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Joint Committee on Sustainable Wallcoverings

May 14, 2025

Proposed revision to NSF/ANSI 342 – Sustainability Assessment for Wallcovering Products (342i12r1)

Revision 1 of NSF/ANSI 342, issue 12 is being forwarded to the Joint Committee for consideration. Please review the proposal and **submit your ballot by June 4, 2025** via the NSF Online Workspace.

Please review all ballot materials. When adding comments, please include the section number applicable to your comment and add all comments under one comment number whenever possible. If you need additional space, please use the attached blank comment template in the reference documents and upload online via the browse function.

Purpose

The proposed revision will reaffirm NSF/ANSI 342-2019, with no changes to the standard.

Background

A yes vote on this ballot reaffirms NSF/ANSI 342-2019, as written, with no changes to the standard. This reaffirmation will ensure compliance with the ANSI continuous maintenance publishing schedule, which requires a review of the standard every five years. The joint committee will evaluate revisions to the standard beginning in 2026.

If you have any questions about the technical content of the ballot, you may contact me in care of:

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[Note – the recommended changes to the standard which include the current text of the relevant section(s) indicate deletions by use of ~~strikeout~~ and additions by grey highlighting. Rationale Statements are in *italics* and only used to add clarity; these statements will NOT be in the finished publication.]

Rationale: A yes vote on this ballot reaffirms NSF/ANSI 342-2019, as written, with no changes to the standard. This reaffirmation will ensure compliance with the ANSI continuous maintenance publishing schedule, which requires a review of the standard every five years. The joint committee will evaluate revisions to the standard beginning in 2026.

NSF/ANSI Standard
for Sustainability –

Sustainability Assessment for Wallcovering Products

1 General

1.1 Purpose

The overall purpose of this Standard is to facilitate the thorough communication of information that is verifiable, accurate, and credible, associated with the production, distribution, and use of wallcovering products. Such communication is expected to encourage the demand for and supply of products that cause less impact on the environment and society, thereby stimulating the potential for market-driven continuous improvement. This Standard is voluntary and encourages inclusive participation in the production and distribution of sustainable wallcovering products within the supply chain.

This Standard is intended to be science based, provide transparency and offer creditability for manufacturers and distributors in making claims of environmental preferability and sustainability, and to harmonize the principles and procedures used to support such claims.

This Standard provides a practice for assessing the sustainability of wallcovering manufacturing and distribution processes. Sustainability-related information can inform a manufacturer's and distributor's decisions about supply chain modifications, product content changes, manufacturing adjustments, performance improvements, end-of-life options, and corporate governance, with the goal of producing more sustainable products.

This Standard addresses environmental performance and sustainability attributes of wallcovering products and distribution, and provides a means to track incremental changes to the products' sustainability profile. This Standard is intended to provide a consistent framework in which to compare and assess the sustainable nature of different products within the context of performing similar functions.

This Standard is intended to be used by product manufacturers interested in understanding the sustainability performance of their products. Distributors also have an opportunity to improve sustainability of products in the marketplace and this standard addresses them as a separate category to support the sustainability direction of the industry.

Independent auditors, certification bodies, and environmental labeling organizations are also potential users of this Standard for its use in supporting market based environmental and sustainability claims. This Standard may also be used by purchasers and consumers who wish to ensure that manufacturers are accurately declaring the sustainable nature of their products.

1.2 Scope

This Standard establishes a consistent approach to the evaluation and determination of environmentally preferable and sustainable wallcovering manufacturing and distribution processes. This Standard includes relevant criteria across the product life cycle from raw material extraction through manufacturing, distribution, and end-of-life management.

The scope of this Standard includes the following wallcovering ***manufacturing*** processes:

- raw material inputs (fibers, resins, additives, colorants, and process chemicals);
- fabric or sheet formation;
- finishing treatments; and
- attachment systems.

The scope of this Standard also includes the following ***distribution*** processes:

- product distribution;
- recycling infrastructure support; and
- indoor air quality.

As used in this Standard, “wallcovering manufacturing and distribution” includes, but is not limited to, textiles, vinyl, vinyl-coated, alternative polymer, alternative-polymer-coated, textiles, paper and other natural fiber products. This Standard is applicable to products manufactured in one facility or multiple facilities, one country or multiple countries.

1.3 Principles

This standard practice was developed based on the following important principles.

1.3.1 Product life cycle consideration

The life cycle of a product ranges from activities associated with the production and delivery of raw materials or generation of natural resources to the distribution, installation, use and ultimately to final disposal. This Standard was developed with consideration of the product life cycle of wallcovering manufacturing and

distribution to help identify the appropriate and relevant characteristics and criteria to be used in evaluating a product's environmental preferability and sustainability.

1.3.2 Relationship with legislation

A precondition for claiming conformance with this Standard shall be compliance with environmental and other relevant regulations. The entity is in compliance for any outstanding compliance issues with local, state, and federal agencies as long as the entity is making a good faith effort to resolve the issue with the appropriate authorities.

1.3.3 International trade aspects

The procedures and requirements included within this Standard have not been prepared, adopted, or applied to create unnecessary obstacles to international trade.

1.3.4 Scientific basis

The criteria contained in this Standard were developed and selected based on sound scientific and engineering principles intended to produce accurate, reproducible results.

1.3.5 Product innovation

Use of this Standard is intended to support, not inhibit, innovation that maintains or has the potential to improve environmental and social accountability performance.

1.3.6 Alternate products or materials

Products or components that incorporate alternative materials shall be acceptable when it is verified that the product or component meets the applicable requirements of this Standard, based on its end use.

1.3.7 Product Inventory

Wallcovering product in inventory at time of certification, and that were made of similar materials and processed on similar equipment as that which was certified under a particular product category, shall be certified.

2 Normative references

The following documents contain requirements that, by reference in this text, constitute requirements of this Standard. At the time of publication, the indicated editions were valid. All of the documents are subject to

revision and parties are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the recent editions of the documents indicated below.

29 CFR 1910, Subpart Z (1910.1001; 1910.1003; 1910.1004; 1910.1006 – 1910.1018; 1910.1026 – 1910.1029; 1910.1044, 1910.1045, 1910.1047, 1910.1048, 1910.1050 – 1910.1052)[1]

Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967[2]

ASTM D6400–04, *Standard Specification for Labeling of Plastics Designed to be Aerobically Composted in Municipal or Industrial Facilities*[3]

ASTM E84–08a, *Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials*[3]

ASTM F793–10a, *Standard Classification of Wall Covering by Use Characteristics*[3]

California, Proposition 65, Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986[4]

CDPH/EHLB Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers, Version 1.1 (February 2010 California Proposition 65, Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986)[4]

Civil Rights Act of 1991[2]

Clean Air Act (CAA), Section 112 (r) - 42 USC § 7412[5]

Equal Pay Act of 1963[2]

FS CCC-W-408D, *Wall Covering, Vinyl-Coated*[6]

GGPS.002.GREENGUARD Children & Schools Standard[7]

GGTM.P066, *Standard Method for Measuring and Evaluating Chemical Emissions from Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings Using Dynamic Environmental Chambers*[7]

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[1] US Government Publishing Office. 732 N Capitol Street NW, Washington, DC 20401. <www.gpo.gov>

[2] EEOC Headquarters. US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 131 M Street, NE, Washington, DC 20507. <www.eeoc.gov>

[3] ASTM International. 100 Barr Harbor Drive, PO Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959. <www.astm.org>

[4] California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. <www.oehha.ca.gov>

[5] US EPA Office of Emergency Management, Ariel Rios Building (5104A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460. <www.epa.gov/oem>

[6] US General Services Administration. 1800 F Street NW, Washington, DC 20006. <www.gsa.gov>

[7] GREENGUARD Environmental Institute, 2211 Newmarket Parkway, Suite 110, Marietta, GA 30067. <www.greenguard.org>

Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)[8]

Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)[9]

ILO, Convention 29, Forced Labour Convention, 1930[10]

ILO, Convention 105, Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957[10]

ILO, Convention 182, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999[10]

ISO 14001:2004, *Environmental management systems – Requirements with guidance for use*[11]

ISO 14021:1999, *Environmental labels and declarations – Self-declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labeling)*[11]

ISO 14040:2006, *Environmental management – Life cycle assessment – Principles and framework*[11]

ISO 14044:2006, *Environmental management – Life cycle assessment-requirements and guidelines*[11]

ISO 14064-1:2006, *Greenhouse gases – Part 1: Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals*[11]

ISO 14064-2:2006, *Greenhouse gases – Part 2: Specification with guidance at the project level for quantification, monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emission reductions or removal enhancements*[11]

ISO 14064-3:2006, *Greenhouse gases – Part 3: Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions*[11]

ISO/IEC 17025:2005, *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*[11]

Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - 1997[12]

MBDC, *Cradle to Cradle* Framework Certification[13]

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[8] Global Organic Textile Standard International Working Group. <www.global-standard.org>

[9] Global Reporting Initiative. PO Box 10039, 1001 EA, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. <www.globalreporting.org>

[10] International Labour Organization, 4 route des Morillons, CH-1211 Genève 22, Switzerland. <www.ilo.org>

[11] International Organization for Standardization. Chemin de Blandonnet 8, Case Postale 401, 1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland. <www.iso.org>

[12] United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, PO Box 260124, D-53153 Bonn, Germany. <www.unfccc.int/2860.php>

[13] MBDC. 700 East Jefferson Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902. <www.mbdc.com>

MPCA, *Design for Environment Toolkit: A Competitive Edge for the Future*, 1998.[14]

NFPA 101: *Life Safety Code*.[15]

