

Core Sustainable Development Goals



Infant Mattresses Standard

Standard No: IMv.1-2022

Type 1 ecolabel standard in accordance with ISO 14024

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(Good Environmental Choice Australia Ltd)



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Infant Mattresses Standard

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1.0	November 2022	Original version

HOW TO APPLY FOR GECA CERTIFICATION

Organisations interested in GECA certification using the 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

Alloy: A combination of two or more elements, one of which is a metal. This includes binary, tertiary and quaternary alloys (two, three and four elements respectively). The result is a metallic substance with properties different from those of its components.

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 the 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 International: American Society for Testing and Materials is an international standards organisation that develops and publishes voluntary consensus technical standards for a wide range of materials, products, systems, and services.

Bassinet: An infant-holder device that includes a support surface and sides, intended to accommodate the infant in a supine position, during the period before the infant can sit up.

CAS: CAS registry numbers are unique numerical identifiers for chemical elements, compounds, polymers, biological sequences, mixtures and alloys. They are also referred to as CAS numbers or CAS RNs. CAS standards for Chemical Abstract Service, which is a division of the American Chemical Society.

CITES: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

COD: Chemical oxygen demand is the equivalent mass of oxygen required to oxidise dissolved and suspended organic matter under defined conditions, typically using dichromate or permanganate as the oxidising agent.

Cot (US: crib): A small bed for a baby or young child with high bars around the side to prevent a child from falling out.

EMAS: Eco-Management and Audit Scheme.

EMS: Environmental Management System.

EPA: [Environmental Protection Authority](#).

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

Flat Horizontal Sleeping Surfaces: Products which provide a firm and flat sleeping surface for infants; as opposed to uneven surfaces that may be found in carry cots, pram bodies, inflatable mattresses, water beds, inclined sleepers, travel and compact bassinets, in-bed sleepers, infant mattresses used for medical purposes, reused mattresses, slings, and hammocks.

Fibre Boards: Boards composed of plant fibres, such as timbers or chaffs. According to the density, they are categorised 'into insulation boards (IB)', 'medium density fibre boards (MDF)' and 'hard boards (HB)'.

FSC: [Forest Stewardship Council](#)

GREENGUARD Certification: Certification program by [UL Environment](#) that ensures low chemical and particle emissions of products for indoor use.

IARC: [International Agency for Research on Cancer.](#)

ILAC: [International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation.](#)

ILO: [International Labour Organisation.](#)

Halogens: Chlorine (Cl), fluorine (F), bromine (Br), iodine (I) and astatine (At).

Label: means the Good Environmental Choice Australia Ecolabel.

MSDS: Material Safety Data Sheet.

NATA: [National Association of Testing Authorities](#)

OSHA: [Occupational Safety and Health Administration.](#)

Particle Boards: Boards made from wood fragments (chips or shavings) formed and pressed into sheet form and bonded together with resin.

PEFC: [Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.](#)

PREP: [Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal.](#)

Rapidly renewable: materials for which 'mature' harvest can occur on a ten-year cycle or less.

Recycled Content includes

- **Post-Consumer:** Material generated by households, or by commercial, industrial and institutional facilities in their role as end-users of the product, which can no longer be used for its intended purpose. This includes returns of material from the distribution chain.
- **Pre-Consumer:** Material diverted from the waste stream during a manufacturing process. Excluded is reutilisation of materials such as rework, reground or scrap generated in a process and capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated it.

Soft Bedding: Soft bedding includes products, such as but not limited to, pillows, thick blankets, comforters, and quilts, which may elevate the risk of sleep-suffocation of infants.

SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals): [The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are [the 17 SDGs](#), which are a set of goals, targets and indicators.

SDS (previously MSDS): Safety Data Sheet.

STEL (Exposure Standard - Short Term Exposure Limit): A 15-minute TWA exposure which should not be exceeded at any time during a working day even if the eight-hour TWA average is within the TWA exposure standard. Exposures at the STEL should not be longer than 15 minutes and should not be repeated more than four times per day. There should be at least 60 minutes between successive exposures at the STEL.

Timber or Wood: Includes wood sourced from raw (virgin) forest timbers, timbers sourced from sustainable forestry, or waste wood materials including particle boards, fibre boards and edge-glued panels. Also includes used timber/wood.

TOC: Total Organic Content, defined as the total amount of organic substances dissolved in a water sample.

TWA (Exposure Standard - Time-Weighted Average): The average airborne concentration of a particular substance when calculated over a normal eight-hour working day, for a five-day working week.

VOC: Volatile Organic Compounds are any organic compound (a 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.

Waste Wood: Residual products generated by thinning out timbers, cutting out branches and processing timber and withdrawn timbers after use, excluding withered or dead trees.

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



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.

In addition to the criteria within this published version of the standard, carbon criteria will be adopted into the standard (and all other GECA standards within the next 12 months). Licensees will be notified of any changes.

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 answer 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 

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

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

All SDGs relevant to GECA's Infant Mattresses standard

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 Infant Mattresses standard



CORE SDG: 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

GECA Standard Criterion

- Formaldehyde and VOC missions: criteria 7-9
- Hazardous and prohibited substances: criteria 10-12
- Workplace health and safety: criterion 32

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.



CORE SDG: 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

GECA Standard Criterion

- Social and legal compliance: criteria 30-36

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.



CORE SDG: 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

GECA Standard Criterion

- Resource efficiency: criterion 21
- Packaging, end of life and product stewardship: criteria 22-28

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.

SDG 12 Specific target 12.6

Encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices and sustainability reporting by 2030.



CORE SDG: 15 LIFE ON LAND

GECA Standard Criterion

- Sourcing of natural materials: criterion 13
- Resource efficiency: criterion 21
- Environmental legislation: criterion 30

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 15.5

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

Infant mattresses can be categorised in different product groups depending on their specific use, material composition, and product characteristics across Australia and globally. Despite these differences, common safety requirements must be met to guarantee the intended use. Infant mattress safety is a very sensitive topic where research shows that a wide range of physical, chemical, and quality requirements play a critical role. When we are looking for infant mattresses, we want the best possible option for our children, but do we consider if the product addresses relevant safety, fit for purpose, human health, environmental and social impacts during its life cycle?

Firmness of an infant mattress is an important factor to secure its safety. If the mattress is soft, the head will compress into the surface and potentially block the baby's airway; however, if the mattress is firm, this is not likely to happen. Recent research suggest that soft crib mattresses have been linked to high risks of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). Although there are no mandatory safety requirements for infant mattresses in Australia, this standard recognises voluntary firmness requirements to mitigate potential risks.

The manufacture, use, and disposal of infant mattress products can negatively impact our environment and health, depending on factors such as the choice of raw materials used, padding materials, coatings, textiles, and adhesives. Manufacturers may also use hazardous treatments or manage their energy and water use poorly during production.

Developments in natural fibres, padding materials, metal, and material recycling and recovery have encouraged innovation in infant mattress design and manufacture, encouraging products to incorporate more sustainable practices along their supply chain. These products often equal or surpass traditional products in some aspects of strength, durability and function.

However, manufacturers can still significantly reduce sustainability impacts across these products' entire life cycle. This standard refers to the manufacture of the products and their constituent materials, the period of actual use and disposal.

