

Good Environmental Choice Australia Environmental Performance Standard

Steel and Steel Products



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USE OF GECA STANDARDS

This standard identifies environmental, quality, regulatory and social criteria that the top environmentally performing products sold in the Australian marketplace can meet in order to be recognised by GECA as “environmentally preferable”.

This standard seeks to set the benchmark for environmentally preferable products. The Australian Ecolabel Program is based on the international standard ISO 14024: "Environmental Labels and Declarations - Guiding Principles" which requires environmental labelling specifications to include criteria that are objective, reasonable and verifiable.

This standard may be used by GECA approved assessors to verify whether a product fully conforms to the criteria set by this standard. Where a product is certified for the Australian Ecolabel Program, it may display the GECA Ecolabel (the “Good Environmental Choice Australia Mark”) to show that the product has been independently assessed and demonstrates conformance with the environmental and social criteria detailed in this standard.

The purpose of voluntary environmental labels and declarations is the communication of verifiable and accurate information for the numerous environmental aspects of goods and services. As required by the Trade Practices Act the information cannot be misleading. Such information encourages the demand for, and supply of, those products that cause less harm to the environment, thereby stimulating the potential for market-driven continuous environmental improvement. Where a company has a product certified as conforming to this standard, it may gain a marketing advantage in government and business procurement programs, as well as greater market recognition in general because of its independently verified environmental attributes.

The principles of life cycle analysis have been used to set these criteria to address relevant environmental loads typical in a product category. As such, this standard may also offer guidance for Australian producers to reduce the environmentally harmful impacts of their product(s). Producers may use the environmental criteria in this standard to design and refine the processing, manufacturing and delivery of their product(s). In addition, producers may find other environmental issues and more measures along the product’s life cycle, which are beyond the content of this standard. Producers are encouraged to include and adapt improvements in their environment programs and designs to aim for even better environmental results where technically possible. GECA welcomes feedback where this has been achieved.

While all GECA standards are voluntary, they contain criteria that address compliance with specific laws. In addition, a GECA standard may recognise specific Australian Standards. A prerequisite for certification under the GECA Ecolabel is to satisfy the relevant Australian or International Standard, where it is required by law. However Australian Standards typically define “fit-for-purpose” criteria and usually do not provide assurance of environmental preferability. GECA standards go beyond Australian Standards and define an environmental benchmark for the product category.

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Steel and Steel Products

DOCUMENT HISTORY

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Versions	Date Published	Summary of Changes
1.0	27/06/2019	New Standard

HOW TO APPLY FOR GECA CERTIFICATION

Manufacturers or service suppliers interested in GECA certification using the Environmental Choice Australia Ecolabel are encouraged to read carefully through the entire standard and to evaluate whether their products are likely to conform to the standard and to pass the assessment process.

To launch an application, please complete the enquiry form on our website <http://www.geca.eco/contact-us/> or contact GECA via email info@geca.org.au and GECA will forward you an application form.

The completed application form is to be sent to GECA by email.

After receiving the completed application form and the application fee, GECA refers the verification process to an appointed assurance provider. The assurance provider contacts the applicant and gives a clear overview of the steps needed to achieve certification for their particular product type.

Note: GECA reserves the right to refuse, suspend or postpone an application if (a) the organisation does not meet minimum compliance with Environmental Law, Labour Law, Fair Pay, Work, Health and Safety, Lawful behaviour (e.g. pending or ongoing lawsuits) (b) the organisation does not have transparent reporting that is available/accessible on request (c) the core mission of the organisation and/or product is in conflict with GECA's mission and/or is perceived by GECA to pose a risk to the GECA brand or reputation.

STRUCTURE OF THE STANDARD

Each section within this standard contains criteria and demonstration of conformance (DoC). The criteria state the requirements for the product and applicant company with respect to its environmental performance. The DoCs list the information required to verify compliance to the criteria. Selected sections also contain introductory text which outlines the purpose behind the criteria.

REQUESTING ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Demonstration of Conformance items are listed for each criterion. The GECA approved assurance provider will request additional information to ensure conformance on a case by case basis. Hence, the conformance items listed below are considered a guide to the minimum Demonstration of Conformance items that will be required from the applicant company.



DEFINITIONS & ACRONYMS

AS, AS/NZS: Australian standard, developed by Standards Australia or jointly by Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand

ASSESSMENT: Process performed by the assessor to determine if the product conforms with the applicable GECA Standard

ASSESSMENT REPORT: Full document composed by the assurance provider that states how the nominated product conforms or fails to conform to GECA standards. This report shall include appropriate and substantial evidence to justify conformance decision.

ASSESSOR: The individual performing the assessment as an employee or contractor of the Assurance Provider.

ASSURANCE PROVIDER: Person or organisation accredited by the Independent Appointment Panel performing the conformance assessment

BF/BOF: Blast Furnace / Basic Oxygen Furnace means a steel-making process that refines molten iron into steel by injecting hot oxygen to drive off impurities.

C/M/R: Substances classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction

EAF: Electric Arc Furnace means a steel-making furnace that uses high-energy electric arc to melt ferrous scrap, for refining into new steel.

EMS: Environmental Management System.

Environmental Product Declaration: Standardized way of quantifying the environmental impact of a product or system via life cycle assessment; based on and verified in accordance with ISO 14025.

EXCEPTION : An exception is granted when an applicant is given permission by the GECA CEO or Board to become certified despite not meeting a particular criterion in the standard as identified during the assessment process, usually with a mandatory transition period.

Galvanised: means steel (roll or coil) which has a thin layer of zinc deposited on its surface, through a hot-dip or electrolytic process, for the purpose of increasing the steel's corrosion resistance. For the purpose of this document, "galvanising" also includes treatments with zinc-iron, zinc-aluminium or other similar zinc-based mixtures.

