

**SECTION 12 36 53**  
**LABORATORY WORK SURFACES**  
**MANUFACTURED BY DURCON INCORPORATED**  
**(SOLID PHENOLIC COMPACT)**

**Part 1 General**

**1.1 Summary**

**Specifier Note:** The following specification contains design options and must be edited to meet project requirements.

**A. Section includes:**

Solid Phenolic Compact (SPC) Laboratory Work Surfaces suitable for use on laboratory grade casework and as shelving, backsplashes, wall cladding, drawer fronts, cabinet doors, partitions and other structural components.

**B. Related Sections:**

1. Division 01: Administrative, procedural, and temporary work requirements.
2. Section [06 4100 - Architectural Wood Cabinets] [\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_] - Base cabinets.
3. Section [12 3100 - Manufactured Wood Casework] [\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_] - Base cabinets.
4. Section [12 3200 - Manufactured Metal Casework] [\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_] - Base cabinets.
5. Section [12 3400 - Manufactured Plastic Casework] [\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_] - Base cabinets.
6. Section [12 3500 - Specialty Casework] [\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_] - Base cabinets.

**1.2 References**

**A. Scientific Equipment and Furniture Association (SEFA):**

1. SEFA 3 Work Surfaces

**B. ASTM International (ASTM):**

1. EN 438-2:25 - Standard Test Method for Resistance to Scratch.
2. EN 438-2:16 - Standard Test Method for Resistance to Dry Heat.
3. EN 12721 - Standard Test Method for Resistance to Wet Heat
4. EN 438-2:17 - Standard Test Method for Dimensional Stability in Elevated Temperature.
5. EN ISO 178/ASTM 790-08 - Standard Test Method for Flexural Strength
6. EN ISO 1183/ASTM 792-08 - Standard Test Method for Density
7. ASTM E-84/UL 723 - Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics

**C. UL/GREENGUARD Environmental Institute:**

1. Indoor Air Quality Certification Program.
2. Children and Schools Certification Program.

**D. International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001 - Quality Management Systems.**

**1.3 Submittals**

**A. Submittals for Review:**

1. Shop Drawings:
  - a. Submit plan, section, elevation and perspective drawings necessary to describe and convey layout, profiles, and product components, including edge conditions, joints, fitting and fixture locations, anchorage, accessories, and finish colors.
  - b. Verify actual measurements/openings by field measurements before fabrication; show recorded measurements on Shop Drawings.
  - c. Coordinate field measurements and fabrication schedule with construction progress to avoid construction delays.
2. Product Data: Manufacturer's data sheets on each product to be used, including:
  - a. Preparation instructions and recommendations.
  - b. Storage and handling requirements and recommendations.
  - c. Installation methods.
3. Samples:
  - a. Selection samples: For each finish product specified, submit complete set of color chips representing manufacturer's full range of standard colors.
  - b. Verification samples: For each finish product specified, submit samples representing actual product color; supplied product color and gloss may vary slightly from supplied samples.

**B. Quality Control Submittals:**

1. Test Reports: Certified test reports or recognized evaluation reports showing compliance with specified performance characteristics and physical properties.

**C. Sustainable Design Submittals:**

1. Regional Materials: Certify products extracted, processed, and manufactured within 500 mile radius of Project site.
2. Low-Emitting Materials: Certify volatile organic compound (VOC) content.

**D. Closeout Submittals:**

1. Maintenance Data:
  - a. Provide maintenance, cleaning, and life cycle information.
  - b. Include recommended cleaning materials and procedures, and list of materials detrimental to Solid Phenolic Compact.

## 1.4 Quality Assurance

**A. Manufacturer Qualifications:**

1. Primary products furnished by single manufacturer with minimum [10] [ ] years [documented] experience in work of this Section.
2. Products manufactured in ISO 9001 certified facility.

**B. Installer Qualifications: Minimum [5] [ ] years [documented] experience in work of this Section.**

**C. Mockup:**

1. Construct worksurface mockup, [6] [ ] feet wide x full depth.
2. Include worksurface, and trim.] [\_\_\_\_.]
3. Locate [where directed.] [\_\_\_\_.]
4. Approved mockup may [not] remain as part of the Work.