When a product is certified against GECA's **Infant Mattress Standard**, consumers can be sure that the product has been assessed to meet environmental, human health and social impact criteria, while also proving that it performs as promised.

GECA certification removes doubt and confusion and makes identifying environmentally and socially preferable products easier.

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

- Demonstrating performance and safety for the Australian market.
- Avoiding the illegal harvest of natural materials 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.
- Reducing the presence and release of substances harmful to human health.
- Ensuring workers and suppliers through the supply chain can expect fair pay, equal opportunity, and a safe working environment.
- Encouraging recovery, reuse, recycling and responsible disposal of unwanted product and packaging.

FIT FOR PURPOSE CRITERIA



1. STANDARD CATEGORY SCOPE

1.1 Scope Schedule

Criterion 1: This standard is applicable to infant mattresses products, including but not limited to:

- Cot and crib mattresses
- Household cot mattresses
- Mattresses for Bassinets
- Other flat sleeping surfaces

Exclusions and Notes

- Other environmentally innovative infant mattresses that do not fit the above categories may be considered for certification provided the product fulfils the requirements of all relevant sections of this Standard.
- This standard excludes products that do not have a flat horizontal sleep surface such as:
 - carry cots,
 - pram bodies,
 - inflatable mattresses,
 - water beds, inclined sleepers,
 - travel and compact bassinets,
 - in-bed sleepers,
 - infant mattresses used for medical purposes,
 - reused mattresses,
 - slings,
 - and hammocks.
- Other categories may be added at a later date.
- Cot mattress can be defined as a mattress with the length shorter than 1400 mm for the use of an infant, baby, or very young child.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 1.1: Detailed description of the product(s) or product range; and

DoC 1.2: Explanation of applicability of the product(s) to the scope of this standard.

2. FITNESS FOR PURPOSE

To be certified, the product(s) shall be fit to perform its intended purpose or application. A minimum level of quality, safety and durability is implicit before the Environmental Choice Australia Ecolabel can be displayed on the product. The producer/manufacturer shall ensure that the product is fit for its intended purpose.

2.1 Applicable Standards and Demonstrated Fitness and Safety

Criterion 2: The product shall meet or exceed performance and safety requirements of the relevant Australian standard (or equivalent international standard), or the product shall meet the applicable and accepted standard in its target market if it is to be exported.

Relevant cot and crib mattress standards include, but are not limited to:

- AS 8811.1:2013: Methods of testing infant products - Method 1: Sleep surfaces - Test for firmness
- ISO 23767:2021: Children's furniture — Mattresses for cots and cribs — Safety

And/or

- ASTM F2933-21a: Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Crib Mattresses.
- ASTM F2194-16: Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bassinets and Cradles

Note: This standard does not address all the safety concerns associated with the use of the product. If additional safety requirements at a local, national, and regional level arise for the intended market, these shall be applicable to the corresponding product. It is the responsibility of the licensee to establish appropriate safety and health practices, as well as to determine what regulatory limitations, if any, may exist outside Australia.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 2.1: A detailed description of the product as it relates to relevant Australian (or other) Standards. If there is no applicable Australian standard (or international equivalent), or if it is not legally required, this should be clearly stated.

(One of the following forms of evidence, is required as a minimum)

DoC 2.2: Independent assessment or test reports confirming conformance with the relevant Australian or international safety and/or quality standard, if applicable, or

DoC 2.3: Report from an independent organisation (or independent engineer's report) or existing case studies that demonstrate fitness for purpose and safety requirements.

2.2 Applicable Firmness Requirements

Criterion 3: The product shall meet or exceed the voluntary firmness requirements stated in Australian standard AS 8811.1:2013 (or equivalent international).

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 3.1: Independent assessment or test reports confirming conformance with Australian standard AS 8811.1:2013 or international firmness and/or safety standard, if applicable.

2.3 Additional Dimension Requirements

Dimensions aspects are important to mitigate safety risks associated with use of infant mattresses. Inaccurate mattress dimensions can cause mattress deformations or gaps which increase the risks of fatalities due to children falling out of cots, entrapment hazard from gaps, or even suffocation.

Criterion 4: All mattresses shall be dimensionally sized for the cot it is intended for. Manufacturers shall include information of a mattress' length and width in the mattress label.

Note 1 (Sizing): Size specifications of mattresses designed for use with specific cots shall comply with permissible gap requirements by the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission \(ACCC\) Standard for Household Cots](#).

Note 2 (Tolerances): Further dimensional tolerances for sizing of cot mattresses specified by [BS EN 16890:2017+A1:2017](#) (i.e. width and length tolerances) and [BS EN 1334:1996](#) (i.e. height tolerances) shall apply.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 4.1: Description of product use specifications and compatible cot design, evidence of conformance to the standards listed in Note 1 and 2.

2.4 Additional Safety Requirements: Product Specifications

Product information requirements are crucial for this specific product category, specifically regarding safety and hazards warning specifications for its use.

Criterion 5: The manufacturer/applicant shall include the following elements and specifications in their marketing and product labelling concerning appropriate product usage and warning against sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and suffocation hazards:

- Warning to ensure face-up infant positioning.
- Caution to avoid use of the product in conjunction with soft bedding.
- Warnings to avoid gaps between the edge of the mattress and the side of the infant bed (please refer to Note 1 in Criterion 4 for further information on gap requirements).
- Warning to remove all objects from the cot, including pillows and toys.
- Acceptable dimensions of the infant bed for this mattress.
- The intended use of the product.
- Instructions for correct use and storage to maximise the product lifetime.
- Maintenance instructions, including cleaning instructions, if required. Maintenance instructions shall not specify the use of any chemical or coating limited by any part of this standard.
- Recycling instructions for the product end-of-life.
- Fibre content listing all textiles used in the product. These should be listed from most prominent to least prominent in the fibre composition.
- Warning not to stack or use multiple mattresses inside the infant bed.
- Warning to not use the mattress without all required covers or other components (where a mattress cover is removable).

- Caution to be aware of the risks of an open fire and other sources of strong heat in the vicinity of the cot mattress.

The following information should be at minimum included in a permanently attached label on the mattress itself:

- Dimensions of the infant mattress.
- Warnings to avoid gaps between the edge of the mattress and the side of the infant bed.
- Caution to avoid use of product in conjunction with soft bedding.
- Fibre content listing all textiles used in the product. These should be listed from most prominent to least prominent in the fibre composition.
- Maintenance instructions, including cleaning instructions, if required. Maintenance instructions shall not specify the use of any chemical or coating limited by any part of this standard.

Note: Mandatory requirements might be applicable for labelling for textiles products in Australia according to the [Consumer Protection Notice No. 25 of 2010 – Consumer Product Information Standard: Care Labelling for Clothing and Textile Products](#).

Demonstration of Conformance

Doc 5.1: Copy of documentation to be supplied with the product clearly stating the required information.

Doc 5.2: Relevant evidence showing product marketing and label addressing the points outlined in this criterion.

2.5 Warranty

Criterion 6: The manufacturer/applicant shall offer a commercial guarantee of a minimum of five years on the quality of the product, provided the product is used for its intended purpose. The guarantee shall be valid from the date of delivery to the customer.

