

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT FOR WALLCOVERING PRODUCTS: NSF 342

Sustainability Assessment for Wallcovering Manufacturing & Distribution

1 General

1.1 Purpose

The overall purpose of this Standard is to facilitate the thorough communication of information that is verifiable, accurate, and credible associated with the production, distribution, and use of wallcovering products. Such communication is expected to encourage the demand for and supply of products that cause less stress on the environment and society, thereby stimulating the potential for market-driven continuous improvement. The standard is voluntary and encourages inclusive participation in the production and distribution of sustainable wallcovering products across and within the supply chain.

This Standard is intended to be science based, provide transparency and offer credibility for manufacturers and distributors in making claims of environmental preferability and sustainability, and to harmonize the principles and procedures used to support such claims.

This Standard provides a practice for assessing the sustainability of wallcovering manufacturing and distribution processes. Sustainability-related information can inform a manufacturer's and distributors decisions about supply chain modifications, product content changes, manufacturing adjustments, performance improvements, end-of-life options, and corporate governance, with the goal of producing more sustainable products.

This Standard addresses environmental performance and sustainability attributes of wallcovering products and distribution, and provides a means to track incremental changes to the products' sustainability profile. This Standard is intended to provide a consistent framework in which to compare and assess the sustainable nature of different products within the context of performing similar functions.

This Standard is intended to be used by product manufacturers interested in understanding the sustainability performance of their products. Distributors also have an opportunity to improve sustainability of products in the marketplace and this standard addresses them as a separate category to support the sustainability direction of the industry.

Independent auditors, certification bodies and environmental labeling organizations are also potential users of this Standard for its use in supporting market based environmental and sustainability claims. This Standard may also be used by purchasers and consumers who wish to ensure that manufacturers are accurately declaring the sustainable nature of their products.

1.2 Scope

This Standard establishes a consistent approach to the evaluation and determination of environmentally preferable and sustainable wallcovering manufacturing and distribution processes. The Standard includes

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

relevant criteria across the product life cycle from raw material extraction through manufacturing, distribution, use, and end-of-life management.

The scope of the standard includes the following **wallcovering manufacturing** processes:

- Raw material inputs (fibers, resins, additives, colorants, and process chemicals)
- Fabric or sheet formation, and
- Finishing treatments
- Attachment systems

The scope of the standard also includes the following **wallcovering distribution** processes:

- Product Distribution
- Recycling Infrastructure support
- IAQ

As used in this Standard, “Wallcovering Manufacturing & Distribution” includes, but is not limited to, textiles, vinyl, vinyl coated, alternative polymer, alternative polymer coated, textiles, paper and other natural fiber products and natural fiber products. The Standard is applicable to products manufactured in one facility or multiple facilities, one country or multiple countries.

1.3 Principles

This standard practice was developed based on the following important principles.

1.3.1 Product Life cycle consideration

The life cycle of a product ranges from activities associated with the production and delivery of raw materials or generation of natural resources to the distribution, installation, use and ultimately to final disposal. This Standard was developed with consideration of the product life cycle of wallcovering manufacturing processing and distribution to help identify the appropriate and relevant characteristics and criteria to be used in evaluating a product’s environmental preferability and sustainability.

1.3.2 Relationship with legislation

A precondition for claiming conformance with this Standard shall be compliance with environmental and other relevant regulations. The entity is in compliance for any outstanding compliance issues with local, state, and federal agencies as long as the entity is making a good faith effort to resolve the issue with the appropriate authorities.

1.3.3 International trade aspects

The procedures and requirements included within this Standard have not been prepared, adopted, or applied with a view to creating unnecessary obstacles to international trade.

1.3.4 Scientific basis

The criteria contained in this Standard were developed and selected based on sound scientific and engineering principles intended to produce accurate, reproducible results.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

1.3.5 Product innovation

Use of this Standard is intended to support, not inhibit, innovation that maintains or has the potential to improve environmental and social accountability performance.

1.3.6 Alternate products or materials

Products or components that incorporate alternative materials shall be acceptable when it is verified that the product or component meets the applicable requirements of the Standard based on its end use.

2 Normative references

Identify corresponding specifications for Wallcovering Manufacturing & Distribution industry:

Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)¹

IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)²

Report on Carcinogens, Eleventh Edition; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, National Toxicology Program (NTP)³

Clean Air Act (CAA), Section 112 (r) - 42 U.S.C. § 7412⁴

CDPH/EHLB Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers, Version 1.1 (February 2010)⁵.

GGPS.002.GREENGUARD Children & SchoolsSM Standard⁶

GGTM.P066, *Standard Method for Measuring and Evaluating Chemical Emissions from Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings Using Dynamic Environmental Chambers*⁶

ISO 14001:2004, *Environmental management systems – Requirements with guidance for use*⁷

ISO 14021:1999, *Environmental labels and declarations – Self-declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labeling)*⁷

¹ International Working Group on Global Organic Textile Standard <www.global-standard.org>.
<http://www.tilth.org/certification/standards-1/global-organic-textiles-gots>

² IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans <monographs.iarc.fr>. <http://www.iarc.fr/>

³ Report on Carcinogens, P.O. Box 12233, MD K2-14, Research Triangle Park, NC USA 27709 <ntp.niehs.nih.gov>.
<http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/>

⁴ U.S. EPA Office of Emergency Management, Ariel Rios Building (5104A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20460 <www.epa.gov/oem>. <http://www.epa.gov/air/caa/>

⁵ California Indoor Air Quality Program, DHS - IAQ Program, 850 Marina Bay Parkway, (M.S. G365 / EHLB), Richmond, CA 94804 <www.cal-iaq.org>. <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/greenbuilding/Specs/Section01350/>

⁶ GREENGUARD Environmental Institute, 2211 Newmarket Parkway, Suite 110, Marietta, GA 30067 <www.greenguard.org>.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

ISO 14044:2006, *Environmental management-Life Cycle assessment-Requirements and Guidelines*⁷

ISO 14064-1:2006, *Greenhouse gases – Part 1: Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals*⁷

ISO 14064-2:2006, *Greenhouse gases – Part 2: Specification with guidance at the project level for quantification, monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emission reductions or removal enhancements*⁷

ISO 14064-3:2006, *Greenhouse gases – Part 3: Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions*⁷

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), *Design for Environment Toolkit: A Competitive Edge for the Future*, 1998⁸

NIST, BEES (Building for Environmental and Economic Sustainability) software⁹

SAI, SA8000®:2008, *Social Accountability 8000*¹⁰

Rule 1113, *Architectural Coatings*¹¹

Rule 1168, *Adhesive and Sealant Applications*¹¹⁶

Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - 1997¹²

U.S. EPA, *Tool for the Reduction and Assessment of Chemical and Other Environmental Impacts (TRACI)*¹³

U.S. EPA, *Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program*¹⁴

Threshold Limit Values (TLVs®), American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH)¹⁵

California, Proposition 65, *Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986*¹⁶

*Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Chemicals*¹⁷

MBDC, *Cradle to Cradle® Framework Certification*¹⁸

U.S. EPA, National Center for Environmental Assessment, NCEA¹⁹

ASTM E84 - 08a, *Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials*²⁰

NFPA 286: *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Evaluating Contribution of Wall and Ceiling Interior Finish to Room Fire Growth*²¹

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

FS CCC-W-408D, *Wall Covering, Vinyl-Coated*²²

SCS Indoor Advantage²³

3 Definitions

3.1 Bio-based resource: A product component (other than food or feed) that is derived in whole or significant part from biological production operations, such as agriculture, forestry, or fisheries. A biobased resource can be exhausted if improperly managed. However, a bio-based resource can be produced indefinitely with proper stewardship.

3.2 Community: A geographical unit where the product is manufactured, sold or distributed.

3.3 Green Cleaning Guiding Principles: Cleaning strategies focused on using ingredients that represent the lowest risk to workers and occupants while delivering the requisite level of cleanliness, including sanitation.

