

Core Sustainable Development Goals

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



15 LIFE ON LAND



Recycled Products

Standard No: RPv1.0ii-2015

Type 1 ecolabel standard in accordance with ISO 14024

Issued 28 June 2021 by GECA

(Good Environmental Choice Australia Ltd)



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Recycled Products

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Status: **Current**

Version: **1.0ii**

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Versions	Date Published	Summary of Changes
1.0	2007	Merging of several standards and widening of scope.
1.0i	2017	Update: Alignment with GHS in relevant criteria; "Definitions and Acronyms"; Inclusion of notes in 'How to apply for GECA Certification' and 'Social and Legal Compliance' sections.
1.0ii	2020	Update: Change of social criteria, addition of SDGs, change of GECA address, change of text in "USE OF GECA STANDARDS", change of text in "HOW to APPLY FOR GECA CERTIFICATION", change of DOCUMENT HISTORY, replacing OHSAS18001 by ISO45001:2018 in DoC 33.3, change of link to non-compliant organisations list regarding workplace gender equality. Change of exemption, audit, auditor and auditing body to exception, assessment, assessor and assurance provider, respectively according to new scheme rules, adding definitions of above terminologies.

HOW TO APPLY FOR GECA CERTIFICATION

Organisations interested in GECA certification using the Good Environmental Choice Australia Ecolabel are encouraged to read carefully through the entire standard. A **checklist at the back of the standard** provides a helpful list of all criteria within the standard.

Please contact us via email enquiries@geca.org.au or complete the [brief form located here](#) on the GECA website to begin the application process. We will then forward an **information pack** and a link to complete an **obligation-free application form**. After receiving the completed application form, an approved GECA Assurance Provider will contact the applicant and give a clear overview of the steps needed to achieve certification and provide a quote for assessment.

Note: GECA reserves the right to refuse, suspend or postpone an application if (a) the organisation does not meet minimum compliance with Environmental Law, Labour Law, Fair Pay, Work, Health and Safety, Lawful behaviour (e.g. pending or ongoing lawsuits), (b) the organisation does not have transparent reporting that is available/accessible on request or (c) the core mission of the organisation and/or product is in conflict with GECA's mission and/or is perceived by GECA to pose a risk to the GECA brand or reputation.

DEFINITIONS & ACRONYMS

% w/w: Percent weight/weight, equivalent to percent by mass.

APEO: Alkylphenol ethoxylate and other alkylphenol derivatives.

Assessment: Process performed by the assessor to determine if the product conforms with the applicable GECA Standard.

Assessment report: Full document composed by the assurance provider that states how the nominated product conforms or fails to conform to GECA standards. This report shall include appropriate and substantial evidence to justify conformance decision.

Assessor: The individual performing the assessment as an employee or contractor of the Assurance Provider.

Assurance provider: Person or organisation accredited by the Independent Appointment Panel performing the conformance assessment.

ASTM: American Society for Testing and Materials.

Aromatic substance: In the context of this standard, aromatic substances are chemicals which contain a planar unsaturated ring of atoms that is stabilized by an interaction of the bonds forming the ring. Such compounds are typified by benzene and its derivatives.

Biodegradable: Organic substances that decompose in the natural environment due to the action of living organisms.

Carcinogenic: Capable of causing cancer. The International Agency for Research on Cancer is the internationally accepted body for the classification of carcinogenic substances. See <http://www.iarc.fr/>.

CAS Number: Chemical Abstract Service number. Unique CAS numbers are assigned to chemical compounds as a means of identification.

Demonstration of Conformance (DoC): Defines sources of evidence acceptable to GECA to demonstrate compliance with each criterion of the standard. An applicant manufacturer must provide documentation to the approved assurance provider in order to demonstrate conformance of its products under assessment. For further information on Demonstration of Conformance requirements see *Appendix A - Evidence of Conformance* at the end of this standard.

EMS: Environmental Management System.

Exception: An exception is granted when an applicant is given permission by the GECA CEO or Board to become certified despite not meeting a particular criterion in the standard as identified during the assessment process, usually with a mandatory transition period.

FSC: Forest Stewardship Council.

GECA: Good Environmental Choice Australia Ltd.

GECA approved assessor: An Assessor that has been accredited to assess against GECAs Scheme Rules.

GECA Mark: The Good Environmental Choice Australia Mark, the mark awarded to applicants complying with GECA ecolabelling standards after assessment by a GECA appointed assurance provider.

GHS: Global Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals.

Halogen: Any element in Group 17 on the periodic table (previously Group VIIA). Halogens include fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine.

Halogenated organic substances/compounds: A substance containing one or more halogens and one or

more carbons.

Heavy metal: Elements including antimony (Sb), arsenic (As), cadmium (Cd), chromium (Cr), cobalt (Co), lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), and tin (Sn).

IARC: International Agency for Research on Cancer.

ISO: International Organization for Standardization.

Mutagenic: Any substance that causes mutations or genetic abnormalities. The criteria for classification of a substance as mutagenic are defined by the National Industry Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS).

Packaging: Materials used for the transport, containment or display of products.

- Primary Packaging constitutes the packaging designed to come into direct contact with the product.
- Secondary Packaging (or group packaging) groups a given number of primary packaging units together into a convenient unit at the point of sale. Secondary packaging typically has one of two roles: it can be a convenient means to replenish the shelves; or it can group primary packaging units into a package for purchase. It can be removed without affecting the product's properties, and generally defines the unit handled by the retailer.
- Tertiary Packaging (or transport packaging) is designed to ensure damage-free handling and transport of a number of sales or grouped packages. The term "transport packaging" does not include road, rail, ship or air containers. Transport packaging is normally a shipping unit such as an outer case, a pallet, or a crate.

PEFC: Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.

Post-consumer material: Post-consumer material is generated by end-users (including households, businesses, industries and institutions) from products that can no longer be used for their intended purpose. Post-consumer material also includes the return of material from distribution chains.

Pre-consumer material: Pre-consumer (sometimes also referred to as post-industrial) material is recovered from the manufacturing process before it is sold to end consumers. It excludes the reutilisation of materials such as rework, regrind or scrap generated in a process and capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated it.

PREP: Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal. www.prep.org.au.