Demonstration of Conformance

Doc 6.1: Evidence of the warranty offer provided to customers. This can be a certificate of guarantee or authorised statement on the company website.

HEALTH CRITERIA



3. EMISSIONS

3.1 Air Emissions- Formaldehyde

Products that contain formaldehyde-based additives shall be subject to the following air emission limits for formaldehyde as measured using the Air Chamber, Desiccator or Perforator test methods. Natural materials are excepted from this criterion. Compliance to the criteria below can be demonstrated in a number of ways: either by testing the overall emissions of the final product using the Air Chamber, Desiccator or Perforator test methods or by testing the emissions of each component material and

calculating the total emissions of the final product based on the quantity of individual components in the respective product. If the latter option is selected, testing should be conducted based on methods outlined in ASTM-D5116 or an equivalent: Small Scale Environment Chamber determination of organic emissions from indoor materials/products.

Criterion 7: Formaldehyde emissions for mattresses shall be at a level that is “not detectable”.

Note: The Reported Detection Limit for “not detectable” shall be 9 µg/m³.

Demonstration of Conformance:

Doc 7.1: A copy of test results by a certified laboratory using any of the above Australian and international test procedures as outlined in Criterion 7; or

Doc 7.2: A copy of a valid Certificate of Compliance (GREENGUARD Gold certificate), stating that the product meets the chemical emissions requirements for UL GREENGUARD Gold Certification.

3.2 Air Emissions - VOC

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) released by solvents and other substances contribute to lower air quality in buildings. Indoor air quality is vital for occupant health. Thus, limiting the VOC content is essential for good indoor air quality.

Criterion 8: The product shall not exceed the following specific Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) limits stated in Table 1 VOC Emission Rates. This excludes formaldehyde emissions - for formaldehyde emissions, refer to Criterion 7. For applicable test methods see the Demonstration of Conformance section of this criterion.

Note: All adhesives present in the final product shall be part of the testing/the tested components.

Table 1. VOC Emission Rates.

Chemical	CAS number	Maximum Emission Rate	Chemical	CAS number	Maximum Emission Rate
1 – Methyl – 2 Pyrrolidinone	872-50-4	0.001 mg/m ² /hr	2 – Ethyl hexanoic Acid	149-57-5	0.05 mg/m ² /hr
Naphthalene	91-20-3		Octanal	124-13-0	
Nonanal	124-19-6	0.005 mg/m ² /hr	Styrene	100-42-5	0.005 mg/m ² /hr
Acetaldehyde	75-07-0		4 – Phenyl cyclohexene	4994-16-5	
Benzene	71-43-2		Toluene	108-88-3	
Caprolactam	105-60-2	0.01 mg/m ² /hr	Vinyl Acetate	108-05-4	0.01 mg/m ² /hr
2-Ethyl-1-Hexanol	104-76-7		Vinyl Cyclohexene	100-40-3	
			Xylenes	1330-20-7	

Samples must be tested within three days (72 hours) of manufacture and immediately after unpacking unless specified otherwise by the sampling protocols in the standards listed below. Samples must be packed for delivery to the lab to minimise off-gassing in accordance with laboratory instructions. If the sample is not tested within three days of manufacture, the accredited laboratory must be notified in order to ensure appropriate treatment of the sample in accordance with the sampling protocol of the

relevant ASTM standard requirements.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 8.1: Test reports on VOC emissions using one of the following test methods showing individual emission rates as outlined in Table 1

- a) ASTM D5116-06 Standard Guide for Small-Scale Environmental Chamber Determination of Volatile Organic Emissions from Indoor Materials/Products; or
- b) ASTM D6670-01(2007) Standard Practice for Full-Scale Chamber Determination of Volatile Organic Emissions from Indoor Materials/Products.
- c) ISO 16000 part 9, 10 and 11.

DoC 8.2: If not tested within 3 days, a copy of the lab instructions for sample preparation for delivery to the laboratory.

DoC 8.3: A copy of a valid Certificate of Compliance (GREENGUARD Gold certificate), stating that the product meets the chemical emissions requirements for UL GREENGUARD Certification.

Criterion 9: The Total Volatile Organic Compound (TVOC) content released from an infant mattress product (including adhesives, treatment and finishes) shall not be greater than 0.22mg/m³ when tested to either ASTM5116, ASTM6670 or ISO16000-9.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 9.1: A copy of the test results from a [NATA](#) or [ILAC](#) member accredited laboratory showing the TVOC results using either ASTM5116/ASTM6670 or ISO16000-9 and a report from the same or another accredited laboratory showing the calculations for determining the final exposure concentrations from the mattress based on a well-established exposure model/reference case; or

DoC 9.2: A copy of the TVOC test results for the mattress showing the exposure concentration and testing method used; or

DoC 9.3: A copy of a valid Certificate of Compliance (GREENGUARD Gold certificate), stating that the product meets the chemical emissions requirements for UL GREENGUARD Certification.

4. HAZARDOUS AND PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

This section's criteria address some of the main hazardous substances found within the product category, added to the product, or to ingredients during manufacturing. The intention is to reduce the use of hazardous materials and to prevent pollutants from entering the environment.

The requirements in this section apply to all materials in the finished product regardless of weight except for 1, 3 butadiene and formaldehyde which are subject to the requirements in sections 5.3 and 3.1 respectively. These criteria can be applicable to fabrics to satisfy section 5.4, criterion 19.

4.1 Hazardous Materials

Criterion 10: 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) shall not be added to products during manufacture:

- Heavy metals: antimony, arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, selenium, tin and nickel;
- Halogenated organic substances including halogenated organic solvents (e.g., binding agents);
- Elemental chlorine;
- Phthalates;
- Phenols; and
- Potentially explosive chemicals.

Exceptions: Exceptions for a specific substance can only be allowed via a submitted exception application to GECA. Exceptions for a specific substance can only be approved on provision of evidence that the substance presents no human or environmental health impacts through in its manufacturing or in the finished product.

Demonstration of Conformance

Doc 10.1: A schedule of the constituent chemical substances in g/kg used in the manufacture of the product that are classified as harmful, and relevant SDS (previously MSDS); and

Doc 10.1: Copy of documentation clearly outlining how each chemical is used, managed and stored; and

Doc 10.2: Where an exception is claimed, a signed declaration from an Executive Director of the applicant company stating that attempts have been undertaken to find alternatives for the substance(s) for which the exception is claimed; and the purpose for which the given substance is necessary; documentation clearly outlining how each chemical is used, managed and stored; and evidence that human exposure or environmental contamination is prevented; and

Doc 10.3: If claiming an exception for potentially explosive chemicals, the applicant must also provide details of the ISO 14001 EMS in place.

Criterion 11: In order to address human and environmental health risks, substances which are classifiable as hazardous according to any of the following categories shall not be added to the product or their components or used in the manufacturing process.

