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# Australian Carpet Classification Scheme Incorporating The Environmental Certification Scheme

## GUIDANCE MANUAL

**Administered by the Carpet Institute of Australia Limited**

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This Guidance Manual was developed to assist current and prospective ACCS licensees.

Inquiries regarding its use can be directed to the Carpet Institute of Australia.

### Disclaimer

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## Procedures Manual for the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme (ACCS) incorporating the Environmental Certification Scheme (ECS)

### 1 Purpose of the Scheme

The ACCS provides manufacturers, suppliers and consumers an independent and objective method of assessing the fitness for purpose and environmental impacts of textile floor coverings.

### 2 Scope

The Australian Carpet Classification Scheme is a scheme by which textile floor coverings having pile use surfaces, manufactured in, or imported for use within Australia, are classified in accordance with the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme Technical Guidelines. The Scheme covers broadloom carpet and carpet tiles but excludes rugs.

### 3 Definitions and Construction

The following terms have the respective meanings set out below:-

- "ABSDO" means Accreditation Board for Standards Development Organisations;
- "ACCC" means Australian Competition and Consumer Commission;
- "ACCS" means the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme;
- "Appeal" means an appeal to the Registrar of Trade Marks;
- "CIAL" means the Carpet Institute of Australia Limited;
- "Code of Practice" means the Code of Environmental Management of the Environmental Certification Scheme;
- "Certification Mark" means Registered Trade Mark No. C309,403 in the name of the Carpet Institute of Australia Limited of Level 1, 493 St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 8004 which comprises a "shuttle" symbol and the words "AUSTRALIAN CARPET MARK" set out in Schedule 1;
- "Classified Textile Floor Covering" means a machine made textile floor covering having a pile use surface classified under the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme in accordance with the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme Technical Guidelines;
- "Clone Grading" means an ACCS graded or ECS certified textile floor covering that shares the same technical specification as a previously graded textile floor covering;
- "Committee" means the Committee of the Carpet Institute of Australia Limited appointed in accordance with the Articles of Association of that company;
- "ECS" means the Environmental Certification Scheme component of the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme;
- "ECS Level 1" means the initial assessment level of the ECS;
- "ECS Level 2" means the second assessment level of the ECS;
- "ECS Level 3" means the third assessment level of the ECS;
- "ECS Level 4" (with 2 options) means the top assessment levels of the ECS;
- "GBCA" means Green Building Council of Australia;
- "Green star" means the certification scheme of the Green Building Council of Australia
- Independent Assessor means an environmental assessor accredited by RABQSA or having equivalent qualifications acceptable to the ACCS Panel.
- "Label" means any one of the labels set out in Schedule 2 bearing the Certification Mark;





- “Licence” means a licence to use the Certification Mark and the Labels on or in relation to Classified Textile Floor Coverings and submit Textile Floor Coverings to the Carpet Institute of Australia Limited for classification by the Panel in accordance with the Rules;
- “Licence Number” means the licence number issued to a Licensee upon registration of a granted Licence;
- “Licensee” means a person holding a valid Licence and may include both members and non-members of the Carpet Institute of Australia Limited;
- “Master Grading” means an ACCS graded or ECS certified textile floor covering with a registered carpet quality name, grading and technical specification;
- “NATA Laboratory” means an independent testing laboratory registered by the National Association of Testing Authorities or a similar internationally registered laboratory;
- “Person” includes companies, bodies corporate and other legal entities;
- “Panel” means the classification panel of the CIAL appointed in accordance with Clauses 8 and 9;
- “President” means the president of the Carpet Institute of Australia Limited appointed in accordance with the Articles of Association of that company;
- “Product Family” means a group of similarly constructed textile floor coverings having common face fibre content, pile thickness and backing type;
- “Register” means the General Register in accordance with Clause 13;
- “Registered Number” means the exclusive number allotted to each textile floor covering under the ACCS as recorded by the ACCS General Register;
- “Registered Office” means Level 1, 493 St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 8004
- “Registered Specification” means the nominal and tested specification of a Classified Textile Floor Covering as recorded by the ACCS General Register;
- “Rules” mean the rules of operations of the scheme;
- “Standard Tolerance” means standard manufacturing process variation as described in Australian Standard 1385 (Textile Floor Coverings - Metric Units and Commercial Tolerances for Measurement);
- “Technical Guidelines” means the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme Technical Guidelines containing details of the technical standards and other standards and specifications prescribed for classification by the Panel; (Reference: [www.carpetinstitute.com.au](http://www.carpetinstitute.com.au))
- “Testing Laboratory” means a textile testing laboratory accredited by the National Association of Testing Authorities or international equivalent; and
- “Textile Floor Covering” means a machine made textile floor covering having a pile use surface of a particular combination of construction, pile fibre, composition, pile weight, pile height, and other technical considerations set out in the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme Technical Guidelines.



## 4 Funding and Administration

The ACCS, incorporating the ECS, is sponsored by CIAL, which provides secretarial support on a fee for service basis.

CIAL is incorporated as a public company limited by guarantee (ABN 006 829 303).

The ACCS receives funding from ACCS Licensees in the form of Licence fees and any other fees charged in relation to the classification of Textile Floor Coverings.

## 5 Accounts and Business Records

The accounts and business records of the ACCS are kept separately by the CIAL. While CIAL and ACCS use the same auditor, all ACCS funds are accounted for separately.

## 6 Certification Mark

The Certification Mark may only be used on and in relation to Textile Floor Coverings classified under the ACCS in accordance with the Technical Guidelines and Rules of Operation.

## 7 Panel

The Panel is responsible for awarding ACCS gradings and ECS certifications in accordance with the Technical Guidelines.

The Panel comprises a maximum of 13 members selected from representatives of carpet manufacturers, whether members of the CIAL or not, and other persons having relevant technical experience of assistance to the operations of the Panel. Members are appointed in their own right and, consistent with ABSDO Guidelines, every effort is made to ensure that the Panel comprises a balanced representation of relevant stakeholder interests.

A minimum of five Panel members must be present before gradings can be awarded at any classification meeting.

The Panel currently comprises the following people:

Mr G Robinson	Independent Chairman
Mr J Cullen	Godfrey Hirst Australia
Mr M Webb	APL Australia
Mr I Benjamin	Aywon Carpet Contractors
Mr P Leyland	Cavalier Bremworth
Mr J Brown	Tuftmaster Carpets
Mr W Bankier	Beaulieu Australia
Mr G Naguib	Feltex Carpets
Mr T Brown	Colstan Carpet Choice



Any Panel member who has a conflict of interest in relation to the award of gradings or any other matter before the Panel must declare the conflict of interest and abstain from voting.

CIAL provides secretarial services to the Panel and does not participate in the grading process.

As the sponsor of the ACCS and an active participant in the development of relevant Australian and international standards, CIAL follows as closely as practicable the ABSDO requirements for accreditation of Standards Development Organisations, dated 26 September 2007.

(Reference: [www.absdo.org.au](http://www.absdo.org.au))

## 8 Appointment of Panel Members

The Panel appoints new members to the Panel or removes existing members from the Panel on a decision of the majority of the members of the Panel subject to the new members being selected from nominees nominated by the Committee.

## 9 Public Access to Scheme Rules and Technical Guidelines

CIAL maintains at the Registered Office a copy of the Rules and a copy of the Technical Guidelines. The Rules and Technical Guidelines are available to the public for inspection during the normal business hours of the Registered Office. In addition they may be downloaded free of charge from the CIAL website.

CIAL is required to submit a copy of the Technical Guidelines to the Registrar of Trade Marks upon request.

## 10 Licences

Every person wishing to participate in the ACCS and use the Certification Mark and the Labels must submit a written application to the Secretary of the ACCS using the pro-forma contained in Schedule 3.

The applicant may be required to show to the reasonable satisfaction of the Panel that the person:

- is a manufacturer or a bona fide distributor/importer of Textile Floor Coverings;
- is of good repute and of good financial standing; and
- shall sign a Licence.

The CIAL Board of Directors and the ACCS Panel must approve all applications. Once approved, the applicant will be asked to sign and return the Licence Agreement with the Licence fee.

ACCS licensees who wish to participate in the ECS must also sign and agree to comply with the provisions of the Code of Practice for Environmental Management (Reference: [www.carpetinstitute.com.au](http://www.carpetinstitute.com.au)).



## 11 Issue of Licence Number

CIAL issues to each applicant who, in the opinion of the Panel, complies with the above conditions, a Licence Number. Subject to an appeal to the Registrar, the Panel may in its absolute discretion refuse to grant a Licence to any applicant. The Panel will provide the applicant with reasons for any such refusal to grant a Licence.

## 12 Scope to Make Further Applications for Licence

An applicant may submit a further application for a Licence.

## 13 Register

CIAL maintains a General Register containing:

- the name and address of each ACCS Licensee;
- the name and address of the Australian agent(s) of each overseas Licensee;
- the date of registration of each Licence and the Licence Number issued to each Licensee;
- the Registered Number allotted to each Textile Floor Covering classified under the ACCS; and
- such other particulars as the CIAL or Panel may require.

## 14 Entitlement

Subject to the Licence, the Technical Guidelines and the Rules of Operation, being issued with a Licence Number, the Licensee is entitled to submit Textile Floor Coverings to the CIAL for classification under the ACCS and ECS and use the Certification Mark and the Labels on and in relation to Classified Textile Floor Coverings.

## 15 Annual Licence Fee

Each Licensee is required to pay an annual subscription prescribed by the Panel. The annual subscription fee for 2009-10 is \$2,860 (including GST). The Licensee may also be required to pay to CIAL any further or other fees the Panel may at its discretion prescribe for the promotion and running of the ACCS and ECS.

## 16 Grading Fees

From time to time the Panel determines the fee that licensees are required to pay to have textile floor covering products classified.

The current GST-inclusive fee structure is:

- ACCS 'master' grading: \$120 per product
- ACCS 'clone' grading: \$150 per product
- ECS 'master' grading: \$200 per product
- ECS 'clone' grading: \$250 per product
- ACCS and ECS combined: \$320 per product



## 17 Technical Guidelines

ACCS and ECS technical performance criteria are contained in the ACCS Technical Guidelines.

(Reference: [www.carpetinstitute.com.au](http://www.carpetinstitute.com.au))

ACCS location guidance gradings are determined using a points rating scheme with 81% of points based on test results from NATA registered laboratories and the remaining 19% based on the Panel's expert assessment of yarn characteristics; carpet construction characteristics and any special features of the graded carpet. The Panel subjectively assesses the attributes that affect the 'on floor' performance of the graded carpet and which cannot be reliably determined using recognized industry standards and test methods.

The ECS is based on pass/fail criteria. The Panel reviews test results and other performance data and determines whether the requirements for the award of ECS certification have been met.

## 18 Categories

The categories prescribed by the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme Technical Guidelines 2009 are:

### ACCS Location Guidance Classification:

Residential Light Duty	(1 star rating)
Residential Medium Duty	(2 star rating)
Residential Heavy Duty (lower to mid range)	(3 star rating)
Residential Heavy Duty (mid to higher range)	(4 star rating)
Residential Extra Heavy Duty (lower to mid range)	(5 star rating)
Residential Extra Heavy Duty (mid to higher range)	(6 star rating)
Contract Light Duty	(1 star rating)
Contract Medium Duty	(2 star rating)
Contract Heavy Duty	(3 star rating)
Contract Extra Heavy Duty	(4 star rating)

### ECS

Level 1

Level 2

Level 3

Level 4 (with 2 options)





## 19 Grading Process

ACCS grading and ECS certification processes are outlined in Schedules 4 and 5.

## 20 Grading Submissions

An application for classification of a Textile Floor Covering under the ACCS shall be in the form determined by the Panel.

### ACCS

An application for an ACCS durability and appearance retention grading comprises:

- completed ACCS General Register Form (Schedule 6)
- report from a NATA registered laboratory on a standard set of tests known as the 'ACCS Test Package.'
- two 20 cm<sup>2</sup> 'feeler' samples of the carpet quality
- appearance retention test results (Test Method: IWS 247/251/284) from a NATA registered laboratory at 1500 cycles (simulating short term appearance change) and 8,000 cycles (simulating medium term appearance change)

An application for ECS certification comprises:

- completed Application for ECS Product Certification Form (Schedule 7)
- a current ACCS 'durability and appearance retention' grading
- Abbreviated ACCS QA Test Report from a NATA registered laboratory if the product had been previously ACCS graded and the grading was awarded more than 2 years prior to application for ECS certification
- test report(s), declarations and verification as required to support Level 1, 2, 3 or 4 ECS certification.

An application for ECS Certification (Level 2, 3 or 4) requires the licensee to demonstrate compliance with the following technical performance criteria:

### Level 2

#### Raw Materials (Toxicity)

- The material formulations of the certified textile floor covering must be provided by the licensee together with a declaration of compliance with the technical criteria supported by Material Safety Data Sheets and relevant test reports (Schedule 8).
- NOTE: The ACCS administration will take random samples of ECS certified carpets and subject them to chemical analysis by a NATA registered laboratory to confirm compliance for the substances listed.

#### Fitness for Purpose

- Requires a current ACCS 'durability and appearance retention' grading or, if the product was ACCS graded more than 2 years prior to the lodgment date of the ECS application, an abbreviated ACCS QA Test Report from a NATA registered laboratory (Schedule 9).



**Product Emissions**

- test report from a NATA registered laboratory on Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) emissions, based on the ECS VOC specification (Schedule 10).

**Level 3**

All Level 2 requirements must be met, plus

**Manufacturing**

- The licensee shall provide a declaration of compliance and supporting documentation sufficient to demonstrate compliance with the relevant performance criteria set of the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme Technical Guidelines 2010 (Reference: [www.carpetinstitute.com.au](http://www.carpetinstitute.com.au)).

**Level 4 (with 2 options)**

All Level 3 requirements must be met, plus

**Option A****Product Stewardship**

- The licensee shall provide a declaration of compliance and a report from an independent assessor confirming that the product stewardship program is capable of delivering the outcomes claimed by the licensee (Schedule 12).
- As a non-mandatory requirement, a licensee has the option of also demonstrating compliance with the Design for Disassembly performance criterion by providing a report from an independent assessor confirming that the certified textile floor coverings can be separated into elemental components for reuse, recycling or reprocessing, with or without the use of specialized tools.

OR

**Option B**

The following 3 performance criteria

**Greenhouse Gas Impact Management**

- The licensee shall provide a declaration of compliance and supporting documentation, which shall include a copy of the publicly reported product lifecycle greenhouse gas footprint for each 'family' of certified textile floor coverings (Schedule 13).
- The licensee is also required to obtain confirmation from an independent assessor that the life cycle analysis complies with the requirements of ISO 14040 series of Environmental Life Cycle Assessment standards.