## 1.5 Delivery, Storage and Handling

**A. Delivery:**

1. Use pallets larger than sheets during transportation.

2. Package materials to prevent damage during shipping and handling.

**B. Storage:**

1. Store products in enclosed area protected from ultraviolet.
2. Store products in manufacturer's unopened packaging until ready for installation.
3. Store panels using protective dividers to avoid damage to surfaces.
4. For horizontal storage, store sheets on pallets of equal or greater size than sheets with protective layer between pallet and sheet and on top of uppermost sheet.
5. Do not store sheets or fabricated panels vertically.

**C. Handling:**

1. If protective film is provided, do not remove until panel has been installed.
2. Handle sheets to prevent damage.
3. Remove stickers immediately after installation.

## 1.6 Coordination and Project Conditions

- A. Do not install products under environmental conditions outside manufacturer's limits.
- B. Avoid direct exposure of products to sunlight.
- C. Do not use worksurfaces as bench, ladder, or seating.

## Part 2 - Products

### 2.1 Manufacturers

- A. Contract Documents are based on products by Durcon, Incorporated, 206 Allison Drive, Taylor, TX 76574, 512-595-8000, [www.durcon.com](http://www.durcon.com).
- B. Substitutions: [Under provisions of Division 01.] [Not permitted.]

### 2.2 Materials

**A. Solid Phenolic Compact (SPC) Laboratory Work Surfaces:**

**Chemical Resistant SPC** is a self-supporting flat panel based on thermosetting resins, homogeneously reinforced with cellulose fibers and manufactured under high pressure. The panels have a pigmented resin core with a decorative surface that is electron-beam cured.

\*\*\*\* OR \*\*\*\*

**Standard Grade SPC** is a self-supporting flat panel based on thermosetting resins, homogeneously reinforced with cellulose fibers and manufactured under high pressure. The panels have a pigmented resin core consisting of solid phenolic impregnated kraft papers capped with a decorative surface and a clear protective overcoat.

- B. Basis of Design:** Drawings and specifications are based on Durcon SPC work surfaces.

- C. Manufacturer: Durcon Incorporated** - 206 Allison Drive, Taylor, TX 76574  
**Fabricated by: Durcon Incorporated** - 206 Allison Drive, Taylor, TX 76574

### 2.3 Material Properties

- A.** Work surfaces shall be constructed of solid phenolic composite [Standard Grade] [Chemical Resistant] panels with black core.

B. Thickness shall be as specified on drawings and shall be [1/2" (13mm)] [5/8" (16mm)] [3/4" (19mm)] [1" (25mm)] [Custom \_\_\_\_" ( \_\_\_\_mm)].

**Specifier Note:** Chemical Resistant SPC with integral EB cured decorative top sheets are available in lab standard Black, Gray and White. Chemical Resistant SPC without EB curing and Standard Grade SPC are available in the manufacturer's published color range.

C. Colors: [Black, Gray, White].

D. Finish: Matte sheen

E. Physical Properties:

Test	Test Method	Unit		Chemical Resistant SPC	
Resistance to Surface Wear	EN 438-2:10	Revolutions (Initial Point)	IP + FP/2	≤ 350	400
		Revolutions (Final Point)		≤ 500	
Resistance to Impact	EN 438-2:21	Indentation Diameter (mm)		0.4	
		Cracks or Scoring		No	
Resistance to Scratch	EN 438-2:25	Rating (Based on Load)		5	
Resistance to Dry Heat (160°C/320°F)	EN 438-2:16	Appearance (Rating)		5	
Resistance to Wet Heat (100°C/212°F)	EN 12721	Appearance (Rating)		5	
Resistance to Immersion in Boiling Water	EN 438-2:12	Appearance (Rating)		5	
		Percentage	Mass Increase	0.4	
			Thickness Increase	1.9	
Dimensional Stability in Elevated Temperature	EN 438-2:17	Percentage	Longitudinal (parallel)	0.05	
			Transversal (perpendicular)	0.05	
Resistance to Staining	EN 438-2:26	Appearance (Rating)	Acetone	5	
			NaOH	5	
			Hydrogen Peroxide (H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 3%)	5	
Resistance to Color Change	ASTM G53/EN 438-2:27	Rating (Grey Wool Scale)		5	
		Rating (Blue Wool Scale)		> 6	
Resistance to Cracking	EN 438-2:24	Appearance (Rating)		5	
Porosity	N/A	Appearance		Nonporous Surface and Edges	
Modulus of Elasticity	ASTM 638-08 /EN ISO 178	psi		≥ 1.85e6	
Flexural Strength	ASTM 790-08 /EN ISO 178	psi		≥ 2.87e4	
Tensile Strength	ASTM 638-08 /EN ISO 527-2	psi		≥ 2.71e4	
Density	ASTM 792-08 /EN ISO 1183	lbs/ft <sup>3</sup>		≥ 86.15	