EPA provides guidance and explanations of green cleaning guiding principles at the internet web address: <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp/pubs/cleaning.htm#why>. These principles include the following:

- Include environmental factors as well as traditional considerations of price and performance as part of the normal purchasing process.
- Emphasize pollution prevention early in the purchasing process.
- Examine multiple environmental attributes throughout a product's or service's life cycle.
- Compare relative environmental impacts when selecting products and services.
- Collect and base purchasing decisions on accurate and meaningful information about environmental performance.

3.4 Key supplier: A supplier of a material ingredient that comprises at least 5% by weight of a particular finished product, or that contains one or more chemicals of concern as defined by section 5.4.1a – 5.4.1e.

3.5 Life cycle

3.5.1 Life cycle: Consecutive and interlinked stages of a product system, from raw material acquisition or to final disposition or reuse. *ISO 14040*

3.5.2 Life cycle assessment (LCA): Compilation and evaluation of the inputs, outputs and the potential environmental impacts of a product system throughout its life cycle. *ISO 14040* (see Annex A, Figure A.1).

3.5.3 Life cycle design: An approach for designing more ecologically and economically sustainable product systems, integrating environmental requirements into the earliest stages of design. In life cycle design, environmental, performance, cost, cultural and legal requirements are balanced. (*EPA Introduction to Environmental Accounting June 1995*).

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

3.5.4 Life cycle impact assessment: Phase of life cycle assessment aimed at understanding and evaluating the magnitude and significance of the potential environmental impacts of a product system. *ISO 14040*

3.6 Local community: A geographical unit generally defined as within 45 mi of the primary production facility where the product is manufactured or distributed.

3.7 Post-consumer recycled material: Waste material generated by households or by commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities in their role as end users of a product, which is no longer used for its intended purpose (see ISO 14021).

For wallcovering, post-consumer recycled material is identified as products that have been used for their original intended purpose and are being used as a raw material for a product re-entering the marketplace for a subsequent purpose.

3.8 Pre-consumer recycled material: Material diverted from the waste stream during the manufacturing or distribution process. This term excludes reutilized materials such as rework, regrind, and scrap that are capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated them with a minimal amount of reprocessing.

3.9 Registration: A procedure by which an independent third party gives written assurance that a system conforms to specified requirements, mandatory or voluntary, regulated or non-regulated.

3.10 Waste: anything left over or superfluous, as excess material or by-products, not of use for the work in hand. It is often materials that are managed via landfilling or incineration.

3.11 Direct emissions: Those that are produced by a source controlled by the company. Examples include operations within a company-owned factory, or gasoline burning company c.

3.12 Indirect emissions: Those that result from a company activity, but are produced by a source external to the company. One common example is use of electricity produced by a commercial utility. The company uses the electricity to run lights or office equipment but the electric utility is producing the power (and the emissions).

4 Conformance, Evaluation, and Assessment Criteria

4.1 Elements

The sustainable assessment criteria for Wallcovering Manufacturing & Distribution are divided into six basic categories consisting of credits that are potentially available to organizations seeking compliance with this standard. The six categories are:

- Product Design;
- Product Manufacturing;
- Long-term Value;
- End of Life Management;
- Corporate Governance; and
- Innovation

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

The criteria are grouped in general conformance with a product's life cycle, from design with material selection and production to manufacturing, distribution, use, and end of life. Additionally, criteria related to corporate governance are included to address issues of social responsibility.

4.2 Scoring methodology

For users choosing to rate the sustainability performance of products evaluated in accordance with this Standard, a point-based scoring system has been developed. Presented in Annex A, this system is based on a 232 point scale (excluding optional innovation credits), with the different points for the various assessment criteria allocated as follows:

- a) Product Design – (57 total points are possible)
 - a. Manufacturer: 50 points
 - b. Distributor: 7 points
- b) Product Manufacturing – (87 total points are possible)
 - a. Manufacturer: 63 points
 - b. Distributor: 24 points
- c) Long-term Value – (26 total points are possible)
 - a. Manufacturer: 26 points
 - b. Distributor: 0 points
- d) End of Life Management – (24 total points are possible)
 - a. Manufacturer: 20points
 - b. Distributor: 4 points
- e) Corporate Governance – (38 total points are possible)
 - a. Manufacturer: 22 points
 - b. Distributor: 16 points
- f) Innovation – (8 total points are possible)
 - a. Manufacturer: 6 point
 - b. Distributor: 2 point

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

4.3 Procedures for labeling and reporting

4.3.1 Basic principle

The methodology for assessing whether a product conforms to the product environmental and social responsibility criteria and for verifying ongoing conformance shall be documented and be of sufficient detail to provide consumer confidence that this Standard has been correctly conformed to.

4.3.2 Declaration of level of conformance/labeling

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Achievement of conformance with the requisite criteria/points shall permit users to make the following product declarations:

Sustainable Product Achievement	
Conformant	Minimum 106 points
Silver	Minimum 130 points
Gold	Minimum 157 points
Platinum	Minimum 201 points

A minimum of 15 points needs to be provided by the distributor for Conformant or Silver rating; a minimum of 20 points needs to be provided by the distributor for any higher category.

4.3.3 Public reporting

Users making a declaration of conformance shall report in a publicly available document.

4.3.4 Monitoring and reevaluation

Procedures shall exist, and shall be documented, to regularly monitor and measure continued conformance of products to this Standard. In no event shall monitoring and reevaluation occur less frequently than once every third year providing no significant changes have been made to the product.

4.3.5 Non-conformance and corrective and preventative action

Authority shall be assigned and supported by corporate management for identifying and investigating nonconformance, and taking the appropriate action. In establishing and maintaining procedures for investigating and correcting non-conformance, the manufacturer and distributor shall include these basic elements:

- a) Identify the cause of the non-conformance;
- b) Identify and implement the necessary corrective action;
- c) Implement or modify controls necessary to avoid repetition of the non-conformance; and
- d) Record any changes in written procedures resulting from the corrective action.

4.3.6 Certification

Information on suggested parameters for certification is provided in Annex B.

5 Product Design

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

5.1 Purpose

The purpose of this section is to encourage manufacturers and distributors to integrate environmental and life-cycle thinking into the product design process.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

5.2 Enlightened design process

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

The criteria in this section are to encourage the understanding of environmental impacts of products by the product designers and developers.

5.2.1 Environmental considerations in design

5.2.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive two points for implementing an environmental assessment program within the product design and development system. The program shall consider the environmental attributes and impacts of its products and packaging, including issues such as designing for longevity, designing for reusability, and designing for recyclability and/or compostability. The environmental assessment program shall consider environmental attributes and impacts of products and packaging across the entire product life cycle (e. g., raw material extraction, manufacturing, use, and end of life).

5.2.1.2 The distributor shall receive one point for supporting the manufacturer in implementing an environmental assessment program within the product design and development system. The program shall consider the environmental attributes and impacts of its products and packaging, including issues such as designing for longevity, designing for reusability, and designing for recyclability and/or compostability. The environmental assessment program shall consider environmental attributes and impacts of products and packaging across the entire product life cycle (e. g., raw material extraction, manufacturing, use, and end of life).

5.2.2 Life cycle assessment (LCA) or Design for Environment (DFE) assessment

By demonstrating that one of the following actions below was completed within the past three years relative to the product undergoing assessment, the manufacturer shall receive points as detailed below. A maximum of eight points shall be awarded for 5.2.2 for the manufacturer and one point maximum for the distributor.

5.2.2.1

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

- a) The manufacturer shall receive two points if it completes a Design for Environment (or equivalent) assessment.^{24 7}

¹⁵ American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH®), 1330 Kemper Meadow Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45240 <www.acgih.org>.

¹⁶ California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95812-2815 <www.oehha.ca.gov>.

¹⁷ Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 11-13 Chemin des Anémones, 1219 Châtelainem Geneva, Switzerland <www.pops.int>.

¹⁸ McDonough Braungart Design Chemistry (MBDC), 1001 E. Market Street, Suite 200, Charlottesville, VA 22902 <www.mbdc.com>.

