

Applicable Standard

Type of Products



ASTM International, formerly American Society for Testing and Materials, is a trusted source for technical standards for a diverse range of industries. It has published *Standard Guide for Stewardship for the Cleaning of Commercial and Institutional Buildings* (publication E1971- 05), which outlines the steps for cleaning institutional and commercial buildings. For more information, visit www.astm.org.

Guiding principles for cleaning

California VOC: In an effort to minimize air pollution, California set limits on the concentration of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) for numerous consumer products. For product categories where there are no standards available from Green Seal, Ecolog or EPA's Design for the Environment, ask your vendor for products that meet the California VOC standard. The product label will state that it is registered for sale in the State of California.

Deodorizers, furniture and metal polishes and other "high- VOC" cleaning products



Chlorine Free: The Chlorine Free Products Association (CFPA) is an independent not-for-profit accreditation and standard-setting organization that evaluates products on the basis of chlorine usage. The CFPA has no financial interest in the products or companies it certifies. Look for "Totally Chlorine Free" and "Processed Chlorine Free" logos. For more information, visit www.chlorinefreeproducts.org.

Paper products



EcoLogo: Founded in 1988, EcoLogo is a multi-attribute environmental standard setting and third-party certification program with thousands of certified products covering a large variety of categories. As a member of the Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN), EcoLogo standards address such areas as resource use, chemicals used during production, waste and emission reduction, energy consumption and packaging. In 2010, the

Institutional and household cleaners, floor care products, laundry detergents, hand soaps, paper products, bathroom tissue, paper napkins, facial tissue, industrial wipes, plastic trash can liners, and more.

Program became part of the UL global network, significantly expanding its reach as a leading certifier of the world's most sustainable products. EcoLogo certified products are widely available throughout North America and can be found at <http://www.ecologo.org>.



The Carpet and Rug Institute: The Carpet and Rug Institute's members are manufacturers representing the bulk of all carpet produced in the United States. CRI certifies vacuum cleaners and extractors and carpet cleaning systems under the Seal of Approval program. Qualifying equipment must meet standards for soil removal and dust containment and must help carpet retain a good appearance. Extractors must effectively remove moisture. It is the only existing standard for vacuums and extractors. CRI also offers extensive information about carpet, installation, maintenance, and indoor air quality through a toll free information line, 800-882-8846 and at www.carpet-rug.org (general information) or www.carpet-health.org (research and studies).

Carpet cleaning equipment



Design for the Environment: Created by the US EPA in 1992, Design for the Environment (DfE) identifies cleaning products that contain the safest possible ingredients, perform well and are cost-effective. DfE's team of EPA scientists evaluates the impact of products on both people and the environment and allows its label only on products that meet its rigorous criteria. Today, the label can be found on over two thousand products ranging from dishwashing soap and laundry detergents to car and boat cleaners. DfE requires manufacturers to reach a high bar to create a truly "greener" product. The DfE's Standard for Safer Products and Safer Ingredient Criteria can be found at www.epa.gov/dfc.

Institutional and household cleaners, hand soaps, laundry detergents, floor care products



Green Seal is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to safeguarding the environment and transforming the marketplace by promoting

Institutional cleaners, hand soaps, paper products, cleaning contract providers, floor care products

the manufacture, purchase, and use of environmentally responsible products. They certify hundreds thousands of products using credible, science-based and transparent standards. Green Seal is an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited standard development body. The Green Seal certification program meets ISO 14000, the standard set by the International Organization of Standards (ISO) and is a member of the Global Ecolabelling Network. To learn more about Green Seal standards, visit <http://greenseal.org>.



US EPA: The EPA establishes recycled content requirements for paper and plastic products under its Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines. These guidelines are based on producers' information rather than third-party certification. A database of manufacturers and suppliers of CPG-rated products can be found at www.epa.gov/cpg, along with ideas for saving paper at school and promoting recycling.

General bathroom tissue, paper towels, paper napkins, facial tissue, industrial wipes, plastic trash can liners, entryway mats, and assorted items



USGBC: The US Green Building Council developed the [LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance](#) rating system, which maximizes building operational efficiency while minimizing environmental impacts. It is a recognized, performance-based benchmark for building owners and operators to measure operations, improvements and maintenance on a consistent scale. LEED for Existing Buildings: O&M is designed for delivering economically profitable, environmentally responsible, healthy, productive places to live and work. Green cleaning credits for LEED for Existing Buildings: O&M referenced in this document are Environmental Quality Credits 3.1 to 3.7, which cover custodial effectiveness, high-performance cleaning; purchase of sustainable cleaning products and materials, and sustainable cleaning equipment. Learn more at <http://www.usgbc.org>.

Whole-building cleaning and maintenance issues including chemical use; indoor air quality; energy and water efficiency; and lighting performance standards



ENERGY STAR: The EPA and Department of Energy launched the ENERGY STAR program to make it easy for consumers to identify and

Commercial Food Service Equipment, laundry machines, heating and plumbing systems

purchase energy-efficient products that offer savings on energy bills without sacrificing performance, features, and comfort. Certified products for [commercial use are available online](#).



CIMS-GB: ISSA, the cleaning industry association, has developed a cleaning procedure certification called Cleaning Industry Management Standard (CIMS). The standard was designed to help cleaning service providers, whether in-house or contractor, use general cleaning best practices and launch a cleaning management framework that includes a quality plan, a service delivery plan, purchasing guidelines, training, regulatory compliance, an environmental management system and delegation of leadership duties. The CIMS program also includes a Green Building (CIMS-GB) option that was tailored to meet the green cleaning requirements of the US Green Building Council's LEED for Existing Buildings: O&M certification system. More information is available on [ISSA's website](#).

Commercial cleaning service procedures and management best practices