Producer / Manufacturer: For the purpose of this standard these terms comprise both manufacturers of a product as well as service suppliers. These may not necessary be the companies that apply for GECA certification, since certification can also be awarded to retailers of a product. However, for some criteria it is required that the original manufacturer of the product conforms to particular requirements.

REACH: Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals. <http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/regulations/reach>.

Recycled content: Denotes the proportion of a product that is generated from post-consumer and pre-consumer material.

SDGs: (Sustainable Development Goals): Adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, (SDGs) are a new, universal set of goals, targets and indicators that UN member states will be expected to use to frame their agendas and political policies over the next 15 years.

SDS: Safety Data Sheet (formally Material Safety Data Sheet – MSDS). Contains information relating to the composition, classification and risk assessment of the product. To qualify as suitable, the SDS and

information therein must not be more the 5-years old.

Teratogenic: Any substance capable of causing heritable genetic damage, producing congenital deformations or causing birth defects. The criteria for classification of a substance as teratogenic are defined by the National Industry Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS).

VOC / Volatile Organic Compounds: any organic compound (compound which contains carbon) with a boiling point below 250°C measured at 101.3kPa. VOC content of products will be calculated according to the content of ingredients that fit this definition.

ABOUT GECA

At GECA, we help organisations and individuals to *make, buy and do* better for people and planet. We are a purpose-driven not-for-profit that stands for **integrity, independence** and **impact**.

We offer a suite of services designed for anyone committed to continuous improvement in their sustainability, including Australia's only not-for-profit multi-sector ecolabelling program.

GECA has proudly been a [Certified B Corp](#) since November 2015. We are part of a global movement of organisations in over 50 countries across 130 industries trying to make the world a better place.

AN OVERVIEW OF GECA'S STANDARDS

Following ISO 14024: *Environmental labels and declarations - Type I environmental labelling - Principles and procedures* and [ISEAL frameworks](#) for global best practice in ecolabelling, we've developed our rigorous standards, which are independently assessed by GECA Approved Assurance Providers.

ISO 14024 is internationally recognised and has been adopted as a benchmark for life cycle-based ecolabels by GEN, the international federation of ecolabelling bodies. Our standards are relevant to critical Australian industries, and GECA is the only Australian [GEN member](#).

ISO 14024 requires environmental labelling specifications to include criteria that are objective, reasonable and verifiable. The purpose of voluntary environmental labels and declarations is to communicate **verifiable and accurate** information for the numerous environmental and social aspects of goods and services. As required by the [Trade Practices Act](#), the information cannot be misleading. Such transparent information encourages the demand for, and supply of, those products or services that cause less harm to people and planet, thereby stimulating the potential for market-driven continuous environmental and social improvement.

While following ISO 14024 for environmental, health and fit for purpose criteria, **GECA's standards go above and beyond**, including social impact criteria. At GECA, we know that nothing can be truly sustainable if it only looks at environmental impacts and ignores the treatment of people. GECA standards identify the **environmental, human health, fit for purpose and social impact** criteria that the top environmentally and socially performing products or services sold in the Australian marketplace can meet to be recognised by GECA as "environmentally and socially preferable".

All GECA standards are based on life cycle thinking, allowing organisations to understand their sustainability impacts and where they occur within their operation's life cycle, **from raw materials to end-of-life**. We have used these principles to set criteria to address relevant sustainability loads typical in a product category. As such, this standard may also offer guidance for organisations to reduce the harmful impacts of their products or services. Organisations may use the criteria in this standard as an optimisation tool to design and refine the processing, manufacturing, packaging and delivery of their products or services. Also, organisations may uncover other sustainability issues and potential measures within the product's or service's life cycle.

At GECA, we encourage both manufacturers and retailers to include and adapt improvements in their processes and product designs that will enable them to achieve even better sustainability results where technically possible. GECA welcomes feedback where this has occurred.

While all GECA ecolabelling standards are voluntary, nevertheless they contain criteria that address compliance with specific laws. Also, a GECA standard may recognise specific Australian standards. A prerequisite for certification under the GECA ecolabel is to satisfy the relevant Australian and international standards, where required by law. However, Australia's compulsory standards typically focus on fit for purpose criteria instead of assuring environmental and social preferability. **GECA's ecolabelling standards go beyond mandatory Australian standards** and define an environmental and social benchmark for specific product categories.

Where a product or service is certified under our standard, it may display the GECA ecolabel (the "Good Environmental Choice Australia Mark") to show that it has been independently assessed and demonstrates conformance with the environmental and social criteria detailed in this standard.

Products or services certified as conforming to our standards may gain a marketing advantage in government and business procurement programs, as well as greater market recognition in general because of their independently verified sustainability attributes. GECA certification demonstrates leadership and may help to future-proof supply chains and improve economic performance. By generating genuine benefits for people and planet, it is possible to gain increased customer loyalty.

For further information please contact GECA

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The logo consists of a circular emblem with a green leaf and the text 'GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL CHOICE AUSTRALIA' around it, with a red checkmark and 'GECA CERTIFIED' below.

One ecolabel says it all
A better environmental,
healthier and ethical choice

Four green leaf-shaped icons arranged horizontally. The first contains a globe, the second a plus sign, the third a hand, and the fourth a checkmark.

ENVIRONMENT HEALTH SOCIAL & ETHICAL FIT FOR PURPOSE

STRUCTURE OF THE STANDARD

Within each section of this standard, you will find criteria and Demonstrations of Conformance (DoCs). The criteria outline the requirements for the product and applicant company regarding its sustainability performance. The DoCs list the information required to verify compliance with the criteria. Selected sections also contain introductory text which outlines the purpose behind the criteria or the reason for its inclusion in the standard.

REQUESTING ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

DoCs are listed for each criterion within this standard; however, a GECA Approved Assessor may request additional information to ensure conformance on a case-by-case basis. Therefore, the DoCs listed below should be considered a guide to the applicant organisation's minimum DoCs.

RELEVANCE WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Each of GECA's standards is linked to specific [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) set by the United Nations. The 17 SDGs are an internationally agreed framework for urgent action to achieve the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) adopted by all UN member states in 2015, including Australia. The goals address global challenges, including global inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice. Each standard criterion answers specific SDG targets.