- Acutely toxic substances including any R26-28 (H330; H310; H300) substances, R50-59 (H400; H401; H402; H410 - H413, H420. **Note:** R54-58 currently has no H statement equivalents) substances and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) highly hazardous chemicals, toxins and reactives.
https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_id=9761&p_table=standards
- Irritants and sensitising agents including R36-38 (H319; H315; H370) and R42-43 (H334; H317) substances
- Carcinogens, teratogens and mutagens including:
- any R45-49 (H350; H351; H340; H372; H373) substances,
- IARC group 1 or 2A substances,
- EU consolidated list of C/M/R category 1 or 2 substances
- Rotterdam Convention Annex III substances
- WHO pesticides 1a and 1b

Exceptions: Exceptions for a specific substance can only be allowed via a submitted exception application to GECA. Exceptions for a specific substance can only be approved on provision of evidence that the substance presents no human or environmental health impacts through in its manufacturing or in the finished product.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 11.1: A schedule of the constituent chemical substances in g/kg used in the manufacture of the product that are classified as harmful, and relevant SDS; and

DoC 11.2: Where an exception is claimed, the applicant must provide a signed declaration from an Executive Director of the applicant company stating that attempts have been undertaken to find alternatives for the substance(s) for which the exception is claimed; and the purpose for which the given substance is necessary; documentation clearly outlining how each chemical is used, managed and stored; and evidence that human exposure or environmental contamination is prevented.

Criterion 12: The following compounds, their functional derivatives or in-situ precursors shall not be added to finished products, their component parts or be used at any stage of the manufacturing process, including as preparatory agents, cleaners or degreasers in the production facility:

- Pentachlorophenol (PCP)
- Bisphenol A
- Tar oils (benzo (a) pyrene)
- Fluoropolymer additive
- Aniline based amines
- Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), Dibutyl phthalate (DBP), Diallyl Phthalate (DAP) or n-butyl benzyl phthalate (BBP); and
- Aziridine or polyaziridines
- Per- or poly-fluorinated chemicals (PFCs)
- Tetrachloroethylene
- Triclosan
- Boric Acid
- Chrome mordant dyes; azo dyes (listed in Appendix A); any dyes classified as carcinogens, mutagens or reproductive toxins; potentially sensitising dyes (listed in the Appendix A).
- Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE), short-chain (<13 C) chlorinated organic flame retardants, or any prohibited flame retardants mentioned in Table 2.

Table 2. Prohibited flame retardants.

Name	CAS number	Acronym
Decabromodiphenylether	1163-19-5	decaBDE
Hexabromocyclododecane	25637-99-4	HBCD/HBCDD
Octabromodiphenylether	32536-52-0	octaBDE
Pentabromodiphenylether	32534-81-9	pentaBDE
Polybrominated biphenyls	59536-65-1	PBBs
Short chain chlorinated paraffins (C10-C13)	85535-84-8	SCCP
Tris-(2,3-dibromopropyl)-phosphate	126-72-7	TRIS
Tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate	115-96-8	TCEP
Tris-(aziridinyl)-phosphinoxide	545-55-1	TEPA

Demonstration of Conformance

Doc 12.1: A schedule of the constituent chemical substances in g/kg used in the manufacture of the product that are classified as harmful, and relevant SDS; and

Doc 12.2: A signed declaration from an Executive Director of the applicant company stating that the above compounds, their functional derivatives or in-situ precursors are not added to finished products, their component parts or used at any stage of the manufacturing process, including as preparatory agents, cleaners or degreasers in the production facility.

Exception: Exceptions can only be approved by GECA through a submitted exception application to GECA. For an adhesive to be approved for exception to criteria 8-10, it shall:

- a) be certified by the Good Environmental Choice Australia Ecolabel, or the Nordic Swan ecolabel or an 'alternative and equivalent' label to these nominated labels; or
- b) require provision of evidence that the adhesive presents no human or environmental health impacts through its use in manufacturer or the finished product.

ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA



5. DESIGN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

This section's criteria are intended to address some of the major life cycle factors of a product that can be anticipated in sustainable design and are more easily incorporated during the design phase of product development. Unless otherwise stated, this section's requirements apply to each type of material contained in the finished product regardless of weight.

MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Fibres and Other Natural Materials

Criterion 13: Fibre (plantation wood fibre, cellulose fibre, bamboo fibre, return fibre (i.e. post-consumer and pre-consumer fibre), cotton fibre, crop residue or other waste fibre) shall be sourced from any combination of [FSC](#) or [PEFC certified fibre](#). Fibre sources that are not certified under a recognised certification scheme as being sustainably managed may be used but shall not originate from the following controversial sources:

CONTROVERSIAL SOURCES

a) Illegal harvesting

Illegally harvested wood fibre and natural materials are harvested, traded or transported in a way that is in breach with applicable national regulations. Such regulations can, for example, address CITES species, money laundering, corruption and bribery, and other relevant national regulations.

b) Genetically modified organisms

Wood and natural materials from genetically modified organisms have been induced by various means to include genetic structural changes (for a definition of genetically modified, please refer to the European Union Directive [2001/18/EC](#), on the deliberate release of genetically modified organisms in the environment). Traditional breeding programs do not constitute genetic modification.

c) Recently established plantations impacting primary ecosystems

The plantation or agricultural land use must have been established prior to 2000 and not have impacted primary ecosystems at the time of establishment. Establishment includes the logging or destruction of primary forest followed by the establishment of the plantation.

d) Uncertified high Conservation Value Communities

High Conservation Value Communities are those that possess one or more of the following attributes:

- Communities containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g., endemism, endangered species, refugia); and/or large landscape-level communities, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most, if not all, naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.
- Communities that are in [constitute] or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.

- Communities fundamental to meeting basic needs of locally indigenous human populations (e.g., subsistence, health) and/or critical to these people's traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).

For materials sourced from within Australia, please refer to the following:

- The EPBC Act List of Threatened Fauna at:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicthreatenedlist.pl?wanted=fauna>

- The EPBC Act List of Threatened Flora at:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicthreatenedlist.pl?wanted=flora>

The EPBC Act List of Threatened Ecological Communities:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publiclookupcommunities.pl>

- The Australian Heritage Database (for listings of areas of cultural significance) at:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl>

- For materials sourced from outside Australia, please refer to credible lists detailing threatened species, threatened communities and areas of cultural significance in the respective countries e.g., [IUCN Red List of Threatened Species](#).

Note: Fabrics and leather are addressed in Criterion 17:

Demonstration of Conformance

Doc 13.1: Design specification or schedule for materials and components used to make the product; and

Doc 13.2: Chain of Custody evidence for timber and natural materials including receipts showing the origin of materials. Evidence must include Latin names and English common names, geographic origin and the supplier. GECA or its approved assessor/s may demand further documentation if deemed necessary; and

Doc 13.3: Total amount of certified fibre used in infant mattress manufacturing annually; and

Doc 13.4: Copy of certificate(s) signed by the certification authority; and

Doc 13.5: Signed declaration and short description of the system used to ensure the natural fibre is sourced from traceable sources on an ongoing basis.

5.2 Treatment

Criterion 14: Natural materials used in the mattress shall 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>.

Note: IARC 1 and IARC 2A substances are addressed under the Hazardous Materials section of this standard.

Demonstration of Conformance

Doc 14.1: Signed documentation from the applicant stating that any pesticides used are not classified by the IARC as Group 1, 2A, or 2B. The documentation must show the type of wood, origin, certification if applicable and supplier, and include a schedule of all agents used (including CAS numbers and names) to treat fibre and other natural materials. If the applicant does not perform the treatment as part of the manufacturing process, this statement should come from the supplier of the pre-treated timber.

