

Designtex

Environmental Design Glossary

alternative to pvc	a low-emitting material that is maintained and performs like vinyl, without the addition of polyvinyl chloride, phthalates, PBTs, or heavy metals
antimony-free polyester	the avoidance of antimony as a catalyst in polyester production
application	meaning furniture application: sewing, adhering, wrapping, or otherwise attaching a fabric to seating, panels, walls, etc.
certified organic	fibers grown without the use of synthetic inputs (fertilizers, pesticides, GMOs, preservatives, etc) and, having adhered to these standards for a minimum period of time, are certified through IFOAM or USDA.
certified wood	independently certified wood and wood products originating from sustainably managed forests.
chemically optimized	product content has been fully optimized to eliminate toxicity to human health and the environment
closed loop system	a system of reusing materials in the same manufacturing process that created them
compostable	a 100% natural material able to readily biodegrade without being hazardous to the soil
compatible for reutilization	products designed to maximize compostability, recycling value and/or energy recovery
construction	meaning fabric construction: using raw materials and added chemistry to develop a quality for production
contaminants	any additives in the application process that would interfere with optimal reutilization as described by take back program
dematerialized	achieving the same performance with 50% or less material by weight
end of use	the point at which a product is deemed ready for removal or replacement
energy use	energy use per kilogram of product has been documented, and a plan is in place for adopting renewable energy.
green cleaning compatible	establishing that fabrics can be successfully cleaned with biodegradable non-toxic formulas

identified for disassembly	insuring an installed product's components are labeled for ease of recovery and reuse
low emitting	products that can be shown through testing for individual VOC levels, or thorough certification, not to emit harmful
production	manufacturing processes of fabric formation, piece dyeing, and finishing
rapidly renewable	a resource capable of being replaced in 3 years or less by natural ecological cycles (does not include wood-derived cellulose)
raw materials	the fibers and/or polymers used to manufacture a fabric
renewable	a resource capable of being replaced in 20 years or less by natural ecological cycles (includes cellulose like viscose rayon, acetate, and lyocell).
recyclable	A 100% homogenous material able to be recovered or diverted from the solid waste stream for the purpose of reutilization.
recycled	percentage by weight, of recycled material within a product that has been recovered or diverted from a solid waste stream, either during the manufacturing process (pre-consumer/post-industrial) or after consumer use (post-consumer).
reutilization	the recommended way in which a material can be diverted from landfill to become "food" for other processes
reutilization of production waste	all solid waste or off-grade materials generated in manufacturing of the product have been diverted from landfill for use in other processes
take back program	a procedure for operational recycling that thoroughly outlines what materials and quantities are allowed, what constitutes contamination, and provides a ship-to for the end-user
useful life	the period of time from installation to end of use
waste to fuel	the documented practice of taking back and incinerating waste for fuel recovery while meeting emissions
water use	manufacturing facility has not been cited for chronic water leak or violations of its discharge permit.