¹⁹ U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Center for Environmental Assessment, Office of Research and Development, Washington, DC 20460 <cfpub.epa.gov/ncea>

²⁰ ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428 <www.astm.org>.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

b) The manufacturer shall receive four points if it completes a cradle-to-gate or cradle-to-grave ISO 14040-42-conformant life cycle assessment. Life cycle impact assessment shall be performed using a publicly available life cycle impact assessment methodology that addresses, at a minimum, the following five environmental impacts:

- Global Warming / Greenhouse Gas Loadings;
- Acidification / Acidifying Gas Loadings;
- Ozone Depletion / Release of Ozone-Depleting Chemicals;
- Photochemical Smog Formation / Ground Level Ozone Loading; and
- Eutrophication / Nitrogen Loading.

c) The manufacturer shall receive two points if it contributes data to any recognized LCA or LCI tool.

NOTE – For example, the ~~use of or~~ contribution to the TRACI life cycle assessment model from USEPA or Athena® Ecocalculator demonstrates conformance with this criterion.

5.2.2.2

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

The distributor shall receive one point if it contributes data to any recognized LCA or LCI tool.

NOTE – For example, the contribution to the TRACI life cycle assessment model from USEPA or Athena® Ecocalculator demonstrates conformance with this criterion.

5.3 Environmentally sustainable material inputs

The criteria in this section are intended to ensure that the manufacturer and distributor are fully informed as to the material composition of its products, including packaging and recommended attachment systems. The criteria are also meant to encourage the selection and use of component materials manufactured wholly or in part from environmentally sustainable inputs such as recycled materials and bio-based resources to reduce the environmental impact where ever possible.

5.3.1 Inventory of material inputs

The criteria in this section is intended to ensure that the manufacturer and distributor are fully informed as to the material composition of its products, including packaging and recommended attachment systems. The criteria are to encourage the selection and use of component materials manufactured wholly or in part from environmentally sustainable inputs such as recycled materials and bio-based resources to reduce the environmental impact where ever possible.–

5.3.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive two points if it completes an inventory of material inputs for the product undergoing assessment (including packaging and recommended attachment systems system). At a minimum, the inventory shall report inputs on using Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) nomenclature, with inputs classified as hazardous declared to a minimum 1000 ppm (0.1%) threshold and other inputs to

²¹ National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169 <www.nfpa.org>.

²² U.S. General Services Administration, 1800 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20405
<apps.fas.gsa.gov/pub/fedspeccs>.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

10,000 ppm (1.0%) threshold, consistent with US regulatory thresholds. The manufacturer shall classify the materials by their environmentally sustainable nature (e. g., recycled [pre- or post-consumer], bio-based).

5.3.1.2 The distributor shall receive one point if it completes an inventory of material inputs for the product undergoing assessment (including packaging and recommended attachment systems system). At a minimum, the inventory shall report inputs on using Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) nomenclature, with inputs classified as hazardous declared to a minimum 1000 ppm (0.1%) threshold and other inputs to 10,000 ppm (1.0%) threshold. The distributor shall classify the materials by their environmentally sustainable nature (e. g., recycled [pre- or post-consumer], bio-based).

5.3.2 Environmentally sustainable inputs – product

5.3.2.1 For the product undergoing assessment, the manufacturer shall declare the total quantity of environmentally sustainable inputs, specified on a percentage weight basis. The manufacturer shall receive two points per 5.0% environmentally **preferable** content. A maximum of sixteen points shall be awarded for 5.3.2.

5.3.2.2 For the product undergoing assessment, the distributor shall get two points for contributing post-consumer or pre-consumer recycled content to the manufacturer to support the development of an environmentally **preferable** content infrastructure for the wallcovering industry.

Reason: *Language modified to reflect the terminology used in the equation.*

Recycled content quantity shall be calculated as follows:

- Post-consumer recycled content shall be valued at 100% weight basis; and
- Pre-consumer recycled content shall be valued at 50% weight basis.

Bio-based resource content shall be calculated as follows:

- Bio-based resources sourced from operations operating in conformance with internationally recognized organic, sustainable agriculture, or sustainable forestry criteria shall be valued at 100% basis, and

Reason: *Specific examples are not needed and therefore have been removed.*

- All other bio-based resources shall be valued at 50% weight basis.

Environmentally preferable content shall be calculated as follows:

- Materials **demonstrated** to have a lower environment footprint than a postconsumer material or sustainable/organic bio-based resource alternative shall be valued at 100% weight basis; and
- Materials **demonstrated** to have a lower environment footprint than a preconsumer material or bio-based resource alternative shall be valued at 50% weight basis.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Reason: *The term ‘proven’ has been replaced by the term ‘demonstrated’. A lower environmental footprint would be hard to prove but could be demonstrated.*

5.3.3 Environmentally sustainable inputs – packaging

5.3.3.1 For the product undergoing assessment, the manufacturer shall declare the total quantity of environmentally sustainable inputs of the packaging materials specified on a percentage weight basis. The quantity shall be calculated as described in 5.5.2. The manufacturer shall receive either two points for 50% post-consumer recycled content, or four points for 75% post-consumer recycled content.

5.3.3.2 For the product undergoing assessment, the distributor shall receive one point for using or utilizing packaging and shipping materials that include 75% recycled content. The distributor shall receive one point for assisting the manufacturer in reducing the packaging requirements or by requiring that packaging provided by the manufacturer is chosen that allows recycling.

Reason: *Section 6.8 moved to 5.3.3 to be consistent with the other NSF sustainability standards.*

5.4 Human and ecologically friendly inputs

The criteria in this section is intended to ensure that the manufacturer or distributor is fully informed as to the human and ecological hazards associated with the chemical composition of its products, including the recommended attachment systems. These criteria are also meant to encourage the use of environmentally compatible chemicals while minimizing and eliminating the use of chemicals of concern.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

5.4.1 Pre-requisite: Identification of use of chemicals of concern

The manufacturer shall create report classifying the material inputs for the product undergoing assessment, including recommended attachment systems, by the chemical hazard classifications listed below. At a minimum, the manufacturer shall report whether the material input comprising at least 1000 ppm (0.1%) of the product or attachment systems is classified as any of the following:

- a) International Agency on the Research of Cancer (IARC) – Group 1 – Carcinogenic to Humans and Group 2A – Probably Carcinogenic to Humans;
- b) National Toxicology Program (NTP) – Known Human Carcinogen and Reasonably Anticipated to be a Human Carcinogen;

Reason: *The carcinogen list has been modified to include the NTP "reasonably anticipated human carcinogens" and the IARC chemicals classified as "probably carcinogenic to humans." Chemicals in these categories have strong evidence of carcinogenic activity in experimental animals and often also have suggestive evidence in human populations.*

- c) Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) – Regulated Toxic Metal or Carcinogen;
- d) California Proposition 65 – Known to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity;

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

- e) USEPA Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic (PBT) chemicals—Known persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic chemicals and compounds (a subset of the EPA TRI list of chemicals and compounds); or
- f) USEPA TRI – Complete USEPA toxic chemical list (including known PBT chemicals and compounds).

5.4.2 Minimization of known chemicals of concern in product

The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that the product does not contain any known carcinogen as listed in 5.4.1.1a – 5.4.1.1d at levels equal or greater than 1000 ppm (0.1%) or the level that requires labeling under California Proposition 65, whichever is higher.

The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that the product does not contain any known reproductive toxicant as listed in 5.4.1.1d at levels equal or greater than 1000 ppm (0.1%) or the level that requires labeling under California Proposition 65, whichever is higher.

The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that the product does not contain any known toxic metal as listed in 5.4.1.1c at levels equal or greater than 1000 ppm (0.1%).

The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that the product does not contain any known PBT chemical or compound as listed in 5.4.1.1e at levels equal or greater than 1000 ppm (0.1%).

The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that the product does not contain any other toxic chemical as listed in 5.4.1.1f at levels equal or greater than 1000 ppm (0.1%).

A maximum of ten points shall be awarded for 5.4.2.

5.4.3 Minimization of known chemicals of concern in recommended attachment systems

The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that no component listed as a carcinogen or reproductive toxicant as defined in 5.4.1.1a – 5.4.1.1d comprises more than 0.1% (1000 ppm) of the total mass of the attachment systems.

