

3M Adhesives Minimize Solvent Use While Maximizing Performance

3M customer Carolina Cabinet Co. of Wilson, NC, is a store fixture and display builder that is committed to making the highest quality products while reducing environmental impact. E.B. Bradley Co., a California distributor to the woodworking industry, is building a brand around environmentally responsible products in a market with the nation's toughest air quality standards. Each is committed to reduce or eliminate solvent use while meeting stringent quality requirements.

Both companies found the solutions they needed with GREENGUARD® certified industrial adhesives from 3M.



3M's GREENGUARD® Certified Adhesives Help Woodworker, Distributor Offer "No-Compromise" Solutions

Case #1: A Carolina Cabinet customer needed low-VOC store fixtures to pursue LEED® rated projects. While this aligned well with Carolina Cabinet's environmental initiative, the builder's brand also promises very high standards of quality, and the company needed an adhesive that offered an acceptable environmental profile without compromising performance.

Demonstrating that environmental acceptability and high strength bonds can co-exist, 3M™ Fastbond™ Contact Adhesive offered Carolina Cabinet a GREENGUARD certified water-based adhesive with the high performance of a solvent-based alternative. "3M's water-based adhesives provide excellent performance as well as higher coverage than their solvent-based counterparts," said Gary Aycock, production manager at Carolina Cabinet.

The 3M product, certified according to GREENGUARD Children & Schools™ standard, helped Carolina Cabinet's customer meet the low-emission targets demanded by the LEED rated project. And, as an added benefit, 3M's water-based adhesive helped Carolina Cabinet to cut \$11,000 from its annual insurance bill by helping to reduce flammability and health risks associated with some solvent-based adhesives.

Case #2: Distributor E.B. Bradley Co. has a reputation for providing environmentally acceptable products to a market that has set the standard with its South Coast Air Quality Management District. Because E.B. Bradley Co. gets calls every day regarding green products and LEED® rated projects, it needed a portfolio of industrial adhesives that furthered its green initiatives.

Six 3M industrial adhesives have been certified to the GREENGUARD Children & Schools requirements. This means air emissions from these adhesives meet the most stringent indoor air quality standards set by the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute. The 3M products aligned well with the E.B. Bradley Co. brand. "We have taken a very active stand against the use of harmful chemicals, and we've partnered with 3M because 3M has the innovation, credibility and initiative to produce responsible products," said E.B. Bradley Co. president Robert Bradley.

Also, five of the six certified adhesives have water-based characteristics that match the high performance of their solvent-based counterparts needed in applications such as countertop lamination, foam or insulation bonding, and even carpet installation. "We've learned that by using 3M products, there is no need to compromise performance to meet our green initiatives," said Bradley.

3M pioneered the development of water-based adhesives more than 45 years ago and the company continues to develop industry-leading products with enhanced environmental performance.

3M has the
Innovation, **Credibility,**
& Initiative