

Green Ingredient LLC

“Specializes in Affordable & Sustainable Green Building Materials”

Green Ingredient LLC “Specializes in Affordable & Sustainable Green Building Materials.” It is our belief that it is our responsibility to protect our environment for future generations by building smarter, healthier, sustainably and opening our minds to the possibilities of viable alternatives. Green Ingredients is the Arizona distributor for MBP (Magnum Building Products). Magnum board is a product that while used in various areas around the US, is just being discovered by the building communities. As a brief introduction to what MgO board really is please keep reading.

Magnesium oxide board “MgO board” is factory-made, non-insulating sheathing board product. It can be used for a number of applications including wall and ceiling linings, fascias, soffits, tile backing and underlayments. It is made of magnesium oxide, a type of mineral cement, and is commonly called simply “MgO” due to its chemical composition of magnesium and oxygen. Think of MgO as a type of sheathing board-sort of like drywall or cement board, but with much-improved characteristics such as fire resistance, weatherability, strength, resistance to mold and mildew, and so on.

MgO is available in many forms, and for building construction comes in various thicknesses and sheet sizes. It also comes in various grades, such as smooth finishes, rough textures and utility grades. It is white, beige or light gray in color, and has a “hard” sound when rapped with your knuckles—somewhat like Portland cement board. There are dozens of companies that make MgO board, most of which are in Asia. There

are several large producers, but most are small local manufacturers who serve a region. Pure magnesium, in raw form, is not stable (it burns); they make flares and fireworks from it. MgO, however, is the exact opposite. It is completely non-flammable and used for fireproofing and as furnace liners.

Oxygen, when combined with magnesium under heat and pressure can produce a stone-like material—MgO. MgO exists in gigantic deposits as raw-rock and is mined like

other minerals. It is ground into a powder, which is then combined with water to make a cement-like (adhesive) material. About 70 percent of the world’s MgO is in Asia. Other deposits are located elsewhere around the globe, but not all have the correct quality for making sheathing. There is sufficient mine-able MgO spread around the world to make enough “MgO drywall for centuries. MgO board also contains other magnesium-based components, but MgO is the main one.

The use of MgO goes back many centuries, almost to the Pyramids, being used to make mortars for masonry construction. The modern use of MgO to make sheathing panels goes back several decades. MgO boards have been used in Asia and the Middle East on many large, world-class projects, particularly for partitions and fire walls.

This new-to-us type of sheathing has a long, successful track record. MgO boards come in vari-

ous forms. The thinnest boards are about ¼-inch thick, while the thickest are about an inch. Sheet sized are similar to those of dry-wall. Various surface finishes are available for MgO board. Some are super smooth and paintable as-is, while others are rougher and better suited for non-aesthetic purposes, such as structural sheathing or a tile backer board, or for the application of thick

coatings. MgO board is a “low tech” and “energy-friendly” product. CO2 is high on the list of “greenhouse” gases, which are said

to contribute to the global warming phenomenon. MgO production is simple, green, energy efficient, and produces few “greenhouse” gases. This aspect of MgO, from the standpoint of being a “green/eco-friendly” product, would indicate that MgO-based products will have a bright future.

MgO board is quite strong and has good flexural and tensile strength, making it suitable as a structural sheathing, such as would occur with stucco or as a substrate for EFIS. It also has high impact resistance, making it good for damage-prone applications, such as hurricane areas, or when used with a simple surface coating in areas where the wall might get beat up.

As we all know the concerns of mold and mildew in our region, MgO board does not support the growth of mold or mildew because there is nothing in MgO board that attracts it. Similarly, termites and other insects have no

interest in it, as it is inedible.

So when designing and/or bidding your next project, please keep in mind Green Ingredients (Arizona’s Distributor for Magnum Board Products). Call today for an estimate on your next project!

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Cash to Equities *Cont. from p.8*

ate for your long-term objectives? You might want to talk to a qualified financial professional today to review where you are at and how you might position yourself for the years ahead.

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