NFPA 286: *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Evaluating Contribution of Wall and Ceiling Interior Finish to Room Fire Growth*[15]

NIST, BEES (Building for Environmental and Economic Sustainability) software.[16]

OSHA Regulated Toxic Metals.[17]

Rehabilitation Act of 1973[2]

Rule 1113, *Architectural Coatings*.[18]

Rule 1168, *Adhesive and Sealant Applications*[18]

SAI, SA8000:2008, *Social Accountability 8000*.[19]

SCS Indoor Advantage.[20]

Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Chemicals.[21]

Threshold Limit Values (TLVs), American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH).[22]

Titles I and V of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)[2]

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964[2]

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[14] Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. 520 Lafayette Road N, St. Paul, MN 55155. <www.pca.state.mn.us>

[15] National Fire Protection Association. 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169. <www.nfpa.org>

[16] National Institute of Standards and Technology. Building and Fire Research, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20899. <www.nist.gov/services-resources/software/bees>

[17] US Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration. 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210. <www.osha.gov>

[18] South Coast Air Quality Management District. 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765. <www.aqmd.gov>

[19] Social Accountability International. 9 E 37th Street, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10016. <www.sa-intl.org>

[20] Scientific Certification Systems. 2200 Powell Street, Suite 600, Emeryville, CA 94608. <www.scscertified.com>

[21] Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 11-13 Chemin des Anémones, 1219 Châtelaine, Switzerland. <www.pops.int>

[22] American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, 1330 Kemper Meadow Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45240. <www.acgih.org>

Title 17, California Code of Regulations, Division 3, Chapter 1, Subchapter 8.5, Article 2, Consumer Products, Sections 94507-94517.[23]

US EPA, *An introduction to environmental accounting as a business management tool: Key concepts and terms*.[24]

US EPA, National Center for Environmental Assessment, NCEA.[25]

US EPA, *Tool for the Reduction and Assessment of Chemical and Other Environmental Impacts* (TRACI).[26]

US EPA, *Toxics Release Inventory* (TRI) Program.[27]

W-101, WA Quality Standard for Polymer Coated Fabric Wallcoverings.[28]

3 Definitions

3.1 biobased resource: A product component (other than food or feed) that is derived in whole or significant part from biological production operations, such as agriculture, forestry, or fisheries. A biobased resource can be exhausted if improperly managed. However, a biobased resource can be produced indefinitely with proper stewardship.

3.2 community: A geographical unit where the product is manufactured, sold, or distributed.

3.3 direct emissions: Those that are produced by a source controlled by the company. Examples include operations within a company-owned factory, or gasoline burning company.

3.4 green cleaning guiding principles: Cleaning strategies focused on using ingredients that represent the lowest risk to workers and occupants while delivering the requisite level of cleanliness, including sanitation.

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[23] California Environmental Protection Agency, Air Resources Board. 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. <www.arb.ca.gov>

[24] US Environmental Protection Agency. 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004. <www.epa.gov>

[25] US Environmental Protection Agency, National Center for Environmental Assessment, Office of Research and Development. 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004. <cfpub.epa.gov/ncea>

[26] US Environmental Protection Agency, National Risk Management Research Laboratory, Sustainable Technology Division – Systems Analysis Branch (MS-466), 26 West Martin Luther King Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45268. <www.epa.gov/chemical-research/tool-reduction-and-assessment-chemicals-and-other-environmental-impacts-traci>

[27] US Environmental Protection Agency, National Risk Management Research Laboratory. 26 West Martin Luther King Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45268. <www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-national-risk-management-research-laboratory-nrmrl>

[28] Wallcovering Association. 330 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60611. <www.wallcoverings.org>

EPA provides guidance and explanations of green cleaning guiding principles at the internet web address: http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp/pubs/cleaning.htm#why. These principles include the following:

— include environmental factors as well as traditional considerations of price and performance as part of the normal purchasing process;

— emphasize pollution prevention early in the purchasing process;

— examine multiple environmental attributes throughout a product's or service's life cycle;

— compare relative environmental impacts when selecting products and services; and

— collect and base purchasing decisions on accurate and meaningful information about environmental performance.

3.5 **indirect emissions**: Those that result from a company activity, but are produced by a source external to the company. One common example is use of electricity produced by a commercial utility. The company uses the electricity to run lights or office equipment, but the electric utility is producing the power (and the emissions).

3.6 **key supplier**: A supplier of a material ingredient that comprises at least 5% by weight of a particular finished product, or that contains one or more chemicals of concern as defined by Sections 5.4.1.a to 5.4.1.e.

3.7 **Life cycle**

3.7.1 **life cycle**: Consecutive and interlinked stages of a product system, from raw material acquisition or to final disposition or reuse[11].

3.7.2 **life cycle assessment (LCA)**: Compilation and evaluation of the inputs, outputs and the potential environmental impacts of a product system throughout its life cycle (see Annex N-1).

3.7.3 **life cycle design**: An approach for designing more ecologically and economically sustainable product systems, integrating environmental requirements into the earliest stages of design. In life cycle design, environmental, performance, cost, cultural and legal requirements are balanced[24].

3.7.4 **life cycle impact assessment**: Phase of life cycle assessment aimed at understanding and evaluating the magnitude and significance of the potential environmental impacts of a product system[11].

3.8 **local community**: A geographical unit generally defined as within 45 miles of the primary production facility where the product is manufactured or distributed.

3.9 **postconsumer recycled material**: Waste material generated by households or by commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities in their role as end users of a product, which is no longer used for its intended purpose[11].

For wallcovering, postconsumer recycled material is identified as products that have been used for their original intended purpose and are being used as a raw material for a product reentering the marketplace for a subsequent purpose.

3.10 **preconsumer recycled material**: Material diverted from the waste stream during the manufacturing or distribution process. This term excludes reutilized materials such as rework, regrind, and scrap that are capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated them with a minimal amount of reprocessing.

3.11 **primary packaging**: Packaging that directly contacts the final product.

3.12 **registration**: A procedure by which an independent third party gives written assurance that a system conforms to specified requirements, mandatory or voluntary, regulated or nonregulated.

3.13 **waste**: Anything left over or superfluous, as excess material or by-products, not of use for the work in hand. It is often materials that are managed via landfilling or incineration.

4 Conformance, evaluation, and assessment criteria

4.1 Elements

The sustainable assessment criteria for wallcovering manufacturing and distribution are divided into six basic categories consisting of credits that are potentially available to organizations seeking compliance with this standard. The six categories are:

- product design;
- product manufacturing;
- long-term value;
- end-of-life management;
- corporate governance; and
- innovation.

The criteria are grouped in general conformance with a product's life cycle, from design with material selection and production to manufacturing, distribution, use, and end-of-life. Additionally, criteria related to corporate governance are included to address issues of social responsibility.

4.2 Product selection

Product group categories for certification should be as broad as possible and accurately represent the rating by this Standard. Examples of product groups: woven backed vinyl wallcovering, nonwoven backed vinyl wallcovering, and nonwoven backed thermoplastic olefin (TPO) wallcovering. Representative product would be based on sales.

4.3 Scoring methodology

For users choosing to rate the sustainability performance of products evaluated in accordance with this Standard, a point-based scoring system has been developed. Presented in Annex N-1, this system is based on a 232 point scale (excluding optional innovation credits), with the different points for the various assessment criteria allocated as follows:

- product design (61 total points are possible)
    - manufacturer: 52 points
    - distributor: 9 points
- product manufacturing (81 total points are possible)
    - manufacturer: 59 points
    - distributor: 22 points
- long-term value (26 total points are possible)
    - manufacturer: 26 points
    - distributor: 0 points
- end-of-life management (24 total points are possible)
    - manufacturer: 20 points
    - distributor: 4 points
- corporate governance (32 total points are possible)
    - manufacturer: 19 points
    - distributor: 13 points
- innovation (8 total points are possible)
    - manufacturer: 6 point
    - distributor: 2 point

4.4 Procedures for labeling and reporting

4.4.1 Basic principle

The methodology for assessing whether a product conforms to the product environmental and social responsibility criteria and for verifying ongoing conformance shall be documented and be of sufficient detail to provide consumer confidence that this Standard has been correctly conformed to.

4.4.2 Declaration of level of conformance / labeling

Achievement of conformance with the requisite criteria/points shall permit users to make the following product declarations:

Sustainable product achievement	
Conformant	Minimum 100 points
Silver	Minimum 124 points
Gold	Minimum 151 points
Platinum	Minimum 195 points

A minimum of 12 points needs to be provided by the distributor for Conformant or Silver rating; a minimum of 17 points needs to be provided by the distributor for any higher category.

4.4.3 Public reporting

Users making a declaration of conformance shall report in a publicly available document.

4.4.4 Monitoring and reevaluation

Procedures shall exist, and shall be documented, to regularly monitor and measure continued conformance of products to this Standard. In no event shall monitoring and reevaluation occur less frequently than once every third year, providing no significant changes have been made to the product.

4.4.5 Nonconformance and corrective and preventative action

Authority shall be assigned and supported by corporate management for identifying and investigating nonconformance, and taking the appropriate action. In establishing and maintaining procedures for investigating and correcting nonconformance, the manufacturer and distributor shall include these basic elements:

- identify the cause of the non-conformance;
- identify and implement the necessary corrective action;
- implement or modify controls necessary to avoid repetition of the nonconformance; and
- record any changes in written procedures resulting from the corrective action.

4.4.6 Certification

Information on suggested parameters for certification is provided in Annex I-1.

4.4.7 Manufacturing or support location reporting

The wallcovering company will have on their label the primary manufacturing or support location. The company must be able to demonstrate from the label or package markings the traceability of the wallcovering in the field back to the site of manufacturing.

