



**ARTEMIS**  
ENVIRONMENTAL

3709 Butler Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15201  
ph 412.353.0197 • fax 412.253.7374  
www.ArtemisEnvironmental.com



### LEED Certifies Buildings, not Products

A common mistake made by product manufacturers and others is to say that their product is “LEED certified.” There is no such thing as a LEED-certified product because LEED only certifies buildings. It is more accurate to say that a product is LEED compliant, meets LEED credit requirements, or contributes towards earning one or more LEED points.

### Earning LEED Points

LEED is based on a system of credits and points. You have to earn a certain number of points to achieve LEED certification for a building. More points can mean a higher “ranking” in the LEED System (from lowest to highest, the levels are Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum). Some LEED points are earned by using LEED-compliant products such as those that contain recycled content, no added formaldehyde, and FSC certified wood. Using any single LEED-compliant product usually will not be enough to earn a point, but it will contribute. A project may have to use many, many products of a given type in order to earn a point.

### Wood and Bamboo Flooring Credits

Credit	Applicable Materials
Materials and Resources 4.1 and 4.2 - Recycled Content	Reclaimed wood or recycled-content underlayments
Materials and Resources 5.1 and 5.2 - Regional Materials	Flooring or accessories extracted, processed and manufactured within 500 miles of project
Materials and Resources 6 - Rapidly Renewable Materials	Bamboo flooring (Engineered Bamboo does not count due to its wood content)
Materials and Resources 7 - Certified Wood	FSC-certified wood flooring
Indoor Environmental Quality 4.1 - Low-emitting Materials - Adhesives and Sealants	Installation adhesives with no more than 100g/L VOC content
Indoor Environmental Quality 4.2 - Low-emitting Materials - Adhesives and Sealants	Floor finishes with no more than 100g/L VOC content
Indoor Environmental Quality 4.4 - Low-emitting Materials - Composite Wood and Agrifiber Products	Engineered wood and bamboo flooring that contains no added urea-formaldehyde resins

### FSC and LEED

Only FSC-certified wood products comply with the requirements of the LEED Certified Wood credit (Materials and Resources 7). Wood products certified under competing forest certification systems such as SFI, CSA and PEFC are not currently recognized by LEED.

### LEED for Homes

The above table of credits is for LEED rating systems that apply to commercial construction. LEED for Homes, the rating system for residential construction, has a different system of points and requirements. For instance, LEED for Homes requires that all tropical wood used in a project must be FSC certified. As in LEED for commercial construction, forest certification systems other than FSC are not currently recognized by LEED for Homes.

LEED CREDITS