5.3 Padding Requirements

Criterion 15: Latex (also including latex for rubberization of e.g., coconut fibre) or foam shall not contain concentrations of 1, 3 butadiene greater than 1 ppm (1 mg/kg).

Demonstration of Conformance

(Only one of the following DoC is required)

DoC 15.1: Signed declaration that no latex or foam is used in the product; or

DoC 15.2: Signed declaration of non-use of 1, 3 butadiene from an Executive Officer of the company that produces the latex or foam; or

DoC 15.3: Report on the concentration of 1, 3 Butadiene using a test carried out in accordance with the following procedure: A sample of the cured product shall be ground and weighed before being analysed. Sampling by use of a headspace sampler. Analysis by means of gas chromatography, detection by use of a flame ionization detector; or

DoC 15.4: VOC test showing a specific line item for butadiene as less than or equal to 0.02ppm or 0.044mg/m³, or alternatively a total “alkenes” line item as less than 0.05 mg/m²hr, or less than 0.05 mg/m³ using any reputable standard VOC test method.

Criterion 16: CFC, HCFC, HFC or methylene chloride shall not be used as blowing agents in polyurethane.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 16.1: Signed declaration describing the expansion process and whether CFC, HCFC, HFC or methylene chloride was used in the expansion process.

Criterion 17: Aniline based amines shall not be added to the padding material.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 17.1: Signed declaration from supplier describing the manufacturing process and whether aniline-based amines are used.

Criterion 18: The total discharges to water from the production of latex, foam or rubber shall be treated and decreased by 90% (measured as COD or TOC) in on-site or external sewage treatment works prior to being discharged to the receiving environment.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 18.1: Copy of the Environmental Management System or similar showing testing requirements; testing frequency (at least weekly), and the final calculation must indicate 90% decrease in COD or TOC (based on annual mean); or

DoC 18.2: Sampling for COD or TOC analysis results, after the operation of any on-site wastewater treatment.

5.4 Fabrics

This requirement is included to recognise the environmental impacts involved in textile manufacture and reward textile manufacturers that have already taken positive steps towards reducing their environmental loads.

Criterion 19: Fabric shall:

- a) Be certified by the GECA ecolabel, the Environmental Choice New Zealand ecolabel, EU Flower ecolabel or the Nordic Swan ecolabel (or an 'alternative and equivalent' label to these nominated labels); or
- b) Satisfy the requirements of the Hazardous Materials section of this standard.

Note: Mandatory requirements might be applicable for labelling for textiles products in Australia according to the [Consumer Protection Notice No. 25 of 2010 – Consumer Product Information Standard: Care Labelling for Clothing and Textile Products](#).

Demonstration of Conformance

(Only one of the following DoCs is required)

DoC 19.1: Visual inspection of the product to confirm no fabrics are used or clear inclusion of this in relevant documents such as bill of materials or technical specifications; or

DoC 19.2: A copy of the Ecolabel licence from the supplier for each fabric product used (note: where an 'alternative and equivalent' ecolabel is nominated, the licence will be accepted if deemed equivalent based on the criteria of the standard and the procedures of the standards setting body and at the assessor's discretion); or

DoC 19.3: Where fabrics are not certified by an ecolabel, the applicant can demonstrate that the fabric satisfies the requirements of the current GECA Textiles standard or the Hazardous Materials section of this standard, by providing a report completed by a GECA approved assessor that demonstrates conformance against the standard; or

DoC 19.4: A schedule of all materials and substances used and where applicable the SDS, chemical names or CAS numbers and/or signed declaration of non-use to establish compliance with the Hazardous Materials section of this standard.

DoC 19.5: The applicant/manufacturer also needs to have processes in place to ensure on-going compliance with this criterion (see Evidence of Conformance section for details).

5.5 Springs and Wires

Criterion 20: The following criterion applies if wire and springs contribute to more than 5% of the total weight of the mattress. If degreasing and/or cleaning of wire and/or springs is carried out with organic solvents, use shall be made of a closed cleaning/degreasing system.

Notes: Sharp springs and wires shall not be used.

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 20.1: Declaration from the manufacturer of wire and/or springs.

5.6 Resource Efficiency

Overconsumption of resources and generation of waste can have a significant impact on the environment. Reducing resource use and reuse/recycling waste promotes resource conservation and addresses the negative impacts of materials extraction and sourcing. There are opportunities to employ these strategies throughout a product's lifecycle - during design, manufacture, use and end of life stages. Examples of some measures include:

- Dematerialisation.
- Using rapidly renewable resources.
- Using materials/components with recycled content.
- Minimising habitat destructing practices.
- Reducing waste generated during the manufacturing process and putting waste materials back into the manufacturing process.

Criterion 21: The product (excluding coatings, upholstering textiles, and adhesives used for product assembly) shall meet the requirements of at least one of the following material efficiency measures:

- a) At least 80% of the product or component by volume comprises rapidly renewable materials (i.e., natural materials for which mature harvest can occur on a 10-year cycle or lesser (e.g., bamboo, cork, natural rubber, wool & strawboard)
- b) At least 50% of the product by weight comprises recycled material content (in one or more materials/components)
- c) 100% of any petrochemical-derived materials (e.g., acrylic fibre, synthetic foam, synthetic rubber, plastics, polystyrene, polypropylene) must be manufactured under an EMS
- d) 100% of the product is made with non-petrochemical materials (e.g., metal, glass, timber and natural fibres)
- e) 90% of the product by weight is comprised of non- petrochemical origin materials sourced under a reputable certified scheme such as fibre sourced from plantation wood fibre with chain of custody evidence or FSC or PEFC certified forest (i.e., applies to any forest-based products covered by FSC or PEFC, e.g., timber, rubber and cork)

Manufacturers must also collect data on material in a format that facilitates optimisation of production processes as follows:

- a) Material flows including material input/yield ratios for each key manufacturing process per operating hour;

- b) Material wastage and pre-consumer reuse rates;
- c) Percentage post-consumer and pre-consumer recycled content in raw material by material type; and
- d) Percentage of the end product that is recyclable.

Demonstration of Conformance:

Doc 21.1: Product specification details (i.e., materials covered in the material efficiency measures mentioned above in the criterion); and

Doc 21.2: For products claiming recycled material content, chain of custody evidence and contractor receipts showing volumes purchased; and

Doc 21.3: For petrochemicals, a copy of documentation regarding the EMS or an ISO 14001 certificate; and

Doc 21.4: A copy of data collected for the optimisation of production processes. *This may be included in the engineer's report.

6. PACKAGING, END OF LIFE AND PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

Previous sections of this standard apply to the characteristics of the product and the production process. This section addresses the impacts arising during the remainder of the product's life cycle.

6.1 Separability/Design for Disassembly

Products that are difficult to separate into recyclable parts at end-of-product life are significantly more likely to contribute to landfill, even if the component materials are recyclable. Products designed to be separable into recyclable parts ensure that the end-user or disposer does not face unnecessary barriers to "doing the right thing" at the end of the product's useful life, thus minimising the chances of some potentially significant environmental loads.

