

The **ECOLIBRARY™** MATRIX

DEVELOPED BY THE GREEN STANDARD

Certification programs and Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) both provide a valuable approach to evaluating the environmental performance of products. However, a combination of the two provides even deeper insight and credibility. The following matrix

identifies various certification programs currently in use by architects and designers and provides an evaluation of each^a, with the inclusion of a life-cycle approach, and with LCA as a part of the certification program.

Certification programs in this Matrix ^a were selected and reviewed by The Green Standard based on their frequent use with interior building products, the focus of <i>Interiors & Sources</i> and <i>The Green Guide to NeoCon</i> . This list represents varied types of sustainability certifications: Ecolabeling Programs, Single/Multi-Attribute Certifications as well as Sustainable Product Standards. "Y" signifies meeting the criteria Updated April 2009	SCOPE OF CERTIFICATION			LIFE-CYCLE CERTIFICATION							TRANSPARENCY					
	Singular Focus (recycled content, sustainable forestry, etc.)	Multiple Attribute Focus (combines more than one focus area)	Life-Cycle Focus (criteria spans a cradle-to-grave concept)	Criteria for Raw Material Sourcing & Manufacturing Operations	Criteria for Product Use Phase	Criteria for End-of-Life Management	Comprehensive Criteria Set for Each Life-Cycle Stage	Criteria for ISO-Compliant Full Product Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)	Criteria for Reductions in Life-Cycle Impacts	Requires the Use of LCA for Certification	Requires Independent Verification of LCA Data	Publicly Available Assessment Methods and Performance Thresholds	Third-Party Certification	Publicly Available Summary of Results	Multi-Stakeholder Development Process	Public Standards Appeals Process
C2C McDonough Braungart Design Chemistry www.mbdc.com		Y	Y	Y		Y										
EcoLogo Managed by TerraChoice www.ecologo.org		Y	Y	Y ^b	Y ^b	Y ^b	Y ^b					Y	Y		Y	
Energy Star U.S. Environmental Protection Agency www.energystar.gov	Y											Y	Y	Y		Y
Floor Score Scientific Certification Systems www.scs-certified.com	Y											Y	Y		Y	Y
FSC Certified Forest Stewardship Council www.fscus.org		Y										Y	Y		Y	Y
GREENGUARD Air Quality Certification GREENGUARD Environmental Institute www.greenguard.org	Y											Y	Y			Y
Green Label Plus Carpet & Rug Institute www.carpet-rug.org	Y											Y	Y			
Green Seal Green Seal Organization www.greenseal.org		Y	Y	Y ^b	Y ^b	Y ^b						Y	Y		Y	Y
Indoor Advantage Scientific Certification Systems www.scs-certified.com	Y											Y	Y		Y	Y
level™ The BIFMA Sustainability Standard www.levelcertified.org		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y				Y	Y		Y	Y
SMART Sustainable Product Standard Market Transformation to Sustainability www.mts.sustainableproducts.com		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sustainability Assessment for Resilient Floor Coverings (NSF 332-2008) www.nsf.org		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y				Y	Y		Y	Y
Sustainable Carpet Assessment Standard NSF 140-2007 www.nsf.org		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y ^c			Y	Y		Y	Y
Sustainable Choice Scientific Certification Systems www.scs-certified.com		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y ^c			Y	Y		Y	Y
SFI Certified Sustainable Forestry Initiative www.sfi-program.org	Y											Y	Y		Y	Y

^aStill awaiting final publishing as of the time of this review, April 2009. ^a Based on information publicly available on the program's Web site. ^b Since program contains multiple product categories with different criteria, the authors cannot guarantee that these criteria apply to each category directly. In principle, the program addresses these. ^c Only requires the use of LCA to reach the highest level of certification: Platinum.