



Indoor AirPlus: How to Find Compliant Building Materials

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How to Find Indoor AirPlus Compliant Building Materials

Indoor air quality is a critical consideration in the construction and design of residential buildings, as the air we breathe indoors can significantly impact our health and well-being. The Indoor AirPlus program places a strong emphasis on enhancing indoor air quality by prioritizing the use of low-emission materials.

Low-emission materials encompasses materials that are low in volatile organic compounds which are emitted as gases from certain solids and liquids. Volatile organic compounds include a variety of chemicals, some of which may have short- and long-term adverse health effects. To learn more about volatile organic compounds please visit www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/what-are-volatile-organic-compounds-vocs.

This guide is intended to be a resource for builders, verifiers, designers, and homeowners, aiding them in identifying and sourcing compliant building products. The Building Materials requirements outlined in Section 6 of the Indoor AirPlus Verification Requirements specifically address interior paints and finishes, carpets and carpet cushions, adhesives and sealants, hard surface flooring, gypsum board, and insulation utilized in the construction of Indoor AirPlus certified homes. Products meeting the referenced standards are generally widely available in the market.

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Basic Information:

1. Look for the labels listed below on products, packaging, or specification sheets.
2. Many of the certifications and labels identified in this guide meet multiple and/or overlapping standards.
3. Use caution in selecting “green” product labels. It’s important for consumers to be careful in interpreting vague or generic claims on products such as “environmentally friendly,” “eco safe,” or “green.” When these claims are found to be misleading or inaccurate, this is referred to as “greenwashing.” The labels shown below are third-party tested and verified to meet the indicated specification.
4. Version 2 of the Indoor AirPlus program updated the Building Materials section of the Verification Requirements to focus on an emission-based standard ([CDPH Standard Method V1.2-2017](#)) that addresses VOCs of concern indoors. Emission-based testing standards are used by some (but not all) third-party “low-VOC” labels in the market.
5. The certification marks displayed in the table below are EXAMPLES only. Other certifications that meet the underlying referenced standards may also be compliant with the Indoor AirPlus requirements.

To request that other compliant certifications or programs be added to this resource or for additional questions about these or other Indoor AirPlus Verification Requirements, please contact Indoor_AirPlus@epa.gov.

For complete information about Indoor AirPlus, visit the Indoor AirPlus website at www.epa.gov/iap.

6.1 Interior Paints, Finishes, and Coatings

Requirement:

- 6.1.1** Site-applied paints, finishes, and coatings (including such products with sealing or waterproofing properties) shall not exceed maximum VOC emission levels in accordance with and determined by California Department of Public Health, "[Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers, Version 1.2—2017.](#)"

Labels Below Meet the Requirements for Item 6.1:



Clean Air GOLD, by Intertek.

Find Clean Air GOLD certified products at:
[Intertek Sustainability Certification Directory.](#)



ClearChem, by Berkeley Analytical.

Find ClearChem certified products at:
[ClearChem directory.](#)



GREENGUARD GOLD.

Find GREENGUARD GOLD certified paint and coating products at:
[UL search.](#)



Indoor Advantage Gold, by Scientific Certification Systems.

Find Indoor Advantage Gold certified products at:
[Certified Green Products Guide | SCS Global Services.](#)



Indoor Air Comfort USA, by Eurofins.

Find Indoor Air Comfort USA certified products at:
[www.eurofins.com/Indoor-Air-Comfort-USA.](http://www.eurofins.com/Indoor-Air-Comfort-USA)

6.2 Carpet and Cushions

Requirement:

6.2.1 Carpet and carpet cushions must be low-emitting products with maximum VOC emission levels in accordance with and determined by [CDPH Standard Method V1.2-2017](#).

Labels Below Meet the Requirements for Item 6.2:



CRI Green Label Plus, by Carpet and Rug Institute.

Find CRI Green Label Plus products at:

[Rug Institute's Green Label Plus products.](#)



Indoor Advantage Gold, by Scientific Certification Systems.

Find Indoor Advantage Gold certified products at:

[Certified Green Products Guide | SCS Global Services.](#)



Indoor Air Comfort USA, By Eurofins.

Find Indoor Air Comfort USA certified products at:

www.eurofins.com/Indoor-Air-Comfort-USA.