Green Star: Rating system for sustainable buildings by the Green Building Council of Australia

IARC: International Agency for Research on Cancer

ILAC: International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation

ILO: International Labour Organisation.

ISO: International Organization for Standardization

Halogens: Chlorine (Cl), fluorine (F), bromine (Br), iodine (I) and astatine (At).

Label: means the Good Environmental Choice Australia Ecolabel.

NATA: National Association of Testing Authorities.

NOAEL: No observed adverse effect level

PCB: Polychlorinated biphenyl

PEFC: Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification

PLA: Polylactic acid

PREP: Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal. www.prep.org.au.

REACH: Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals

ResponsibleSteel standard: Standard for sustainably sourced steel

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SDS: Safety Data Sheet

VOC: Volatile organic compounds



BACKGROUND

The Steel and Steel Products Standard seeks to define good environmental performance benchmarks for steel and steel products throughout their entire life cycle.

The scope of the standard includes the extraction of raw materials, the production of steel as well as refinement processes, such as coating or galvanising of steel products. Steel products can pose a significant environmental burden during their manufacture, use and disposal. These environmental aspects include, but are not limited to the energy use and the ensuing carbon emissions during production. The steel industry is a major contributor to worldwide carbon emissions. Hazardous chemicals in the steel production, galvanising and coating processes need to be managed to minimise the risks of emissions to soil, air and water. The steel industry is known for a high recycling rate, as recycled steel can maintain a high material quality. This has led to significant energy efficiency gains over the years.

The main production routes are the blast furnace / basic oxygen furnace on the one hand and the electric arc furnace, which melts recycled steel scrap to form new steel, on the other hand.

There are steel producers in Australia, but the majority of steel is imported from a range of overseas countries.

The criteria are used for environmental labelling, implemented by Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA) as part of the Australian Ecolabelling program. This Standard is voluntary, and after verification, enables certified products to display an environmental label (ecolabel) as implemented by GECA to show it is environmentally preferable.



STANDARD CATEGORY SCOPE

Scope schedule

Criterion 1: The product shall fall within the scope of this standard. The following steel products are covered by this standard:

Slabs, plates, hot rolled coil plates, cold rolled coil, billets, structural beams and columns, hollow pipes, rolled hollow sections, flat angles and channels, reinforcement bars, hot rolled coil round bar, steel wire, rails, galvanised steel products, coated steel products, assembled steel products.

Other environmentally innovative steel products that do not fit the above categories may be considered for certification provided the product fulfils the requirements of any relevant sections of this standard. Other categories may be added at a later date.

Exclusions and Notes

The category does not apply to products that incorporate non-steel elements.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 1.1: Detailed description of the product(s) or product range; and

DoC 1.2: Explanation of applicability of the product(s) to the scope of this standard.



FITNESS FOR PURPOSE

To be certified, the product(s) shall be fit to perform its intended purpose or application. A minimum level of quality and durability is implicit before the Environmental Choice Australia ecolabel can be displayed on the product. The producer / manufacturer shall ensure that the product is fit for its intended purpose.

Applicable Standards and Demonstrated Fitness

Criterion 2: The product shall meet or exceed the requirements of the relevant Australian Standard (or equivalent international); including but not limited to:

- AS/NZS 1594 Hot-rolled steel flat products
- AS/NZS 1595 Cold-rolled, unalloyed, steel sheet and strip
- AS/NZS 3679.1 Structural steel Hot-rolled bars and section
- AS/NZS 3678 Structural steel - Hot-rolled plates, floorplates and slabs
- AS 4100 Steel structures
- AS/NZS 4600 Cold-formed steel structures
- AS/NZS 5131 Structural steelwork – Fabrication and erection

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 2.1: A detailed description of the product as it relates to relevant Australian (or other) Standards.

DoC 2.2: Independent assessment or test reports confirming conformance with the relevant Australian or international safety and/or quality standard.



MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS

The criteria in this section are intended to address some of the major life-cycle factors of a product that can be anticipated in sustainable design and are more easily incorporated during the design phase of product development.

Raw Materials

Most virgin raw materials (e.g. iron) needed for the production of steel require some form of mining or quarrying. These activities can be linked to an extended land-use and exploitation of natural resources (excavations, quarrying and ground water) which can create environmental and social issues. This can include threatening of biodiversity and ecosystems in adjacent areas, erosion in coastal and river banks, or pollution of waterways through increased turbidity and suspended solids. Local impacts may also include noise and dust pollution, and landscape damage which may be considered significant by the local community.

Criterion 3: Virgin mined/quarried raw materials shall come from mining/quarrying operations:

- Which have and implement a management plan to minimise adverse effects from noise, vibration, dust, and discharges to water and land;
- With a documented rehabilitation program. This shall include a plan to minimise adverse effects on biodiversity with a preference on avoidance and minimisation of adverse effects, then restoration of habitats, then offsets with at least equivalent measures;
- With an implemented EMS in accordance with ISO 14001:2015
- With community engagement or cultural heritage plans.

Due to complex supply chains, it might be difficult to trace the whole supply chain of a specific steel product back to all raw material origins (e.g. quarries). In this case, the applicant shall prove that either on a site level or the company level, all used mining/quarrying sites fulfil above criteria.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 3.1: Information about the virgin material procurement program and records of the supplier, nature and geographical source of all virgin mined material inputs; and

DoC 3.2: Certificates or other evidence of implemented EMS; documented mine rehabilitation program, and community engagement or cultural heritage plans.

Use of Recycled Materials

Steel production is well known for its high recycling rate. As this is also driven by economic factors, GECA estimates that the recycling rates will stay high in the near future. Therefore, no criterion specific to minimum recycled content is introduced for the time being. This may be reconsidered at any time if the average recycling rate in steel production drops or otherwise deemed necessary.

Criterion 4: Manufacturers using post-consumer scrap must implement procedures to exclude feedstocks containing undesirable materials, including:

- Radioactive materials
- Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 4.1: Signed declaration of compliance, supported by documentation on procedures and standards for excluding feedstock containing undesirable components.



