

Certification and Technology

1 July 2022

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REVISION TO PRODUCT CERTIFICATION CRITERIA FOR PAINT SYSTEMS

Objective

1 This circular serves to inform the industry of the various revised criteria under the Singapore Green Building Product (“SGBP”) certification scheme. The revision will apply to interior paints, exterior paints, primers, sealers, and coatings. The revised categories include:

- (a) Heavy Metal limits for Paint Systems
- (b) Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Content limits for Interior Paint
- (c) Total Volatile Organic Compound (TVOC) and Formaldehyde Emission limits for Interior Paint
- (d) Solar Reflectance Index Requirement (“SRI”) for Exterior Paint

2 The SGBP certification scheme will also introduce a new category:

- (e) Solar Reflective Paints

Background

3 The certifying criteria for paint systems the SGBP certification scheme will be revised and updated to align with the latest version of the Singapore Standard for emulsion paint for decorative purposes (SS 150 : 2021). Revision to the criteria include the tightening of Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) limits as well as the inclusion of Total Volatile Organic Compound (TVOC) limits and formaldehyde emissions limits for certification of paint systems. TVOC and formaldehyde limits will also be progressively incorporated into the certification criteria for relevant indoor building products.

4 While the SS 150 : 2021 only applies to emulsion paints, the Singapore Green Building Council (“SGBC”) is taking this opportunity to create more beneficial standards by imposing TVOC and formaldehyde emissions limits on a larger variety of indoor products.

5 This revision supports the work of the Alliance for Action (“AfA”) on Sustainable Spaces, an industry initiative led by SGBC, the Singapore Furniture Industries Council (“SFIC”) and Singapore Business Federation (“SBF”) to reduce formaldehyde emissions in spaces and building products.

Criteria Revision

6 **(a) Heavy Metal limits for Paint Systems:** Alignment of limits with SS 150 and SS 678.

7 **(b) Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Content limits for Interior Paint:** Removal of differentiation by Sheen.

8 **(c) Total Volatile Organic Compound (TVOC) & Formaldehyde Emission limits for Interior Paint:** New mandatory requirement for TVOC and Formaldehyde emission to be introduced on interior paint products with the baseline aligned with SS 150 : 2021.

9 **(d) Solar Reflectance Index Requirement (“SRI”) for Exterior Paint:** (Supplementary Requirement) Exterior Architectural Paints and Coatings shall have a minimum Solar Reflectance Index (“SRI”) value of 40.

New Category

10 **(e) Solar Reflective Paint** category will be launched to highlight exterior paints with superior solar reflective and thermal emittance properties. **Solar Reflectance Index (“SRI”)** will be a mandatory requirement for this new category.

Implementation Timeline

11 The revised criteria will replace all current certification rating benchmarks from 1 January 2023. Existing SGBP certifications will continue to be valid until their expiry dates. All new certification applications received from 1 January 2023 must meet the new requirements.

For Clarification

12 We would appreciate if you could convey the contents of this circular to relevant members of your organisation. If you or your members have any queries concerning this circular, please do not hesitate to contact the SGBC Certification and Technology team at certifications@sgbc.sg, or contact your respective SGBP certification case managers.

Yours faithfully,
Singapore Green Building Council

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DISTRIBUTION LIST

- Product companies with valid SGBP certificates under the affected categories
- Singapore Paint Industry Association