

Environmental Certification for Carpets

The Australian Carpet Classification Scheme (ACCS), administered by the Carpet Institute of Australia, has introduced environmental performance criteria.

What is ACCS?

ACCS is a voluntary industry labelling and grading scheme for textile floor coverings manufactured in Australia or imported. The ACCS is also a registered trademark certification scheme meaning that the scheme has been reviewed by Government authorities and found to comply with the requirements of the Trade Practices Act.

Suitability for Use

The ACCS carpet performance criteria are used to grade carpet to indicate its suitability for use in any given walking traffic conditions.

Who Awards Gradings?

An expert panel awards gradings on the result achieved from carpet performance tests carried out by accredited laboratories. Carpets graded by the ACCS carry distinctive consumer friendly labels that feature a 'star' system of rating that provides guidance on the likely appearance retention and durability performance properties of carpet – the more stars the better.

ACCS Coverage

The ACCS covers all carpet constructions, manufacturing methods, and fibre types. With over 3,500 graded products on the database, the ACCS is one of the largest national grading schemes of its type in the world.

Environmental Certification Scheme

After several years of industry consultations, and research and development, the Environmental Certification Scheme was introduced in October 2006.

The ECS requires a current ACCS grading and introduces three new technical criteria covering Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) emissions, noise reduction and thermal insulation properties that relate to environmental performance. We believe that the ECS performance criteria are more stringent than other standards set for environmental certification of textile floor coverings in the Australasian marketplace.

Environmental Code of Practice

Another important feature of the ECS is that carpet manufacturers must comply with an Environmental Code of Practice, which includes provisions relating to:

- Good environmental practice in manufacturing;
- Ban on the use of environmentally hazardous materials in line with the EU requirements for textile products; and
- Product stewardship.

The ECS is a logical extension of the 30 year old Australian Carpet Classification Scheme. It provides valuable guidance for carpet buyers, and promotes environmental sustainability in the Australian carpet industry.



For peace of mind buy ACCS graded carpet



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