

Dear Stakeholders,

Subject: GreenTag™ Version 3.1 changes to the Standard

The ecospecifier global GreenTag™ Product Certification Program standard has recently been updated to Version 3.1 following public stakeholder comment and the need to clarify issues apparent in the previous version.

The need for a revision arose from the miss-match of GreenTag™ GreenRate Levels and the GBCA levels of scheme recognition in the original application. In addition, it was recognised that the GreenTag™ Standard provided methods for assessing compliance to all Priority Areas of Concern (PAC) addressed by the GBCA Product Certification Program and was able to acknowledge the full extent of potential ecologically and socially preferred features of products as well as recognising the variability in product/material types and the limited ability of all products to conform to all environmental performance standards applied generally to all product categories.

Therefore with the development of a new Matrix 5 Series, pages 52-58, the GreenTag™ Standard v3.1 now includes a variety of schemes to assess the environmental performance of products to the three GreenRate levels of assessment, Level A, B, and C, which also now coincide with the GBCA levels of scheme recognition indicated below:

GreenTag™ GreenRate Level A Schemes A1-A28	GBCA Level A Recognition
GreenTag™ GreenRate Level B Schemes B1-B8	GBCA Level B Recognition
GreenTag™ GreenRate Level C Schemes C1-C8	GBCA Level C Recognition

The changes to each GreenRate Level and Matrix 5 are contained in:

- i. a summary of the minimum requirements,
- ii. a categorisation of the schemes based on the criteria they assess,
- iii. and the new Matrix 5 series included on pages 52-58 of the Standard.

Where a scheme contains highlighted cells, compliance to the corresponding PAC in that row must be demonstrated to achieve certification. Each PAC Criteria identified in the Matrix and assessment requirements are outlined in the GreenRate section contained on pages 46-50.

Notable changes to the GreenRate PAC criteria include:

- i. changes to PAC-3 Materials Extraction: The criteria to demonstrate compliance to PAC-3 was clarified with the inclusion of specific benchmarks under each Material Optimisation Option for each Level of certification, and the requirement that at least one of the Material Optimisation Options must be met to demonstrate compliance; and



- ii. PAC-5 Social and Environmental Compliance. . The assessment requirements for Criterion (a) Compliant Supply Chain PAC-5 are now clearly explained.

Other notable changes to the Standard include:

- i. exemptions to ESCAP on page 67, section 6.8.4, for Crystalline Silica and Wood and other natural organic fibres; and
- ii. changes to the Supplementary Product Category Specific Standards following stakeholder feedback, beginning on page 69.

Current licence holders will receive the amended version shortly.

If you would like to receive a current version of the Standard and have not signed the licence agreement for a free copy please download the application form [here](#) and submit to admin@ecospecifier.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Baggs', with a stylized, circular flourish at the end.

David Baggs
GreenTag Program Director
1.9.10