Material Efficiency

Criterion 5: Licence holders shall calculate and report the overall material efficiency of the steel making site.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 5.1: Signed declaration demonstrating the overall material efficiency of the steel making site by calculations. The calculation shall be undertaken as follows:

Material efficiency = (crude steel + by-products) / (crude steel + by-products + waste),

where

waste = material sent to landfill + material sent to incineration.

Notes:

- Waste includes those materials that ultimately end up in a landfill (onsite or offsite) or are incinerated (with or without heat recovery). This does NOT include utilities waste (e.g. fly ash).
- Slags are only considered waste if they are landfilled or incinerated. Stored slags for future processing or use or slags used for landscaping purposes are not considered waste.
- By-products are residues that are used; residues not used are considered waste (all flows landfilled or incinerated). Scrap steel should NOT be included as a by-product.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

An Environmental Management System (EMS) integrates procedures and processes for training of personnel, monitoring and reporting of environmental performance information to stakeholders of an organisation. The EMS aims to identify and address significant environmental impacts of the manufacturing operations.

Criterion 6: The applicant and manufacturer shall have an Environmental Management System in place that is in accordance with ISO 14001-2015. The environmental aspects including but not limited to the following should be among the ones addressed by the EMS:

- Emissions to air
- Releases to water and land
- Waste management (waste and by-products)
- Water management
- Storage and handling of hazardous raw materials and dangerous goods
- Noise management

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 6.1: Documentation showing an Environmental Management System (in accordance with ISO 14001:2015) is in place which addresses the above mentioned environmental aspects supported by relevant documentation such as ISO14001 certificate, Aspects and Impacts Register, recent certification assessment report and any other information as per the discretion of the assessor.



PROCESS EMISSIONS AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Steel manufacturing processes use energy and water, generate waste, and can cause emissions of significant amounts of CO₂ and a range of pollutants. The main environmental impacts of steel manufacturing can occur on a global, regional or local scale. Global impacts include the use of energy and the release of CO₂. Regional and local impacts include the emission of pollutants such as NO_x, SO_x and particulate matter.

Water management

Criterion 7: The steel mill, rolling mills and finishing lines must have effective procedures and systems (including an annual improvement plan) in place to minimise emissions of oil and grease, suspended solids and metals in waste water (including cooling water and stormwater if these contaminants may be present) discharged to the natural environment (natural water bodies, ocean or land).

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 7.1: Description including photos of procedures and systems to minimise above emissions

DoC 7.2: Annual improvement plan to minimise above emissions

Criterion 8: The steel product manufacturer must have and implement systems to recover process wastewater sludges and sediments. The steel product manufacturer must report on how it re-uses process waste sludge and sediment or demonstrate that they are disposed to an appropriate location.

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 8.1: Description including photos of implemented and planned systems to recover process wastewater sludges and sediments

Criterion 9: Discharges of contaminants to the natural environment (natural water bodies, ocean or land) from the manufacturing site including the iron and steel mill, rolling mills, finishing lines, byproduct processing areas and waste disposal areas shall be demonstrated to result in acceptable and environmentally sustainable level of impact on the quality of the receiving environment.

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 9.1: Document outlining the compliance with all relevant environmental regulations.

Criterion 10: The steel product manufacturer shall have systems in place to recycle and re-use water (including stormwater) and shall implement initiatives to maximise the amount of water recycled including:

- Re-use of scrubbing water from wet-dedusting;
- Re-use of treated process water;
- Re-circulation of cooling water and water from vacuum generation.

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 10.1: Description including photos of implemented systems to recycle and re-use water;

DoC 10.2: Calculation of rate of recycled water.

Criterion 11: The EAF must use a closed loop cooling water system;

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 11.1: Plan/description including photos of the cooling water system



Emissions to air

Criterion 12: Primary off-gases from steelmaking (both EAF and BF/BOF) and secondary off-gases (from scrap charging, steel tapping and secondary metallurgy) must be captured to the maximum extent practicable. The captured off-gases must be directed to an off-gas treatment system to control particulate matter.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 12.1: Description including photos of implemented systems for off-gas capture

Criterion 13: Emissions of dioxins and PCBs from steelmaking via the EAF process must be measured at least annually and reported.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 13.1: Annual dioxin and PCB emissions reporting

Criterion 14: NO_x and SO_x emissions in the production of the steel must be measured and reported at least annually.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 14.1: Annual NO_x and SO_x emissions reporting

Criterion 15: Discharges to air from the steelmaking and ancillary processes shall be demonstrated to result in an acceptable and environmentally sustainable level of impact on the quality of the receiving environment.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 15.1: Document outlining the compliance with all relevant environmental regulations.

Dust Management

Criterion 16: The steel manufacturer must have and implement a dust management plan covering all areas of the mill operation including outside stockpiles and non-point source process emissions.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 16.1: Documentation including photos showing a management system which addresses the above mentioned aspects.

Criterion 17: For galvanising processes, facilities such as a hood shall be provided over the galvanising bath capturing ash, particulate matter, zinc iron alloy dross and metal oxides ash e.g. zinc oxide.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 17.1: Documentation including photos showing such facilities are in place and record of exposure limit of particles or ash if applicable.



Greenhouse gas emissions

Criterion 18: The steel maker supplying the steel must be a member of the World Steel Association's Climate Action Programme.

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 18.1: A current Climate Action Programme certificate from the World Steel Association, confirming that the steel maker is a member of the program, must be provided.

Criterion 19: The carbon emissions are below 1.6 t CO₂ / t produced steel (i.e. at least 10% below the 2017 world average of 1.8 CO₂ / t produced steel). Basis is the calculation method of the World Steel Association Climate Action Programme.

