & 108	348	13,285	6,708	12,645
		X 144	<u>2,620</u>	<u>157,200</u>	<u>64,673</u>	<u>154,800</u>
			2,968	170,485	71,381	
1 1/4 & 1 1/2	20 to 60	X 24 to 120	1,902	59,528	54,734	59,528
Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	27,220	212,842	121,062	209,659
GRAND TOTAL			<u>785,028</u>	<u>20,008,053</u>	<u>6,658,995</u>	

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TABLE 3

IMPORTS OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD - BY PROVINCE OF ENTRY AND MODE OF TRANSPORTATION

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1984

<u>Thickness</u> (Inches)	<u>Quantity</u> (Sq. Ft.)	<u>PROVINCE OF ENTRY</u>					<u>MODE OF TRANSPORTATION</u>	
		<u>Quebec</u>	<u>Ontario</u>	<u>Prairie Provinces</u> ( - % of Sq. Ft. - )	<u>British Columbia</u>	<u>Atlantic Provinces</u>	<u>Rail</u> ( % of Sq. Ft.)	<u>Truck</u> ( % of Sq. Ft.)
3/16 to 5/16	865,338	16	36	-	48	-	38	62
3/8	2,092,405	32	36	2	30	-	38	62
7/16	1,755,774	51	15	1	33	-	67	33
1/2	2,613,907	11	21	5	63	-	55	45
9/16	304,248	-	3	-	97	-	20	80
5/8	4,406,236	14	14	5	67	-	58	42
11/16	3,825,142	26	31	15	28	-	43	57
3/4	2,721,024	18	24	2	56	-	51	49
7/8 to 1 1/2	1,211,137	31	16	10	43	-	46	54
Not Known	<u>212,842</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>37</u>
TOTAL	20,008,053	23	23	6	48	(1)	50	50

NOTES: (1) - Less than one per cent.

- All percentage figures are rounded.

TABLE 4 - SUMMARY

IMPORTS OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD

BY QUARTERLY DISTRIBUTION

JANUARY 1983 TO DECEMBER 1984

	1983*		1984	
	<u>Quantity</u> (Sq.Ft.)	<u>Value</u> (\$)	<u>Quantity</u> (Sq.Ft.)	<u>Value</u> (\$)
January to March	4,215,165	1,241,171	5,600,417	1,787,767
April to June	3,680,606	1,042,867	5,065,367	1,647,390
July to September	3,704,733	1,158,941	3,489,648	1,229,498
October to December	<u>4,260,288</u>	<u>1,344,743</u>	<u>5,852,621</u>	<u>1,994,340</u>
	15,860,792	4,787,722	20,008,053	6,658,995