Criterion 22: The product shall:

- Be separable into recyclable or reusable units.
- Be easily disassembled without the use of specialist tools and component parts shall be easily identifiable for separation. At their discretion, assessor/s may require that instructions for the disassembly method are provided with the product at the point of sale where the method for disassembly is not immediately evident.
- Not contain inseparable bonds between material types that cannot be processed together in the same recycling stream.

Demonstration of Conformance

(Only two DoCs required)

DoC 22.1: Where the product is comprised of more than two material types, instructions showing how disassembly can be achieved with commonly available tools; or

DoC 22.2: Engineer's report or disassembly demonstration. A demonstration may be performed as part of the site- visit or provided on DVD with an application.

Mandatory: Details of materials used in the product.

6.2 Recyclability of Plastics

The criteria in this section are intended to ensure that the product(s) is designed with the post-consumer phase in mind. Together with the section for Separability/Design for Disassembly there is an increased chance that recycling will happen at the end of a product's useful life.

Criterion 23: All plastic parts, excluding foams, weighing greater than 50 g shall be marked/ stamped/embossed with an appropriate resin identification code promulgated by the [Plastics and Chemical Industry Association](#) or in compliance with ISO 11 469.

Note: An exception may be allowed for product(s) where the circumstances of the manufacturing process or the size and shape of the product restrict the use of the plastics resin identification code on the product. Products approved for exception need to be accompanied by appropriate information describing disposal methods for the product(s), including the relevant resin identification code. This must be provided at the time of sale of the product to encourage further recycling.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 23.1: Visual assessment from a product sample or during a site visit; or

DoC 23.2: Direct and clear inclusion of this requirement in DoC 21.1 in the engineer's report or demonstration.

6.3 Coatings / Treatments

Criterion 24: Products and components shall not be impregnated, labelled, coated or otherwise treated in a manner which would prevent post-consumer recycling.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 24.1: A detailed description of each coating or treatment applied to the product or component, or declaration of non-use; and

DoC 24.2: Explanation of how each coating affects the recyclability of the product or component; and

DoC 24.3: A description of the end-of-life options for the coated or treated components (e.g., "this coated component may be recycled at <facility name>") with written confirmation from a recycler able to accept the component.

6.4 Product Stewardship

Criterion 25: 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 recycler to accept the product. A local recycler is preferable where possible; 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 can recycle or refurbish the item. Contractual arrangements with the third party should nominate the estimated volume of product to be processed annually.

Note: there are several mattress recycling enterprises available, see [Home - Business Recycling](#).

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

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 25.1: Copy of instructions outlining the take-back service including the costs, contact details of the take-back service, relevant website documentation; and

DoC 25.2: 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.

6.5 Packaging Requirements

Inefficient use of packaging can result in greater transportation needs, natural resource depletion and increased burden on landfills. Product packaging should be as efficient and recyclable as possible across the product's life cycle.

Criterion 26: Halogenated plastics shall not be used in product packaging.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 26:1 List of materials used in packaging and site inspection of final product packaging.

Criterion 27: All packaging shall either be comprised of 100% recycled material or be readily recyclable, compostable or contain no coatings, impregnated chemicals or otherwise that would prevent recycling or composting. Packaging shall comply with at least one of the following:

- a) Each material constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging used, shall contain at least 50% recycled content by weight;
- b) Each material constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging used, shall be derived from plant-based materials (e.g., PLA plastics); or
- c) Each separable item constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging, shall be recyclable in Australia. This may be demonstrated using the Australian Packaging Covenant's [Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal \(PREP\)](#)
- d) Paper and cardboard packaging shall be either certified under a recognised forest certification scheme (e.g., FSC or PEFC) or contain at least 70% recycled content by weight.

Materials used for the transport of products (tertiary packaging) and whose disposal is not the end consumer's responsibility 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 27.1: 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

DoC 27.2: Evidence of recyclability or copy of PREP Assessment Report; and/or

DoC 27.3: Evidence of certification under relevant forest certification scheme; and/or

DoC 27.4: Details of re-use programs for transport materials within the applicant company.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL CLAIMS

This section addresses the need to ensure that any environmental claims made beyond this standard's scope by the manufacturer are verifiable.

7.1 Public Claims

Criterion 28: The applicant's public claims regarding the product's environmental performance beyond this standard's scope (other than GECA certified content) shall be independently verified as compliant with ISO 14021: Environmental Labels and Declarations – 'Self-Declared Environmental Claims' (Type II Environmental Labelling) requirements. Also refer to the GECA Rules for the Use of the Good Environmental Choice Australia Mark.

Demonstration of Conformance

Doc 28.1: Report or statement from the applicant listing all public environmental claims regarding the product by the applicant, demonstrating compliance to ISO14021; and

Doc 28.2: A signed declaration from an Executive Director of the applicant company stating that any environmental claims made by the company regarding the product in the future will be verified using ISO 14021 and/or the GECA certification

SOCIAL CRITERIA



8. 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.

8.1 Environmental Legislation

Criterion 29: 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 29.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance with applicable environmental legislation and government orders;

Doc 29.2: Signed declaration disclosing any breaches of environmental legislation or permits and the date of the breach. Applicant shall:

Doc 29.3: Provide a Legal Register listing applicable environmental legislation (including applicable Regulations under that legislation) in, or as an attachment to the above two declarations (31.1 and 31.2). 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 29.3: Evidence of corrective action following identification of a breach of environmental legislation, if applicable.

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.

8.2 Minimum Entitlement including Wages

Criterion 30: 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 30.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation confirming compliance with all minimum entitlements including wages; and

DoC 30.2: 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 30.3: Text or template of a typical workplace agreement offered to employees of the company; and sample payslips; and

DoC 30.4: Evidence of corrective action following identification of a breach of legislation, if applicable.

8.3 Workplace Health and Safety

Criterion 31: 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 31.1: 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 31.2: Copy of the company Occupational / Workplace H&S policy and procedures;

DoC 31.3: 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 31.4: Evidence of corrective action following a breach of legislation, if applicable; and

WHS incidents register

8.4 Equal Opportunity

Criterion 32: 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 32.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance with above legislation;

DoC 32.2: Copy of relevant company policies and procedures;

DoC 32.1: Evidence of corrective action following a breach of legislation, if applicable; and

DoC 32.4: The assessor will verify that the company does not appear on the following list:

[Non-compliant list | WGEA](#)

8.5 Lawful Conduct

Criterion 33: 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 33.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance with above legislation; and

Doc 33.2: Evidence of corrective action following a guilty verdict, if applicable.

8.6 Modern Slavery

Criterion 34: 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 34.1: 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:

DoC 34.2: 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).

DoC 34.3: 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).

8.7 Human Rights including Labour Rights

Criterion 35: 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

(No child/forced/bonded labour (ILO 29 and 105), Minimum age convention (ILO 138), Worst forms of child labour (ILO182), 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 35.1: 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 35.2: The manufacturer/applicant shall provide a map of at least one tier of its supply chain; and

DoC 35.3: 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 35.4: Evidence of assessment of suppliers in relation to human rights and recommendations for improvements in their supply chain; and

DoC 35.5: Evidence of ISO20400 implementation; or

- Evidence of valid [SA8000® Standard](#), or other equivalent certification; or
- Evidence of being a signatory to the [UN Global Compact](#); or
- [SEDEX](#) membership ; or
- [GRI 400](#) Report (Global Report Initiative); and

If any of DoCs 37.5 cannot be provided, manufacturer/ applicant shall provide:

DoC 35.6: Evidence of commitment to achieve SA 8000 certification within one year; or

DoC 35.7: Evidence of becoming a signatory to the UN Global Compact within six months; and

Doc 35.8: 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

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 regard to this process (i.e., between applicant and suppliers) shall be maintained.