OR

The annual reduction of carbon emissions is at least 0.04 t CO₂ / t produced steel. Basis is either the calculation method of the World Steel Association Climate Action Programme for a production site-wide calculation; or an Environmental Product Declaration for a product-specific calculation. The reductions may be averaged over a five year period.

OR

The steel is either sourced from sites certified under the current version of the ResponsibleSteel standard or the steel itself is certified under this standard or all Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions criteria of the ResponsibleSteel standard are fulfilled.

OR

The steel product fulfils the requirements from Green Star Design and As Built version 1.2, credit 20.1B 'Energy-Reducing Processes in Steel Reinforcement Production'. This includes a life-cycle assessment.

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 19.1: Result of most recent calculations submitted to World Steel Association's Climate Action Programme; not older than two years; OR

DoC 19.2: Calculations showing annual reductions for a twelve-month or up to five-year average, where the newest data must not be older than two years; for a recertification, at least the last three years must be covered;

DoC 19.3: Outline of planned carbon emissions reductions within the next three years; OR

DoC 19.4: Evidence of ResponsibleSteel standard certification; if the certification is for the production site(s), evidence of sources of steel needs to be included; or – if no certification under the ResponsibleSteel standard – evidence of compliance with all Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions criteria of the ResponsibleSteel standard; OR

DoC 19.5: Evidence of compliance with Green Star Design and As Built version 1.2, credit 20.1B 'Energy-Reducing Processes in Steel Reinforcement Production'.

Waste Management

Criterion 20: The steel product manufacturer must have and implement systems to maximise the recovery of dedusting dusts and sludges.

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 20.1: Documentation including photos of implemented and planned systems of dedusting dusts and sludge recovery.



Criterion 21: Uprisings (excluding slags and dusts covered by criterion 19 above), pre-consumer steel scrap and millscale shall be recycled.

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 21.1: Documentation of recycling systems including recycling rates

Criterion 22: The steel product manufacturer must have and implement effective waste management policies and procedures and/or a waste management programme (including improvement plans) covering manufacturing operations.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 22.1: Copy of waste management policies and procedures and/or waste management programme and improvement plan.

Criterion 23: Licence holders must report on waste management, including:

- Quantities and types of waste recovered for reuse internally and externally;
- Quantities and types of waste recycled internally and externally;
- Quantities and types of waste disposed of to landfill;
- Quantities and types of waste burned internally for energy recovery;
- Waste generation related to production;
- Initiatives taken to reduce waste generation and improve recovery/recycling of waste;
- All ferrous wastes must be diverted from the waste stream and recycled;
- Quantities of slag generated and recycled;
- Initiatives undertaken at other steel plants to re-use or recycled steelmaking slags; and
- Quantities of pre-consumer steel scrap, uprisings and millscale and volumes recycled on-site, or exported for recycling.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 23.1: Documentation of above items.

Criterion 24: For galvanising and coating processes, spent acid solution, for instance hydrochloric acid and sulfuric acid shall be recovered and reused.

DoC 24.1: Documentation outlining the process in which each chemical is reused or recovered. The documentation should fully explain the recovery/ reuse process and the amount of chemical (acid) recovered/reused.



HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

The criteria in this section are intended to address some of the main hazardous substances found within the product category, added to the product, or to ingredients during manufacturing. The intention is to reduce the use of hazardous materials and to prevent pollutants entering the environment.

Banned Substances

Certain substances or compound classes have been identified as particularly harmful for human health and/or the environment.

Criterion 25: In order to promote the reduction of pollutant hazards in the manufacture, use, or disposal of products the following substances (and where appropriate, their compounds) shall not be added to products or used during manufacture:

- Compounds or ingredients that are or may decompose into substances that are classified as a known or suspected endocrine disruptor, carcinogen, mutagen or teratogen, including:
 - any R45 (H350), R46 (H340), R48 (H372, H373), R49 (H350) substances,
 - IARC group 1 or 2A substances,
 - EU consolidated list of C/M/R category 1 or 2 substances.
- Substances of Very High Concern listed on the REACH Candidate list (<http://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table>).
- Toxic heavy metals and their compounds, or ingredients containing heavy metals and their compounds, including mercury (Hg), arsenic (As), selenium (Se), cobalt (Co), tin (Sn) and antimony (Sb) must not be deliberately added or used.

Exceptions:

Above substances may be present as contaminants. Contaminants are defined as residues from raw material production or from a previous life cycle (in case of recycled materials) present in the finished product, in raw materials or in alternative fuels used in the kiln, but not substances that are added to a raw material or product for a purpose, irrespective of quantity. Trace levels of contaminants may not exceed publicly available safety standards.

Exceptions for a specific substance may be permitted only where the applicant can demonstrate that the substance:

- is necessary for performance or safety reasons; and
- is stored and managed in a manner that prevents environmental pollution during manufacture; and
- is chemically bound in a way that will prevent environmental pollution via leaching, upon disposal by landfill or incineration.

Chromium VI compounds may be used for passivating of zinc and zinc alloy coated steel products.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 25.1: Ingredients list for the product and Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for each ingredient, identification of potential contamination sources. If a substance is present as contaminant, applicable safety standards and procedures that are met have to be detailed.

DoC 25.2: Where an exception is claimed for a substance that is added for a purpose, a signed declaration from an Executive Director of the applicant company stating the purpose for which the given substance is necessary; documentation clearly outlining how each chemical is used, managed and stored; and evidence that human exposure or environmental contamination is prevented.

Hazardous Materials

Criterion 26: Licence holders must report on hazardous heavy metals in the steel product, including:



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- Results of analysis of hazardous heavy metals (lead (Pb), cadmium (Cd), chromium (Cr) and nickel concentrations in the steel;
- Initiatives taken to minimise levels of hazardous heavy metals in the steel; and
- Initiatives taken to minimise levels of leaching of hazardous heavy metals into the environment.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 26.1: A description of the policies, procedures and programmes in place to minimise undesirable heavy metals in the feedstock and finished product;

DoC 26.2: Testing results of heavy metal concentrations in steel undertaken in accordance with the relevant ISO or ASTM test methods.

