

## **EPA's Recommendations of Specifications, Standards, and Ecolabels for Federal Purchasing**

The [recommendations of specifications, standards, and ecolabels](#) are intended to help federal purchasers identify and procure environmentally sustainable products and services. The recommendations are based on an independent assessment of private sector environmental performance standards and ecolabels against the multi-stakeholder developed [EPA Guidelines for Environmental Performance Standards and Ecolabels](#).

In general, EPA's Recommendations give preference to multi-attribute (i.e., life-cycle based) standards and ecolabels for which EPA has been able to confirm the availability of a competent certification body that are:

- Accredited by an accreditation body that is a signatory to the International Accreditation Forum Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (IAF MLA) and has the relevant standard in the scope of its accreditation, or
- Otherwise meets [Section III of EPA's Guidelines](#).

The [assessment summaries](#) provide detailed information regarding the standards and ecolabels in the Recommendations.

Where an independent assessment of a standard or ecolabel against EPA's Guidelines has not yet been completed, the recommendations are based on specifications, environmental performance standards and ecolabels selected and utilized by other agencies. Currently, the recommendations include standards and ecolabels from:

- [Department of Energy's \(DOE's\) FY17 Priority Products List](#)
- [General Services Administration's \(GSA's\) Key Sustainable Products](#)

Federal purchasers can visit [GSA's Green Procurement Compilation](#) to see all relevant federal green purchasing requirements for any product or service, including EPA's Recommendations.

To get additional agency specific guidance on how to meet federal requirements around use of standards, ecolabels, and/or conformity assessment mechanisms in federal procurement, please [contact your agency standards executive](#).

More information can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/greenerproducts/>

*(Updated March 7, 2017)*

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# EPA's Recommendations of Specifications, Standards, and Ecolabels for Federal Purchasing

## I. CAFETERIA

### TAKE-OUT SERVICE: Containers, Cutlery, Dishware

#### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

#### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

#### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [Biodegradable Products Institute certified compostable \(provided composting available\)<sup>2</sup>](#)

### COMMERCIAL DISHWASHER DETERGENT

#### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

#### **Applicable EPA Programs:**



#### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [Green Seal™ 53 Standard for Specialty Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use<sup>2</sup>](#)
- [UL 2759 Standard for Hard Surface Cleaners<sup>2</sup>](#)

## II. CONSTRUCTION

- 1) [Adhesives](#)
- 2) [Carpet](#)
- 3) [Ceiling Tiles-Acoustical](#)
- 4) [Fiberboard, Gypsum Panels, and Wallboard](#)
- 5) [Flooring](#)
- 6) [Insulation](#)
- 7) [Interior Latex Paint](#)
- 8) [Lumber/ Wood](#)

### ADHESIVES

#### ***Applicable Statutory Requirements:***

N/A

Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

#### ***Applicable EPA Programs:***



#### ***Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:***

- [Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Product Standard<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program for Chemical Emissions for Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [UL 2762 Sustainability Standard for Adhesives<sup>2</sup>](#)

To address **Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions**, EPA recommends products meet the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers, Version 1.1-2010. (This is the VOC emission testing method for California Specification 01350.) The above certifications/ecolabels have been assessed by EPA and incorporate by reference CDPH v1.1-2010 (or equivalents) as either optional or required criteria. There may be other certifiers/ecolabels that can provide demonstration of conformity to these criteria.

# CARPET

## **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



[BioPreferred®](#)



[CPG](#)

Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

## **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

## **Non-Federal Multi-Attribute Standards and Ecolabels†:**

- [Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Product Standard](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Good Environmental Choice Australia \(GECA\) Floor Coverings](#)<sup>1\*</sup>
- [NSF/ ANSI 140 Sustainability Assessment for Carpet](#)<sup>1</sup>

If a product meeting a standard/ecolabel above is not available, use one or more of the following environmentally effective multi-attribute standards. These are standards/ecolabels for which EPA has not been able to confirm that an accredited or conforming certification body is available\*\*:

- [Environmental Choice New Zealand EC-33-14 Synthetic Carpets](#)<sup>1\*</sup>
- [International Living Future Institute: Living Product Challenge<sup>SM</sup> 1.0](#)<sup>1\*</sup>
- [Sustainable Materials Rating Technology \(SMaRT\)](#)<sup>1</sup>

## **Non-Federal Single Attribute Standards and Ecolabels:**

If a product meeting a standard/ecolabel above is not available, use one or more of the following single attribute/single material standards/ecolabels to address key hotspots:

Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions/ other Leadership Approaches to Chemicals:

- [International Living Future Institute: Declare](#)<sup>1\*</sup>

Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions:

- [CRI Green Label Plus™ Program](#)<sup>1\*</sup>
- [FloorScore®](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program for Chemical Emissions for Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings](#)<sup>1</sup>

Recycled Content:

- [Global Recycled Standard](#)<sup>1\*</sup>

## **VOC Emissions Specification:**

Because indoor air quality/VOC emissions may not be addressed or may only be optional criteria within the standards listed above, EPA recommends that the following specification be included in addition to non-federal standards/ecolabels listed above:

*"Products shall meet the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers, Version 1.1-2010. (This is the VOC emission testing method for California Specification 01350.)"*

## CEILING TILES-ACOUSTICAL

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Product Standard<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program for Chemical Emissions for Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings<sup>1</sup>](#)

To address **Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions**, EPA recommends products meet the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers, Version 1.1-2010. (This is the VOC emission testing method for California Specification 01350.) The above certifications/ecolabels have been assessed by EPA and incorporate by reference CDPH v1.1-2010 (or equivalents) as either optional or required criteria. There may be other certifiers/ecolabels that can provide demonstration of conformity to these criteria.

## FIBERBOARD, GYPSUM PANELS, AND WALLBOARD

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Product Standard<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program for Chemical Emissions for Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings<sup>1</sup>](#)

To address **Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions**, EPA recommends products meet the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers, Version 1.1-2010. (This is the VOC emission testing method for California Specification 01350.) The above certifications/ecolabels have been assessed by EPA and incorporate by reference CDPH v1.1-2010 (or equivalents) as either optional or required criteria. There may be other certifiers/ecolabels that can provide demonstration of conformity to these criteria.

## FLOORING: Tile, Resilient, and other Non-Carpet

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



[BioPreferred®](#)



[CPG](#)

Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

### **Non-Federal Multi-Attribute Standards and Ecolabels†:**

- [Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Product Standard<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Good Environmental Choice Australia \(GECA\) Floor Coverings<sup>1</sup> \\*](#)
- [NSF/ ANSI 332 Sustainability Assessment for Resilient Floor Coverings<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Tile Council of North America \(TCNA\): ANSI A138.1/ Green Squared<sup>1</sup>](#)

If a product meeting a standard/ecolabel above is not available, use one or more of the following environmentally effective multi-attribute standards. These are standards/ecolabels for which EPA has not been able to confirm that an accredited or conforming certification body is available\*\*:

- [International Living Future Institute: Living Product Challenge<sup>SM</sup> 1.0<sup>1</sup> \\*](#)
- [Sustainable Materials Rating Technology \(SMaRT\)<sup>1</sup>](#)

### **Non-Federal Single Attribute Standards and Ecolabels:**

If a product meeting a standard/ecolabel above is not available, use one or more of the following single attribute/single material standards/ecolabels to address key hotspots:

Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions/other Leadership Approaches to Chemicals:

- [International Living Future Institute: Declare<sup>1\\*</sup>](#)

Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions:

- [FloorScore<sup>®1</sup>](#)
- [SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program for Chemical Emissions for Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings<sup>1</sup>](#)

Recycled Content:

- [Global Recycled Standard<sup>1\\*</sup>](#)

### **VOC Emissions Specification:**

Because Indoor Air Quality/ VOC Emissions may not be addressed or may only be optional criteria within the standards listed above, EPA recommends that the following specification be included in addition to Non-Federal Standards/ Ecolabels listed above:

"Products shall meet the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers, Version 1.1-2010. (This is the VOC emission testing method for California Specification 01350.)"