**Water Use Management**

- The licensee shall provide a declaration of compliance and supporting documentation, which shall include a copy of the publicly reported product lifecycle water use footprint for each 'family' of certified textile floor coverings (Schedule 14).
- The licensee is also required to obtain independent confirmation that the life cycle analysis complies with the requirements of ISO 14040 series of Environmental Life Cycle Assessment standards.



### Social Accountability Reporting

- The licensee shall provide a declaration of compliance and relevant supporting documentation sufficient to demonstrate compliance with the performance criteria contained in the ACCS Technical Guidelines (Schedule 15).
- Supporting documentation shall include but not be limited to:
  - o report from an independent assessor confirming compliance with SA 8000 (for Option 1)
  - o report from an independent assessor showing compliance of major suppliers with relevant ILO conventions ratified by the country of origin (for Option 2)
  - o report from an independent assessor confirming that any environmental claims made by the licensee comply with the requirements of AS/NZS ISO 14021:2000 or the GRI Sustainable Reporting Guidelines (for Option 2)
  - o copy of publicly reported information (for Option 2).

## 21 Labels

There is a designated Label used in accordance with the Licence and the Rules as set out in Schedule 2, for each of the categories of classification of the ACCS and ECS specified in Clause 18.

## 22 Consideration of Applications

The Panel considers each application submitted to it for classification of a Textile Floor Covering and evaluates whether the Textile Floor Covering falls within the category applied for by the Licensee under the Technical Guidelines given the technical data provided by the Licensee, the results of tests conducted by Testing Laboratories and such other evaluation as required by the Panel.

## 23 Format of Grading Application

Licensees are required to submit a grading application to CIAL in a format determined by the Panel.

## 24 Notification of Classification

The Licensee is informed of the grading by the issue of a Certificate following the meeting. The Certificate contains a registration number that identifies the carpet and its grading on the ACCS Register. This Register is open to public inquiry. In addition, the results are posted in the ACCS section of the CIAL website on the day of each meeting and are published in the bi-annual Index of Carpet Quality Names.

## 25 Index of Carpet Quality Names

In addition to the Register, CIAL maintains an Index of Carpet Quality Names governed by the Index of Carpet Quality Names Rules containing:

- the registered name of each Textile Floor Covering whether or not classified under the ACCS;
- the name of the company requesting a name of a particular Textile Floor Covering be registered;
- the date of registration;
- if the Textile Floor Covering is classified under the ACCS, the classification and Registration Number allotted to that Classified Textile Floor Covering; and
- such other details as the CIAL may require to be recorded.



A Textile Floor Covering may be registered under more than one quality name provided that an entry of a Classified Textile Floor Covering states the classification and Registered Number of that Classified Textile Floor Covering so as to clearly identify that one particular Textile Floor Covering has been registered under alternate names.

## 26 Dispute Resolution

Any person who is aggrieved by any refusal by the Panel to issue a Licence or to classify a Textile Floor Covering under the ACCS or by any decision of the Panel to cancel a Licence may appeal to the Registrar of Trade Marks, who, after hearing the parties, decides whether the grievance should be redressed and if so, upon what terms.

In the event of a dispute between a Licensee and the Panel as to the correct classification of the Textile Floor Covering, the following appeal process will apply:

- the Licensee informs the Panel in writing that they dispute or wish to have reviewed the classification assigned by the Panel to a particular carpet quality.
- in requesting a review, the Licensee states in writing the reasons why the review is sought and supplies technical documentation, the results of further testing or any other information necessary to support the case for re-classification of a carpet quality.
- the Panel reviews the classification at the first available opportunity.
- the Licensee must pay any charges associated with re-classification of a carpet quality.
- if, after such review, a dispute still exists between the Licensee and the Panel as to the classification of a Textile Floor Covering an Appeals Committee comprising two Carpet Industry Arbitration Service Arbitrators and the Executive Director of the CIAL decides upon the correct classification for the Textile Floor Covering.
- the decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

Subject to the National Privacy Principles and with the written agreement of the claimant, the outcome of the dispute resolution process will be made public by CIAL.

## 27 Property of Certification Mark

The Certification Mark is the absolute property of the CIAL and must not be used by any persons except as permitted under the Licence.

## 28 Use of the Certification Mark

The Certification Mark is to be used to indicate a Textile Floor Covering bearing the Certification Mark and the Registered Number allotted to that Textile Floor Covering have been tested and classified by the Panel. The Certification Mark and the Registered Number allotted to the Textile Floor Covering must not be used other than in accordance with the Rules.

The Certification Mark must not be used in any manner which is misleading or deceptive or which is likely to be misleading or deceptive or which may bring the Certification Mark into disrepute.



If the Licensor in its absolute discretion considers that the representation of the Certification Mark used by the Licensee is unsuitable, the Licensee must upon written notification by the Licensor terminate such use.

The Certification Mark can only be used on or in relation to a Classified Textile Floor Covering while it conforms to its classification under the ACCS.

The Licensee must not use the Certification Mark or the Labels on or in relation to any Textile Floor Covering if the Textile Floor Covering ceases to meet its classification under the ACCS in accordance with the Technical Guidelines and in accordance with the Rules.

If the characteristics of the Classified Textile Floor Covering are varied in any way that will, or is likely to, change its classification under the ACCS, the Licensee must not use the Certification Mark and Labels on or in relation to that Textile Floor Covering until the compliance of that Textile Floor Covering to that classification is confirmed.

If the Textile Floor Covering ceases to meet its classification the Licensee may submit the Textile Floor Covering for another classification under the ACCS.

## 29 Display of the Certification Mark and Labels

The Certification Mark shall be used on a Label and shall be applied to any and all Samples of the Classified Textile Floor Coverings in a position, which is visible to the consumer.

Whenever the Certification Mark accompanies Textile Floor Coverings it shall not be represented in a manner that would deceive a consumer into believing that those Textile Floor Coverings had been manufactured in a place other than the place of their true origin.

In the event that a Classified Textile Floor Covering is described in brochures or other literature, it is the responsibility of the Licensee to ensure that any mention of that Classified Textile Floor Covering shall be clearly identified by its quality name, registration number and its classification according to either:

- the standard ACCS and ECS lettered abbreviations for each of the grading categories (printed on the registration certificate) or
- the full description of the classification category.

Whenever the specifications of a Classified Textile Floor Covering is listed, or otherwise referred to, the classification of the Textile Floor Covering must be associated with the Registered Number.

Whenever the Certification Mark is used on or in relation to a Sample of the Classified Textile Floor Covering, the Textile Floor Covering itself or in any literature, the Licensee shall specify the Registration Number of the Classified Textile Floor Covering and such other details required by the Licensor to be represented from time to time.



### 30 Quality Assurance Program

In order to ensure that the Registered Specification of a Classified Textile Floor Covering is achieved throughout its manufactured life the Panel administers the Quality Assurance Program.

The Quality Assurance Program comprises:

- a random testing program; and
- a re-assessment program.

The staff of the CIAL may at any time randomly select one or more Classified Textile Floor Coverings from the ACCS General Register in order to collect Classified Textile Floor Coverings for testing to confirm quality assurance.

The staff of the CIAL or their representative may collect samples of the randomly selected Classified Textile Floor Coverings from either point of manufacture (the premises of the manufacturer or distributor) or point of sale (the retailer or supplier).

In the event that the Classified Textile Floor Covering is collected at point of sale, the Licensee is immediately notified in writing of such a collection and if requested, the CIAL will provide to the Licensee copies of any documents relating to the purchase of the sample(s).

The Licensee shall reimburse direct costs incurred by CIAL in the collection or purchase of samples obtained at point of sale for quality assurance testing.

Prior to quality assurance testing of samples collected at point of sale, the Licensee has the option of inspecting the sample to confirm that the product collected is as described.

Samples collected will be subject to the following preliminary testing:

- Surface Pile Mass (according to AS2111.4);
- Tufts per unit length and area (according to AS2111.9);
- Pile thickness above backing (according to AS2111.5);
- Volatile organic compound emissions (according to ISO DIS 10580)

The Licensee is given the option of nominating which NATA registered laboratory is to be used for testing under the Quality Assurance Program.

The cost of preliminary testing as described above will be met by the ACCS. The cost of any subsequent testing or re-testing will be met by the Licensee.



### 31 Interpretation of Quality Assurance Results and Compliance

The results of all quality assurance testing will be presented to the ACCS Panel in regular session. Following consideration by the Panel, the CIAL will notify the Licensee of the results of quality assurance tests conducted on Classified Textile Floor Coverings that are registered to the Licensee.

In the event that the test results of the Classified Textile Floor Covering are outside standard manufacturing tolerances, (with reference to AS1385) of the Registered Specification of the Classified Textile Floor Covering or fail to pass the ECS criteria, the following compliance procedure will commence:

- the Licensee shall be notified in writing that the Classified Textile Floor Covering as tested does not meet the requirements of its Registered Specification.
- the Licensee shall within 14 days of receipt of the notification give notice in writing that it challenges the results of test results and agrees to undertake further testing at its expense as directed by the Panel and within 21 days of receipt of notification; and/or
  - agrees to re-develop the Classified Textile Floor Covering to meet the requirements of its Registered Specification and to so do within 45 days of receipt of notification; and/or
  - agrees to withdraw all samples and documentation containing reference to the ACCS and ECS and the Classified Textile Floor Covering in question from the market within 14 days of receipt of the notification.

### 32 Re-assessment of Classification Assigned to Textile Floor Coverings

The Panel may at any time and at its discretion re-assess any of the Classified Textile Floor Coverings on the Register.

Upon deciding that it will re-assess a particular Classified Textile Floor Covering the Panel will notify the Licensee in writing and provide reasons for the decision.

Upon such a notification, the Licensee must supply to the CIAL samples of the Classified Textile Floor Covering and other documentation so required in order to re-assess the Classified Textile Floor Covering.

In order to re-assess the Classified Textile Floor Covering, the full ACCS and ECS testing requirements will be carried out in accordance with the Technical Guidelines.

The cost of testing for re-assessment will be borne by the ACCS and the Panel will notify the Licensee in writing of the outcome of the re-assessment.

If the Panel decides to re-classify the Textile Floor Covering to a lower classification category than currently assigned and provided that test results are within standard tolerances of Registered Specification, the Panel shall allow the Licensee a period of 12 months to withdraw the product from the market and/or re-develop the product to meet the requirements of the original classification.

If the Panel decides to re-classify the Textile Floor Covering to a lower classification category than currently assigned and the test results are outside the standard tolerances of the Registered Specification, the compliance procedure outlined above will apply.



### 33 Cancellation of Licences

A Licence may, subject to an Appeal to the Registrar, be cancelled by the Panel if a majority of the members of the Panel are reasonably satisfied that the Licensee has:

- used the Certification Mark or any part thereof and/or the Registered Number allotted to any or all Textile Floor Coverings registered in his name in the Register in an unauthorised or improper manner;
- used a Label in an unauthorised or improper manner;
- used information in relation to any allocated category, registration and other such information under the ACCS in an unauthorised or improper manner;
- failed to pay to the CIAL any fee due and payable as a result of the Licensee's obligations under the ACCS within 60 days of the same becoming due;
- died, had an administrator appointed, become bankrupt or made any assignment or composition for the benefit of his creditors;
- in the case of a company, had a receiver appointed, been made the subject of winding up proceedings (whether voluntary or compulsory) otherwise than for the purpose of reconstruction;
- failed to address the requirements of the scheme when a Quality Assurance audit found that a classified textile floor covering is outside standard manufacturing tolerances.

### 34 Voluntary Withdrawal

Any Licensee wishing to voluntarily withdraw a Textile Floor Covering from the Register may do so by notifying the CIAL in writing who will in turn notify the Panel.

### 35 Procedure for Withdrawal

Any Licensee desiring to withdraw from the ACCS shall give the CIAL six months notice in writing and at the time of giving such notice, the Licensee must pay in full any fee which is then due under the ACCS.

### 36 Discontinue Use of Certification Mark

If any of the events defined by Clauses 32, 33 and 34 occur, the Licensee must immediately discontinue the use of the Certification Mark or any part thereof or any similar words or representations and/or all Registered Numbers allotted to Classified Textile Floor Coverings on or in relation to any Textile Floor Covering, immediately pay all fees then due under the ACCS and within 7 days of such occurrence return to the CIAL all Labels issued under the ACCS in respect of the Classified Textile Floor Coverings.

### 37 Indemnity

The CIAL, the Panel and/or any member or office bearer of the CIAL shall not be liable for any loss or damage resulting from cancellation of a Licence and the Licensee shall indemnify those parties against any such loss or damage.

The Licensee shall further indemnify the CIAL for all damage or loss suffered by the CIAL as a result of any breach of any provisions of the Rules.





### **38 Remuneration to Carpet Institute of Australia Limited**

The ACCS shall pay by equal quarterly instalments to the CIAL a fee for the administration and other services of not less than \$30,000.00 per annum. Such fee will be re-negotiated in January of each year and will be set for that calendar year at a level agreed upon between the Panel and the Committee. In the event of a disagreement with respect to that fee, the matter shall be arbitrated by an Arbitrator for the time being employed by the Carpet Industry Arbitration Service who is not a member of the Panel.

### **39 Termination of the ACCS**

Upon the termination of the ACCS, all moneys paid by Licensees pursuant to Clause 15 and held by the CIAL on behalf of the ACCS shall be paid by the CIAL to all Licensees on a pro-rata basis in accordance with the respective Licensee's subscriptions and other fees paid for that calendar year.

### **40 Amendment of Technical Guidelines**

The Panel may, on a decision of a majority of the members of the Panel, amend the provisions or specifications of the Technical Guidelines. A copy of any proposed amendment will be sent to each Licensee under the ACCS together with a notice advising each Licensee that unless objection to such amendment is received within 30 days of the date of that notice, the amendment will come into force at the expiration of that time period.

### **41 Objection of Amendment of Technical Guidelines**

In the event of any objection being received from any Licensee within the prescribed time period to any proposed amendment, such amendment will not come into force until the first day of January in the next year provided that if the first day of January in the next year shall fall before the expiration of the 30-day period in respect of any alteration to which objection is received, such alteration shall not commence until 6 months after the expiration of the prescribed time period for objection.