F. Chemical Resistance (in accordance with chemical resistance test per SEFA 8).

<b>Chemical Resistant SPC by Durcon</b>	Method	Chemical Resistant SPC Black
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Amyl Acetone	A	0
Ethyl Acetate	A	0
Acetic Acid 98%	B	0
Acetone	A	0
Acid Dichromate 5%	B	1
Butyl Alcohol	A	0
Ethyl Alcohol	A	0
Methyl Alcohol	A	0
Ammonium Hydroxide, 28%	B	1
Benzene	A	0
Carbon Tetrachloride	A	0
Chloroform	A	0
Chromic Acid 60%	B	1
Cresol	A	1
Dichloro Acetic Acid	A	1
Dimethylformamide	A	0
Dioxane	A	0
Ethyl Ether	A	0
Formaldehyde 37%	A	0
Formic Acid 90%	B	1
Furfural	A	0
Gasoline	A	0
Hydrochloric Acid 37%	B	0
Hydrofluoric Acid 48%	B	1
Hydrogen Peroxide 28%	B	0
Tincture of Iodine	B	1
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	A	1
Methylene Chloride	A	0
Mono Chlorobenzene	A	1
Napthalene	A	0
Nitric Acid 20%	B	0
Nitric Acid 30%	B	0
Nitric Acid 70%	B	0
Phenol 90%	A	1
Phosphoric Acid 85%	B	0
Silver Nitrate, Saturated	B	0
Sodium Hydroxide 10%	B	0
Sodium Hydroxide 20%	B	0
Sodium Hydroxide 40%	B	0
Sodium Hydroxide Flake	B	0
Sodium Sulfide, Saturated	B	0
Sulfuric Acid 25%	B	0
Sulfuric Acid 85%	B	0
Sulfuric Acid 96%	B	0
Sulfuric Acid 85%, and Nitric Acid 70%, equal parts	B	0
Toluene	A	0
Trichlorethylene	A	0
Xylene	A	0
Zinc Chloride, Saturated	B	0

## 2.4 Accessories

- A. Laboratory Shelving:** Provide Solid Phenolic Compact laboratory shelving as indicated. Shelving shall be [Chemical Resistant SPC] [Standard Grade SPC] in [1/2" (13mm)] [5/8" (16mm)] [3/4" (19mm)] [1"

(25mm)] [Custom \_\_\_\_" ( \_\_\_\_ mm)] thickness.

- B. Pegboards (Drying Racks): Provide Solid Phenolic Compact pegboards as indicated. Pegboards shall be [Chemical Resistant SPC] [Standard Grade SPC] in [3/4" (19mm)] [1" (25mm)] thickness.
- C. Reagent Racks: Provide Solid Phenolic Compact reagent racks as indicated. Reagent racks shall be [Chemical Resistant SPC] [Standard Grade SPC] in [3/4" (19mm)] [1" (25mm)] thickness.
- D. Window Sills: Provide Solid Phenolic Compact window sills as indicated. Window sills shall be Chemical Resistant SPC] [Standard Grade SPC] in [3/4" (19mm)] [1" (25mm)] thickness..
- E. Installation Materials: Provide joint adhesive as required to suit project conditions.