5 Product design

5.1 Purpose

The purpose of this section is to encourage manufacturers and distributors to integrate environmental and life cycle thinking into the product design process.

5.2 Enlightened design process

The criteria in this section are to encourage the understanding of environmental impacts of products by the product designers and developers.

5.2.1 Environmental considerations in design

5.2.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for implementing an environmental assessment program within the product design and development system. The program shall consider the environmental attributes and impacts of its products and packaging, including issues such as designing for longevity, designing for reusability, and designing for recyclability and/or compostability. The environmental assessment program shall consider environmental attributes and impacts of products and packaging across the entire product life cycle (e.g., raw material extraction, manufacturing, use, and end-of-life).

5.2.1.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for supporting the environmental assessment program of its key suppliers within the product design, distribution, and sales system. The program shall consider the environmental attributes and impacts of its products and packaging, including issues such as designing for longevity, designing for reusability, and designing for recyclability or compostability. The environmental assessment program shall consider environmental attributes and impacts of products and packaging across the entire product life cycle (e.g., raw material extraction, manufacturing, use, and end-of-life).

NOTE — An environmental assessment program includes:

— identifying impacts of products on the environment; and

— evaluation of the design, products' use, and distribution of the product (including sample distribution to potential customers) to lessen environmental impacts.

5.2.2 Life cycle assessment (LCA) or Design for Environment (DfE) assessment

By demonstrating that one of the following actions below was completed within the past three years relative to the product undergoing assessment, the manufacturer shall receive points as detailed below. A maximum of 8 points shall be awarded for this section for the manufacturer and 1 point maximum for the distributor.

5.2.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive points for the following:

— 2 points if it completes a DfE[14] (or equivalent) assessment;

— 4 points if it completes a cradle-to-gate or cradle-to-grave ISO 14040 conformant LCA. Life cycle impact assessment shall be performed using a publicly available life cycle impact assessment methodology that addresses, at a minimum, the following five environmental impacts:

- global warming / greenhouse gas loadings;
- acidification / acidifying gas loadings;
- ozone depletion / release of ozone-depleting chemicals;
- photochemical smog formation / ground level ozone loading; and
- eutrophication / nitrogen loading.

— 2 points if it contributes data to any recognized LCA or LCI tool.

NOTE — For example, the contribution to the TRACI[26] LCA model from US EPA or Athena Ecocalculator[29] demonstrates conformance with this criterion.

5.2.2.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point if it contributes data to any recognized LCA or LCI tool.

NOTE – For example, the contribution to the TRACI[26] LCA model or Athena Ecocalculator[29] demonstrates conformance with this criterion.

5.2.3 Health product declaration (HPD)

The manufacturer shall receive one point if it completes a product-specific health product declaration (HPD) conducted in accordance with the requirements in Health Product Declaration Standard. The HPD shall be validated by an independent third party for the product undergoing assessment.

NOTE — Product-specific HPD are developed by an individual manufacturing organization for a specific wallcovering product to create an HPD that addresses the specific health associated characteristics of a specific wallcovering product with information specific to the product design and construction.

5.2.4 Environmental product declaration (EPD)

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points if it participates in the development of an industry-wide environmental product declaration (EPD) through mutual cooperation with other manufacturers making essentially similar products in accordance with ISO 14025, following the requirements of a consensus-based Product Category Rule (PCR). The contribution to the industry-wide EPD shall cover the product category undergoing assessment. The EPD shall be validated by an independent third party.

[29] Athena Sustainable Materials Institute. 280 Albert Street, Suite 404, Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1P 5G8. <www.athenasmi.org>.

The manufacturer shall receive 4 points if it completes a product specific EPD in accordance with ISO 14025, following the requirements of a consensus-based PCR. The EPD shall be validated by an independent third party for the product undergoing assessment.

NOTE — Industry-wide specific EPD are developed with the cooperation of multiple industry representatives representing different manufacturers to create an EPD that addresses the general environmental characteristic of a wallcovering product class with similar product design and construction.

Product-specific EPD are developed by an individual manufacturing organization for a specific wallcovering product to create an EPD that addresses the specific environmental characteristic of a specific wallcovering product with information specific to the product design and construction.

5.3 Environmentally sustainable material inputs

The criteria in this section are intended to ensure that the manufacturer and distributor are fully informed about the material composition of its products, including packaging and recommended attachment systems. The criteria are also meant to encourage the selection and use of component materials manufactured wholly or in part from environmentally sustainable inputs such as recycled materials and biobased resources to reduce the environmental impact wherever possible.

5.3.1 Inventory of material inputs

5.3.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive 2 points if it completes an inventory of material inputs for the product undergoing assessment (including packaging and recommended attachment systems system). At a minimum, the inventory shall report inputs using the material trade name, material supplier, known chemical constituents by Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) nomenclature, and the percent that the material is present in the final product. The material inputs to the final product shall sum to a minimum of 99% of the final product weight. The manufacturer shall classify the materials by their environmentally sustainable nature (e.g., recycled [pre- or postconsumer],biobased) as detailed in Section 5.3.2.

5.3.1.2 If the manufacturer has earned points for Sections 5.3.1.1 and 5.4.1, the distributor shall receive 1 point if it provides documentation of communication with manufacturers regarding chemicals of concern in the final product (based on the assessment to a minimum of 99% of the final product weight), attachment system, and primary packaging material. The inventory shall report chemicals of concern in the finished product as defined in Section 5.4.1 based on the assessment of the MSDSs/SDSs of the individual material inputs, recommended attachment systems, and primary packaging materials. Only chemicals of concern must be communicated to the distributor using CAS nomenclature, the applicable hazard list from Section 5.4.1, and the applicable hazard classification.

5.3.2 Environmentally sustainable inputs – Product

5.3.2.1 For the product undergoing assessment, the manufacturer shall declare the total quantity of environmentally sustainable inputs, specified on a percentage weight basis. The manufacturer shall receive 2 points per 5.0% recycled content, biobased resource content, and/or environmentally preferable content. The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for 5% of preconsumer recycled content, biobased resource

content, and/or environmentally preferable content. A maximum of 11 points shall be awarded for Section 5.3.2.1.

Recycled content quantity shall be calculated as follows:

- postconsumer recycled content shall be valued at 100% weight basis; and
- preconsumer recycled content shall be valued at 50% weight basis.

Biobased resource content shall be calculated as follows:

- biobased resources sourced from operations operating in conformance with internationally recognized organic, sustainable agriculture, or sustainable forestry criteria shall be valued at 100% basis, and

- all other biobased resources shall be valued at 50% weight basis.

Environmentally preferable content shall be calculated as follows:

- materials demonstrated to have a lower environmental footprint than a postconsumer material or sustainable / organic biobased resource alternative shall be valued at 100% weight basis; and

- materials demonstrated to have a lower environmental footprint than a preconsumer material or biobased resource alternative shall be valued at 50% weight basis.

5.3.2.2 For the product undergoing assessment, the distributor shall get 2 points for contributing postconsumer or preconsumer recycled content to the wallcovering industry recycling infrastructure to support the development of an environmentally preferable content infrastructure for the wallcovering industry.

5.3.3 Environmentally sustainable inputs – Packaging

5.3.3.1 For the product undergoing assessment, the manufacturer shall declare the total quantity of environmentally sustainable inputs of the packaging materials specified on a percentage weight basis. The quantity shall be calculated as described in Section 5.3.2.1. The manufacturer shall receive either 2 points for 50% postconsumer recycled or biobased content, or 4 points for 75% postconsumer recycled or biobased content by weight.

5.3.3.2 For the product undergoing assessment, the distributor shall receive 1 point for using or utilizing packaging and shipping materials that include 75% recycled or biobased content by weight. The distributor shall receive an additional 1 point for assisting the manufacturer in reducing the packaging requirements, or by requiring that packaging provided by the manufacturer allows recycling or reuse.

5.4 Human- and ecologically-friendly inputs

The criteria in this section are intended to ensure that the manufacturer or distributor is fully informed of the human and ecological hazards associated with the chemical composition of its products, including the recommended attachment systems. These criteria are also meant to encourage the use of environmentally compatible chemicals while minimizing and eliminating the use of chemicals of concern.

5.4.1 Prerequisite – Identification of use of chemicals of concern

The manufacturer shall create a report classifying the material inputs for the product undergoing assessment, including recommended attachment systems and primary packaging material, by the chemical hazard classifications listed below. At a minimum, the manufacturer shall report whether the raw material input to the product, the attachment systems, or the primary packaging material is classified as any of the following based on MSDS/SDS information:

a) International Agency on the Research of Cancer (IARC) – Group 1 – Carcinogenic to Humans and Group 2A – Probably Carcinogenic to Humans[30];

b) National Toxicology Program (NTP) – Known Human Carcinogen and Reasonably Anticipated to be a Human Carcinogen[31];

c) California Proposition 65[4] – Known to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity;

d) US EPA Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic (PBT) chemicals – Known persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic chemicals and compounds (a subset of the EPA TRI list of chemicals and compounds)[32]; or

e) US EPA TRI – Complete US EPA toxic chemical list (including known PBT chemicals and compounds)[33].

5.4.2 Minimization of known chemicals of concern in product

[30] IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans. <monographs.iarc.fr>

[31] National Toxicology Program, Report on Carcinogens. <ntp.niehs.nih.gov>

[32] US EPA, Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Program PBT Chemical List. <www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/persistent-bioaccumulative-toxic-pbt-chemicals-covered-tri>

[33] US EPA Toxic Release Inventory Complete List of Chemicals. <www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/tri-listed-chemicals>.