Each criterion within this standard answers to a specific SDG target. These specific SDGs are shown below and are highlighted throughout each section of the standard, including the core SDGs related to this standard as further illustrated.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

All SDGs relevant to GECA's Recycled Products standard

If the global population reaches **9.6 billion** by 2050, the equivalent of almost **three planets** will be required to sustain current lifestyles

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



5 GENDER EQUALITY



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



15 LIFE ON LAND



Core SDGs relevant to GECA's Recycled Products standard

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



CORE SDG: 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

GECA Standard Criterion

- Hazardous substances and volatile organic compounds: criteria 4-12
- Workplace health and safety: criterion 26

SDG 3 Specific target 3.9

By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



CORE SDG: 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

GECA Standard Criterion

- Social and legal compliance: criteria 24-30

SDG 10 Specific target 10.2

Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

SDG 10 Specific target 10.3

Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including through eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and actions in this regard.

SDG 10 Specific target 10.4

Adopt policies especially fiscal, wage, and social protection policies and progressively achieve greater equality.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



CORE SDG: 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

GECA Standard Criterion

- Recycled content: criterion 3
- Hazardous substances: criteria 4-12
- Waste management: criterion 22

SDG 12 Specific target 12.2

By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.

SDG 12 Specific target 12.4

Achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks by 2020.

SDG 12 Specific target 12.5

By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.

15 LIFE ON LAND



CORE SDG: 15 LIFE ON LAND

GECA Standard Criterion

- Sustainable forest management, environmental remediation: criteria 14, 15
- Environmental legislation: criterion 24

SDG 15 Specific target 15.1

By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements.

SDG 15 Specific target 15.2

By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.

SDG 15 Specific target 15.5

Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.

BACKGROUND

The rise of circular economy thinking creates new ways of approaching manufacturing and product stewardship across a breadth of markets. Making products from recycled content is a significant step to shift our economy from linear to circular. This standard strongly supports the progression of circular solutions.

When manufacturers create recycled products, they help keep materials out of landfill and groundwater and encourage new circular markets. Minimising the consumption of virgin resources can save water and energy as well as reduce pollution.

However, not all recycled products can be considered equal when it comes to the environmental, health and social impacts generated during their manufacture, use and disposal. So, GECA has developed the Recycled Products standard to define sustainable performance benchmarks for these products throughout their entire life cycle.

The standard sets requirements that aim to provide a benefit by:

- avoiding the illegal harvest of wood and fibre for raw materials
- reducing the use and subsequent release of environmentally harmful substances to the environment at all stages of the product's life cycle, including ozone depleting substances
- encouraging recovery, reuse, recycling and responsible disposal of materials and packaging
- preventing the use of specific hazardous materials and toxic heavy metals such as known carcinogens and mutagens
- ensuring workers and suppliers through the supply chain can expect fair pay, equal opportunity, and a safe working environment

FIT FOR PURPOSE CRITERIA

1. STANDARD CATEGORY SCOPE

1.1 Scope schedule

Criterion 1: The scope of this standard is applicable to products that are manufactured partially or fully from recycled¹ content products and sold on the Australian market.

The standard is applicable to the following categories of recycled/reused content products:

- Glass²
- Plastics
- Rubber
- Timber
- Fill and foundation materials such as sand and gravel

A minimum of 50% of the product by weight must be made up of one of, or a combination of, these materials. This, or these, material/s must be used to show compliance to Criterion 3.

Other products that do not fit the above categories may be considered for certification provided the product satisfies all relevant requirements. Other recycled content products may be added to the scope at a later date.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 1.1: A brief description of the product(s) or product range as they apply to the scope of this standard.

¹ Recycled, reused and reclaimed.

² Glass fines unsuitable for the manufacture of new glass containers only.

2. FITNESS FOR PURPOSE

To be certified, the product(s) must be fit to perform its intended purpose or application. A minimum level of quality and durability is implicit before the GECA ecolabel can be displayed on the product. The applicant must ensure that the product is fit for its intended purpose.

Criterion 2: The product meets or exceeds the requirements of the relevant Australian or International Standard for its intended application; or, where there is no applicable quality standard, the product must demonstrate fitness for purpose or market acceptance or suitability or quality.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 2.1: Independent assessment or test reports, or

DoC 2.2: Report from an independent organisation that demonstrates fitness for purpose, market acceptance, suitability or quality.

3. RECYCLED CONTENT

Reuse and recycling of materials fully or partly avoids the need for raw material extraction and the disposal of waste materials to landfill.

The quantity of recycled material must be significant in order to be recognised as being environmentally preferable to virgin materials. There are sometimes limitations to recycled content use due to strength and other requirements and the following levels have been set as minimum requirements for certification.

Criterion 3: The recycled content component (as defined in Criterion 1) must comply with at least one of the below recycled content requirements.

Material type	Recycled content % w/w
Glass	100
Plastic	90
Rubber	90
Timber	100
Fill and foundation materials such as sand and gravel	100

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 3.1: Declaration of conformance supported by relevant quality control and production documentation.

HEALTH CRITERIA



4. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Products may contain substances that are hazardous to humans or the environment. Criteria in this section are aimed at limiting hazardous chemicals, thereby minimising risks to human health and the environment.

4.1 Banned Substances

Certain substances or compound classes have been identified as particularly harmful for human health and/or the environment.

Criterion 4: In order to promote the reduction of pollutant hazards in the manufacture, use, or disposal of products the following substances (and where appropriate, their compounds) must not be added to products or used during manufacture*:

- Compounds or ingredients that are or may decompose into substances that are classified as a known or suspected endocrine disruptor, carcinogen, mutagen or teratogen, including:
 - any R45 (H350), R46 (H340), R48 (H372, H373), R49 (H350) substances,
 - IARC group 1 or 2A substances,
 - EU consolidated list of C/M/R category 1 or 2 substances
- Substances of Very High Concern listed on the REACH Candidate list (<http://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table>).

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 4.1: SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient added to the product or used during manufacture.

Note:

It is accepted that the above substances may have been used in previous lifecycles. These trace levels may not exceed 0.1% by weight.

*This only refers to the manufacturing process of the ecolabelled products but not to any manufacturing processes in previous lifecycles.

Criterion 5: The following compounds, their functional derivatives or in-situ precursors shall not be added to finished products, their component parts or be used for the manufacturing process

- Aniline based amines;
- Aziridine or polyaziridines;
- Elemental halogens (e.g. fluorine, chlorine);
- Fluoropolymer additives or coatings;
- Methylene chloride or other halogenated organic compounds (e.g. solvents, binding agents);
- Phthalates that at the time of application are classified with risk phrases H360, H361;

- Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE), polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) or any other halogenated flame; retardants
- 1,3-butadiene.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 5.1: SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient added to the product or used during manufacture.

