Addendum to the Criteria for Evaluating Product Certification Schemes: Other product standards

CERT-PROD-04

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Introduction and scope

The Criteria for Evaluating Product Certification Schemes assesses product certification schemes and standards. The criteria for the assessment of product standards is limited to flooring, furniture, and assemblies (Part II), paints, adhesives, sealants and carpets (Part III), and cleaning products (Part IV).

This document addresses the assessment of "other product standards" which are defined as product standards outside of those already covered within the Criteria for Evaluating Product Certification Schemes Part II to Part IV.

In order to use this addendum, the product certification schemes must first complete the Part 1 – Scheme Criteria assessment as outlined within the Criteria for Evaluating Product Certification Schemes.

Assessment Criteria – Other Product Standards

To assess product standards, all criteria outlined in Part II (furniture, flooring and assemblies) of the Criteria for Evaluating Product Certification Schemes are applicable, with specific amendments to the following Priority Areas of Concern (PACs):

Part V Mandatory Requirements

As described in Part II Mandatory requirements of the Part II Criteria for Evaluating Product Certification Schemes

PAC-1 Greenhouse Gases (GHG)

As described in *PAC-1 Greenhouse Gases (GHG)* of the Part II Criteria for Evaluating Product Certification Schemes

PAC-2 Toxicity

As described in *PAC-2 Toxicity* of the Part II Criteria for Evaluating Product Certification Schemes

PAC-3 Material Extraction

As described in *PAC-3 Material Extraction* of the Part II Criteria for Evaluating Product Certification Schemes

PAC-4 Water

As described in *PAC-4 Water* of the Part II Criteria for Evaluating Product Certification Schemes

PAC-5 Social and Environmental Compliance

As described in *PAC-5 Social and Environmental Compliance* of the Part II Criteria for Evaluating Product Certification Schemes

PAC-6 Durability

Fitness for Purpose – The standard shall require products to comply with relevant national or international fitness for purpose standards.

Guidance:
Fitness for purpose standards – International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard or Australian Standard as appropriate for the type of product being assessed, or another appropriate standard as justified by the product certification scheme.

PAC-7 End of life

Product Stewardship Program – The standards shall require manufacturers and/or suppliers of certified products or materials to have a product stewardship program in place. This program shall be publicly available and entail either:

a) providing contractual arrangements with their customers to take products back at the end of the product's in-use phase for some form of refurbishment, reuse or recycling as determined appropriate by the standard, or

b) demonstrating that a common practice recycling mechanism exists which encourages the recycling of materials at their end of life, and that the manufacturer receives and recycles materials from that recycling program.

The standards shall require verification that the necessary arrangements are in place to deliver the claims of the product stewardship program. This may include, but is not limited to, demonstration that contractual agreements exist between the manufacturer and / or supplier, wholesaler or retailer with third party recyclers, transport companies, charities, second-hand retailers and refurbishment companies; or that materials for recycling are received and processed as part of the manufacturing process.

Where end of life is material, it is normally weighted at 20 points. But this is assessed on a case by case basis by the product certification Scheme.

Guidance:
Product Stewardship – A product-centred approach to environmental protection that requires the associated parties involved in the product's life cycle (e.g. manufacturers, retailers, users) to share responsibility for reducing the product's environmental impact.

PAC-8 Product Emissions

Emissions hotspot analysis – the product certification scheme shall determine, using hotspot analysis across the whole life cycle of the product, which emissions relevant to the product shall be regulated by the product standard. The hotspot analysis shall consider emissions to air, water and land, as well as waste and noise generation. The product standard shall specify appropriate standards and/or other measures to ensure that emissions are controlled to best practice outcomes, and that appropriate monitoring and reporting is in place.

Guidance:

Emissions hotspot analysis – the Product Certification Scheme shall provide evidence of the hotspot analysis undertaken and justification of the appropriate standards and/or measures referenced.

The Scorecard includes a tab called "PAC-8 HotSpot analysis". When PAC-8 Product Emissions is being claimed, the Product Certification Scheme will need to complete a hotspots analysis for each product type. This hotspot analysis can be qualitative or quantitative.

Scorecard

"Part V – Other products" section of the "Assessment Tool for Product Certification Schemes" must be completed.

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