

2 February 2022

To: Simon Dorries, CEO, Responsible Wood

RE: Responsible Products Framework Recognition

To Simon,

We wanted to update you on the recognition of the Sustainable Forest Management — requirements (AS-NZS 4708:2021) Standard under the Responsible Products Framework. The standard has been recognised.

Products using recognised product certification schemes or initiatives are awarded under four credits in Green Star Buildings (Responsible Structure, Responsible Envelope, Responsible Finishes, and Responsible Systems). In Green Star Buildings, there are two levels of compliance for products known as 'Good practice' or 'Best practice' products.

The table below is a summary of whether the standard is compliant by itself against the Credit Achievement requirement of one of the four responsible products credits (structure, envelope, systems, finishes). The attached document provides more detailed information as to what elements of the Framework each standard complies with.

In summary,

Standard	Responsible Structure	Responsible Envelope	Responsible Systems	Responsible Finishes
AS-NZs 4708:2021	Good Practice	Good Practice	Best Practice	Best Practice

We will gladly work with you to communicate to your licensees which elements of the Framework your scheme helps them demonstrate compliance with.

In terms of next steps, if you are happy with the analysis above and in the next page, we will update the Responsible Product Framework webpage with information outlining that your scheme complies with certain credits and elements of the Framework.

We note that we will not recognise timber that is certified under the previous version of the standard under Green Star Buildings. Recognition under Green Star – Design & As Built and other legacy rating tools will continue that earlier version of the standard.

We know there is a transition period occurring of two years to transition from the earlier version to the next. While we are happy to consider licensees that are in transition on a case-by-case basis, only those that have moved to the new standard will be recognised.

Please confirm that the below referencing is correct, as this is how your standard will appear on the website.

Responsible Wood, AS-NZS 4708:2021 – Sustainable forest management with a valid chain of custody in accordance with AS-NZS 4707:2021. Earlier versions are only recognised in legacy rating tools.

Separate to this, we will review the Controlled Sources labelling at a separate time. Until then, we will not be recognising the 'Responsible Wood' Controlled Sources designation.

With regards to your standard, we have done our best efforts to recognize the value that you bring to industry and have assessed your scheme with that view in mind. If you would like us to reassess your score, we may need to bring in additional expertise, which may incur a cost. Happy to discuss further if you would like to know more.

You should be aware that we are introducing an additional element into the rating system that may impact any company that provides products to a building seeking Green Star certification.

To protect the integrity of the Green Star brand, we will reserve the right to not recognise, within Green Star, products from a manufacturer that has been found to breach the law in matters impacting areas of high ecological value or endangered species. This means that even if a manufacturer holds a certification recognised under Green Star, their product may not be eligible for points if they have been found to break the law in the above-mentioned areas.

To be clear though, this is something that will affect individual manufacturers, not the certification scheme.

Please let us know at your earliest convenience if you agree with our assessment and would like be formally recognised under the Responsible Product Framework. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to call anytime.

Regards,

Jorge Omar Chapa Montemayor

Jorge Chapa

Head of Market Transformation

Green Building Council of Australia

**Sustainable forest management
— requirements (AS-NZS 4708)
Standard**

Responsible				
Environmental Impact Disclosure	CA	The product is covered by an industry wide environmental product declaration that discloses the environmental impacts of similar products. The manufacturer must be part of the industry-wide product declaration.	2	
	EP	The product is covered by a product specific environmental product declaration that discloses the environmental impacts of the product.	3	
Carbon Emissions Disclosure	CA	The product has a publicly available document transparently showing quantitative carbon impacts of the product across its sourcing and manufacturing (cradle to gate) as a minimum.	1	
Health Impacts Disclosure	CA	The product is covered by a product specific health product declaration that discloses the of the product on human health and wellbeing.	1	
Ingredient Disclosure	CA	The product has a publicly available document transparently showing the chemical ingredients within it, with a particular view to ensuring harmful chemicals and chemicals of concern are disclosed.	1	
Environmental Management	CA	The manufacturer has an environmental management system in place to manage the environmental impacts from the manufacturing of the product.	1	Complies
Healthy				