Note:

It is accepted that the above substances may have been used in previous lifecycles. These trace levels may not exceed 0.1% by weight.

*This only refers to the manufacturing process of the ecolabelled product(s) but not to any manufacturing processes in previous lifecycles.

Criterion 6: Treatment of wood.

Wood, including engineered wood products and natural materials, must not be treated or impregnated with fungicides and insecticides that are listed as IARC 2B.

Refer to: <http://monographs.iarc.fr/ENG/Classification/index.php>.

Notes:

- Treatments used in previous lifecycles are not covered by this criterion.
- IARC 1 and IARC 2A substances are addressed under the Hazardous Materials section of this standard.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 6.1: List of all agents used (including CAS numbers and names) to treat wood and other natural materials (to enable spot checks).

DoC 6.2: Signed declaration from an Executive Office stating that any pesticides used are not classified by the IARC as 2B.

Criterion 7: The following heavy metals must not be added to the product or used during manufacture:

- Antimony (Sb)
- Arsenic (As)
- Cadmium (Cd)
- Chromium (Cr)
- Cobalt (Co)
- Copper (Cu)
- Lead (Pb)
- Mercury (Hg)
- Selenium (Se)
- Tin (Sn)

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 7.1: SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient added to the product or used during manufacture.

Note:

It is accepted that the above substances may have been used in previous lifecycles. These trace levels may not exceed publically available safety standards.

4.2 Limited Substances

Criterion 8: The use of the following substances in the production of the product is limited to a total of 0.1% w/w:

- Respiratory and contact sensitisers classified with R42 (H334) or R43 (H317);
- Acutely toxic compounds R23 (H330, H331), R24 (H311), R25 (H301), R26 (H330), R27 (H310) or R28 (H300)

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 8.1: SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient added to the product or used during manufacture.

Criterion 9: The use of aquatic ecotoxic substances with long lasting effects classified with R50/53 (H410), R51/53 (H411), R 52/53 (H412) or R53 (H413) is limited to a total of 1% w/w.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 9.1: SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient added to the product or used during manufacture.

4.3 Asbestos

Inhalation of asbestos fibres may lead to a number of serious health risks, including asbestosis and the cancer mesothelioma.

These criteria apply to recycled construction waste materials only.

Criterion 10: Construction and demolition (C&D) recycling facilities must operate in accordance with an Asbestos Management Plan (AMP) forming part of a wider Environmental Management System (EMS). The AMP must, as a minimum, include:

- Standard Operational Procedures and management practices setting out the measures to be adopted in relation to the control of asbestos at each stage of the recycling process;
- Sampling and Analysis Program (SAP);
- Identification of each person with responsibilities under the asbestos management plan and the person's responsibilities.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 10.1: Evidence of an Asbestos Management Plan and Environmental Management System.

Criterion 11: Recycled sand and fill material must be analysed to contain no more than 0.001% asbestos.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 11.1: Asbestos analysis must be undertaken by an independent NATA certified laboratory and comply with Australian Standard Method for the Qualitative Identification of asbestos in bulk samples (AS4964–2004) or be demonstrated to be able to achieve the equivalent level of results to this Australian Standard³.

4.4 Volatile Organic Compounds

Criterion 12: If intended for indoor use, the products must not produce Total VOC (TVOC) emissions greater than 0.5 mg/m²/hr (as toluene equivalents) when tested to ASTM D5116-06 or ASTM 6670-01.

Demonstration of Conformance

Test reports on VOC emissions using one of the following test methods showing the total VOC emissions:

- ASTM D5116-06 Standard Guide for Small-Scale Environmental Chamber Determination of Volatile Organic Emissions from Indoor Materials/Products; or
- ASTM D6670-01 Standard Practice for Full-Scale Chamber Determination of Volatile Organic Emissions from Indoor Materials/Products.

³ The WA Dept. of Environment and Conservation 'Guidelines for managing asbestos at construction and demolition waste recycling facilities' can be used as guidance.

(https://www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/images/resources/files/2019/10/Publications_Programs_-_Recycled_Construction_Products_-_Guidelines_for_Managing_Asbestos_Recycling.pdf)

ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA



5. MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS

The criteria in this section are intended to address impacts that may occur over the life cycle of a product that can be avoided or mitigated during the design phase of product development. Unless otherwise stated, the requirements in this section apply to each type of material contained in the finished product regardless of weight.

5.1 Adhesives

Adhesives can contain potentially harmful substances and are used in certain products often remaining on the final product.

Criterion 13: Adhesives used in the manufacturing of the product shall not contain alkylphenol ethoxylates or other alkylphenol derivatives, phthalates (that at the time of application are classified with risk phrases H360, H361), or halogenated volatile organic compounds.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 13.1: SDS of the adhesive; or

DoC 13.2: A copy of relevant GECA or other relevant ecolabel certificate.

5.2 Timber

The application of sustainable management principles helps to safeguard forests by minimising disturbance of natural eco-systems and biodiversity. Third party certifications are useful tools to verify sustainable forest management.

This criterion applies to non-recycled timber components.

Criterion 14: All virgin wood fibre must be covered by valid sustainable forest management and/or chain of custody certificates issued by an independent third-party certification scheme such as FSC, PEFC or equivalent.

Where certification schemes allow mixing of certified material, recycled materials and uncertified materials, the proportion of uncertified material shall not exceed 50%. Such uncertified material shall be covered by a verification system which ensures that it is legally sourced and meets any other requirement of the certification scheme with respect to uncertified material. The certification bodies issuing forest and/or chain of custody certificates shall be accredited/recognised by that certification scheme.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 14.1: Signed declaration of compliance, supported by relevant certificates or other evidence of forest management certification and/or chain of custody certification (to confirm the required amount of virgin fibre that is used in the product is from a certified sustainably managed source); and relevant certificates or other evidence to confirm that the wood originates from legal sources.

5.3 Quarried Materials

Quarrying raw materials can have significant impacts on the environment including destruction of habitat, wastewater and surface water discharges, and generation of dust noise and vibration.

