

CUSTOM[®], LEED and GREENGUARD Certification

CUSTOM's cement-based underlayments, grouts and dry-set mortars, do not contain VOCs. Because of this, GREENGUARD Certification offers no substantive new information about the properties of cementitious mortars, ceramic tile and stone as a category.

GREENGUARD Certification is a part of UL Environment, a business unit of Underwriters Laboratories. The firm markets testing of building materials and consumer goods to determine levels of chemical emissions that will not adversely affect indoor air quality. UL Environment has established acceptable Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) emission levels for many construction products.

CUSTOM's cement-based underlayments, grouts and dry-set mortars contain zero VOCs per the criteria established by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) in California. If a product does not contain VOCs, it cannot emit VOCs once it has been used to install ceramic, glass or natural stone tile. The use of CUSTOM's cement-based tile installation products will not contribute VOCs or impact indoor air quality.

LEED has also identified concrete, stone and ceramic as inherently non-emitting sources:

*Products that are inherently non-emitting sources of VOCs, specifically **stone and ceramic**, powder-coated, plated or anodized metals, glass without integral organic-based surface coatings, binders, or sealants, **concrete** without sealers or coatings, and clay brick are considered fully compliant without any VOC emissions testing.*

LEED recognizes that some materials are primarily inorganic and do not contain measurable amounts of VOCs. **Like concrete, CUSTOM's cement-based underlayments, grouts and dry-set mortars are composed of Portland cement and inorganic aggregates and do not contain VOCs.** When used to install ceramic, glass or natural stone tile, these installation products will not contribute to poor indoor air quality.

CUSTOM's liquid, pre-mixed and epoxy-based products contain low levels of VOCs and still meet the stringent requirements of SCAQMD. The use of these liquid, pre-mixed and epoxy-based materials for tile installation will have minor impact on indoor air quality.

Build Green[®] Program

Over 100 Build Green products from CUSTOM contribute to LEED Certification in at least one of three categories. These include low VOCs, recycled materials and/or regional manufacturing.

Emerald System[™]

CUSTOM's Emerald System products go beyond Build Green and GREENGUARD Certification standards. Emerald System products combine no VOCs with recycled content for an industry-leading system of installation solutions for surface preparation, tile setting and grout. Through our purchase of Carbon Credits, we offset the greenhouse gases produced during the manufacturing of Portland cement in these products.

For more information concerning CUSTOM's commitment to a healthy and sustainable environment, visit www.custombuildingproducts.com. Look for the complete list of Build Green and Emerald Systems products that contribute to LEED Certification.

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