ACA Architectural Coating Product Category Rule Meeting

9.15.2014

Update, Action Items, and Next Steps
PRODUCT CATEGORY RULE (PCR) STATUS

- Several draft PCRs have been written and modified through formal comment process in the drafting committee.
  - Drafting team is nearing consensus on PCR.
- Expect to have a formal draft available for review in the larger PCR workgroup within several weeks.
- Want to engage larger group on several topics which will require input.
- Going to develop separate EN 15804 Compliance Document to accompany PCR for interested parties.
INPUT FROM LARGER WORKGROUP

- Looking to check assumptions in the PCR to ensure they are representative of the US coatings industry.
- In general, LCA assumptions should be defendable and err on the side of caution.
- Want to give the larger group time to collect relevant information to be prepared for formal review of PCR draft.
COLORANTS

- USGBC has advised that **colorant impacts must be included in EPD results.**
  - **USGBC is comfortable with an “averaged” colorant** being added to the base coating impacts depending on how much colorants are needed (Pastel vs. Neutral Base, for example).

- **Need to determine optimal modeling approach.**
  - For most products, colorants should have small impact.
  - Only a few colorants have LCI data available.
TECHNICAL DATA/MANUFACTURING ASSUMPTIONS

- **Raw material manufacturing** assumes 10% scrap rate if no LCI data is available.
- **Coatings manufacturing** assumes a 10% scrap rate if primary source data is unavailable or if it is not included in 3rd party LCI datasets.
- 10% of the **coating is unused by consumers and properly disposed**.
  - Waste solvent-based coatings sent to **incinerator**, waste water-based sent to **landfill**.
- Use of EPA assumptions for transportation distances to landfill/incinerator.
PRESENTATION OF EPD

- All EPDs will **have to report the same fields**, but the opportunity exists to mandate either an EPD template or allow companies to brand their EPDs.
  - Currently, the Drafting Team is designing PCR to pursue the option to allow for some graphical differentiation.
**Data Quality**

- **Data Quality** is one of the most **important** and problematic areas in LCA.
- A Data Quality Assessment is a crucial part of an LCA.
  - Can be **quantitative or qualitative**.
- Topic is **still being discussed** by drafting team, but initial sense is a qualitative approach may be more feasible.
FUNCTIONAL UNIT/REFERENCE FLOW

- **Proposed Functional Unit:** a unit surface covered and protected when exposed to a certain environment over a specified time period.

- **Proposed Reference Flow:** the amount of product needed to cover 1 m² of a specified substrate for 60 years with 95% opacity at a specified quality level.

- **Track both Market Life & Technical Life**
Satisfying the Functional Unit/Reference Flow

- Divided into interior, exterior, concrete stains, vertical wood stains, and horizontal wood stains.
  - Clear products are exempted from opacity criterion.
- Products broken into low, mid, and high quality.
  - Proposed lifetimes thresholds:
    - **Interior** - 3 years, 7 years, and 15 years;
    - **Exterior** - 5 years, 10 years, and 20 years;
    - **Horizontal Wood Stains** - 1 year, 3 years, and 5 years;
    - **Vertical Wood Stains** - 3 year, 7 years, and 15 years; and
    - **Concrete Stains** - 5 years, 10 years, and 20 years.
  - If company has no durability testing results, the product is automatically characterized as low quality.
- **Warranty period can be used for technical life (excluding interior).**
ACCEPTABLE DURABILITY TESTS

- Tentatively considering framing the language around accepting a variety of specific ASTM tests and allowing for “comparable tests”.
- See Draft Appendix of Acceptable Tests
  - Still a working list. If there are other tests that are credible and applicable in US Market, please submit them.
- Quality threshold determination TBD.
**Next Steps**

- Workgroup to provide comments on PCR presentation topics.
- Determine which durability tests are performed by your company and how they compare to the proposed draft list of tests.
- Suggest acceptable quality thresholds based off tests.
- Be prepared to provide formal comments once draft PCR is released to larger workgroup.
Thank you for listening.

Questions/Comments?