### **42 Amendment of Rules**

CIAL may apply to the Registrar for an amendment to the Rules and any schedules hereto or to substitute new Rules therefore in accordance with the Trade Marks Act provided that, unless the Registrar otherwise deems, no such amendment or substitution as the case may be shall affect the use of the Certification Mark by any Licensee unless and until the Licensee has received two months' notice in writing of such amendment or substitution.

### **43 Licensee Responsible for Complaints**

Each Licensee will be individually responsible for any complaints arising from any statement made by the Licensee in relation to the ACCS and undertakes to indemnify the CIAL, the Panel members, office bearers and staff of the CIAL against any claims that might arise in connection with the ACCS.



## 44 Environmental Claims

Claims made by CIAL in respect of certified textile floor coverings are limited to the technical criteria as defined in the Technical Guidelines.

Licensees are advised to comply with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's guidelines on green marketing, published in the ACCC's paper entitled 'Green Marketing and the Trade Practices Act.

Reference: [www.accc.gov.au](http://www.accc.gov.au)

The ACCC green marketing guidelines are consistent with certain provisions of Australasian standard AS/NZS 14021:2000 – Environmental labels and declarations – Self declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labelling). Licensees are advised to ensure that any environmental claims are in line with the requirements of the Standard.

Reference: [www.infostore.saiglobal.com](http://www.infostore.saiglobal.com)

## 45 Ongoing Development of the ACCS and ECS

As the sponsor of the standards, CIAL will use its best endeavours when maintaining and further developing the ACCS and ECS to comply with the intent of the ABSDO Part B criteria of the informative document entitled 'Criteria for Designation as an Australian Standard'. This includes:

- demonstrating freedom from bias and conflict of interest in its role as a facilitator of the standards development process;
- making the Secretary of the ACCS responsible for the coordination of the development of the standards and providing him/her with the necessary authority, autonomy and resources, subject to the ACCS Panel retaining responsibility for technical decision making and the awarding of product gradings and certifications.
- reaching consensus among all the major interests involved in relation to the technical content of the standards;
- ensuring that no relevant interest group with a bona fide desire to participate in the standards development process is excluded;
- making credible attempts to involve significant interests and, as far as reasonably practicable, to achieve meaningful engagement
- making publicly available procedures and work programmes
- aligning the standards with international standards to the maximum extent feasible
- making all reasonable attempts to achieve compatibility with existing national standards, and where this is not possible, document the reasons for any deviation.

Reference: [www.absdo.org.au](http://www.absdo.org.au)



## SCHEDULE 1 – REGISTERED TRADE MARK

### MARK:

Registered Trade Mark No. C309,403 in class 27 for “Textile Floor Coverings having a pile use surface” in the name of Carpet Institute of Australia Limited.

Representation of mark:



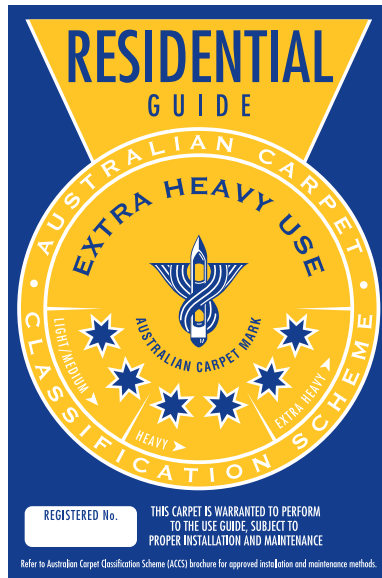
**AUSTRALIAN CARPET MARK**



## SCHEDULE 2 – LABELS

### ACCS Location Guidance Classification

### ECS (Entry Level Certification)



### ECS



Note:

- (1) As of 22nd March 2010, the ECS was changed to recognise four performance tiers ie. Level 1 (initial level), Level 2, Level 3 and Level 4 (with 2 options).
- (2) The ECS label introduced in 2006 remains valid but will be phased out and replaced by the ECS Level 1 label over a period of 3 years.

**SCHEDULE 3 – ACCS LICENSEE APPLICATION**



**ACCS LICENSEE APPLICATION**

On behalf of \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Company/Business Name)

I wish to apply for Licensee status in the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme. I have attached the signed ACCS License Agreement and confirm my intention to become a participant in the Index of Carpet Names.

Full Address of Company Office:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

(Please indicate which address you would like to appear in the Membership Directory)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Facsimile: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Require URL Link)  YES  NO  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_:

Product or Services provided to the carpet manufacturing:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

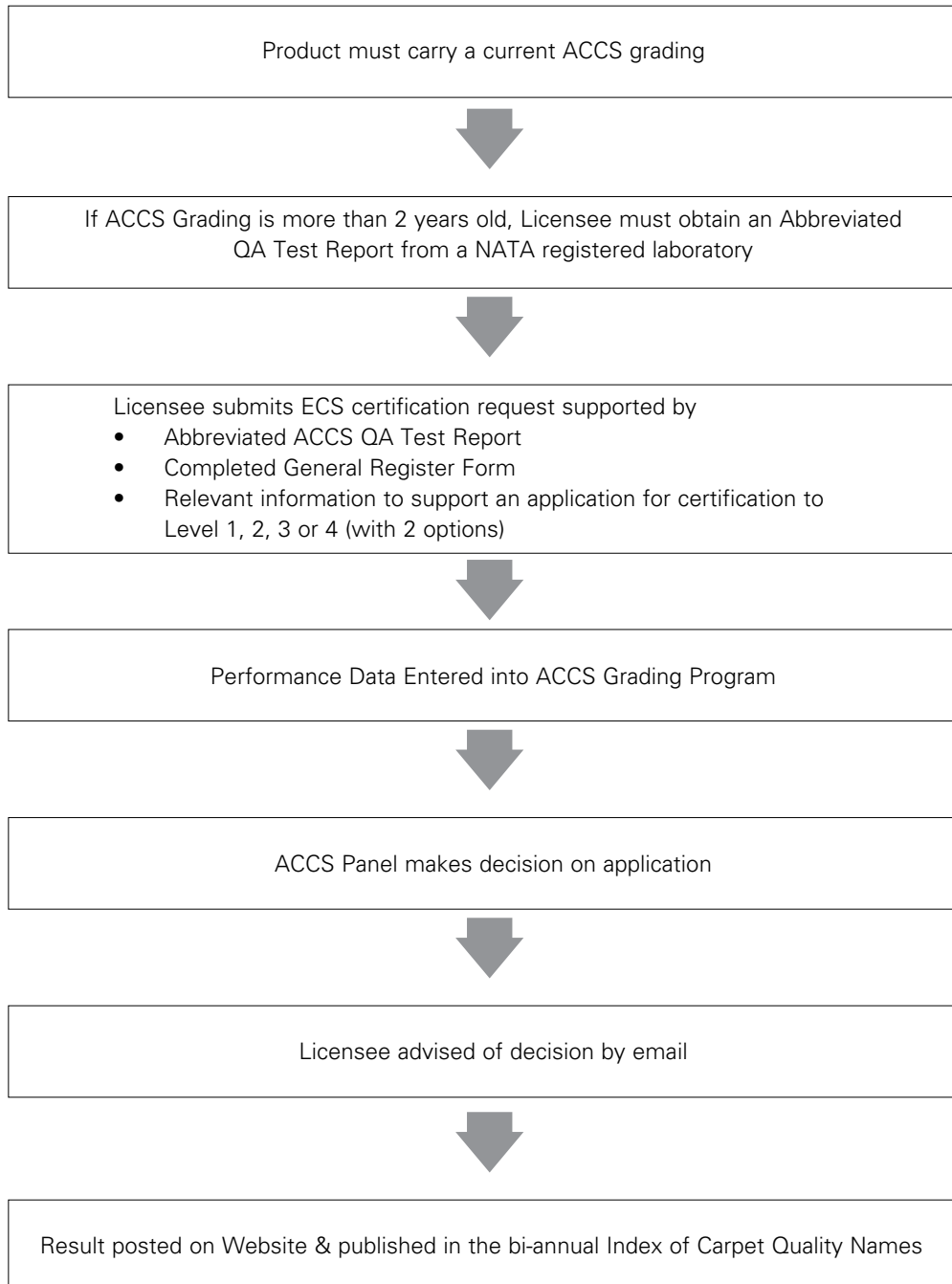
Representative to the Institute:  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dated: \_\_\_\_\_



### SCHEDULE 4 – ACCS GRADING PROCESS



## SCHEDULE 5 – ECS CERTIFICATION PROCESS



**SCHEDULE 6 – ACCS GENERAL REGISTER FORM**



**AUSTRALIAN CARPET CLASSIFICATION SCHEME  
GENERAL REGISTER**

*It is essential that the necessary samples and test results accompany this application.  
See Note 1, overleaf*

Licensee:	Licensee no.	<b>For Office Use Only</b> Registered No: _____ Date Received: _____ Date Registered: _____ Office Reference No: _____
<b>Quality Name:</b>		
<b>Country of Manufacture:</b>		

**Grading Sought**

<b>Broadloom</b> Tile	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATE REQUESTED</b>				<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	
	level 1	level 2	level 3	level 4			
<b>CONTRACT</b>	CLD ★	CMD ★★	CHD ★★★	CEHD ★★★★			Stairs
<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>	RLD ★	RMD ★★	RHD1 ★★★	RHD2 ★★★★	REHD1 ★★★★★	REHD2 ★★★★★	Stairs

**Fibre Details**

Pile Fibre (see note 4)	total %	For MMF state fibre category and whether BCF, Spun or Staple (see note 4)
Fibre 1		
Fibre 2		
Fibre 3		

For **Wool**, indicate Insect Resist Agent and Type used:

For **Wool / Blends** has Woolmark, Wools of NZ, graded the product or any other grading scheme? YES  NO

If so, please state which Scheme: \_\_\_\_\_ and the Grading: \_\_\_\_\_

Topical treatment for soil/stain resistance (see note 4)	YES	NO
Type of treatment(s)	Fluorocarbon	Stain Resist Chemical

**Construction**

<b>Manufacturing Method</b>	Tufted	Axminster	Wilton Single	Wilton Multi	I Bonded
	U Bonded	Other			
<b>Backing Type</b>	Size	Latex	Foam	Secondary Fabric	
	Other				
<b>Spinning System</b>	BCF	Semi Worsted	Worsted	Woollen	Other
<b>Twist Set</b>	None	Autoclave	Superba	Suessen	Boiling Water
	Chemical	Chemset			
<b>Felted</b>	None	Solvent Batch	Aqueous Batch	Continuous	Other
<b>Dyeing Method</b>	Loose Fibre	Yarn Dyed	Piece Dyed	Solution/Melt Dyed	Other

Number of Colours/Designs

**Technical Specifications and Test Results**

<b>NATA/TELARC Test Results</b>			<b>Stated Specification</b>	
Measured Surface Pile Mass (AS 2111.4)	(g/m <sup>2</sup> )		Stated Total Finished Pile Mass (see note 2)	(g/m <sup>2</sup> )
Measured Pile Thickness (AS 2111.5)	(average mm)		Stated Surface Pile Mass	(g/m <sup>2</sup> )
If not level (mm):	(min) (max)		Stated Pile Thickness	(average mm)
% Distribution	(min) (max)		If not level (mm):	(min) (max)
Measured Dynamic Loading Loss (AS 2111.2)	(%)		% Distribution	(min) (max)
Measured Static Loading Loss (AS 2111.14)	(%)		Stated Resultant Tex	(g/1000m)
Measured Machine Pitch/Gauge (90° to selvage) (AS 2111.9)	(/100mm)		Stated Yarn Twist (see note 3)	TPM
Measured Rows/Stitches (Parallel to selvage) (AS 2111.9)	(/100mm)		Stated Machine Pitch/Gauge	(/100mm)
			Stated Rows/Stitches	(/100mm)

**Pile Type**

Cut	Loop	If cut & loop state	% Cut	% Loop
Tip Sheared	Multi-level Loop		If multi-level state approx	(%) and (mm) of each level

It is hereby certified that the accompanying sample of \_\_\_\_\_ (name) has been tested in accordance with AS2111.19 with the results according to AS2404 and meets the mandatory minimum criteria set out in the ACCS Technical Guidelines.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





**SCHEDULE 6 – ACCS GENERAL REGISTER FORM (Continued)****NOTES RELATING TO APPLICATION FOR CLASSIFICATION IN THE GENERAL REGISTER OF ACCS****Note 1: Specimens and Hexapod Samples**

This application must be accompanied by two unbound samples, each 250mm x 250mm and conforming to the specification detailed in this application. The samples should be of different colour. Hexapod samples taken at 1500 and 8000 cycles without underlay must also accompany the application.

**Note 2: Total Finished Pile Mass**

Pile mass will be stated as at the following regain allowances.

Wool	16%
Nylon	6.25%
Polyester	1.5%
Polypropylene	2.0%
Acrylic	2.0%
Viscose Rayon	13% (all forms)

**Note 3: Resultant Tex and Yarn Twist**

The yarn count must be stated as Resultant Tex of the finished yarn at the regain allowance specified in Note 2, above.

Note that a BCF nylon quoted as having two bundles of filaments each of 1090 decitex, could, after texturing, twisting and setting, have a Resultant Tex of 330.

To ensure that the information is unambiguous the twist and count should be stated in the following standard form.

Viz., singles count: singles twist (finished tpm);

Number of plies: folding twist (finished tpm) resultant tex

The above samples would read:

1090 decitex: Z 145 x 2 S 145: R275 tex

1330 denier: Z 145 x 2 S 145: R330 tex

Another example of a 3 ply staple yarn could be:

210 tex: Z 180 x 2 S 125: R660 tex

**Note 4: Fibre Categories**

For assessment of propensity to soiling the following guidelines apply.

	<b>Fibre Category</b>	<b>Basic Points</b>	<b>If treated with Fluorocarbon*</b>	<b>If treated with Stain Resist Chemical*</b>	<b>Maximum Points</b>
	Wool 100% & 80:20% Wool Nylon	14	1	1	16
Nylon category 1:	Nylon modified cross section with integral anti-static component	12	1	1	14
Nylon category 2:	Nylon modified Cross section	11	1	1	13
	Polypropylene	10	0	0	10
	Acrylic	6	1	0	7
	Polyester	6	1	0	7

\* Refer to ACCS Technical Guidelines. Additional points subject to chemical manufacturers minimum requirements and warranties.

**Deadlines**

Carpet samples, hexapod specimens and completed documentation must be delivered to the office of the Institute two working days prior to the ACCS Grading meeting. Applications for gradings received outside this deadline will be processed only if time permits.

