



Licence No.: WCF - 2008

Standard: GECA 28-2006 – Furniture and Fittings

Initial Verification Conformance

Date: 12th June 2008

Workspace
Commercial Furniture
Pty Ltd

Good Environmental Choice –
Australia

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION



Certified Products

Track System
Tempo Chair Range

Workspace Commercial Furniture Pty Ltd have been assessed against the GECA 28-2006 – Furniture and Fittings and awarded with the Australian Good Environmental Choice Eco-Label.

1. Description of Company and Product

Company: Workspace Commercial Furniture Pty Ltd

Address: 54 Jose St. Melrose Park
Adelaide, SA 5039

Phone: (08) 8276 9288

Fax: (08) 837 42974

Web: <http://www.workspace.com.au>

E-mail: enquiries@workspace.com.au

Workspace Commercial Furniture Pty Ltd provide the Track System and Tempo Range products to the Australian market. These products are high quality and reduce environmental impact from the production of raw material to the production of the finished products.

Workspace Commercial Furniture was originally established in Adelaide and has a legacy that goes back close to 100 years within the Australian furniture industry.

The production facility of Workspace is located in Adelaide. The company has sales offices in Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Adelaide. The company employs around 150 employees in total.

2. Description of the Verification.

The Good Environmental Choice Label is the national product life cycle independent environmental declaration in Australia (www.geca.org.au). The organisation is an independent non-profit environmental research and certification organisation recognised as the Australian member of an international network of ecolabelling schemes under the Global Ecolabelling Network. Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA) Ltd. manages the Good Environmental Choice – Mark of Conformity in conformance to ISO 14 024 – International Standard for Third Party Environmental Labelling and Declaration.

Following an independent audit against the recognition requirements of the Australian Ecolabel Program Workspace Commercial Furniture Pty Ltd range of products has been awarded the "Good Environmental Choice" label for the Australian market. The Ecolabel is awarded to those products that meet or exceed voluntary standards of environmental performance. The verification procedure is managed via a Documented Quality Management System and Certification Program Manual which have made significant use of the ISO 14 000 series.

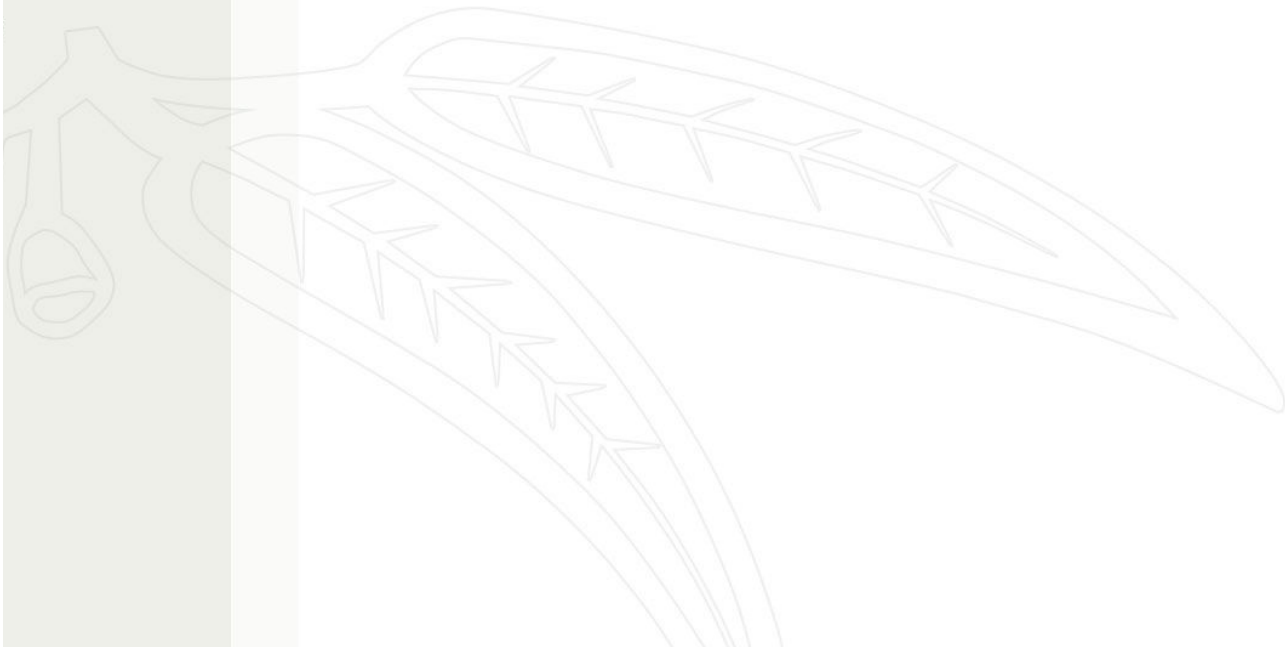
The objectives of the program are to:

- 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) Recognise 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.

3. The Products

The following Workspace Commercial Furniture Pty Ltd products have been awarded the Good Environmental Choice Declaration:

PRODUCT	PRODUCT INFORMATION
Track System	Track is the result of a rigorous development process, achieving its primary objective of structural strength and rigidity with aesthetics and style. Track is an environmentally responsible choice which gives any workstation environment a high level of style and functionality.
Tempo Chair Range	The Tempo chair offers multiple points of adjustment, so that practically everyone who tries it quickly finds it totally comfortable for their individual needs. All this, in an environmentally preferred chair with European aesthetics and style, and the Workspace unconditional ten year warranty.





Tempo Chair

Track System



4. Environmental Performance Findings by GECS

The key environmental performance criterion against which the Workspace Commercial Furniture Pty Ltd products were assessed, and the findings by GECS, is provided below. Good

Environmental Choice Services Pty Ltd (GECS) are the certification body for the Environmental Choice Australia Mark.

Environmental Requirements	Core Environmental Performance Characteristics
3.1 Fitness for Purpose	<p>Workspace Commercial Furniture manufactures a range of furniture products. The company has applied for the GECA certification of their custom office furniture products. GECA has reviewed evidence of internal Fitness for Purpose testing during production. Quality assurance at the manufacturing site is documented, with visual checks being undertaken at various stages throughout the manufacturing process. This has been confirmed during an assessment of Workspace Commercial Furniture's manufacturing site in Adelaide by a registered GECS auditor. GECS is confident that the products under assessment are of a high quality and fit for their intended purpose. The nominated product ranges carry a 10 year warranty.</p> <p>GECS is confident that the products under assessment are of a high quality and fit for their intended purpose.</p>
3.2 Material Requirements	<p>This criterion refers to 'Controversial Sources' of Timber and Other Natural Materials section of the GECA 28-2006 Furniture and Fittings Standard. The criterion does not apply to the Tempo Chair range products of Workspace Commercial Furniture and relates only to the Track System range of the company's products which use panel products for tabletops and partitions as required.</p> <p>For this product range, Workspace Commercial Furniture uses only Laminex Melamine E1 which is appropriately edged and Standard laminex Particleboard (EO) and MDF (E1) from Laminex.</p> <p>Both these timber sources are GECA Certified as part of an independent assessment of Laminex products.</p> <p>An audit of the Workspace Commercial Furniture's manufacturing site by GECS has confirmed the capacity of the company to use these timber supplies. The company has confirmed that future use of panel board will be limited to these boards.</p> <p>GECS is confident that the Track System range nominated product lines comply to this criterion.</p>
3.2.1.3 Treatment	<p>Workspace Commercial Furniture does not use treated timbers for its Tempo Chair range of products. The Track system product is manufactured with Laminex and Laminex Formica</p>