# INSULATION

## **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



**BioPreferred®**



**CPG**



**ENERGY STAR®**

Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

## **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

## **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Product Standard<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program for Chemical Emissions for Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings<sup>1</sup>](#)

To address **Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions**, EPA recommends products meet the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers, Version 1.1-2010. (This is the VOC emission testing method for California Specification 01350.) The above certifications/ecolabels have been assessed by EPA and incorporate by reference CDPH v1.1-2010 (or equivalents) as either optional or required criteria. There may be other certifiers/ecolabels that can provide demonstration of conformity to these criteria.



## INTERIOR LATEX PAINT

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



[BioPreferred®](#)



[CPG](#)

Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

### **Non-Federal Multi-Attribute Standards and Ecolabels†:**

- [Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Product Standard](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Good Environmental Choice Australia \(GECA\) Paints & Coatings](#)<sup>1\*</sup>
- [Green Seal™ 11 Standard for Paints, Coatings, Stains, and Sealers](#)<sup>1\*</sup>
- [Green Seal™ 43 Standard for Recycled Content Latex Paints](#)<sup>1\*</sup>
- [Master Painters Institute \(MPI®\) Extreme Green™](#) <sup>1\*</sup>

If a product meeting a standard/ecolabel above is not available, use one or more of the following environmentally effective multi-attribute standards. These are standards/ecolabels for which EPA has not been able to confirm that an accredited or conforming certification body is available\*\*:

- [Environmental Choice New Zealand EC-07-15 Paints](#)<sup>1\*</sup>
- [International Living Future Institute: Living Product Challenge<sup>SM</sup> 1.0](#)<sup>1\*</sup>
- [Sustainable Materials Rating Technology \(SMaRT\)](#)<sup>1</sup>

### **Non-Federal Single Attribute Standards and Ecolabels:**

If a product meeting a standard/ecolabel above is not available, use one or more of the following single attribute/single material standards/ecolabels to address key hotspots:

Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions/other Leadership Approaches to Chemicals:

- [International Living Future Institute: Declare](#)<sup>1\*</sup>

Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions:

- [SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program for Chemical Emissions for Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings](#)<sup>1</sup>

To address **Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions**, EPA recommends products meet the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers, Version 1.1-2010. (This is the VOC emission testing method for California Specification 01350.) The above certifications/ecolabels have been assessed by EPA and incorporate by reference CDPH v1.1-2010 (or equivalents) as either optional or required criteria. There may be other certifiers/ecolabels that can provide demonstration of conformity to these criteria.

## LUMBER/ WOOD

Under Review

# III. CUSTODIAL

- 1) [Cleaners: Carpet, Glass, Multipurpose](#)
- 2) [Floor Care](#)
- 3) [Hand Soap](#)
- 4) [Toilet Tissue](#)
- 5) [Towels- Paper](#)
- 6) [Wastebasket Liners \(24" x 33" or smaller\)](#)

## CLEANERS: Carpet, Glass, and Multipurpose

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**



### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [Green Seal™ 37 Standard for Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use<sup>3</sup>](#)
- [UL 2759 Standard for Hard Surface Cleaners<sup>3</sup>](#)

## FLOOR CARE

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**



### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [Green Seal™ 40 Standard for Floor-Care Products for Industrial and Institutional Use<sup>2</sup>](#)
- [UL 2777 Standard for Sustainability for Hard Floor Care<sup>2</sup>](#)

## HAND SOAP

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**



### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [Green Seal™ 41 Standard for Hand Cleaners for Industrial and Institutional Use<sup>3</sup>](#)
- [UL 2784 Standard for Hand Cleaners<sup>3</sup>](#)

## TOILET TISSUE

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [Green Seal™ 01 Standard for Sanitary Paper Products<sup>3</sup>](#)

## TOWELS- PAPER

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [Green Seal™ 01 Standard for Sanitary Paper Products<sup>3</sup>](#)

## WASTEBASKET LINERS (24" X 33" or smaller)

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [UL 126 Standard for Sustainability for Plastic Film Products<sup>3</sup> \(Requires 25% post-consumer recycled content for packaging and 20-25% for plastic film products\)](#)

# IV. ELECTRONICS

## COMPUTERS

Desktops, Notebooks (including 2-in-1 notebooks), Displays, Integrated Desktop Computers, Workstation Desktops, Thin Clients, and Slates/ Tablets

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



**ENERGY STAR®**



Federal Energy Management Program

**Federal Energy Management Program**

Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [EPEAT Registered \(highest rating available\)<sup>2</sup>](#)

## IMAGING EQUIPMENT

Printers, Copiers, Multi-function Devices, Scanners, Fax Machines, Digital Duplicators, Mailing Machines

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



**ENERGY STAR®**

Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [EPEAT Registered \(highest rating available\)<sup>2</sup>](#)

## TELEVISIONS

### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



**ENERGY STAR®**

Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [EPEAT Registered \(highest rating available\)<sup>2</sup>](#)

# V. GROUNDS/ LANDSCAPING

## DE-ICER

### ***Applicable Statutory Requirements:***



[BioPreferred®](#)

*Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.*

### ***Applicable EPA Programs:***



[Safer Choice](#)

### ***Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:***

- [Pacific Northwest Snowfighters Qualified Products<sup>2</sup>](#)

## VI. OFFICE/ FURNITURE

- 1) [Copy Paper](#)
- 2) [Furniture](#)

### COPY PAPER

#### **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



- 30% Post-consumer recycled content

*Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.*

#### **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

#### **Non-Federal Standards and Ecolabels:**

- [UL 2771 Standard for Sustainable Paper Products<sup>2</sup>](#)
- [Green Seal™ 07 Standard for Printing and Writing Paper<sup>2</sup>](#)

# FURNITURE

## **Applicable Statutory Requirements:**



[BioPreferred®](#)



[CPG](#)

Agencies are directed to use the above applicable statutory requirements AND either the applicable EPA programs OR the EPA recommended specifications, standards, and ecolabels below.

## **Applicable EPA Programs:**

N/A

## **Non-Federal Multi-Attribute Standards and Ecolabels†:**

- [ANSI/ BIFMA e3 -2014e Furniture Sustainability Standard – level® certified<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Product Standard<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Good Environmental Choice Australia \(GECA\) Furniture, Fittings, and Foam<sup>1</sup> \\*](#)
- [TÜV Rheinland® Green Product Mark<sup>1</sup>](#)

If a product meeting a standard/ecolabel above is not available, use one or more of the following environmentally effective multi-attribute standards. These are standards/ecolabels for which EPA has not been able to confirm that an accredited or conforming certification body is available: \*\*

- [International Living Future Institute: Living Product Challenge<sup>SM</sup> 1.0<sup>1</sup> \\*](#)
- [Sustainable Furnishings Council Exemplary<sup>1</sup> \\*](#)
- [Sustainable Materials Rating Technology \(SMaRT\)<sup>1</sup>](#)

## **Non-Federal Single Attribute Standards and Ecolabels:**

If a product meeting a standard/ecolabel above is not available, use one or more of the following single attribute/single material standards/ecolabels to address key hotspots:

Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions/other Leadership Approaches to Chemicals:

- [International Living Future Institute: Declare<sup>1\\*</sup>](#)

Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions:

- [SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold for Furniture<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program for Chemical Emissions for Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings<sup>1</sup>](#)

Recycled Content:

- [Global Recycled Standard<sup>1\\*</sup>](#)

Textiles:

- [Association for Contract Textiles NSF/ ANSI 336: Sustainability Assessment for Commercial Furnishings Fabric<sup>1^</sup>](#)

## **EPA Specifications:**

EPA recommends that the following specifications be included in addition to the non-federal standards/ecolabels listed above.