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

APPENDIX A

LIST OF DYES THAT MAY CLEAVE TO RESTRICTED AMINES

Disperse dyes that may cleave to aromatic amines		
Disperse Orange 60	Disperse Orange 7	Disperse Orange 149
Disperse Yellow 23	Disperse Yellow 56	Disperse Red 151
Disperse Red 221	Disperse Yellow 218	
Basic dyes that may cleave to aromatic amines		
Basic Brown 4	Basic Red 114	Basic Red 42
Basic Yellow 82	Basic Red 76	Basic Yellow 103
Basic Red 111		
Acid dyes that may cleave to aromatic amines		
CI Acid Black 29	CI Acid Red 24	CI Acid Red 128
CI Acid Black 94	CI Acid Red 26	CI Acid Red 115
CI Acid Black 131	CI Acid Red 26:1	CI Acid Red 128
CI Acid Black 132	CI Acid Red 26:2	CI Acid Red 135
CI Acid Black 209	CI Acid Red 35	CI Acid Red 148
CI Acid Black 232	CI Acid Red 48	CI Acid Red 150
CI Acid Brown 415	CI Acid Red 73	CI Acid Red 158
CI Acid Orange 17	CI Acid Red 85	CI Acid Red 167
CI Acid Orange 24	CI Acid Red 104	CI Acid Red 170
CI Acid Orange 45	CI Acid Red 114	CI Acid Red 264
CI Acid Red 4	CI Acid Red 115	CI Acid Red 265
CI Acid Red 5	CI Acid Red 116	CI Acid Red 420
CI Acid Red 8	CI Acid Red 119:1	CI Acid Violet 12
Direct dyes that may cleave to aromatic amines		
Direct Black 4	Basic Brown 4	Direct Red 13
Direct Black 29	Direct Brown 6	Direct Red 17
Direct Black 38	Direct Brown 25	Direct Red 21
Direct Black 154	Direct Brown 27	Direct Red 24
Direct Blue 1	Direct Brown 31	Direct Red 26
Direct Blue 2	Direct Brown 33	Direct Red 22
Direct Blue 3	Direct Brown 51	Direct Red 28
Direct Blue 6	Direct Brown 59	Direct Red 37
Direct Blue 8	Direct Brown 74	Direct Red 39
Direct Blue 9	Direct Brown 79	Direct Red 44
Direct Blue 10	Direct Brown 95	Direct Red 46
Direct Blue 14	Direct Brown 101	Direct Red 62
Direct Blue 15	Direct Brown 154	Direct Red 67
Direct Blue 21	Direct Brown 222	Direct Red 72
Direct Blue 22	Direct Brown 223	Direct Red 126
Direct Blue 25	Direct Green 1	Direct Red 168
Direct Blue 35	Direct Green 6	Direct Red 216
Direct Blue 76	Direct Green 8	Direct Red 264
Direct Blue 116	Direct Green 8.1	Direct Violet 1
Direct Blue 151	Direct Green 85	Direct Violet 4
Direct Blue 160	Direct Orange 1	Direct Violet 12
Direct Blue 173	Direct Orange 6	Direct Violet 13
Direct Blue 192	Direct Orange 7	Direct Violet 14
Direct Blue 201	Direct Orange 8	Direct Violet 21
Direct Blue 215	Direct Orange 10	Direct Violet 22
Direct Blue 295	Direct Orange 108	Direct Yellow 1
Direct Blue 306	Direct Red 1	Direct Yellow 24
Direct Brown 1	Direct Red 2	Direct Yellow 48
Direct Brown 1:2	Direct Red 7	
Direct Brown 2	Direct Red 10	

LIST OF POTENTIALLY SENSITISING DYES

Substance	Colour Index Number	CAS Number
C.I. Disperse Blue 102		12222-97-8
C.I. Disperse Blue 106		12223-01-7
C.I. Disperse Blue 124		61951-51-7
C.I. Disperse Blue 26	C.I. 63 305	
C.I. Disperse Blue 3	C.I. 61 505	2475-45-8
C.I. Disperse Blue 35		12222-75-2
C.I. Disperse Blue 7	C.I. 62 500	3179-90-6
C.I. Disperse Brown 1		23355-64-8
C.I. Disperse Orange 1	C.I. 11 080	2581-69-3
C.I. Disperse Orange 3	C.I. 11 005	730-40-5
C.I. Disperse Orange 37	C.I. 11 132	
C.I. Disperse Orange 76 (previously designated Orange 37)	C.I. 11 132	
C.I. Disperse Red 1	C.I. 11 110	2872-52-8
C.I. Disperse Red 11	C.I. 62 015	2872-48-2
C.I. Disperse Red 17	C.I. 11 210	3179-89-3
C.I. Disperse Yellow 1	C.I. 10 345	119-15-3
C.I. Disperse Yellow 39		
C.I. Disperse Yellow 49		
C.I. Disperse Yellow 9	C.I. 10 375	6373-73-5

APPENDIX B

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The application checklist serves as a guide 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. Standard Category Scope				
Criterion 1	Standard category scope	Detailed description of the product(s); and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Explanation of applicability to the scope of the standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Fitness for purpose				
Criterion 2	Product shall meet or exceed applicable performance and safety standards relevant Australian standard (or equivalent international), (Only two DoCs required)	Mandatory: Detailed description of the product(s) as it relates to Australian (or other) standards; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Independent assessment or test reports confirming conformance to relevant Australian (or other) standard; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Report or case study demonstrating fitness for purpose	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 3	Applicable firmness requirements	Independent assessment or test reports confirming conformance with Australian standard AS 8811.1:2013 or international firmness and/or safety standard, if applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 4	Additional dimension requirements	Description of product use specifications and corresponding dimensions. Proof of the product label showing dimensions specifications.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 5	Additional safety requirements: product specifications	Relevant evidence showing product marketing and label	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 6	Product shall have a minimum of 5 years warranty	Copy of warranty documentation provided to customers	<input type="checkbox"/>	
HEALTH CRITERIA				
3. Emissions				

Criterion 7	Not detectable formaldehyde emissions for mattresses	<p>A copy of test results by a certified laboratory using any of the above Australian and international test procedures as outlined in Criterion 7; OR</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<p>A copy of a valid Certificate of Compliance (GREENGUARD Gold certificate), stating that the product meets the chemical emissions requirements for UL GREENGUARD Gold Certification</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 8	Specific VOC emissions shall not exceed the limits in Table 1.	<p>Test report for ASTM 5116 or ASTM 6670. If not tested within 3 days, a copy of the lab instructions for sample preparation for delivery to the laboratory; OR</p> <p>If not tested within 3 days, a copy of the lab instructions for sample preparation for delivery to the laboratory; OR</p> <p>Valid GREENGUARD Gold certificate.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 9	TVOC emission for mattresses shall not be greater than 0.22 mg/m ³ .	<p>A copy of the test results from an accredited laboratory showing the TVOC results using either ASTM5116/ASTM6670 or ISO16000-9; and calculations for determining the final exposure concentrations; OR</p> <p>A copy of the TVOC certification for the mattress showing the exposure concentration and testing method used.; OR</p> <p>DoC 9.3: A copy of a valid Certificate of Compliance (GREENGUARD Gold certificate), stating that the product meets the chemical emissions requirements for UL GREENGUARD Certification.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Hazardous and Prohibited Substances				
Criterion 10	Listed substances shall not be added to products during manufacture.	A schedule of the constituent substances in g/kg used in the manufacturing process and relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>	