**Documentation**

Please ensure that documentation is completed accurately and fully. While every endeavour will be taken by this office to check documentation, prior to grading meetings, the ACCS Panel will not grade products if the accompanying documentation is incomplete or incorrect.



**SCHEDULE 7**



**APPLICATION FOR ECS CERTIFICATION**

As a prerequisite, a licensee shall sign and comply with the Code of Practice for Environmental Management.

The product(s) for which environmental certification is sought shall carry a current ACCS durability and appearance retention grading.

An existing ACCS grading will be accepted as current by the ACCS Panel if:

- the ACCS grading was awarded within two years of the date of the ECS application; or
- the product was QA tested by the Panel during the two year period.

If the ACCS grading is older than 2 years and has not been QA tested in the last 2 years; the licensee is required as part of the ECS grading application to have the product tested at a NATA registered laboratory using the ACCS Abbreviated QA Test package. The latter measures corrected surface pile mass; pile thickness; and tufts parallel and at right angle to the selvedge.

A licensee is also required to submit the relevant test results from a NATA registered laboratory, declarations and other evidence of compliance in accordance with the requirements contained in the ACCS ECS Technical Specifications.

Please provide the following information for the product or products to be submitted for environmental certification.

Product name \_\_\_\_\_ ACCS No. (if graded) \_\_\_\_\_

Does this product have an existing ECS certification?

- Yes, go to declarations below
- No

Current ACCS test report \_\_\_\_\_  Yes  No

VOC test report obtained \_\_\_\_\_  Yes  No

Abbreviated QA test report obtained \_\_\_\_\_  Yes  No

Declarations and other evidence of compliance to support application for environmental certification to:

Current      Requested      Documentation attached.

Level 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Level 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Level 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Level 4 (option A) \_\_\_\_\_

Level 4 (option B) \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any queries, please contact Caroline Harris Ph: 03 9804 5559.

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Direct Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**SCHEDULE 8 – Checklist**

Product - ACCS Graded Post 22 March 2008	Product - ACCS Graded Pre 22 March 2008		Product - To be ACCS graded?	Testing - ACCS Test Package Req'd?	Testing - ACCS Abbreviated Audit/ QA Test Package Req'd?	ECS Level 1 Req'd?	VOC Report Req'd? (see NOTE 4)	Deemed to satisfy ACCS criteria:	ECS Level 2 Req'd? Declaration & Supporting Information Req'd	ECS Level 3 Req'd? Declaration & Supporting Information Req'd	ECS Level 4 Req'd? Declaration & Supporting Information Req'd	OR	ECS Level 4 Req'd? Declaration & Supporting Information Req'd
NO	NO	↓	YES	YES	NA	NO	NA	(a) Thermal (b) Acoustic	(c) Fitness for Purpose (d) Toxicity	(e) Manufacturing	(f) Product Stewardship		(g) Green House Gas (h) Water Use (i) Social Accountability
NO	NO	↓	YES	YES	NA	NO	NA	via ACCS	NO	NO	NO		NA
YES	NA	↓	NO	NO	Rq'd March 2012 (see NOTE 7)	YES	YES	via ACCS	(c) via Level 1 (d) YES, DSI Req'd	(e) YES, DSI Req'd	(f) YES, DSI Req'd	OR	(g) (h) (i) YES, DSI Req'd
YES	NA	↓	NO	NO	Rq'd March 2012 (see NOTE 7)	YES	YES	via ACCS	NO	NO	NO		NO
NA	YES	↓	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	via ACCS	(c) via Level 1 (d) YES	YES	YES		YES

NOTES:  
 (1) NA means NOT APPLICABLE; DSI means Declaration & Supporting Information.  
 (2) If a product is ACCS graded but is not ECS Level 1, 2, 3 or 4 certified, any application or request to clone the product must be accompanied by test results from the ACCS Abbreviated Audit/QA Test package unless the designated MASTER product or an existing clone of the MASTER was graded or QA assessed less than 2 years from the date of the new application.  
 (3) A TVOC/VOC audit/QA program will carry out testing and compare the results to the TVOC/VOC Report submitted as part of the original application.  
 (4) To meet TVOC and individual VOC requirements for ECS Level 1, a VOC Test Report is required for (a) the specific product or (b) a 'parent for a family of products' i.e. product tested is of similar construction & texture, backing and backing compound loading but has a higher surface pile weight and pile thickness.  
 (5) ECS Level 1 is the pre-qualifier for ECS Levels 2, 3 & 4 and applications for ECS Levels 2, 3 or 4 need individual Product Declarations and Supporting Information documentation.  
 (6) Each individual product with or without an ACCS number requires its own individual application with supporting declarations and information.  
 (7) As GBCA approved the ECS Scheme on 22 March 2010, any existing ECS Level 1 product has ACCS audit/QA currency until March 2012.



## SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)

### Instructions for Completing the Declaration

- Product raw material toxicity declarations must be made using the form provided.
- The name of the product and its construction together with the company name is filled in on the front sheet.
- The construction details are given in grams per square metre and percentages in the table “Material Content”. This table also includes the percentage of recycled content for each material.
- A Material Safety Data Sheet should be provided for each material.
- Chemicals in the product can then be identified through the ingredients section of the MSDS for each material in the product.
- These chemical names should be listed in the second table. This list should include all chemicals listed in the MSDS for each material ingredient.

#### For each chemical:

- Determine the percentage of each chemical in the product. Use the maximum level recorded in the MSDS if there is a range given.
- Check if the chemical is included in the banned list (Attachment 2) – provide a Yes (Y) or No (N) in the “banned list” column. If a Y is provided the chemical is not compliant and a N should be placed in the “Chemical compliant” column.
- For dyes examine the banned dyes list in Attachment 3 – provide a Y or N in the “banned list” column. If a Y is provided the dye is not compliant and a N should be placed in the “Chemical compliant” column.
- Check Attachment 4 to see if the chemical is on the “chemical control list” – place a Y or N in this column. If a Y is provided the concentration of the chemical in the product has to be calculated to determine whether it is under the “Maximum Concentration Allowable” in mg/kg. If this column is blank the maximum allowable limit may be set as a “Maximum Emission Factor”. If the criterion is met place a Y in the “Concentration below max. allowable” column and a Y in the “Chemical compliant” column.
- If any Ns are apparent in the “chemical compliant” column the product does not pass. It requires all chemicals to be compliant for a product pass the Raw Material criterion.
- If all chemicals are compliant then the declaration can be finalized by a company representative who can take responsibility for the declaration and sign off on it.
- All relevant MSDS or product analysis test results must be attached to the declaration form.
- Declarations can be made in electronic form as a pdf.



**SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH ECS LEVELS 2, 3 AND 4**

Registered carpet quality name:	Carpet Construction:	
ACCS label number:		
Company Name:		
I confirm that all the performance requirements of the Raw Materials (Toxicity) criterion have been fully met		
Licensee declaration by:	Position:	Date:

**Material Content**

Material	Weight %	Recycled %
TOTAL	100.0%	



(1) Refer attachment 2: ECS Banned Chemicals and Attachment 3: Banned Dyestuffs  
(2) Refer attachmenet 4: Chemical Control List.



## SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE - RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)

### ECS Requirements

The aim of this criterion is to:

- restrict or ban the use in certified textile floor coverings of toxic substances, heavy metal and hazardous substances
- ensure that any substance with an adverse health effect is kept at a level below the No Observable Adverse Effect Level (NOAEL) for that substance during the useful life and at the end of life of the textile floor covering.

It is recognized that some regulated substances may be inadvertently produced in manufacture, or may be present although not declared in proprietary products used in carpet manufacture. It is incumbent on manufacturers to ensure that carpets do not contain more than 0.1% by weight of these substances unless a lower concentration is required in other sections of this document.

Manufacturers must examine Material Safety Data Sheets to identify chemicals that are either banned, limited in the final product, or of concern to evaluate compliance with the Technical Guidelines.

Additionally, selection criteria for raw material suppliers should include their ability to control environmental outcomes, reporting on environmental performance and their regulatory compliance record.

Attachment 1 provides guidance on the evaluation of raw material toxicity.

### Regulated Substances that Must Not be Used in the Production of Textile Floor Coverings

Attachment 2 contains a list of banned chemicals. For the purposes of the Technical Guidelines, banned substances include:

- all materials that are not registered for use in Australia by the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS)
- IARC classified carcinogens in groups 1 and 2A available at [www.monographs.iarc.fr](http://www.monographs.iarc.fr)
- substances listed in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Annex A) available at [www.chm.pops.int](http://www.chm.pops.int)
- substances classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic, or reproductive toxins (CMR) Categories 1 and 2 listed in Annex 1 of EU Directive 67/548/EEC available at [www.reach-compliance.eu](http://www.reach-compliance.eu)

A list of banned dyestuffs is contained in Attachment 3.

### Substances to be Controlled in the Production of Textile Floor Coverings

Attachment 4 contains a list of controlled or restricted use chemicals.



## SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE - RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)

### Lead and Other Heavy Metals

A maximum level of toxic heavy metals shall be restricted to below the NOAEL as determined as the health investigation level (See: [www.ephc.gov.au](http://www.ephc.gov.au)). This covers the following metals: Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium (III and VI), Cobalt, Copper, Lead, Manganese, Mercury, Nickel and Vanadium.

### Monomer Residues

The monomer residues present in the polymeric substances used to manufacture textile floor coverings shall be restricted to a maximum concentration in the finished polymer weight. The VOC emission requirements take precedence over this limit.

### Substances of Concern

Other substances that have a high level of concern may be found at: [www.echa.europa.eu](http://www.echa.europa.eu).

Products containing these substances at levels greater than 0.1% by weight must be registered if entering EU countries on or before June 1, 2011 (see: [www.echa.europa.eu](http://www.echa.europa.eu)).

The EU REACH "Substitute It Now" (SIN list) reviewed as PBT, CMR or of equivalent concern should be consulted as a source of chemicals of concern – available at [www.chemsec.org](http://www.chemsec.org).

The key substances that may be used in carpet manufacture may include those in Attachment 5.

Some worked examples of chemical evaluation are contained in Attachment 6.

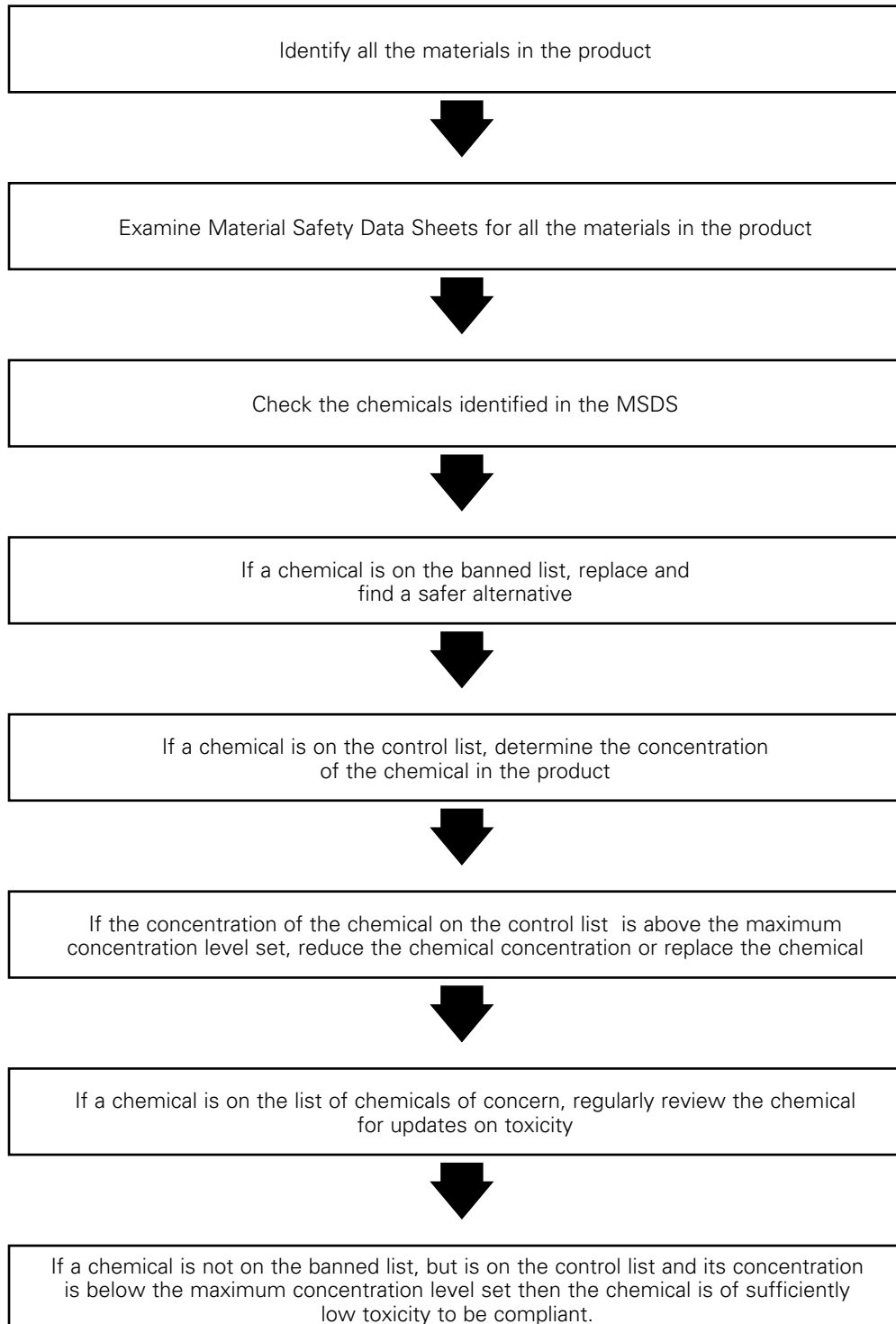
### Verification and Assessment

The material formulations of the certified textile floor covering must be provided by the licensee together with a declaration of compliance with the above mentioned criteria supported by Material Safety Data Sheets and relevant test reports.

The ACCS administration will take random samples of ECS certified carpets and subject them to chemical analysis by a NATA registered laboratory to confirm compliance for the substances listed.





**SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)****ATTACHMENT 1****Evaluation of Raw Material Toxicity**

**SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)****ATTACHMENT 2****Table: ECS Banned Chemicals**

Raw materials banned from use in carpets*	Why	Probable Application / Source
Acetaldehyde	Probable carcinogen	Biocide / antimicrobial
Arsenic and arsenic compounds	Carcinogen	Filler contaminant
Asbestos	Carcinogen	Filler contaminant
Cadmium and compounds	Carcinogen	Dyes and pigments
Chromium (VI) compounds <i>Chromate – Chromic Acid - Dichromate</i>	Carcinogen	Dyes and pigments
Dyes that are toxic or metabolise to toxic substances	Probable carcinogen, mutagen, toxic to reproduction	Dyes (see list in Attachment 3)
Dyes that are potentially sensitising	Skin and eye irritants	Dyes (see list in Attachment 3)
Formaldehyde	Carcinogen	Biocide / antimicrobial
Lead and compounds	Probable carcinogen	Heat stabilizer
Mineral oils (untreated, mildly treated)	Carcinogen	Lubricants, spinning oils
Nonyl Phenol Ethoxylates	Persistent pollutant - toxic	Surfactant
PAHs (Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons)	Probable carcinogen	Tar constituent
PBDE (Polybrominated diphenyl ether)	Persistent pollutant - toxic	Flame retardants
PCP (Pentachlorophenol)	Persistent pollutant - toxic	Disinfectant
Trichloroethylene	Probable carcinogen	Solvent degreasing
Tetrachloroethylene	Probable carcinogen	

\* Other materials may be banned but not mentioned in this list as they were not identified as in current use. New chemicals should be checked for safety and health impacts.



**SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)****ATTACHMENT 3****Table: Banned Dyestuffs**

These include those dyes that may induce a toxic effect on exposed people. There are a number of categories of toxic impact that a chemical may affect and the guidelines derived in this code are derived from European Commission decisions for Eco-Labeled textiles<sup>1</sup>. The toxic impacts covered are cancer, mutation, reproductive toxicity and sensitization.

EC Decision 1999/178/EC and amendments (2002)

Clause 20.

Azo dyes shall not be used that may cleave to any one of the aromatic amines as listed<sup>2</sup>:

**CAS no.**

4-Aminobiphenyl	92-67-1
Benzidine	92-87-5
4-Chloro-o-toluidine	95-69-2
2-Naphthylamine	91-59-8
o-Aminoazotoluene	97-56-3
2-Amino-4-nitrotoluene	99-55-8
p-Chloroaniline	106-47-8
2,4-Diaminoanisole	615-05-4
4,4'-Diaminodiphenylmethane	101-77-9
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine	91-94-1
3,3'-Dimethoxybenzidine	119-90-4
3,3'-Dimethylbenzidine	119-93-7
3,3'-Dimethyl-4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane	838-88-0
p-Cresidine	120-71-8
4,4'-Methylenebis(2-chloroaniline)	101-14-4
4,4'-Oxydianiline	101-80-4
4,4'-Thiodianiline	139-65-1
o-Toluidine	95-53-4
2,4-diaminotoluene	95-80-7
2,4,5-Trimethylaniline	137-17-7
4-Aminoazobenzene	60-09-3
O-Anisidine	90-04-0



**SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)****ATTACHMENT 3 (CONTINUED)****Table: Banned Dyestuffs**

Clause 21.

**Dyes that are carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic to reproduction**

C.I. Basic Red 9  
 C.I. Disperse Blue 1  
 C.I. Acid Red 26  
 C.I. Basic Violet 14  
 C.I. Disperse Orange 11  
 C.I. Direct Black 38  
 C.I. Direct Blue 6  
 C.I. Direct Red 28  
 C.I. Disperse Yellow 3

or dyes that contain more than 0.1% by weight of substances specified under the following risk phrases<sup>3</sup>

R40 (limited evidence of carcinogenetic effect)  
 R45 (may cause cancer)  
 R46 (may cause heritable genetic damage)  
 R49 (may cause cancer by inhalation)  
 R60 (may cause infertility)  
 R61 (may cause harm to an unborn child)  
 R62 (possible risk of infertility)  
 R63 (possible risk of harm to an unborn child)  
 R68 (possible risks of irreversible effects)

Clause 22.

**Potentially sensitizing dyestuffs**

C.I. Disperse Blue 3  
 C.I. Disperse Blue 7  
 C.I. Disperse Blue 26  
 C.I. Disperse Blue 35  
 C.I. Disperse Blue 102  
 C.I. Disperse Blue 106  
 C.I. Disperse Blue 124  
 C.I. Disperse Red 1  
 C.I. Disperse Red 11  
 C.I. Disperse Red 17  
 C.I. Disperse Orange 1  
 C.I. Disperse Orange 3  
 C.I. Disperse Orange 37  
 C.I. Disperse Orange 76  
 C.I. Disperse Yellow 1  
 C.I. Disperse Yellow 9  
 C.I. Disperse Yellow 39  
 C.I. Disperse Yellow 49



<sup>3</sup> classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances - Directive 67/548/EEC and amendments consolidated at [www.ec.europa.eu](http://www.ec.europa.eu)

**SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)****ATTACHMENT 4****Table: Chemical Control List**

May be present in raw materials*	Problem	Probable Application of Concern	Maximum Concentration Allowable mg/kg	Maximum Emission Factor (24 hr) ug/h/m <sup>2</sup> #
Acetaldehyde	Probable carcinogen	Biocide		20
Acrylamide	Probable carcinogen	Monomer of various acrylamide polymers	10	
Arsenic and arsenic compounds	Carcinogen	Filler contaminant	20	
Barium and compounds	Toxic	Filler contaminant	300	
Benzene	Carcinogen	Solvent constituent		55
Benzo[a]anthracene	Probable carcinogen	Tar constituent	5	
Benzo[a]pyrene	Carcinogen	Tar constituent	1	
Beryllium	Carcinogen	Impurity in fillers	20	
Boron and compounds	Toxic	Moth proofer	3,000	
1,3-Butadiene	Carcinogen	Monomer in latex	10	
Cadmium and compounds	Carcinogens	Dyes and pigments	20	
Caprolactam	Toxicity	Polyamide monomer		120
Chromium (VI)	Carcinogen	Dyes and pigments	10	
Chromium (III)	Toxic	Dyes and pigments	120,000	
Cobalt and compounds	Probable carcinogen	Dyes and pigments	100	
Copper	Toxic	Dyes and pigments	1,000	
DDT	Probable carcinogen / Persistent Pollutant	Pesticide	200	
Dioxins and Furans	Carcinogen	Products of combustion of Chlorinated organics		
2-Ethyl-1-Hexanol	Toxic	Solvent constituent		50
Formaldehyde	Carcinogen	Biocide / antimicrobial		10
Lead and compounds	Probable carcinogen	Heat stabilizer / pigment	300	
Manganese	Toxic	Impurity in fillers	1,500	
Mercury	Toxic	Impurity in fillers	10	
1-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone (NMP)	Toxic	PVC adhesive		300
Naphthalene	Toxic / Probable carcinogen	Moth proofer		20



**SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)****ATTACHMENT 4 (CONTINUED)****Table: Chemical Control List**

May be present in raw materials*	Problem	Probable Application of Concern	Maximum Concentration Allowable mg/kg	Maximum Emission Factor (24 hr) ug/h/m <sup>2</sup> #
Nickel compounds	Carcinogen	Impurity, pigments	600	
Nonanol	Toxic	Solvent constituent		24
Nonyl Phenol Ethoxylates	Persistent Pollutant toxic	Detergent	100	
Octanol	Toxic	Solvent constituent		24
PAHs (Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons)	Probable carcinogen	Tar constituents	20	
4-Phenylcyclohexene	Toxic	Latex impurity		50
Pesticides	Probable carcinogen / Persistent Pollutant	Pesticide residues	10	
Styrene	Probable carcinogen	Monomer in latex		410
Toluene	Toxic	Solvent constituent		400
Vanadium	Toxic	Impurity	50	
Vinyl Acetate	Probable carcinogen	Solvent constituent		400
Vinyl Chloride	Carcinogen	Monomer PVC	10	
Vinyl Cyclohexene	Probable carcinogen	Latex impurity		85
Xylenes	Toxic	Solvent constituent		50
Other pesticides	Toxic / Persistent Pollutants	Natural fibres	100	

\* This list is not exhaustive and other chemicals may require controls to reduce their impact below NOAELs

# VOC emission rate limits are designed to protect user health and are tested as a requirement of the Technical Guidelines



**SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)****ATTACHMENT 5****Table : Chemicals of Concern**

<b>Chemicals of Concern</b>	<b>Why</b>	<b>Probable Application / Source</b>
Antimony Trioxide	Probable carcinogen	Flame retardant
Benzyl Butyl Phthalate	Reproductive toxin	Plasticizer PVC
DBP (Di Butyl Phthalate)	Reproductive toxin	Plasticizer PVC
DEHP (DIOP) (DOP)	Reproductive toxin	Plasticizer PVC
DINP	Reproductive toxin	Plasticizer PVC
Dimethyl Fumerate	Irritant	Anti fungal agent
EDTA	Toxic	Dyeing auxiliary
Tin compounds (Tributyl Tin)	Persistent pollutant - toxic	Heat stabilizer
Triclosan	Persistent pollutant - Chlorinated phenolic	Biocide / antimicrobial

Chemicals of concern may change as knowledge of toxicity of these chemicals is improved.



## SCHEDULE 9 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – RAW MATERIALS (TOXICITY)

### ATTACHMENT 6

#### Examples of Chemical Evaluation

##### Latex filler

The Material Safety Data Sheet reveals that the filler contains 400 mg/kg of Barium)

Barium is not in the banned list (**Attachment 2.**)

Barium and compounds is in the Control List (**Attachment 4.**)

If the filler represents 29% of the product weight, the final concentration of Barium in the product is  $400 \text{ mg/kg} \times 29\% = 116 \text{ mg/kg}$ .

The concentration of Barium is below the level of concern (300 mg/kg).

Therefore the filler is compliant and no formulation change is required.

##### Solution Dyed Fibre

A solution dyed fibre contains 150 mg/kg of Lead Chromate (PbCrO<sub>4</sub>) pigment

Chromate is Chromium (VI) which is banned in **Attachment 2**. The facility should consider the use of alternate pigments that do not use Chromium (VI).

If the pigmented fibre represents 30% of the product weight then the concentration of Lead Chromate in the product is 30% of 150 mg/kg = 45 mg/kg. Lead Chromate contains 16% Chromium therefore the concentration of Chromium (VI) in the product is 7.2 mg/kg, whereas the minimum concentration of concern (**Attachment 4**) is 100 mg/kg. Therefore the product is compliant in its Chromium (VI) content.

The pigment used also contains Lead at 64%, so the Lead level in the product is  $45 \times 64\% = 29 \text{ mg/kg}$  Lead. The minimum concentration of concern in Table 2 for Lead is 300 mg/kg, therefore the product is also compliant in its Lead content

##### Formaldehyde

Formaldehyde is used in a 50% mixture and applied to the fibre as a biocide at 1% of the carpet weight.

Formaldehyde is a classified Group 2A carcinogen and is a skin irritant. It is listed in **Attachment 2** as a banned raw material and therefore needs to be substituted with a less toxic and persistent biocide.





## SCHEDULE 10 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – FITNESS FOR PURPOSE

### Instructions for Completing the Declaration

- Fitness for Purpose declarations must be made using the form provided.
- Enter the registered carpet quality name and carpet construction details.
- Enter the ACCS label number if the product had been previously graded.
- If the product was ACCS graded more than 2 years prior to the date of the application for ACS certification, attach an ACCS abbreviated QA Test Report from a NATA registered laboratory to the form and enter the Test Report Number.
- A responsible management representative shall verify that the information provided is corrected and that the performance requirements of the Fitness for Purpose criterion have been fully met
- Declarations can be made in electronic form as a .pdf.



**SCHEDULE 10 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – FITNESS FOR PURPOSE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ECS LEVELS 2, 3 AND 4**

Registered carpet quality name:	Carpet Construction:	
ACCS label number:		
ACCS QA Test Report No: (if applicable)	ACCS QA Test Report Date:	
Company name:		
I confirm that all performance requirements of the Fitness for Purpose Criterion have been fully met.		
Licensee declaration by:	Position:	Date:

Please attach: ACCS Abbreviated QA Test Report if the product was graded prior to 22 March 2008.



## SCHEDULE 10 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – FITNESS FOR PURPOSE

### ECS Requirements

The aim of the *Fitness for Purpose* criterion is to ensure that an ECS certified textile floor covering has a positive effect on indoor environmental quality and is fit for its intended use.

The fitness for purpose criterion has 3 separate components are all must be fully satisfied.

### ACCS Grading

A certified textile floor covering must be graded by the Australian Carpet Classification Scheme (ACCS). The ACCS classifies textile floor coverings according to their suitability for use in residential and contract installations. ACCS assesses the durability and appearance retention properties of textile floor coverings.

If at the time of application for ECS certification the ACCS grading is more than two years old, the licensee must demonstrate that the main construction parameters of the product remain within 5% manufacturing tolerance of the original specification registered with the ACCS. This requires the licensee to have the product tested at a NATA registered laboratory to the requirements of the ACCS Abbreviated Quality Assurance Test Package.

### Acoustical Performance

Textile floor coverings function in an indoor environment to dampen the noise level by, firstly, sound absorption – carpet increases the amount of sound absorption in a room and reduces 'reverberation' (the term used to describe the degree to which sounds live on within a room). And secondly, – impact sound isolation – a carpeted floor almost eliminates impact noises produced by footsteps, items dropped on the floor and chair legs scrapped across a floor.

These factors are critical to the indoor environment as high background noise levels can create stress and productivity loss in work areas. To ensure clear speech intelligibility, a room needs a Reverberation Time (RT60) not more than 1.0 seconds for normal speech. Australian Standard *AS/NZS 2107:2000* recommendations for RT60 levels are given in Attachment 7.

The ACCS technical criteria for acoustic performance, set out in the following table, exceed Australian Building Code requirements for Class 2 and 3 buildings and provide a carpeted indoor environment in which extraneous noise does not affect room functionality. The test method used for impact sound reduction and noise attenuation is AS/NZS 1191-2002 and ISO 717-2:1996 for the determination of Impact Sound Pressure Level  $L_{n,w}$  and the Spectrum Adaption term C1.

**Table: ECS Acoustic Criteria for Textile Floor Coverings**

	Impact Sound Reduction $L_{n,w} + C1$	Noise reduction Coefficient
Broadloom	$\leq 45$	$\geq 0.2$
Modular	$\leq 55$	$\geq 0.15$
BCA (Class 2 and 3 buildings)	$\leq 62$	none



## SCHEDULE 10 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – FITNESS FOR PURPOSE

### Thermal Insulation

The comfort factor supplied by carpet is due to its insulating and low thermal conduction properties. Thermal comfort also translates into energy and Greenhouse savings in room heating and cooling. Thermal resistance will vary with the thickness of the carpet installation. The 'R' value is measured in metric units of Watts per meter squared per degree Kelvin.