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that material inputs reported in Section 5.3.1.1 do not contain any known carcinogen as listed in Sections 5.4.1.a to 5.4.1.c based on MSDS/SDS information.

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that material inputs reported in Section 5.3.1.1 do not contain any known reproductive toxicant as listed in Section 5.4.1.c based on MSDS/SDS information.

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that material inputs reported in Section 5.3.1.1 do not contain any known PBT chemical or compound as listed in Section 5.4.1.d based on MSDS/SDS information.
The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that material inputs reported in Section 5.3.1.1 do not contain any other toxic chemical as listed in Section 5.4.1.e based on MSDS/SDS information.

A maximum of 8 points shall be awarded for Section 5.4.2.

5.4.3 Minimization of known chemicals of concern in recommended attachment systems

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that no component listed as a carcinogen or reproductive toxicant as defined in Sections 5.4.1.a to 5.4.1.d comprises more than 0.1% (1,000 ppm) of the total mass of the attachment systems.

5.4.4 Elimination of chemicals with upstream concerns

For those material inputs present in the product at equal or greater than 5% (five percent), the manufacturer shall receive:

— 2 points for demonstrating that the upstream production operations do not release known PBT chemicals or compounds (see Section 5.4.1.c) at or above US EPA (CERCLA reportable quantity) reporting thresholds; and/or

— 2 points for demonstrating that the upstream production operations do not release any listed TRI chemicals or compounds (see Section 5.4.1.d) at or above US EPA (CERCLA RQ) reporting thresholds.

5.5 Informed selection of suppliers

5.5.1 Supplier environmental disclosure

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for documenting the implementation of a key supplier environmental disclosure process requiring key supplier disclosure of environmental performance information including, at a minimum:

— compliance (or lack thereof) with local, state, and federal and environmental other relevant regulations and report of any outstanding violations or issues of noncompliance;

— presence (or absence) of a documented environmental management system prepared and operated in general accordance with ISO 14001[11];

— release of reportable quantities of TRI PBTs;

— use (or lack thereof) of renewable energy supplies; and

— amount of direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions.

5.5.2 Supplier environmental performance disclosure

5.5.2.1 The manufacturer shall document the percent of its key suppliers that have satisfactorily conformed to the company's environmental disclosure requirements as described in Section 5.5.1. The manufacturer shall either receive 2 points if 50 to 74% of its key suppliers by weight volume of purchased product have conformed, or receive 4 points if 75% or more of its key suppliers have conformed by weight volume of purchased product.

5.5.2.2 The distributor shall document the percent of its key suppliers that have satisfactorily conformed to the company's environmental disclosure requirements as described in Section 5.5.1. The distributor shall either receive 1 point if 50 to 74% of its key suppliers by weight volume of purchased product have conformed, or receive 2 points if 75% or more of its key suppliers have conformed by weight volume of purchased product.

6 Product manufacturing

6.1 Purpose

The criteria in this section are intended to encourage manufacturers and distributors to quantify the environmental impacts from their manufacturing and distribution, and to reduce or remove those impacts.

6.2 Environmental policy and management

The intent of these criteria is to ensure that manufacturers and distributors have a basis from which to actualize strategic environmental management within the organization.

6.2.1 Environmental management system (EMS)

6.2.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for implementing a formal EMS that was prepared in accordance with the criteria set forth in ISO 14001[11].

6.2.1.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for implementing a formal EMS that was prepared in accordance with the criteria set forth in ISO 14001[11].

6.2.2 Registered EMS system

6.2.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for documenting that its EMS is third-party certified to ISO 14001.

6.2.2.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for documenting that its EMS is third-party certified to ISO 14001.

6.2.3 Maintaining environmental attributes

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for implementing a tracking system to ensure that a design criterion for the product being certified is specified in its EMS system.

6.3 Conservation of energy resources

A manufacturer or distributor can reduce its environmental impact through energy initiatives: reduction of consumption (i.e., conservation) and selection of source (i.e., renewability). The intent of this criteria in this section is to encourage both approaches in order to reduce the environmental impacts from energy production and consumption, including resource depletion, greenhouse gas emissions, and hazardous air pollutants.

6.3.1 Energy inventory

6.3.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for completing an inventory of energy use that encompasses both production (including quantity and source) and product distribution (e.g., transportation fleet consumption, including owned, contracted, or otherwise supplied vehicles).

6.3.1.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for completing an inventory of energy use that encompasses both warehousing and product distribution (e.g., transportation fleet consumption, including owned, contracted, or otherwise supplied vehicles).

6.3.2 Reduction of environmental impact of energy input

6.3.2.1 The manufacturer shall demonstrate overall reduction in the environmental impact of its energy inputs on a unit product basis, facility basis, or total manufacturing operation basis:

— measured reductions in energy consumption shall be calculated from 1990 or later (including that supplied as direct fuel, electricity, and/or steam); or

— conversion of energy inputs from non-renewable resources (e.g., fossil fuels) to renewable alternatives; or

— a combination of the two options listed above.

6.3.2.2 The distributor shall demonstrate overall reduction in the environmental impact of its energy inputs on a total facility basis, facility basis calculated per square foot, or total distribution operation basis:

— measured reductions in energy consumption shall be calculated from 1990 or later (including that supplied as direct fuel, electricity, and/or steam); or

— conversion of energy inputs from non-renewable resources (e.g., fossil fuels) to renewable alternatives; or

— a combination of the two options listed above.

The manufacturer or distributor shall receive points according to Table 6.1. A maximum of 20 points are available for the manufacturer and a maximum of 10 points are available for the distributor for Sections 6.3.2.1 and 6.3.2.2.

Table 6.1
Energy input percent reduction and/or conversion threshold –
Total percent reduction and/or conversion threshold and points awarded

Total percent reduction and/or conversion threshold	Points awarded (manufacturers)	Points awarded (distributors)
1%	2	1
2%	4	2
5%	6	3
8%	8	4
11%	10	5
15%	12	6
20%	14	7
26%	16	8
35%	18	9
51%	20	10

6.4 Management of water resources

The criteria in this section are intented to encourage the conservation of water resources and protection of water quality.

6.4.1 Water use inventory

6.4.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for completing an inventory of water use including identification of quantity of water used, quantity consumed (including loss through evaporation), and sources (e.g., municipal potable, direct capture, on-site wells, or reclaimed waste water).

6.4.1.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for completing an inventory of water use including identification of quantity of water used, quantity consumed, and sources (e.g., municipal potable, direct capture, on-site wells, or reclaimed waste water).

6.4.2 Reduced water consumption

6.4.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for an average 1% per year reduction of water use and consumption averaged over a given five-year period during the last ten years, on a per-unit or total basis.

6.4.2.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for an average 1% per year reduction of water use and consumption averaged over a given five-year period during the last ten years, on a total basis.

6.4.3 Water quality

The manufacturer shall document that wastewater released either to a publicly owned treatment works (POTW), or directly to the environment, is of a quality equal to or better than the quality of the supplied water according to established standards.

A manufacturer can earn either 2 or 4 points, as detailed below:

- 2 points if the wastewater's quality meets local tertiary wastewater treatment standards; or
- 4 points if the wastewater's quality meets state drinking water level standards.

6.5 Optimization of material resources

Inefficient materials selection, supplier delivery, production processes, and warehousing operations can lead to high levels of waste generation and corresponding losses in production yields. The criteria in this section are intended to encourage the maximization of yield from product(s) raw materials and to minimize the generation of waste materials during production.

6.5.1 Waste minimization program

6.5.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for having a documented and operational waste minimization program that includes quantification of waste generation rate.

6.5.1.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for having a documented and operational waste minimization program that includes quantification of waste generation rate.

NOTE — For the purposes of Section 6.5, "waste" is defined as material that shall be managed via landfilling or incineration.

6.5.2 Waste minimization

6.5.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive either:

— 2 points for demonstrating a waste generation reduction rate of at least 2% per year (five-year rolling average); or

— 4 points for demonstrating an annual average total waste generation rate of less than 2.0% on a weight basis. Percentage is based on the total production weight in a given period of time (i.e., weight/year).

A maximum of 4 points shall be awarded for Section 6.5.2.1.

6.5.2.2 The distributor shall receive either:

— 1 point for demonstrating a waste generation reduction rate of at least 2% per year; or
— 2 points for demonstrating a waste generation reduction rate of at least 4% per year; or
— 3 points for demonstrating a waste generation reduction rate of at least 6% per year.

A maximum of 3 points shall be awarded for Section 6.5.2.2.

6.5.3 Packaging minimization

6.5.3.1 The manufacturer shall use packaging and delivery options designed to minimize waste generation during transport and installation of product. It shall receive 2 points if a product's packaging weight is documented as constituting less than 5% of the product's weight, not including the weight of the pallet. Alternatively, the manufacturer shall receive 2 points if a product's packaging weight is documented as constituting less than 8% of the product's weight, including the weight of the pallet.

A manufacturer can receive an additional 1 point for implementing a packaging reuse program to provide a means for reusing collected packaging materials.

A maximum of 3 points are available for Section 6.5.3.1.

6.5.3.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for demonstrating working with the manufacturer to develop and implement packaging and delivery options designed to minimize waste generation during transport and installation of product. A distributor can contribute an additional point if it participates in a packaging material return for reuse program, reuse of packaging materials reshipped from a distribution facility, or can document that packaging materials have been collected and entered into a local recycling market.

A maximum of 2 points are available for Section 6.5.3.2.

6.6 Protection of air resources

The criteria in this section are intended to minimize or eliminate the production and release of greenhouse gases and of known PBT air contaminants.