This criterion applies to products with a virgin quarried raw materials component of >20%.

Criterion 15: Virgin quarried raw materials (gypsum, limestone etc.) in the final product must come from operations:

- With a documented remediation program
- Which have implemented a management system to minimise adverse effects from noise, vibration, dust, and discharges to water and land.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 15.1: Information about the virgin quarried material including type of material, supplier and geographical location of mine.

DoC 15.2: Evidence of a documented mine remediation program.

DoC 15.3: Evidence of the relevant management plans.

5.4 Cement

Cement production is both resource and energy-intensive. Significant amounts of carbon dioxide are released from the limestone during the calcinations process and from the combustion of fuels in the kiln.

This criterion applies to products with a cement component of >20%.

Criterion 16: The binder used in the cement component in the product shall consist of at least 20% 'supplementary cementitious materials' (SCM) (processed by-products such as fly ash or slag or silica fume). Mineral addition to the cement can also be counted towards Portland clinker reduction.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 16.1: Information about the type and amount of SCM or in the cement that is used to reduce the Portland clinker content in the product.

5.5 Ozone Depleting Substances

Ozone depletion is a significant environmental concern. Although ozone depleting substances have largely been phased out in most countries, some substances have not yet been banned.

Criterion 17: The product must not contain any substances listed in the Montreal Protocol Annexes A, B, C or E including CFCs, HCFCs, hydrobromofluorocarbons, halons, methyl bromide, carbon tetrachloride, 1,1,1trichloroethane (methyl chloroform) and bromochloromethane.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 17.1: Signed declaration that the products do not contain any of the substances listed in the Montreal Protocol Annexes A, B, C or E supported by relevant SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient.

Substances used will be checked against Annexes A, B, C and E of the Montreal Protocol:
<https://ozone.unep.org/treaties/montreal-protocol/articles/annex-controlled-substances>

6. PACKAGING AND PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

6.1 Packaging

Packaging may present a significant contribution to the environmental load of a product at several points throughout the product life cycle, including material inputs and disposal.

Criterion 18: Packaging must comply with at least one of the following:

- Each material constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging used, must contain at least 50% recycled content by weight;
- Each material constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging used, must be derived from plant-based materials (e.g. PLA plastics);
- Each material constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging used, must be compostable to a relevant ASTM or ISO standard;
- Each material constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging used, must be biodegradable to a relevant ASTM or ISO standard such as ASTM D5511; or
- Each separable item constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging, must be recyclable. This may be demonstrated using the Australian Packaging Covenant's Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal (PREP).

Paper and cardboard packaging must be either certified under recognised forest certification scheme (e.g. FSC or PEFC) or contain at least 30% recycled content by weight.

Material used for the transport of products (tertiary packaging) and whose disposal is not the responsibility of the end consumer may be excepted from the above requirements if they are re-used by the applicant, or are recyclable in specialist recycling facilities.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 18.1: Details of materials used in the product and their manufacture, including information on the input of recycled and virgin materials reported by weight if applicable. The recycled content can be averaged over a 12-month period to find the amount or range of recycled content; and /or

DoC 18.2: Evidence of recyclability or copy of PREP Assessment Report; and/or

DoC 18.3: Evidence of certification under relevant forest certification scheme; and/or

DoC 18.4: Details of re-use programs for transport materials within the applicant company.

Criterion 19: Plastic packaging must be marked with a plastics identification code. It is not mandatory for small components including caps and pump-spray nozzles to be marked.

Packaging made from PLA plastic must be labelled with the following instructions for disposal: "This packaging is made of PLA plastic. Please dispose of in a municipal organic waste stream."

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 19.1: Visual inspection of each plastic component of the packaging.

Criterion 20: Packaging must not be pressurised or require the use of propellants.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 20.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the manufacturing company, stating that the packaging is not pressurised and does not require the use of propellants.

6.2 Product Stewardship

Product stewardship and similar programs are likely to increase the actual recycling rate of the product at the end of its life and decrease contribution to landfill.

Criterion 21: The applicant shall:

- accept their product without additional cost (excluding transportation costs) for further recycling in a specialist recycling facility; or
- have arrangements with a local recycler to accept the product; or
- have an established product stewardship program. Products collected under the scheme shall not be disposed of in landfill or by incineration; or
- have contractual arrangements with a third party who are able to recycle or refurbish the item. Contractual arrangements with the third party should nominate the estimated volume of product to be processed annually.

Overall, the applicant must demonstrate that the necessary arrangements are in place to deliver the claims of the product stewardship program. Details relating to the above product stewardship program requirements and contact details for the programme operator(s) must also be made publically available from the official company website and/or in product information supplied at point of sale.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 21.1: Copy of instructions outlining the take back service including the costs, contact details of the take-back service, relevant website documentation; and

DoC 21.2: Copy of contractual agreements existing between the applicant(s) with either of the following: third party suppliers, transport companies, charities, second hand retailers or refurbishment companies.

6.3 Waste Management

Waste management as part of the manufacturing process can be a key factor in reducing a manufacturer's environmental impact and operating costs.

Criterion 22: The manufacturer must have effective policies and procedures to minimise waste, including measures to recycle waste materials from the production process.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 22.1: A copy of relevant policies and procedures in use by the company, with relevant sections highlighted.

6.4 Environmental Claims

Environmental claims are one of the tools utilised by consumers when attempting to make environmentally preferable choices and therefore it is essential that such claims are true and substantiated. All claims must be relevant to the product and verifiable to GECA or a GECA appointed assessor.

Criterion 23: Any environmental claims beyond the scope of this Standard that have been applied to a product must comply with ISO 14021, and the applicant must be able to verify these claims to GECA.

Any product making greenhouse related claims must comply with ISO 14064-3 “Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions” and be able to verify these claims to GECA.

For claims outside the scope of ISO 14021 or ISO 14064, clear statement of the test method and the conditions under which the product was tested is required, along with a clear explanation of the relevance of the test method to the environmental claim.

The applicant or manufacturer must not claim that the product is ‘odour free’, ‘low odour’, ‘no odour’ or similar if odour-masking agents are used.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 23.1: A copy of any relevant advertising material currently in use; and

DoC 23.2: Relevant documentation confirming the grounds of the claim and its compliance with this criterion.