	<p>GECA certified timber boards. These panel boards are certified as part of a separate assessment, and hence are compliant with all the requirements of the GECA Furniture and Fittings Standard.</p> <p>GECS is confident that the Track System range nominated product lines comply with this criterion.</p>
<p>3.2.1.5 Air Emissions</p>	<p>Workspace Commercial Furniture's custom product range is manufactured with Laminex and Laminex Formica GECA certified timber boards. These products are certified as part of a separate assessment, and hence are compliant with all the requirements of the GECA Furniture and Fittings Standard.</p> <p>The Workspace Commercial Furniture products range, meets the requirements of this criterion.</p>
<p>3.2.2 Plastics</p> <p>3.2.2.1 Resin Identification Codes</p>	<p>The sole plastic component used in the Track System is the ABS edge strip, which is exempt from the requirements of this criterion. This has been confirmed by Workspace Commercial Furniture and is verified by GECS during site assessment. An MSDS for this ABS edge strip has been received by GECS, and has been assessed under the requirements of 3.3 Hazardous Substances.</p> <p>The Tempo Chair is composed of a number of plastic parts, in particular the base and back plastic components. All plastics over 100gr in weight have been checked for compliance to this criterion and exhibit the appropriate plastic resin code. This has been confirmed at site assessment.</p> <p>The Workspace Commercial Furniture Track System range of products does not use Acrylic panels. The Track System range of products use only metal or wood (EO) panels.</p> <p>The Workspace Commercial Furniture range of products subject of this report, do meet the requirements of this criterion</p>
<p>3.2.2.3 Polyurethane padding requirements</p>	<p>The Tempo Chair contains Endurofoam sourced from Dunlop. This foam was discovered to be EN38 200 grade or EN 36-80 Grade. These product lines have previously been assessed for compliance to the requirements of the GECA label and currently hold licence GECA DUN-2008. The padding used is therefore compliant.</p>
<p>3.2.3 Fabrics</p>	<p>The products under assessment has been assessed as white furniture and do not contain any fabric. This has been confirmed during site assessment via a review of all the various components during manufacturing, as well as through an inspection of the finished products that have been certified.</p>

	<p>If the nominated product range is seeking to gain full GreenStar points by the Green Building Council of Australia then a fully certified and upholstered chair needs to be delivered to the client under this licence. The capacity of Workspace Commercial Furniture to source GECA or overseas ecolabel certified textiles has been established. The limitation is listed on the GECA licence and for such projects suitable evidence of GECA certified textile used will need to be provided in addition to the GECA licence for GreenStar submissions.</p> <p>The Workspace Commercial Furniture range of products subject of this report, do meet the requirements of this criterion</p>
<p>3.2.5 Adhesives</p>	<p>Material Safety Data Sheets have been received for all adhesives used and have been reviewed by GECS.</p> <p><u>Track System:</u></p> <p>The ABS Edgeband is adhered using a specialty water-based hot-melt adhesive for edgebanding. Small amounts of PVA glue are used elsewhere in the products. This PVA Glue 3100 is water-based polyvinyl acetate. Exemption is provided in this standard for edgeband adhesives which are typically solvent or hot melt based systems in Australia.</p> <p><u>Task Chair:</u></p> <p>Workspace Commercial Furniture uses water-based adhesive that is non-hazardous ingredient to bind the textile and the padding to the chair base. The adhesive is previously known to GECS and is widely used in the industry and is compliant to the requirements of this criterion.</p>
<p>3.3 Hazardous Materials</p>	<p>In order to establish compliance to this criterion, GECS has reviewed MSDS for all ingredients used in the manufacturing of the products under assessment, and has conducted a physical inspection during the site assessment for all of the ingredients in the products.</p> <p>The Track system is powder-coated with a Dulux product. This coating meets the requirements of this criterion. Biological cleaning of the products is carried out prior to powder coating, the waste-water from which is re-cycled and reused. The second stage of cleaning is by washing in water. The waste-water is appropriately disposed of. A statement from the supplier to support this was obtained by Workspace Commercial Furniture and reviewed by GECS.</p> <p>In addition, an MSDS for the ABS edestrip, all adhesives and any cleaning agents used during manufacturing have been reviewed by GECS and do meet the requirements of this criterion. Finally,</p>