A certified textile floor covering must meet the relevant criterion specified in the Table below.

**Table: ECS Thermal Insulation Criteria for Textile Floor Coverings**

	'R' Value (m <sup>2</sup> K/W)
Broadloom	≥ 0.1
Modular	≥ 0.075

### Verification and Assessment

#### ACCS Grading

The licensee must provide an ACCS Abbreviated Quality Assurance test report from a NATA registered laboratory if the ACCS grading was awarded more than two years prior to date of the application for environmental certification.

Compliance with the acoustical and thermal insulation performance criteria is evaluated by the ACCS Panel on a *deemed to satisfy* basis.

#### Thermal Resistance ('R' value)

The R value is proportional to carpet pile thickness and inversely proportional to carpet pile density. Modular carpets have a lower pile thickness (average 3.6 mm) compared to broadloom (average 6.4 mm). Wool is a significantly better insulator than nylons and polyolefins. Wool carpet yields an R-value 1.5 times better than synthetic yarns.

The thermal resistance of carpets is useful in saving energy only when there is a temperature differential between the room and the sub floor. The criteria for broadloom textile floor coverings are:

- Actual: R-value ≥ 0.10
- Deemed to satisfy:
  - Synthetics (Pile thickness above backing)<sup>2</sup> x 1000 / Surface pile mass ≥ 30, where pile thickness is measured in mm and surface pile mass in g/m<sup>2</sup>
  - Wool and wool rich blends (Pile thickness above backing)<sup>2</sup> x 1000 / Surface pile mass ≥ 20

The actual and deemed to satisfy criteria for broadloom textile floor coverings having a pile thickness ≤ 5mm and modular products are:

- Actual: R-value ≥ 0.075
- Deemed to satisfy ((Pile thickness above backing)<sup>2</sup> x 1000 / Surface pile mass ≥ 15

#### Acoustical Performance

The noise reduction coefficient of textile floor coverings is proportional to the total thickness of the carpet while impact noise generation from textile floor coverings is inversely proportional to the total floor covering thickness. The Decibel scale is logarithmic so an increase of approx. 3 dB equates to 10 fold increase in sound pressure. The criteria for broadloom textile floor coverings having a pile thickness ≥ 6 mm are:

- Actual: NRC ≥ 0.20
- Deemed to satisfy: total thickness ≥ 7 mm

The actual and deemed to satisfy criteria for broadloom textile floor coverings having a pile thickness ≤ 5mm and modular products are:

- Actual criterion: NRC ≥ 0.15
- Deemed to satisfy: total thickness ≥ 5 mm



## SCHEDULE 10 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – FITNESS FOR PURPOSE

### ATTACHMENT 7

**Table: Recommended Reverberation Times from AS/NZS 2107:2000**

Type of occupancy / activity	Recommended <sup>1</sup> (RT60)
General Office areas	0.4 to 0.6 seconds
Private offices	0.6 to 0.8 seconds
Primary school teaching areas	0.4 to 0.5 seconds
Secondary school teaching areas	0.5 to 0.6 seconds



<sup>1</sup> Australian Standard AS/NZS 2107:2000 – Acoustics – Recommended Design and Sound Levels and Reverberation Times for Building Interiors. Recommendations are not included in AS/NZS 2107 for domestic living spaces. This is because, traditionally, reverberation has been controlled in residences through the installation of carpet and through the incorporation of sufficient soft furnishings. However, in more recent times, excessive reverberation in living areas has been linked to the increased use of hard floor coverings. Uncarpeted living areas can sound noisy and make speech communication, particularly over the phone, difficult.

## SCHEDULE 11 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – PRODUCT EMISSIONS

### Instructions for the Completion of the Declaration

- Product Emissions declarations must be made on the form provided.
- Enter the registered carpet quality name and carpet construction details.
- Enter the ACCS label number if the product had been previously graded.
- Attach a VOC Test Report from a NATA registered laboratory to the form. The Test must be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the ECS VOC specification.
- The Licensee is required to complete the Product Details (Related Products) form shown at Attachment 8 if an exemption from VOC testing is requested on the grounds that a similar but heavier product from the same 'family' had been VOC tested previously.
- A responsible management representative shall verify that the information provided is correct and that the performance requirements of the Product Emissions criterion have been fully met.
- Declarations can be provided in electronic form as a .pdf.



**SCHEDULE 11 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – PRODUCT EMISSIONS  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH ECS LEVELS 2,3 AND 4**

Registered carpet quality name:		Carpet Construction:	
ACCS label number:			
ACCS QA Test Report No: (if applicable)		ACCS QA Test Report Date:	
Company name:			
I confirm that all performance requirements of the Product Emissions Criterion have been fully met.			
Licensee declaration by:	Position:	Date:	

Please attach a VOC test using ECS Product Emissions specifications, from a NATA registered laboratory



## SCHEDULE 11 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – PRODUCT EMISSIONS

### ECS Requirements

The aim of the *Product emissions* criterion is to ensure that emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from environmentally certified textile floor coverings do not exceed prescribed target levels for total emissions and 13 chemicals of concern.

The certified carpet must pass a test in which its emissions of VOCs are assessed to be the criteria set out in the Table below. Testing must be undertaken according to ISO 10580: 2010 Resilient, textile and laminate floor coverings – Test method for volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions. This standard method provides a 24 hour emission rate for VOC emissions immediately after carpet manufacture. The emission rate is measured as an emission factor (EF in micro gram per square meter of floor covering per hour).

#### VOC Control Limits

The ECS specification for volatile organic compounds is contained in the following table:

**Table: ECS Specification for Volatile Organic Compound Emissions**

Chemical of Concern	Criterion Maximum Emission Factor (24 hr) $\mu\text{g}/\text{h}/\text{m}^2$
Acetaldehyde	20
Benzene	55
Caprolactam	120
2-Ethylhexanoic Acid	46
Formaldehyde	10
1-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone	300
Naphthalene	20
Nonanal	24
Octanal	24
4-Phenylcyclohexene	50
Styrene	410
Toluene	280
Vinyl Acetate	400
2-Ethyl-1-Hexanol	50
Hydrocarbons (C10 – C14)	300
Vinyl Cyclohexene	85
Xylenes	50
TOTAL VOC	500





## SCHEDULE 11 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – PRODUCT EMISSIONS

### Related Products

The ECS recognizes ‘families’ of related products and, as a result, a chemical emissions test certificate from a NATA registered laboratory may be accepted as valid for multiple products. Related products must meet the following criteria in relation to the VOC tested product:

- same or less extractable matter (AS/NZS 2001.3.4 – 1995)
- same face fibre content
- same latex type and loading
- same primary and secondary backing
- the same or lower surface pile mass

To identify the product originally tested for VOCs, the VOC test certificate must fully describe the tested carpet quality showing:

- registered carpet quality name and ACCS label number
- total pile mass
- face fibre content, style, primary and secondary backing, latex type and estimated latex loading

The licensee is required to complete the attached declaration form (attachment 8) when applying for environmental certification.

It is a requirement of the ECS that an environmentally certified textile floor covering must have a current ACCS location guidance grading. A grading is deemed to be current if within a 2-year period of the date the product is environmentally certified, the product had been either ACCS graded or alternatively a QA check (using the abbreviated ACCS QA Test Package) confirmed that the main construction parameters were within the accepted commercial measurement tolerances of the registered ACCS specification.

### Verification and Assessment

The licensee shall provide a compliant test report from a NATA registered laboratory.



## SCHEDULE 11 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – PRODUCT EMISSIONS

### ATTACHMENT 8

#### Product Details (Related Products)



Carpet Quality Name	
ACCS Label No.	
Test Report No.	Date
Fibre signature:	
Fibre 1 (type & %)	
Fibre 2 (type & %)	
Fibre 3 (type & %)	
Total Pile Mass (gm/m2)	
Surface Pile Mass (gm/m2)	
Tex (gm/1000m)	
Pile Thickness (mm)	
Cut %	
Loop %	
Tile backing please specify	
Secondary Backing please specify	
Adhesive type - (please specify)	
Dry Rubber Content (gm/m2)	
ACCS Abbreviated QA date	
I confirm that the testing was undertaken according to ISO 10580: 2010 Resilient, textile and laminate floor coverings – Test method for volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions including the sample selection and manner it is presented to the laboratory.	
I confirm that the information given above is correct and that the above mentioned carpet quality should be considered as being of similar constructional parameters and mass per square metre components as;	
ACCS Label No.	Carpet Name:
ACCS Label No.	Carpet Name:
ACCS Label No.	Carpet Name:
Authorising person	
Name	
Date	
Company Name:	



## SCHEDULE 12 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – MANUFACTURING

### Instructions for Completing the Declaration

- Manufacturing declarations must be made using the form provided.
- The name of the product and its construction together with the company name is filled in on the front sheet.
- A responsible management representative shall verify that the information provided is correct and that the performance requirements of the Manufacturing criterion have been fully met.
- Data provided in the tables can be for the last year recorded prior to the declaration, either a financial or calendar year.

#### Manufacturing Data on Efficiencies:

- Provide data in the second column (Consumption / Production) for all categories for the full year for the whole facility. The year should be stated at the heading and the facility name. Consumption / Production data is for the full manufacturing facility (not an individual product).
- Provide Efficiency data in the 4th column as unit/m<sup>2</sup> of production (usually per lineal metre x 3.66) This data is calculated by dividing the 2nd column amount by the total facility production in m<sup>2</sup> for the year.

#### Manufacturing Improvement Plans:

- Fill in each Improvement Target column space with a Yes (Y) or No (N) depending on whether the facility has a target for improvement in the specified area.
- There must be a Y in the water conservation category to comply. (Each facility must have a water conservation target to meet the Manufacturing requirements.)
- A very brief description of the plan or reason for no plan must to be provided for each category.
- Improvement plan details can be provided as considered appropriate by the licensee.
- Note: all column spaces must be filled in to comply with Manufacturing declaration requirements of the ECS.



**SCHEDULE 12 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – MANUFACTURING IN ACCORDANCE WITH ECS LEVELS 3 AND 4**

Registered carpet quality name:	Carpet Construction:	
ACCS label number:		
Company name:		
I confirm that all the performance requirements of the manufacturing criterion have been fully met		
Licensee declaration by:	Position:	Date

**Manufacturing Data on Efficiencies**

<b>Facility: Year:</b>	<b>Consumption Total</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Efficiency (per unit of production)</b>	<b>Unit</b>
Raw materials (total)		tonne		kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Recycled raw materials		tonne		kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Rapidly renewable raw materials		tonne		kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Water – Mandatory requirement		kL		L/m <sup>2</sup>
Electricity		kW		kW/m <sup>2</sup>
Natural Gas		MJ		MJ/m <sup>2</sup>
	<b>Production</b>			
Annual Carpet Production		m <sup>2</sup>		
Total Site waste		tonne		kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Waste recycled		tonne		kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Waste to Landfill		tonne		kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Latex waste - Prescribed Waste		tonne		kg/m <sup>2</sup>





### Manufacturing Improvement Plans

Facility:	Improvement Target (Y/N)	Plan description (or reason for no plan)
Water conservation		
Raw material waste reduction		
Waste recycling (recyclables / packaging)		
Waste segregation and recycling (fibre wastes)		
Recycled raw material sourcing		
Rapidly renewable raw materials <sup>(1)</sup>		
Dematerialisation of products		
Electrical energy efficiency		
Natural gas efficiency		
Other fuel efficiencies		

Please attach improvement plans as appropriate.

<sup>(1)</sup> Rapidly renewable materials are those that can be harvested from sources that can regenerate within 10 years.

## SCHEDULE 12 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – MANUFACTURING

### ECS Requirements

The aim of the Manufacturing criterion is to promote good environmental practice at the plant-level by requiring licenses to collect relevant data with a view to optimizing production processes and mitigating any consequential adverse environmental impacts.

#### Data Collection

Licensees are required to gather data on material usage and waste generation with a view to optimizing the production process so as to achieve better environmental outcomes at the plant level.

#### Process Improvement to Achieve Better Environmental Outcomes

As part of this criterion, licensees are required to:

- monitor water consumption as a function of production and develop water conservation strategies, which may include recycling cooling water and other clean wastewater streams; rain water harvesting and use and appropriate boiler management;
- apply the hierarchy of waste management to all waste streams in all manufacturing processes:
  - avoid or reduce the waste
  - recover and reuse the waste
  - recycle the waste raw materials
  - recover energy in wastes
  - dispose of wastes safely.
- ensure that no recyclable materials can be co-mingled with solid waste – paper and cardboard, drink cans, metals, or recyclable plastics. These materials will be collected for external recycling
- segregate and recycle soft fibre, face fibre yarn and other mono-compositional wastes.

An environment management system in line with the requirements of ISO 14001 will facilitate regular environmental monitoring and reporting.

Licensees must seek to optimise materials sourcing and production processes in accordance with resource and materials efficiency measures that reduce negative environmental impacts from materials sourcing, use and disposal of environmentally certified textile floor coverings. These measures may include, but are not limited to:

- use of recycled materials
- use of rapidly renewable materials
- reduction and/or reuse of manufacturing waste
- dematerialisation.

#### Verification and Assessment

The licensee shall provide a declaration of compliance with the criterion and supporting documentation.

Attach improvement plans as appropriate.



## SCHEDULE 13 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

### Instructions for Completing the Declaration

- Product Stewardship Program declarations must be made using the form provided.
- The name of the product and its construction together with the company name is required at the top of the form.
- A responsible management representative shall verify that the information provided is correct and that the performance requirements of the Product Stewardship criterion have been fully met.
- Publicly available Yes (Y) or No (N). The license must provide information describing the terms, conditions and benefits of the Product Stewardship program on a webpage and/or brochures and/or other publicly available information describing the terms, conditions and benefits of the program.
- Installation to AS/NZS 2455.1/2:2007 – Y or N (provided in the program customer agreement documentation).
- Maintenance to AS/NZS 3733:1995 – Y or N (again, a requirement written into the program, product stewardship or customer agreement documentation).
- Contract for take-back of used product – Y or N (a take-back offer must be verified for the product concerned by the assessor).
- System capability satisfactory – Y or N (the assessor must provide an assessment of the capability of the system provided to satisfactorily take back and recycle/reuse/reprocess the used product).
- Enter the independent assessor's name and qualifications.
- A copy of the independent assessor's Verification Report must be attached to the declaration.