Criterion 27: The steel products shall not be treated with:

- Halogenated organic compounds;
- Slushing oil;
- Any of the substances listed in Criterion 25:.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 27.1: Signed declaration of conformance supported by documentation identifying hazardous substances used in the treatment; and

DoC 27.2: A description of the policies, procedures and programmes in place to ensure that the hazardous substances are not used in treatment of the product.

Exceptions

Small parts such as screws, hinges, bolts etc are excepted from the requirements in b) unless they are parts that are intended to come into frequent contact with skin.

Criterion 28: Hydrofluoric acid shall not be used for pickling of steel before galvanising and coating.

Exceptions

For high-alloy stainless steel types a mixture of nitric acid and hydrofluoric acid solution (with hydrofluoric acid between 1 - 5 %) is acceptable.

Other exceptions for a specific substance may only be granted for safety or performance considerations.

In all cases it needs to be proven that

- the substance does not pose a health risk to the end user, or manufacturing/installation staff; and
- the applicant can demonstrate that exposure to the substance is below No Observable Adverse Effect Level or zero if NOAEL is unknown;
- the substance cannot enter the environment during the manufacturing/installation process or as a result of use.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 28.1: Documentation showing absence of HF including the list for all acids and other substances used for steel pickling including SDS of each chemical.

DoC 28.2: If an exception is claimed, a standard operating procedure (SOP) for the process in which HF is used outlining all key steps including storage and handling requirements shall be available as guidance for all users.



Criterion 29: Chromium VI compounds shall not be used for passivation purposes during steel production.

Exception:

Chromium VI compounds may be used for passivating of zinc and zinc alloy coated steel products.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 29.1: If chromium VI is used, documentation outlining that there is no alternative and that it is reduced to chromium III before disposal or storage.

Coating

Criterion 30: Top-coats and paints used for coating of steel products must meet all the requirements to be classified as non-hazardous and/or be currently licensed under a current GECA certification.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 30.1: Product SDS showing all hazard identifications including dangerous goods classifications and relevant supporting documentation.

Criterion 31: Paint used to coat the steel products shall not be formulated with chromium VI, mercury, lead, cadmium, arsenic or their compounds.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 31.1: Documentation indicating the full ingredients and formulation of paints and coatings showing it is not formulated with any of the above heavy metals.

Criterion 32: The total content of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the coatings and paints of steel products must not exceed the values stated below:

Coating	Limit (gr /L)
Coatings for architectural purpose	50
Solvent-based exc. architectural purpose	450
Water-based exc. architectural purpose	50

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 32.1: The documentation including reports from the paint manufacturer indicating the paint formulation and ingredients used, and report of the measurements or calculations of VOC levels (g/litre).

Storage of Raw Materials and Waste

Criterion 33: The steel manufacturer must have and implement effective management policies, procedures and systems covering the appropriate storage and handling of raw materials, including steel scrap, solid wastes and environmentally hazardous materials. These procedures shall



- Ensure any storage of steel scrap and other environmentally hazardous materials is located and managed to prevent contamination of surface water or land;
- Ensure potentially hazardous liquids are bunded
- Include a Spill Response Plan detailing procedures to identify, contain and clean-up any spill of potentially hazardous substances;
- Ensure the spent acid solution (if not recovered) and associated rinse water used for pickling and fluxing in galvanising process is being neutralised to a neutral pH (or pH around 6-9) before disposal or storage);
- Ensure the chromium VI produced and present in pickling liquor is being reduced to chromium III; and
- Ensure the dissolved iron salts are being removed from the spent acid and re-used.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 33.1: Documentation including photos of storage of steel scrap and hazardous materials/liquids;

DoC 33.2: Copy of Spill Response Plan;

DoC 33.3: Documentation outlining the procedure in which acids are neutralised and stored, and Cr(VI) is reduced to Cr(III), including a copy of results showing achieving such results.



PACKAGING AND END OF LIFE

Previous sections of this standard apply to the characteristics of the product and the production process. This section is intended to address the impacts arising during the remainder of the product's life cycle.

Packaging

Criterion 34: Packaging shall comply with at least one of the following:

- Each material constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging used, must contain at least 50% recycled content by weight;
- Each material constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging used, must be derived from plant-based materials (e.g. PLA plastics); or
- Each separable item constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging, must be recyclable in Australia. This may be demonstrated using the Australian Packaging Covenant's Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal (PREP).

Paper and cardboard packaging must be either certified under recognised forest certification scheme (e.g. FSC or PEFC) or contain at least 30% recycled content by weight.

Material used for the transport of products (tertiary packaging) and whose disposal is not the responsibility of the end-consumer may be exempted from the above requirements if they are re-used by the applicant, or are recyclable in specialist recycling facilities.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 34.1: Details of materials used as packaging, including information on the input of recycled and virgin materials reported by weight if applicable. The recycled content can be averaged over a 12-month period to find the amount or range of recycled content; and / or

DoC 34.2: Evidence of recyclability or copy of PREP Assessment Report; and/or

DoC 34.3: Evidence of certification under relevant forest certification scheme; and/or

DoC 34.4: Details of re-use programs for transport materials within the applicant company.

Recyclability

Criterion 35: The coating of the steel product must not make the product unusable for recycling in steel mills.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 35.1: Evidence that a steel mill is able to take back and recycle this steel product.

Product Information

Criterion 36: The manufacturer shall provide written information to the consumer clearly stating:

- The intended use of the product;
- Instructions for correct use and storage so as to maximise the product lifetime;
- Maintenance instructions, including cleaning instructions, if required. Maintenance instructions shall not specify the use of any chemical or coating limited by any part of this standard; and
- Recycling instructions for the product end of life.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 36.1: Copy of documentation to be supplied with the product clearly stating the required information if they are re-used by the applicant, or are recyclable in specialist recycling facilities.