SOCIAL CRITERIA



7. SOCIAL AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

This section addresses compliance with the legal and social attributes of the producer and the applicant company; it also engages with the supply chain to ensure human and labour rights are upheld. These criteria are common to all GECA standards. The social aspect partially addresses the third dimension of sustainability - society. This concept was first understood by producers under the name "Corporate Social Responsibility" (CSR). In this standard, social criteria include laws for equal opportunity, safety and protection of workers, and compliance with human and labour rights. GECA certification cannot be given to any company that illegally exploits workers or their families.

Note: In cases where there is a conflict between GECA requirements in this section and relevant legislation or regulations introduced by governments and agencies, national legislation overrides state legislation and state legislation overrides regulations and standards issued by GECA. Where the GECA requirements go further than the applicable legislation, the producer and/or applicant company shall comply with applicable law while trying as far as possible to act in accordance with the spirit of the GECA requirements.

7.1 Environmental Legislation

Criterion 24: The producer of the product and applicant company shall as per law comply with relevant environmental legislation and government orders at the Local, State, and Commonwealth levels (if these have been issued). Where a producer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's environmental regulations that apply. Where the producer has been found guilty of a breach of any environmental legislation or permit(s) within the last two years, there must be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 24.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance with applicable environmental legislation and government orders;

DoC 24.2: Signed declaration disclosing any breaches of environmental legislation or permits and the date of the breach. Applicant shall:

DoC 24.3: Provide a Legal Register listing applicable environmental legislation (including applicable Regulations under that legislation) in, or as an attachment to the above two declarations (DoC 24.1 and DoC 24.2). The Legal Register shall:

- For each applicable Act and Regulation listed, state whether the manufacturer and applicant company comply; or have a certified ISO 14001, Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) or equivalent environmental management system in place; and;
- List relevant permits granted by the EPA or an equivalent national, state or local body;

DoC 24.4: Evidence of corrective action following identification of a breach of environmental legislation, if applicable.

Note:

In this criterion, 'Regulation' means an entire regulatory instrument (for example, the Environmentally Hazardous Chemicals Regulation 2008) and not the individual sections, provisions or clauses of a regulatory instrument.

7.2 Minimum entitlement including wages

Criterion 25: All employees and contractors must receive at least the applicable minimum wage including penalty rates, allowances and superannuation and be provided with all other minimum entitlements including in relation to hours, leave and termination. All employees shall be covered by a Federal or State award, a certified industrial agreement or registered agreement as determined by the Australian Government Workplace Authority or a State or Territory Workplace Relations Agency, or an agreement that complies with Fair Work Act 2009 section 61 – National Employment Standards. A manufacturer/applicant company shall demonstrate compliance to the following requirements as taken from the [ILO](#) Convention: Convention 100 – Equal Remuneration Convention.

Where a producer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply.

Where a producer/applicant company or a third party has identified a breach of applicable legislation, including underpayment of wages within the last two years, there shall be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 25.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation confirming compliance with all minimum entitlements including wages; and

DoC 25.2: List of applicable awards, certified industrial agreements or registered agreements and the number of workers to which they apply, and number of workers not covered by such; and

DoC 25.3: Text or template of a typical workplace agreement offered to employees of the company; and sample payslips; and

DoC 25.4: Evidence of corrective action following identification of a breach of legislation, if applicable.

7.3 Workplace Health and Safety

Criterion 26: A manufacturer/ applicant company shall demonstrate compliance to the following requirements as taken from the ILO Conventions:

a) Convention 155 – Occupational Safety and Health and its accompanying Recommendation No. 164;

b) Convention 161 – Occupational Health Services and its accompanying Recommendation No. 171

And general compliance with applicable State or Territory Legislation concerning Occupational, Health and Safety (OHS) / Work Health and Safety (WHS) and/or the Commonwealth Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988, where applicable. Where a manufacturer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply. Where a producer/applicant company has been found guilty of a breach of relevant legislation within the last 2 years, there shall be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 26.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance to workplace legislation and government orders, as well as declaration of any breaches of legislation and the date of the breach. Applicants shall list all applicable legislation in, or as an attachment to, this declaration;

DoC 26.2: Copy of the company Occupational / Workplace H&S policy and procedures;

DoC 26.3: Copy of employee induction records, training records, meeting records and risk assessments; or current ISO 45001:2018 (or former OHSAS 18001), AS/NZS 4801 or equivalent certification; or third-party certification stating compliance to Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 or equivalent jurisdiction specific legislation; and

DoC 26.4: Evidence of corrective action following a breach of legislation, if applicable; and

DoC 26.5: WHS incidents register

7.4 Equal Opportunity

Criterion 27: The manufacturer/applicant company shall demonstrate general compliance with the requirements of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975, Sex Discrimination Act 1984, Disability Discrimination Act 1992, Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Act 1999, and complementary State Legislation. The manufacturer cannot be in the list of 'named' or non-compliant employers under the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012. Where a manufacturer /applicant company is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply. Where a manufacturer has been found guilty of a breach of relevant legislation within the last two years, there shall be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 27.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance with above legislation;

DoC 27.2: Copy of relevant company policies and procedures;

DoC 27.3: Evidence of corrective action following a breach of legislation, if applicable; and

DoC 27.4: The assessor will verify that the company does not appear on the following list: [Non-compliant list | WGEA](#)

7.5 Lawful Conduct

Criterion 28: The manufacturer/applicant company shall not have been convicted of any breach of criminal law, any breach of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 or the Corporations Act 2001, including prosecution or de-listing by the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX or international equivalent). Where a manufacturer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply. Where a producer has been found guilty of a breach of relevant legislation within the last two years, there must be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 28.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance with above legislation; and

DoC 28.2: Evidence of corrective action following a guilty verdict, if applicable.

7.6 Modern Slavery

Criterion 29: The applicant company shall promote the elimination of Modern Slavery through collaboration with their supply chain, in accordance with the Australian Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2018 or NSW Modern Slavery Act 2018 and the following requirements as taken from the ILO Conventions:

- a) Conventions 29 and 105 – Elimination of Forced and Compulsory Labour; and
- b) Convention 182 – Worst Forms of Child Labour

Where an applicant has found instances of modern slavery in their business operations and or supply chains in the past two years, there shall be evidence of corrective action.

