



**ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSURANCE**

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION

LN: BSA-2009

Bridgestone Australia Ltd

Standard:
GECA 25-2005 – Floor Coverings

Conformance Declaration Date:
29th January 2009



**Environmental
Assurance**

*“ensuring accurate environmental
testing and verification of
conformance”*

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*“setting Australia’s product environmental
standards”*

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EPD

accurate
simplified
environmental
performance
information on
Environmental Choice
Australia Mark
Certified Products



environmental solutions for sustainable markets in Australia

The Environmental Choice Australia Mark ecolabelling program is the national product life cycle environmental declaration based on internationally recognized standard setting and assessment methodology.

The national program is managed by two distinct organisations:

Good Environmental Choice Australia Ltd. is the standard setting and sustainable consumption market promotions body which develops and declares the ecolabelling standards defining product environmental preference in conformance to ISO 14 024 – International Standard for Third Party Environmental Labelling and Declaration (www.geca.org.au). GECA is an independent non-profit environmental research and ecolabeling standard setting organisation recognised as the Australian member of an international network of ecolabelling schemes under the Global Ecolabelling Network.

Environmental Assurance (also trading as Good Environmental Choice Services Pty Ltd) is the auditing and certification body with responsibility for product assessment, certification and licensing of products against the declared standards (www.eassurance.com.au). GECS is the assessment body for this Program with expertise specific to quality product environmental performance auditing following the principles of ISO 14 010 and ISO 14 024 in it's audit and certification services.

Following an independent audit against the recognition requirements of the Australian Program this declaration outlines key environmental performance attributes of products that have been awarded the "Environmental Choice Australia" label for the Australian market. The Ecolabel is awarded to those products that meet or exceed voluntary standards of environmental performance.

The objectives of the program are to:

- a) Provide incentives for suppliers to reduce the environmental impacts of products sold in Australia;
- b) Provide a clear, credible and independent guide to consumers wishing to take account of environmental factors in their purchasing decisions;
- c) Encourage consumers to purchase products which have lower environmental impacts;
- d) Recognize genuine moves by companies to reduce the adverse environmental impacts of their products;
- e) Aim ultimately to improve the quality of the environment and to encourage the sustainable management of resources.

DISCLAIMER:

This report has been prepared by Good Environmental Choice Services Pty Ltd (Environmental Assurance) in respect of a Client's assessment results for product conformity to the requirements of the respective Good Environmental Choice Australia Ltd (GECA) standard. The purpose of this public report is to present summary evidence and overview of the Client's product conformity with the standards or other criteria specified. The content of this report applies only to matters which were evident to Environmental Assurance at the time of the audit within the audit scope. Environmental Assurance does not warrant or otherwise comment upon the suitability of the contents of the report or the certificate for any particular purpose or use. Environmental Assurance accepts no liability whatsoever for consequences to, or actions taken by, third parties as a result of or in reliance upon information contained in this report.



CERTIFICATION FINDINGS

This range of flooring products manufactured by Bridgestone Australia Ltd has been assessed against the GECA 25-2005 standard – Floor Coverings. These products have successfully gained official registration as certified ‘Good Environmental Choice’ products under the Australian Ecolabel program.

1. MANUFACTURER DESCRIPTION

Bridgestone Australia

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Bridgestone's Consumer Products Division manufactures and distributes the Airstep range of carpet underlays. The Dandenong plant, which employs 65 people and runs 6 days a week, has been manufacturing a range of natural rubber underlays since 1975. Bridgestone's Dandenong plant maintains an accredited Environmental Management System (EMS) and is independently assessed to be ISO 14001 compliant.

Companies leading
Australia's environmental
response at work.

2: REGISTERED PRODUCTS

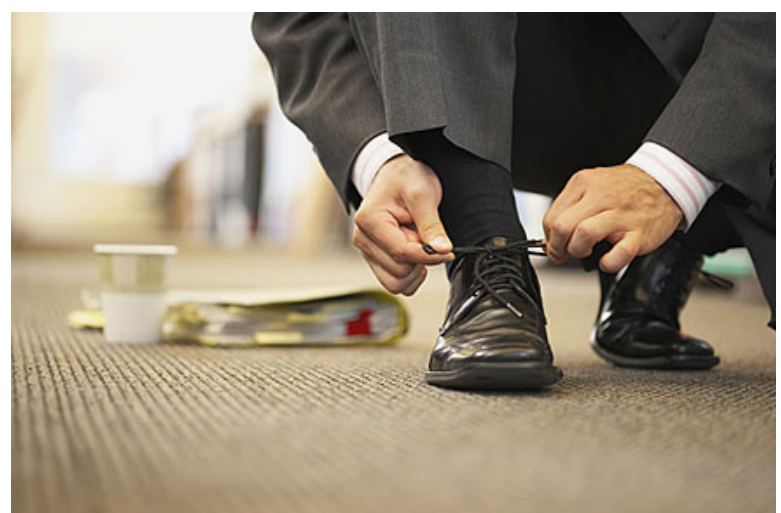
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The following Bridgestone Australia Ltd products have been awarded the Environmental Choice Australia Declaration:



PRODUCT NAME	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION
Airstep Premium Gold	Premium carpet underlay.
Airstep Prime	Heavy duty carpet underlay.
Sensi Slab	Commercial carpet underlay.
Supporta Pad	Commercial carpet underlay.
Resist	Commercial carpet underlay.

Airstep Carpet Underlay



Products with a distinctive
environmental edge.



3. KEY ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE FINDINGS

The key environmental performance criteria against which the Bridgestone Australia Ltd products were assessed, and the findings by Environmental Assurance, are provided below.

Criterion	Core Environmental Performance Characteristics
Fitness for Purpose	These Bridgestone Australia Ltd products have been tested for deflection and WOC to the Australian standard AS4288. These products conform to the relevant standard and are warranted for the life of the carpet.
Controversial Sources	The wood derived component of these products is less than 10% by weight of the final product and therefore this criterion is not applicable.
Hazardous Substances	GECS has confirmed that no hazardous or prohibited substances are used or added to these nominated during their manufacturing.
Waste Minimisation and Management	The waste products produced from the manufacturing of these nominated Bridgestone Australia Ltd products is either used for electricity generation or sold to a third party recycler.
Product Information	These products are delivered with installation instructions and warranty information. Technical specifications and test results are available for public viewing on the airstep website.
Environmental Regulations	Bridgestone Australia Ltd adheres to the relevant environmental legislation and has not been prosecuted for violations to Environmental regulations in the past 24 months.
Labour, Anti-Discrimination and Safety Regulations	Bridgestone Australia Ltd adheres to the relevant social requirements and workplace regulations. The company has not been prosecuted for violations to labour, anti-discrimination or safety regulations in the past 24 months.

Quantifying key criteria for
assurance to the market.

FURTHER INFORMATION

A detailed verification report is supplied to verified manufacturers regarding the findings of environmental characteristics of their products and evidence of compliance. The verification report can be made available at the sole discretion of the manufacturer.

This EPD has been made available for green purchasing officers, specifiers, and every day Australians seeking to purchase products and services on the basis of functional and overall environmental and human health performance.



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ASSURANCE**

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FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE WEB

The Australian Ecolabel Program is the national environmental product life cycle labelling program for Australia. Further details of the Australian Ecolabel Program are available from www.eassurance.com.au and www.geca.org.au.