5.4.4 Elimination of chemicals with upstream concerns

For those material inputs present in the product at equal or greater than 5% (five percent), the manufacturer shall receive:

- Two points for demonstrating that the upstream production operations do not release known PBT chemicals or compounds (see 5.6.1e) at or above USEPA (CERCLA Reportable Quantity {RQ}) reporting thresholds; and/or
- Two points for demonstrating that the upstream production operations do not release any listed TRI chemicals or compounds (see 5.6.1.f) at or above USEPA (CERCLA RQ) reporting thresholds.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Reason: *Clarification of the intended reporting threshold. “USEPA reporting thresholds” are intended. The CERCLA Reportable Quantity is recommended as the most appropriate threshold to reference and is used in a similar credit in the NSF/ANSI 140 Sustainable carpet assessment.*

5.5 Informed selection of suppliers

The criteria in this section are **intended** to encourage manufacturers or distributors **understanding** of the environmental performance of their key suppliers.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

5.5.1 Supplier environmental disclosure

The manufacturer shall receive two points for documenting the implementation of a key supplier environmental disclosure process requiring key supplier disclosure of environmental performance information including, at a minimum:

- Compliance (or lack thereof) with local, state, and federal and environmental other relevant regulations and report of any outstanding violations or issues of non-compliance;
- Presence (or absence) of a documented environmental management system prepared and operated in general accordance with ISO 14001;
- Release of reportable quantities of TRI PBTs;
- Use (or lack thereof) of renewable energy supplies; and
- Amount of direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions.

5.5.2 Supplier environmental performance disclosure

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

5.5.2.1 The manufacturer shall document the percent of its key suppliers that have satisfactorily conformed to the company’s environmental disclosure requirements as described in 5.5.1. The manufacturer shall either receive two points if 50-74% of its key suppliers by weight volume of purchased product have conformed, or receive four points if 75% or more of its key suppliers have conformed by weight volume of purchased product.

5.5.2.2 The distributor shall document the percent of its key suppliers that have satisfactorily conformed to the company’s environmental disclosure requirements as described in 5.5.1. The distributor shall either receive one point if 50-74% of its key suppliers by weight volume of purchased product have conformed, or receive two points if 75% or more of its key suppliers have conformed by weight volume of purchased product.

6 Product manufacturing

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Reason: *Title modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

6.1 Purpose

The criteria in this section are intended to encourage manufacturers and distributors to quantify the environmental impacts from their manufacturing and distribution, and act to reduce or remove those impacts.

6.2 Environmental policy and management

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

The intent of these criteria is to ensure that manufacturers and distributors have a basis from which to actualize strategic environmental management within the organization.

6.2.1 Environmental Management System (EMS)

6.2.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive two points for implementing a formal (EMS) that was prepared in accordance with the criteria set forth in ISO 14001.

6.2.1.2 The distributor shall receive one point for implementing a formal (EMS) that was prepared in accordance with the criteria set forth in ISO 14001.

6.2.2 Registered EMS system

6.2.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive two points for documenting that its EMS is third party certified to ISO 14001.

6.2.2.2 The distributor shall receive one point for documenting that its EMS is third party certified to ISO 14001.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

6.2.3 Maintaining environmental attributes

The manufacturer shall receive two points for implementing a tracking system to ensure that a design criterion for the product being certified is specified in its EMS system.

6.3 Conservation of energy resources

A manufacturer or distributor can reduce its environmental impact by means of its energy initiatives: reduction of consumption (i. e., conservation) and selection of source (i. e., renewability). The intent of this criteria in this section is to encourage both approaches in order to reduce the environmental impacts from energy production and consumption, including resource depletion, greenhouse gas emissions, and hazardous air pollutants.

6.3.1 Energy inventory

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

6.3.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive two points for completing an inventory of energy use that encompasses both production (including quantity and source) and product distribution (e. g., transportation fleet consumption, including owned, contracted, or otherwise supplied vehicles).

6.3.1.2 The distributor shall receive one point for completing an inventory of energy use that encompasses both warehousing and product distribution (e.g., transportation fleet consumption, including owned, contracted, or otherwise supplied vehicles).

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

6.3.2 Reduction of environmental impact of energy input

6.3.2.1 The manufacturer shall demonstrate overall reduction in the environmental impact of its energy inputs on a unit product basis, facility basis, or total manufacturing operation basis.

Reduction shall be calculated from 1990 or later. Impact reduction shall be quantified as follows:

- Measured reductions in energy consumption (including that supplied as direct fuel, electricity, and/or steam); and/or
- Conversion of energy inputs from non-renewable resources (e. g., fossil fuels) to renewable alternatives.

6.3.2.2 The distributor shall demonstrate overall reduction in the environmental impact of its energy inputs on a unit product basis, facility basis, or total distribution operation basis.

Reduction shall be calculated from 1990 or later. Impact reduction shall be quantified as follows:

- Measured reductions in energy consumption (including that supplied as direct fuel, electricity, and/or steam); and/or
- Conversion of energy inputs from non-renewable resources (e. g., fossil fuels) to renewable alternatives.

The manufacturer or distributor shall receive points according to Table 6.1. A maximum of twenty points are available for the manufacturer and a maximum of ten points are available for the distributor for 6.3.2.1 and 6.3.2.2.

Table 6.1 – Energy Input Percent Reduction Threshold

Percent reduction threshold & Points awarded

Percent reduction threshold	Points awarded – Manufacturers	Points awarded – Distributor
1%	2	1
2%	4	2
5%	6	3
8%	8	4
11%	10	5

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

15%	12	6
20%	14	7
26%	16	8
35%	18	9
51%	20	10

6.4 Management of water resources

The intent of the criteria within this section is to encourage the conservation of water resources and protection of water quality.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

6.4.1 Water use inventory

6.4.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive two points for completing an inventory of water use including identification of quantity of water used, quantity consumed (e. g., loss through evaporation), and sources (e. g., municipal potable, direct capture, on-site wells, or reclaimed waste water).

6.4.1.2 The distributor shall receive one point for completing an inventory of water use including identification of quantity of water used, quantity consumed, and sources (e. g., municipal potable, direct capture, on-site wells, or reclaimed waste water).

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

6.4.2 Reduced water consumption

6.4.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive two points for an average 1%/year reduction of water use and consumption averaged over a given five-year period during the last ten years, on a per-unit or total basis.

6.4.2.2 The distributor shall receive one point for an average 1%/year reduction of water use and consumption averaged over a given five-year period during the last ten years, on a per-unit or total basis.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

6.4.3 Water quality

The manufacturer shall document that wastewater released either to a publicly owned treatment works (POTW), or directly to the environment, is of a quality equal to or better than the quality of the supplied water according to established standards.

A manufacturer can earn either two or four points, as detailed below:

- Two points if the wastewater's quality meets local tertiary wastewater treatment standards; or
- Four points if the wastewater's quality meets State drinking water level standards.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

6.5 Optimization of material resources

Inefficient materials selection, supplier delivery, production processes, and warehousing operations can lead to high levels of waste generation and corresponding losses in production yields. The criteria in this section are intended to encourage the maximization of yield from product(s) raw materials and to minimize the generation of waste materials during production.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

6.5.1 Solid waste minimization program

6.5.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive two points for having a documented and operational waste minimization program that includes quantification of waste generation rate.

The distributor shall receive one point for having a documented and operational waste minimization program that includes quantification of waste generation rate.

NOTE – For the purposes of 6.5, “waste” is defined as material that shall be managed via landfilling or incineration.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

6.5.2 Waste minimization

6.5.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive either:

- Two points for demonstrating a waste generation reduction rate of at least 2% per year (five-year rolling average); or
- Four points for demonstrating an annual average total waste generation rate of less than 2.0% on a weight basis: percentage is based on the total production weight in a given period of time (i.e., weight / year).

Reason: *Waste minimization is based on an annual basis.*

6.5.2.2 The distributor shall receive either:

- One point for demonstrating a waste generation reduction rate of at least 2% per year; or
- Two points for demonstrating a waste generation reduction rate of at least 4% per year; or
- Three points for demonstrating a waste generation reduction rate of at least 6% per year.