**SCHEDULE 13 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH ECS LEVEL 4 (OPTION A)**

Registered carpet quality name:	Carpet Construction:	
ACCS label number:		
Company name:		
I confirm that all the performance requirements of the Product Stewardship criterion have been fully met.		
Licensee declaration by:	Position:	Date
Independently assessed by:	RABQSA Reg No. (if applicable)	

Product stewardship program elements	(Y/N)	Comments
Publicly available		
Installation to AS/NZS 2455.1/2:2007		
Cleaning maintenance to AS/NZS 3733:1995		
Contract for take-back of used product		
System capability satisfactory		

Please attach: Verification Report from a suitably qualified independent assessor.





## SCHEDULE 13 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

### ECS Requirements

The aim of the Product Stewardship criterion is to maximize textile floor coverings useful life and then minimize the impacts to the environment associated with disposal of the product after recycling and reuse options are exhausted.

In the interests of extending the useful life of certified products, licensees and/or suppliers of textile floor coverings shall be required to provide advice to purchasers on proper installation and maintenance in line with the requirements of:

- *AS/NZS 2455.1:2007 (Textile Floor coverings – Installation Practice - General)*
- *AS/NZS 2455.2:2007 (Textile Floor coverings – Installation Practice - Carpet Tiles)*
- *AS/NZS 3733: 1995 (Textile Floor coverings – Cleaning maintenance of residential and commercial carpeting).*

Licensees and/or suppliers of certified textile floor coverings must have a product stewardship program in place. The program shall be publicly available and include contractual arrangements with their customers to take back product at the end of the products useful life for reuse, recycling or reprocessing. (note: incineration or 'gasification' is not accepted by the ECS as a form of reprocessing, re-use or recycling).

Licensees and/or suppliers of certified textile floor coverings must provide independent verification by a RABQSA registered assessor that the product stewardship program is in place and is capable of delivering the outcomes claimed by the licensee.

A discretionary criterion is that certified textile floor coverings must be separated into elemental components for reuse, recycling or reprocessing. Use of specialist tools to facilitate the disassembly of certified textile floor coverings products is permitted.

### Verification and Assessment

The licensee shall provide a declaration of compliance and a report from an independent RABQSA registered assessor confirming that the product stewardship program is capable of delivering the outcomes claimed by the licensee.



## **SCHEDULE 14 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – GREENHOUSE GAS IMPACT MANAGEMENT.**

### **Instructions For Completing The Declaration**

- Product Life Cycle Greenhouse (Carbon) Footprint declarations must be made using the form provided.
- The name of the product and its construction together with the company name is required at the top of the form.
- A responsible management representative shall verify that the information provided is correct and that the performance requirements of the Greenhouse Gas Impact Management component of the Product Stewardship criterion have been fully met.
- The energy consumption in MJ/m<sup>2</sup> and Greenhouse Gas emissions in kg CO<sub>2</sub> (eq)/m<sup>2</sup>y must be provided for each life cycle stage given in the summary table. The Greenhouse Gas emissions are not divided by the expected lifespan of the product which is taken for these purposes as one year.
- The full life cycle Greenhouse Gas emission is then provided as the total of each life cycle stage.
- This data must be provided for the product on a webpage and/or brochures and or/other publicly available information.
- The life cycle boundaries to be used are defined in the form provided on page 57.
- The functional unit for the Greenhouse Gas footprint to be used is 1 m<sup>2</sup> of carpet with a life span of 1 year.
- Raw material consumption is calculated for the product using ingredient data and gross manufacturing facility efficiencies calculated and provided in the Manufacturing declaration form. The material content table is filled out to determine the manufacturing inputs.
- Raw material embodied energy and Greenhouse Gas emissions are determined from life cycle inventory data provided by a reputable life cycle inventory and expressed as a MJ and kg CO<sub>2</sub>(eqv) amount per functional unit of production (1 m<sup>2</sup>).
- Assumptions used in the assessment of the Greenhouse Gas footprint over each life cycle stage are to be documented using the Australian Life Cycle Inventory and the PAS 2050 method, or AS/NZS ISO 14040.
- The declaration must be verified by a suitably qualified independent assessor who shall verify the data as complying with AS/NZS ISO 14040 Life Cycle Assessment standard principles using the Product Category Rules for floor coverings.
- Enter the independent assessor's name and qualifications.
- A copy of the assessor's Verification Report must be attached to the declaration.

## SCHEDULE 14 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – GREENHOUSE GAS IMPACT MANAGEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LEVEL 4 (OPTION B)

Registered carpet quality name:	Carpet Construction:	
ACCS label number:		
Company name:		
I confirm that all the performance requirements of the Greenhouse Gas Impact Management Criterion have been fully met.		
Licensee declaration by:	Position:	Date:
Independently assessed by:	RABQSA Reg. No: (if applicable)	

Please attach: Verification Report from a suitably qualified independent assessor.

Summary Results: Life cycle energy and Greenhouse Gas	Energy	Unit	Greenhouse Gas	Unit
Raw materials production		MJ/m <sup>2</sup>		CO <sub>2</sub> (eq)/m <sup>2</sup>
Carpet manufacture		MJ/m <sup>2</sup>		CO <sub>2</sub> (eq)/m <sup>2</sup>
Installation		MJ/m <sup>2</sup>		CO <sub>2</sub> (eq)/m <sup>2</sup>
Use (period of use one year)		MJ/m <sup>2</sup>		CO <sub>2</sub> (eq)/m <sup>2</sup>
End of Life Disposal		MJ/m <sup>2</sup>		CO <sub>2</sub> (eq)/m <sup>2</sup>
Full Life Cycle (per year)		MJ/m <sup>2</sup> y		kg CO <sub>2</sub> (eq)/ m <sup>2</sup> y

### Product Description

#### Composition

Face fibre		UV stabilizer	
Adhesive		Stain Resist	
Primary backing		Biocide	
Secondary backing			

#### Properties

Carpet weight		kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Face fibre weight		kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Face fibre thickness		mm



## SCHEDULE 14 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – GREENHOUSE GAS IMPACT MANAGEMENT

### Declaration Objective

This product has been assessed for full life cycle carbon footprint to provide information to the market place about its environmental performance. This has been verified in accordance with *PAS 2050:2008* Specification for the assessment of the life cycle Greenhouse Gas emissions of goods and services.

### Life cycle Boundaries

The life cycle assessment of Greenhouse Gas emissions has been undertaken for the full life cycle of the carpet through extraction and manufacturing of raw materials that go into carpets to the manufacture and installation of the carpet, its use and end of life disposal.

The life cycle boundaries are given in the following table:

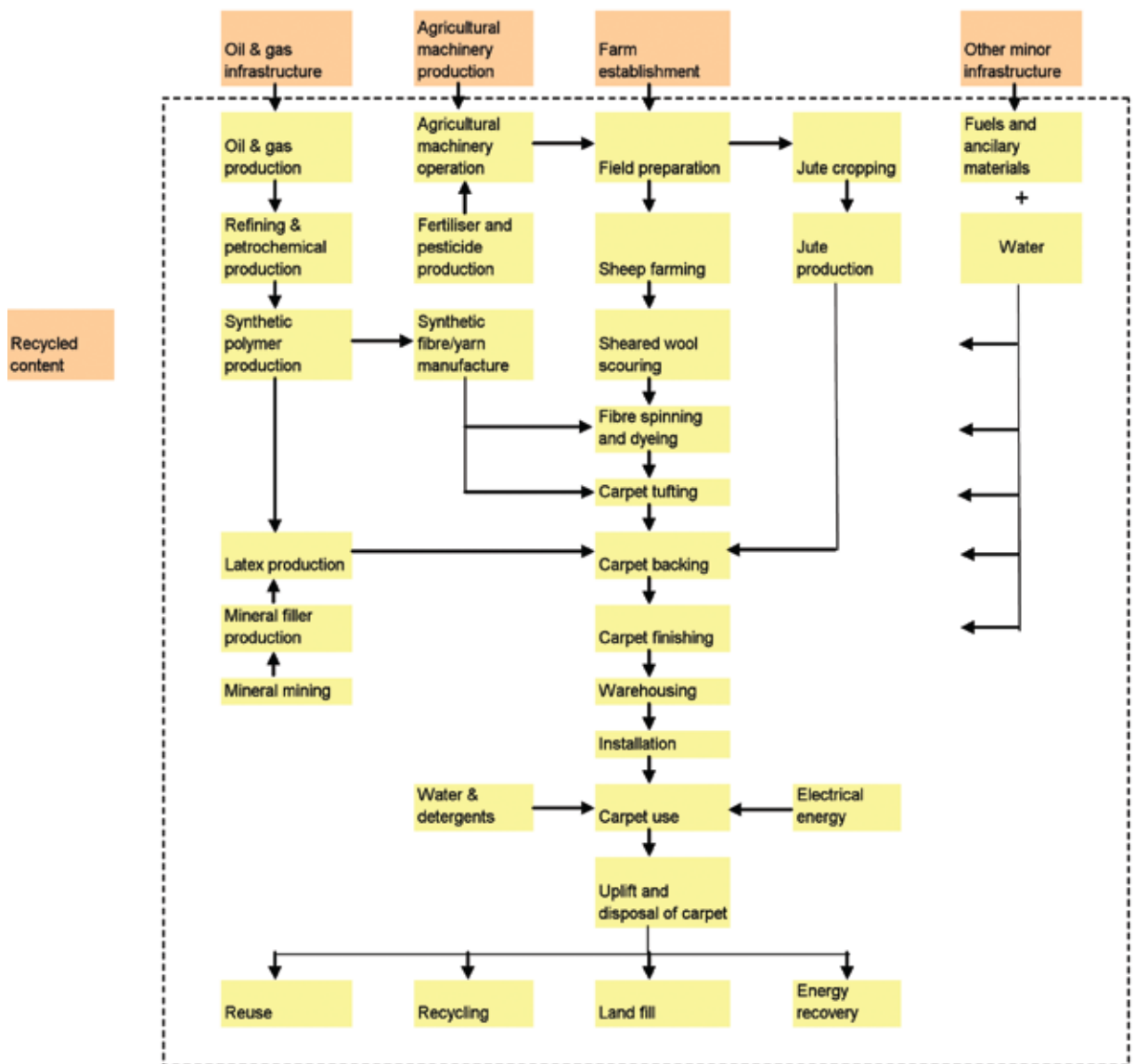


Table: Life cycle assessment boundaries



## SCHEDULE 14 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – GREENHOUSE GAS IMPACT MANAGEMENT

### Functional Unit

The functional unit used for Greenhouse Gas emissions measurement was a square metre of carpet manufactured and its use before uplift and disposal. The assessment has been limited to the carpet itself and not associated installation items: such as the carpet underlay, adhesives that may be used and other laying aids such as smooth edge and joining tape.

1 metre square of carpet over a one year product lifespan.

### Material Content

Material	Weight %	Resource recycled %	Origin	Renewable resource	g/m <sup>2</sup>
Total	100.0%				

### Life Cycle Stages

- Raw material manufacture
- Carpet manufacture
- Installation
- Use

Carpet must be cleaned regularly to optimize its useful life and maintain its appearance. This analysis has assumed that the carpet is maintained according to Australasian Standard AS/NZS 3733 – *Textile Floor Coverings – Cleaning maintenance of residential and commercial carpeting*. (See Table 2.1, Suggested maintenance program for specified carpeted locations.)

- End of Life Disposal

### Greenhouse Gas Emission Calculations

The raw material energy and Greenhouse gas emission estimates were developed from the Australian Lifecycle Inventory. This data has been updated in 2010 for consistent use by the carpet industry.

No Greenhouse gas emission has been calculated for the change of land use in the case of the hessian produced. It is assumed that the land has been used for this purpose for over 20 years as the product has been used for much longer than this period within Australia for carpet manufacture.

Manufacturing data has been received from energy suppliers and used for the product on a pro-rata basis for the product in proportion to the total energy consumed for the manufacturing sites.

Emission factors for Greenhouse gas emissions have been drawn from the National Greenhouse Accounts published factors December 2008<sup>1</sup>. In this case due to the manufacturing facility being situated in Victoria, the Victorian factors have been used that cover the full fuel cycle of the various energy sources used. This has included a calculation of Greenhouse methane produced in landfill from the degradation of hessian with a conversion efficiency of 90% and a methane capture level at the landfill of 50%.

<sup>1</sup> National Greenhouse Accounts (NGA) Factors November 2008 available at [www.climatechange.gov.au](http://www.climatechange.gov.au)



## SCHEDULE 14 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – GREENHOUSE GAS IMPACT MANAGEMENT

No allowance or claim has been made for the use of renewable energy.

### ECS Requirements

The aim of the *Greenhouse Gas Impact Management* criterion is to encourage manufacturers to:

- publicly report the product lifecycle greenhouse gas footprint for each 'family' of certified textile floor coverings; and
- develop greenhouse gas abatement strategies.

Licensees are required to provide a product declaration in accordance with ISO 14025 and may use the specification PAS 2050:2008 Specification for the assessment of life cycle greenhouse gas emissions of goods and services or the standard AS ISO 14064.1-2006 Greenhouse Gases Part 1: Specification with guidance at an organization level for the quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals.

The functional unit to which inputs and outputs should be related is 1 square metre of finished textile floor covering. This and lifecycle boundary conditions specified in the Product Category Rules for floor coverings<sup>2</sup>, shall be followed using the product life cycle from raw material extraction to final product disposal.

The current lack of industry benchmarks for green house gas emissions is a significant impediment to the satisfaction of this criterion. Partial compliance – such as would be the case if a licensee uses the manufacturing stage of the lifecycle for improvement measurement – is encouraged but of itself would not satisfy the Green House Impact Management component of the ECS.

### Verification and Assessment

The licensee shall provide a declaration of compliance and supporting documentation, which shall include a copy of the publicly reported product lifecycle greenhouse gas footprint for each 'family' of certified textile floor coverings.

The licensee is also required to obtain confirmation from an independent assessor that the life cycle analysis complies with the requirements of ISO 14040 series of Environmental Life Cycle Assessment standards.

The independent assessor providing the confirmation must be adequately qualified to undertake a life cycle assessment and be registered with RABQSA.