	<p>GECS has received a signed declaration from the Product Development manager of Workspace Commercial Furniture Pty Ltd confirming compliance with 3.3 Hazardous Substances criterion of the GECA Furniture and Fittings Standard. Any products that use chrome finishes are not included as part of the GECA certification.</p> <p>The Workspace Commercial Furniture range of products subject of this report, do meet the requirements of this criterion</p>
3.3.2 Prohibited Substances	<p>None of the certified products contain any of the prohibited substances listed under this criterion; a statement confirming this has been received from Workspace Commercial Furniture and a site inspection has confirmed the validity of this statement.</p> <p>Following a review of all MSDS for all chemical ingredients and materials, GECS is confident that none of the prohibited substances listed under this criterion is used in the products under assessment.</p>
3.4.1 Separability	<p>Workspace Commercial Furniture products covered under this assessment are compliant with this criterion. They products are mechanically fixed using cam locks, nuts and bolts and can be easily disassembled.. This has been verified during Site Assessment and inspection of the finished products. All products are easily broken down into component materials as required by this criterion.</p>
3.4.2 Product Custodianship	<p>Workspace Commercial Furniture has a product custodianship policy in place. Recycling areas and a Waste Management Instruction were sighted to support the capacity Workspace Commercial Furniture to recycle or re-use the returned materials. The waste company has also provided a statement that the returned materials are recycled.</p> <p>The Workspace Commercial Furniture range of products subject of this report, do meet the requirements of this criterion.</p>
3.4.3 Coatings/Treatments	<p>Apart from the powder-coating and painting applied to some products, which are exempt from this criterion, there is not any coating or treatment applied to the Workspace Commercial Furniture products that will prevent post consumer recycling.</p> <p>The Workspace Commercial Furniture range of products subject of this report, do meet the requirements of this criterion.</p>
3.4.4 Replacement Parts	<p>Workspace Commercial Furniture provide a 10 year warranty covering replacement parts, this satisfies the requirements of this criterion.</p>

3.4.7 Packaging Requirements	<p>Workspace Commercial Furniture use blankets to cover the products upon transportation, which are re-used. The polyethylene bag that encloses the individual chairs was determined not to be chlorinated or halogenated plastics.</p>
3.4.8 Product Information	<p>Workspace Commercial Furniture have provided GECS with a copy of the swing tag and the sticker detailing maintenance instructions attached to the furniture. Information on recycling has been included with the products. This information is provided to the consumer at point of sale. GECS is confident sufficient product information is supplied to consumers along with the products under assessment.</p>
4.0 Compliance to Environmental Regulations	<p>Workspace Commercial Furniture have informed GECS that no permits are required for their operations. The factory has a current license to store flammable materials. Workspace Commercial Furniture has not been prosecuted and found guilty in an environmental court of law and a statement to this affect has been provided. In addition a compliance record indicates that all applicable legal and other requirements are compliant. The environmental audit did not find any issues related to the products under consideration. Finally, GECS conducted an audit of the Workspace Commercial Furniture manufacturing site in order to establish compliance with the requirements of this criterion.</p>
5.0 Compliance to Labour, Anti-Discrimination and Safety Regulations	<p>Workspace Commercial Furniture employ approximately 150 staff, all are paid award wages or above, and are appropriately insured. There have been no incidents in relation to the above criterion.</p> <p>GECS has been provided with Workers Compensation, a pay slip, a sample employment letter, the relevant industrial award, the Occupational Health and Safety and Welfare Policy, selected extracts from the Employees hand book and Occupational Health and Safety Minutes. These provide evidence that payment in accordance to the award, a safety management system is in place and evidence that a system to ensure compliance to racial and sex discrimination requirements is in place as well as a statement to support this. Finally, GECS conducted an audit of the Workspace Commercial Furniture manufacturing site in order to establish compliance with the requirements of this criterion.</p>

6. Additional Information

A detailed Verification report is supplied to verified manufacturers regarding the environmental characteristics of their products and evidence of compliance. The verification report can be made available at the sole discretion of the manufacturer. This Environmental Product Declaration is a summary overview of the findings of this audit. Any technical inquiries related to this certification can be addressed to Good Environmental Choice Services Pty Ltd at the below contact details.

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.geca.org.au. Good Environmental Choice Australia recommends these products to 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.

Good Environmental Choice – Services Pty Ltd

P.O. Box 3922
Weston ACT 2611
Phone: 02 6287 3100
Fax: 02 6287 3800
Web Site: www.envassurance.com
E-mail: management@envassurance.com

Good Environmental Choice – Australia Ltd

P.O. Box 4140, Weston Creek (Canberra) ACT, 2606
Phone: (02) 6287 3100
Fax: (02) 6287 3800
Web Site: www.geca.org.au
E-Mail: info@geca.org.au