A maximum of seven points shall be awarded for 6.5.3 and 6.5.4.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Reason: 6.8 moved to section 5 to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards

6.5.3 Packaging minimization

6.5.3.1 The manufacturer shall use packaging and delivery options designed to minimize waste generation during transport and installation of product. It shall receive two points if a product's packaging weight is documented as constituting less than 5% of the product's weight, not including the weight of the pallet. Alternatively, the manufacturer shall receive two points if a product's packaging weight is documented as constituting less than 8% of the product's weight, including the weight of the pallet.

A manufacturer can receive an additional point for implementing a packaging reuse program to provide a means for reusing collected packaging materials.

A maximum of three points are available for **6.5.3.1**.

6.5.3.2 The distributor shall receive one point for demonstrating working with the manufacturer to develop and implement packaging and delivery options designed to minimize waste generation during transport and installation of product. A distributor can contribute an additional point if it participates in a packaging material return for reuse program, reuse of packaging materials reshipped from a distribution facility, or can document that packaging materials have been collected and entered into a local recycling market.

A maximum of two points are available for **6.5.3.2**.

Reason: Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.

6.6 Protection of air resources

The criteria in this section are intended to minimize or eliminate the production and release of greenhouse gases and of known PBT air contaminants.

6.6.1 Greenhouse gas loadings

6.6.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive two points for completing a greenhouse gas inventory for product manufacturing operations in accordance with ISO 14064 or an equivalent standard.

6.6.1.2 The distributor shall receive one point for completing a greenhouse gas inventory for distribution operations in accordance with ISO 14064 or an equivalent standard.

Reason: Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.

6.6.2 Greenhouse gas reduction goals

The manufacturer shall receive two points for establishing greenhouse gas reduction targets equal to or stricter than the relevant Kyoto protocol goals.

6.6.3 Greenhouse gas reductions

The manufacturer shall demonstrate a reduction in greenhouse gas loadings on a per unit production basis.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

NOTE – Consistent scope of production must be reflected, and the initial year of calculation must be 1990 or later. The manufacturer shall receive two points for each 25% reduction. A maximum of six points will be awarded for 6.6.3.

6.6.4 PBT reductions

The manufacturer shall demonstrate that emissions of PBT compounds are below reporting levels as defined under the CERCLA RQ. The manufacturer shall receive two points for achieving this goal in relation to emissions from its on-site activities, and/or two points for achieving the goal in relation to emissions from its supplied electricity source/s, for a maximum of four total points.

7 Long-Term Value

7.1 Purpose

The criteria in this section are intended to encourage manufacturers or distributors to maximize product longevity. The longevity of a product is dependent on its durability, performance and maintenance characteristics which can reduce the replacement cycle and the resulting impact on the environment. Reclamation at the end of a product's life also reduces the environmental impact.

7.2 Fitness of purpose

The criteria in this section are intended to demonstrate that the product performs at or above recognized industry performance standards, in order to ensure that the incorporation of positive environmental attributes has not been undermined by lower-quality performance. These criteria are to encourage product reclamation, thereby conserving material resources and limiting the responsibility of future generations to manage today's wastes.

7.2.1 Durability

The manufacturer shall receive eight points for providing documentation showing that the product performs at or above all of the following industry-recognized standards that are relevant to the specific product:

CCC-W-408D
ASTM F793

7.2.2 Fire resistance & Smoke Density

The manufacturer shall receive four points for providing documentation of fire resistance showing that the product performs at or above industry standards as described in NFPA 101 Life Safety Code. Additionally, the manufacturer can receive two points for demonstrating that the product performs at or above relevant industry standards for smoke density as described in NFPA 101 Life Safety Code.

7.3 Protection of indoor air quality

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

This section is to demonstrate that the product and its associated infrastructure (e. g., its recommended attachment systems) do not release chemicals of concern or provide a pathway for other vectors that are potentially irritating and/or harmful to installers and occupants.

7.3.1 Minimal long-term indoor volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions

The manufacturer shall demonstrate that the product complies with the criteria established within CDPH/EHLB/Standard Method V 1.1. Testing shall be performed in accordance with CDPH/EHLB/Standard Method V 1.1, GGTM.P066, or equivalent. The manufacturer shall receive four points if the product meets the aforesaid criterion, and/or two points if the recommended adhesive system for the product meets the same criterion. A maximum of six points shall be awarded for 7.3.1. The CREL levels that are appropriate for this testing are listed in the CDPH/EHLB/Standard Method V 1.1.

Reason: *The appropriate reference for CA Section 01350 should be California Department of Public Health's (CDPH/EHLB) Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers Version 1.1 and the appropriate reference for GREENGUARD testing should be GREENGUARD Environmental Institute's Standard Method for Measuring and Evaluating Chemical Emissions from Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings Using Dynamic Environmental Chambers (GGTM.P066).*

7.3.2 De minimis indoor carcinogenic VOC emissions

The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that the product complies with the requirements of the GGPS.002. The testing should be conducted in accordance with CDPH/EHLB/Standard Method V 1.1, GGTM.P066, or equivalent.

Reason: *The guidance given in the old CA 01350 Section 8.2 for how to show that a product did not emit carcinogenic or reproductive toxicants above the safe exposure levels is no longer in the new CA 01350 and . The new direction is given in Section 4.1 of CA 01350 and only requires the listing of the toxic substances. As the current CA 01350 only looks at 35 chemicals, to expand beyond 35 the GREENGUARD Children & Schools Certification has individual levels for over 360 chemicals and has a Total Volatile Organic Chemical limit to help provide a 'backstop' against chemicals that have not been completely researched yet.*

7.3.3 Minimal short-term attachment systems and sealant emissions

The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that the product complies with the requirements in CDPH/EHLB/Standard Method V 1.1. The testing should be conducted in accordance with CDPH/EHLB/Standard Method V 1.1, GGTM.P066, or equivalent.

Reason: *The appropriate reference for CA Section 01350 should be California Department of Public Health's (CDPH/EHLB) Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers Version 1.1 and the appropriate reference for GREENGUARD testing should be GREENGUARD Environmental Institute's Standard Method for Measuring and Evaluating Chemical Emissions from Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings Using Dynamic Environmental Chambers (GGTM.P066).*

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

7.4 Compatibility with green cleaning strategies

This section is to ensure that Wallcovering Manufacturing & Distribution products sold in the marketplace are compatible with, and encourage the use of, green cleaning strategies and all “maintenance” activities. Green cleaning considers the elements that can protect occupant health while minimizing negative impacts on the environment.

7.4.1 Elimination of chemicals of concern from cleaning products

The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that the recommended cleaning products and maintenance procedures (including stripping and covering) do not require the use of any of the listed chemicals of concern described in 5.4.1a – 5.4.1f at levels equal to or greater than 1000 ppm (0.1%).

7.4.2 Control of VOC emissions from cleaning products

The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that recommended cleaning products do not exceed the maximum allowable VOC levels established for the relevant product group as described in The California Consumer Products Regulations – Consumer Products, sections 94507-94517.

8 End of Life Management

Reason: Section 7.5 – 7.8 has been modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.

8.1 Reclamation feasibility

The criteria in this section are to ensure that existing and new Wallcovering Manufacturing & Distribution products can be collected, processed, recycled, and/or composted.

8.1.1 Product recyclability

The manufacturer shall demonstrate that post-consumer collected material (including installation waste) meets at least one of the following criteria:

- a) The material can be recycled into a different product group;
- b) The material can be recycled into a similar product; or
- c) The material can be recycled into a same product group.

The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that the recycled material can comprise 5% by weight of the final product conforming to 8.1.1a or 8.1.1b.

The manufacturer shall receive four points for demonstrating that the recycled material can comprise 5% by weight of the final product conforming to 8.1.1c or for demonstrating that the recycled material can comprise 10% by weight of the final product conforming to 8.1.1a or 8.1.1b.

8.1.2 Compostability

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

The material can be composted or otherwise converted into a beneficial soil amendment (e. g., offer examples). For the compostability claim, the manufacturer shall demonstrate that any product being composted conforms to ASTM D6400 – 04 Standard Specification for Compostable Plastics. The manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that the product can be composted.