**Hazardous Flame Retardants:** Upholstered products shall meet Technical Bulletin 117-2013 (California's furniture flammability standard) and must comply with the labeling requirements California Senate Bill 1019, which was passed on September 30, 2014, and requires a label indicating whether the product contains or does not contain added Flame Retardants.

**Indoor Air Quality/VOC Emissions:** Products shall meet [ANSI/BIFMA X7.1 Standard for Formaldehyde and TVOC Emissions](#), or equivalent.

*Note: Beginning December 2017, products shall instead meet the emissions requirements of [BIFMA e3 criterion 7.6.2](#), or equivalent.*

# Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> Recommendation based on EPA's assessment per the 2016 Pilot Guidelines. For more information on the Pilot and the assessment results, please visit the [Background tab. Assessment Summaries for Carpet, Interior Latex Paints, Flooring, and Furniture](#) are available for more detailed information.

<sup>2</sup> Recommendation based on DOE's Office of Sustainability Support analysis and use. For further information on this voluntary program, see:

- [DOE's Full Priority Products List](#)
- [DOE's background and evaluation process](#)

<sup>3</sup> Recommendation based on GSA's Public Buildings Service analysis and use. For further information, see:

- [GSA's Key Sustainable Products](#)
- [GSA's background and evaluation process](#)

\*This standard does not meet baseline criteria in Section I of EPA's Guidelines, which contains the requirements necessary to demonstrate that a standard is a Voluntary Consensus Standard (VCS). Section 12(d) of The National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA, PL 103-114) calls federal agencies to use Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS) in lieu of government-unique standards in their procurement and regulatory activities, except where inconsistent with law or otherwise impractical. Section 5(e) of the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-119 (OMB A-119) further outlines factors that individual agencies should evaluate when determining whether to use a standard, on a case by case basis. This includes the extent to which the standards development process reflected the attributes of a VCS body. Federal agency representatives can contact their agency's Standards Executive (list of agency Standards Executives available here: <https://standards.gov/icsp/query/members.cfm>) for assistance in determining whether this standard should be considered for use by the agency.

\*\*These certification programs do not meet baseline criteria in Section III of EPA's guidelines, which contains the requirements necessary to demonstrate that a conformity assessment body is competent to assess conformance with the standard and follows general good practice specific to conformity assessment for environmental performance standards. An alternative method to demonstrate that a conformity assessment body is competent to assess conformance to this standard is proof of accreditation by an accreditation body that is a signatory to the International Accreditation Forum Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (IAF MLA) for a scope including ISO/IEC 17065 and this applicable standard. Guidance on Federal Conformity Assessment (15 CFR Part 287) directs federal agencies to identify appropriate private sector conformity assessment practices and programs (including third-party certification) and consider the results of such practices and/or programs as appropriate in procurement activities. The Guidance stresses that responsibility for the determination of appropriateness rests with each agency. Federal agency representatives can contact their agency's Standards Executive (list of agency Standards Executives available here: <https://standards.gov/icsp/query/members.cfm>) for assistance in determining whether this standard should be considered for use by the agency.

† Please note that the following recommendations do not currently consider the standards'/ecolabels'/certifications' effectiveness in addressing the potential environmental impacts of material harvesting and/or extraction. EPA intends to address that important lifecycle stage of a product in the Recommendations in 2017.

^ EPA did not specifically solicit textile standards/ecolabels for the pilot. There could be others that are interested in being assessed per the Guidelines and considered for EPA's Recommendations in the future.



# Instructions for US Federal Government Employees on How to Access Standards

If you are a US federal government employee who would like access to one of the standards recommended by EPA, please follow the instructions below. The developers of these standards will make them available free of charge to federal government employees for reference and review purposes.

Federal agency representatives can [contact their agency's Standards Executive for further assistance](#).

