

Environmental FAQ Database

SitOnIt Seating
September 2016

Environmental FAQ Database

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Commonly Asked Questions	Answers	Pertaining to LEED Credit Strategy for Green Buildings
<p>1. Where is the product manufactured?</p>	<p>In alignment with the intent of LEED Regional Materials Credits, supporting the local economy and reducing the environmental impacts resulting from transportation, all products are manufactured with final assembly in Buena Park, California located approximately 20 miles southwest of Los Angeles.</p>	<p>LEED-CI MR 5.1, 5.2 Regional Materials and Resources Credit</p>
<p>2. Is the product GREEN-GUARD Certified for low indoor air quality emissions?</p>	<p>To encourage reduction of indoor air contaminants, all SitOnIt products have been tested and certified by the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute for meeting safe indoor air quality emissions recognized by the USGBC LEED rating system. Furthermore, emission test results for the product offering have earned certification to the even more stringent levels required by the GREENGUARD Children & Schools in accordance with the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS). Certificate numbers and copies for all SitOnIt chairs are available on: http://www.greenguard.org/Default.aspx?tabid=12</p>	<p>LEED-CI EQ 4.5 Low-Emitting Materials, Seating Indoor Environmental Quality Credit</p>
<p>3. What is the post-consumer content percentage of the product?</p>	<p>To increase demand of building products incorporating recycled content materials and reducing the draw of virgin materials from the environment, LEED encourages the sum of post-consumer, plus one half the pre-consumer recycle content at the level of 10% for LEED-CI 4.1 and 20% for CI 4.2. Environmental Data Sheets, detailed documents declaring the percentage of recycling content are available on our website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glove Active, Glove Executive and @Work Executive size 3 chairs can contribute to LEED-CI 4.1.* • All task chairs except Glove Active can contribute to LEED-CI 4.1 & 4.2.* • All conference chairs can contribute to LEED-CI 4.1 & 4.2.* • All executive chairs except Glove Executive and @Work Executive size 3 can contribute to LEED-CI 4.1 & 4.2.* • All guest and stacking chairs can contribute to • LEED-CI 4.1 & 4.2. <p>*Depending on fabric selection</p>	<p>LEED-CI 4.1, 4.2 Recycled Content Materials and Resources Credit LEED-CI 4.1</p>

Commonly Asked Questions	Answers	Pertaining to LEED Credit Strategy for Green Buildings
<p>4. What is the pre-consumer content percentage of the product?</p>	<p>Post-consumer and pre-consumer content is jointly considered to obtain credit for LEED-CI. To increase demand of building products incorporating recycled content materials and reducing the draw of virgin materials from the environment, LEED encourages the sum of post-consumer, plus one half the pre-consumer recycle content at the level of 10% for LEED-CI 4.1 and 20% for CI 4.2. Environmental Data Sheets, detailed documents declaring the percentage of recycling content are available on our website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glove Active, Glove Executive and @Work Executive size 3 chairs can contribute to LEED-CI 4.1.* • All task chairs except Glove Active can contribute to LEED-CI 4.1 & 4.2.* • All conference chairs can contribute to LEED-CI 4.1 & 4.2.* • All executive chairs except Glove Executive and @Work Executive size 3 can contribute to LEED-CI 4.1 & 4.2.* • All guest and stacking chairs can contribute to LEED-CI 4.1 & 4.2. <p>*Depending on fabric selection</p>	<p>4.2 Recycled Content Materials and Resources Credit</p>

Commonly Asked Questions	Answers	Pertaining to LEED Credit Strategy for Green Buildings
<p>5. What is the VOC/Urea-formaldehyde content?</p>	<p>Within the seating product category, VOC/Urea formaldehyde content is addressed through indoor air emission testing protocol and certification of products to the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute Standard and the GREENGUARD Children & Schools. Seating emission limits for formaldehyde are less than 25 parts per billion. Consensus has been established between green building organizations, material suppliers and office furniture manufacturers that emission levels are the determining indicator.</p> <p>All SitOnIt products have been tested and certified by the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute for meeting safe indoor air quality emissions recognized by the USGBC LEED rating system. Furthermore, emission test results for the product offering have earned certification to the even more stringent levels required by the GREENGUARD Children & Schools in accordance with the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS). Certificate numbers and copies for all SitOnIt chairs are available on http://www.greenguard.org/Default.aspx?tabid=12</p>	<p>LEED-CI EQ 4.5 Low-Emitting Materials, Seating Indoor Environmental Quality Credit</p>
<p>6. Are your upholstery partners' product offerings GREENGUARD Certified?</p>	<p>All SitOnIt seating products combined with any carded fabric are GREENGUARD certified. In addition, the textile alliance program offers a wide selection of seating upholstery options certified by the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute. For more information go to: http://www.greenguard.org/Default.aspx?tabid=12</p>	<p>LEED-CI EQ 4.5 Low-Emitting Indoor Environmental Quality Credit Materials, Seating</p>
<p>7. Do your products feature rapidly renewable resources?</p>	<p>The textile alliance program provides options including leather upholstery, a rapidly renewable resource, from: Spinneybeck: Verona Volo Andes/Velluto Pelle Rally Black</p>	<p>LEED-CI 6 Rapidly Renewable Content Materials and Resources Credit</p>