## SCHEDULE 15 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – WATER USE MANAGEMENT

### Instructions for Completing the Declaration

- Declarations must be made using the form provided.
- The name of the product and its construction together with the company name is required at the top of the form.
- A responsible management representative shall verify that the information provided is correct and that the performance requirements of the Water Use Management component of the Product Stewardship criterion have been fully met.
- The water consumption in Litre/m<sup>2</sup> must be provided for each life cycle stage given in the summary table. The water consumption is not divided by the expected lifespan of the product which is taken for these purposes as one year.
- The full life cycle water consumption is then provided as the total of each life cycle stage.
- This data must be provided for the product on a webpage and/or brochures and/ or other publicly available information.
- A brief product description is to be given in the “composition” and “properties” tables on the front page of the declaration.
- The life cycle boundaries to be used are defined in the form provided on page 63.
- The functional unit for the water footprint to be used is 1 m<sup>2</sup> of carpet with a life span of 1 year.
- Raw material consumption is calculated for the product using ingredient data and gross manufacturing facility efficiencies calculated and provided in the Manufacturing declaration form. The material content table is filled out to determine the manufacturing inputs.
- Raw material water consumption data determined from life cycle inventory data provided by a reputable life cycle inventory and expressed as a Litre amount per functional unit of carpet installed (1 m<sup>2</sup>).
- Carpet use stage water consumption is determined using AS NZS 3733: 1995 (Textile Floor Coverings – Cleaning Maintenance of Residential and Commercial Carpeting).
- End of Life water use is determined for the method of carpet disposal or recycling employed.
- Assumptions used in the assessment of the water footprint over each life cycle stage are to be documented in the section titled Life Cycle Stages.
- Enter the independent assessor’s name and qualifications.

Use of the Life Cycle Water Calculator requires the following data:

- Product material content
- Manufacturing raw material yield efficiency
- Total facility water consumption per m<sup>2</sup> of carpet production
- The method employed for carpet disposal or recycling at end-of-life
- Carpet installation waste percentage



## SCHEDULE 15 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – WATER USE MANAGEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ECS LEVEL 4 (OPTION B)

Carpet quality name:	Carpet Construction:	
ACCS label number:		
Company name:		
I confirm that all the performance requirements of the Water Use Management criterion have been fully met.		
Licensee declaration by:	Position:	Date:
Independently assessed by:	RABQSA Reg. No: (if applicable)	

Summary Results: Life cycle water footprint	Water consumption	Unit
Raw materials production		L/m <sup>2</sup>
Carpet manufacture		L/m <sup>2</sup>
Installation		L/m <sup>2</sup>
Use (period of use 1 year)		L/m <sup>2</sup>
End of Life Disposal		L/m <sup>2</sup>
Full Life Cycle (per year)		L/m <sup>2</sup> y

### Product Description

#### Composition

Face fibre		UV stabilizer	
Adhesive		Stain Resist	
Primary backing		Biocide	
Secondary backing			

#### Properties

Carpet weight		kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Face fibre weight		kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Face fibre thickness		mm

Please attach: Verification Report from a suitably qualified independent assessor





## SCHEDULE 15 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – WATER USE MANAGEMENT

### Declaration Objective

This product has been assessed for full life cycle Water Consumption to provide information to the market place about its environmental performance. This has been verified in accordance with *PAS 2050:2008* Specification for the assessment of the life cycle Greenhouse Gas emissions of goods and services.

### Life cycle Boundaries

The life cycle assessment of Water Consumption has been undertaken for the full life cycle of the carpet through extraction and manufacturing of raw materials that go into carpets to the manufacture and installation of the carpet, its use and end of life disposal.

The life cycle boundaries are given in the following table:

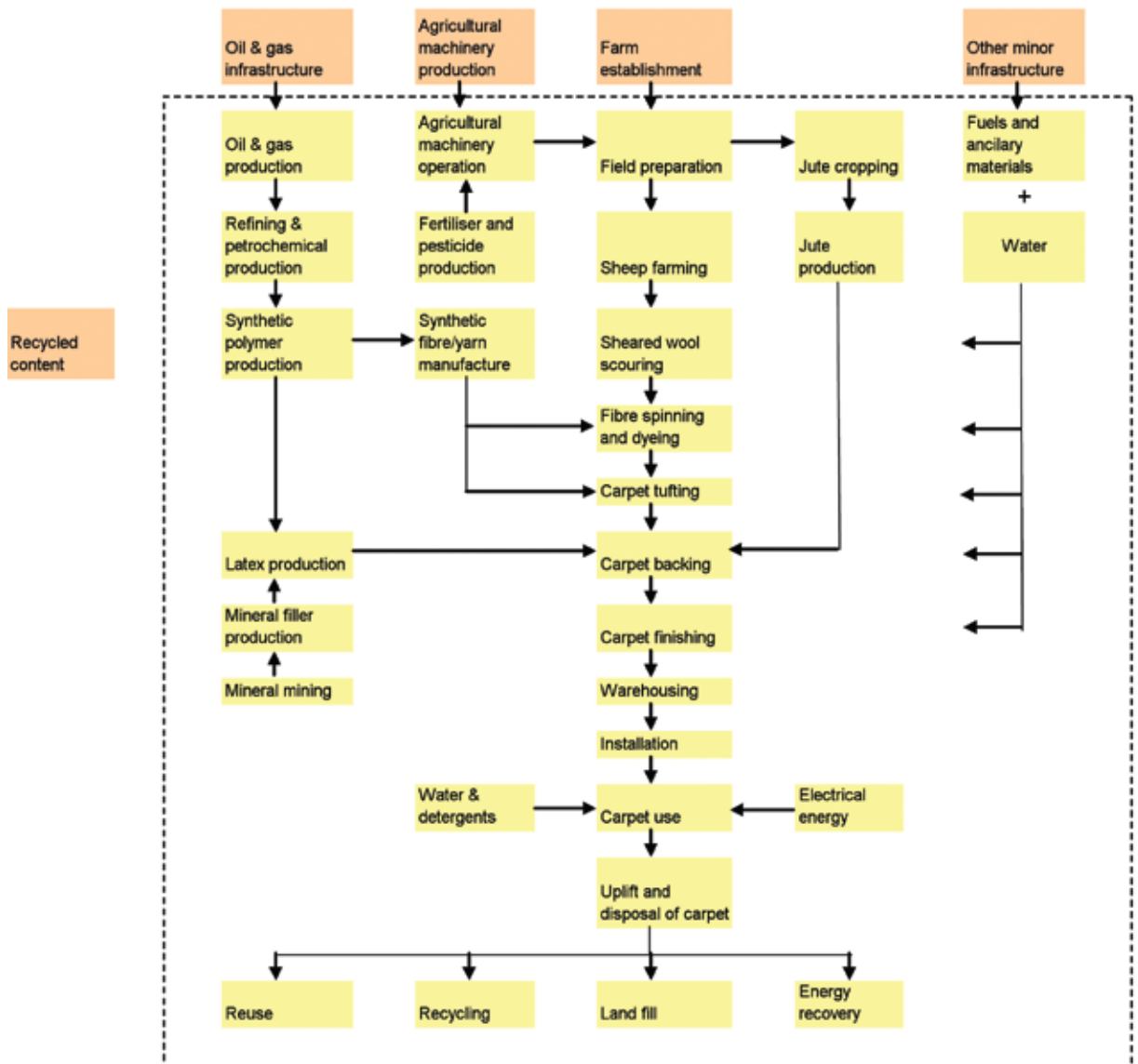


Table: Life cycle assessment boundaries



## SCHEDULE 15 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – WATER USE MANAGEMENT

### Functional Unit

The functional unit used for water consumption footprint measurement was 1 square metre of carpet manufactured and its use for one year before uplift and disposal. The assessment has been limited to the carpet itself and not associated installation items: such as the carpet underlay, adhesives that may be used and other laying aids such as smooth edge and joining tape.

1 metre square of carpet over a one year lifespan.

### Material Content

Material	Weight %	Resource recycled (Y/N)	Origin	Renewable resource	g/m <sup>2</sup>
Total	100.0%				

### Life Cycle Stages

- Raw material manufacture
- Carpet manufacture
- Installation  
It is assumed that no water is used during installation and the water consumed in transport and product intermediate storage is also negligible.
- Use  
Carpet must be cleaned regularly to optimize its useful life and maintain its appearance. This analysis has assumed that the carpet is maintained according to the Australasian standard AS/NZS 3733 *Textile Floor Coverings – Cleaning maintenance of residential & commercial carpeting*. (See Table 2.1, Suggested maintenance program for specified carpeted locations.) Water consumption only takes place with the surface and restorative or corrective cleaning.
- End of Life Disposal

### Water Consumption Calculations

Water is consumed in manufacturing the raw materials and most of this is (over 70%) used in the manufacture of the hessian backing.

The raw water consumption estimates were provided in the Australian Lifecycle Inventory and accessed at [www.OzLCI.com.au](http://www.OzLCI.com.au).



## SCHEDULE 15 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – WATER USE MANAGEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ECS LEVEL 4 (OPTION B)

Manufacturing data has been for the manufacturing site by the manufacturer.

No allowance or claim has been made for the use of recycled or recovered storm water as this has not been undertaken by the manufacturing facility.

### ECS Requirements

The aim of the *Water Use Management* criterion is to encourage manufacturers to:

- publicly report the product lifecycle water use footprint for each 'family' of certified textile floor coverings; and
- develop water use abatement strategies across the life cycle of the carpet.

The licensee is required to follow the reporting format that provides water consumption for each life cycle stage using the standard AS/NZS ISO 14040 Life cycle assessment principles and framework. This and lifecycle boundary conditions specified in the Product Category Rules for floor coverings, shall be followed using the product life cycle from raw material extraction to final product disposal. (Reference: PCR – Floor Coverings, Environmental Product Declarations, Harmonised Rules for Textile, Laminate and Resilient Floor Coverings [www.bau-umwelt.de](http://www.bau-umwelt.de))

The functional unit to which inputs and outputs should be related is 1 square metre of finished textile floor covering. The current lack of industry benchmarks for water use reporting is a significant impediment to the satisfaction of this criterion. Partial compliance – such as would be the case if a licensee uses the manufacturing stage of the lifecycle for improvement measurement – is encouraged but of itself would not satisfy the water use reporting component of the ECS.

### Verification and Assessment

The licensee shall provide a declaration of compliance and supporting documentation, which shall include a copy of the publicly reported product lifecycle water use footprint for each 'family' of certified textile floor coverings.

The licensee is also required to obtain confirmation from an independent assessor that the life cycle analysis complies with the requirements of ISO 14040 series of Environmental Life Cycle Assessment standards.

The independent assessor providing the confirmation must be adequately qualified to undertake a life cycle assessment and be registered with RABQSA.



## SCHEDULE 16 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING

### Instructions for Completing the Declaration

- Social Accountability Reporting Declarations must be made on the form provided.
- Enter the registered carpet quality name and carpet construction details.
- A responsible management representative shall verify that the information provided is correct and that the performance requirements of the Social Accountability Reporting component of the Product Stewardship criterion have been fully met.
- Enter the ACCS label number id the product had been previously graded.
- The licensee is required to attach to the form documentary evidence that the requirements of either Option 1 or Option 2 have been satisfied.
- The licensee must submit a verification report from an independent assessor who is RABQSA registered or has an equivalent national or international professional qualification.



**SCHEDULE 16 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ECS LEVEL 4 (OPTION B)**

Registered carpet quality name:	Carpet Construction:	
ACCS label number:		
Company name:		
I confirm that all the performance requirements of the Product Stewardship criterion have been fully met.		
Licensee declaration by:	Position:	Date
Independently assessed by:	RABQSA Reg No. (or equivalent professional qualifications)	

Please attach: Verification Report from an independent assessor.



## SCHEDULE 16 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING

### ECS Requirements

The aim of this criterion is to encourage licensees to integrate into their operations corporate social responsibility over and above legal responsibilities.

As a mandatory minimum requirement, licensees and their key suppliers/subcontractors must comply with all relevant social and environmental legal obligations in the countries in which the textile floor coverings and major materials inputs are produced. At the same time manufacturers must also comply with relevant Australian laws and regulations.

In relation to the discretionary elements, licensees may choose between:

#### Option 1

Independent Verification of Compliance with *SA 8000 - International Social Accountability Standard SA 8000* is the most widely recognized standard for managing human rights in the workplace. An auditable standard for a third party verification system, SA 8000 sets out the voluntary requirements to be met by employers in the workplace, including workers rights, workplace conditions and management systems. The normative elements of SA 8000 are based on national law, international human rights norms and International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions. (A copy of SA 8000 may be obtained from [www.sa-intl.org](http://www.sa-intl.org))

#### Option 2

There are 3 components of equal value, 2 of which must be satisfied.

### Compliance with ILO Conventions

Licensees must submit independent verification that their major suppliers comply, as a minimum requirement, with the following conventions of the International Labor Organization if the conventions are ratified by the country of origin:

- Convention 29 Forced Labour
- Convention 87 Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize
- Convention 98 Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining
- Convention 100 Equal Remuneration
- Convention 105 Abolition of Forced Labour
- Convention 111 Discrimination (Employment and Occupation)
- Convention 155 Occupational Health and Safety (Protocol of 2002)
- Convention 161 Occupational Health and Safety
- Convention 164 Health Protection and Medical Care (Seafarers)
- Convention 171 Night Work

Refer to [www.ilo.org](http://www.ilo.org)



## SCHEDULE 16 – DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING

### Environmental Claims Consistent with AS/NZS ISO 14021:2000

Any environment performance claims made by licensees about certified products must comply with:

- *AS/NZS ISO 14021:2000 – Environmental Labels and Declarations – Self Declared Environmental Claims – Type 11– Environmental Labelling* (Refer Attachment 9); or
- Global Reporting Initiative Sustainable Reporting Guidelines (Refer [www.globalreporting.org](http://www.globalreporting.org))

Additionally, licensees are advised to ensure that any claims are consistent with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commissions' guidelines on green marketing published in the ACCC's paper entitled 'Green Marketing and the Trade Practices Act'. Reference: [www.accc.gov.au](http://www.accc.gov.au)

### Public Reporting

As a minimum requirement, licensees are required to report publicly in accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative on the environment, human rights and labour.

#### Assessment and Verification

The licensee shall provide a declaration of compliance and relevant supporting documentation. Supporting documentation shall include but not be limited to:

- report from an independent assessor confirming compliance with SA 8000 (for Option 1)
- report from an independent assessor showing compliance of major suppliers with relevant ILO conventions ratified by the country of origin (for Option 2)

Report from an independent assessor confirming that any environmental claims made by the licensee comply with the requirements of *AS/NZS ISO 14021:2000* or the GRI Sustainable Reporting Guidelines (for Option 2)

Copy of publicly reported information (for Option 2).





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