6.3 Adhesives and Sealants

Requirement:

6.3.1 Site-applied interior adhesives and sealants shall not exceed maximum VOC emission levels in accordance with and determined by [CDPH Standard Method V1.2-2017](#).

Labels Below Meet the Requirements for Item 6.3:



Clean Air GOLD, by Intertek.

Find Clean Air GOLD certified products at:
[Intertek Sustainability Certification Directory](#).



ClearChem, by Berkeley Analytical.

Find ClearChem certified products at:
[ClearChem directory](#).



FloorScore, by Scientific Certification Systems.

Find FloorScore certified products at:
[Certified Green Products Guide | SCS Global Services](#).



GREENGUARD GOLD.

Find GREENGUARD GOLD certified paint and coating products at:
[UL search](#).



Indoor Advantage Gold, by Scientific Certification Systems.

Find Indoor Advantage Gold certified products at:
[Certified Green Products Guide | SCS Global Services](#).



Indoor Air Comfort USA, By Eurofins.

Find Indoor Air Comfort USA certified products at:
www.eurofins.com/Indoor-Air-Comfort-USA.

6.4 Hard Surface Flooring

Requirement:

6.4.1 Interior hard surface flooring materials and underlayments shall not exceed maximum VOC emission levels in accordance with and determined by [CDPH Standard Method V1.2-2017](#).

Labels Below Meet the Requirements for Item 6.4:



Benchmark VOC Green Certification.

Find Benchmark VOC Green Certified products at:
[VOC Green Certification](#).



Clean Air GOLD, by Intertek.

Find Clean Air GOLD certified products at:
[Intertek Sustainability Certification Directory](#).



ClearChem, by Berkeley Analytical.

Find ClearChem certified products at:
[ClearChem directory](#).



FloorScore, by Scientific Certification Systems.

Find FloorScore certified products at:
[Certified Green Products Guide | SCS Global Services](#).



GREENGUARD GOLD.

Find GREENGUARD GOLD certified paint and coating products at:
[UL search](#).



Indoor Advantage Gold, by Scientific Certification Systems.

Find Indoor Advantage Gold certified products at:
[Certified Green Products Guide | SCS Global Services](#).



Indoor Air Comfort USA, By Eurofins.

Find Indoor Air Comfort USA certified products at:
www.eurofins.com/Indoor-Air-Comfort-USA.

6.5 Gypsum Board

Requirement:

6.5.1 Interior gypsum board and joint compound shall not exceed maximum VOC emission levels in accordance with and determined by [CDPH Standard Method V1.2-2017](#).

Labels Below Meet the Requirements for Item 6.5:



Benchmark VOC Green Certification.

Find Benchmark VOC Green Certified products at:
[VOC Green Certification](#).



Clean Air GOLD, by Intertek.

Find Clean Air GOLD certified products at:
[Intertek Sustainability Certification Directory](#).



ClearChem, by Berkeley Analytical.

Find ClearChem certified products at:
[ClearChem directory](#).



GREENGUARD GOLD.

Find GREENGUARD GOLD certified paint and coating products at:
[UL search](#).



Indoor Air Comfort USA, By Eurofins.

Find Indoor Air Comfort USA certified products at:
www.eurofins.com/Indoor-Air-Comfort-USA.

6.6 Insulation

Requirement:

6.6.1 GOLD: Insulation materials installed in wall, floor, or ceiling cavities, as well as on the interior surface of foundation walls shall not exceed maximum VOC emission levels in accordance with and determined by [CDPH Standard Method V1.2-2017](#).

NOTE: Compliance with this Item is only required to achieve Indoor AirPlus Gold certification.

Labels Below Meet the Requirements for Item 6.6:



Benchmark VOC Green Certification.

Find Benchmark VOC Green Certified products at:

[VOC Green Certification](#).



GREENGUARD GOLD.

Find GREENGUARD GOLD certified paint and coating products at:

[UL search](#).



Indoor Advantage Gold, by Scientific Certification Systems.

Find Indoor Advantage Gold certified products at:

[Certified Green Products Guide | SCS Global Services](#).



Indoor Air Comfort USA, By Eurofins.

Find Indoor Air Comfort USA certified products at:

www.eurofins.com/Indoor-Air-Comfort-USA.