ENVIRONMENTAL CLAIMS

This section addresses the need to ensure that any environmental claims made beyond the scope of this standard by the manufacturer are verifiable.

Public Claims

Criterion 37: Public claims made by the applicant regarding the products environmental performance that are beyond the scope of this standard (other than GECA certified content) shall be independently verified as compliant with ISO 14021: Environmental Labels and Declarations – ‘Self-Declared Environmental Claims’ (Type II Environmental Labelling) requirements. Also refer to the GECA Rules for the Use of the Good Environmental Choice Australia Mark.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 37.1: Report or statement from the applicant listing all public environmental claims regarding the product by the applicant, demonstrating compliance to ISO14021; and

DoC 37.2: A signed declaration from an Executive Director of the applicant company stating that any environmental claims made by the company regarding the product in the future will be verified using ISO 14021 and/or the GECA certification



SOCIAL AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

This section addresses compliance with law and social attributes of the producer and the applicant company. Criteria for social aspects of the product are required under the international standard on ecolabelling (ISO 14024), and this section is common to all GECA standards. Equivalent sections are included in standards of all other GEN member ecolabelling bodies around the world. The social aspect partially addresses the third dimension of sustainability - Society. This was first understood by producers under the name "Corporate Social Responsibility" (CSR). In this standard social criteria include laws for equal opportunity, safety and protection of workers. GECA certification cannot be given to any company that illegally exploits workers or their families.

Note: In cases where there is a conflict between GECA requirements in this section and relevant legislation or regulations introduced by governments and agencies, national legislation overrides state legislation and state legislation overrides regulations and standards issued by GECA

Environmental Legislation

Criterion 38: The producer of the product and applicant company shall as per law comply with relevant environmental legislation and government orders at the Local, State, and Commonwealth levels, (if these have been issued). Where a producer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's environmental regulations that apply. Where the producer has been found guilty of a breach of any environmental legislation or permit(s) within the last 2 years, there must be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 38.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance to environmental legislation and government orders; as well as declaration of any breaches of environmental legislation or permits and the date of the breach. Applicant shall:

DoC 38.2: Provide a Legal Register listing applicable environmental legislation (including applicable Regulations under that legislation) in, or as an attachment to, this declaration. The Legal Register shall, for each applicable Act and Regulation listed, state whether the manufacturer and applicant company comply; or

DoC 38.3: Have a certified ISO 14001, Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) or equivalent environmental management system in place; and;

DoC 38.4: Any relevant permits granted by the EPA or an equivalent national, state or local body;

DoC 38.5: Evidence of corrective action following a guilty verdict, if applicable.

In this criterion, 'Regulation' means an entire regulatory instrument (for example, the Environmentally Hazardous Chemicals Regulation 2008) and not the individual sections, provisions or clauses of a regulatory instrument.

Fair Pay

Criterion 39: All employees shall be covered by a Federal or State award or a certified industrial agreement or a registered agreement as determined by the Australian Government Workplace Authority, or a State or Territory Workplace Relations Agency, or a workplace agreement in compliance Fair Work Act 2009 section 61 – National Employment Standard. Where a producer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 39.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation;

DoC 39.2: Text or template of a typical workplace agreement offered to employees of the company; and

DoC 39.3: Sample payslips.



Workplace Health and Safety

Criterion 40: A manufacturer/ applicant company must demonstrate general compliance with State or Territory Legislation concerning Occupational, Health and Safety (OHS) / Work Health and Safety (WHS) and/or the Commonwealth Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988, where applicable. Where a manufacturer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply. Where a producer/applicant company has been found guilty of a breach of relevant legislation within the last 2 years, there shall be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 40.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organization stating compliance to workplace legislation and government orders, as well as declaration of any breaches of legislation and the date of the breach. Applicants shall list all applicable legislation in, or as an attachment to, this declaration;

DoC 40.2: Copy of the company Occupational / Workplace H&S policy and procedures;

DoC 40.3: Copy of employee induction records, training records, meeting records and risk assessments; or current ISO 45001:2018 (or former OHSAS 18001), AS/NZS 4801 or equivalent certification; or third party certification stating compliance to Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 or equivalent jurisdiction specific legislation; and

DoC 40.4: Evidence of corrective action following a guilty verdict, if applicable.

Equal Opportunity

Criterion 41: The manufacturer / applicant company shall demonstrate general compliance with the requirements of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975, Sex Discrimination Act 1984, Disability Discrimination Act 1992, Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Act 1999, and complementary State Legislation. The manufacturer cannot be in the list of 'named' or non-compliant employers under the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012. Where a manufacturer /applicant company is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply. Where a manufacturer has been found guilty of a breach of relevant legislation within the last 2 years, there shall be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 41.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation;

DoC 41.2: Copy of relevant company policies and procedures;

DoC 41.3: Evidence of corrective action following a guilty verdict, if applicable; and

DoC 41.4: The assessor will verify that the company does not appear on the following list:

<https://www.wgea.gov.au/non-compliant-list>

Lawful Conduct

Criterion 42: The manufacturer / applicant company shall not have been convicted of any breach of criminal law, any breach of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 or the Corporations Act 2001, including prosecution or de-listing by the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX, or international equivalent). Where a manufacturer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply. Where a producer has been found guilty of a breach of relevant legislation within the last 2 years, there must be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 42.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation; and

DoC 42.2: Evidence of corrective action following a guilty verdict, if applicable.



Modern Slavery Reporting

Criterion 43: The applicant company shall publish an annual Modern Slavery Statement in alignment with the Australian Modern Slavery Act (2018). This criterion shall be valid for applicant companies of any size and is not restricted to any annual revenue threshold.

If risks are identified in the report, they will have to be addressed in the next annual report and improvements will have to be documented.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 43.1: Copy of published Modern Slavery Report from within the last twelve months; AND

DoC 43.2: documentation of improvements of risk areas, if applicable.