## 2.5 Fabrication

- A. Fabricated tops and accessories in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations, approved Shop Drawings, and SEFA 8.
- B. Solid Phenolic Compact Worksurfaces:
  - 1. Thickness:
    - a. [1/2" (13mm)] [5/8" (16mm)] [3/4" (19mm)] [1" (25mm)] [Custom \_\_\_\_" ( \_\_\_\_ mm)].
    - b. Check each sheet at factory for required thickness.
    - c. Maximum variation in thickness: plus or minus 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) from corner to corner.
  - 2. Warpage:
    - a. Inspect tops for warpage prior to fabrication by placing on true flat surface.
    - b. Maximum allowable warpage: 1/16 inch (1.5 mm) in 36 inch (900 mm) span or 3/16 inch (4.5 mm) in 96 inch (2400 mm) span.
  - 3. Fabrication:
    - a. Shop fabricate in longest practical lengths.
    - b. Bond joints with highly chemical resistant cement with properties and color similar to base material.
    - c. Provide 1/8 inch (3 mm) drip groove at underside of exposed edges, set back 1/2 inch (13 mm) from face.
    - d. Finish exposed edges.
  - 4. Edge treatment: [Standard 1/8 inch (2 mm) chamfered edge.] [Standard 1/4 inch (2 mm) radius edge.] [Standard 1/8 inch (2 mm) chamfered edge with drip groove.] [Standard 1/4 inch (2 mm) radius edge with drip groove.] [As indicated on Drawings.]
  - 5. Fabricate tops [flat] [with 1/4 inch (6 mm) raised epoxy resin marine edge] [Flat with 1/4 inch (6 mm) raised epoxy resin marine edge at sink locations].
  - 6. Corner treatment: exposed corners shall be eased slightly for safety.
  - 7. Back and end splashes:
    - a. Supplied loose for field installation.
    - b. Same material and thickness as worksurfaces.
    - c. [4] [\_\_] inches ([100] [\_\_] mm) high unless otherwise indicated.
    - d. Back and end splashes: Furnish loose end splashes where worksurfaces abut adjacent construction and locations indicated on Drawings.
  - 8. Joints:  
[As indicated on Drawings.] [Maximum 1/8 inch (2 mm), bonded with epoxy grout.] [\_\_\_\_.]
  - 9. Make joints between two benches level.
  - 10. Locate joints away from sinks and over or near supports.
  - 11. Sink cutouts: [As indicated on Drawings.] [Routed for drop-in sink.] [Routed for undermount sink.] [Sink cutout with cover.] [\_\_\_\_.]
  - 12. Allowable tolerances:
    - a. Square: Plus or minus 1/64 inch (0.4 mm) for each 12 inches (300 mm) of length.

- b. Location of cutouts and drilled openings: Plus or minus 1/8 inch (3 mm) of design dimension.
  - c. Size of cutouts and drilled openings: Plus 1/8 inch (3 mm) or minus 0 inches (0 mm).
- C. Epoxy Resin Sinks:
- 1. Mold sinks from thermosetting epoxy resin.
  - 2. Mold interior corners to radius. Slope sink base to drain outlet.
  - 3. Provide 1-1/2 inch (38 mm) outlet with open ended standpipe; standpipe overflow 2 inches (50 mm) shorter than depth of sink.
  - 4. Unless otherwise indicated, fabricate sinks of drop-in design supported by upper flange from worksurface.
  - 5. Color: To match adjacent worksurface.

### **Part 3 – Execution**

#### **3.1 EXAMINATION**

- A. Do not begin installation until cabinets have been installed.
- B. Confirm that surfaces to receive tops are plumb and level, with maximum deflection of 1/4 inch (6 mm) in 20 feet ( 6 m).

#### **3.2 PREPARATION**

- A. Prepare surfaces using methods recommended by manufacturer.

#### **3.3 INSTALLATION**

- A. Install in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and approved Shop Drawings.
- B. Install tops plumb and level.
- C. Adhere to adjacent surfaces in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
- D. Fasten tops to supporting construction with adhesives appropriate for use with adjoining construction and as recommended by manufacturer.
- E. Form field joints using manufacturer's recommended adhesive. Form joints to be inconspicuous and nonporous.
- F. Install [laboratory shelving] [pegboards] [reagent racks] using fasteners and adhesive appropriate for use with adjoining construction and as recommended by manufacturer.

#### **3.4 PROTECTION**

- A. Protect installed products until completion of Project.
- B. Touch up, repair, or replace damaged products.

**End of Section**