\* SOURCE: Import Analysis Pub. No. 005B4-F

GRAPH II

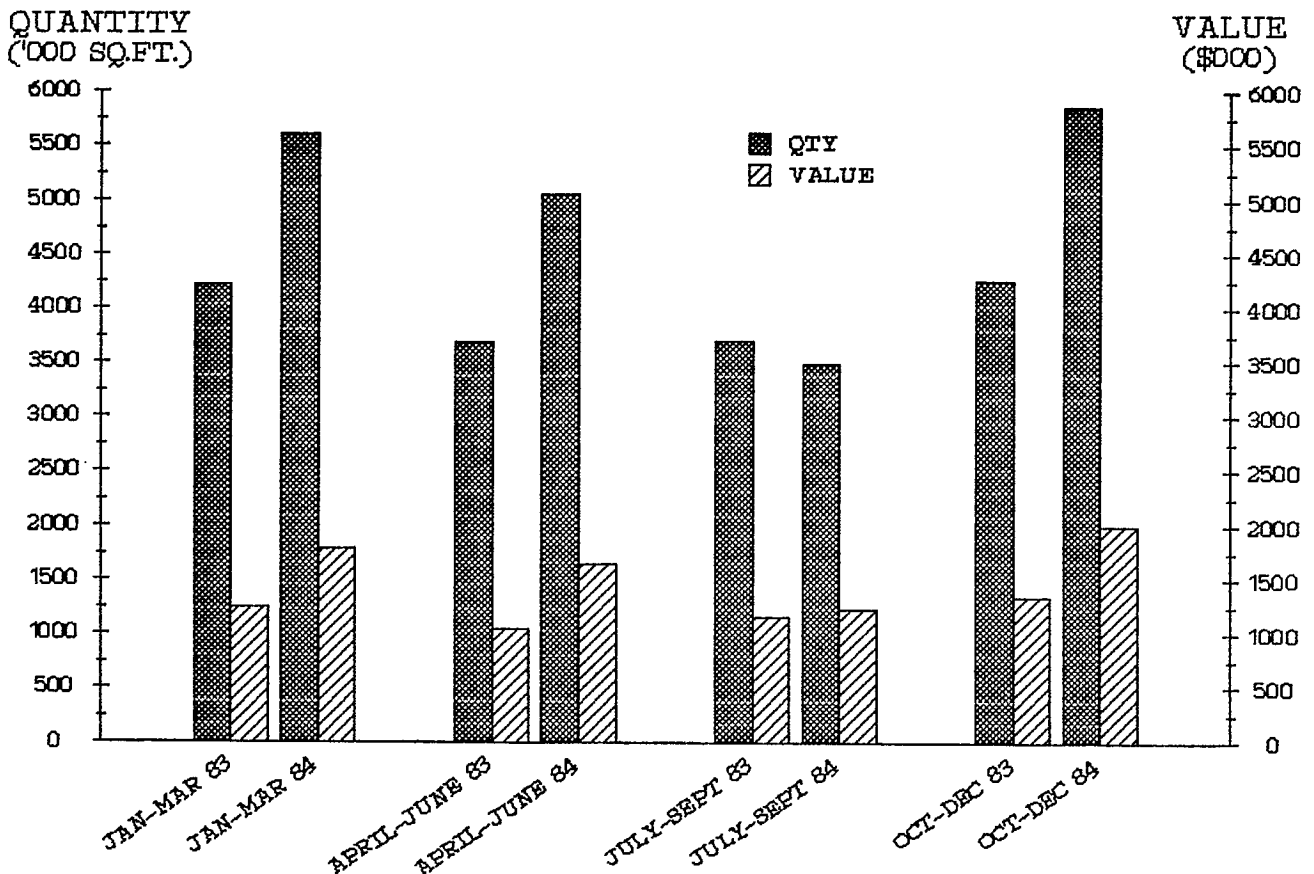


TABLE 5

IMPORTS OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD - BY SQUARE FEET, 3/4" EQUIVALENT

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1984

<u>Thickness</u> (Inches)	<u>Quantity (Sq. Ft.)</u> (Surface Measure)	<u>Quantity (Sq. Ft.)</u> (3/4" Equivalent)	<u>Value</u> (\$)
3/16	126,722	31,681	33,493
1/4	440,688	146,896	95,591
5/16	297,928	124,137	55,207
3/8	2,092,405	1,046,203	549,721
7/16	1,755,774	1,024,202	519,888
1/2	2,613,907	1,742,605	768,766
9/16	304,248	228,186	95,706
5/8	4,406,236	3,671,863	1,422,737
11/16	3,825,142	3,506,380	1,332,424
3/4	2,721,024	2,721,024	1,050,569
7/8	66,822	77,959	33,353
1	621,720	828,960	290,162
1 1/8	292,582	438,873	164,201
1 3/16	170,485	269,935	71,381
1 1/4 & 1 1/2	59,528	108,956	54,734
Not Known	<u>212,842</u>		<u>121,062</u>
TOTAL	20,008,053		6,658,995

SECTION III

CANADIAN IMPORTERS

Importers of medium density fiberboard during the period January to December 1984 are listed below in alphabetical order.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Bois Goodfellow Ltd.	Montréal, Québec
Caneda Forest Products Ltd.	Calgary, Alberta
Canfor Ltd.	New Westminster, B.C.
Commonwealth Plywood Co. Ltd.	Ste. Thérèse, Québec
	Rexdale, Ontario
Crystaplex Plastics Ltd.	Montréal, Québec
	Mississauga, Ontario
Custom Woodcraft (1965) Ltd.	Calgary, Alberta
Cutler Forest Products	Mississauga, Ontario
Cyanamid of Canada Inc.	St. Jean, Québec
Diamond Wood Products	Burnaby, B.C.
Domtar Construction Materials	Huntsville, Ontario
Egan Visual Inc.	Woodridge, Ontario
Georgia Pacific Bldg. Material Ltd.	Langley, B.C.
Hardwood Int'l.	Calgary, Alberta
J.R. Bezanson Millwork & Construction	Vancouver, B.C.
Lancashire Saw Sales & Service (Canada) Ltd.	Regina, Sask.
Les Industries Sefina Ltd.	Montréal, Québec
Les Panneaux Vicply Inc.	Montréal, Québec
MacMillan Bloedel Ltd.	Montréal, Québec
	Dartmouth, N.S.
Magnussen Furniture Mfg. Ltd.	New Hamburg, Ontario
McFadden Hardwoods Ltd.	Mississauga, Ontario
McKillican Hardwood Ltd.	Edmonton, Alberta
Meteor Plywoods Ltd.	Mississauga, Ontario
Montego Forest Products	Brampton, Ontario
Panneaux Neos Ltée	Montréal, Québec
Pioneer Distributors Ltd.	West Vancouver, B.C.
Premium Forest Products Ltd.	Calgary, Alberta
Robert Bury Co.	Toronto, Ontario
	Lachine, Québec
Sauder Industries Ltd.	Calgary, Alberta
	Vancouver, B.C.
	Winnipeg, Manitoba
	Burnaby, B.C.
Takahashi Industries Ltd.	New Westminster, B.C.
Teamwood Traders Ltd.	Weston, Ontario
Thomas (Canada) Ltd.	Bolton, Ontario
Wanderosa Holdings Inc.	Bolton, Ontario
Weldwood of Canada Sales Ltd.	Vancouver, B.C.

