



Sustainable Furniture

Friend of the Earth

Standard requirements (Version 1 – 06/02/2023 PB)

Scope of the Standard

This is a Product Certification, consequently Organizations can have either some of their products certified or their whole product range, as long as they can segregate their production line and provide evidence that the certified products originate from certified raw materials or compliant with Friend of the Earth requirements.

The following are among the Organizations which can apply for Sustainable Furniture certification:

Retailers

Traders

Producers/Processors BtoB and BtoC

Raw Material Suppliers

The provided documental evidence will be reviewed by a qualified third party auditor of an accredited Certification Body. A Certificate will be issued by the Certification Body in case of no Non Conformities (NC) or once all Corrective Actions (CA) following NC will be accepted by the Certification Body.

1. Processing requirement

- 1.1.1 The Organization has **ISO14001, EMAS** or equivalent
- 1.1.2 In alternative the Organization can provide evidence of implemented and yearly verified Sustainability or **Environmental Management System** including measures to reduce use of raw materials, energy, waste, water, emissions.
- 1.2 The Organization uses **renewable sources of energy** to run its operations
- 1.3.1 The Organization has SA8000, Sedex or equivalent **Social Accountability** certification.

- 1.3.2 In alternative the Organization can provide evidence of implementation and yearly assessment of Social Accountability Management System.
- 1.3.3 The Organization requires all its raw material suppliers to provide evidence of Social Accountability certification or equivalent.
- 1.4 The Organization only uses **Natural, No or Low VOC** paints.
- 1.5 The Organization **does not use toxic** materials or substances.

2. Raw Materials requirements

Depending on the raw material used, the Organization must provide evidence of compliance to the following alternative requirements, for at least 95% of its products' weight.

2.1 Glass

- 2.1.1 100% recycled or reused
- 2.1.2 In alternative, from an ISO14001 or equivalent certified suppliers whose raw materials for glass production must be sourced from suppliers certified Friend of the Earth, IRMA or equivalent Sustainable Mining.

2.2 Metals and other materials from the mining industry

- 2.2.1 100% recycled or reused
- 2.2.2 In alternative, from an ISO14001 or equivalent certified suppliers whose raw materials for glass production must be sourced from suppliers certified Friend of the Earth, IRMA or equivalent Sustainable Mining.

2.3 Paper

- 2.3.1 100% recycled or reused
- 2.3.2 In alternative, FSC or PEFC or equivalent certified
- 2.3.3 In alternative, compliant with Friend of the Earth Sustainable Forestry certification

2.4 Plastic

- 2.4.1 100% recycled or reused and all plastic input in the market must be offset by means of Friend of the Sea Biodiversity Offsets.
- 2.4.2 In alternative Bioplastic / PLA

2.5 Textiles and leather

- 2.5.1 100% recycled or reused
- 2.5.2 In alternative Friend of the Earth, GOTS, Organic, Oekotex or equivalent certified fabrics or finished product.

2.6 Wood/Paper

- 2.6.1 100% recycled or reused
- 2.6.2 In alternative, FSC or PEFC or equivalent certified

- 2.6.3 In alternative, compliant with Friend of the Earth Sustainable Forestry certification

2.7 Other / New materials

- 2.7.1 In case of materials used not included in the above list, the Organization must inform the Scheme Owner (World Sustainability Organization) for an ad hoc audit.

3. Product requirements

- 3.1 At least 95% in weight of the materials used for the product are compliant with Friend of the Earth raw materials requirements.
- 3.2 The Organization helps customers consolidate orders to avoid multiple shipments of small items
- 3.3 The Organization ensures that customers are getting their products from the closest location of its distribution center
- 3.4 Electric or biofuel vehicles are used for distribution [Recommendation]
- 3.5 The Organization's volume of packaging materials has been reduced and it is recyclable
- 3.6 The Product has no -or low- VOC levels
- 3.7 In case the Product is comprised of electronic apparatus, this will have to be rated as best efficient Energy Performance.
- 3.8 Compatible with green and mild cleaning chemicals
- 3.9 The Organization can provide evidence that the product is built to lasts on average as long or more than the average similar family of furniture on the market.
- 3.10 The Organization can provide evidence of easy replacement and serviceability of key parts
- 3.11 The Products is 100% recyclable, including packaging
- 3.12 The Organization allows and encourages customers to return at no additional cost the product at the end of life for recycling, unless this is provided by the municipality

Audit Conclusions (to be filled out by the auditor)

Audited Organization:

Audited Products [list raw materials per each product]:

Auditor Name and Surname:

Signature:

Certification Body:

Audit Date:

Audit Location:

Non Conformities [provide nrs]

Additional Auditor Notes:

List of attached documental evidence: