



GREENGUARD[®] To LEED VOC Conversion

TDS 253

In a perfect world all of the requirements for United States Green Building Council (USGBC) LEED Certification would be perfectly in line with the information provided by the GREENGUARD[®] Environmental Institute for Low Emitting Products in LEED Credit EQ 4.1. Unfortunately, such is not the case.

The conversion of the Total Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) from mg/m³ (according to GREENGUARD) to g/L less water (required by LEED EQ 4.1) can be confusing.

First, let's look at exactly what the requirements are and what they mean. To be GREENGUARD compliant a product must have less than 0.5 mg/m³ of VOCs. To meet LEED EQ 4.1 requirements of the LEED-NC Version 2.2 Reference Guide, a Ceramic Tile Adhesive must have less than 65g/liter less water of VOCs. 65 grams per liter can also be stated as 8.7 ounces per gallon less water of VOCs.

The following can be used to convert mg/m³ to g/liter;

A milligram equals 1/1,000 of a gram (remember 0.5mg/m³ [or 1/2,000 of a gram] is the standard). 1/2,000 of a gram can also be stated as 1/56,000 of an ounce!

A cubic meter (m³) holds 1,000 liters.

Since a cubic meter holds 1,000 liters and the LEED requirement is for 1 liter we must divide by 1,000;

1,000 liters / 1,000 = 1 liter

and,

0.5mg / 1,000 = 0.0005 g/liter less water of VOCs

So to meet the GREENGUARD requirement a product must have less than 0.5mg per 1,000 liters, which translates out to 0.0005 grams/liter of VOCs.

This is far below the requirements needed to meet the LEED Credit EQ4.1.

Therefore, if any LATICRETE product is GREENGUARD certified then it will also be LEED Credit 4.1 compliant.

Technical Data Sheets are subject to change without notice. For latest revision, check our website at www.laticrete.com
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