8.1.3 Post-consumer collection operations

8.1.3.1 For products that have been available for sale for five years or more, the manufacturer shall receive two points for demonstrating that the product (including installation waste) can be collected for recycling or composting through ongoing collection operations. For new products (e. g., those with a market presence of less than five years), the manufacturer shall demonstrate preparation and implementation of a post-consumer collection and recovery plan.

8.1.3.2 The distributor shall receive one point for demonstrating that the product (including installation waste) is being collected for recycling or composting through ongoing collection operations. For new products (e. g., those with a market presence of less than five years), the distributor shall demonstrate preparation and implementation of a post-consumer collection and recovery plan.

8.2 Reclamation and stewardship

The criteria in this section are to encourage the diversion of wallcovering materials from landfilling, and to promote the redirection of material resources into new products instead.

8.2.1 Post-consumer reclamation

The manufacturer shall receive points for documenting and reporting the product post-consumer reclamation rate of products. The rate shall be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Reclamation Rate} = \frac{\text{lbs of all post-consumer product reclaimed (annually)}}{\text{lbs of annual production of product being certified}}$$

The manufacturer may include any or all of the following in reclamation calculation:

- Material recovered via wallcovering manufacturer's on-site post-consumer collection operations and composted or recycled into new products;
- Purchase of post-consumer wallcovering material for manufacture into new wallcovering or alternative products; and/or
- Other financial or contractual instruments that can be quantified as to annual weight of wallcovering product recycled or composted. Reclaimed materials or waste stream materials outside of wallcovering materials can be included in the calculation.

The manufacturer shall receive two points for 1 or 2% post-consumer reclamation; four points for 3 or 4% post-consumer reclamation; or, at a maximum, six points for 5% or greater post-consumer reclamation.

8.2.2 Corporate investment in reclamation

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

8.2.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive points for the percent of its revenue from the specific certified product that it commits to documented activities associated with improving the reclamation rate of its products. Points shall be awarded as follows:

- Two points for 0.05% of revenue from the specific certified product invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging);
- Four points for 0.10% of revenue from the specific certified product invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging); or
- Six points for 0.15% or more of revenue from the specific certified product invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging).

A maximum of six points shall be awarded for 8.2.2.1 for the manufacturer.

Qualifying activities include research and development in materials processing and new product development (using reclaimed materials); purchase and installation of processing equipment to be used wholly or in part for the processing of reclaimed wallcovering materials, including composting grinding equipment; and other quantifiable financial support of post-consumer material collection, processing, manufacturing and distribution activities (including ongoing labor expenses).

8.2.2.2 The distributor shall receive points for the percent of its revenue from the specific certified product that it commits to documented programs associated with improving the reclamation rate of its products. Points shall be awarded as follows:

- One point for 0.05% of revenue from the specific certified product invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging);
- Two points for 0.10% of revenue from the specific certified product invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging); or
- Three points for 0.15% or more of revenue from the specific certified product invested (annual average, maximum five-year averaging).

A maximum of three points shall be awarded for 8.2.2.2 for the distributor.

Qualifying activities include research and development in materials processing and new product development (using reclaimed materials); purchase and installation of processing equipment to be used wholly or in part for the processing of reclaimed wallcovering materials, including composting grinding equipment; and other quantifiable financial support of post-consumer material collection, processing, manufacturing and distribution activities (including ongoing labor expenses).

9 Corporate Governance

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

9.1 Purpose

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

The criteria in this section are intended to encourage corporate social responsibility in the forms of providing a desirable workplace, being involved in the local community, and demonstrating financial health.

9.2 Public commitment to sustainability

The criteria in this section are intended to demonstrate corporate/organizational leadership in public disclosure and transparency of key environmental and social accountability objectives and data.

9.2.1 Supplier social accountability

9.2.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for documenting the implementation of a supplier social accountability disclosure process requiring key supplier disclosure of social accountability information including, at a minimum:

- Declaration of compliance with local, regional, and federal labor requirements, and report of any outstanding violations or issues of non-compliance; and
- Documentation and assessment of social accountability conformance prepared in accordance with the social indicators described in GRI, SA8000, or another comparable evaluation program.

9.2.1.2 The distributor shall receive one point for documenting the implementation of a supplier social accountability disclosure process requiring key supplier disclosure of social accountability information including, at a minimum:

- Declaration of compliance with local, state, and federal labor requirements, and report of any outstanding violations or issues of non-compliance; and
- Documentation and assessment of social accountability conformance prepared in accordance with the social indicators described in GRI, SA8000, or another comparable evaluation program.

9.2.2 Supplier social accountability disclosure

The manufacturer shall document the percent of its key suppliers that have satisfactorily conformed to the company's social accountability disclosure requirements as described in 9.2.1. The manufacturer shall either receive one points point if 50-74% of its key suppliers have conformed, or receive two points if 75% or more of its key suppliers have conformed.

9.2.3 Preliminary disclosure

9.2.3.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for releasing of one of the following publicly:

- Annual objectives & targets under company's registered or conforming ISO 14001 Environmental Management System;
- Product life-cycle assessment findings through participation in the Building for Economic and Environmental Sustainability (BEES), managed by the National Institute of Standards and

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Technology (NIST); TRACI; Athena's Eco-calculator; or other LCA approach recognized by the general industry

- Product life-cycle assessment findings prepared in conformance with ISO 14040-43 and independently peer reviewed;
- The company's social accountability performance as quantified under SA 8000 or equivalent.

The information shall be released in one of the following forms:

- Part of the company's annual report, available to all who request a copy; or
- Online; e.g., downloadable from the company's website.

9.2.3.2 The distributor shall receive one point for releasing of one of the following publicly:

- Annual objectives & targets under company's registered or conforming ISO 14001 Environmental Management System;
- Product life-cycle assessment findings through participation in the Building for Economic and Environmental Sustainability (BEES), managed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST); TRACI; Athena's Eco-calculator; or other LCA approach recognized by the general industry
- Product life-cycle assessment findings prepared in conformance with ISO 14040-43 and independently peer reviewed;
- The company's social accountability performance as quantified under SA 8000 or equivalent.

The information shall be released in one of the following forms:

- Part of the company's annual report, available to all who request a copy; or
- Online; e.g., downloadable from the company's website.

9.2.4 Comprehensive disclosure

The manufacturer shall receive one point for demonstrating one of the following:

- Public release of annual sustainability report per the guidelines of the Global Reporting Initiative of the United Nations Environment Program; or
- Public release of annual environmental and social accountability targets and achievements.

9.3 Employer responsibility

9.3.1 Employer turnover

9.3.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for quantifying and reporting the average employee turnover rate (per year or two-year rolling average).

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

9.3.1.2 The distributor shall receive one point for quantifying and reporting the average employee turnover rate (per year or two-year rolling average).

9.3.2 Employee injury rate

9.3.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive two points for quantifying and declaring the average employee injury rate (per year or two-year rolling average) as required by the governing reporting agency. At a minimum, the report shall include occupational accidents, injuries, illnesses, and disease.

9.3.2.2 The distributor shall receive one point for quantifying and declaring the average employee injury rate (per year or two-year rolling average) as required by the governing reporting agency. At a minimum, the report shall include occupational accidents, injuries, illnesses, and disease.

9.3.3 Right to collective bargaining

9.3.3.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for documenting the right of all personnel to independent and free association and to bargain collectively.

9.3.3.2 The distributor shall receive one point for documenting the right of all personnel to independent and free association and to bargain collectively.

9.3.4 Prevention of discrimination

9.3.4.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for demonstrating that it does not engage in or support discrimination in the employment process at the corporate level. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin;
- the Equal Pay Act of 1963 (EPA), which protects men and women who perform substantially equal work in the same establishment from sex-based wage discrimination;
- the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA), which protects individuals who are 40 years of age or older;
- Title I and Title V of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), which prohibit employment discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities in the private sector, and in state and local governments;
- Sections 501 and 505 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibit discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities who work in the federal government; and
- the Civil Rights Act of 1991, which, among other things, provides monetary damages in cases of intentional employment discrimination.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

9.3.4.2 The distributor shall receive one point for demonstrating that it does not engage in or support discrimination in the employment process at the corporate level. Examples include but are not limited to:

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

– Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin;

– the Equal Pay Act of 1963 (EPA), which protects men and women who perform substantially equal work in the same establishment from sex-based wage discrimination;

– the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA), which protects individuals who are 40 years of age or older;

– Title I and Title V of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), which prohibit employment discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities in the private sector, and in state and local governments;

– Sections 501 and 505 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibit discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities who work in the federal government; and

– the Civil Rights Act of 1991, which, among other things, provides monetary damages in cases of intentional employment discrimination.

