

Ecolabels

Eco-label is the term for a seal or logo indicating that a product has met a set of environmental and/or social standards. The use of ecolabels can assist public procurement officials in locating certified commodities and services that have met rigid testing requirements. The most credible, respected ecolabels are those that have been developed in an equitable, open, and transparent process by independent organizations and focus on a balance of multiple sustainability attributes throughout a commodity or service's life cycle.

The following are examples of some commonly trusted ecolabels:



CIMS – GB: ISSA

Worldwide Cleaning Industry Association; Cleaning Industry Management Standard – Green Buildings; certifies sustainable cleaning practices for cleaning services and building maintenance in compliance with the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) system.



ECOLOGO

Underwriter Laboratories (UL); Lifecycle reduced environmental impact in some or all of the following: materials, energy, manufacturing and operations, health and environment, product performance and use. Certifies: building & construction materials, industrial & domestic cleaning products, office supplies, electronics, paper & plastic products, personal care products, several other products & services



ENERGY STAR

U.S. EPA and Dept. of Energy; Energy efficiency standards for industrial, commercial, and residential products. Certifies: appliances, building products, commercial food service equipment, data center equipment, electronics, heating and cooling, lighting, office equipment, water heaters, other electric-powered items.



SAFER CHOICE

U.S. EPA; Through chemical and toxicological analysis, the Safer Choice program applies criteria for health and environmental safety to identify products with the safest possible chemical ingredients. Certifies: glass cleaners, general purpose cleaners, washroom cleaners, carpet cleaners, laundry detergents, graffiti removers, boat and car care, drain cleaners, personal care, floor care, and other industrial products.



SMART WAY

U.S. EPA; Technology verification and branding of fuel-saving technologies and operational practices to save fuel, lower costs, and reduce adverse environmental impacts. Certifies: Supply chain logistics operations, freight transportation, fuel systems and use, logistics technologies and operations.



EPEAT

Global Electronics Council; Global Type 1 ecolabel covering products and services from the technology sector meeting the requirements of ISO 14024. Certifies: Electronics, Servers, Computers & Displays, Imaging Equipment, Televisions, Mobile Phones, and other devices.



FAIRTRADE

Fairtrade International; Social, economic, and environmental criteria for supply chains and operations; free of hazardous materials; free of worker and local exploitation. Certifies: Wide variety of produce, flowers and plants, cotton, textiles, gold and precious metals, composite materials, and carbon.



GREEN SEAL

Green Seal; Life-cycle-based criteria for sustainability focused on reducing toxic pollution and waste and resource conservation while maintaining product performance. Certifies: Construction materials and building equipment; food packaging and paper products; household cleaning products; industrial and institutional cleaning products; printing and writing paper; sanitary paper products; cleaning services; hotels; restaurants.



GREEN GUARD

Underwriter Laboratories (UL); Product chemical emissions certification and labeling program for manufacturers of low-emitting indoor products, furnishings, and materials for use in environments such as schools and healthcare facilities. Certifies: Building materials, furniture and furnishings, carpets and flooring materials, paints and finishes, cleaning and maintenance products, electronic equipment, and medical devices.



LEED

U.S. Green Building Council; Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is a sustainable building certification program that includes a set of rating systems for the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of sustainable buildings, homes, and neighborhoods. Points towards certification are awarded by performance metrics for energy use, water use, and indoor environmental quality (IEQ), along with other measures. The use of other ecolabel-certified materials and products in the construction or renovation of a structure also contribute to LEED scores.



SMART

Institute for Market Transformation to Sustainability; Measures environmental, social, and economic sustainability throughout production stages and supply chains; compliant with the LEED system. Certifies: building products and materials, fabrics, apparel, textiles, and flooring.

For a comprehensive list of ecolabels from around the globe
visit the Ecolabel index: <http://www.ecolabelindex.com/ecolabels/>

Chadwick Stephens, Research Manager

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For any questions or requests, contact us at research@naspo.org