6.6.1 Greenhouse gas loadings

6.6.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for completing a greenhouse gas inventory for product manufacturing operations in accordance with ISO 14064[11], or an equivalent standard.

6.6.1.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for completing a greenhouse gas inventory for distribution operations in accordance with ISO 14064[11], or an equivalent standard.

6.6.2 Greenhouse gas reduction goals

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for establishing greenhouse gas reduction targets equal to or stricter than the relevant Kyoto Protocol[12] goals.

6.6.3 Greenhouse gas reductions

The manufacturer shall demonstrate a reduction in greenhouse gas loadings on a per unit production basis.

NOTE — Consistent scope of production must be reflected, and the initial year of calculation must be 1990 or later. The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for each 25% reduction. A maximum of 6 points will be awarded for Section 6.6.3.

6.6.4 PBT reductions

The manufacturer shall demonstrate that emissions of PBT compounds are below reporting levels as defined under the CERCLA RQ. The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for achieving this goal in relation to emissions from its on-site activities, and/or 2 points for achieving the goal in relation to emissions from its supplied electricity source(s), for a maximum of 4 total points.

7 Long-term value

7.1 Purpose

The criteria in this section are intended to encourage manufacturers to maximize product longevity. The longevity of a product is dependent on its durability, performance and maintenance characteristics which can reduce the replacement cycle and the resulting impact on the environment. Reclamation at the end of a product's life also reduces the environmental impact.

7.2 Fitness of purpose

The criteria in this section are intended to demonstrate that the product performs at or above recognized industry performance standards, in order to ensure that the incorporation of positive environmental attributes has not been undermined by lower-quality performance. These criteria are to encourage product reclamation, thereby conserving material resources and limiting the responsibility of future generations to manage today's wastes.

7.2.1 Durability

The manufacturer shall receive 8 points for providing documentation showing that the product performs to one of the following industry-recognized standards that are relevant to the specific product:

- W-101[28]; or
- W-102.

These test procedures can be performed in an internal or external laboratory that demonstrates a quality program with written test procedures including the performance of equipment calibration. The test results at the time of certification that show compliance will remain in place until there is a product or processing change that is significant enough to impact compliance to this Standard's requirements.

NOTE — When utilizing W-102, along with the completed W-102 document, the company shall submit the acknowledgement from the Wallcovering Association Technical Committee for a particular construction.

7.2.2 Fire resistance and smoke density

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that the product performs at or above relevant industry standards for smoke density as described in NFPA 101[15]. The manufacturer shall receive 4 points for providing documentation of fire resistance showing that the product performs at or above industry standards as described in NFPA 101[15].

The testing to demonstrate compliance to NFPA 101 must be performed at an independent and qualified testing laboratory that demonstrates a quality program meeting the requirements of ISO guide 17025, including written test procedures. The test results at the time of certification that show compliance will remain in place until there is a product or processing change that is significant enouigh to impact compliance to this Standard's requirements.

7.3 Protection of indoor air quality

This section is to demonstrate that the product and its associated infrastructure (e.g., its recommended attachment systems) do not release chemicals of concern or provide a pathway for other vectors that are potentially irritating and/or harmful to installers and occupants.

7.3.1 Minimal long-term indoor volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions

The manufacturer shall demonstrate that the product complies with the criteria established within CDPH/EHLB Standard Method V 1.14. Testing shall be performed in accordance with CDPH/EHLB Standard Method V 1.14, or equivalent. The manufacturer shall receive 5 points if the product meets the aforesaid criterion, and an additional 3 points if the recommended adhesive system for the product meets the same criterion.

The testing to demonstrate compliance to the criteria established within CDPH/EHLB Standard Method V 1.14 must be performed at laboratory that has the referenced test method within its scope of ISO/IEC 17025[11] accreditation. The test results at the time of certification that show compliance will remain in place until there is a product or processing change that is significant enough to impact compliance to this Standard's requirements.

7.3.2 *De minimis* indoor carcinogenic VOC emissions

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that carcinogenic or reproductive toxicant VOCs are not emitted from products at levels above the Safe Harbor Levels (California Proposition 65[4]). The testing should be conducted in accordance with CDPH/EHLB Standard Method V 1.14, or equivalent.

7.4 Compatibility with green cleaning strategies

This section is to ensure that wallcovering manufacturing and distribution products sold in the marketplace are compatible with, and encourage the use of, green cleaning strategies and all "maintenance" activities. Green cleaning considers the elements that can protect occupant health while minimizing negative impacts on the environment.

7.4.1 Elimination of chemicals of concern from cleaning products

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that the recommended cleaning products and maintenance procedures (including stripping and covering) do not require the use of any of the listed chemicals of concern described in Sections 5.4.1.a to 5.4.1.f at levels equal to or greater than 1,000 ppm (0.1%).

7.4.2 Control of VOC emissions from cleaning products

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that recommended cleaning products do not exceed the maximum allowable VOC levels established for the relevant product group as described in the California Consumer Products Regulations[23].

8 End-of-life management

8.1 Reclamation feasibility

The criteria in this section are to ensure that existing and new wallcovering manufacturing and distribution products can be collected and processed (i.e., recycled or composted).

8.1.1 Product recyclability

The manufacturer shall demonstrate that postconsumer collected material (including installation waste) meets at least one of the following criteria:

a) the material can be recycled into a different product group;
b) the material can be recycled into a similar product; or
c) the material can be recycled into a same product group.

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that the recycled material can comprise 5% by weight of the final product conforming to Sections 8.1.1.a or 8.1.1.b.

The manufacturer shall receive 4 points for demonstrating that the recycled material can comprise 5% by weight of the final product conforming to Section 8.1.1.c or for demonstrating that the recycled material can comprise 10% by weight of the final product conforming to Sections 8.1.1.a or 8.1.1.b.

8.1.2 Compostability

The material can be composted or otherwise converted into a beneficial soil. For the compostability claim, the manufacturer shall demonstrate that any product being composted conforms to ASTM D64003. The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that the product can be composted.

8.1.3 Postconsumer collection operations

8.1.3.1 For products that have been available for sale for five years or more, the manufacturer shall receive 2 points for demonstrating that the product (including installation waste) can be collected for recycling or composting though ongoing collection operations. For new products (e.g., those with a market presence of less than five years), the manufacturer shall demonstrate preparation and implementation of a postconsumer collection and recovery plan.

8.1.3.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for demonstrating that the product (i.e., appropriate installation waste, sample books, and customer samples) are being collected for recycling or composting through ongoing collection operations. For new products (e.g., those with a market presence of less than five years), the distributor shall demonstrate preparation and implementation of a postconsumer collection and recovery plan.

8.2 Reclamation and stewardship

The criteria in this section are to encourage the diversion of wallcovering materials from landfilling, and to promote the redirection of material resources into new products instead.

8.2.1 Postconsumer reclamation

The manufacturer shall receive points for documenting and reporting the product postconsumer reclamation rate of products. The rate shall be calculated as follows:

$$\text{reclamation rate} = \frac{\text{pounds of all postconsumer product reclaimed (annually)}}{\text{pounts of annual production of product being certified}}$$

The manufacturer may include any or all of the following in reclamation calculation:

— material recovered via wallcovering manufacturer's on-site postconsumer collection operations and composted or recycled into new products;

— purchase of postconsumer wallcovering material for manufacture into new wallcovering or alternative products; or

— other financial or contractual instruments that can be quantified as to annual weight of wallcovering product recycled or composted. Reclaimed materials or waste stream materials outside of wallcovering materials can be included in the calculation.

The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for 1 or 2% postconsumer reclamation; 4 points for 3 or 4% postconsumer reclamation; or, at a maximum, 6 points for 5% or greater postconsumer reclamation.

8.2.2 Corporate investment in reclamation

8.2.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive points for the percent of its revenue from the specific certified product that it commits to documented activities associated with improving the reclamation rate of its products. Points shall be awarded as follows:

— 2 points for 0.05% of revenue from the specific certified product invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging);

— 4 points for 0.10% of revenue from the specific certified product invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging); or

— 6 points for 0.15% or more of revenue from the specific certified product invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging).

A maximum of 6 points shall be awarded for Section 8.2.2.1 for the manufacturer.

Qualifying activities include:

— research and development in materials processing and new product development (using reclaimed materials);

— purchase and installation of processing equipment to be used wholly or in part for the processing of reclaimed wallcovering materials, including composting grinding equipment; and

— other quantifiable financial support of postconsumer material collection, processing, manufacturing and distribution activities (including ongoing labor expenses).

8.2.2.2 The distributor shall receive points for the percent of its revenue from all of the wallcoverings it distributes that it commits to documented programs associated with improving the reclamation of wallcoverings. Points shall be awarded as follows:

— 1 point for 0.05% of revenue from all of the wallcoverings distributed that is invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging);

— 2 points for 0.10% of revenue from all of the wallcoverings distributed that is invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging); or

— 3 points for 0.15% or more of revenue from all of the wallcoverings distributed that is invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging).

A maximum of 3 points shall be awarded for Section 8.2.2.2 for the distributor.

Qualifying activities include research and development in materials processing and new product development (using reclaimed materials); purchase and installation of processing equipment to be used wholly or in part for the processing of reclaimed wallcovering materials, including composting grinding equipment; and other quantifiable financial support of postconsumer material collection, processing, manufacturing and distribution activities (including ongoing labor expenses).

9 Corporate governance

9.1 Purpose

The criteria in this section are intended to encourage corporate social responsibility in the forms of providing a desirable workplace, being involved in the local community, and demonstrating financial health.