EVIDENCE OF CONFORMANCE

Demonstration of Conformance (DoC)

This section lists the sources of evidence to be considered during an assessment to establish conformance against GECA's standards. This list is provided in order to guide the applicant manufacturer through the requirements of the standard and to facilitate the preparation of an application.

The DoC requirements as specified along with each criterion in the standard define specific sources of evidence acceptable to GECA. In cases where criteria offer several DoC requirements, it is the sole decision of the appointed assurance provider to choose the appropriate option in course of the preliminary stage of the assessment. If none of the recommended DoC requirements stipulated for a particular criterion in the standard is applicable for a product under assessment, then the appointed assurance provider may choose an alternative but equivalent source of evidence. In cases where alternative sources of evidence have been accepted for the verification of the product, the assurance provider will inform GECA by providing a report on the details as far as appropriate. GECA will use this information to continuously improve the DoC requirements stipulated by that standard.

All laboratory testing and analysis shall be carried out by a NATA (National Association of Testing Authorities) accredited laboratory. For tests carried out overseas all analysis shall be carried out by a reputable lab accredited by an ILAC (International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation) member.

The applicant/manufacturer shall have processes in place to ensure on-going compliance with the criteria in this standard; for example in relation to hazardous substances, having a process in place for completing a checklist (signed and dated by the authorised person) that lists all the substances and requirements in that section prior to using in/with the GECA product/s. The process may be carried out by relevant supplier/s of relevant material/s if there is no in-house capacity within the organisation being assessed to carry out this process. Documented information about any communication in regards to this process (i.e. between applicant and suppliers) shall be maintained.

The DoC requirements are summarised in Appendix B to assist applicants in preparing documentation for the verification process with a GECA approved assurance provider.



APPENDIX A – APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The Application Checklist guides the applicant through the application and verification process. An applicant may collect all information required for the verification of the product and attach the relevant documents to their application. The table below summarises the DoC requirements for each criterion in the standard.

Criterion No.	Criterion Content	Demonstration of Conformance See standard body for details	Evidence Attached	Complies Y/N or NA
Standard Category Scope				
Criterion 1	Scope schedule	Detailed description of the product(s) or product range; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Explanation of applicability of the product(s) to the scope of the standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fitness For Purpose				
Criterion 2	Product shall meet or exceed applicable standards and demonstrated fitness levels.	Detailed description of the product as it relates to Australian (or other) standards	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Independent assessment or test reports confirming conformance with relevant standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Material Requirements				
Criterion 3	Virgin mined/quarried raw materials shall come from mining/quarrying operations with environmental and rehabilitation programs.	Information about the virgin material procurement program and records of the supplier, nature and geographical source of all virgin mined material inputs; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Certificates or other evidence of implemented EMS; documented mine rehabilitation program, and community engagement or cultural heritage plans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 4	Use of recycled materials	Signed declaration of compliance, supported by documentation on procedures and standards for excluding feedstock containing undesirable components.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 5	Material efficiency	Signed declaration of compliance, supported by calculations	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Environmental Management System				
Criterion 6	The applicant and manufacturer shall have an Environmental Management System in place that is in accordance with ISO 14001:2015.	Documentation showing an Environmental Management System (in accordance with ISO 14001:2015) is in place, supported by relevant documentation such as ISO14001 certificate, Aspects and Impacts Register, recent certification assessment report and any other information as per the discretion of the assessor.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Process Emissions and Resource Management				



Criterion 7	Water management: The steel mill, rolling mills and finishing lines must have effective procedures and systems in place to minimise emissions of oil and grease, suspended solids and metals in waste water	Description including photos of procedures and systems to minimise above emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Annual improvement plan to minimise above emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 8	Water management: The steel product manufacturer must have and implement systems to recover process wastewater sludges and sediments.	Description including photos of implemented and planned systems to recover process wastewater sludges and sediments	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 9	Water management: Discharges of contaminants to the natural environment	Document outlining the compliance with all relevant environmental regulations	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 10	Water management: The steel product manufacturer shall have systems in place to recycle and re-use water	Description including photos of implemented systems to recycle and re-use water	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Calculation of rate of recycled water	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 11	Water management: The EAF must use a closed loop cooling water system	Plan/description including photos of the cooling water system	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 12	Emissions to air: Off-gases from steelmaking must be captured to the maximum extent practicable	Description including photos of implemented systems for off-gas capture	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 13	Emissions to air: Emissions of dioxins and PCBs from steelmaking via the EAF process must be measured at least annually and reported	Annual dioxin and PCB emissions reporting	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 14	Emissions to air: NO _x and SO _x emissions in the production of the steel must be measured and reported at least annually	Annual NO _x and SO _x emissions reporting	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 15	Emissions to air: Discharges to air from the steelmaking and ancillary processes	Document outlining the compliance with all relevant environmental regulations	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 16	Dust management plan	Documentation including photos showing a management system as defined in criterion	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 17	Dust management: For galvanising processes, facilities such as a hood shall be provided	Documentation including photos showing such facilities are in place and record of exposure limit of particles or ash if applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	



