



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GreenScreen/Clean Production Action and GreenCircle Announce Partnership on Material Ingredient Reporting

November 20, 2014, Royersford, PA – When the USGBC released LEED v4 in the fall of 2013, there were several substantial updates to the widely adopted green building rating system. Specifically, the Materials and Resources section saw many changes including, for the first time, the inclusion of material health considerations. With these alterations, there has been a steep learning curve for both manufacturers and LEED practitioners that are scrambling to keep current with the new system. As the market works to adapt, industry leaders are partnering and combining their expertise to make LEED v4 compliance easier. In this respect, the recent partnership between GreenScreen/Clean Production Action and GreenCircle Certified, LLC aims to assist in compliance for various Material Ingredient credit options.

As written in the current LEED v4 Rating System, there are numerous ways for manufacturers to comply with the Material Ingredient credit options. Options for earning the Reporting credit vary from Manufacturer's Inventories that include material contents and/or hazards; Health Product Declarations (HPDs); or obtaining Cradle to Cradle certification. Options for earning the Optimization credit include providing proof that products do not contain GreenScreen Benchmark-1 chemicals; obtaining higher levels of Cradle to Cradle certification; or demonstrating REACH Optimization (for international projects). To aid manufacturers, GreenCircle and GreenScreen/Clean Production Action have partnered to facilitate the development of Manufacturer's Inventories and to certify that products do not contain GreenScreen Benchmark 1 chemicals. Together, their efforts will simplify and streamline this very confusing credit for LEED project teams, architects, and designers alike.

The partnership brings together Clean Production Action's GreenScreen® for Safer Chemicals methodology and GreenCircle's third-party certification expertise. Developed as a method for identifying chemicals of high concern and safer alternatives, GreenScreen is an integral part of the Material Ingredient credit. Specifically, GreenScreen is used in LEED compliant Manufacturer's Inventories which require disclosure of all non-proprietary ingredients and their CAS numbers along with a GreenScreen assessment of all proprietary ingredients. This method is designed to protect proprietary product formulas while preserving precision and transparency.

GreenCircle will use its role as a leading third-party certification body to ensure that Manufacturer's Inventories and GreenScreen claims submittals are being completed in compliance with LEED requirements. As the first approved GreenScreen-LEED Certifier, GreenCircle's mark will guarantee LEED project teams that certified inventories will qualify for the Material Ingredient Disclosure and Optimization credit options.

Clean Production Action is in process of developing "How To" documentation which will provide manufacturers a step-by-step process on how to contribute to this credit using various GreenScreen methods. At this time, Clean Production Action and GreenCircle are seeking a consensus group of manufacturers and industry experts to test the certification process and provide feedback. If you are interested in participating in this consensus group, or would like more information about this effort, please contact [Dr. Lauren Heine](#), Co-Director, Clean Production Action and Director of GreenScreen Program or [Annie Bevan](#), Certification and Operations Manager, GreenCircle Certified, LLC. Additionally, an upcoming webinar on this topic will be scheduled and announced shortly. Visit the [GreenCircle](#) or [Clean Production Action](#) website to find registration links upon release.

About Clean Production Action

Clean Production Action (CPA) designs and delivers strategic solutions for green chemicals, sustainable materials, and environmentally preferable products. GreenScreen® for Safer Chemicals (GreenScreen) provides a scientifically robust, standardized, global, freely available, independent, and transparent method for chemical hazard assessment to support product design and development, procurement, corporate policies, alternatives assessment, standards, ecolabels, and global regulations. GreenScreen helps to catalyze the design, development and use of inherently benign chemicals, materials, and products. GreenScreen offers the most transparent method and practical and scientifically robust approach to chemical hazard assessment available today.

About GCC

GreenCircle Certified, LLC was established to ensure specificity in third-party certification after many misleading or unsubstantiated sustainability claims were encountered in the green marketplace. GreenCircle's rigorous evaluation process provides trusted transparency that a manufacturer's product claims are authentic. In today's discerning market, third-party certification is a valuable asset in establishing brand integrity and developing consumer confidence.

The certifications offered by GreenCircle include: Carbon Footprint Reduction, Certified Energy Savings, Certified Environmental Facts (Multi-Attribute), Closed Loop Products, Life Cycle Assessment Optimized, Renewable Resource Content, Recyclable Material, Recycled Content, Renewable Energy Use, Sustainable Manufacturing Processes, and Waste Diversion from Landfill. GreenCircle provides verification and assurance to manufacturers, suppliers, regulators, and consumers that products labeled with the GreenCircle mark consistently meet our specific certification standards. GreenCircle is recognized by the USGBC Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and NAHB National Green Building Standard Program.