Commonly Asked Questions	Answers	Pertaining to LEED Credit Strategy for Green Buildings
8. Are your wood products from FSC Certified Forests?	Wood substrates and components do not currently have FSC chain-of-custody certification.	LEED-CI 7 Certified Wood Materials and Resources Credit
9. Is your product packaging returned for reuse in your plant?	As an option, packaging debris is diverted from landfill and waste minimized at the construction site through blanket wrap shipments, coordinated through project based truck load shipment schedules.	LEED-CI 2.1 Construction Waste Management Materials and Resources Credit
10. What is the expected life cycle of your product offering?	The products are engineered for the highest levels of durability, extended performance, and to extend their life cycle avoiding disposal and contribution to landfill.	N/A

Commonly Asked Questions	Answers
1. Has your company won any awards for outstanding achievement in environmental issues?	The company's manufacturing process has been recognized for its operational excellence and lean manufacturing by <i>Managing Automation</i> included on its Progressive 50 list. Its lean manufacturing practice provides the foundation of its sustainability strategy by linking eliminating waste, conserving resources and responsibly designing product for durability and extended life to delivering exceptional customer value.
2. Is your company involved with philanthropic activities? Please detail.	Exemplis demonstrates our belief in being a good citizen and we are constantly looking for new ways to reaffirm the societal impact of our works on the behalf of the company and our employees. We support and participate in a variety of philanthropic activities within our industry as well as the local community, as follows: Mike Mekjian, Principal of Exemplis personally serves as a Director for the Common Thread for the Cure Foundation, established to unite the furniture industry in the battle against breast cancer. We provide corporate donation funding for the American Cancer Society. Locally, we have focused initiatives in support of education and the arts. Mike Mekjian serves as Trustee and Director of the Orange County High School of the Arts. The company helped lead the renovation of the school's historic theater among other educational projects.
3. What commitment has your executive management made to sustainability?	Paul DeVries, CEO of Exemplis, has expresses the company's dedication to partner with specifiers and customers in their green building strategies, "We have built our company and developed its unique business model by listening to customers and responding to their requirements for speed, variety in aesthetics, fit and finish, value and have grown to include alignment with product attributes contributing to green building strategies as defined by the USGBC LEED rating system." As an industry innovator, executive management views sustainability essential to its core business, an opportunity for both improvement and growth.

Commonly Asked Questions	Answers
<p>1. Are your facilities ISO Certified?</p>	<p>As a young and growing company, lean manufacturing has served as the foundation of its environmental and sustainability program. Since the beginning, it has been integrated as a core competency of operational excellence essential to the corporate business strategy. As a disciplined method of eliminating waste, conserving resources, and responsible product design, the company has established the basis of lean manufacturing in advance of a potential entry into a formalized EMS program with third party certification of its manufacturing processes such as ISO 14001.</p>
<p>2. Describe your company's waste management policy.</p>	<p>Lean manufacturing translates into the holistic elimination of waste in material resources, labor, and reduction of product lead time. The company has been recognized as one of the industry's leaders in lean manufacturing for 96% on-time and complete deliveries with routine product shipping in two to five days after ordering. Material waste such as leather and fabric scraps, plastic drums, cardboard and metal are collected, sorted, and sold monthly to local recycling firms as inputs to post-consumer products.</p>
<p>3. Describe environmental initiatives at administrative facilities.</p>	<p>The company encourages waste reduction by its employees in the corporate office by using e-mail versus printed documents, double-sided copying when possible and sending printer and photocopier toner cartridges back to vendors for remanufacturing. Employees use their own mugs for beverages rather than disposable cups. We donate reusable seating products and equipment to local high schools. Mixed office paper, cardboard boxes and beverage containers are recycled.</p>
<p>4. Describe environmental initiatives at manufacturing plants.</p>	<p>As the case for the majority of seating manufacturers, the company is primarily involved in the assembly of seating components and customized upholstery of cushions. These functions are regarded as 'clean manufacturing processes'. They do not involve hazardous waste, processes that present significant occupational health risks to workers, systems that use large quantities of raw materials or high volumes of energy, and processes that require feedstocks that are undesirable to manufacture. Environmental initiatives focus on two areas, the health and safety of workers through ergonomic factors for the assembly lines and recycling of waste materials for sale to local recyclers.</p>
<p>5. How are health risks for workers reduced?</p>	<p>The company's clean manufacturing processes do not involve hazardous waste, processes that present significant occupational health risks to workers and processes that require feedstocks that are undesirable to manufacture. Part of the company's lean manufacturing and built to order, mass customization strategy, recognized by the <i>Managing Automation</i> Progressive 50 Award included the recent reengineering of assembly lines for improved worker ergonomic factors.</p>