SECTION IV

FOREIGN EXPORTERS TO CANADA

Major exporters to Canada of products shown in Section II of this report, who have exported \$190,000 and over, are listed below in descending order of dollar value. These exporters accounted for 96 per cent of the total analyzed value of \$6,658,995.

UNITED STATES

Plumcreek Timber Co. Inc.	Columbia Falls, MT
Medford Corp.	Medford, OR
Bohemia Inc.	Rocklin, CA
Louisiana-Pacific Corp.	Rocklin, CA
Williamette Ind.	Portland, OR
Boise Cascade Corp.	La Grande, OR
Montana de Fibra	Las Vegas, NM
Weyerhaeuser Co.	Moncure, NC

SECTION V

MARKET SUMMARY

At present, all Medium Density Fibreboard consumed in Canada is imported from U.S. sources. A Canadian (MDF) plant is currently under construction in Alberta with a start-up date scheduled for late 1985.

Details of MDF imports are normally included in the particleboard import statistics reported by Statistics Canada.

An analysis of MDF imports for the period July to September 1978 indicated the Canadian market on an annual basis to be some 20 million square feet (surface measure) with a value of about \$4.4 million. A subsequent analysis of 1983 MDF imports indicated the market for MDF has declined to about 15.9 million square feet (surface measure) valued at some \$4.8 million.

The major end-uses of MDF are in corestock for furniture and cabinetry of various types including its use in tops, sides, drawer fronts, shelving, tables and other components for which it has excellent capabilities to be edge-shaped and milled. In addition, MDF can be used as a substrate for wall panelling.



SECTION VI

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN TARIFFS

CANADA

Medium density fiberboard included in this analysis was dutiable under the following most commonly applied tariff items.

<u>Tariff Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>British Preferential Tariff</u>	<u>Most Favoured Nation Tariff</u>	<u>General Tariff</u>	<u>General Preferential Tariff</u>	<u>U.K. &amp; Ireland</u>
19200-01	Tarred paper and prepared roofings (including shingles), fiberboard strawboard, sheathing and insulation, manufactured wholly or in part of vegetable fibers, n.o.p.; blotting paper, not printed nor illustrated..1984	11.4%	11.4%	35%	Free	11.4%
	.....1985	10.7%	10.7%	35%	Free	10.7%
19200-02	Building papers and building paper felts, whether or not coated or saturated, not cut to size or shape; fiberboard, strawboard, sheathing and insulation, manufactured wholly or in part of vegetable fibers, n.o.p., not cut to size or shape; blotting paper, not cut to size or shape.....1984	9.7%	9.7%	35%	Free	9.7%
	.....1985	8.6%	8.6%	35%	Free	8.6%
50600-01	Manufactures of wood, n.o.p.....1984	11.4%	11.4%	25%	7.5%	11.4%
	.....1985	10.7%	10.7%	25%	7%	10.7%
50600-12	Particleboard.....1984	10%	10%	25%	6.5%	10%
	.....1985	9%	9%	25%	6%	9%

(United States falls within MFN category)

Tariff items and rates of duty are subject to change and need to be verified by direct reference to:

Tariff Programs  
Revenue Canada  
Customs and Excise  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0L5  
Tel: (613) 996-6595

FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Inquiries concerning tariffs and other government trade regulations in foreign countries should be directed to:

Trade Information Centre  
International Bureaux  
External Affairs Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0G2  
Tel: (613) 993-6435