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— requirements (AS-NZS 4708)
Standard**

Reduced Exposure to chemicals of concern	ME	Paints, adhesives, sealants, carpets, and engineered wood products must comply with the Credit Achievement. For PVC products, the manufacturing complies with the Vinyl Council of Australia's Best Practice PVC Guidelines.		
	CA	The occupant is not exposed to off gassing of high volatile organic compounds or formaldehyde from the product as finished and installed.	1	
	EP	The manufacturing process restricts the workers exposure to physical, chemical and biological hazards, during manufacture or sourcing.	2	Complies
	LA	There are no chemicals of concern used for the manufacturing of, or, within the product as installed and finished.	5	
Modern Slavery	CA	The product manufacturer is taking clear steps to address modern slavery and, if found, has set out a target for rooting it out of its supply chain.	2	Complies
Social Accountability	CA	The product manufacturer has undertaken activities to create more equitable conditions for those affected by or involved in the sourcing and manufacturing of products and materials.	1	Complies
Positive				
Energy use	MP	The energy consumed by the product's manufacturing has been reduced on a year-on-year basis when averaged over 10 years or is lower than a stated benchmark.	1	
	CA	The energy consumed by the product's manufacturing is 10% lower than a typical equivalent product or an industry benchmark.	1	
	EP	The energy consumed by the product's manufacturing is 20% lower than a typical equivalent product or an industry benchmark.	1	
Water use	MP	The water consumed by the product's manufacturing has been reduced on a year-on-year basis when averaged over 10 years, or the manufacturer has installed initiatives to use recycled or reused water during production.	1	

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Standard)**

	CA	The water consumed by the product's manufacturing is 10% lower than a typical equivalent product or an industry benchmark.	1	
Waste generation	CA	The waste generated by the product's manufacturing has been reduced on a year-on-year basis when averaged over 10 years; or The product manufacturer recycles or reuses more than 80% of all waste.	1	
	MP	Either - 3 of the product's material extraction impacts are lower than typical by 15% on average; or, - the product meet requirements established by an industry recognised standard that delineates limits on high-impact materials that are typically used in the manufacturing of a product.	1	Complies
Material extraction	CA	Either: • 3 of the product's material extraction impacts are lower than typical by 30% on average; or • 5 of the product's material extraction impacts are lower than typical by 15% on average.	1	
	EP	Either• 3 of the product's material extraction impacts are lower than typical by 50% on average; or• 5 of the product's material extraction impacts are lower than typical by 30% on average; or• 7 of the product's material extraction impacts are lower than typical by 15% on average.	1	
Other impact reductions	CA	Other impact reductions relevant to the specific product beyond those articulated are addressed	1	Complies
Carbon emissions reduction	MP	The carbon emissions generated by the product's manufacturing has been reduced on a year-on-year basis when averaged over 10 years.	1	
	CA	The carbon emissions generated by the product's manufacturing is 20% lower than a typical equivalent product or an industry benchmark.	1	
	EP	The carbon emissions generated by the product's manufacturing is 40% lower than a typical equivalent product or an industry benchmark.	1	
Low Carbon Trajectory	CA	The manufacturer has a publicly disclosed commitment to decarbonise between now and 2050 on a 1.5C trajectory, with a significant reduction prior to 2030.	1	
Carbon neutrality	CA	The product has been independently certified as carbon neutral.	3	

**Sustainable forest management
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Reduced impact to nature	MP	The product manufacturer implements a hotspot analysis and reduces impacts to air, water, and land from manufacturing activities.	1	Complies
Responsible extraction of material resources	ME	Products where more than 20% of the mass is composed of timber must meet the Credit Achievement to receive points in the Responsible Products Framework.	-	
	CA	The product supply chain is documented and audited from the final manufacturing activity back to the source of the raw material for major material components.	2	Complies
Protection of areas of high ecological value	CA	The product's sourcing or manufacturing does not impact areas with a high ecological value.	1	
	EP	The product manufacturer undertakes activities that protects or restores biodiversity at scale beyond its legal obligations.	1	

Circular - under development

Leadership

Number of Criteria met

11 points