This criterion shall be valid for applicant companies of any size and is not restricted to any annual revenue threshold.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 29.1: A copy of the published Modern Slavery Statement from within the previous 12 months. The Modern Slavery Statement shall comply with the seven mandatory criteria of the Act as below:

- a) Identify the reporting entity
- b) Describe reporting entity's structure, operations and supply chains
- c) Describe the risks of modern slavery practices in the operations and supply chains of the reporting entity and any entities it owns or controls
- d) Describe the actions taken by the reporting entity and any entities it owns or controls to assess and address these risks, including due diligence and remediation processes
- e) Describe how the reporting entity assesses the effectiveness of these actions
- f) Describe the process of consultation with any entities the reporting entity owns or controls
- g) In addition to the modern slavery report, some supporting documents may be asked to be cited at the main site of manufacturing during the on-site assessment:

If a copy of the Modern Slavery Statement is unable to be presented, a rationale will be required. Also in cases where supportive documentation is unavailable at the time of certification, a grace period of three years or one certification period may be granted (no more than one certification period will be given).

The documents may include but not limited to the following documentation to support the modern slavery report:

- h) Employment records
- i) List of contractors
- j) Leave entitlements policy
- k) Any relevant Human Resources policy
- l) Payslips/ wage scales/ remuneration policy
- m) Minimum age of employment policy
- n) Any other relevant information

Where an organisation has not previously reported on the Australian Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2018 or NSW Modern Slavery Act 2018 and does not meet the reporting threshold of the NSW or

Commonwealth legislation, the organisation shall publish a Modern Slavery Statement within three years of certification on a voluntary basis. A grace period of up to one cycle of certification may be granted depending on the company's reporting period.

For more information about modern slavery and the *Modern Slavery Act 2018*, please see [News and Resources \(modernslaveryregister.gov.au\)](https://modernslaveryregister.gov.au).

7.7 Human Rights including Labour Rights

Criterion 30: The manufacturer/applicant company shall respect internationally recognised human rights, including labour rights, including the rights set out in:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

In particular, this includes the following aspects and ILO conventions: No child/forced/bonded labour (ILO 29 and 105), Minimum age convention (ILO 138), Worst forms of child labour (ILO 182), Health and safety procedures and training (155, 161 and 171), Right of freedom of association (ILO 87 and 98), Non-discrimination (ILO 100 and 111), Discipline/harassment and grievance procedures, Fair working hours and compensation, Anti-corruption and bribery.

The applicant company shall also take steps to ensure human rights are respected in its supply chain. Where an applicant has been found to breach this criterion in the past two years, there must be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 30.1: The manufacturer/applicant company shall provide evidence of its commitments to human rights including labour rights (e.g. policies, published reports containing disclosure in relation to human rights (e.g. sustainability report) commitments to international initiatives such as the UN Global Compact); and

DoC 30.2: The manufacturer/applicant shall provide a map of at least one tier of its supply chain; and

DoC 30.3: Evidence of implementation of a Supplier 'Code of Conduct'; Code of conduct to include Human and Labour Rights, Health and Safety of workers; and

DoC 30.4: Evidence of assessment of suppliers in relation to human rights and recommendations for improvements in their supply chain; and

DoC 30.5: Evidence of [ISO20400](https://www.iso.org/standard/68554.html) implementation; or

- Evidence of valid [SA8000® Standard](https://www.sa8000.com/), or other equivalent certification; or
- Evidence of being a signatory to the [UN Global Compact](https://www.unglobalcompact.org/); or
- [SEDEX](https://www.seDEX.com/) membership ; or
- [GRI 400](https://www.gri400.org/) Report (Global Report Initiative); and

If any of DoC 30.5 cannot be provided, manufacturer/ applicant shall provide:

DoC 30.6: Evidence of commitment to achieve SA 8000 certification within one year; or

DoC 30.7: Evidence of becoming a signatory to the UN Global Compact within six months;
and

DoC 30.8: Evidence of corrective action, if applicable.

GECA acknowledges that this is an emerging area of compliance and conformance. Therefore, alternative certifications, standards, ethical membership organisations or compliance reporting may be recognised as demonstration of conformance where an exception is granted by the GECA Board.

EVIDENCE OF CONFORMANCE

Demonstration of Conformance (DoC)

This section lists the sources of evidence to be considered during an assessment to establish conformance against GECA's standards. This list is provided to guide the applicant through the standard's requirements and facilitate the preparation of an application. The DoC requirements are specified along with each criterion in the standard define specific sources of evidence acceptable to GECA. In cases where criteria offer several DoC requirements, it is the sole decision of the appointed assurance provider to choose the appropriate option throughout the preliminary stage of the assessment. If none of the recommended DoC requirements stipulated for a particular criterion in the standard is applicable for a product under assessment, then the appointed assurance provider may choose an alternative but equivalent source of evidence. In cases where alternative sources of evidence have been accepted for the verification of the product, the assurance provider will inform GECA by providing a report on the details as far as appropriate. GECA will use this information to continuously improve the DoC requirements stipulated by that standard.

All laboratory testing and analysis shall be carried out by a [NATA](#) accredited laboratory. For tests carried out overseas, all analysis shall be carried out by a reputable lab accredited by an [ILAC](#).

The applicant/manufacturer shall have processes in place to ensure on-going compliance with the criteria in this standard; for example in relation to hazardous substances, having a process in place for completing a checklist (signed and dated by the authorised person) that lists all the substances and requirements in that section prior to using in/with the GECA product/s. The process may be carried out by relevant supplier/s of relevant material/s if there is no in-house capacity within the organisation being assessed to carry out this process. Documented information about any communication in regards to this process (i.e. between applicant and suppliers) shall be maintained.

The DoC requirements are summarised in Appendix A to assist applicants in preparing documentation for the verification process with a GECA designated assessor.

APPENDIX A

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The application checklist guides the applicant through the application and verification process. An applicant may collect all information required for the verification of the product and attach the relevant documents to their application. The table below summarises the DoC requirements for each criterion in the standard.