		SDS; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		A copy of documentation clearly outlining how each chemical is used, managed and stored; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Where an exception is claimed, a signed declaration from an Executive Director of the applicant company stating that the given substance is	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		If claiming an exception for potentially explosive chemicals, documentation of the EMS in place.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 11	Products shall not contain substances harmful to human health or the environment.	A schedule of the constituent substances in g/kg used (as above); and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Where an exception is claimed, the applicant must provide a signed declaration stating the purpose for which the given substance is necessary; documentation clearly outlining how each chemical is used, managed and stored; and evidence that human exposure or environmental contamination is prevented	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 12	Listed substances shall not be added to products, their components or be used at any stage of the manufacturing process.	A schedule of the constituent substances in g/kg used (as above); and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		A signed declaration stating that the above compounds, their functional derivatives or in-situ precursors are not added to finished products, their component parts or be used at any stage of the manufacturing process, including as preparatory agents, cleaners or degreasers in the production facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	

ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA

5. Design for Environmental Performance

		Design specification or schedule for materials and components of product; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 13	Fibres and other natural materials shall be sourced sustainably	Chain of custody evidence for materials; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Total amount of certified wood used in the furniture annually; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of certification from a responsible timber fibre source; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	

		Signed declaration and short description of the system used to ensure natural fibre is sourced from traceable sources	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 14	Fibre and natural material shall not be treated or impregnated with fungicides or insecticides classified by IARC as 2B	Signed documentation from the supplier that any pesticides used are not classified as IARC 1, 2A or 2B	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 15	Latex, foam or rubber shall not contain concentrations of 1, 3 butadiene greater than 1 ppm (1mg/kg) (Only one DoC required)	Signed declaration that no latex, foam or rubber is used in the product; OR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Signed declaration for the producer of the latex, foam or rubber; OR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		confirming no 1,3 butadiene is used in their product; OR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Test reports confirming conformance to the criterion; OR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		VOC test results confirming butadiene emission is zero or total alkenes as <0.05mg/m ² hr or <0.05mg/m ³	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 16	CFC, HCFC, HFC or methylene chloride shall not be used as blowing agents in polyurethane	Signed declaration describing the expansion process and if it includes any of the prohibited substances	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 17	Aniline based amines shall not be added to padding material	Signed declaration for the supplier, describing the manufacturing process and if aniline-based amines are used	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 18	Total water discharge from latex, foam or rubber production shall be treated to reduce COD/TOC levels by 90%	Copy of EMS or similar showing testing requirements, frequency and calculations; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Results from sampling for COD or TOC analysis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 19	Fabrics shall meet the standards of a recognised ecolabel or meet the requirements of the Hazardous Materials section of this standard (Only one DoC required)	Visual inspection of the product or relevant documentation showing no use of fabrics; OR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		A copy of the ecolabel license from the suppliers of each fabric product used; OR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		A report from a GECA designated or independent assessor stating the fabric used meets GECA-19 Textiles Standard or Hazardous Materials, OR	<input type="checkbox"/>	

		A schedule of all materials and substances used and where applicable the SDS, chemical names or CAS numbers and/or signed declaration of non-use to establish compliance with the Hazardous Materials section of this standard.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 20	If degreasing and/or cleaning of wire and/or springs is carried out with organic solvents, use shall be made of a closed cleaning/degreasing system	Declaration from manufacturer of wire and/or springs	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 21	The product shall meet the requirements of at least one of the material efficiency measures	Product specification details (i.e., materials covered in the material efficiency measures mentioned above in the criterion); and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		For products claiming recycled material content, chain of custody evidence and contractor receipts showing volumes purchased; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		For petrochemicals, a copy of documentation regarding the EMS or an ISO 14001 certificate; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		A copy of data collected for the optimisation of production processes. *This may be included in the engineer's report.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

6. Packaging, End of Life and Product Stewardship

Criterion 22	Products shall be easily disassembled and separable into recyclable or re- useable units. Components parts shall not contain inseparable bonds Only two DoCs required) (Only two DoCs are required) (Where products are comprised of more than two material types, instructions for disassembly are required or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Engineers report or disassembly demonstration	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Mandatory: Details of material used in product	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 23	Plastic weighing greater than 50g shall be marked with appropriate resin identification codes (Only one DoCs required)	Visual assessment from product sample or during a site visit; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		A direct and clear inclusion of this requirement in DoC 21.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 24	Products and components shall not be impregnated, labelled or coated or	A detailed description of each coating or treatment applied to the product or component, or declaration of non-use;	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	otherwise treated in a manner that will prevent post-consumer recycling	Explanation of how each coating affects the recyclability of each product or component and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Description of the end-of-life options for the treated component with written confirmation from a recycler able to accept the component	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 25	A product stewardship program or similar shall be in place for the product	Copy of instructions outlining take back service and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Copy of contractual agreements with third party entities	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 26	Halogenated plastics shall not be used in product packaging	SDS (previously MSDS) of packaging and site inspection of final product packaging.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 27	Packaging shall be recyclable, contain recycled content or derived from plant-based materials.	Details of materials used as packaging; and/or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of recyclability or copy of PREP Assessment Report; or E	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of certification under relevant forest certification scheme; and/or		
		Details of re-use programs for transport materials within the applicant company.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Environmental Claims				
Criterion 28	Public claims made by applicant	Statement of conformance signed by EO, with report showing compliance to ISO 14021, and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		a signed declaration from an Executive Director of the applicant company stating that any environmental claims made by the company regarding the product in the future will be verified using ISO 14021 and/or the GECA certification.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
SOCIAL CRITERIA				
Criterion 29	Environmental Legislation	Signed declaration confirming conformance to the criterion and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Signed declaration disclosing any breaches of environmental legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	

		<p>Legal register listing applicable environmental legislation (including applicable Regulations under that legislation) in, or as an attachment to the above declaration (31.1 and 31.2).</p> <p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • list of permits granted by EPA • system in place; and; <p>List relevant permits granted by the EPA or an equivalent national, state or local body</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 30	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.		
		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 31	Work Health and Safety	Signed declaration confirming conformance to the criterion and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		OHS/WHS policies and procedures and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		WHS Incidents register	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 32	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)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 33	Lawful Conduct	Signed declaration confirming conformance to the criterion and	<input type="checkbox"/>	

		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 34	Modern Slavery	Copy of the published Modern Slavery Statement from within the previous 12 months		
Criterion 35	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 becoming a signatory to the UN Global Compact within six months of certification; or	<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

GECA