9.2 Public commitment to sustainability

The criteria in this section are intended to demonstrate corporate / organizational leadership in public disclosure and transparency of key environmental and social accountability objectives and data.

9.2.1 Supplier social accountability

9.2.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for documenting the implementation of a supplier social accountability disclosure process requiring key supplier disclosure of social accountability information including, at a minimum:

— declaration of compliance with local, regional, and federal labor requirements, and report of any outstanding violations or issues of noncompliance; and

— documentation and assessment of social accountability conformance prepared in accordance with the social indicators described in Global Reporting Initiative[9] (GRI), SA8000[19], or another comparable evaluation program.

9.2.1.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for documenting the implementation of a supplier social accountability disclosure process requiring key supplier disclosure of social accountability information including, at a minimum:

— declaration of compliance with local, state, and federal labor requirements, and report of any outstanding violations or issues of noncompliance; and

— documentation and assessment of social accountability conformance prepared in accordance with the social indicators described in GRI[9], SA8000[19], or another comparable evaluation program.

9.2.2 Supplier social accountability disclosure

The manufacturer shall document the percent of its key suppliers that have satisfactorily conformed to the company's social accountability disclosure requirements as described in Section 9.2.1. The manufacturer shall either receive 1 point if 50 to 74% of its key suppliers have conformed, or receive 2 points if 75% or more of its key suppliers have conformed.

9.2.3 Preliminary disclosure

9.2.3.1 The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for releasing one of the following publicly:

— annual objectives and targets under company's registered or conforming ISO 14001[11] Environmental Management System;

— product LCA findings through participation in the Building for Economic and Environmental Sustainability (BEES[16]), managed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST); TRACI[26]; Athena's Ecocalculator[29]; or other LCA approach recognized by the general industry;

— product LCA findings prepared in conformance with ISO 14040[11] and independently peer reviewed; or

— the company's social accountability performance as quantified under SA8000[19], or equivalent.

The information shall be released in one of the following forms:

— part of the company's annual report, available to all who request a copy; or
— online (e.g., downloadable from the company's website).

9.2.3.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for releasing one of the following publicly:

— annual objectives and targets under company's registered or conforming ISO 14001[11];

— product LCA findings through participation in BEES[16]; TRACI[26]; Athena's Ecocalculator[29]; or other LCA approach recognized by the general industry;

— product LCA findings prepared in conformance with ISO 14040[11] and independently peer reviewed;

— the company's social accountability performance as quantified under SA8000[19], or equivalent.

The information shall be released in one of the following forms:

— part of the company's annual report, available to all who request a copy; or
— online (e.g., downloadable from the company's website).

9.2.4 Comprehensive disclosure

The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for demonstrating one of the following:

— public release of annual sustainability report per the guidelines of the GRI[9] or the United Nations Environment Program[21]; or

— public release of annual environmental and social accountability targets and achievements.

9.3 Employer responsibility

9.3.1 Employer turnover

9.3.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for quantifying and reporting the average employee turnover rate (per year or two-year rolling average).

9.3.1.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for quantifying and reporting the average employee turnover rate (per year or two-year rolling average).

9.3.2 Employee injury rate

9.3.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive 2 points for quantifying and declaring the average employee injury rate (per year or two-year rolling average) as required by the governing reporting agency. At a minimum, the report shall include occupational accidents, injuries, illnesses, and disease.

9.3.2.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for quantifying and declaring the average employee injury rate (per year or two-year rolling average) as required by the governing reporting agency. At a minimum, the report shall include occupational accidents, injuries, illnesses, and disease.

9.3.3 Right to collective bargaining

9.3.3.1 The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for documenting the right of all personnel to independent and free association and to bargain collectively.

9.3.3.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for documenting the right of all personnel to independent and free association and to bargain collectively.

9.3.4 Prerequisite – Prevention of discrimination

9.3.4.1 The manufacturer shall demonstrate that it does not engage in or support discrimination in the employment process at the corporate level. Examples include, but are not limited to:

— Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964[2] (Title VII), which prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin;

— the Equal Pay Act of 1963[2] (EPA), which protects men and women who perform substantially equal work in the same establishment from sex-based wage discrimination;

— the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967[2] (ADEA), which protects individuals who are 40 years of age or older;

— Title I and Title V of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 19902 (ADA), which prohibit employment discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities in the private sector, and in state and local governments;

— Sections 501 and 505 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973[2], which prohibit discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities who work in the federal government; and

— the Civil Rights Act of 1991[2], which, among other things, provides monetary damages in cases of intentional employment discrimination.

9.3.4.2 The distributor shall demonstrate that it does not engage in or support discrimination in the employment process at the corporate level. Examples include, but are not limited to:

— Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964[2] (Title VII), which prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin;

— the Equal Pay Act of 1963[2] (EPA), which protects men and women who perform substantially equal work in the same establishment from sex-based wage discrimination;

— the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967[2] (ADEA), which protects individuals who are 40 years of age or older;

— Title I and Title V of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990[2] (ADA), which prohibit employment discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities in the private sector, and in state and local governments;

— Sections 501 and 505 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973[2], which prohibit discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities who work in the federal government; and

— the Civil Rights Act of 1991[2], which, among other things, provides monetary damages in cases of intentional employment discrimination.

9.3.5 Prerequisite – Prohibitions on forced labor

9.3.5.1 The manufacturer shall demonstrate that it does not engage in or permit the use of forced or compulsory labor (per ILO conventions C29 and C105[10]) at its facilities or those of its key suppliers, foreign and domestic.

9.3.5.2 The distributor shall demonstrate that it does not engage in or permit the use of forced or compulsory labor (per ILO conventions C29 and C105[10]) at its facilities or those of its key suppliers, foreign and domestic.

9.3.6 Prerequisite – Prohibitions on child labor

9.3.6.1 The manufacturer and its key suppliers shall demonstrate that they operate facilities or source supplies from companies that operate under the principles of ILO Convention 182[10].

9.3.6.2 The distributor and its key suppliers shall demonstrate that they operate facilities or source supplies from companies that operate under the principles of ILO Convention 182[10].

9.3.7 Living wages / remuneration

9.3.7.1 The manufacturer shall demonstrate compliance with all applicable legal minimum standards. The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for demonstrating, for employees / workers other than management personnel, that wages are paid directly to employees, with full disclosure of any required or authorized deductions (e.g., taxes, health care benefits, and retirement investments).

9.3.7.2 The distributor shall demonstrate compliance with all applicable legal minimum standards. The distributor shall receive 1 point for demonstrating, for employees / workers other than management personnel, that wages are paid directly to employees, with full disclosure of any required or authorized deductions (e.g., taxes, health care benefits, and retirement investments).

9.4 Community engagement

9.4.1 Community financial investment

9.4.1.1 The manufacturer shall declare, as a percent of net profitability, the average three-year rolling monetary value provided to the community paid plus direct contributions (e.g., grants and investments). Employee salaries and other employee remuneration are expressly excluded from this calculation. For the purposes of this criterion, “community” means a geographical unit where the product is manufactured, sold, or distributed. Thus, investments made at a state or provincial level does not qualify for inclusion unless specifically designated for allocation to the local community. The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for investing 1% or more of its net profits to the local community.

9.4.1.2 The distributor shall declare, as a percent of net profitability, the average three-year rolling monetary value provided to the community paid plus direct contributions (e.g., grants and investments). Employee salaries and other employee remuneration are expressly excluded from this calculation. For the purposes of this criterion, “community” means a geographical unit where the product is sold or distributed. Thus, investments made at a state or provincial level does not qualify for inclusion unless specifically designated for allocation to the local community. The distributor shall receive 1 point for investing 1% or more of its net profits to the local community.

9.4.2 Employee participation

9.4.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for documenting company-supported employee activities within the community. Company-supported employee activities consist of community service work performed during paid time off for that purpose, excluding activities deemed political in nature.

9.4.2.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for documenting company-supported employee activities within the community. Company-supported employee activities consist of community service work performed during paid time off for that purpose, excluding activities deemed political in nature.

9.4.3 Local recruiting

9.4.3.1 The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for documenting net local employment (full-time equivalent basis) and local sourcing expenditures (US dollars spent, or equivalent) per year or three-year rolling average.

9.4.3.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for documenting net local employment (full-time equivalent basis) and local sourcing expenditures (US dollars spent, or equivalent) per year or three-year rolling average.

9.4.4 Participation in governmental environmental excellence programs

9.4.4.1 The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for achieving recognized Environmental Excellence through local, state or federal recognition programs.

9.4.4.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for achieving recognized Environmental Excellence through local, state or federal recognition programs.

9.5 Financial leadership

9.5.1 Profitability

9.5.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for demonstrating profitability.

9.5.1.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for demonstrating profitability.

9.5.2 Investment in research and development

9.5.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for devoting 1/4% (0.25%) or more of its annual revenue to research and development activities intended to support the continuing viability of the company.

9.5.2.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for devoting 1/4% (0.25%) or more of its annual revenue to research and development activities intended to support the continuing viability of the company.

9.5.3 Vendor / supplier satisfaction

9.5.3.1 The manufacturer shall receive 1 point for reporting the percentage of contracts that were paid in accordance with agreed terms, excluding agreed penalty arrangements. Terms may include scheduling of payments, form of payment, and other conditions.

9.5.3.2 The distributor shall receive 1 point for reporting the percentage of contracts that were paid in accordance with agreed terms, excluding agreed penalty arrangements. Terms may include scheduling of payments, form of payment, and other conditions.

9.6 Supplier audits

The manufacturer may receive up to 2 points for supplier audits.