Criterion 18	Greenhouse gas emissions: The steel maker supplying the steel must be a member of the World Steel Association's Climate Action Programme	A current Climate Action Programme certificate from the World Steel Association, confirming that the steel maker is a member of the program, must be provided	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 19	Greenhouse gas emissions: Carbon reductions	Result of most recent calculations submitted to World Steel Association's Climate Action Programme; not older than two years; OR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Calculations showing annual reductions for a twelve-month or up to five-year average, where the newest data must not be older than two years; for a recertification, at least the last three years must be covered	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Outline of planned carbon emissions reductions within the next three years; OR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of ResponsibleSteel standard certification; if the certification is for the production site(s), evidence of sources of steel needs to be included; or – if no certification under the ResponsibleSteel standard – evidence of compliance with all Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions criteria of the ResponsibleSteel standard; OR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of compliance with Green Star Design and As Built version 1.2, credit 20.1B 'Energy-Reducing Processes in Steel Reinforcement Production	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 20	Waste management: Recovery of dedusting dusts and sludges	Documentation including photos of implemented and planned systems of dedusting dusts and sludge recovery	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 21	Waste management: Uprisings, pre-consumer steel scrap and millscale shall be recycled	Documentation of recycling systems including recycling rates	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 22	Waste management: effective waste management policies and procedures	Copy of waste management policies and procedures and/or waste management programme and improvement plan.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 23	Waste management reporting	Documentation of waste management	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 24	Waste management: spent acid solution shall be recovered and reused	Documentation outlining how and how much of each chemical is being reused or recovered	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hazardous Substances				
Criterion 25	Banned substances	Ingredients list for the product and Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for each ingredient, identification of potential contamination sources. If a substance is present as contaminant, applicable safety standards and procedures that are met have to be detailed	<input type="checkbox"/>	



		Where an exception is claimed for a substance that is added for a purpose, a signed declaration from an Executive Director of the applicant company stating the purpose for which the given substance is necessary; documentation clearly outlining how each chemical is used, managed and stored; and evidence that human exposure or environmental contamination is prevented	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 26	Hazardous materials: Hazardous heavy metals	A description of the policies, procedures and programmes in place to minimise undesirable heavy metals in the feedstock and finished product	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Testing results of heavy metal concentrations in steel undertaken in accordance with the relevant ISO or ASTM test methods	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 27	Hazardous materials: should not be treated with halogenated organic compounds;slushing oil or any banned substances listed in Criterion 25	Signed declaration of conformance supported by documentation identifying hazardous substances used in the treatment; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Description of the policies, procedures and programmes in place to ensure that the hazardous substances are not used in treatment of the product	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 28	Hazardous materials: Hydrofluoric acid shall not be used for pickling of steel before galvanising and coating	Documentation showing absence of HF including the list for all acids and other substances used for steel pickling including SDS of each chemical	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		If an exception is claimed, a standard operating procedure (SOP) for the process in which HF is used outlining all key steps including storage and handling requirements shall be available as guidance for all users	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 29	Hazardous materials: Chromium VI compounds shall not be used for passivation purposes during steel production	If chromium VI is used, documentation outlining that there is no alternative and that it is reduced to chromium III before disposal or storage	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 30	Coating: Top-coats and paints classified as non-hazardous	Product SDS showing all hazard identifications including dangerous goods classifications and relevant supporting documentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 31	Coating: Paint	Documentation indicating the full ingredients and formulation of paints and coatings showing it is not formulated with any of the above heavy metals	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 32	Coating: VOC	The documentation including reports from the paint manufacturer indicating the paint formulation and ingredients used, and report of the measurements or calculations of VOC levels (g/litre)	<input type="checkbox"/>	



Criterion 33	Storage of raw materials and waste	Documentation including photos of storage of steel scrap and hazardous materials/liquids	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Copy of Spill Response Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Documentation outlining the procedure in which acids are neutralised and stored, and Cr(VI) is reduced to Cr(III), including a copy of results showing achieving such results	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Packaging and End of Life				
Criterion 34	Packaging	Details of materials used as packaging, including information on the input of recycled and virgin materials reported by weight if applicable. The recycled content can be averaged over a 12-month period to find the amount or range of recycled content; and / or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of recyclability or copy of PREP Assessment Report; and/or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of certification under relevant forest certification scheme; and/or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Details of re-use programs for transport materials within the applicant company	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 35	Recyclability	Evidence that a steel mill is able to take back and recycle this steel product	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 36	Product information	Copy of documentation to be supplied with the product clearly stating the required information if they are re-used by the applicant, or are recyclable in specialist recycling facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Environmental Claims				
Criterion 37	Public claims	Report or statement from the applicant listing all public environmental claims regarding the product by the applicant, demonstrating compliance to ISO14021; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Signed declaration from an Executive Director of the applicant company stating that any environmental claims made by the company regarding the product in the future will be verified using ISO 14021 and/or the GECA certification	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Social and Legal Compliance				
Criterion 38	Environmental legislation	Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance to environmental legislation and government orders; as well as declaration of any breaches of environmental legislation or permits and the date of the breach	<input type="checkbox"/>	



		Applicant shall provide a Legal Register listing applicable environmental legislation (including applicable Regulations under that legislation) in, or as an attachment to, this declaration. The Legal Register shall, for each applicable Act and Regulation listed, state whether the manufacturer and applicant company comply; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Applicant shall have a certified ISO 14001, Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) or equivalent environmental management system in place; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Any relevant permits granted by the EPA or an equivalent national, state or local body	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action following a guilty verdict, if applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 39	Fair pay	Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Text or template of a typical workplace agreement offered to employees of the company; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Sample payslips	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 40	Workplace health and safety	Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organization stating compliance to workplace legislation and government orders, as well as declaration of any breaches of legislation and the date of the breach. Applicants shall list all applicable legislation in, or as an attachment to, this declaration	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Copy of the company Occupational / Workplace H&S policy and procedures	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Copy of employee induction records, training records, meeting records and risk assessments; or current ISO 45001:2018 (or former OHSAS 18001), AS/NZS 4801 or equivalent certification; or third party certification stating compliance to Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 or equivalent jurisdiction specific legislation;	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action following a guilty verdict, if applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 41	Equal opportunity	Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Copy of relevant company policies and procedures	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action following a guilty verdict, if applicable; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	



		The assessor will verify that the company does not appear on the WGEA non-compliance list	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 42	Lawful conduct	Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action following a guilty verdict, if applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 43	Modern slavery reporting	Copy of published Modern Slavery Report from within the last twelve months; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Documentation of improvements of risk areas, if applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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