Criterion No.	Criterion Content	Demonstration of Conformance See standard body for details	Evidence Attached	Complies Y/N or NA
FIT FOR PURPOSE CRITERIA				
1. Category Scope				
Criterion 1	Range and composition of products	A brief description of the product(s) or product range as they apply to the scope of this standard.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Fitness for Purpose				
Criterion 2	Applicable Australian standard or international equivalent	Independent assessment or test reports; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Report from an independent organisation that demonstrates fitness for purpose, market acceptance, suitability or quality.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Recycled Content				
Criterion 3	Recycled content requirements for relevant materials	Declaration of conformance supported by relevant quality control and production documentation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
HEALTH CRITERIA				
4. Banned Substances				
Criterion 4	No use of known or suspected endocrine disruptor, carcinogen, mutagen or teratogen or SVHCs	SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient added to the product or used during manufacture.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 5	List of substances not to be added or used during manufacture of the product	SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient added to the product or used during manufacture.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

5. Treatment of Wood Products				
Criterion 6	Restrictions on fungicides and insecticides	List of all agents used (including CAS numbers and names) to treat wood and other natural materials (to enable spot checks).	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Signed declaration from an Executive Office stating that any pesticides used are not classified by the IARC as 2B.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Heavy Metals				
Criterion 7	Restriction on use of heavy metals	SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient added to the product or used during manufacture.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Limited Substances				
Criterion 8	Restrictions on respiratory and contact sensitisers, and acutely toxic compounds (0.1%)	SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient added to the product or used during manufacture.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 9	Restriction on aquatic ecotoxic substances (1%)	SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient added to the product or used during manufacture.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.Asbestos				
Criterion 10	Asbestos Management Plan	Evidence of an Asbestos Management Plan and Environmental Management System.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 11	Restriction on asbestos traces/contamination	Asbestos analysis must be undertaken by an independent NATA certified laboratory and comply with Australian Standard Method for the Qualitative Identification of asbestos in bulk samples (AS4964–2004) or be demonstrated to be able to achieve the equivalent level of results to this Australian Standard.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 12	VOC limit for products used indoors	Test reports on VOC emissions using one of the following test methods showing the total VOC emissions: ASTM D5116-06 or ASTM D6670-01.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA				
9. Adhesives				
Criterion 13	No APEOs, phthalates (that at the time of application are classified with risk phrases H360, H361), or halogenated volatile organic compounds	SDS of the adhesive; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		A copy of relevant GECA or other relevant ecolabel certificate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Timber				
Criterion 14	Sustainable sources of virgin wood-fibre	Signed declaration of compliance, supported by relevant certificates or other evidence of forest management certification and/or chain of custody certification (to confirm the required amount of virgin fibre that is used in the product is from a certified sustainably managed source); and relevant certificates or other evidence to confirm that the wood originates from legal sources.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Quarried Materials				
Criterion 15	Mine remediation program and management system for virgin quarried materials	Information about the virgin quarried material including type of material, supplier and geographical location of mine.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of a documented mine remediation program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of the relevant management plans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12. Cement				
Criterion 16	Supplementary cementitious materials	Information about the type and amount of SCM or in the cement that is used to reduce the Portland clinker content in the product.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

13. Ozone Depleting Substances				
Criterion 17	No ozone depleting substances	Signed declaration that the products do not contain any of the substances listed in the Montreal Protocol Annexes A, B, C or E supported by relevant SDS, chemical names and/or CAS numbers for each ingredient.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 18	Packaging	Details of materials used as packaging, including information on the input of recycled and virgin materials reported by weight if applicable. The recycled content can be averaged over a 12 month period to find the amount or range of recycled content; and / or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of recyclability or copy of PREP Assessment Report; and/or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of certification under relevant forest certification scheme; and/or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Details of re-use programs for transport materials within the applicant company.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 19	Plastic identification codes	Visual inspection of each plastic component of the packaging	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 20	Packaging must not be pressurised or require the use of propellants	Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the manufacturing company, stating that the packaging is not pressurised and does not require the use of propellants.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Product Stewardship				
Criterion 21	Product stewardship and/or take back/recycling arrangements	Copy of instructions outlining the take back service including the costs, contact details of the take-back service, relevant website documentation; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	

		Copy of contractual agreements existing between the applicant(s) with either of the following: third party suppliers, transport companies, charities, second hand retailers or refurbishment companies	<input type="checkbox"/>	
15. Waste Management				
Criterion 22	Effective policies and procedures to minimise waste	A copy of relevant policies and procedures in use by the company, with relevant sections highlighted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
16. Environmental Claims				
Criterion 23	Public claims made by applicant	A copy of any relevant advertising material currently in use; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Relevant documentation confirming the grounds of the claim and its compliance with this criterion.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
SOCIAL CRITERIA				
17. Social and Legal Compliance				
Criterion 24	Environmental legislation	Signed declaration confirming conformance to the criterion; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Signed declaration disclosing any breaches of environmental legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Legal register listing applicable environmental legislation (including applicable Regulations under that legislation)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 25	Minimum entitlement including wages	Signed declaration confirming conformance to the criterion; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		List of applicable awards, industrial and registered agreements and number of workers who are covered and not covered	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Text or template of the typical workplace agreement offered to employees, and sample payslips	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Criterion 26	Work health and safety	Signed declaration stating compliance to workplace legislation and government orders, as well as declaration of any breaches of legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		OHS/WHS policies and procedures; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Copy of employee induction records, training records, meeting records and risk assessments; or current ISO 45001:2018 (or former OHSAS 18001), AS/NZS 4801 or equivalent certification; or third-party certification stating compliance to Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 or equivalent jurisdiction specific legislation; and		
		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		WHS Incidents register	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 27	Equal opportunity	Signed declaration confirming conformance to the criterion and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Copy of relevant policies and procedures and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)		
		The assessor will verify that the company does not appear on the WGEA non-compliant list	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 28	Lawful conduct	Signed declaration confirming conformance to the criterion and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 29	Modern slavery	Copy of the published Modern Slavery Statement from within the previous 12 months		
Criterion 30	Human and labour rights	Evidence of commitments to human rights including labour rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Map of at least one tier of their supply chain; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	

		Evidence of implementation of a Supplier Code of Conduct, and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of assessment of suppliers in relation to human rights and recommendations for improvements in their supply chain	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of ISO20400 implementation; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of valid SA8000® Standard certification or other equivalent certification; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of being a signatory to the UN Global Compact	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		SEDEX Membership, or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		GRI 400 Report; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of commitment to achieve SA8000® Standard certification within one year	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of becoming a signatory to the UN Global Compact within six months; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable).	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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Our vision is for a sustainable
future for people and planet