It shall receive 1 point if it has audited 10% or more of its key suppliers in the past five years to verify conformance with environmental and social accountability disclosure requirements.

It shall receive an additional 1 point if it has conducted annual reviews of 10% or more of its key suppliers.

10 Innovation

This section is intended to give manufacturers and distributors the opportunity to be awarded points for exceptional performance above the requirements set forth in sections of this Standard, and/or for innovative performance in categories not specifically addressed by this Standard. The number of points awarded shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. A maximum of 6 points shall be awarded for innovation under this section to the manufacturer and a maximum of 2 points for the distributor.

Innovation credits shall be applied for and approved and are submitted by applicants to address topics that will further the promotion of sustainable wallcovering products.

Possible considerations for innovation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- company level: carbon footprint reduction;
- product level: recycled content;
- infrastructure development for recycling:
    - industry wide collection system development process;
    - what are the economics of this; and
    - market development for recycled materials.
- recycled content above the level in Section 5 (40%);
- performance based innovations were recommended (product attribute based credits);
- reduced energy consumption in manufacturing beyond 51%;

- waste minimization using appropriate technology demonstrated to be environmentally preferable;

- reduced transportation:

    - light weight products; and
    - distribution system improvement opportunities.

- increased life cycle: standard product life increased – “one of the best things a manufacturer can do is make the product last a long time”;

- lower emitting products;

- use of annually renewable resources (bamboo or other biobased inputs);

- products that increase energy efficiency of an interior space:

    - thermal transmission; and
    - light reflection.

- demonstrate improvement in noise reduction.

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Normative Annex 1

Scoring system sustainable product assessment – Wallcovering manufacturing and distribution

Criteria	Description	Maximum points	
		Manufacturer	Distributor
Section 5	**Product design**		
5.2.1	Environmental considerations in design	2	1
5.2.2	Life cycle assessment (LCA) or Design for Environment (DfE) assessment	8	1
5.2.3	Health product declaration (HPD)	1	N/A
5.2.4	Environmental product declaration (EPD)	4	N/A
5.3.1	Inventory of material inputs	2	1
5.3.2	Environmentally sustainable inputs – Product	11	2
5.3.3	Environmentally sustainable inputs – Packaging	4	2
5.4.1	Identification of use of chemicals of concern	prerequisite	N/A
5.4.2	Minimization of known chemicals of concern in product	8	N/A
5.4.3	Minimization of known chemicals of concern in attachment systems	2	N/A
5.4.4	Elimination of chemicals with upstream concerns	4	N/A
5.5.1	Supplier environmental disclosure	2	N/A
5.5.2	Supplier environmental performance disclosure	4	2
Section total		**52**	**9**

Criteria	Description	Maximum points	
		Manufacturer	Distributor
Section 6	**Product manufacturing**		
6.2.1	Environmental management system (EMS)	2	1
6.2.2	Registered EMS system	2	1
6.2.3	Maintaining environmental attributes	2	N/A
6.3.1	Energy inventory	2	1
6.3.2	Reduction of environmental impact of energy input	20	10
6.4.1	Water use inventory	2	1
6.4.2	Reduced water consumption	2	1
6.4.3	Water quality	4	N/A
6.5.1	Waste minimization program	2	1
6.5.2	Waste minimization	4	3
6.5.3	Packaging minimization	3	2
6.6.1	Greenhouse gas loadings	2	1
6.6.2	Greenhouse gas reduction goals	2	N/A
6.6.3	Greenhouse gas reductions	6	N/A
6.6.4	PBT reductions	4	N/A
Section total		**59**	**22**

Criteria	Description	Maximum points	
		Manufacturer	Distributor
Section 7	**Long-term value**		
7.2.1	Durability	8	N/A
7.2.2	Fire resistance and smoke density	4	N/A
7.3.1	Minimal long-term indoor VOC emissions	8	N/A
7.3.2	*De minimis* indoor carcinogenic VOC emissions	2	N/A
7.4.1	Elimination of chemicals of concern from cleaning products	2	N/A
7.4.2	Control of VOC emissions from cleaning products	2	N/A
Section total		**26**	**0**

Criteria	Description	Maximum points	
		Manufacturer	Distributor
Section 8	**End-of-life management**		
8.1.1	Product recyclability	4	N/A
8.1.2	Compostability	2	N/A
8.1.3	Postconsumer collection operations	2	1
8.2.1	Postconsumer reclamation	6	N/A
8.2.2	Corporate investment in reclamation	6	3
Section total		**20**	**4**

Criteria	Description	Maximum points	
		Manufacturer	Distributor
Section 9	**Corporate governance**		
9.2.1.	Supplier social accountability	1	1
9.2.2	Supplier social accountability disclosure	2	N/A
9.2.3	Preliminary disclosure	1	1
9.2.4	Comprehensive disclosure	1	N/A
9.3.1	Employee turnover	1	1
9.3.2	Employee injury rate	2	1
9.3.3	Right to collective bargaining	1	1
9.3.4	Prevention of discrimination	prerequisite	prerequisite
9.3.5	Prohibitions on forced labor	prerequisite	prerequisite
9.3.6	Prohibitions on child labor	prerequisite	prerequisite
9.3.7	Living wages / remuneration	1	1
9.4.1	Community financial investment	1	1
9.4.2	Employee participation	1	1
9.4.3	Local recruiting	1	1

Criteria	Description	Maximum points	
		Manufacturer	Distributor
9.4.4	Participation in governmental environmental excellence programs	1	1
9.5.1	Profitability	1	1
9.5.2	Investment in research and development	1	1
9.5.3	Vendor / supplier satisfaction	1	1
9.6	Supplier audits	2	N/A
Section total		**19**	**13**

Criteria	Description	Maximum points	
		Manufacturer	Distributor
Section 10	**Innovation**	6	2
Section total		**6**	**2**

Section point totals	Maximum points	
	Manufacturer	Distributor
Section 5	52	9
Section 6	59	22
Section 7	26	0
Section 8	20	4
Section 9	19	13
Section 10	6	2
Maximum points total	**182**	**50**

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Informative Annex 1

Key elements of a certification program for environmentally preferable and sustainable wallcovering manufacturing and distribution

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I-1.1 General

Declaring conformance to this Standard identifies that a manufacturer designs, develops, and creates products in a manner that is considered to be in some measure sustainable and/or environmentally preferable. Conformance to this Standard alone does not imply certification. The manufacturer can provide additional public confidence regarding the attainment of these goals by undertaking independent conformity assessment (certification).

I-1.2 Product certification process

I-1.2.1 Selection of conformity assessment body

The manufacturer identifies a certification organization to perform the conformity assessment of the product assessment process for conformance with this Standard.

I-1.2.2 Conformity assessment to standard

The certifying organization performs the necessary functions to determine whether the manufacturer's operations and product(s) conform to the specified criteria. This may involve activities such as an audit of the manufacturing facility, review of the product formulation, testing, or review of documentation for assessing conformance with the specified criteria.

I-1.2.3 Issuance of product certification

If the product has been demonstrated adequately to meet the specifications described in this Standard, and any issues of nonconformance have been addressed, the certifying organization provides a product certification to the manufacturer. This may include the provision of documentation of certification of the product to the manufacturer, as well as inclusion of the product on any publicly available lists of certified products maintained by the certifying organization. The certifying organization instructs the manufacturer regarding appropriate use of the registered certification mark of the certifying organization.

I-1.2.4 Monitoring of product conformance

At intervals determined by the certifying organization, the continued conformance of the certified product to the specified criteria is monitored using periodic facility audits, periodic retesting, or both.

I-1.3 Suggested requirements for certifying organizations

A certifying organization offering a certification program for environmentally preferable and sustainable wallcovering manufacturing and distribution should conform to the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 65, *General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems*.

I-1.3.1 Marking of certified product

The certifying organization should specify requirements for marking of certified products. Requirements for product marking should include, at a minimum:

- certified products should bear a registered certification mark of the certifying organization; and
- each product should bear a statement of achievement status (e.g., Silver, Gold.)

I-1.3.2 Listing certified companies

The certifying organization should maintain a published listing of all certified products. The listing format should include the following minimum information:

- company name and address;
- product description;
- trademark / formulation designation; and
- each environmentally preferable and sustainable product claim that has been successfully evaluated and is certified.

Environmentally preferable product – The US EPA provides guidance on Environmentally Preferable Purchasing.[25] A portion of the US EPA's site includes the following discussion: ***Multiple environmental attributes*** – Environmental preferability should reflect the consideration of multiple environmental attributes such as increased energy efficiency, reduced toxicity, or reduced impacts on fragile ecosystems. In addition, these attributes should be considered from a life cycle perspective. Focusing on one environmental attribute of a product or a service, without considering others, might inadvertently exclude important impacts on the determination of environmental preferability.

I-1.3.3 Audits

The certifying organization should conduct actual physical audits of all facilities and productions locations of the certified company at least annually.

I-1.3.4 Corrective action

The manufacturer should take corrective action for all items of nonconformance found during audits and reevaluation, including:

- provisions for review and authorization for modifications to formulations;
- modifications to certified product formulations; and
- documentation and authorization of the modification maintained on file.

I-1.3.5 Enforcement

To preserve the integrity of the registered certification mark of the certification organization, enforcement action should be taken by the certifier for the following:

- use of the registered trademark of the certifying organization on a noncertified product;
- general nonconformance;
- unauthorized change to certified products; and
- unauthorized shipment or disposal of products placed on hold.

I-1.3.6 Appeals

The certifying organization should have provisions for an appeals process as requested by any party directly affected by a decision, action, or inaction of the certifying organization.