Reason: *Modified to be consistent with other NSF Sustainable standards.*

9.3.5 Prohibitions on forced labor

9.3.5.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for demonstrating that it does not engage in or permit the use of forced or compulsory labor (per ILO conventions C29 and C105) at its facilities or those of its key suppliers, foreign and domestic.

9.3.5.2 The distributor shall receive one point for demonstrating that it does not engage in or permit the use of forced or compulsory labor (per ILO conventions C29 and C105) at its facilities or those of its key suppliers, foreign and domestic.

9.3.6 Prohibitions on child labor

9.3.6.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for demonstrating that it does not operate facilities or source supplies from countries that have not ratified ILO Convention 182.

9.3.6.2 The distributor shall receive one point for demonstrating that it does not operate facilities or source supplies from countries that have not ratified ILO Convention 182.

9.3.7 Living wages / remuneration

9.3.7.1 The manufacturer shall demonstrate compliance with all applicable legal minimum standards. The manufacturer shall receive one point for demonstrating for employees/workers other than management personnel that wages are paid directly to employees, with full disclosure of any required or authorized deductions (e. g., taxes, health care benefits, and retirement investments).

9.3.7.2 The distributor shall demonstrate compliance with all applicable legal minimum standards. The distributor shall receive one point for demonstrating for employees/workers other than management

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

personnel that wages are paid directly to employees, with full disclosure of any required or authorized deductions (e. g., taxes, health care benefits, and retirement investments).

Reason: *Only one option given, therefore a bulleted list is not needed.*

9.4 Community engagement

9.4.1 Community financial investment

9.4.1.1 The manufacturer shall declare, as a percent of net profitability, the average three year rolling monetary value provided to the community paid plus direct contributions (e. g., grants and investments). Employee salaries and other employee remuneration are expressly excluded from this calculation. For the purposes of this criterion, “community” means a geographical unit where the product is manufactured, sold, or distributed. Thus, investments made at a state or provincial level does not qualify for inclusion unless specifically designated for allocation to the local community. The manufacturer shall receive one point for investing 1% or more of its net profitability to the local community.

9.4.1.2 The distributor shall declare, as a percent of net profitability, the average three year rolling monetary value provided to the community paid plus direct contributions (e. g., grants and investments). Employee salaries and other employee remuneration are expressly excluded from this calculation. For the purposes of this criterion, “community” means a geographical unit where the product is sold or distributed. Thus, investments made at a state or provincial level does not qualify for inclusion unless specifically designated for allocation to the local community. The distributor shall receive one point for investing 1% or more of its net profitability to the local community.

9.4.2 Employee participation

9.4.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for documenting company-supported employee activities within the community. Company-supported employee activities consist of community service work performed during paid time off for that purpose, excluding activities deemed political in nature.

9.4.2.2 The distributor shall receive one point for documenting company-supported employee activities within the community. Company-supported employee activities consist of community service work performed during paid time off for that purpose, excluding activities deemed political in nature.

9.4.3 Local recruiting

9.4.3.1 The manufacturer shall receive one points for documenting net local employment (full-time equivalent basis) and local sourcing expenditures (U. S. dollars spent or equivalent) per year or three-year rolling average.

9.4.3.2 The distributor shall receive one point for documenting net local employment (full-time equivalent basis) and local sourcing expenditures (U. S. dollars spent or equivalent) per year or three-year rolling average.

9.4.4 Participation in governmental environmental excellence programs

9.4.4.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for achieving recognized Environmental Excellence through Local, State or Federal recognition programs.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

9.4.4.2 The distributor shall receive one point for achieving recognized Environmental Excellence through Local, State or Federal recognition programs.

9.5 Financial leadership

Sustainability requires triple bottom line actions that are important to achieve social and environmental goals.

Reason: Language added to be consistent with other NSF sustainability standards.

9.5.1 Profitability

9.5.1.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for demonstrating profitability.

9.5.1.2 The distributor shall receive one point for demonstrating profitability.

9.5.2 Investment in research and development

9.5.2.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for devoting ¼ % (0.25%) or more of its annual revenue to research and development activities intended to support the continuing viability of the company.

9.5.2.2 The distributor shall receive one point for devoting ¼ % (0.25%) or more of its annual revenue to research and development activities intended to support the continuing viability of the company.

9.5.3 Vendor/supplier satisfaction

9.5.3.1 The manufacturer shall receive one point for reporting the percentage of contracts that were paid in accordance with agreed terms, excluding agreed penalty arrangements. Terms may include scheduling of payments, form of payment, and other conditions.

9.5.3.2 The distributor shall receive one point for reporting the percentage of contracts that were paid in accordance with agreed terms, excluding agreed penalty arrangements. Terms may include scheduling of payments, form of payment, and other conditions.

9.6 Supplier audits

The manufacturer may receive up to two points for supplier audits.

It shall receive one point if it declares 10% or more of its key suppliers it has audited in the past five years to verify conformance with environmental and social accountability disclosure requirements.

It shall receive a second point if it has conducted annual reviews of 10% or more of its key suppliers.

10 Innovation

This section is intended to give manufacturers and distributors the opportunity to be awarded points for exceptional performance above the requirements set forth in sections of this Standard, and/or for innovative performance in categories not specifically addressed by this Standard. The number of points

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

awarded shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. A maximum of six points shall be awarded for innovation under this section to the manufacturer and a maximum of two points for the distributor.

Innovation credits shall be applied for and approved and are submitted by applicants to address topics that will further the promotion of sustainable wallcovering products.

Possible considerations for innovation include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Company level: Carbon Footprint Reduction
2. Product level: Recycled Content
3. Infrastructure Development for recycling
 - a. Industry wide collection system development process
 - b. What are the economics of this
 - c. Market development for recycled materials
4. Recycled content above the level in Section 5 (40%)
5. Performance based innovations were recommended. (product attribute based credits)
6. Reduced energy consumption in manufacturing beyond 51%.
7. Waste minimization using appropriate technology **demonstrating to be environmentally feasible.**
8. Reduced transportation
 - a. Light weight products
 - b. Distribution system improvement opportunities
9. Increased life cycle: standard product life increased. “one of the best things a manufacturer can do is make the product last a long time”
10. Lower emitting products.
11. Use of annually renewable resources (Bamboo or other bio-based inputs).
12. Products that increase energy efficiency of an interior space.
 - a. Thermal transmission
 - b. Light reflection
13. Demonstrate improvement in noise reduction.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Annex A (normative)

Scoring System Sustainable product assessment – Wallcovering Mfg & Distribution

Criteria	Description	Max Mfg Points	Max Dist Points
Section 5	Product Design		
5.2.1	Environmental Considerations in Design	2	1
5.2.2	LCA or DfE Assessment	8	1
5.3.1	Inventory of material inputs	2	1
5.3.2	Environmentally sustainable inputs – product	16	2
5.3.3	Environmentally sustainable inputs – packaging	4	2
5.4.1	Identification of use of chemicals of concern	pre-requisite	—
5.4.2	Minimization of known chemicals of concern in product	10	—
5.4.3	Minimization of known chemicals of concern in attachment systems	2	—
5.4.4	Elimination of chemicals with upstream concerns	4	—
5.5.1	Supplier environmental disclosure	2	—
5.5.2	Supplier environmental performance disclosure	4	2
	Section Total	54	9
Section 6	Intelligent Product Manufacturing		
6.2.1	Environmental Management System	2	1
6.2.2	Registered EMS system	2	1
6.2.3	Maintaining environmental attributes	2	—
6.3.1	Energy inventory	2	1
6.3.2	Reduction of environmental impact of energy input	20	10
6.4.1	Water use inventory	2	1
6.4.2	Reduced water consumption	2	1
6.4.3	Water quality	4	—
6.5.1	Waste minimization program	2	1
6.5.2	Waste minimization	4	3
6.5.3	Packaging minimization	3	2
6.6.1	Greenhouse gas loadings	2	1
6.6.2	Greenhouse gas reduction goals	2	—
6.6.3	Greenhouse gas reductions	6	—
6.6.4	PBT reductions	4	—
	Section Total	59	22