## The Following Recommended Standards and Ecolabels Are Available Free-of-Charge:

- [Association for Contract Textiles NSF/ ANSI 336: Sustainability Assessment for Commercial Furnishings Fabric](#)
- [Biodegradable Products Institute certified compostable \(provided composting available\)](#)
- [Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Product Standard](#)
- [CRI Green Label Plus™ Program](#)
- [Environmental Choice New Zealand EC-07-15 Paints](#)
- [Environmental Choice New Zealand EC-33-14 Synthetic Carpets](#)
- [EPEAT Registered \(highest rating available\)](#)
- [FloorScore®](#)
- [Global Recycled Standard](#)
- [Good Environmental Choice Australia \(GECA\) Floor Coverings](#)
- [Good Environmental Choice Australia \(GECA\) Furniture, Fittings, and Foam](#)
- [Good Environmental Choice Australia \(GECA\) Paints & Coatings](#)
- [Green Seal™ 01 Standard for Sanitary Paper Products](#)
- [Green Seal™ 07 Standard for Printing and Writing Paper](#)
- [Green Seal™ 11 Standard for Paints, Coatings, Stains, and Sealers](#)
- [Green Seal™ 37 Standard for Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use](#)
- [Green Seal™ 40 Standard for Floor-Care Products for Industrial and Institutional Use](#)
- [Green Seal™ 41 Standard for Hand Cleaners for Industrial and Institutional Use](#)
- [Green Seal™ 43 Standard for Recycled Content Latex Paints](#)
- [Green Seal™ 53 Standard for Specialty Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use](#)
- [International Living Future Institute: Declare](#)
- [International Living Future Institute: Living Product Challenge<sup>SM</sup> 1.01](#)
- [Master Painters Institute \(MPI®\) Extreme Green™](#)
- [Pacific Northwest Snowfighters Qualified Products](#)
- [SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold](#)
- [SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold for Furniture](#)
- [Sustainable Furnishings Council Exemplary](#)
- [Sustainable Materials Rating Technology \(SMaRT\)](#)
- [Tile Council of North America \(TCNA\): ANSI A138.1/ Green Squared](#)
- [TÜV Rheinland® Green Product Mark](#)

## Access to Recommended UL Standards:

**Instructions:** If you do not already have a registered account [visit UL to create one](#). Anyone with a .gov email address will gain access to the standard free of charge. Once the account is created follow the instructions below:

- 1) Click the desired standard above which will take you to the UL website.
- 2) Click the red "Purchase Options" button. It will take you to a new page, select "Secure PDF" with no fee, then click the red "Add to Cart" button.
- 3) On the next page click the red "Checkout" button.
- 4) If not already logged in, you will be asked for your log in information here. Log in and proceed to the next page and click the red "Checkout" button.
- 5) On the next page click the red "Go to Download PDF" button and follow the directions to download. You then should have full access to the following standards:
  - [UL 126 Standard for Sustainability for Plastic Film Products](#)
  - [UL 2759 Standard for Hard Surface Cleaners](#)
  - [UL 2762 Sustainability Standard for Adhesives](#)
  - [UL 2771 Standard for Sustainable Paper Products](#)
  - [UL 2777 Standard for Sustainability for Hard Floor Care](#)
  - [UL 2784 Standard for Hand Cleaners](#)
  - [UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program for Chemical Emissions for Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings](#)

### **Access to Other Recommended Standards:**

**Instructions:** Please, email [EPP@epa.gov](mailto:EPP@epa.gov) from your .gov email address and we will forward your request to the standards body. Please include your full name and where you work. The standard will then be emailed to you in PDF form.

- [NSF/ANSI 140 Sustainability Assessment for Carpet](#)
- [NSF/ANSI 332 International Sustainability Assessment for Resilient Floor Coverings](#)
- [ANSI/BIFMA e3 -2014e Furniture Sustainability Standard – level® certified](#)
- [ANSI/BIFMA X7.1 Standard for Formaldehyde and TVOC Emissions](#)