I-1.3.7 Complaints

The certifying organization should provide for the following:

- investigation of complaints related to certified products;
- misuse of the registered trademark of the certifying organization by a certified company;
- use / misuse of the registered trademark of the certifying organization by a noncertified company; and
- certified company retention and disclosure of complaint records and remedial actions for certified products.

I-1.3.8 Advertising

A certifying organization should provide guidance to certified manufacturers regarding proper use of the registered trademark of the certifying organization on sales literature, technical publications, promotional materials, packaging, catalogs, and advertising.

I-1.3.9 Records

A certifying organization should have provisions for verification of complete certified company records including:

- purchased materials and ingredients; and
- production, shipment, and inventory.

I-1.3.10 Public notice

Provisions for issuing a public notice for nonconformance to any requirement of certification should be maintained by the certifying organization.

I-1.3.11 Confidentiality

The certifying organization should have a documented policy of nondisclosure of any confidential information supplied to the certifying organization by the company regarding the product, including formulations, components, processes, ingredients, and the identity of the company's suppliers and distributors.

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Interpretation Annex

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Interpretation A

Section of the Standard for interpretation

3.6 key supplier: A supplier of a material ingredient that comprises at least 5% by weight of a particular finished product, or that contains one or more chemicals of concern as defined by Sections 5.4.1.a to 5.4.1.e.

Requestor's interpretation of the section

Request for interpretation regarding how the 3.6 Key Supplier definition affects distributors. It appears the current key supplier definition only encompasses the finished product, which does not always fall under the responsibility of a distributor. In addition, the definition does not address key suppliers specific to the function of the distributor (e.g., packaging suppliers).

Based on the definition of key supplier, when interpreted for a distributor we would assume that it would apply to 5% or greater of finished product purchased. This would include 5% or greater of the purchased amount from wallcovering manufacturers.

Interpretation decision

The intent was to identify the "manufacturer" or the products being certified as the "key supplier" to the distributor. The distributor does not select packaging material, but does have the opportunity to reuse materials shipped to them from the manufacturer.

Interpretation B

Section of the Standard for interpretation

5.4.1 Prerequisite – Identification of use of chemicals of concern

The manufacturer shall create a report classifying the material inputs for the product undergoing assessment, including recommended attachment systems and primary packaging material, by the chemical hazard classifications listed below…*etc.*

Requestor's interpretation of the section

Request for interpretation: If the manufacturer does not recommend a specific attachment system, can they bypass that portion of 5.4.1 and still earn the prerequisite?

Interpretation decision

Specifying attachment systems is new to the industry. This used to be left largely to the installation contractor. The attachment system issue was identified during the development of the standard as an area

where the industry might have a potential to identify materials that work well with their products and that have been reviewed to determine whether any chemicals of concern are introduced during installation of the product. As a result of the standard, at least one adhesive manufacturer quickly moved to make a product that would work and would have documentation of its content and acceptability to meet the requirements of this standard.

At this point, those with the most influence to effect specifying attachment systems for the wallcovering is made more at the distributor level than at the manufacturer level. Those are the folks that have contact with the installation contractors, specifiers and architects and would be able to put forward recommendation about the products used for adhesive systems.

The attachment systems for manufacturers might be able to be interpreted as any adhesive systems they use to make the product. They would have no influence, or potentially even have contact with the installation contractors, specifiers and architects.

Since these contacts are outside of their organization, they would have little opportunity to influence the decision of a contractor, installer, specifier or architect. Holding them to making a recommendation would not have any impact on the final installation of the product and therefore would just be a paperwork documentation to meet this requirement. I don't think anyone intended that in the development. This could potentially initiate a conversation between the manufacturer and distributor to be certain of the adhesive system compatibility with the product. That would most likely be a pretty short conversation…"does this work?" …"yes, if installed properly"…or something like that.

However, taking the idea of attachment systems further could include how they manufacturer the material provided to the distributor. Laminated materials are often used to make wallcovering. In that lamination process, some type of material might be used, other than just heat, to join the layers together. "Attachment systems" may not be the best wording to describe this process, but that may be a way to interpret this for the manufacturers. NSF already would include the identification of chemicals of concern in all aspects of the construction of the product, so I believe that would be how this "attachment system" issue could apply to the manufacturers.

The key to resolving this is to determine what each organization has the ability to influence or control. The actual "attachment system" recommendation is more influential at the distributor level.

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Standards[34]

The following Standards established and adopted by NSF as minimum voluntary consensus Standards are used internationally:

Std. #	Standard title
2	Food Equipment
3	Commercial Warewashing Equipment
4	Commercial Cooking, Rethermalization, and Powered Hot Food Holding and Transport Equipment
5	Water Heaters, Hot Water Supply Boilers, and Heat Recovery Equipment
6	Dispensing Freezers
7	Commercial Refrigerators and Freezers
8	Commercial Powered Food Preparation Equipment
12	Automatic Ice Making Equipment
13	Refuse Processors and Processing Systems
14	Plastics Piping System Components and Related Materials
18	Manual Food and Beverage Dispensing Equipment
20	Commercial Bulk Milk Dispensing Equipment
21	Thermoplastic Refuse Containers
24	Plumbing System Components for Recreational Vehicles
25	Vending Machines for Food And Beverages
29	Detergent and Chemical Feeders for Commercial Spray-Type Dishwashing Machines
35	High Pressure Decorative Laminates (HPDL) for Surfacing Food Service Equipment
37	Air Curtains for Entranceways in Food and Food Service Establishments
40	Residential Wastewater Treatment Systems
41	Non-liquid Saturated Treatment Systems
42	Drinking Water Treatment Units – Aesthetic Effects
44	Residential Cation Exchange Water Softeners
46	Evaluation of Components and Devices Used in Wastewater Treatment Systems
49	Biosafety Cabinetry – Design, Construction, Performance, and Field Certification
50	Equipment for Swimming Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs, and Other Recreational Water Facilities
51	Food Equipment Materials
52	Supplemental Flooring
53	Drinking Water Treatment Units – Health Effects
55	Ultraviolet Microbiological Water Treatment Systems
58	Reverse Osmosis Drinking Water Treatment Systems
59	Mobile Food Carts
60	Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals – Health Effects
61	Drinking Water System Components – Health Effects
62	Drinking Water Distillation Systems
140	Sustainable Carpet Assessment
169	Special Purpose Food Equipment and Devices
170	Glossary of Food Equipment Terminology

[34] The information contained in this list of Standards is not part of this American National Standard (ANS) and has not been processed in accordance with ANSI's requirements for an ANS. Therefore, this Standards page may contain material that has not been subjected to public review or a consensus process. In addition, it does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the Standard.

Std. #	Standard title
173	Dietary Supplements
177	Shower Filtration Systems – Aesthetic Effects
184	Residential Dishwashers
223	Conformity Assessment Requirements for Certification Bodies that Certify Products Pursuant to NSF/ANSI 60 Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals – Health Effects
240	Drainfield Trench Product Sizing for Gravity Dispersal Onsite Wastewater Treatment and Dispersal Systems
244	Drinking Water Treatment Units Supplemental Microbiological Water Treatment Systems – Filtration
245	Wastewater Treatment Systems – Nitrogen Reduction
305	Personal Care Products Containing Organic Ingredients
330	Glossary of Drinking Water Treatment Unit Terminology
332	Sustainability Assessment for Resilient Floor Coverings
336	Sustainability Assessment for Commercial Furnishings Fabric
342	Sustainability Assessment for Wallcovering Products
347	Sustainability Assessment for Single-Ply Roofing Membranes
350	Onsite Residential and Commercial Water Reuse Treatment Systems
350-1	Onsite Residential and Commercial Greywater Treatment Systems for Subsurface Discharge
358-1	Polyethylene Pipe and Fittings for Water-Based Ground-Source “Geothermal” Heat Pump Systems
358-2	Polypropylene Pipe and Fittings for Water-Based Ground-Source “Geothermal” Heat Pump Systems
358-3	Cross-linked Polyethylene (PEX) Pipe and Fittings for Water-based Ground-Source (Geothermal) Heat Pump Systems
358-4	Polyethylene of Raised Temperature (PE-RT) Tubing and Fittings for Water-based Ground-Source (Geothermal) Heat Pump Systems
359	Valves for Cross-linked Polyethylene (PEX) Water Distribution Tubing Systems
360	Wastewater Treatment Systems – Field Performance Verification
363	Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) for Pharmaceutical Excipients
372	Drinking Water Treatment System Components – Lead Content
375	Sustainability Assessment for Water Contact Products
385	Disinfection Mechanics
401	Drinking Water Treatment Units – Emerging Compounds / Incidental Contaminants
416	Sustainability Assessment for Water Treatment Chemical Products
418	Effluent Filters – Field Longevity Testing
419	Public Drinking Water Equipment Performance – Filtration
426	Environmental Leadership and Corporate Social Responsibility Assessment of Servers
455-1	Terminology for the NSF 455 Portfolio of Standards
455-2	Good Manufacturing Practices for Dietary Supplements
455-3	Good Manufacturing Practices for Cosmetics
455-4	Good Manufacturing Practices for Over-the-Counter Drugs
457	Sustainability Leadership Standard for Photovoltaic Modules and Photovoltaic Inverters
600	Health Effects Evaluation and Criteria for Chemicals in Drinking Water
14159-1	Hygiene Requirements for the Design of Meat and Poultry Processing Equipment
14159-2	Hygiene Requirements for the Design of Hand-held Tools Used in Meat and Poultry Processing Equipment
14159-3	Hygiene Requirements for the Design of Mechanical Belt Conveyors Used in Meat and Poultry Processing Equipment