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Criteria	Description	Max Mfg Points	Max Dist Points
Section 7	Long-Term Value		
7.2.1	Durability	8	—
7.2.2	Fire Resistance & Smoke Density	4	—
7.3.1	Minimal Long Term Indoor VOC Emissions	6	—
7.3.2	De Minimis Indoor Carcinogenic VOC Emissions	2	—
7.3.3	Minimal Short Term Adhesive, Sealant, and Coating Emissions	2	—
7.4.1	Elimination of Chemicals of Concern From Cleaning Products	2	—
7.4.2	Control of VOC Emissions from Cleaning Products	2	—
Section Total		26	—
Section 8	End of Life Management		
8.1.1	Product Recyclability	4	—
8.1.2	Compostability	2	—
8.1.3	Post-Consumer Collection Operations (Manufacturer)	2	1
8.2.1	Post-Consumer Reclamation	6	—
8.2.2	Corporate Investment in Reclamation (Manufacturer)	6	3
Section Total		20	4

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Criteria	Description	Max Mfg Points	Max Dist Points
Section 9		Corporate Governance	
9.2.1.	Supplier social accountability	1	1
9.2.2	Supplier social accountability disclosure	2	—
9.2.3	Preliminary Disclosure	1	1
9.2.4	Comprehensive Disclosure	1	—
9.3.1	Employee Turnover	1	1
9.3.2	Employee Injury Rate	2	1
9.3.3	Right to Collective Bargaining	1	1
9.3.4	Prevention of Discrimination	1	1
9.3.5	Prohibitions on Forced Labor	1	1
9.3.6	Prohibitions on Child Labor	1	1
9.3.7	Living Wages/Remuneration	1	1
9.4.1	Community Financial Investment	1	1
9.4.2	Employee Participation	1	1
9.4.3	Local Recruiting	1	1
9.4.4	Participation in governmental environmental excellence	1	1
9.5.1	Profitability	1	1
9.5.2	Investment in research and development	1	1
9.5.3	Vendor/Supplier Satisfaction	1	1
9.6	Supplier audits	2	—
Section Total		22	16
Section 10		Innovation	
	Innovation	6	2
Section Total		6	2

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Section Point Totals		
Section 5	50	7
Section 6	63	24
Section 7	26	–
Section 8	20	4
Section 9	22	16
Section 10	6	2
	187	53

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

Annex B (informative)

Key elements of a certification program for environmentally preferable and sustainable Wallcovering Manufacturing & Distribution

B.1 General

Declaring conformance to this Standard identifies that a manufacturer designs, develops, and creates products in a manner that is considered to be in some measure sustainable and/or environmentally preferable. Conformance to this Standard alone does not imply certification. The manufacturer can provide additional public confidence regarding the attainment of these goals by undertaking independent conformity assessment (certification).

B.2 Product certification process

B.2.1 Selection of conformity assessment body

The manufacturer identifies a certification organization to perform the conformity assessment of the product assessment process for conformance with this Standard.

B.2.2 Conformity assessment to standard

The certifying organization performs the necessary functions to determine whether the manufacturer's operations and product(s) conform to the specified criteria. This may involve activities such as an audit of the manufacturing facility, review of the product formulation, testing, or review of documentation for assessing conformance with the specified criteria.

B.2.3 Issuance of product certification

If the product has been demonstrated adequately to meet the specifications described in this Standard, and any issues of nonconformance have been addressed, the certifying organization provides a product certification to the manufacturer. This may include the provision of documentation of certification of the product to the manufacturer, as well as inclusion of the product on any publicly available lists of certified products maintained by the certifying organization. The certifying organization instructs the manufacturer regarding appropriate use of the registered certification mark of the certifying organization.

B.2.4 Monitoring of product conformance

At intervals determined by the certifying organization, the continued conformance of the certified product to the specified criteria is monitored using periodic facility audits, periodic retesting, or both.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

B.3 Suggested requirements for certifying organizations

A certifying organization offering a certification program for environmentally preferable and sustainable Wallcovering Manufacturing & Distribution should conform to the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 65, General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems.

²³ The information contained in this Annex is not part of this American National Standard (ANS) and has not been processed in accordance with ANSI's requirements for an ANS. Therefore, this Annex may contain material that has not been subjected to public review or a consensus process. In addition, it does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to this Standard

B.3.1 Marking of certified product

The certifying organization should specify requirements for marking of certified products. Requirements for product marking should include, at a minimum:

- Certified products should bear a registered certification mark of the certifying organization; and
- Each product should bear a statement of achievement status (e. g., silver, gold.)

B.3.2 Listing certified companies

The certifying organization should maintain a published listing of all certified products. The listing format should include the following minimum information:

- company name and address;
- product description;
- trademark / formulation designation; and
- each environmentally preferable and sustainable product claim that has been successfully evaluated and is certified.

Environmentally preferable product – EPA provides guidance on Environmentally Preferable Purchasing.^{25 8} A portion of EPA's site includes the following discussion: *Multiple environmental attributes - Environmental preferability should reflect the consideration of multiple environmental attributes such as increased energy efficiency, reduced toxicity, or reduced impacts on fragile ecosystems. In addition, these attributes should be considered from a life cycle perspective. Focusing on one environmental attribute of a product or a service, without considering others, might inadvertently exclude important impacts on the determination of environmental preferability.*

B.3.3 Audits

The certifying organization should conduct actual physical audits of all facilities and productions locations of the certified company at least annually.

B.3.4 Corrective action

²⁵ Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program (EPP), U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Mail Code 7409-M, Washington, DC 20460 <www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp>. <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp/pubs/guidance/finalguidance.htm>

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

The manufacturer should take corrective action for all items of nonconformance found during audits and re-evaluation including:

- provisions for review and authorization for modifications to formulations;
- modifications to certified product formulations; and
- documentation and authorization of the modification maintained on file.

B.3.5 Enforcement

To preserve the integrity of the registered certification mark of the certification organization, enforcement action should be taken by the certifier for the following:

- use of the registered trademark of the certifying organization on a non-certified product;
- general nonconformance;
- unauthorized change to certified products; and
- unauthorized shipment or disposal of products placed on hold.

B.3.6 Appeals

The certifying organization should have provisions for an appeals process as requested by any party directly affected by a decision, action, or inaction of the certifying organization.

B.3.7 Complaints

The certifying organization should provide for the following:

- investigation of complaints related to certified products;
- misuse of the registered trademark of the certifying organization by a certified company;
- use/misuse of the registered trademark of the certifying organization by a non-certified company; and
- certified company retention and disclosure of complaint records and remedial actions for certified products.

B.3.8 Advertising

A certifying organization should provide guidance to certified manufacturers regarding proper use of the registered trademark of the certifying organization on sales literature, technical publications, promotional materials, packaging, catalogs, and advertising.

B.3.9 Records

A certifying organization should have provisions for verification of complete certified company records including:

- purchased materials and ingredients; and
- production, shipment, and inventory.

This document is part of the NSF International standard development process. This document is subject to change and may be a draft and/or non-final version. Committee members may reproduce, quote from, and/or circulate this document to persons or entities outside of their organization after first providing NSF International with written notice of to whom and for what purpose this document is to be shared.

B.3.10 Public notice

Provisions for issuing a public notice for nonconformance to any requirement of certification should be maintained by the certifying organization.

B.3.11 Confidentiality

The certifying organization should have a documented policy of non-disclosure of any confidential information supplied to the certifying organization by the company regarding the product, including formulations, components, processes, ingredients, and the identity of the company's suppliers and distributors.