Materials Library Entry Criteria

01 December 2025

MSR Design is a signatory to the AIA Materials Pledge and advocate for the Common Materials Framework (CMF). These commitments guide us to track material impacts across five key categories and align with an industry-wide approach to transparency and optimization. We support manufacturers that advance innovative solutions for a healthier, more equitable, lower-carbon materials future.

Human Health

Requesting ingredient disclosure and preferring products that foster life throughout their life cycles and seeking to eliminate the use of hazardous substances.

Climate Health

Requesting carbon footprint data and preferring products that reduce carbon emissions and sequester more carbon than emitted throughout their life cycles.

Ecosystem Health

Preferring products that regenerate natural air, water, and biological cycles through thoughtful supply chain management and restorative company practices.

Social Health and Equity

Preferring products from manufacturers that secure human rights in operations and supply chains in support of workers and communities where they operate.

Circular Economy

Reusing buildings and materials, and designing for future disassembly and reuse, materials efficiency, long life, and perpetual cycling.

1A. What We Require: Transparency

Products on our shelves require documentation of composition in one of the following formats:

Health Product Declaration (HPD)[1]
An affordable option for manufacturers

Declare Label[1]
Includes listing in popular designer-facing Declare Database

1b. What We Require: Life Cycle Data

Products on our shelves require documentation of life cycle impact:

Environmental Product Declaration (EPD)[1]
A third-party prepared and verified document disclosing life cycle impact

Life cycle assessment (LCA) data
If EPD is not available, provide a description of life cycle assessment efforts in progress

2a. What We Avoid: Harmful Ingredients

- Antimicrobials
- Stain repellants and other PFAS
- Bisphenols and phthalates
- Flame retardants
- VOC emissions and VOC content[2]
- Formaldehyde[2]
- PVC (vinyl)[2]

[2] Not possible to eliminate certain chemistries yet? Talk to us.

2B. What We Avoid: High Embodied Carbon

We consider the impact of a product's embodied carbon footprint in comparison to the reasonable expected life of the product; the contribution to reduced operating carbon of the project; and the potential for future reuse, among other factors.

2C. What We Avoid: Monstrous Hybrids

Products made of dissimilar materials and joined with adhesives are frequently non-recyclable composites. We consider the degree to which products are designed for dissassembly.

3. How We Prioritize Other Product Data

Compliance with chemical hazard lists
Prefer free of GreenScreen Benchmark 1

Certifications, ecolabels, and verified data
We look for high quality ecolabels to help us understand reduced impacts in key areas affected by the manufacturing of this product. Prefer third-party certifications and those that address specific product category hot spots. Independent third-party verified labels and data help us reduce greenwashing[1].

Circularity programs
We give preference to products with strong take-back and realistic recycling programs

Socially responsible manufacturing
Disclosure of human rights practices in the building product supply chain is limited. We are gathering data to improve specification of manufacturing that supports workers.

[1] Manufacturers may seek third-party verification for HPDs and Declare labels. EPDs are third-party verified per requirements of the standard.

Questions? We value our relationship with you. What are the most sustainable, healthy, low embodied carbon materials you offer? Let's start a conversation.