VinylPlus® Product Label

DRAFT Scheme Description

Issue 2.6 (13 July 2026)

Standard for assessing product compliance in relation to PVC sustainability criteria

Contents

1. PART 1 : Certification Protocol

1.1. Purpose and content

The VinylPlus® Product Label is a product certification scheme describing the organisational management, supply chain management and sustainability aspects to be addressed by PVC products to live up to the commitments of the VinylPlus® voluntary sustainability programme and the responsible sourcing principles defined in BES 6001, the Framework Standard for Responsible Sourcing owned by BRE. Owned by VinylPlus®, the original scheme has been developed in collaboration with the Natural Step and BRE.

Non-exhaustive example of products that can be certified include: Pipes and fittings for water distribution, sewage and irrigation networks, Guttering and drain pipes, Sanitary tubes and fittings, Grey water recycling kits, Cable ducts, Window and door profiles, Roll-up shutters and boxes, Decking products, Fencing products, Cladding products, Fascias and soffits, Skirting boards, Resilient floor coverings: homogeneous, heterogeneous, acoustic vinyl, safety vinyl, ESD vinyl, luxury vinyl tiles, Wall coverings, Cable jackets, Wire insulation, Architectural coated fabrics: sport stadium, membranes for tensile architecture, Architectural coated fabrics: sport stadium, membranes for tensile architecture, Tent Coated fabrics: tent roofs, warehouse, hangars, pavillons, air inflated halls, circus tents, Environmental textiles: Double membrane gas holders, Biogas bags, Membranes for flexible water tank systems, Agriculture protection cloths, Swimming pool covers, Awning fabrics, Roll up doors fabrics, Soft PVC films for window profiles, Soft films for façades, Swimming pool liners, Decoration films for building products, Waterproofing films/membranes for civil engineering applications: basins, concrete reservoirs, dams, canals, tunnels, foundations, floating covers, Roofing membranes, PVC coatings for acid and corrosion protection and other PVC products.

The requirements of the scheme consist of actions to be taken to demonstrate adoption of the pillars of VinylPlus®, the voluntary sustainability programme of the European vinyl supply chain, and of responsible sourcing as defined in BRE's owned BES 6001.

The requirements and associated actions have been structured into six components:

1. VinylPlus® Partnership
2. Organisational Management Requirements
3. Supply Chain Management Requirements
4. VinylPlus® Pathway 1 – Scaling up PVC Value Chain Circularity
5. VinylPlus® Pathway 2 – Advancing towards Carbon Neutrality and Minimising our Environmental Footprint
6. VinylPlus® Pathway 3 – Building Global Coalitions and Partnering for the SDGs

1.2. Certification process overview

Requirements can be demonstrated to be met either by providing manufacturing location-related evidences or product-related evidences.

This certification scheme can be applied to a single product, a product system (parent product and a set of child products that represent slight different variations (color, size..) of this parent product) or a product range (group of products having at least one attribute in common or complement each other in some way). Certification of a whole product system or product range only applies when all of the requirements of the scheme are equally met by all the products of a product system or a product range. It may be that all products in a product system or in a product range will only require a single evaluation against a common management system and aspects related to the manufacturing location.

The term 'constituent materials' in the scheme indicates all materials used within the formulation of the final product. It does not include packaging materials, lubricants or consumable office products associated with manufacture (e.g. paper, print materials etc.).

This product certification scheme has been developed following the guidelines as set forth in EN ISO/IEC 17067:2013. The applicability of the scheme is for a type 6 product certification (VI c + d), as defined in Table 1 of the ISO standard.

As this scheme matures, VinylPlus® will strive to develop an independently audited **Chain of Custody** scheme to the source of the constituent material(s). Auditing shall be done by an accredited certification body. The list of accredited bodies for the scheme is updated and communicated to the applicants by VinylPlus®. It is up to the applicant to select the certification body that will do the assessment.

1.3. Scoring Methodology

An organisation that meets the requirements of the **Chain of Custody** scheme receives by Certification Body a Certificate of conformity and a corresponding Performance Rating for each of the requirements.

The organisation must satisfy all compulsory requirements (C) and may achieve additional levels of compliance within the non-compulsory requirements of the scheme to achieve a higher performance rating (see Performance Scoring Table in Part 2).

Supplementary points are available for some criteria and can be awarded in addition to compulsory points regardless of any/all 'higher performance rating' achieved. For example, in 4.3 Waste prevention and waste management, a supplementary point can be awarded in addition to the compulsory level a) score. Or, a supplementary point can be awarded in addition to the score from b) or the score from c) and d).. This approach makes the maximum points available3.

The organisation should obtain a total of minimum 41% of maximum number of points (100 points)

for certification of the product(s) or product system(s).

At the end of the audit, the auditor writes the report in which he provides a clear description of the evaluation results. Based on these considerations, the company may be required to define the appropriate corrective actions to resolve the non-conformities (Missing evidence is reported as non-conformities). The assessed company must implement corrective actions before the Certificate can be issued, and has up to one year to eliminate non-conformities, including missing evidence of course. The auditor must verify the evidence submitted before being able to give a positive recommendation for certification. This further verification is an integral part of the evaluation activity.

1.4. Brand Use Rules

The VinylPlus® Product Branding Guidelines define how to use the logo from the branding perspective, see Annex 7. Furthermore, the system includes some dos and don't as defined below.

Dos

- Include the Product Label in your marketing and promotional literature only strictly for the product.
- Contact VinylPlus® if you wish to include the Vinyl Verified logo in any press release or press orientated material. Permission to use the logo in this way will not be unreasonably withheld.
- Ensure that the rules contained in this guidance is adhered to.
- Ensure that the entire Vinyl Verified logo is clearly visible against the background on which it is being reproduced. Use the black and white version if helpful.
- Contact VinylPlus® if you are unsure of any aspect of using the label imagery.

Don'ts

- Make the Vinyl Verified logo too small to identify; it should be legible to the naked eye.
- Partially cover the image with other brands or copy.
- Overprint the image with text.
- Stretch or squash the marks to fit a given size.
- Use the marks in circumstances that would bring the VinylPlus® Product Label certification into disrepute.
- Use the marks in connection with products or services that are not associated with the VinylPlus® Product Label certification.
- Attempt in any way to redraw or re-create the artwork for the marks.
- Pass on copies of the artwork of the marks to any other parties other than your own design companies.

1.5. Auditing and Verification processes

1.5.1. Application

1. Before starting certification process, the applicant shall read the current versions of the Scheme Description document.
2. The applicant checks if all compulsory requirements are met using the Self Assessment document available on the website (Annex 1).
3. The applicant drafts an online application on the website, including its choice for the accredited Certification Assessment Body (CAB).VinylPlus® passes an application to the Label to the CAB selected by the applicant

1.5.2. Audit Preparation

Application review and Audit Offer by the CAB

The CAB collects the application for certification and reviews. The trained auditor of the CAB explains to the applicant how the certification process is organised

If the company is an European member, a partner of VinylPlus® or has paid the yearly Scheme Management Fee

If the product(s) is (are) in the PVC products list and informs the Scheme Owner (SO) that the certification process has started

The CAB submits a Proposal Letter for auditing services to the applicant, following the Offer Preparation and Audit Fee Guidelines. The CAB sends to the applicant the offer for the auditing costs based on the number of products and locations to be audited. The proposal covers the certification period of 3 years and include initial onsite audit and the 2 annual surveillance audits.

Proposes a timeline and audit dates to the Applicant

Asks the Applicant to formally accept the Terms and Conditions available on the website.

With the Offer, submits a Non Disclosure Agreement protecting the Applicant's confidential information

Upon acceptance of the offer by the applicant, a 100% upfront payment is invoiced to the applicant. Travel costs is charged to the applicant after the audit, provided all the necessary travel receipts are submitted. The CAB needs to safeguard that the applicant is aware that together with this upfront payment, he officially accepts to respect the VinylPlus® Product Label’s terms and conditions. The CAB shall make every reasonable effort to ensure that the audit takes place not more than 6 weeks after the upfront payment receipt date.

Collects the signed-off Terms and Conditions, Offer and Non Disclosure Agreement between the CAB and the applicant

Nominates an Auditor meeting the minimum required knowledge and skills and having followed the Auditor Accreditation Course

1.5.3. Certification process

Audit plan and evidence Assessment Sheet by CAB Auditor

Prepares a plan for evaluation activity and carry out the audit not later than 6 weeks after collecting the signed off documents

Asks the Applicant to nominate 1 coordinator for preparing the audit

Submits the Evidence Assessment Sheet to the Applicant for preparing the onsite audit listing all the necessary evidences needed to show compliance with each of the criteria of the scheme. This Sheet facilitates the preparation and conducting of the onsite audit.

Addresses any question asked by the Applicant during the audit preparation

Pre-Audit conducting and reporting– by CAB Auditor

Collects all evidences as possible prior to audit, request any further documentation needed

Issues a pre-assessment report clearly identifying any missing evidence

Applicant gets maximum 1 year to provide the missing evidences after the signature of the Offer

Audit conducting by CAB Auditor

Reviews the pre-audit report with the Applicant onsite. Ask to have one representative of each needed function present at least part time.

Asks for having a tour of the production facilities

Collects evidences relating to a period between 6 months to 24 months

Checks that all local regulatory requirements are fulfilled

Missing Evidence Collection - CAB Auditor

Reports any needed evidence and documentation that could not collected onsite. Reports that any needed evidence and documentation that could not be collected onsite, to be provided

Audit Report by CAB Auditor

Finalises the audit report including all provided evidence no more than 3 weeks after the onsite audit, and ask the Applicant to sign off the final audit report for confirmation.

Uses the Evidence Assessment Sheet template for reporting the audit findings and calculates scores for each criteria

1.5.4. Decision process

Review by Certification Body

The audit report is submitted to independent technical reviewer

Certificate Decision by Certification Body

Based on audit results, confirmed by Technical reviewer, the CAB makes decision to grant or not the certificate of conformity.

If CAB decides to grant the certificate of conformity, CAB sends the result to the Applicant and notifies the decision and the audit report in English to VinylPlus (to its mandate). The Certification body issues the Certificate of conformity. The certification body submits the audit report and the Certificate of conformity to VinylPlus.

1.5.5. Certification Maintenance

Annual Surveillance Audits - by Certification Body/CAB auditor

Organises and conducts the annual desktop surveillance audit

Re-certification - by applicant

Drafts a re-certification request online

1.5.6. Integrity Program

Report review by VinylPlus

After the decision of the CAB to grant the certificate of conformity, BRE reviews, on behalf of Vinylplus, the audit report for quality check and compliance with BES 6001, checks all evidence, scores and weightings, and gives not binding comments to VinylPlus.

VinylPlus® informs CAB about any inconsistencies and gives not binding comments to CAB using CAB complaints procedure

If no agreement can be found with CAB, VinylPlus® notify it to the Accreditation Body

Label certification- Label Certificate- by VinylPlus®

Decision made by the CAB to grant the certificate of conformity, VinylPlus publishes the first page of the VinylPlus® Certificate of Approval valid for 3 years (maintaining the issue and expiry date of the CAB certificate) and updates the inventory of certified products on the website

2. PART 2: Criteria Scheme and Auditor Guidelines

2.0 Definitions

1. Accreditation

Third-party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks

[BS EN ISO/IEC 17011:2004]

2. Accreditation body

Authoritative body that performs accreditation

[BS EN ISO/IEC 17011:2004]

3. Benchmark

Reference value against which relative performance can be judged

4. By-product

Material that is not deliberately produced in a production process, but may or may not be a waste

5. Chain of custody

System or process used to maintain and document the chronological history and unbroken path that a product takes through a supply chain

6. Commodity

Good for which there is a market demand, and which is supplied without qualitative differentiation

NOTE Commodity classes relevant to the construction products sector include, but are not limited to, fossil resources; precious metals; industrial metals; minerals; natural rubber; biomass; and commodity chemicals.

NOTE Some materials are traded via commodity exchanges and may be physically and virtually bought and sold many times before they become an input to a physical process.

NOTE Some commodity materials may be supplied in bulk via common infrastructure shared by several supplier organisations.

7. Constituent material

Material component of a product

8. Due diligence

The performance of relevant and appropriate investigations and monitoring of an organisation's supply chains so that the actions of those supply chains do not compromise the organisation's commitments to responsible sourcing

9. Freely and publicly available

Can be obtained without payment and without the need to request permission from the owner

10. Impact

Positive or negative effect of one thing on another

11. Intensity

Amount per unit of output or function. A measure of efficiency

12. Maximum traceability boundary

Means going beyond Tier 1 suppliers. It can be accepted to trace 'constituent materials' traceable one step beyond Tier 1 suppliers (i.e. in the supply chains of constituent material suppliers). In cases where it is not possible to trace the suppliers beyond Tier 1, self-declaration by suppliers can be used as an evidence.

13. Metric

Parameter used for measurement

14. Objective

Stated aim, or desired outcome, of a policy or action

15. Organisation

Company, corporation, firm, enterprise, authority or institution, or part or combination thereof, whether incorporated or not, public or private, that has its own functions and administration

[BS EN ISO 14001:2004]

16. Physical recycling

Physical recycling refers to a number of different processes for recycling plastics that include mechanical recycling but also other physical treatments such as selective dissolution, extraction, precipitation and crystallisation to purify the plastic without (intentionally) modifying its polymer chains chemically.

Note: Some stakeholders use the term physical recycling for dissolution processes only.

17. Policy

Formal expression of an organisation's intent and direction with regards to an issue, or set of issues

18. Priority species / habitat

Species or habitat that is the subject of an action plan that is endorsed by a local, national or supra-national governmental body

19. Product
The result of a process

[EN ISO 9000:2005]

20. Procedure
Specified way to carry out an activity or a process

[BS EN ISO 14001:2004]

21. Process
Set of interrelated or interacting activities which transforms inputs into outputs

[EN ISO 9000:2005]

22. Raw materials
Unprocessed materials that are acquired from nature for subsequent use in the realisation of a product

23. Recycled material
Material derived from an operation, the principal result of which is waste serving a useful purpose by replacing other materials which would otherwise have been used to fulfil a particular function

[Directive 2008/98/EC [4], Article 3, 17]

24. Recovered material
Material derived from a recovery operation in which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances whether for the original or other purposes

[Directive 2008/98/EC [4], Article 3, 15]

25. Responsible sourcing
Management of sustainable development in the provision or procurement of a product

[BS 8902:2009]

26. Risk
Effect of uncertainty on objectives

[BS ISO 31000:2018]

NOTE Risk is often characterised as a combination of the likelihood of something occurring and the impacts associated with it occurring.
NOTE Objectives may be social, environmental and/or economic.

27. Significant

Threshold level at which meaning is attained

NOTE A significant risk requires mitigation.
NOTE An issue is significant if, in the view of senior management and those charged with governance, it is of such relevance and importance that it could substantively influence the organisation's ability to create value over the short, medium and long term.

28. Small organisation

Organisation with less than 50 employees and a turnover or balance sheet total of less than €10 million

NOTE: Current exchange rates may be used to estimate equivalent criteria in other currencies.

[European Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC]

29. Stakeholders

Individuals, groups and/or organisations who either affect, or could be affected by, an organisation's activities, products or services and associated performance **supplier**

Organisation that provides a product

30. Supply chain

System of organisations involved in the realisation of a product, from the extraction of raw materials to the point of sale

31. Sustainability aspect

Element of an organisation's activities or products or services that can interact with the environment and/or socio-economic systems

NOTE A significant sustainability aspect may have a meaningful impact on the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

32. Sustainability issue

Area of influence/impact related to the pursuit of an enduring, balanced approach to economic activity, environmental responsibility and social progress

[adapted from BS 8900:2006, BS 8902:2009]

NOTE Sustainability issues may be interrelated.

33. Traceability

Ability (through documentation) to link one production stage with another

34. Tier 1

Direct suppliers, if a distributor is the direct supplier, the distributor needs to provide necessary information about the delivered product

35. Tier 2

Supplier's suppliers, if a distributor is the direct supplier, the distributor needs to provide necessary information about the delivered product

36. Waste

Substance or object which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard

[Directive 2098/98/EC [4], Article 3, 1]

37. water abstraction

Temporary or permanent removal of water from the hydrological cycle

2.1 Criteria Scheme Modules

M.1 Criteria Scheme Module 1 Horizontal / Sector Agnostic requirements

M.1.1 VinylPlus Partnership

M.1.1.1 Integration of the VinylPlus programme into company life

	Description	Performance Rating	
a)	The organisation is a **European member or a partner of VinylPlus®** and has fully paid the yearly contribution at the time of certification OR The organisation is neither a European member nor a partner of VinylPlus and has paid the yearly Scheme Management Fee at the time of the certification The certification remains valid over 3 years only if all yearly fees are paid during this period. The product label is only awarded to products manufactured and sold in Europe (EU27+UK+Norway+Switzerland).	Compulsory	
b)	To achieve a higher performance rating, the organisation is an **active supporter of the VinylPlus®** programme and its associated voluntary commitments and working principles. The organisation has set a range of quantifiable objectives for the implementation of the VinylPlus® targets in its day-	Up to 5 principles – 6 to 15 Principles – > 15 Principles	1* 2- 3

	to-day business activities and there is a process for regularly monitoring progress against these objectives.		
c)	A supplementary point may be awarded if the organisation has been a partner of the VinylPlus® programme for a minimum of **3 years continuously**.	1	

* Cumulative score

M.1.2 Organisational Management

M.1.2.1 Responsible sourcing policy

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall have **a written policy**, appropriate to the purpose and activities of the organisation to address the responsible sourcing principles. The policy shall be approved by senior management and be integrated into the organisation's management system(s) and be effectively communicated to employees and stakeholders. An independent responsible sourcing policy is not necessary if principles are covered in existing policies.	Compulsory

M.1.2.2 Compliance obligations

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall establish, implement and maintain a procedure(s) to identify and monitor changes to applicable local, national and ratified international laws and regulations by which the organisation is bound. The organisation shall ensure that when establishing, implementing and maintaining its responsible sourcing policy and management systems, the requirements of the relevant laws and regulations are adhered to.	Compulsory

M.1.2.3 Quality management system

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall have in place a documented quality management system, following the fundamentals of ISO 9001:2015, or ISO 9001:2026 (once published), to implement its quality and responsible sourcing procedures, and which includes in its scope the assessed product.	Compulsory
b)	To achieve a higher performance rating, the organisation shall have a quality management system that conforms to ISO 9001:2015 or ISO 9001:2026 (once published), or equivalent, certificated by an accredited organisation in accordance with regulation (EC) no. 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council for the international EA / IAF MLA mutual recognition agreements, to implement its quality and responsible sourcing procedures, and which includes in its scope the assessed product.	2

M.1.2.4 Procurement and supplier management system

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall have in place, appropriate to the purpose and activities of the organisation and its products, a documented management system for its purchasing process and for approval of its suppliers. The management system shall reference the policy established in clause 2.1 of this criteria scheme and the supplier approval process shall review supplier commitments to address the responsible sourcing principles as described in Section 2.1 of this criteria scheme. AND The organisation shall maintain a list of approved suppliers of constituent materials in the assessed product. AND Where the organisation under assessment acquires constituent materials from any supplier based outside the EU, UK, or from states that have not declared adherence to the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the organisation shall undertake an appropriate risk assessment and demonstrate due diligence in its monitoring of the supplier's compliance with the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work If any constituent material is sourced from a supplier based outside the UK/EU/OECD, risk assessments and due diligence shall be provided for 98% of constituent materials (by mass, volume or cost). Where the assessed organisation is responsible for the extraction of a raw material at source, the organisation shall demonstrate traceability from the source of the raw material to the assessed product through any subsequent processes of product realisation.	Compulsory

	Description	Performance Rating
b)	The organisation can demonstrate that its procurement processes and function are in line with the principles for sustainable procurement as set out in ISO 20400. AND The organisation has a published Code of Conduct for its suppliers. Adherence with the code shall be an obligation for all suppliers. The code will be regularly reviewed and approved by senior management	1
c)	The organisation shall demonstrate that it actively engages with its constituent material supply chain, as identified as traceable in Section 3 Supply Chain Management requirements, on the principles of responsible sourcing.	1

M.1.2.5 CSRD report

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	• The organisation shall have a CSRD report or a voluntary sustainability report aligned with the CSRD or VSME	Compulsory

M.1.3 Supply Chain Management

For each of the following sub-sections, constituent materials shall be traceable to the source through supplier(s):

- The extraction of raw materials; -
- The recovery of recycled materials; -
- The production of by-products; -
- The processing of commodity traded materials

The % performance rating for each sub-section shall be based on any ONE of a number of criteria e.g. volume OR mass, whichever is most appropriate for the product being assessed. This choice must be clearly defined and justified at assessment. Whichever metric is used it must be the same basis for all the 3. clauses in this standard.

M.1.3.1 Material traceability through the supply chain

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	A minimum of 70% of constituent material(s) in the assessed product shall be traceable to supplier(s). The following mechanisms shall be considered appropriate for demonstrating traceability: • The organisation responsible for the constituent material(s) at each stage of the supply chain shall be certificated by an accredited organisation to ISO 9001:2015 or ISO 9001:2026 (once published); OR • Equivalent documented evidence of traceability as documented in guidance notes. Where there is already an established industry benchmark this shall be taken as the ‘compulsory’ level. An independently audited full chain of custody scheme to the raw materials source of the constituent material(s) satisfies the requirement for traceability (**see Appendix**).	Compulsory
b)	To achieve a higher performance rating, 80% of the constituent material(s) in the assessed product shall be traceable to supplier(s) with a certificated quality management system.	1*
c)	To achieve the highest performance rating, 90% of the constituent material(s) in the assessed product shall be traceable to supplier(s) with a certificated quality management system.	2

* Cumulative score

M.1.3.2 Environmental management systems in the supply chain

	Description	Performance Rating (all sectors)

a)	70% of constituent material(s) in the assessed product shall be traceable to supplier(s) with an environmental management system. The suppliers' environmental management system shall follow the fundamentals of ISO 14001 and shall include within its scope key processes of raw material extraction and primary material production, where appropriate to the scope of its operations. Constituent materials which are recycled materials, recovered materials or by-products shall be deemed to satisfy this requirement without further verification.	Compulsory	
b)	A minimum percentage of the constituent material(s) in the assessed product(s) shall be traceable to Tier 1 supplier(s) with an environmental management system(s) certified to ISO 14001, EMAS (or equivalent) by a third-party certification body (or Conformity Assessment Body) . For SME suppliers, confirmation that the environmental management system is structured in compliance with ISO 14005 (where the highest maturity levels have been reached in phases one to five) satisfies the requirement for traceability.	70% 80% 90%	1* 2 3

* Cumulative score

M.1.3.3 Health and safety management systems in the supply chain

	Description	Performance Rating (all sectors)	
a)	70% of constituent material(s) in the assessed product shall be traceable to supplier(s) with a health and safety management system. The suppliers' health and safety management system shall be compliant with local legislation and shall incorporate the recording of: • Near miss incidents • Time loss accidents • Fatal accidents	Compulsory	
b)	A minimum percentage of the constituent material(s) in the assessed product shall be traceable to supplier(s) with a health and safety management system certified to ISO 45001 (or equivalent) by a third-party certification body (or Conformity Assessment Body) For SME suppliers, confirmation that the health and safety management system follows the fundamentals of ISO 45001 satisfied the requirement for traceability. .	70% 80% 90%	1* 2 3

* Cumulative score

M.1.3.4 Supplier Evaluation

	Description	Performance Rating (all sectors)	
a)	Supplementary points awarded if the PVC recyclate used in the evaluated product is certified under the VinylPlus Supplier Certificate for Materials Suppliers	≥ 1%wt and < 5%wt	1*
b)		≥ 5%wt and < 20%wt	2
c)		≥ 20%wt and < 30%wt	3
d)		≥ 30 %wt	4

f)	Supplementary points may be awarded if the key additives included in the product evaluated have been certified according to the VinylPlus Supplier Certification See Appendix for the definition and threshold of key additives For manufacture from compounded intermediate: Maximum points are awarded if the compounds included in the evaluated product have been certified according to the VinylPlus Supplier Certification	Minimum 1 additive up to 50% of all key additives used in the product- 2 Above 50% - 4
g)	Supplementary points may be awarded if the PVC resin included in the product evaluated have been certified according to the VinylPlus Supplier Certificate for Materials Suppliers Certification for PVC resin For manufacture from compounded intermediate: Maximum points are awarded if the compounds included in the evaluated product have been certified according to the VinylPlus Supplier Certification	4

* Cumulative score

M.1.4 Scaling Up PVC Value Chain Circularity

M.1.4.1 Use of recycled PVC

	Description	Performance Rating	
a)	The organisation can **demonstrate use of recyclate in the product which is being evaluated** (as an annual average) See VinylPlus Sector Definitions	≥ 1%wt and < 5%wt	2*
b)		≥ 5%wt and < 20%wt	4
c)		≥ 20%wt and < 30%wt	6
d)		≥ 30 %wt	10

* Cumulative score

M.1.4.2 Use of PVC by-product

	Description	Performance Rating	
a)		≥ 0%m and < 5%m	-

b)	The organisation can demonstrate use of by-product in the product which is being evaluated (as an annual average)	≥ 5%m and < 20%m	1*
c)		≥ 20%m and < 30%m	2
d)		≥ 30 %m	3

1. * Cumulative score

M.1.4.3 Waste prevention and waste management

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for the diversion of waste from landfill or incineration without energy recovery in accordance with the waste hierarchy. AND The organisation shall provide evidence that all controlled waste arising from its operations is stored, transported and treated such that risks to human health and the environment are minimised and that all local regulatory requirements are fulfilled.	Compulsory
b)	The organisation shall have targets set for the reduction of waste, relative to output over time, and for the diversion of waste from landfill or incineration without energy recovery. Targets are approved by senior management and progress against targets is reviewed regularly.	1
c)	The organisation shall report performance to stakeholders. Reporting shall include levels of waste production relative to output over time and comparison to industry benchmarks (where available), and thereafter reported on an annual basis.	1
d)	The organisation shall have external verification of its waste information and data .	1

M.1.4.4 Product Eco-Design

	Description	Performance Rating

a)	The organisation has taken initial steps towards an eco-design allowing to enhance ease of reuse and/or recycling of the PVC part of the product.	1

M.1.4.5 Digital Passport

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall make preparation to establish a digital passport or have in place, appropriate to the purpose, an access to a documented digital passport of the product or have a digital passport in place.	1

M.1.4.6 Water Usage or Abstraction

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for the monitoring and reduction of the intensity of its water usage or abstraction. The scope of the policy and management system may exclude: • seawater; • water removed and then returned to the same source with no change in water quality. Water lost through evaporation shall be included in this category; • water stored in holding lakes on site for recirculation; and • rainwater collected, stored or used as part of the production process. AND The organisation shall quantify the intensity of its water usage or abstraction.	Compulsory
The following criteria are assessed individually on the basis of 1.4.6 a)		
b)	The organisation shall have targets for the reduction of the intensity of water usage, relative to output over time. Targets are approved by senior management and progress against targets is reviewed regularly. OR The organisation shall have processes in place to implement the use of sustainable water sources at their manufacturing site(s).	1

c)	The organisation shall report performance to stakeholders. Reporting shall include the intensity of their water usage or abstraction (as quantified for the compulsory clause) and reported on an annual basis.	1
d)	The organisation shall have external verification of its water information and data.	1

M.1.5 Advancing towards Carbon Neutrality and Minimising our Environmental Footprint

M.1.5.1 PVC resin used in manufacturing the product

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The product which is being evaluated is manufactured from a resin entirely manufactured by an organisation that comply to the last version of the ECVM Industry Charter for the Production of VCM and PVC (or any equivalent scheme) and (1) **whose standards and practices** can be fully audited by means **of membership to ECVM** OR **(2)** whose standards and practices have been audited **at least for one of the manufacturer's VCM and PVC manufacturing sites** by a **technical audit (the "ECVM Charter Audit") and the manufacturer is contributing an "enabling fee" to the VinylPlus programme.**	Compulsory
b)	The product is manufactured from resin supplied by producers who: • Are **partners of the VinylPlus® programme**, have paid their fees • Have not been involved in a **transport accident** with any VCM release during the three years immediately prior to certification • Source chlorine from companies **reporting emissions in line with the Euro Chlor Sustainability Programme**, or equivalent. • **Reports its emissions of EDC, VCM and dioxins** from each of its plants to ECVM on an annual basis.	One or two criteria – 2 Three or four criteria – 4

M.1.5.2 Use of additives in the assessed product

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The product which is being evaluated does not include: • Substances containing cadmium or lead, • a low molecular ortho-phthalate (C8 ortho-phthalate and below), except as included and permitted in any recyclate.	Compulsory
b)	The organisation can demonstrate that the product which is being evaluated: • carries permanent information regarding the additives used in its manufacture in order to facilitate future recycling. • meets the volatile organic compound (VOC) emission criteria (**see Appendix**). • measures the levels of lead, cadmium and low molecular ortho-phthalates in the recyclate it uses. • discloses to customers the maximum levels of lead, cadmium and low molecular ortho-phthalates in the recyclate it uses.	Minimum two of 4 criteria – 2
c)	Supplementary points may be awarded if the key additives – included in the product evaluated have been generically assessed according to the VinylPlus Footprint (Additive Sustainability Footprint), a methodology developed by VinylPlus for the sustainable use of additives. See the webpage dedicated to the Footprint for more details	4

M.1.5.3 Greenhouse gas emission reduction

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for the monitoring and reduction of the intensity of its greenhouse gas emissions. This aspect may be managed within the scope of an existing management system. AND The organisation shall quantify the following: • Scope 1 greenhouse gas emissions and • Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions	Compulsory
b)	The organisation shall have in place a documented process to identify significant sources of scope 3 emissions associated with their operations AND The organisation shall quantify the intensity of its significant scope 3 emissions associated with its operations.	2
c)	The organisation shall have targets set for the reduction of their greenhouse gas emissions, relative to output over time. The targets shoud be in line with climate science to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. Targets shall approved by senior management and progress against targets is reviewed regularly.	2
d)	The organisation shall report to its stakeholders on their emissions of greenhouse gases. Where sector specific standards for GHG reporting exist, these are acceptable methods for reporting.	1
e)	The organisation shall have external verification of their GHG information and data.	1

See Appendix for more details.

M.1.5.4 Energy use

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for the monitoring and reduction of the energy intensity of those operations over which it has financial and/or operational control.	Compulsory
b)	The organisation shall have targets set for the reduction of energy usage, relative to output over time. Targets are approved by senior management and progress against targets is reviewed regularly.	1
c)	The organisation shall report to its stakeholders on the intensity of the energy usage of its operations. Reporting shall include levels of energy usage relative to output over time, and thereafter reported on an annual basis.	1
d)	The organisation shall have external verification of its energy information and data.	1
e)	The organisation shall have developed and implemented an action plan for the continual reduction of use of energy from fossil fuels and for the increase of use of energy from renewable energy sources within their operations.	1

M.1.5.5 Use of renewable energy resources

	Description – See Q1 below	**Performance Rating**	
a)	The organisation's **use of renewable energy** is higher than the nationally calculated average renewable energy proportion.	10 % higher	1*
b)		20 % higher	2
c)		30 % higher	3
d)		40 % higher Or The organisations would be awarded a maximum score for verified 100% renewable energy use, independent of national grid mix.	4

* Cumulative scores

See Appendix for more details.

M.1.5.6 Transport impacts

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for the continual reduction of environmental and social impacts associated with the transport of assessed product(s), goods and people involved in its operations. • The procedures for identification of appropriate, significant, direct environmental and social impacts and mitigation strategies shall be documented.	Compulsory
b)	The organisation shall have targets for the reduction of environmental and social impacts associated with the transport of the assessed product(s), goods and people involved in its operations. Targets are approved by senior management and progress against targets is reviewed regularly.	1
c)	The organisation shall report on its transport use to stakeholders. Reporting shall include, as a minimum, significant environmental and social impacts of the transport of the assessed product(s) identified by the organisation, and mitigation strategies.	1
d)	The organisation shall extend the scope of its transport policy and metrics to cover the supply of traceable constituent material(s) in the assessed product. Where the assessed organisation is responsible for the constituent material(s) at the source, the scope and boundaries of the policy shall cover all transport modes used, from the source of the constituent material(s) to the assessed product(s).	1
e)	The organisation shall report on the transport of its constituent material(s) to stakeholders. Reporting shall include significant environmental and social impacts identified in section 5.6 d) for the transport of its constituent material(s).	1

M.1.5.7 Lifecycle assessment (LCA)

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall use life cycle thinking and/or life cycle assessment (LCA) methods to identify significant environmental aspects and impacts throughout the product lifecycle, and shall have in place a documented approach for continual improvement of life cycle environmental performance.	Compulsory
b)	The organisation shall provide an independently verified Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) that conform to the requirements of ISO 14025, and either ISO 21930 or EN 15804 for the assessed product. The EPD is valid and publicly available on the EPD Scheme operator's website and organisation's website.	2

M.1.5.8 Use of renewable feedstock in the final product

	Description	Performance rating	
a)	The organisation can demonstrate by certification the replacement of fossil-based feedstock with use of PVC and/or additives/plasticisers made of sustainable feedstock in the product which is being evaluated	Rigid PVC	
		≥ 15% - < 50%	1*
		≥ 50%	2
		Flexible PVC	
		≥ 15% - < 40%	1*
		≥ 40%	2

* Cumulative scores

M.1.5.9 Operation Clean Sweep

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation has started the Operation Clean Sweep certification process	1

b)	The organisation has obtained the Operation Clean Sweep certification or equivalent and/or include reduction of microplastics emissions by 30% by 2030. Beyond 2030 the company needs to prove its yearly reduction of 5% starting in 2031.	2

M.1.6 Building Global Coalitions and Partnering for the SDGs

M.1.6.1 Demonstrating commitment and communication

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation has established a Sustainability policy, supported by a documented management system, for the learning and development of its employees and carry out regular reviews of its performance (see Appendix). Sustainability awareness/training shall be evidenced in all relevant professional and functional training. This aspect may be managed within the scope of an existing management system.	Compulsory
b)	The organisation reports to its stakeholders on its performance relating to the learning and development of its employees. OR The organisation can demonstrate by a documented management system, enhancing the diversity and inclusiveness of its workforce and carry out regular reviews of its performance. This aspect may be managed within the scope of an existing management system.	2
c)	The organisation shall have external verification of the information above.	1

M.1.6.2 Local communities

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, to identify and consult with local community stakeholders directly affected by the activities and operations of the organisation; AND The organisation shall have written procedures to record all complaints from local community stakeholders and any	Compulsory

	subsequent and associated actions including prosecutions. AND The organisation shall carry out regular reviews of its performance in terms of local community relationships, liaison activities and complaints incidents.	
b)	The organisation shall report annually on local community engagement, liaison activities and complaints incidents to stakeholders on an annual basis.	1
c)	The organisation shall have external verification of its local community engagement, liaison activities and compliant incidents.	1
d)	The organisation shall establish a policy, supported by a documented management system to promote local sourcing of products and services; and the use of local staff and expertise where appropriate and practical.	1

M.1.6.3 Biodiversity & site stewardship

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for managing the risks and potential impacts of the organisation's activities on biodiversity and ecosystems.	1
b)	The organisation has a biodiversity action plan to protect and enhance the natural environment, including identifying at-risk species and restoration measures	1
c)	The organisation reports demonstrable actions taken to protect biodiversity to stakeholders annually	1

M.1.6.4 Human rights and modern slavery

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation shall establish a policy, supported by a documented management system appropriate to the purpose and scope of the organisation, to respect human rights and	Compulsory

	protect workers. The policy shall be in accordance with Guiding Principle 16 of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.	
b	The organisation implements a documented risk assessment and due diligence process to identify and act upon actual and potential human right risks for workers and all stakeholders. The assessment and process shall be in accordance with Guiding Principle 17 of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.	1

M.2 Criteria Scheme Module 2 Sector Specific requirements Building and Construction (CPR+ BREEAM + DGNB)

M.2.4 Scaling Up PVC Value Chain Circularity

M.2.4.4 Product Eco-Design

	Description	Performance Rating
b)	The organisation can demonstrate example implementing eco-design principle.	4

M.2.4.5 Digital Passport

	Description	Performance Rating
b)	The organisation provides environmental and circularity data (including LCA, QS assessments and SVCH status) in a digital, machine readable format. This data should be suitable for direct integration into: -Building resource passports -Material-Ecological Building Components Catalogues	1

M.2.5 Advancing towards Carbon Neutrality and Minimising our Environmental Footprint

M.2.5.2 Use of additives in the assessed product

	Description	Performance Rating
d)	The organisation must provide a legally binding declaration confirming that the assessed PVC product, excluding any legally permitted recycled content, contains less than 0.1% by mass of any Substance of Very High Concern (SVHC)	1

M.2.5.7 Lifecycle assessment (LCA)

	Description	Performance Rating
c)	The Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) must be provided in a format that reports GWP fossil (A1-A3) according to EN 15804+A2 and is compatible with German QNG/DGNB LCA accounting conventions	- Possible auditor statement following organisation's request

M.3 Criteria Scheme Module 3 Sector Specific requirements EU GPP criteria for Furniture

The additional sector specific requirements described below are prepared according to the European Union Green Public Procurement criteria for Furniture (SWD(2017) 283) which can be accessed via the link below:

SWD(2017) 283

M.3.4 Scaling Up PVC Value Chain Circularity

M.3.4.0 Re-use of PVC components

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation uses re-used PVC components (e.g., recovered and refurbished window profiles or flooring tiles) to promote the refurbishment and EoL Collection hierarchies	1

M.3.4.3 Waste prevention and waste management

	Description	Performance Rating
e)	Manufacturers provide product-specific recycling instructions for site contractors to ensure PVC waste generated during installation is correctly segregated and returned to a closed-loop system	1

M.3.4.4 Product Eco-Design

	Description	Performance Rating
b)	The organisation can demonstrate example implementing eco-design principle.	1
c)	Plastic parts with a mass greater than 100g to be marked according to EN ISO 11469 and EN ISO 1043 (parts 1-4). Lettering must be at least 2.5 mm high. If marking is technically impossible due to the production method, the manufacturer must provide the polymer type and additive details in written form	1
d)	The organisation provides a disassembly and repair manual including an exploded diagram of the product illustrating parts that can be removed or replaced	1

M.3.4 Advancing towards Carbon Neutrality and Minimising our Environmental Footprint

M.3.5.2 Use of additives in the assessed product

	Description	Performance Rating
e)	The product which is being evaluated does not include: • Substances containing chromium VI, mercury, arsenic, or selenium beyond the 0.010% threshold, • Coating mixtures used for furniture components classified as Category 1 or 2 CMR (H350, H340, H360), Acutely Toxic (H300, H310, H330), or STOT Category 1 (H370), • Specific phthalates (DEHP, BBP, DBP, DMEP, DIBP, DIHP, DHNUP, and DHP) intentionally added as plasticisers at concentrations ≥ **0.010% w/w** per substance, • Metal Plating: cadmium for electroplating any metal components. • Nickel Release: If nickel is used in electroplating, the release rate must be less than 0.5 µg/cm²/week according to EN 1811 See further specific verification checks in auditor guideline	Compulsory

M.3.5.7 Lifecycle assessment (LCA)

	Description	Performance Rating
d)	EPDs are not only valid but also provided in a digital, machine-readable format (e.g., ILCD+EPD) suitable for direct import into building-level LCA tools to assist design teams in meeting GPP Selection Criterion A2	- Possible auditor statement following organisation’s request

M.3.6 Building Global Coalitions and Partnering for the SDGs

M.3.6.1 Demonstrating commitment and communication

	Description	Performance Rating
d)	Manufacturer provides a "Building GPP Support Dossier", which includes pre-calculated LCC data and building-level LCA impacts (A1-A3, B1-B5, C1-C4) for their products to simplify the procurer's verification effort	1

M.4 Criteria Scheme Module 4 Sector Specific requirements EU GPP Office Building

The additional sector specific requirements described below are prepared according to the European Union Green Public Procurement criteria for Office Building Design, Construction and Management (SWD(2016) 180) which can be accessed via the link below:

SWD(2016) 180

M.4.4 Scaling Up PVC Value Chain Circularity

M.4.4.0 Re-use of PVC components

	Description	Performance Rating
a)	The organisation uses re-used PVC components (e.g., recovered and refurbished window profiles or flooring tiles) to promote the refurbishment and EoL Collection hierarchies	1

M.4.4.3 Waste prevention and waste management

	Description	Performance Rating
e)	manufacturers provide product-specific recycling instructions for site contractors to ensure PVC waste generated during installation is correctly segregated and returned to a closed-loop system	1

M.4.4.4 Product Eco-Design

	Description	Performance Rating
b)	The organisation can demonstrate example implementing eco-design principle.	3

d)	The organisation provides a disassembly and repair manual including an exploded diagram of the product illustrating parts that can be removed or replaced	1

M.4.5 Advancing towards Carbon Neutrality and Minimising our Environmental Footprint

M.4.5.2 Use of additives in the assessed product

	Description	Performance Rating
f)	The product which is being evaluated does not include: • Substances containing chromium VI, mercury, arsenic, or selenium beyond the 0.010% threshold, See further specific verification checks in auditor guideline	Compulsory

M.4.5.7 Lifecycle assessment (LCA)

	Description	Performance Rating
d)	EPDs are not only valid but also provided in a digital, machine-readable format (e.g., ILCD+EPD) suitable for direct import into building-level LCA tools to assist design teams in meeting GPP Selection Criterion A2	- Possible auditor statement following organisation's request

M.4.5 Building Global Coalitions and Partnering for the SDGs

M.4.6.1 **Demonstrating** commitment and communication

	Description	Performance Rating
d)	Manufacturer provides a "Building GPP Support Dossier", which includes pre-calculated LCC data and building-level LCA impacts (A1-A3, B1-B5, C1-C4) for their products to simplify the procurer's verification effort	1

M.5 Criteria Scheme Module 5 Sector Specific requirements EU GPP Paints, Varnishes and Road Markings

The additional sector specific requirements described below are prepared according to the European Union Green Public Procurement criteria for paints, varnishes and road marking (SWD(2017) 484) which can be accessed via the link below:

SWD(2017) 484

M.5.4 Scaling Up PVC Value Chain Circularity

M.5.4.4 Product Eco-Design

	Description	Performance Rating
b)	The organisation can demonstrate example implementing eco-design principle.	4
e)	Organisation shall comply with EN ISO 7784-2 (for floors) and EN 13197 (for marking wear simulation) to ensure the product meets the GPP "high quality" durability benchmark	1

M.5.5 Advancing towards Carbon Neutrality and Minimising our Environmental Footprint

M.5.5.2 Use of additives in the assessed product

	Description	Performance Rating
g)	The product which is being evaluated does not include: • chlorinated solvents (e.g., methylene chloride), aromatic solvents (benzene, toluene, xylene), and ethylene-based glycol ethers < 1 µg/m³ each • Coating Mixtures: coatings classified as Category 1 or 2 CMR (carcinogenic, mutagenic, or toxic to reproduction), Acutely Toxic (Cat 1 or 2), or STOT (Category 1).	Compulsory

h)	maintain performance while reducing TiO2 content below 10% (for thick PVC parts) or 14% (for thin layers), as TiO2 production is a major environmental hotspot	1

M.6 Criteria Scheme Module 6 Other sectors

M.6.4 Scaling Up PVC Value Chain Circularity

M.6.4.3 Waste prevention and waste management

	Description	Performance Rating
e)	manufacturers provide product-specific recycling instructions for site contractors to ensure PVC waste generated during installation is correctly segregated and returned to a closed-loop system	1

M.6.4.4 Product Eco-Design

	Description	Performance Rating
b)	The organisation can demonstrate example implementing eco-design principle.	4
c)	plastic parts with a mass greater than 100g to be marked according to EN ISO 11469 and EN ISO 1043 (parts 1-4). Lettering must be at least 2.5 mm high. If marking is technically impossible due to the production method, the manufacturer must provide the polymer type and additive details in written form	1

2.2 Appendices

vinyl plus COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	**VinylPlus Product Label** 2.2.1 Rules and Obligations

2.2.1.1 The fundamentals

The VinylPlus® Product Label may only be used by organisations holding a valid Certificate of Approval issued by VinylPlus®. It may only be strictly use for the product/product family that the Product Label is granted for.

The use of the VinylPlus® Product Label relates only to the certification scheme operated by VinylPlus®. The Product Label is the property of VinylPlus®, and its use is subject to the conditions of use set out below.

The rules for the VinylPlus® branding and Vinyl Verified logo need to be strictly respected. The replication or reproduction of the Product Label can only be made with the authorisation of VinylPlus.

The Product Label can be mentioned on product specifications, product sales literature, product brochures, on the product itself and any publicity material that is directly related to the relevant product.

The company holding the VinylPlus® Product Label rests solely responsible for the correct product label use by its design and marketing service partners.

The VinylPlus® Product Label must not be used to imply approval of products or services not approved or covered in the criteria scheme by VinylPlus.

Electronic versions of the VinylPlus Product Label shall only be obtained from VinylPlus.

2.2.1.2 Standard Amendment or Withdrawal

The Product Label is valid from the date of the VinylPlus certification for 3 years with annual desktop verifications in the intervening years. The audit is repeated every 3 years and a new certificate based on the audit results is issued by VinylPlus.

In case an onsite audit cannot be organised before the end of the validity period of the certificate due to circumstances of force majeure, the validity period can be extended by VinylPlus® for maximum 6 months.

If the Product Label Criteria Scheme document is amended after the applicant has accepted an audit, the previous Criteria Scheme shall be used. The Product Label certificate based on the previous scheme remains valid for 3 years.

If the VinylPlus® Product Label is withdrawn or becomes obsolete, the use of the Label shall cease within twelve months of the date of withdrawal or obsolescence.

Audit results have a general validity of max. 1 year. Shall the applicant not be able to deliver the requested remaining evidence to conclude the audit process within this time frame, audit results will no longer be valid.

2.2.1.3 Intellectual Property Rights

This document does not confer any right, title or interest in the VinylPlus® Product Label, which shall remain the property of VinylPlus. VinylPlus reserves all licensing and enforcement rights, and may update this rules and guidance document from time to time.

For the latest version of this document, please consult the [Terms and Conditions page] of the Product Label website.

2.2.1.4 Misuse

Unauthorised use and/or misuse of the VinylPlus® Product Label is not permitted, especially not for other products in the company's product range that have not received the Label Certificate. VinylPlus will launch an investigation if we find, or are notified of, a potential misuse, whether through negligence or fraud. If proven, such misuse may lead to a suspension and withdrawal of the Label Certification, a publication of the transgression, a legal action, or a fine.

2.2.1.5 Your responsibility

It is the responsibility of the Product Label holder to:

(i) Ensure that the product supplied under a valid current VinylPlus® Product Label Certificate of Approval and using the appropriate Vinyl Verified® logo, conforms at all times with the requirements of the Label Criteria Scheme and with all other terms and conditions of the Label.

(ii) In the event of termination of the Agreement howsoever arising, cease using, remove or obliterate the Label.

(iii) Indicate to VinylPlus any fraud or misuse that comes to your notice including the relevant information needed for VinylPlus to take action.

2.2.1.6 Some Dos and Don'ts

Dos

- Include the Product Label in your marketing and promotional literature only strictly for the product.
- Contact VinylPlus® if you wish to include the Vinyl Verified® logo in any press release or press orientated material. Permission to use the logo in this way will not be unreasonably withheld.
- Ensure that the rules contained in this guidance is adhered to.
- Ensure that the entire Vinyl Verified® logo is clearly visible against the background on which it is being reproduced. Use the black and white version if helpful.
- Contact VinylPlus if you are unsure of any aspect of using the label imagery.

Don'ts

- Make the Vinyl Verified® logo too small to identify; it shall be legible to the naked eye.
- Partially cover the image with other brands or copy.
- Overprint the image with text.
- Stretch or squash the marks to fit a given size.
- Use the marks in circumstances that would bring the VinylPlus® Product Label certification into disrepute.
- Use the marks in connection with products or services that are not associated with the VinylPlus® Product Label certification.
- Attempt in any way to redraw or re-create the artwork for the marks.
- Pass on copies of the artwork of the marks to any other parties other than your own design companies.

Purpose: This Annex provides a consolidated list of third-party certification schemes and standards recognized by the VinylPlus® Product Label for demonstrating compliance with specific criteria. The use of these certificates simplifies the auditing process and ensures alignment with international best practices in responsible sourcing and circular economy.

2.2.2.1 Organisational & Management System Standards

These standards are recognized for fulfilling core requirements in Section 2 (Organisational Management) and Section 3 (Supply Chain Management).

Recognised Standard/Certificate	VinylPlus® Criterion Fulfilled	Value for Verification
ISO 9001:2015 / ISO 9001:2026 (once published)	2.3a, 2.3b, 3.1a	Primary evidence for documented QMS and material traceability.
ISO 14001:2015 / EMAS	3.2a, 3.2b	Confirms EMS compliance at manufacturing and supplier sites.
ISO 45001:2018 / OHSAS 18001	3.3a, 3.3b	Validates H&S management and mandatory incident monitoring.
ISO 50001:2018	5.4a	Mandatory evidence for energy efficiency policy and management.
ISO 20400	2.4b, 2.4c	Demonstrates sustainable procurement and active supplier engagement.

2.2.2.2 Sustainable Feedstock & Circular Economy

These certifications are required to demonstrate the use of **renewable or recycled PVC** and additives in **Section 4** and **Section 5**.

Recognised Standard/Certificate	VinylPlus® Criterion Fulfilled	Value for Verification
Recovinyl / RecyClass	3.1a, 4.1	Validates material traceability and third-party verified recycled content.
EuCertPlast	4.4c	Provides external verification of waste volumes and recycling data.

VinylPlus Supplier Certificate (Resin, Additives, or Recyclate)	3.4a, 3.4f, 3.4g	Simplified verification for supplementary points; pre-validated upstream compliance.
ISCC+ / REDcert2 / RSB	5.8a	Validates mass balance accounting for renewable/bio-attributed feedstock.
EN 15346	4.1	Standard for characterisation of PVC recyclates prior to product use.
EN ISO 11469 / EN ISO 1043	4.5c	Standards for plastic marking to facilitate EoL circularity.

2.2.2.3 Social Accountability & Human Rights

Recognized for fulfilling requirements in **Section 6.4** and for verifying international resin suppliers in **Section 5.1**.

Recognised Standard/Certificate	VinylPlus® Criterion Fulfilled	Value for Verification
SA8000	2.4a, 6.4a, 6.4b	Fulfils human rights policy, risk assessment, and due diligence.
SEDEX / UN Global Compact	2.4a	Mechanism for demonstrating due diligence in supply chain monitoring.
Ethical Trade Initiative (ETI)	2.4a	Recognised evidence of supplier compliance with fundamental rights.
Salvo Code / SMETA	2.4a, 5.1m	Appropriate due diligence and social standards for traded volumes.
Investors in People (IiP)	6.1b	Validates workforce development and HR performance.

2.2.2.4 Environmental Performance & Sector Specifics

These certifications provide simplified verification for **Green Public Procurement (GPP)** and building-level standards.

Recognised Standard/Certificate	VinylPlus® Criterion Fulfilled	Value for Verification
ISO 14025 / EN 15804 (+A2)	5.7b, 5.7c	Framework for independently verified EPDs and GWP reporting.
ISO 21930	5.7b	Recognised standard for EPDs in construction applications.

ECVM Industry Charters	5.1a	Proof of resin production compliance with emission and monomer limits.
Operation Clean Sweep (OCS)	5.9a, 5.9b	Verification of commitment and certification for preventing pellet loss.
Carbon Trust Standard	5.3e	Verified organizational GHG footprint reduction and management.

vinyl plus COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	**VinylPlus® Product Label** 2.2.3 Criteria M. 1.3.1 a) - Material traceability through the supply chain

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance regarding the use in the VinylPlus® label of 'Material Traceability' as a key indicator in the evaluation.

Material Traceability

The following mechanisms shall be considered appropriate for demonstrating material traceability to the source of the constituent material(s):

- The identification and traceability of constituent material(s) is managed at each stage of the supply chain to the source through Sub-clause 8.5.2 of ISO 9001:2015 or ISO 9001:2026 (once published), and implemented at each exchange of responsibility through Sub-clause 8.4 of ISO 9001:2015. The organisation responsible for the constituent material(s) at each stage of the supply chain shall be certificated by an accredited organisation to ISO 9001:2015 or ISO 9001:2026 (once published)
- An independently audited Chain of Custody (CoC) scheme to the source
- Equivalent documented evidence of material traceability. This can include documented evidence of ordering and delivery of materials at each exchange of responsibility within the supply chain to the source

The term 'to the source' refers to the three sources of materials within the scheme, i.e. manufacturers responsible for:

- the production and supply of mass-produced materials
- the recovery and supply of recycled materials
- the production and supply of by-products or production residues from other industrial processes

VOC Emissions

There is no unified EU system so far to classify VOCs. Germany, France and Belgium all have their own systems, but they are not fully consistent with each other.

The EU Commission has proposed a draft classification system, that the VinylPlus® label criteria scheme will be using until a final and binding European version has been approved. This system provides a concise and easy-to-understand communication system on VOC EMISSIONs that reflects a level of risk of a construction product. See VOC Classes.

There are **3 essential characteristics:**

Total VOC

A measurement method is not specified in the EU Commission proposal; we consider results as valid when obtained through the testing standard EN 16516 Construction products: assessment release of dangerous substances. Determination of emissions into indoor air. See VOC Emission Study on Plastic Windows.

The VinylPlus® product label requires **criteria based on Table 1 only**. The product shall at least be of Class A3, i.e. emit less than500 µg/m³ TVOC.

As far as we know substances listed in Table 3 are not normally present in PVC products.

For TVOC, VinylPlus® does not provide any recent measurements on PVC products.

GPP Award Criterion 2 for indoor paints sets a 28-day TVOC limit of < 1,500 µg/m³ and Formaldehyde < 60 µg/m³ for best-in-class products.

GPP Award Criterion 1 rewards paints with lower Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs), with limits ranging from 30 to 60 g/l depending on the product type.

Building GPP Technical Specification D4 (Comprehensive) sets strict 28-day emission limits for fit-out materials: TVOC < 1,000 µg/m³, SVOC < 100 µg/m³, and Formaldehyde < 40 µg/m³

Formaldehyde

As far as we know formaldehyde is normally not present in PVC products.

For furniture containing wood-based panels (e.g., PVC-veneered desks), GPP TS2 requires formaldehyde emissions to be ≤ 65% of the E1 threshold, for the resins used as adhesive for the PVC layer.

GPP comprehensive criteria set a limit for free formaldehyde in the white base or tinting base at 0.0010% w/w

Carcinogenic VOC

The VinylPlus® product label requires criteria based on Table 5.

The product shall be of class C1; i.e. emit less than 1 µg/m3 carcinogenic VOC.

VOC classification table

Emission Type	Building GPP Limit (28 Days)	Furniture GPP Limit (28 Days)	Standard Reference
TVOC	< 1,000 µg/m³	< 500 µg/m³	EN 16516 / ISO 16000
SVOC	< 100 µg/m³	N/A	EN 16516
Formaldehyde	< 40 µg/m³	< 10 µg/m³ (Best-in-class)	ISO 16000-3

1. Hazardous Coating Classifications (Furniture GPP TS3):

    Carcinogenic: H350, H350i, H351.

    Mutagenic: H340, H341.

    Toxic to Reproduction: H360, H361, H362.

    Acutely Toxic: H300, H310, H330.

    Target Organ Toxicity: H370, H372.

2. Prohibited Solvents (Paints and Road Markings GPP):

    Chlorinated Solvents: Methylene chloride, chloroalkanes.

    Aromatic Solvents: Benzene, toluene, xylene, ethyl benzene.

    Glycol Ethers: Ethylene-based glycol ethers or their acetates.

3. Broadened Metal Restriction (All GPPs):

    Mandatory exclusion from Lead/Cadmium is expanded to include Chromium VI, Mercury, Arsenic, and Selenium at concentrations > 0.010% w/w.

Purpose

This document provides background information methods of securing third party verification for carbon emission reduction activities within organisations seeking the VinylPlus label.

Note that VinylPlus® auditors will be able to consider the equivalence of other schemes on a case by case basis and this document will be updated as equivalent schemes are identified.
Verifying Carbon Emission Reduction
Verification of performance concerning carbon emission reduction activities can be demonstrated through programmes such as:

Carbon Trust Standard – this is a UK-based scheme which publicly recognises a company's efforts in reducing carbon emissions and provides tangible proof to all stakeholders (including employees, shareholders, customers and suppliers) that a business is committed to making future reductions. Having certified the carbon reduction of hundreds of organisations, Carbon Trust Certification is widely considered as the world's leading certifier of organisational carbon footprint reduction. Companies carrying the Carbon Trust Standard range from large multinational organisations to small companies.

To achieve the Carbon Trust Standard a company must meet three criteria:
Provide an accurate footprint measurement including all required emission sources.
Demonstrate an absolute reduction of carbon footprint or equivalent relative efficiency improvement.
Demonstrate good carbon management to the Carbon Trust's standard including carbon governance, accounting, reduction methods and targets.

To secure certification a company must submit an application for review by an independent assessor. The following tools are used:

- The **Carbon Trust Standard Carbon Footprint Spreadsheet** (an Excel file) available here can be used to record a company's carbon footprint and the reduction in this footprint over time. The methodology has been developed for the Carbon Trust Standard and follows the principles outlined in the GHG protocol, with all carbon emissions calculated using government-produced emissions factors (in the UK factors published by Defra are used).
- Then use the **Carbon Trust Standard Assessment Form** (a Word file) available here to document whether the company meets the required carbon management standards. In order to achieve the Carbon Trust Standard an overall score of at least 60% is required in this section

  More information on this Standard can be found at

  www.carbontrust.com/client- services/footprinting/footprint-certification

  - **Equivalent schemes in other countries**. VinylPlus auditors will be able to consider the equivalence of other schemes on a case by case basis and this document will be updated as equivalent schemes are identified.

The categories of energies that can be considered as renewable within our scheme, are those as defined in Chapter 5 of Annex B of the EU Regulation 1099/2008 on Energy Statistics. Hydropower is thus considered as a renewable energy in the framework of the scheme.

Energy product	Definition
1. Hydro power	Potential and kinetic energy of water converted into electricity in hydroelectric plants. Pumped storage must be included. Production must be reported for plant sizes of < 1 MW, 1 to < 10 MW, ≥ 10 MW and from pumped storage.
2. Geothermal	Energy available as heat emitted from within the earth's crust, usually in the form of hot water or steam. This energy production is the difference between the enthalpy of the fluid produced in the production borehole and that of the fluid eventually disposed of. It is exploited at suitable sites: — for electricity generation using dry steam or high enthalpy brine after flashing, — directly as heat for district heating, agriculture etc.
3. Solar energy	Solar radiation exploited for hot water production and electricity generation. This energy production is the heat available to the heat transfer medium, i.e. the incident solar energy less the optical and collectors' losses. Passive solar energy for the direct heating, cooling and lighting of dwellings or other buildings is not included.
3.1. Of which: solar photovoltaic	Sunlight converted into electricity by the use of solar cells usually made of semi-conducting material which exposed to light will generate electricity.
3.2. Of which: solar thermal	Heat from solar radiation; can consist of: (a) solar thermal-electric plants; or (b) equipment for the production of domestic hot water or for the seasonal heating of swimming pools (e.g. flat plate collectors, mainly of the thermosyphon type).
4. Tide, wave, ocean	Mechanical energy derived from tidal movement, wave motion or ocean current and exploited for electricity generation.
5. Wind	Kinetic energy of wind exploited for electricity generation in wind turbines.
6. Industrial waste (non-renewable)	Report wastes of industrial non-renewable origin (solids or liquids) combusted directly for the production of electricity and/or heat. The quantity of fuel used should be reported on a net calorific value basis. Renewable industrial waste should be reported in the solid biomass, biogas and/or liquid biofuels categories.
7. Municipal waste	Wastes produced by households, hospitals and the tertiary sector incinerated at specific installations, on a net calorific value basis.
7.1. Of which: renewable	The portion of municipal waste which is of biological origin.
7.2. Of which: non-renewable	The portion of municipal waste which is of non-biological origin.

Energy product	Definition
8. Solid biomass	Covers organic, non-fossil material of biological origin which may be used as fuel for heat production or electricity generation. It comprises:
8.1. Of which: charcoal	The solid residue of the destructive distillation and pyrolysis of wood and other vegetal material.
8.2. Of which: wood, wood wastes, other solid wastes	Purpose-grown energy crops (poplar, willow etc.), a multitude of woody materials generated by an industrial process (wood/paper industry in particular) or provided directly by forestry and agriculture (firewood, wood chips, wood pellets, bark, sawdust, shavings, chips, black liquor etc.) as well as wastes such as straw, rice husks, nut shells, poultry litter, crushed grape dregs etc. Combustion is the preferred technology for these solid wastes. The quantity of fuel used should be reported on a net calorific value basis.
9. Biogas	A gas composed principally of methane and carbon dioxide produced by anaerobic digestion of biomass.
9.1. Of which: landfill gas	A biogas formed by the digestion of landfilled wastes.
9.2. Of which: sewage sludge gas	A biogas produced from the anaerobic fermentation of sewage sludge.
9.3. Of which: other biogas	Biogas produced from the anaerobic fermentation of animal slurries and of wastes in abattoirs, breweries and other agro-food industries.
10.1. Of which: biogasoline	This category includes bioethanol (ethanol produced from biomass and/or the biodegradable fraction of waste), biomethanol (methanol produced from biomass and/or the biodegradable fraction of waste), bioETBE (ethyl-tertio-butyl-ether produced on the basis of bioethanol; the percentage by volume of bioETBE that is calculated as biofuel is 47 %) and bioMTBE (methyl-tertio-butyl-ether produced on the basis of biomethanol: the percentage by volume of bioMTBE that is calculated as biofuel is 36 %).
10.2. Of which: bio-diesels	This category includes bio-diesel (a methyl-ester produced from vegetable or animal oil, of diesel quality), biodimethylether (dimethylether produced from biomass), Fischer-Tropsch (Fischer-Tropsch produced from biomass), cold extracted bio-oil (oil produced from oil seed through mechanical processing only) and all other liquid biofuels which are added to, blended with or used straight as transport diesel.
10.3. Of which: other liquid biofuels	Liquid biofuels, used directly as fuel, not included in biogasoline or bio-diesels.

Purpose

This document provides background information methods of securing third party verification on Human Resources activities within organisations seeking the VinylPlus label.

Note that the VinylPlus® auditors will be able to consider the equivalence of other schemes on a case by case basis and this document will be updated as equivalent schemes are identified.

Verifying Human Resources Performance
Verification of performance concerning the development of its workforce can be demonstrated through programmes such as:

- **Investors in People (IiP)** – This is a UK-based organisation (see www.investorsinpeople.co.uk) with its own widely recognised methodology which seeks to transform business performance through the development of companies' workforces.

  IiP's mission is to help companies achieve the workforce-related improvements by focusing its activities on the company's business objectives.

  IiP act as a 'critical friend' to ensure continuous improvement in this process.

  IiP offer a range of on-line tools to help businesses start this process. These tools can be accessed at: www.investorsinpeople.co.uk/MediaResearch/Tools/Pages/default.aspx. Successful participants secure certification as the end of the process.

- **Equivalent schemes in other countries**. VinylPlus auditors will be able to consider the equivalence of other schemes on a case by case basis and this document will be updated as equivalent schemes are identified.

Verifying knowledge of VinylPlus® objectives and learning needs.
The company can demonstrate its employees are knowledgeable about VinylPlus and its sustainability targets in the following ways:

Evidence that key personnel from the company are engaged in VinylPlus task forces
Published research by company personnel that contributes to knowledge around the application of TNS Framework and its application to the assessment of PVC.
Evidence that the company is applying the TNS Framework.
Evidence that employees have reviewed core resources about VinylPlus
Evidence that employee competence on VinylPlus topics has been tested through internal learning programmes.
Evidence that the company sustainability objectives are connected to the industry roadmap.

2.3 Scoring Methodology

Tabel 1 Performance Scoring Table

	Requirements	a)	b)	c)	d)	e)	f)	g)	h)	Maximum number of points
Module 1 General										
1.1	Integration of the VinylPlus programme into company life	C	1, 2 or 3	1						4
2.1	Responsible sourcing policy	C								0
2.2	Compliance obligations	C								0
2.3	Quality management system	C	2							2
2.4	Procurement and supplier management system	C	1	1						2
2.5	CSRD Report	C								0
3.1	Material traceability through the supply chain	C	1*	2						2
3.2	Environmental management systems in the supply chain	C	1, 2 or 3							3
3.3	Health and safety management systems in the supply chain	C	1, 2 or 3							3
3.4	Supplier Evaluation	1*	2	3	4	2 or 4	4			12
4.1	Use of recycled PVC	2*	4	6	10					10
4.2	Use of PVC by-product	0	1*	2	3					3
4.3	Waste prevention and waste management	C	1	1	1					2
4.4	Product ECO-Design	1								1
4.5	Digital Passport	1								1
4.6	Water Usage and Abstraction	C	1	1	1					3
5.1	PVC resin used in manufacturing the product	C	2 or 4							4
5.2	Use of additives in the assessed product	C	2	4	1					7
5.3	Greenhouse gas emission reduction	C	2	2	1	1				6
5.4	Energy use	C	1	1	1	1				5
5.5	Use of renewable energy resources	1	2	3	4					4
5.6	Transport impacts	C	1	1	1	1				4

5.7	Lifecycle assessment (LCA)	C	2							2
5.8	Use of renewable feedstock	1 or 2								2
5.9	Operation Clean Sweep	1	2							2
6.1	Demonstrating commitment and communication	C	2	1						3
6.2	Local Communities	C	1	1	1					3
6.3	Biodiversity and site stewardship	1	1	1						3
6.4	Human Rights and Modern Slavery	C	1							1
TOTAL score										94
Number of compulsory requirements (C)										20
Module 2 Building and construction										
4.3	Waste prevention and waste management				1					1
4.4	Product ECO-Design		4							4
4.5	Digital Passport		1							1
5.7	Lifecycle assessment (LCA)			AS						0
TOTAL sector specific additional score										6
Number of compulsory requirements (C)										0
Module 3 Furniture										
4.0	Re-use of PVC components	1								1
4.3	Waste prevention and waste management					1				1
4.4	Product ECO-Design		1	1	1					3
5.2	Use of additives in the assessed product					C				0
5.7	Lifecycle assessment (LCA)				AS					0
6.1	Demonstrating commitment and communication				1					1
TOTAL sector specific additional score										6
Number of compulsory requirements (C)										1
Module 4 Office Building										
4.0	Re-use of PVC components	1								1
4.3	Waste prevention and waste management					1				1
4.4	Product ECO-Design		3		1					3
5.2	Use of additives in the assessed product						C			0
5.7	Lifecycle assessment (LCA)				AS					0

6.1	Demonstrating commitment and communication				1					1
TOTAL sector specific additional score										6
Number of compulsory requirements (C)										1
Module 5 Paints, varnishes and road markings										
4.4	Product ECO-Design		4			1				5
5.2	Use of additives in the assessed product							C	1	1
TOTAL sector specific additional score										6
Number of compulsory requirements (C)										1
Module 6 Non-sector specific additional requirements										
4.3	Waste prevention and waste management					1				2
4.4	Product ECO-Design		4	1						4
TOTAL sector specific additional score										6
Number of compulsory requirements (C)										0

Disclaimer: The minimum scoring to be achieved is to be reduced by number of 8 scores until VinylPlus Supplier Certificate Criteria Scheme - additives suppliers is revised and includes criteria dedicated to PVC resin and criteria dedicated to recyclates.

2.4 VinylPlus Product Label Auditor Guidelines

APPENDICES

Criteria 1.1 b) – Integration of VinylPlus into Company Life – Living your Partnership
Criteria 2.1 a) Written Responsible Sourcing Policy and Principles
Criteria 2.4 a) ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work
Criteria 3.3 b) – Summary of Requirements for an Health and Safety Management System
Criteria 4.4 a) Steps towards Product Design for Reuse and/or Recycling
Criteria 4.5 Reporting on recycled content for Recovinyl
Criteria 5.1 Matrix Status PVC Resign Suppliers
Criteria 5.1 a) Equivalent Schemes to the ECVM Charters
Criteria 6.1) VinylPlus definition of Key Additives
Criteria 8.2 a) Local Community Complaint Report Template

G.1 VinylPlus Partnership

G.1.1 Integration of the VinylPlus programme into company life

a. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, a proof of a **valid partnership to VinylPlus,** issued by the Vinyl Foundation OR a proof of payment of the Scheme Management Fee for the current year will be required.

For a higher rating

b. To reach performance level b), **written documents** (e.g. minutes, reports, notes) will be required as evidence to demonstrate activities associated with implementing the VinylPlus associated voluntary commitments and working principles. These must be signed or approved by the Company Chairman or a relevant Board Member. These documents must detail the Company's response to the VinylPlus® pillars/pathways and shall list agreed actions, updates, progress, comments and/or deadlines with subjects the company tries to implement. Activities undertaken at group level by multinational companies qualify as covering activities at national company or site level. All activities from all the legal entities member of VinylPlus® are valid. Involvement in the long-standing AGPU group (Artbeitgemeishaft group) und Umbelt (PVC and environment) does not automatically qualify.

c. A list of **key activities** demonstrating the implementation of the VinylPlus targets is included in the Appendix below. Not all these activities need to be implemented to score credits. The number of total credits scored is determined by the number of activities successfully undertaken. Provide a minimum of 5 examples of successful activities to score a first point.
VinylPlus membership of COMPANY GROUP is adequate to cover the national company (or site) assessment/audit.

G.2 Organisational Management

G.2.1 Responsible sourcing policy

a. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, a formal written **Responsible Sourcing Policy** will be provided as evidence (see Appendix for guidance on content).
Management approval for uploading the policy to a recognisable place in the company's central management system can be considered as sufficient to meet the requirement

b. The Policy must be in a form that is **relevant** to the organisation, product, product system or product group under evaluation, and follows all the principles associated with the VinylPlus label.

c. The Policy must have been **approved** by the organisation's senior management (i.e. signed and dated by the Company Chairman or a relevant Board Member.

d. The Policy must have been **effectively communicated** to all staff, and the staff must understand the principles behind the Policy.

G.2.2 Legal compliance

a. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, the applicant shall secure evidence that a **procedure has been established** to identify, update and understand all the applicable legal requirements associated with the production of the product, the product system or the product group which is being evaluated.
b. Check and secure evidence that these legal **requirements apply** to the product, the product group or the product system which is being evaluated through the implementation of the Responsible Sourcing policy described in 2.1.a above.
c. Check and secure evidence that the legal requirements and associated procedures are fully **integrated** within the Company's management system.
d. Checking the legal compliance shall include the legal requirements on the **upstream raw materials chain**. It shall for example be checked, that the process used to manufacture the chlorine used to produce the PVC is included in the legally binding conclusions of the Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document (BREF) for the Production of Chlor-alkali published in December 2014 by the European Commission, pursuant Article 13(6) of the Directive 2010/75/EU on Industrial Emissions (IED). Being not considered as a BAT, the mercury cell technology can no longer be used in the European chlor-alkali units since 11 December 2017.

G.2.3 Quality management system

a. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, the applicant shall secure evidence that there is a **documented management system** for the product, product group or product system which is being evaluated. This system must **follow the principles of ISO 9001:2015 or ISO 9001:2026 (once published).**
b. For suppliers classed as SMEs, confirmation that the company has a valid Certificate of Factory Production Control (FPC) and evidence that the suppliers Quality Management System follows the fundamental of ISO 9001 is accepted as traceable.
c. Check that the management system **includes or refers to** the Responsible Sourcing policy described in 2.1a.

<u>For a higher rating</u>

d. To reach performance level b), check that the management system is certified **to ISO 9001:2015 or ISO 9001:2026 (once published) or equivalent by an accredited organisation**. Ensure that the certification is **current** and is **applicable to the product, product system or product group** which is being evaluated and to the **site or location** where the manufacture of these products takes place.

G.2.4 Procurement and Supplier management system

a. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, the applicant shall secure evidence that there is a documented management system for the **purchasing process** to implement the responsible sourcing policy described in M.1.2.1a.

   If any constituent material is sourced from a supplier based outside the UK/EU/OECD, risk assessments and due diligence must be provided for 98% of constituent materials (by mass, volume, or cost). e.g., if 60% of suppliers are within the UK/EU/OECD, the organisation shall provide risk assessments to cover 38% of the remaining constituent materials which are sourced outside the UK/EU/OECD.

Risk assessments must be appropriate to the circumstances of the country of origin, region, and industry from which the material is derived.

It is acknowledged that the maturity of the sector is a challenge, so in the situation where a Tier 1 supplier of an input material used in a product under assessment is located in the EU, but constituent materials for that material are extracted from outside the EU, (best practice aside) Product Label does not require the organisation under assessment to have undertaken a risk assessment and to demonstrate due diligence on the Tier 2 supplier.

The following are considered appropriate mechanisms for demonstrating due diligence:

- Membership of the Ethical Trade Initiative
- Membership of the United Nations Global Compact
- Certification to the Social Accountability International SA8000 standard
- SEDEX
- Salvo Code of good practice

b. Check and secure evidence that there is an **approved supplier list** for the manufacture of the product, the product group or the product system which is being evaluated and determine the procedures by which this list has been derived. Supplier management systems must be demonstrated to require that all non-EU suppliers are from signatory nations of the ILO. It is assumed that all EU suppliers have implicitly signed up to the ILO standards. For non-EU and non-ILO-signatory nations, self-declaration by suppliers to meeting the requirements of ILO needs to be secured and evidenced.

c. Check and secure evidence that the company has a **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy or statement**. Confirm that the policy is signed by senior management and that it includes positive actions supported by the provision of supporting evidence.
   The following are considered appropriate mechanisms for demonstrating due diligence:
   - Membership of the Ethical Trade Initiative
   - Membership of the United Nations Global Compact
   - Certification to the Social Accountability International SA8000 standard
   - SEDEX
   - Salvo Code of good practice

   To achieve 1 point in 2.4b) the organisation must have satisfied the compulsory requirements and is required to have aligned their procurement processes with the principles of sustainable procurement as set out in ISO 20400. This includes the following principles:
   - Accountability
   - Transparency
   - Ethical Behaviour
   - Full and fair opportunity
   - Respect for stakeholder interest
   - Respect for the rule of law and

international norms or behaviours
• Respect for human rights
• Innovative solutions
• Focus on needs
• Integration
• Analysis of all costs
• Continual improvement

The organisation is also required to have a Code of Conduct in place for its suppliers which outlines their expectations of suppliers. The code may include components such as labour standards, environmental standards, and ethical values.
Adherence with the code shall be an obligation for all suppliers and will be signed as part of the supplier agreement. The code will be regularly reviewed, at least in line with the organisation's management system review cycle and be approved by an appropriate senior manager of the organisation under assessment.
To achieve 1 point in section 2.4 c), the organisation must have satisfied the compulsory requirements and must demonstrate that they actively engage with its constituent material supply chain, as identified as traceable in Section 3 'Supply Chain Management', on the principles of responsible sourcing. This may be in the form of workshops, supplier meetings, forums, regular digital communication sharing best practice etc.

d. Check and secure evidence that an appropriate **risk assessment** (see Appendix) has been completed for all constituent materials of the product, the product group or the product system which is being evaluated, where they have been purchased from **outside the EU** or from countries which have **not signed the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work**.

G.2.5 CSRD report

a. The organisation shall have a CSRD-Report or is preparing for it.
    - In order to check if a company has already embarked on the path to CSRD, the auditor could request a 'double materiality analysis'. This analysis is always performed at the beginning of a report process aiming to look at the impact the company has on sustainability issues and the impact sustainability issues have on the company. Only issues that are classified as 'material' in this analysis must be substantiated with KPIs. Example of what can be used as a prove include VSME "Voluntary Sustainability Reporting Standard for Micro, Small and Medium sized Enterprises." voluntary reporting.
    - The KPIs need to be based on the ESRS modules (European Sustainability Reporting Standards), which specify the requirements of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD). They are divided into thematic areas:

        - **Environment (ESRS E1–E5)**
            - CO_2 emissions (Scope 1, 2, 3)

- **Social (ESRS S1–S4)**
  - Number and structure of employees
  - Diversity (gender, age, origin)
  - Accidents at work / safety indicators
  - Training hours per employee
  - Remuneration transparency and gender pay gap

- **Governance (ESRS G1)**
  - Corruption prevention

G.3 Supply Chain Management

G.3.1 Material traceability through the supply chain

a. In order to prepare the conformity assessment for this criterion, a **table** showing a specification of all constituent materials used in manufacture of the product, the product system or the product group which is being evaluated, shall be secured as evidence. The table must indicate the source of all the constituents, the proportion of each material as used in the product (as mass or volume) along with relevant traceability data (see 3.1 b. below) for the manufacturer. The term "source" refers to the description in section 3 of the Part 2 Criteria scheme.

b. Establish the proportion of constituent materials (by mass or volume) which have eligible evidence of traceability. Traceability to source (as defined in 3.1 a. above) can be demonstrated by methods such as:
   - valid ISO 9001:2015 certification for the material or ISO 9001:2026 (once published)
   - some other formal chain of custody scheme
   - ad hoc demonstration of traceability e.g. purchase orders and delivery notes
   - for recycled materials RecyClass or Recovinyl documentation

   In order to check that the compulsory level is satisfied, check that at least 70% of source materials are traceable through the means described in 3.1 a. to appropriate source organisations. Evidence must be provided to prove the traceability e.g. copies of valid ISO 9001:2015 or ISO 9001:2026 (once published) certificates for a proportion of all the certified – e.g. all certificates for limited numbers (e.g. up to a total of 10 certified source materials). If there are more constituent materials, then a minimum of 10 eligible certificates is needed across all materials.

c. A list of Recovinyl recyclers can be found on the Recovinyl website.

<u>For higher ratings</u>

d. Maximum traceability boundary means going beyond Tier 1 suppliers. It is acceptable to trace constituent materials one step beyond Tier 1 suppliers (i.e. in the supply chains of constituent material suppliers) if evidence is supplied. In cases where it is not possible to provide independent documentary evidence beyond Tier 1, self-declaration by suppliers can be used as an evidence.

In addition, if the organisation want to prove compliance with DGNB criteria ENV1.3 (Levels QL1.2 or QL1.3.) of the DGNB system new building criteria set (version 2023 is the one valid at the moment of this VinylPlus® Product Label revision, in 2025) the organisation must provide documentation confirming that the corporate responsibility and supply chain management systems meet the formal systemic and content requirements defined by the DGNB criteria scheme itself

G.3.2 Environmental management systems in the supply chain

e. In order to prepare the conformity assessment for this criterion, the applicant should prepare a table showing a list of all the constituent materials used in the manufacture of the product, the product group or the product system which is being evaluated. The table must indicate the source of all the constituents (see section 3 , the proportion of each material as used in the product (by mass or volume) along with relevant **Environmental Management System (EMS) data** for the manufacturer (see 3.2 b. below). The term "source" refers to the description in section 3 of the Part 2 Criteria scheme.

a. In order to check that the compulsory level is satisfied, check that at least 70% of source materials are covered by an EMS that is, as a minimum, **equivalent** to ISO 14001:2015. The system needs not be certified to ISO 14001:2015. The organisation seeking certification for its product, product system or product group **must also** have an EMS which is as a minimum equivalent to ISO 14001:2015. The Appendix provides a summary of the minimum requirements for a EMS equivalent to ISO 14001:2015. Evidence must be provided to prove the suitability of the EMS. Where there is a limited number of suppliers (up to a total of 10 constituent materials), copies of the systems documents from all sources shall be provided. If there are more constituent materials, a minimum of 10 eligible documented schemes is needed across all materials.

b. For small and developing recyclers **ONLY** - an environmental statement of intent (signature by top management) will be accepted rather than an ISO 14001:2015 equivalent system.

For higher ratings

c. To reach performance levels b), c) or d), check that, respectively at least 70%, 80% or 90% of source materials are covered by valid EMS **certificated by an accredited organisation** and that the organisation seeking certification for its product, product system or product group **also** has an EMS which is **certificated by an accredited organisation**.

G.3.3 Health and safety management systems in the supply chain

f. In order to prepare the conformity assessment for this criterion, a table showing a list of all the constituent materials used in the manufacture of the product, the product group or the product system which is being evaluated, shall be prepared with the applicant. The table must indicate the source of all the constituents, the proportion of each material as used in the product (as mass or volume) along with relevant **Health and Safety Management System (H&SMS) data** for the manufacturer (see 3.3 b. below). The term "source" refers to the description in section 3 of the Part 2 Criteria scheme.

a. To check that the compulsory level is satisfied, evidence must be provided that at least 70% of source materials is covered by an H&SMS equivalent to equivalent to OHSAS 18001:2007 and ISO 45001:2018, which, as a minimum, monitors:

- Near miss incidents
- Time loss accidents
- Fatal accidents

The Appendix provides a summary of the minimum requirements for a H&SMS equivalent to OHSAS 18001:2007 and ISO 45001:2018.

b. The organisation seeking certification for its product, product system or product group **must also** have an H&SMS which is, as a minimum monitors the same topics. Evidence must be provided to prove the suitability of the H&SMS. Where there is a limited number of suppliers (up to a total of 10 constituent materials), copies of the systems documents from all sources shall be provided. If there are more constituent materials, a minimum of 10 eligible documented schemes is needed across all materials. In Germany, evidence of compliance with Arbeitsschutzgesetze (strict statutory German workplace safety/H&S obligations) is sufficient for this criterion having been met.

For higher ratings

c. To reach performance levels b), c) or d), check that, respectively, at least 60%, 75% or 90% of source materials are covered by either
   - a health and safety management system which is **certificated by an accredited organisation to OHSAS 18001:2007 or ISO 45001:2018**, or
   - an **equivalent** documented H&S MS which is **independently assessed**.

   and that the organisation seeking certification for its product, product group or product system **also** has:

   - a health and safety management system which is **certificated by an accredited organisation to OHSAS 18001:2007 or ISO 45001:2008**, or
   - an **equivalent** documented H&S MS which is **independently assessed**.

G.3.4 Supplier Evaluation

- To gain the scoring the company needs to present the prove that the used PVC recyclate, key additives or PVC resin are certified by VinylPlus.

  Companies that mix their compound themselves are also eligible for receiving the scoring

G.4 VinylPlus® Pathway 1 –Scaling Up PVC Value Chain Circularity

G.4.0 Re-use of PVC components (Module 2.2 specific supplementary requirement)

a. Identification of Re-used Components: The auditor shall verify whether the manufacturer incorporates recovered and refurbished PVC components—such as window profiles, flooring tiles, or structural elements—into the assessed product system. These must be whole components that have been salvaged and prepared for a second service life, rather than material that has been re-ground and re-processed as recyclate.

b. Verification of Origin and Chain of Custody: To award points for re-used content, the auditor shall secure documented evidence of the origin of the recovered components. Suitable evidence includes:
c. Calculation for Scoring (Inclusion in Recycled Content): The auditor shall ensure the weight of re-used PVC components is included in the numerator of the percentage calculation for Criterion 4.1. In line with GPP Award Criterion B10.2, points shall be awarded based on the proportional contribution of the sum of recycled and re-used content to the overall weight of the specified building/product elements.
d. Strip-out or Demolition Audits from site preparation works (EoL
e. collection)Invoices or Consignment Notes from specialist furniture or building component collection services.
f. Records of Refurbishment: For "closed-loop" operations, evidence of the specific cleaning, reshaping, or refinishing steps taken to restore the component to a "functional unit".
g. Review of Refurbishment Savings: Where a manufacturer claims points for refurbishment services (Approach A), the auditor should check for an inventory of new vs. recovered materials. The auditor may optionally verify a certificate of CO2 equivalent savings generated by the refurbishment operation compared to a standard new-build scenario to further validate the environmental benefit.
h. Verification of Dismantling for Re-use: The auditor shall verify that the product design facilitates the future recovery of these components. This is demonstrated through evidence of non-destructive disassembly potential (e.g., using basic manual tools and unskilled labour) to ensure the components can enter "Approach C" hierarchies at their eventual end-of-life.

Summary of Evidence to be Collected:

Proof of origin (e.g., collection records, demolition audits) for re-used PVC parts

Technical specifications identifying the mass/weight of re-used components in the final product.

A refurbishment management plan (if applying under Approach A) setting out the arrangements for restoring used parts for reuse.

Photographic or video evidence of the refurbishment process or onsite recovery

G.4.1 Use of recycled PVC

i. VinylPlus® has drafted clear definitions for what may be claimed as recycled PVC in the different product applications (profiles, pipes, flooring, films and sheets, roofing and waterproofing membranes). See VinylPlus® Sector Definitions for more details.
j. During the onsite audit, the organisation under assessment needs to demonstrate awareness and understanding the **recycling definition** relevant to their product, product system or product group under evaluation. Evidence will be required by the auditor to demonstrate this awareness and understanding.
k. To earn points on this criterion, evidence demonstrating that the product is manufactured according to a **specification** clearly instructing to use a given mass percentage (%m) of recyclate during production will be provided to the auditor. Depending on the availability of the recyclate, the actual percentage may vary slightly between production lots, but must be kept within a +/-10 % interval around an overall average.

l. The **recycling percentages** shall be calculated as the quotient of the weight amount of recycled material used and the weight of the net end product. This definition follows ISO 14021:

Recycling percentage = (PVC recyclate/ (virgin PVC + additives/fillers + PVC recyclate)) x 100

m. In order to identify into which percentage band the product, product system or products group falls, the auditor must average the calculated recycling percentages from the production runs **of the last 12 months** prior to the date of the onsite audit.

n. Reporting on the use of recycled PVC and by-product
- The auditor needs to sign a statement as reported in the Appendix on Criteria 4.1 Use of recycled PVC and 4.2 (Use of by-product)

Reporting on the use of recyclates
- The audit of the data reported in the Recotrace data collection system can take place in the scope of the VinylPlus® Product Label certification process. For this, the auditor needs to have successfully completed training of Recovinyl. The auditor needs to submit a statement to Recovinyl see Appendix.
- EN 15346 — Plastics — Recycled plastics — Characterisation of PVC recyclates

is the main European standard defining how PVC recyclate must be characterised before it can be used in new products

In addition, if the organisation want to prove compliance with DGNB criteria TEC1.6 of the DGNB system new building criteria set (version 2023 is the one valid at the moment of this VinylPlus® Product Label revision, in 2025) the organisation must assess and disclose the product's performance against key DGNB Circularity Attributes (ZE) (e.g., Detachability, Reusability) and declare the resulting Circular Quality Level (QS1-QS4) achieved, along with supporting documentation on recycled content.
The fulfilment of the requirement will not results in additional points but it can be included in an auditor statement document, following the organization's request.

G.4.2 Use of PVC by-product

a. VinylPlus® has drafted clear definitions for what may be claimed as the use of PVC by-product.

The definition of by-products is as follows:

A by-product and not waste is any substance or object which fulfils all the following conditions:

(a) the substance or object originates in a production process, of which it forms an integral part, and whose primary purpose is not the production of that substance or object;

(b) it is certain that the substance or object will be used, in the same or a subsequent production or use process, by the producer or a third party

(c) the substance or object can be used directly without any further processing other than normal industrial practice; and

(d) the further use is lawful, i.e. the substance or object fulfils, for the specific use, all relevant product, health and environmental protection requirements and will not lead to overall adverse environmental or human health impacts.

For interpretation of the definition of by-product the CPA Guidance Document on Waste of 21 September 2021 apply:

https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/46954

b. During the onsite audit, the company needs to demonstrate how they calculated the by-product. Evidence will be required by the auditor to demonstrate correctness of this calculation. This is to ensure that there is no double counting for the value of recycled content and by-product. Volumes included in the calculation of by-product can't be taken into calculation of recycled content (point4.1) and vice versa.

G.4.3 Waste prevention and waste management

a. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, evidence describing the **waste volumes going to landfill or being incinerated without energy recovery** for the whole company or the audited location (whichever is appropriate for the audit) must be shared with the auditor.
b. A written **policy document** describing the organisation's approach to **waste management** (particularly the actions taken to diverse waste from landfill or incineration without energy recovery) must be provided to the auditor. This policy must be signed by the chairman or a board member. The Appendix provides guidance regarding the type of document that needs to be in place.
c. Evidence has to be provided by company that all controlled waste from its operation is stored, transported and treated so that impacts on human health and the environment are minimised and that all regulatory requirements are fulfilled. A proof of approval after inspection performed by a statutory body (for example the GAA Gewerbeaufsichtsamt in Germany) is satisfactory to comply with these criteria. Reports on waste submitted to local waste management facilities compliant with local environmental regulations are considered controlled waste. The auditor needs to check what happens with other waste if 100% of that waste is not delivered either to waste management facilities under supervision of the local authority or a waste management facility following local environmental regulations.vvFor higher ratings To reach performance level b), evidence must be provided that waste management is part of a company's reporting scheme to its stakeholders. Appropriate objectives and targets should be set and be regularly reviewed at senior level. vvTo reach performance level c), the company must provide evidence that the information and data that are communicated to its stakeholders are externally verified. Waste volumes must be certified by **EuCertPlast**, **Recovinyl** or equivalent organisation.

For **a supplementary point** to be awarded, the information and data communicated to the stakeholders should at least specifically covers two from the five following topics:

- Sector overview of waste production rates and fate information;
- Actions taken to foster post-consumer reuse/recycling/energy recovery of the assessed product;

- Levels of reuse and recycling of the waste produced by the organisation;
- Targeted vs. actual waste reduction rates for the assessed product; and
- Staff and supply chain engagement activities promoting behavioural change and the share of best practices.

d. Module 2.2 sector specific supplementary requirement
    a. Verification of Disassembly and Repair Manual: The auditor shall verify that the manufacturer provides a comprehensive disassembly and repair manual (available in paper, electronic format, or video). The manual must provide clear instructions to enable non-destructive disassembly of the furniture product for the purpose of replacing component parts or materials.
    b. b. Review of Exploded Diagrams: In line with Furniture GPP TS9, the auditor shall confirm that the manual includes an exploded diagram of the product. This diagram must clearly illustrate:
        i. All component parts that can be removed and replaced.
        ii. The specific tools required for these operations.
    c. Assessment of Tool and Labour Requirements: The auditor shall secure evidence that disassembly and replacement operations are capable of being carried out using common and basic manual tools (e.g., standard screwdrivers or wrenches) and unskilled labour. If specialized equipment or professional training is required for standard repairs, the auditor shall determine if this restricts the product’s alignment with the GPP "comprehensive" level.
    d. Verification of Public Accessibility: The auditor shall confirm that these instructions are provided in hard copy together with the product and/or are freely available in an electronic copy via the manufacturer’s website. This access may be integrated into the product's Digital Passport via a unique URL.

G.4.4 Product Eco-Design

a To earn points on the criteria 4.4a, the applicant should provide robust evidence on steps taken to design the product, product system or product group under evaluation to ease reuse and/or recycling, or to use higher amounts of PVC recyclates. The Appendix contains a list of steps that can be used to demonstrate, that reuse/recycling is a priority for running new product development projects.

b Module 2.1 sector specific supplementary requirement:
To earn point on the criteria 4.4b, the applicant needs to comply with one of the recognised (not voluntary) standards, for example: ISO, CEN, CENELEC, EN.

c Module 2.2 sector specific supplementary requirement:
Marking Threshold and Standards: The auditor shall verify that all plastic parts with a mass greater than 100g are clearly marked according to the polymer identification requirements of EN ISO 11469 and EN ISO 1043 (parts 1-4). The lettering used in these markings must be at least 2.5 mm high to ensure legibility for recycling operators.
Additive Reporting: Where fillers, flame retardants, or plasticisers are intentionally incorporated in proportions greater than 1% w/w, the auditor shall confirm that their presence is accurately reflected in the marking codes as per EN ISO 1043 parts 2-4.

Visual Inspection: The auditor shall conduct a visual examination of a representative sample of plastic components to ensure markings are clearly visible, even if they are not visible once the product is fully assembled.

d Module 2.2 and 2.3 sector specific supplementary requirement:

Provision of Instructions: The auditor shall verify that the organisation provides a comprehensive disassembly and repair manual in paper, electronic, or video format. These instructions must enable the non-destructive disassembly of the product for the purpose of replacing component parts or materials.

Labour and Tool Assessment: The auditor shall secure evidence that disassembly and part replacement can be performed using common and basic manual tools (e.g., standard screwdrivers) and unskilled labour.

Public Accessibility: The auditor shall verify that these instructions are either provided in hard copy with the product or are freely and publicly available on the manufacturer's website, potentially accessible via a unique URL or Digital Passport.

a. Module 2.4 sector specific supplementary requirement:
   i. Flooring (EN ISO 7784-2): For PVC flooring products, the auditor shall verify compliance with EN ISO 7784-2 (Rotating abrasive rubber wheel method). The auditor must check test reports to confirm that the abrasion resistance does not exceed a 70 mg weight loss after 1,000 test cycles with a 1,000 g load and a CS10 wheel.
   ii. Road Markings (EN 13197): For PVC-based road marking systems, the auditor shall verify compliance with EN 13197 (Wear simulator). The auditor must review test reports from a national test facility or equivalent body demonstrating that the product maintains its minimum performance requirements (night/day visibility, skid resistance, and erosion) after the number of wheel passages specified in the tender (e.g., 500,000 for core or 2,000,000 for comprehensive levels).
   iii. Verification of Test Reports: The auditor shall ensure all test results are provided by the manufacturer or component suppliers and that they refer to the latest versions of the relevant EN standards.

G.4.5 Digital Passport

a. The organisation shall make preparation to establish DPP or have in place or shall have access to a documented digital passport of the product to be certified.

   In case the organisation is making preparation to establish DPP, the organisation is required to provide evidence that such preparation is effectively happening, non-exhaustive example include a report, planning, meeting minutes, active participation in an external project on development of digital passport etc. During a subsequent (annual) audit the organisation need to prove a progress made in respect to this work The digital passport can be part of a data base that includes product identification. The product itself does not need to be marked. The database with the data on the product can be either internal or external data base. Access to the data can be granted via internet using for example unique link (URL) directive to an interface where the product’s information can be viewed.

b. Module 2.1 sector specific supplementary requirement:
   The organisation shall ensure that all required environmental, health-related, and circularity data—including Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) results, quality and sustainability (QS) assessments, and SVHC (Substances of Very High Concern) status—are provided to the customer in a digital, machine-readable format. This data must be suitable for direct integration into:
   a. the Building Resource Passport (as referenced in TEC1.6, Indicator 3.1.1),
   b. the Material-Ecological Building Components Catalogue (as referenced in ENV1.2)

G.4.6 Water Usage or Abstraction

The aim of this criterion is to promote efficient water usage or abstraction and the reduction of the intensity of the water use of the organisation’s operations.

To fulfil the compulsory clause, the organisation is required to have a policy for the monitoring and reduction of the intensity of their water abstraction and/or water usage.

The policy must be approved by an appropriate senior manager of the organisation under assessment, be management system review cycle, be integrated into the
be effectively communicated to and accessible to all staff.

The policy and associated documents may be port of ‘wider’ existing management system documentation.

Where the product(s) under assessment do not require the direct input of water, the policy need only be appropriate in scale to the usage level of water.

An example of an appropriate metric for the monitoring of performance would be a ‘ater footprint’ calculation to ISO 14046 (Environmental management - Water footprint - Principles, requirements and guidelines).

The organisation must also quantify the intensity of their water usage or abstraction. This should include the amount of water usage/abstraction that is required for a unit of output. Where the product(s) under assessment do not require the direct input of water, the intensity of water usage can be quantified at site level. When this is the case, an alternative metric to measure intensity can be applied (e.g., amount of water usage per person or per area).

4.6 b) :To achieve 1 point, the organisation must have satisfied the compulsory requirements and is required to demonstrate one of the following:

- They have set targets for the reduction of the intensity of their water usage. The targets must be approved by senior management and progress of the organisation’s performance against these targets should be regularly reviewed (annually as a minimum).

OR

- The organisation shall have processes in place to implement the use of sustainable water sources at their manufacturing site(s). This may include rainwater harvesting, or water recovery, for example.

4.6 c): To achieve 1 point, the organisation must have satisfied the compulsory requirements and is required to report to its stakeholders on their water abstraction and/or use. Reporting shall include the intensity of their water usage or abstraction (as quantified for the compulsory clause) and shall thereafter be reported on an annual basis.

4.6 d): To achieve 1 point, the organisation must have satisfied the compulsory requirements and is required to have external verification of all their water information and data. Verification must be undertaken by an independent third-party organisation or suitable individual.

The verification point may be awarded if the organisation can provide evidence of a valid EPD for the product(s) under assessment; a valid product group EPD where the product(s) under assessment are included in the scope of the EPD; or where an organisation can demonstrate they have provided product specific data as part of a Trade Association's Independently verified EPD.

G.5 Advancing towards Carbon Neutrality and Minimising our Environmental Footprint

G.5.1 PVC resin used in manufacturing the product

a. Requirement 5.1 may be applied to product systems or product groups made from PVC supplied to a complete manufacturing site.
b. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, evidence shall be provided proving that the PVC resin have been manufactured according to the requirements of the ECVM Charters. There are 3 Charters which the European PVC industry has committed to in 1995, 1998 and 2019. The Charters deal with emissions during the manufacturing of PVC resin as well as the maximum content of residual monomer in the resin. A new version of the ECVM Charter has been developed in 2025 and will have to abide from 2026 on.
c. There are 2 ways for the auditor to verify compliance to these Charters. One way is through the current membership status of the supplier to EVCM. Compliance to the Charters is a prerequisite for a PVC producer to be an ECVM member. The other is through the results of a 3rd party technical audit (the "ECVM Charter Audit") verifying compliance to the above Charters for at least one of the manufacturer's VCM and PVC manufacturing sites. It is at the auditor's discretion to verify that the production unit to be audited is really a manufacturing site where commercial production takes place. Pilot plants may not be considered as a valid audited site.
d. An **"equivalent scheme" of the ECVM Charters** means: a scheme that arises and it is confirmed by VinylPlus® to be equivalent to ECVM Charter; the equivalent scheme must include:

i. The prove of respecting international norms concerning human rights and labour practices and recognise fundamental rights at work including the abolition of child labour, forced or compulsory labour, the rights of freedom of association and collective bargaining, and the elimination of discrimination.
ii. Prove of compliance with Environmental Standards for EDC and VCM Production (values as in (https://pvc.org/sustainability/industry-responsible-care/ecvm-charter/).
iii. Required minimum requirement include:

(Reference: ECVM Best Available Techniques)

ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS FOR EDC AND VCM PRODUCTION

(Analytical methods are ISO or EN methods, or equivalent)
Emission Limits for all Vent-Gas
(averages over the sampling period at 11 vol-% O2):

Sum of VCM and EDC from thermal oxidisers	<	1 mg/Nm^3
Sum of VCM and EDC from catalytic oxidisers	<	5 mg/Nm^3
HCl	<	10 mg/Nm^3
Total volatile organic compounds for thermal oxidisers	<	5 mg/Nm^3
Total volatile organic compounds for catalytic oxidisers	<	10 mg/Nm^3
PCDD/F components	<	0.08 ng/Nm^3

Discharge Limits for Total of Aqueous Effluents to a receiving water body (yearly averages):

EDC	<	0.05 g/ton of purified EDC
Copper	<	0.2 g/ton of EDC produced by oxychlorination
PCDD/F components	<	0.3 µg TEQ/ton of EDC produced by oxychlorination

ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS FOR PVC PRODUCTION (SUSPENSION PROCESS)

Total VCM-emission from PVC-production	<	45 g/ton of S-PVC produced
VCM emission into aqueous effluents	<	1.5 g/ton of S-PVC produced
Channelled dust emissions to air	<	5 mg/Nm3
(All averaged over one year)		
VCM-concentration in final PVC resin	<	1 g/ton of S-PVC
VCM-concentration in PVC after stripping	<	30 g/ton of S-PVC

(At least 90 % of measurements below the limit. Minimum 1 sample/day for food/medical applications. Minimum 1 sample/week for general purpose applications)

ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS FOR PVC PRODUCTION

(EMULSION PROCESS; also applies to Microsuspension-PVC)

Total VCM-emission to air	<	300 g/ton of E-PVC produc (500 g/ton if thermal oxidation is not applicable
VCM-emission into aqueous effluents	<	8 g/ton of E-PVC producec
Channelled dust emissions to air	<	10 mg/Nm3
(All averaged over one year)		
VCM-concentration in final PVC resin	<	1 g/ton of E-PVC
VCM-concentration in PVC after stripping	<	400 g/ton of E-PVC

(At least 90 % of measurements below the limit. Minimum 1 sample/day for food/medical applications. Minimum 1 sample/week for general purpose applications)

OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE STANDARDS

95 % of plant workers' personal EDC exposure monitoring measurements during normal operations below 2 ppm.

95 % of plant workers' personal VCM exposure monitoring measurements during normal operations below 1 ppm.

e. A matrix representing the best VinylPlus®' current knowledge on the compliance of the European resin manufacturers to the various compulsory and non-compulsory requirements of 5.1 a) and b), is provided in Appendix. Auditors are strongly encouraged to double-check the information reported.

f. Each PVC resin manufacturer member of ECVM financially contributes to VinylPlus® to an amount calculated by sharing the total ECVM's financial contribution into a number of units, proportional to each member's PVC **total** nominal production capacity. One unit corresponds to a total yearly capacity share of 50 kt/y. If the total nominal capacity of an ECVM member remains below 50 kt/y, a contribution of one unit will be requested. If the nominal capacity of a member is above 50 kt/y, the number of units is calculated by rounding up the division of the member's nominal capacity (in kt/y) by 50. If for example, the annual contribution of ECVM to VinylPlus® is 500 and total nominal capacity of the members is 2500 kt/y, the total number of units to be shared among for the ECVM members is 50, and each unit will cost 10 for that year. A review of the nominal production capacities is carried out when appropriate on a confidential basis, by an independent body.

g. Non-ECVM members supplying PVC resin to a VinylPlus® Product Label applicant have to pay an enabling fee as financial contribution to the VinylPlus® programme. The enabling fee is collected by VinylPlus® prior to the first onsite audit and then annually for the duration of the certification. The enabling fee is calculated the same way as for the contribution of the ECVM members, except that only the resin volume *used to manufacture the labelled products* is factored in for the non ECVM members. The amount of annual volume sold by a non ECVM member to the product label applicants to manufacture the labelled products shall be first converted to "units", one unit representing 50 kt/y. If the volume sold by the non ECVM member is below 50 kt/y, a minimum contribution of one unit will be requested. If the volume sold is above 50 kt/y, the number of units is calculated by rounding up the division of the non member's volume (in kt/y) by 50. The unit cost will be the same as the one paid by the ECVM members in the same year but the number of units will be limited to the volume *used to manufacture the labelled products*.

h. If several label holders are supplied by a same non-ECVM member, this non-ECVM member has to pay to VinylPlus® one single enabling fee based on the total volume supplied to all these applicants.

i. If no payment of the enabling fee is received by VinylPlus® within the payment period mentioned on the invoice (30 days), VinylPlus® will have the right to send at any time a final notice letter for payment with a notice period of minimum 1 week. If no payment of the enabling fee is received at the expiry of the final notice period, VinylPlus® will withhold for one year granting the VinylPlus® label to products manufactured from PVC resin supplied by this non-ECVM member, starting from the date the payment is due. The lack of contribution to VinylPlus® through an enabling fee of this non-ECVM member will be clearly indicated in the Status Matrix PVC resin suppliers. The only option for a label holder to keep its certification, will be to provide evidence to the auditor having run the last audit, that the labelled products are no longer manufactured with a PVC resin from this non- ECVM member.

j. Paying an enabling fee will confer no rights to the said resin manufacturer for using the VinylPlus® logo, participating in the governance of VinylPlus®, attending VinylPlus® meetings and conferences, or any other right conferred by the full ECVM membership otherwise.

k. Shall the audited company / plant be able to deliver sound evidence to the auditor that PVC sourced from non-ECVM members is only used for products that are not part of the certification, these volumes will be disregarded for proving compliance with requirement 5.1 a).

   A mass balance approach could be applied. The mass balance compares the mass of PVC consumed with the mass of products/product family manufactured. The mass balance always refers to a specific period and production plant (1 year starting from the last Certificate of Approval/last audit validity or 1 year before the date of the audit in case of new certification).The conversion of the quantity of products manufactured to the actual quantity of PVC consumed must be plausibly explained by the PVC processor. This explanation should be based on an average formulation (check of sum values).

   Note for the auditor: The mass balance is accepted if the mass of VinylPlus®-compliant PVC purchased exceeds the mass of PVC content in the ***"manufactured products"*** * (purchased quantity of PVC ≥ PVC content of certified production quantity) in case no data are available to assess the ratio of PVC / PVC certified resin's quantity in the assessed product

   The mass balance must be prepared and plausibly explained by the PVC-processor.

   *In this context, **manufactured products** means products that are reported to VinylPlus® and sold in the relevant markets.

l. For both the ECVM and non-ECVM members, if the applicant can present evidence that changes in resin supply sources have been decided and will allow fulfilment of the criteria in clause 5.1 a) at the time the certification will be used, the auditor may consider that the resin supply clause is respected. He will then carry out a control check and ask for documentation no later than 6 months after the label audit has been completed.

m. Internationally traded volumes up to 1 kt per production sites will not trigger the payment of an enabling fee. Likewise, PVC compounds purchased up to 1 kt/year will not be subject to clause 5.1 a).

n. Non-ECVM members producing "internationally traded volumes" as mentioned above (5.1.m) PVC resin must provide a valid certificate that their PVC resin production is certified against one of the following social standards: SMETA, SA8000, Kiwa Green, BEM-IBA scheme (available in South America), BSCI certification (Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI). By mean of a prove it is meant a valid certificate issued by 3rd party audit.

For a higher rating

o. To reach performance level b), the PVC resin shall be sourced from suppliers having fulfilled some additional *voluntary* commitments. The use of a mercury-free technology to produce chlorine is no longer awarded with extra points from version 1.1 of the scheme, as the mercury cell technology can no longer be legally used in European in the European chlor-alkali units since 11 December 2017 (Article 3(12) of the Directive 2010/75/EU on Industrial Emissions).

G.5.2 Use of additives in the assessed product

a. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, evidence should be produced by the applicant demonstrating compliance with REACH

   Self-certification is not sufficient for assessment that raw materials do not contain Cd or Pb or C8 ortho-phthalates.

b. This requirement excludes any of these materials included within any recycled material used in the manufacture, in so far as reuse of such materials is allowed (understood here in a purely legalistic way) by EU regulation.
c. Appropriate evidence to confirm this could be the product formulation ('recipe') or a list of additives purchased for use in the production process. In case of doubt, VinylPlus® can organise an independent and confidential external verification of the additives used.
d. The organisation must provide a legally binding declaration that the assessed PVC product, excluding legally permitted recycled content, contains Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) at a concentration of <0.1% mass share.

<u>For higher ratings</u>

a. To reach performance level b), the applicant shall provide additional evidences on guiding principles on the additives used. As VinylPlus® partners are expected to follow most of these guiding principles by default, compliance of the product / company with all other requirements of VinylPlus® will be considered as sufficient evidence to earn at least 1 point.
b. In criteria 6.1 b), "Permanent information" means printed material, sticker, bar code, links, that help users trace the additives contained in the product. "Measures the levels" means that the company controls such levels, no fixed frequency needed. "Provides information" means that information to help customers install, maintain and treat end of life in the best sustainable way, beyond only additive use. It is also permissible for VOC emission analysis to be delivered through an industry association.
c. To award **4 supplementary points**, evidences shall be provided that the virgin part of the product which is being evaluated has been manufactured without using additives from the REACH Candidate List or the Authorisation List. The up to date Candidate and Authorisation Lists are available on the relevant ECHA webpages:

   https://www.echa.europa.eu/web/guest/candidate-list-table

   and

   https://www.echa.europa.eu/authorisation-list

The VinylPlus® Product Label can be awarded to a product manufactured with an additive on the REACH Candidate or Authorisation Lists provided the exclusions of Criteria 6.1 a) are fulfilled.

d. To award **8 supplementary points**, evidence shall be provided that the key additives included in the product evaluated have been assessed using the ASF (Additive Sustainability Footprint) methodology in the application(s) they are intended for. Only the additives falling under the definition of "key additive" need to be assessed. The definition of a "key additive" is provided in the Appendix associated to this criterion.
The VinylPlus® Sustainable Use of Additives Committee (SAC) and The Natural Step (TNS) have developed the ASF methodology to secure the sustainable use of the additives in PVC products. The ASF allows the additive suppliers and compounders to proactively assess the life cycle sustainability performance of additives in specific product applications. The methodology also helps to develop plans to reduce the sustainability footprint of the additives. The ASF assessments can either be generated by the applicant on company specific formulations (company specific ASF) or by any European industry association using generic formulations (generic ASF). Generic ASF assessments have been generated by the VinylPlus® Sustainable Use of Additives Committee (SUAC) for the selected additives found in window profiles and homogeneous floor coverings. These assessments can be used as evidence by any applicant in these specific applications/articles. More information on the ASF methodology can be found on a dedicated webpage.

Some additives listed in Appendix, have already been generically assessed for some specific applications/articles by the SUAC. These additives need not be independently assessed by the Applicant when used in these specific products.

If additives used in the certified product have not been generically assessed, they should be assessed by the applicant using the sequence of actions described in as on the pvc.org website.

Compulsory requirements related to Alignment with Module 3, 4 and 5:

e. Module 3 EU GPP for Furniture

1. Verification of Broadened Metal Restrictions: the auditor shall check test reports (ISO 3856) or supplier declarations to ensure chromium VI, mercury, arsenic, and selenium are < 0.010% w/w.
2. Verification of Metal Plating Treatments: For any metal component parts used in the furniture product, the auditor shall:
    i. Confirm through a supplier declaration that cadmium or cadmium compounds have not been used for electroplating.
    ii. Verify that any nickel electroplating demonstrates a release rate < 0.5 µg/cm²/week by reviewing test reports carried out according to EN 1811.
3. Review of Coating Mixture Restrictions: The auditor shall conduct a formal review of Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for all coating mixtures applied to wooden or metal components. The auditor must ensure the mixtures are not classified under Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 as:

i. Category 1 or 2 CMR (H350, H350i, H351, H340, H341, H360, H361, H362).
ii. Acutely Toxic (H300, H310, H330) or STOT Category 1 (H370).

4. Verification of Specific Phthalate Concentrations: The auditor shall verify that specific phthalates (DEHP, BBP, DBP, DMEP, DIBP, DIHP, DHNUP, and DHP) have not been intentionally added as plasticisers at concentrations ≥ 0.010% w/w per substance. Verification shall be based on SDS from suppliers or test reports following validated gas chromatography methods.
5. Verification of Furniture Emission Benchmarks
    i. TVOC: Review chamber test reports (ISO 16000 series) to confirm 28-day emissions are < 500 µg/m³.
6. Formaldehyde (Wood-Based): For components using wood-based panels (e.g., PVC-veneered desks), the auditor shall verify that the resins used as adhesives emit formaldehyde at rates ≤ 65% of the E1 threshold. Evidence must include a supplier declaration supported by test reports (EN 717-1, EN 717-2/ISO 12460-3, or EN 120/ISO 12460-5).
7. Formaldehyde (Best-in-class): For supplementary points, verify emissions < 10 µg/

f. Module 2.3 Office Building

1. Verification of Broadened Metal Restrictions: The auditor shall verify that the assessed product does not contain chromium VI, mercury, arsenic, or selenium in concentrations exceeding 0.010% w/w per metal. Evidence shall consist of test reports based on the ISO 3856 series or equivalent, or a combination of Safety Data Sheets (SDS) from raw material suppliers and a binding manufacturer declaration.
2. Verification of Stringent Indoor Air Quality: The auditor must confirm that fit-out materials meet the 28-day emission limits specified in Office Building GPP Technical Specification D4. The auditor shall review test results carried out in accordance with CEN/TS 16516 (or equivalent standards using the European 'reference room') to confirm:
    i. TVOC: < 1,000 µg/m³.
    ii. SVOC: < 100 µg/m³.
    iii. Formaldehyde: < 40 µg/m³.
3. Verification of Individual Carcinogenic Emissions: Using the same 28-day test reports (CEN/TS 16516), the auditor shall verify that individual emissions of trichloroethylene, benzene, DEHP, and DBP are each < 1 µg/m³, and that the combined sum of these four substances is < 10 µg/m³

g. Module 2.4 Paints, Varnishes and Road Markings

1. Verification of Broadened Metal Restrictions: The auditor shall verify that the assessed product does not contain chromium VI, mercury, arsenic, or selenium in concentrations exceeding 0.010% w/w per metal.
    i. Audit Procedure: Review test reports based on the ISO 3856 series (or equivalent) provided by the manufacturer or component suppliers.
    ii. Alternative Evidence: A combination of Safety Data Sheets (SDS) from raw material suppliers and a binding manufacturer declaration confirming these metals are not intentionally added is acceptable for initial screening.
2. Verification of Prohibited Solvents and Coating Mixtures: The auditor shall ensure that the product formulation excludes high-impact solvents and hazardous mixtures defined in the GPP criteria.

    i. Solvent Check: Verify the absence of chlorinated solvents (e.g., methylene chloride, chloroalkanes), aromatic solvents (benzene, toluene, xylene, ethyl benzene), and ethylene-based glycol ethers or their acetates.
3. Mixture Classification: Review SDS Section 2.1 to confirm the coating mixture is not classified under Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 as:
    i. Category 1 or 2 CMR (H350, H340, H360).
    ii. Acutely Toxic (H300, H310, H330) or STOT Category 1 (H370).
    iii. Verification Method: Visual inspection of packaging labels and SDS review.
4. Verification of Pigment Efficiency (Supplementary): To reward the reduction of environmental hotspots, points are awarded for maintaining high performance with lower white pigment load. Thresholds: Confirm the Titanium Dioxide (TiO_2) content is:
    i. < 10% for systems applied at > 0.5 kg/m² (thick parts/coatings).
    ii. < 14% for systems applied at < 0.5 kg/m² (thin layers).
    Audit Procedure: Review documentation for the paint formulation supported by test results or a declaration from an official homologation body. This refers specifically to the road marking material excluding the glass beads.

G.5.3 Greenhouse gas emission reduction

All calculation in this criteria relate to plant level where the product to be certified is manufactured.

a. In order to demonstrated that the compulsory level is satisfied, documents necessary to prove that the organisation created and implemented policies for the monitoring and reduction of greenhouse gases from its operations shall be presented.

The policy must be approved by an appropriate senior manager of the organisation under assessment, be regularly reviewed in line with the organisation’s management system review cycle, be integrated into the organisation’s document management system, and be effectively communicated to and accessible to all staff.

The organisation is required to quantify its direct GHG emissions (i.e., scope 1); and the indirect emissions related to energy use (i.e., scope 2). Emissions may be calculated using internationally recognised standards, including:

• The Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Standard -

https://ghgprotocol.org/sites/default/files/standards/ghg-protocol-revised.pdf

• ISO 14064-1 Greenhouse gases — Part 1: Specification with guidance at the organization level

for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals

b. In order to demonstrate that 5.3 b) is satisfied, documents shall be presented proving that the organisation has in place a documented process to identify its significant sources of scope 3 emissions AND quantify the intensity of their scope 3 emissions.

Scope 3 emission can include for example purchased goods and services, capital goods, fuel and energy related activities, transportation and distribution, waste generated in operations, business travel, employee commuting, leased assets, etc

This includes therefore indirect emissions such as the extraction and production of purchased materials and fuels, transport-related activities in vehicles not owned or controlled by the reporting entity, electricity-related activities (e.g. T&D losses) not covered in Scope 2, outsourced activities, waste disposal etc.

In the GHG Protocol: Scope3_Calculation_Guidance_0.pdf (ghgprotocol.org)

c. To reach performance level 5.3 c) documents shall be presented proving that the organization has set targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, relative to output over time. The targets shall relate to climate science, be in line with the target of net zero emissions by 2050 and include near-term and long-term goals/milestones. Targets shall be approved by senior management, and performance against targets shall be regularly reviewed (annually as a minimum).

d. To reach performance level 5.3 d, evidences shall be provided that the performance on greenhouse gas emissions reduction is reported to its stakeholders. Reporting to stakeholders means that greenhouse gas emission reduction reporting is made freely available to anybody, ideally through e.g. website-based reporting or regular (annual) reports made available to all. Reporting shall include scope 1 and scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions quantified as indicated in the compulsory point.

If legal requirements do not allow to report the performance at the company level, the performance can be reported at the sector level, e.g. via a trade association.

e. To reach performance level 5.3 e, documentations shall be provided to prove that the organization has the performance verified by independent third-party body.Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) are not accepted as a means to demonstrate

stakeholder reporting or verification in this section as EPD are related specifically to products whereas 5.3 focuses on organization.

Note: It is possible to achieve any of the additional score independent of each other, there is not particular order associated to getting the point. The compulsory criteria is however mandatory

G.5.4 Energy Use

a. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, an **energy efficiency policy document** shall be presented by the applicant. The policy document must be approved by the organisation's senior management (i.e. signed and dated by the Company Chairman or a relevant Board Member). Certification to ISO 50001:2018 or any equivalent energy assessment scheme will be considered as a valid evidence. Alternatively, a binding document of the European Association to which the company belongs, can be presented as evidence. The policy document must include relevant metrics for measuring performance in relation to energy efficiency. **Self-produced** energy shall also be included in the policy and metrics.

G.5.5 Use of renewable energy resources

a. In order to earn points for this criterion, the applicant must present to the auditor **evidence from its energy supplier** on the **proportion of renewable energy** supplied to the company. The categories of energies that can be considered as renewable within our scheme, are those as defined in Chapter 5 of Annex B of the EU Regulation 1099/2008 on Energy Statistics.

Hydropower is considered as a renewable energy in the framework of the scheme. Carbon trading activities will not be considered to be equivalent to renewable or green energy.

b. Figures for the **national averages of renewable or green energy** are available online.

G.5.6 Transport impacts

a. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, a **transport policy** shall be presented as evidence to the auditor. The policy document must be approved by the organisation's senior management (i.e. signed and dated by the Company Chairman or a relevant Board Member). The policy document must include relevant metrics for measuring performance in associated with the transport of materials, goods and people involved in its **own** operations.

b. In many cases, applicants will not have their own fleet of vehicles for delivering products to customers, they will use specialised hauliers. This is not a reason to abdicate responsibility over seeking improvements. Evidence can be sought through close cooperation with such transport service providers. The main suppliers and the companies' transportation service providers can be asked to provide the relevant evidence which is a basis for an **improvement plan**. Examples of such evidence of improvement can include:
   - policies about driver education
   - eco efficiency of truck fleet
   - switch from roads to rail or water
   - maximise loads
   - eliminate empty returns

c. To reach performance level b), the scope of the transport policy and metrics shall be extended so as to cover the **supply of traceable constituent material(s) in the assessed product** (cf. 3.1-3.3).

d. A **supplementary point** can be awarded, if the applicant provides evidence that the performance on transport impact is reported to the stakeholders, at least on two of the following topics: methodology used to identify the impacts, significant environmental impacts identified, mitigation strategies, performance vs. targets. The term **reporting to stakeholders** means that transport reporting is made freely available to anybody, ideally through e.g. website-based reporting or regular (annual) reports made available to all.

G.5.7 Lifecycle assessment (LCA)

a. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, the applicant shall show that he uses a documented approach for improving the life cycle environmental performance of the products to be certified.

b. To reach performance level b), the applicant will provide evidence that it has participated in a freely and publicly available LCA study that complies with the requirements of ISO 14040:2006 and ISO 14044:2006.

   To reach performance level c), the applicant will provide independently verified Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) that conforms to the requirements of ISO 14025:2010, and ISO 21930:2017 or EN 15804:2012+A1:2013/FprA2. Examples of suitable EPDs to reach this level can be found in Environmental Declaration PVC-U Windows Double Glazing or Environmental Declaration PVC-U Windows Triple Glazing. Suitable EPDs can be provided either by the company being evaluated or by a relevant association.

c. Module 2.1 sector specific supplementary requirement:
The organisation must submit documentation demonstrating that its corporate responsibility and supply chain management systems comply with the formal procedural and content-related requirements outlined in the latest applicable version of the DGNB System New Construction, Buildings, Criteria Set. As of the 2025 revision of the VinylPlus® Product Label scheme, this refers to DGNB System New Construction, Buildings, Criteria Set – Version 2023. The documentation must support recognition under ENV1.3 Requirement Levels QL1.2 or QL1.3.
The fulfilment of c) will not results in additional points but it can be included in an auditor statement document, following the organization's request.

d. Module 2.2 sector specific supplementary requirement:
The organisation must have evidence for:
    a. Verification of Machine-Readable Format: The auditor shall verify that the manufacturer provides the Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) in a digital, machine-readable format (e.g., ILCD+EPD or XML) in addition to the standard PDF. This data must be suitable for direct import into building-level LCA tools (such as One Click LCA, GaBi, or SimaPro) used by design teams to meet GPP Selection Criterion A2.
    b. GWP Aggregation Data (A1-A3): In line with Building GPP B10.1 (Option 1), the auditor must confirm that the digital EPD explicitly reports the Global Warming Potential (GWP-fossil) characterisation results for the manufacturing phase (Modules A1-A3). This enables the required aggregation of CO2 equivalent emissions for the building's structural frame and internal walls.
    c. Consistency with LCA Accounting Conventions: The auditor shall secure evidence (e.g., a statement of compatibility or database entry) that the EPD results follow EN 15804+A2 conventions. For projects targeting specific national standards, the auditor should verify compatibility with regional accounting conventions, such as the German QNG/DGNB or French RE2020.
    d. Verification of Public Accessibility: The auditor shall verify that the machine-readable EPD data is hosted on a recognized public database (e.g., ÖKOBAUDAT, Inies, or the EPD Hub) or is provided directly to the customer via a digital product passport interface. Access should be "freely and publicly available" without requiring special permissions for the design team.

G.5.8 Use of renewable feedstock

Sustainable feedstock is defined as product that is either

- bio-based or
- Produced using bio-based feedstock with allocation of the bio equivalents via a (certified) mass balance approach)
- Produced using advanced recycled feedstock

Advanced recycling is defined as a sum of chemical recycling and dissolution recycling.

In order to demonstrate use of PVC and/or the additives/plasticizers made of sustainable feedstock following documents can be used as piece of evidence: request from the customer to deliver/produce PVC or additives using renewable raw materials, certificate of delivery of PVC or additives using renewable feedstock issued for a customer stating that the formulation includes PVC or additives based on renewable feedstock, certification on bio input and bio output material issued by for example Sustainability and Carbon Certification plus (ISCC+) scheme , REDcert2 or RSB. The performance rating is based on an overall content of sustainable feedstock in the formulation. The overall replacement rate is calculated from the percentage of fossil PVC replaced by PVC made of sustainable feedstock multiplicated with the content of sustainable feedstock in the PVC and the percentage of additives/plasticizers/fillers/stabilisers/others made from fossil feedstock replaced by additives/plasticizers made from sustainable feedstock multiplicated with the content of sustainable feedstock in the additive/plasticizer

To calculate the replacement rate following formula applies:

Replacement rate = ((A*B)+(C*D)+(E*F))*100

Where:

A - percentage of PVC made of sustainable feedstock
B - annual average of total PVC used in the formulation

C - percentage of plasticizer made of sustainable feedstock
D - annual average of total plasticizer used in the formulation

E-∑〖stabiliser+filler+pigment+other〗 of sustainable feedstock
F- annual average of total ∑〖stabiliser+filler+pigment+other〗 used in the formulation

Before calculating the formula, it needs to be checked that

B+D+F = 100% in the formula (annual average applies)

Example of the calculation:

Composition consist of 50% PVC renewable feedstock

A= 50%
B = 94%
C = 0%
D= 3% (example)
E = 0%
F= 3% (example)

Replacement rate = ((A*B)+(C*D)+(E*F))*100

A*B C*D E*F
0.5*0.94= 0.47 0*3= 0 0*3 = 0

= (0,47+0+0)*100 = 0,47 *100 = 47

The replacement rate is 47%

____

Definitions to understand the criteria:

chemical recycling

Chemical Recycling converts e. g. polymeric waste by changing its chemical structure to produce products (e. g. waxes) or substances (e.g., oil and gas) that are used as raw materials for the manufacturing of plastics or other products. Products exclude those used as fuels or means to generate energy. There are different chemical recycling technologies such as pyrolysis, solvolysis, gasification, hydro-cracking and depolymerisation.
Note: Alternatively, the terms "feedstock recycling" (synonym per ISO 15270: 2008) or "advanced recycling" (preferred in the American region) are used.77dissolution 7A purification process through which the polymer present e. g. in a mixed plastics waste or in a multi-layer formulation/ composite is selectively dissolved in a solvent, allowing it to be separated from the waste and recovered in a pure form without changing its chemical nature.7Note: The process belongs to physical recycling processes

G.5.9 Operation Clean Sweep

a. The organisation signed the Operation Clean Sweep's pledge.
In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, the applicant should provide evidence that the company signed the pledge. All the companies from the plastics industry that have committed to the OCS programme and are implementing best practices to prevent pellet loss in Europe and signed the pledge are listed on the following website https://www.opcleansweep.eu/signatories . The auditor will check that the company is listed on the website and the auditor will request the facility to provide the signed OCS pledge. eeThe organisation has started the Operation Clean Sweep certification process.eeTo earn points on this criterion the auditor will check if the company has signed the Operation Clean Sweep Pledge (as above) and if the company requested a third party audit from one of the approved Certification Bodies (CB). The list of approved OCS Europe Certification bodies should be published on the website https://www.opcleansweep.eu/.

c. Include reduction of microplastics emissions by 30% by 2030.

To earn points on this criterion the auditor will check if the company has Used the same methodology (voluntary) to measure their microplastics emissions to prove the reduction of the microplastics. Beyond 2030 the company needs to prove its yearly reduction of 5% starting in 2031. An example of the methodology is included in the Belgian publication "Beste beschikbare technicen (bbt) voor het voorkomen en beperken van kunstofgranulaat verliezen".

G.6 Building Global Coalitions and partnering for the SDGs

G.6.1 Demonstrating commitment and communication

a. In order to check that the compulsory level is satisfied, a **policy document** for employee learning and development, and for awareness raising in the value chain and with local stakeholders, must be presented and taken in evidence by the auditor. The policy document must be approved by the organisation's senior management (i.e. signed and dated by the Company Chairman or a relevant Board Member). The policy document must include relevant metrics for measuring performance in relation to these factors. Appropriate areas where metrics can be developed can include:
   - hours training per employee
   - number of development reviews
   - numbers of meetings with local organisations
   - features in company newspaper
   - record of appropriate education initiatives around VinylPlus® (e.g. 'Toolbox Talks')
   - direct interview/communication e.g. at personal development reviews
   - the full range of possible activities outlined within 1.1c above and figures for the national average of renewable or green energy, can also be used to generate metrics

For higher ratings

b. Additional documents can be presented at the audit which identify **specific objectives and targets** in relation to employee learning and development, and awareness raising in the value chain and with local stakeholders which are set by the organisation. These documents must identify **quantifiable targets** for the company. Performance against these targets must be monitored regularly.

c. The term **reporting to stakeholders** means that reporting of achievements against the objectives and targets noted in c. above for employee learning and development, and awareness raising in the value chain and with local stakeholders is made freely available to anybody, ideally through e.g. website-based reporting or regular (annual) reports made available to all. Any **verification** of this information must be made by independent third-party bodies.

d. Module 3 and 4 Sector specific supplementary requirement:
   verification of Building GPP support Dossier:
   a. Dossier Purpose and Accessibility: The auditor shall verify that the manufacturer provides a comprehensive "Building GPP Support Dossier" specifically designed to simplify the verification effort for public procurers and building design teams. The auditor shall confirm this dossier is freely and publicly available via the manufacturer's website or integrated into a Digital Product Passport
   b. Verification of Pre-calculated LCC Data: The auditor shall ensure the dossier includes economic data for Life Cycle Costing (LCC) prepared in advance. This data must demonstrate the total cost of ownership over a specified service life (e.g., 21 or 30 years) and include:

   i. Operational and Maintenance Costs: Estimated long-term expenses for cleaning, repair, and utility use (energy/water) associated with the product.
   ii. End-of-Life Costs: Estimated costs for decommissioning and waste disposal.

c. Calculation Standard: The auditor shall verify that the methodology follows ISO 15685-5 or the "Cost-optimal" methodology referenced in the EPBD.
d. Verification of Building-Level LCA Impacts: The auditor shall confirm that the dossier provides aggregated Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) results that quantify the product's contribution to building-level environmental impacts. This must include:
   i. Impact Indicators: Mandatory reporting of Global Warming Potential (GWP), along with indicators for acidification, eutrophication, and abiotic resource depletion.
   ii. Life Cycle Boundaries: The analysis must cover the cradle-to-grave boundary, including manufacturing (A1-A3), use (B1-B5), and end-of-life (C1-C4).
e. Verification of Functional Equivalency: The auditor shall verify that all pre-calculated data is based on a clearly defined functional unit (e.g., the impact/cost of the product required to fulfil its function over 20 m2 for 21 years) to ensure comparability between different bidding teams.

G.6.2 Local Communities

a. In order to demonstrate that the compulsory level is satisfied, evidence that a system allowing to identify, consult and record any complaint from local communities, shall be provided.
b. An **example complaint record** is available in the Appendix.

For higher ratings

c. To reach performance level b), the applicant shall demonstrate that it regularly reviews its performance in terms of stakeholder engagement and report this performance to its stakeholders. If the latter is not done, the applicant shall prove that he has a written policy favouring local sourcing and business whenever appropriate and practical.

G.6.3 Biodiversity & Site Stewardship

This criterion promotes the awareness of biodiversity principles within the business' operations and encourages the protection of local wildlife.

To fulfil the compulsory clause, the organisation is required to have a policy for managing the risks and impacts, both actual and potential, of the organisation's activities on biodiversity and ecosystems. The scope of this policy will cover the activities taking place on at least the site(s) under assessment.

The policy must be approved by an appropriate senior manager of the organisation under assessment, be regularly reviewed in line with the organisation's management system review cycle, be integrated into the organisation's document management system, and be effectively communicated to and accessible to all staff. The policy and associated documents may be part of 'wider' existing management system documentation.

6.3 b) : To achieve 1 point the organisation will have satisfied the compulsory requirement, and have developed and implemented a biodiversity action plan to protect and enhance the natural environment and biodiversity of the site(s) under assessment.

The action plan will be appropriate in nature to the purpose, scope, size, and location of the organisation, and may include the following actions:
• identifying and protecting the best sites for wildlife to thrive
• identifying and protecting local/native species at risk

Where it can be proven that the organisation is unable to implement a meaningful action plan for their site(s) under assessment, evidence that the organisation supports initiatives that actively protect and enhance the natural environment and biodiversity shall fulfil this requirement. These initiatives need not necessarily be local to the organisation.

As such, being in an industrial setting is no barrier to protecting and enhancing biodiversity.

6.3 c): To achieve 1 point, the organisation will have satisfied all preceding requirements, and will report to stakeholders on demonstrable actions the organisation has taken to fulfil the preceding requirement.

The report will be updated at intervals appropriate to the scale and scope of the organisation's demonstrable activities in this area, and the reported information shall be made freely and publicly available to all stakeholders.

G.6.4 Human Rights and Modern Slavery

This criterion promotes the awareness of human rights principles and risks within the business' operations.

To fulfil the compulsory clause, the organisation is required to have a policy to respect human rights and to protect workers in the organisation's employ. The policy will be appropriate in nature to the purpose, scope, and size of the organisation.

The policy must be approved at the most senior level of the business, be regularly reviewed in line with the organisation's management system review cycle, be integrated into the organisation's document management system, and effectively communicated to and accessible to all staff and stakeholders. The policy and associated documents may be part of 'wider' existing management system documentation.

To fulfill the supplementary course, the organisation is required to implement a documented risk assessment and due diligence process to identify and act upon actual and potential human right risks for workers and all stakeholders.

Organisations certified to SA 8000 by a third-party certification body (or Conformity Assessment Body) accredited for that standard by an accreditation body that is a member of the IAF (International Accreditation Forum) meets both 6.4 a and b.

2.5 Auditor Guidance Appendices

vinyl plus COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	2.5.1 Criteria M.1.1.1 b) - Integration of VinylPlus® into Company Life – Living your Partnership

1. Use and distribute the VinylPlus® Progress Report, the VinylPlus® Connect newsletter and any communication material prepared by VinylPlus®
2. Show the VinylPlus® Partnership Certificate inside your company and to your customers
3. Show the VinylPlus® roll up banner or a rolling digital screen at the entrance doors of your site, during fairs or conferences
4. Inform and train sales organisation to promote your VinylPlus® partnership
5. Promote VinylPlus® to retailers, end users and procurement officials
6. Use the VinylPlus® logo on your webpage, documents, invoices, brochures
7. Include on your website a link to the VinylPlus® website
8. Have a dedicated section on your website on sustainability and VinylPlus®
9. Participate in VinylPlus® committees
10. Use VinylPlus®' material to build your sustainability image towards the local community, to reach out to internal and external stakeholders, to publish a CSR or sustainability report, to issue press and media articles (companies with single side qualify for this requirement of they act through trade associations to represent them to wider political and other fora (including being present at the VSF)
11. Build and support local and national networks for political dialogue on sustainability. Examples: organise visits of politicians to visit the company and discuss sustainability issues, have a frequent exchange with local politicians and MEPs
12. Demonstrate that your social responsibility policy includes VinylPlus®' initiatives. Examples of actions: contribute to the VinylPlus® recycling targets (Recovinyl 2.0), include VinylPlus® Partnership Certificate in your CSR report, refer to VinylPlus® Progress Report in your CSR report, commit to participate to the Operation Clean Sweep® (OCS) programme, yearly report gains in energy efficiency or other sustainability indicators.
13. Participate in the annual VinylPlus® Sustainability Forum
14. Encourage business partners (suppliers, competitors, customers) to join and support VinylPlus®
15. Use PVC products from VinylPlus® partners including recycled PVC. Examples of products: *3 layer PVC pipes* used for sewage or drainage inside *buildings or for cable conduits,* PVC rainwater gutter, *window profiles with an inner-core made of recycled PVC, luxury vinyl tiles, PVC floor covering, furniture made of PVC profile, PVC boards used for flooring/cladding/roofing/landscaping, PVC tables, PVC fences, PVC films used for stationary articles (clear folders, filing of documents), PVC garden hoses.*

16. Translate the VinylPlus® recycling targets (800 kt overall in Europe) to your company or your industry association. i.a. “We stand for…”, “We recycle X % of the VinylPlus® volumes“ “Our target is…”.

17. Communicate your annual investment in supporting VinylPlus® to customers. Examples: show your VinylPlus® Partnership Certificate during trade fairs and customer events, communicate on your participation to VinylPlus®-co-funded projects (see 18.)

18. Cooperate with others, build a consortium, apply for co-funding from VinylPlus® for technical, recycling, research, and communication projects. Examples of projects co-funded by VinylPlus®: EPPA’s European Brochure on PVC Windows, WUPPI recycling system, PVC Forum Italia’s PVC Park project, ESWA’s Roofcollect, ERFMI’s Circular PVC Flooring Platform, IVK Europe’s PVC Recycling, PVCH’s Thermovinyl, Resysta Consortium for Recycling.

19. Create and promote controlled material loops with your customers. Examples of PVC waste recycling schemes: Roofcollect, Rewindo, Oreade, Polyloop, EUPolySEP

20. Follow the value selling concept for recycling solutions, asking the same or even a premium price for products containing recycling.

21. Run employees through a documented learning process on sustainability (e.g. the TNS system conditions) and what it means for your company. Invite your employees to participate in initiatives around sustainability.

Scoring table

Up to 5 elements	**1 point**
6 to 15 elements	**2 points**
More than 15 elements	**3 points**

vinyl plus COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	2.5.2 Criteria M.1.2.1 a) Written Responsible Sourcing Policy and Principles

Purpose

This document provides guidance regarding the type of document that needs to be in place with respect to the needs of the Responsible Sourcing Policy element of the label.

This core document can be amended to suit the specific needs and operational requirements of the organisation seeking the label.

The policy shall be reviewed regularly and updated as required. It shall be signed by a member of the organisation's senior management team.

Company logo **Responsible Sourcing Policy**

Title
Doc Nr.

Revision Nr.
Date:
Page:

Background
The aim of [Company Name] is to ensure that the constituent materials used within the delivery of services and products to our clients are responsibly sourced in accordance with the guidelines set out under the VinylPlus® Label.
The organisation will operate/undertake the following to demonstrate compliance with the needs of the label:
Commitment to VinylPlus®
Demonstrate an ongoing commitment to the principles and practices encouraged by VinylPlus® through ongoing membership of VinylPlus® and active participation in its activities.
Ethics
Recognise the need to adopt and apply standards of ethical behaviour appropriate to the purpose and activities of the organisation.
Legal compliance
Comply with all applicable laws and regulations.
Management systems
Have systems in place to operate in a legal, efficient and financially sustainable manner with continual improvement in the management of quality, health and safety, the environment and human resources.
Supply chain management
Communicate and work constructively with the supply chain to deliver sustainable policies and practices.

Stakeholder engagement
Identify stakeholders affected by the activities of the organisation and its supply chains and be responsive to their needs.
Complaints and prosecutions
Operate with transparency and record and report all complaints and prosecutions and associated corrective actions.
Fundamental rights at work
Respect international norms concerning human rights and labour practices and recognise fundamental rights at work including the abolition of child labour, forced or compulsory labour, the rights of freedom of association and collective bargaining, and the elimination of discrimination.
Health and safety
Operate in a responsible manner to protect employees, contractors and visitors.
Climate change and energy
Use energy efficiently in the production of materials and products and minimise the emission of greenhouse gases associated with these processes. Reduce fossil fuel consumption and utilise renewable sources of energy.
Resource use
Recognise the need to use all materials in the most appropriate and sustainable manner.
Site stewardship
Be responsible stewards of sites used by preventing pollution and recognising the importance of national heritage, ecological value and biodiversity during use and after the end of life of each site.
Water
Use water efficiently to minimise demand on potable water supplies, and treat process water and site run-off effectively to mitigate against pollution risks.
Waste management
Manage all waste streams effectively by adopting the waste reduction hierarchy and minimise waste incinerated and disposed of to landfill without energy or material recovery.
Transport impacts
Recognise the social and environmental impacts of transportation and the need to adopt appropriate strategies to reduce adverse impacts.
Employment and skills
Continue to support sustainable communities by providing employment and economic activity through fair operating practices, and recognise the importance of developing a skilled and competent workforce.
Local communities
Liaise effectively with the local community and strive to develop mutual understanding
and respect.

Contribution to the built environment
Develop products that improve the quality and sustainability of the built environment.

Signed: ____________________________ [e.g.] Managing Director, [Company Name]

Date: ______________________________

Background

This document provided background information on the *ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.* It is a companion document to the document VinylPlus® Label Guidance Document 2.4a – *Risk Assessment Around non-EU/OECD Suppliers*. The ILO declaration is a fundamental means of assessing in any supplier risk assessment whether fundamental worker's rights are being respected.

General Description

Adopted in 1998, the Declaration commits Member States to respect and promote principles and rights in four categories, whether or not they have ratified the relevant Conventions.

These categories are:

- Freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining
- The elimination of forced or compulsory labour
- The abolition of child labour, and
- The elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation

In more detail the principles and rights are:

The Declaration makes it clear that these rights are universal, and that they apply to all people in all States - regardless of the level of economic development. It particularly mentions groups with special needs, including the unemployed and migrant workers. It recognises that economic growth alone is not enough to ensure equity, social progress and to eradicate poverty.

This commitment is supported by a Follow-up procedure. Member States that have not ratified one or more of the core Conventions are asked each year to report on the status of the relevant rights and principles within their borders, noting impediments to ratification, and areas where assistance may be required. These reports are reviewed by the Committee of Independent Expert Advisers. In turn, their observations are considered by the ILO's Governing Body.

1 - Freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining

Relevant ILO Conventions (with hyperlinks)

C87 Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948
C98 Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949

The freedoms to associate and to bargain collectively are fundamental rights. They are rooted in the ILO Constitution and the Declaration of Philadelphia annexed to the ILO Constitution. Their core value has been reaffirmed by the international community, notably at the 1995 World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen and in the 1998 ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.
These enabling rights make it possible to promote and realize decent conditions at work. The ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, adopted in 2008, noted that freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining are particularly important to the attainment of all ILO strategic objectives.

Strong and independent workers' and employers' organizations, and the effective recognition of their right to engage in collective bargaining, are major tools for labour market governance. Collective bargaining is a way of attaining beneficial and productive solutions to potentially conflictual relations between workers and employers. It provides a means of building trust between the parties through negotiation and the articulation and satisfaction of the different interests of the negotiating partners. Collective bargaining plays this role by promoting peaceful, inclusive and democratic participation of representative workers' and employers' organizations.

The continuing importance of collective bargaining in the twenty-first century derives from its potential as a powerful tool for engagement between employers' and workers' organizations to address economic and social concerns. It can strengthen weak voices and reduce poverty and social disadvantage. This can be done by applying collective bargaining to the needs of the parties and promoting voluntary agreements that sustain the well-being of individuals and enterprises.

The recognition of the right to collective bargaining is the key to the representation of collective interests. It builds on freedom of association and renders collective representation meaningful. Collective bargaining can play an important role in enhancing enterprise performance, managing change and building harmonious industrial relations.

Collective bargaining, as a way for workers and employers to reach agreement on issues affecting the world of work, is inextricably linked to freedom of association. The right of workers and employers to establish their independent organizations is the basic prerequisite for collective bargaining and social dialogue. The right to strike has been recognised internationally as a fundamental right of workers and their organizations and as an intrinsic corollary to the right to organise. Nevertheless, these fundamental rights are still not enjoyed by millions around the world, and where these rights are recognised, there continue to be challenges in applying them. In some countries certain categories of workers are denied the right of association, and workers' and employers' organizations are illegally suspended or their internal affairs are subject to interference. In extreme cases trade unionists are threatened, arrested or even killed.

The exercise of the rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining requires a conducive and enabling environment. A legislative framework providing the necessary protections and guarantees, institutions to facilitate collective bargaining and address possible conflicts, efficient labour administrations and, very importantly, strong and effective workers' and employers' organizations, are the main elements of a conducive environment. The role of governments in providing for an enabling environment is of paramount importance.

2 - Elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour

Relevant ILO Conventions (with hyperlinks):

C29 Forced Labour Convention, 1930
C105 Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957

Economic circumstances can compel people to barter away their freedom, and labour exploitation can occur in many forms. But forced labour (to use a short comprehensive term) is something quite distinct. It occurs where work or service is exacted by the State or individuals who have the will and power to threaten workers with severe deprivations, such as withholding food or land or wages, physical violence or sexual abuse, restricting peoples' movements or locking them up.

For example, a domestic worker is in a forced labour situation where the head of a household takes away identity papers, forbids the worker to go outside and threatens him or her with, for instance, beatings or non-payment of salary in case of disobedience. The domestic may also work for an unbearably low wage, but that is another matter. If he or she were free to leave, this would not amount to forced labour - but to exploitation.

Another example of forced labour arises where villagers, whether they want to or not, have to provide substantial help in the construction of roads, the digging of irrigation channels, etc., and where government administrators, police officers or traditional chiefs brandish a credible menace if the requisitioned men, women or children do not turn up.

Bonding workers through debts is, in fact, a widespread form of forced labour in a number of developing countries. Sometimes it originates with a poor and illiterate peasant pledging labour services to an intermediary or a landowner to work off a debt over a period of time. Sometimes the obligation is passed on from one family member to another, even down to children, and from one generation to another. The labour service is rarely defined or limited in duration, and it tends to be manipulated in such a way that it does not pay off the debt. The worker becomes dependent on the intermediary or on the landowner and labours in slave-like conditions. The threat and, indeed, the occurrence of violence or other penalties for failing to work turns an economic relationship - one-sided as it is to start with - into a forced labour situation.yyLabour trafficking can give rise to forced labour. One way in which traffickers tend to put themselves into a threatening position is to confiscate the identity papers of the person they move for employment purposes. Another is to entrap their charges through cash advances or loans. Traffickers may also resort to kidnapping, notably of children. At any rate, traffickers, the persons linked to them or the employers at the point of destination give their victims no choice as to what work to perform and under which conditions. Intimidation can range from revealing the victim's illegal status to the police, to physical assault and sexual abuse.yyThe ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work obliges member States to eliminate forced labour. A work relationship shall be freely chosen and free from threats.

Countries may have definitions of forced labour that are more comprehensive than the ILO's. The ILO sets minimum standards that fix the bottom line below which individual countries shall not fall, but they can naturally achieve higher standards of protection of workers.

3 - Effective abolition of child labour

Relevant ILO Conventions (with hyperlinks):

C138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973
C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999

Children enjoy the same human rights accorded to all people. But, lacking the knowledge, experience or physical development of adults and the power to defend their own interests in an adult world, children also have distinct rights to protection by virtue of their age. One of these is protection from economic exploitation and from work that is dangerous to the health and morals of children or which hampers the child's development.

The principle of the effective abolition of child labour means ensuring that every girl and boy has the opportunity to develop physically and mentally to her or his full potential. Its aim is to stop all work by children that jeopardises their education and development. This does not mean stopping all work performed by children. International labour standards allow the distinction to be made between what constitutes acceptable and unacceptable forms of work for children at different ages and stages of development.

The principle extends from formal employment to the informal economy where, indeed, the bulk of the unacceptable forms of child labour are to be found. It covers family-based enterprises, agricultural undertakings, domestic service and unpaid work carried out under various customary arrangements whereby children work in return for their keep.

To achieve the effective abolition of child labour, governments should fix and enforce a minimum age or ages at which children can enter into different kinds of work. Within limits, these ages may vary according to national social and economic circumstances. The general minimum age for admission to employment shall not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and never be less than 15 years. But developing countries may make certain exceptions to this, and a minimum age of 14 years may be applied where the economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed. Sometimes, light work may be performed by children two years younger than the general minimum age.

Types of work now dubbed "the worst forms of child labour" are however totally unacceptable for all children under the age of 18 years, and their abolition is a matter for urgent and immediate action. These forms include such inhumane practices as slavery, trafficking, debt bondage and other forms of forced labour; prostitution and pornography; forced recruitment of children for military purposes; and the use of children for illicit activities such as the trafficking of drugs. Forms of dangerous work that can harm the health, safety or morals of children & subject to national determination, by government in consultation with workers' and employers' organisations.

In any effective strategy to abolish child labour, provision of relevant and accessible basic education is central. But education must be embedded in a whole range of other measures, aiming at combating the many factors, such as poverty, lack of awareness of children's rights and inadequate systems of social protection that give rise to child labour and allow it to persist.

4 - Elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation

Relevant ILO Conventions (with hyperlinks):

C100 Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951
C111 Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958

Discrimination at work can occur in many different settings, from high-rise office buildings to rural villages, and in a variety of forms. It can affect men or women on the basis of their sex, or because their race or skin colour, national extraction or social origin, religion, or political opinions differ from those of others. Often countries decide to ban distinctions or exclusions and forbid discrimination on other grounds as well, such as disability, HIV status or age. Discrimination at work denies opportunities for individuals and robs societies of what those people can and could contribute.

Eliminating discrimination starts with dismantling barriers and ensuring equality in access to training, education as well as the ability to own and use resources such as land and credit. It continues with fixing conditions for setting up and running enterprises of all types and sizes, and the policies and practices related to hiring, assignment of tasks, working conditions, pay, benefits, promotions, lay-offs and termination of employment. Merit and the ability to do a job, not irrelevant characteristics, should be the guide.

Discrimination in employment or occupation may be direct or indirect. Direct discrimination exists when laws, rules or practices explicitly cite a particular ground, such as sex, race, etc. to deny equal opportunities. For instance, if a wife, but not a husband, must obtain the spouse's consent to apply for a loan or a passport needed to engage in an occupation, this would be direct discrimination on the basis of sex.

Indirect discrimination occurs where rules or practices appear on the surface to be neutral but in practice lead to exclusions. Requiring applicants to be a certain height could disproportionately exclude women and members of some ethnic groups, for example. Unless the specified height is absolutely necessary to perform the particular job, this would illustrate indirect discrimination.

Equality at work means that all individuals shall be accorded equal opportunities to develop fully the knowledge, skills and competencies that are relevant to the economic activities they wish to pursue. Measures to promote equality need to bear in mind diversity in culture, language, family circumstances, and the ability to read and to deal with numbers. For peasants and owners of small or family enterprises, especially the women and ethnic groups, equal access to land (including by inheritance), training, technology and capital is key.

In the case of both employees and self-employed or (own-account) workers, non-discrimination at work depends on equal access to quality education prior to entering the labour market. This is of chief importance for girls and disadvantaged groups. A more equal division of work and family responsibilities in the household would also permit more women to improve their work opportunities.
Effective avenues are needed to permit meaningful challenges to discrimination when it occurs. ILO principles fix minimum thresholds. National laws and practices may well be broader and include more comprehensive approaches for the elimination of discrimination at work.

Purpose

The below check list will allow the auditor to validate an Environmental Management System (EMS) as equivalent to ISO 14001:2015. ISO 14001:2015 is the international standard describing the specification and requirements for an EMS. As a minimum, the VinylPlus® scheme recognises organisations where the EMS meets the below clauses from ISO14001:2015, even though the system is not certified by an accredited organisation.

PLAN

4.3. Determining the scope of the quality management system, 4.4. Quality Management System

An organisation must establish, document, implement, and continually improve their environmental management system and show how they meet all the requirements of this standard. The organisation defines the scope of the EMS, i.e. the boundaries of the organisation to which the EMS applies.

5.1. Leadership and commitment, 5.3. Organisational roles, responsibilities and authorities

ISO 14001 requires that the relevant management and accountability structure be defined in this element. Top management is expected to ensure that resources are available so that the EMS can be implemented, maintained, and improved. These resources include human resources, organisational structure, financial and technological resources, and others as needed.

Roles, responsibilities, and authorities must be defined, documented and communicated as appropriate.

The organisation must denote the Management Representative who is responsible to oversee the EMS and report to management on its operation. This person(s) ensures that the EMS is established, implemented and maintained consistent with ISO 14001:2015, and also reports to top management on the performance of the system including recommendations for improvement.

5.2. Environmental Policy

The organisation must have a policy, or commitment statement, developed by top management relative to the scope of the EMS that conforms to the standard. This is generally a short statement that drives the remainder of the EMS. There are specific items that must be committed to in the policy, such as compliance with legal and other requirements, prevention of pollution, and continual improvement. In addition, the policy must be communicated to all employees, and others working on behalf of the organisation, and be available to the public. The policy provides a framework for reviewing objectives and targets and be appropriate to the nature and scale of the entity included in the scope. This policy must be documented, implemented, and maintained. This means that it is kept current through the EMS review and continual improvement process, and is implemented through the remainder of the EMS elements.

6.1.2. Identification of environmental hazards, 6.1.4. Determining significant environmental aspects and organisational risks and opportunities

These elements require a procedure to identify environmental aspects and related impacts that the organisation can control or have influence over, and determine those which are significant to the organisation. ISO 14001:2015 does not prescribe what aspects shall be significant, or even how to determine significance. However, it is expected that a consistent and verifiable process is used to determine significance.

Aspects are defined as how an organisation's activities products and/or services interact with the environment. An impact is how an aspect changes the environment. The intent of this element is to help the organisation identify how it affects the environment, prioritise aspects, and use the EMS to manage, control, and improve upon the aspects. So the organisation must ensure that the significant aspects are taken into account in the EMS.

In order to ensure that the system is continually improving and current, this information must be kept up to date.

6.1.3. Determination of compliance obligations

This is a requirement for a procedure that explains how the organisation obtains information regarding its legal and other requirements, and makes that information known to key functions within the organisation.
The intent of this element is to identify the environmental legal and other requirements that pertain to its operations and activities so that the organisation can ensure that they are taken into account in the EMS. In doing so, the organisation must also determine how these requirements apply to the significant aspects.

6.2. Environmental objectives and planning to achieve them
There is no requirement for a procedure in this element. However, there must be some process that ensures that the objectives and targets are consistent with the policy, which includes the commitments to compliance with legal and other requirements, continual improvement, and prevention of pollution. Also, the organisation must take into consideration significant aspects, legal and other requirements, views of interested parties, and technological, financial, and business issues when deciding what it wishes to accomplish as an objective. The objectives and targets need to exist at whatever functions and levels of the organisation, and be measurable, where practicable.

DO

7.2. Competence, 7.3. Awareness
The key point in these elements is to ensure that persons performing tasks that have or can have significant impact on the environment and/or relate to the legal and other requirements are competent to do those tasks. Competence is ensured through appropriate education, training, and/or experience.
The organisation needs to identify training needs as they relate to the EMS, the significant aspects, and the legal and other requirements and make sure this training is provided (records of such are to be maintained). A procedure is needed that makes sure such persons are: aware of the need to conform with all EMS procedures and requirements and what they specifically need to do to do so; the significant aspects and the legal and other requirements associated with their respective responsibilities and why improved performance is beneficial; and the consequences of not following these procedures and requirements. In addition to job-specific knowledge, it expected that all personnel within the EMS (including contractors) have general awareness on items such as the policy and emergency response.

7.4. Communication
Procedures are required for both internal and external communications. Note that ISO 14001:2015 only requires procedures, and allows the organisation to decide for itself the degree of openness and disclosure of information. Whatever the decision is in terms of disclosure, the decision process must be recorded. There is a specific requirement that the organisation considers external communications about its significant environmental aspects and records its decision.
For internal communications, the procedure needs to describe how it is done among the levels of the organisation. For external communications, it has to describe how external communications are received, documented, and a response provided.

7.5. Documented information
This requirement ensures that the organisation has documented the system in either electronic or paper form such that it addresses the elements of the standard, describes how the organisation conforms to each element, and provides direction to related documentation. Not all ISO 14001-required procedures need to be documented, as long as the system requirements can be verified. However, documentation must be provided such that enough is available to ensure the effective planning, operation, and control of processes related to the significant aspects, and to demonstrate conformance to ISO 14001:2015. Such documentation at a minimum includes policy, objectives and targets, a definition of the scope of the EMS, and other main elements.

7.5.2. Creating and updating, 7.5.3. Control of documented information
The organisation is required to control documents, such as system procedures and work instructions, to ensure that current versions are distributed and obsolete versions are removed from the system. There is a requirement for a document control procedure that ensures documents are approved prior to use, are reviewed and updated as necessary, changes to versions are identified, that the current versions are available at points of use, that they are legible, identifiable, and that obsolete ones are so noted to avoid unintended use. It is acceptable to use documents of internal origin in the EMS, but those must be identified as being essential to the EMS and their distribution controlled.

7.5.3. Control of documented information

Records are expected to exist to serve as verification of the system operating and the organisation's conformance to the standard and its own EMS requirements. Procedures in this element are required for the maintenance of records, and specifically require that records are identifiable, retrievable, safely stored, and legible, retained as appropriate, and traceable.

8.1. Operational Planning and Control, 8.2. Value chain control

For these elements, critical functions related to the policy, significant aspects, the legal and other requirements, and objectives and targets are identified and procedures and work instructions are required to ensure proper execution of activities. Requirements for communicating applicable system requirements to contractors also need to be addressed in these procedures.

The required procedures need to provide instruction such that the organisation conforms to the policy, objectives and targets, the legal and other requirements, and addresses any impacts from significant aspects. Which procedures are needed can be determined by review of the significant aspects, objects and targets, the legal and other requirements, and policy and then deciding what must be documented to ensure that deviations from planned arrangements do not occur.

In regard to contractors, the organisation will need to establish procedures related to the significant aspects the legal and other requirements, of the goods and services it uses, and communicating the relevant elements of those procedures to the suppliers and contractors.

8.3. Emergency preparedness and response

Although typically addressed through conventional emergency response plans, this element also requires that a process exist for actually identifying the potential emergencies, in addition to planning and mitigating them. Emergency incidents include those that may not be regulated, but may still cause significant impact as defined by the organisation.

As part of continual improvement, it is required that the organisation not only responds to emergency situations, but also reviews the emergency procedures and make improvements as necessary. This may involve periodic testing of emergency procedures, if practicable.

CHECK

9.1. Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation

In order to properly manage the system, measurements must be taken of its performance to provide data for action. Procedures are required describing how the organisation will monitor and measure key parameters of operations. These parameters relate to the operations that can have significant impacts, to monitor performance towards the objectives and targets, and to monitor conformance to the legal and other requirements and other EMS requirements.

Equipment related to environmental measurements, must be calibrated according to procedures, and records maintained.

9.1.2. Evaluation of Compliance

The first part of this element requires the organisation to have a procedure to periodically evaluate its compliance with applicable legal requirements as defined in 6.1.3. The organisation will need to keep records of these periodic evaluations. ISO 14001:2015 also requires a similar evaluation for compliance with other requirements.

9.2. Internal Audit

ISO 14001:2015 requires that the system provide for internal audits. This procedure could include methodologies, schedules, checklists and forms, and processes used to conduct the audits. The purpose of this audit is to determine whether the system conforms to the requirements of ISO 14001:2015 and the organisation's own EMS detailed requirements, and if the EMS has been properly implemented and maintained. The procedure for internal audits has to address responsibilities and requirements for planning and executing the audits, reporting results, and what records will be generated (and maintained in accordance with 7.5.3.). The procedures also address determination of audit scope, how often they will be conducted, and specifically how they will be done.

Auditors need to be selected such that it ensures objectivity and impartiality of the audit process.

9.3. Management Review

This element requires that periodically, top management will review the EMS to ensure it is operating as planned, and is suitable, adequate, and effective. The organisation needs to ensure that in the review: results of internal audits (EMS and compliance); external communications; environmental performance; status on objectives and targets; status of corrective and preventive actions; follow up on actions from prior management reviews; and changing conditions or situations; and recommendations for improvement are all discussed. Results and records of management review include agendas, attendance records, minutes, and documented agreed upon action items.

ACT

10.1. Nonconformity and corrective action, 10.2. Continual improvement

These elements require procedures for acting on non-conformances identified in the system, including corrective and preventive action. A non-conformance is a situation where the actual condition is not in accordance with planned conditions. Someone not following a procedure, a regulatory non-compliance, or an incident, are all examples of possible systemic non-conformances. Non-conformances may be identified through audits, monitoring and measurement, and communications. The intent is to correct the system flaws by addressing root causes, rather than just fixing the immediate incident only. The standard also requires that trends in corrective actions be evaluated to see if deeper-rooted preventive actions can also be implemented.

The procedure needs to make sure the non-conformances are not only first addressed to mitigate environmental impact; but that further investigation occurs to determine their cause, and action taken to avoid it happening again. Preventive actions would then be those actions resulting from an evaluation as to why nonconformities are occurring and taking action to prevent their recurrence. The standard states that the corrective action is appropriate to the magnitude of the problem and the impacts encountered; to avoid either over-compensating or under-compensating for a problem.

The organisation must record the results of corrective actions taken, and must also review the effectiveness of actions taken.

Purpose

The below check list will allow the auditor to validate an Health and Safety Management System (H&S MS) as equivalent to OHSAS 18001:2007 and ISO 45001:2018. As a minimum, the VinylPlus® scheme recognises organisations where the H&S MS meets these requirements, even though the system is not certified by an accredited organisation.

1. The company has set up and maintained a H&S MS
2. The company has an H&S policy in place. This policy complies with the structure and risks of the company and commits to constant development, compliance with applicable laws as well as any other requirements in connection with the company.
3. H&S risks are defined and regularly assessed
4. Applicable laws and company requirements are identified and information thereof communicated to the staff
5. The company has common, division related and individual H&S targets. Suitable indicators are designated for each H&S target, targets are reasonable and attainable. Targets are communicated to the staff and introduced in the management program.
6. H&S Management programs are developed in order to meet the targets. Developments are monitored, reviewed and taken under record. Strategies and plans are updated according to the results.
7. The company has assigned one of its top managers as the management representative. He determines the responsibilities and powers of such staff managing, performing and verifying the H&S activities. The management representative regularly informs the management of the system performance.
8. Training is provided to the employees and subcontractors on the issue of H&S. The company informs its employees of the H&S issues. The employees recognise their own representatives as well as management representative over the issue of H&S.
9. A system to control OHS documents and data is in place. The system encompasses definition, approval, revision, publication and de-activation of documents and data.
10. The company has made the necessary arrangements to be able to control risks and have assurance about them. The company has developed plans and procedures for definition of emergencies, coping with them and prevention or reduction of potential illnesses and injuries. They are tested periodically.
11. The company has put in place a system for reporting any non-compliances, accidents, incidents and risks, making sure that they are applicable for any staff. Investigations are carried out after each incident. The OHS records are be retained in a safe environment for a period meeting legal requirements and are easily accessible.
12. All the parties involved are knowledgeable about any emergency activities which would be taken after any non-compliance, accidents, incidents or risks would be detected.
13. OHS audits are done in-house or outsourced to external auditors. Internal audit reports must be reviewed by the management.
14. Management reviews are annually carried out by the top management. The operation of the H&S MS and compliance of the company with the H&S policy and targets are assessed. New or revised H&S targets are developed for continuous improvement.
15. Analysis of the context and stakeholder's needs
16. Identification of risks and opportunities

Purpose

This document provides guidance regarding the type of document that needs to be in place with respect to the needs of the Waste Policy element of the label.

This core document can be amended to suit the specific needs and operational requirements of the organisation seeking the label.

The policy shall be reviewed regularly and updated as required. It shall be signed by a member of the organisation's senior management team.

A Waste Policy Template

Company Logo	**Waste Policy**	Doc No:	
		Revision: No:	
		Date:	
		Page:	- 30 -Page 30 of 39

Background

[Company] is committed to the principles of the waste hierarchy, i.e.:

- Reduce
- Re-use, and
- Recycle

Key Principles

[Company] will seek, through its purchasing policy and other associated procedures, to ensure that the operational focus is on waste elimination in the specification purchasing and manufacturing process. However, where the scope for waste elimination is limited or has been exhausted waste will be disposed of by the most environmentally sustainable means.

[Company] aims to ensure that Best Practical Environmental Option is applied to all waste streams.

{Company's] Purchasing Department, through all relevant documented procedures, will actively pursue the most appropriate materials and technologies which will reduce waste and the Company's overall environmental impact.

[Company] is also committed to reducing the levels of waste generated by its products at point of use.

Note: Specify here engagement eg with take-back- reuse and recycling schemes with which the company is engaged.

Metrics

Waste metrics will be measured through the following means:

Note: these are typical metrics; select those of most relevance to operation or specify others.

- Total mass of non-hazardous waste sent to landfill (Tonnes year^{-1})
- Mass of non-hazardous waste sent to landfill as a proportion of total product produced (%)
- Mass of hazardous waste disposed (Tonnes year^{-1})
- Mass of hazardous waste disposed as a proportion of total product produced (%)
-

Signed: ___________________________ [e.g.] Managing Director, [Company Name]

Date: _____________________________

vinyl plus COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	2.5.7 Criteria M.1.4.4 Product Design for Reuse and/or Recycling

- Reuse and recycling of the PVC part are clear priorities for R&D when developing new products
- Internal meetings highlighting reuse and recycling, leading to actions and progress measured against targets can be documented
- Controlled loop or closed loop concepts are developed with customers
- Company participates in industry recycling schemes
- Company develops products / systems with a maximum of components made from PVC allowing to maximise recycling
- Company develops products / systems that allow a very quick dismantling / separation of components before recycling

vinyl plus COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	2.5.8 Criteria 4.1 Use of recycled PVC

VinylPlus® Product Label

Recycled PVC and by-product Statement

Company name

Has provided evidences allowing to calculate the sum of recycled PVC and by-products.

Product /product system	Recycled PVC *	*X % m*
Manufacturing location(s):	PVC by-product used in the *products/product system*	*X % m*
TOTAL		*X % m*

**VinylPlus® definitions apply*

***** by-products definition apply as defined in the auditor guidelines***

Audit of Converting Activity Report

Company Name:

Converter ☐ Converter with the recycling activity ☐

Period which has been audited:

from to (included)

Location:

Date:

Name of the auditor:

Present at audit:

Result of the audit

Total input tonnage reported in RecoTrace

Total: t

Total output tonnage reported in RecoTrace

Total: t

Total input tonnage approved after audit

Total: t

Total output tonnage approved after audit

Total: t

Data in RecoTrace is consistent with approved tonnage ☐ Yes ☐ No

Data in RecoTrace is approved by auditor ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signatures

X ____________________ X ____________________

Auditor Company representative

Administration

Comments

Converters input

Suppliers with Recovinyl (to avoid double counting): describe which ones and what tonnages has been reported

Material originating from traders: describe which traders and what tonnages had been reported

Comments

Output

Customers within Recovinyl (to avoid double counting): describe which ones and what tonnages had been reported

Comments

Mass Balance

Input (tonnes)		Output (tonnes)	
A - Incoming r-PVC reported		F - Outgoing recycled material in products	
C - Stock r-PVC material initial		G - Stock recycled material in products initial	
D - Stock r-PVC material final		H - Stock recycled material in products final	
E - Additives			
A-(D-C)+E	0	**F+(H-G)**	0

Comments

General remarks

2.5.10 Criteria M.1.5.1 Matrix Status PVC Resin Suppliers

Matrix Status PVC resin suppliers Update MG 01.01.2025

Requirement 5.1

	Compulsory level (5.1 a))			Non compulsory level (5.1 b))			
PVC resin manufacturer	Member of ECVM	Comply to the ECVM charters or equivalent	Contribute to VinylPlus through enabling fee	VinylPlus partner	Not involved in a transport incident with VCM release during last three years	Report emissions in line with Euro Chlor Sustainability programme (2019 status)	Report emissions EDC/VCM/Dioxins to ECVM
Anwil		Verification on 4.12.2019. Results pending.					
Borsodchem							
Ercros							
Inovyn							
Kem One							
Fortischem							
Shin-Etsu						Reported through its chlorine supplier Akzo-Nobel	
Spolana							
Vestolit (Mexichem)							
Vinnolit							
Vynova							

A green box means that criteria is fulfilled by the PVC resin manufacturer.

	2.5.11 Criteria 5.1 a) Equivalent Schemes to the ECVM Charters

Examples of “Equivalent Schemes" to the ECVM Charters include

- the Australian PVC industry set up in 2002 a Product Stewardship Commitment which includes some commitments on production and storage at least as demanding as the ECVM Charters.
- the PVC producers in the ASEAN region have set up an organisation called AVC (Asean Vinyl Council). They have also decided to set up an "AVC Environmental Voluntary Standard" following the model of the ECVM Charters. The formal announcement has been postponed, but some principles are already agreed, i.e. that it will cover all processing, logistics and recycling of EDC, VCM and PVC. The members will commit that their environmental impact shall be measured, monitored and reduced to meet reference targets and time frames which will be determined periodically by the AVC Steering Committee, but which we expect to be similar to the ECVM Charters.dThis shows that an "equivalent" alternative of the ECVM Charter already exists and that a second one is expected to be soon implemented.

	2.5.12 Criteria 6.1 VinylPlus® definition of Key Additives

Key Additives: Definition and Threshold

An additive (assessed through the ASF methodology) is a chemical substance added to the PVC resin to enable a proper processing (compounding, extrusion, calendaring, moulding, etc..). Additives mays also be used to bring to the final article specific performances and/or reduce raw material cost.

Additives assessed through ASF typically include: stabiliser and co-stabilisers, lubricants, plasticisers, impact modifiers, processing aids, pigments and fillers. These additives types are far from exhaustive in all of the many applications of PVC, which may for example also include extenders, viscosity modifiers, biocides, etc.

Materials such as gaskets, reinforcing components, and other related components of finished PVC articles/products are excluded from the ASF as they are already considered in the article's EPD.

This list does not include 100% of the additives used in all the many PVC applications. It could happen that tomorrow, while assessing other end uses, other additives might be included (extenders, viscosity modifiers, biocides, etc.…). However, the ones listed above are ok for most of the main applications.

Key additives are defined by VinylPlus® through concentration thresholds.

Any chemical substance included into the above additive classes, incorporated into a PVC article or compound at a concentration above 0.3 phr (parts per hundred of PVC), unless included into the SVHC list or classified as CMR Category 1a or 1b, or PBT, or of an equivalent level of concern. In the latter case, the threshold will be lowered to 0.1%, coherently with thresholds defined in REACH.

The proposed threshold of 0.3 phr corresponds to an average of about 0.2% into an article. In the case of a stabiliser, each of its components representing at least 5% of the entire stabiliser mix will be evaluated. An exception to this is if it has a toxicologic profile as listed above, in which case a 0.1% threshold applies.

	2.5.13 Criteria M.1.8.2 a) Local Community Complaint Report Template

Purpose

This document provides guidance regarding the type of document that needs to be in place with respect to the needs of the local community complaint reporting process element of the label.

This template can be amended to suit the specific needs and operational requirements of the organisation seeking the label.

The template shall be reviewed regularly and updated as required.

Local Community Complaint Report Template

Company Logo	Local Community Complaint Report Template	Doc No:	
		Revision: No:	
		Date:	
		Page:	- 112 -Page 112 of

Complaint Reference No.:

Description of Complaint	**Date: ____________**
Complainant's Details:	
Name:	
Address:	
Telephone No:	

Investigation / Evaluation of significance of Complaint

Name: ___________________________ Signature: ______________________ Date: _____________

Continued…

Action Taken
Name: ___________________________ Signature: ______________________ Date: _____________

Verification of Closure
Name: ___________________________ Signature: ______________________ Date: _____________

	2.5.14 System Compliance Declaration and Data Disclosure Statement DGNB

Purpose: This document confirms that the Applicant Company provided verifiable and appropriately formatted information necessary to comply with DGNB requirements ENV1.1, ENV.1.2, ENV1.3 and TEC1.6 as presented in the current available version of the DGNB system new construction building criteria set (at the moment of the last revision, in 2025, the available criteria set is Version 2023).

Company Name	Product
Manufacturing Location(s) Audited	Date of Verification

DGNB Compliance Fulfillment Statement

The undersigned Auditor confirms that the applicant Company has provided sufficient and documented evidence demonstrating fulfillment of the detailed DGNB requirements present in the DGNB system new contraction buildings (the available version in 2025, at the moment of the last Product Label scheme revision is Version 2023) as outlined below:

Vinyl Plus Product Label	Description	Verification Status (Check ✓)	DGNB Criteria
Criterion 5.2 d)	The organisation provided a legally binding declaration confirming that the assessed PVC product (excluding legally permitted recycled content) contains Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) at a concentration of <0.1% mass share.	☐ Fulfilled	ENV1.2, TEC1.6
Criterion 5.7 c)	The Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) (as per Criterion 7.5) reports the fossil Global Warming Potential (GWP fossil) for the manufacturing phase (A1-A3) using EN 15804+A2 conventions and is compatible with German QNG/DGNB LCA accounting conventions.	☐ Fulfilled	ENV1.1
Criterion 4.1 Auditor guideline	The manufacturer has assessed and disclosed the product's performance against key DGNB Circularity Attributes (ZE) and explicitly declared the resulting Circular Quality Level (QS1-QS4) achieved for the product.	☐ Fulfilled	TEC1.6
Criterion 3.1	The manufacturer provided documentation confirming that the corporate responsibility and	☐ Fulfilled	ENV1.3

Auditor guideline	supply chain management systems meet the formal systemic and content requirements defined by the DGNB for recognition under ENV1.3 Requirement Levels QL1.2 or QL1.3.

Supplementary Digital Data Handover Statement

The auditor confirms the compliance of the applying company regarding digital data transparency as per the supplementary requirement outlined in the DGNB Notes:

The organisation has made all required environmental, pollutant, and circularity data (LCA results, Quality and Sustainability (QS) assessments, and SVHC status) available to the customer in a digital, machine-readable format.

This data is suitable for direct integration into:
• The Building Resource Passport (as referenced in TEC1.6)
• The Material-Ecological Building Components Catalogue (as referenced in ENV1.2)

Digital Handover Status	**Confirmation (Check ✓)**
All required data is available in a digital, machine-readable format.	☐ Fulfilled

Auditor Sign-off

I hereby certify that the information presented above accurately reflects the documentation and evidence collected during the conformity assessment.

--

Auditor Name

--

Certification Body (CAB)

Date: ___________________________________

vinyl plus COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	2.5.15 System Compliance Declaration and Data Disclosure Statement GPP

Purpose: This document confirms that the Applicant Company provided verifiable and appropriately formatted information necessary to comply with EU GPP Criteria for Office Building Design, Construction and Management as presented in the current available version (SWD (2016) 180 20-05-2016).

Company Name	Product
Manufacturing Location(s) Audited	Date of Verification

GPP Compliance Fulfillment Statement

The undersigned Auditor confirms that the applicant Company has provided sufficient and documented evidence demonstrating fulfillment of the detailed requirements present in the SWD (2016) 180 as outlined below:

Vinyl Plus Product Label	Description	Verification Status (Check ✓)	GPP Criteria
Criterion 5.7 b)	Valid, independently verified EPD conforming to ISO 14025 and EN 15804.	☐ Fulfilled	Selection Criterion A2
Criterion 5.7 c)	EPD reports Global Warming Potential (GWP-fossil) specifically for manufacturing Modules A1-A3.	☐ Fulfilled	Award Criterion B10.1
Criterion 5.7 (Digital)	Provision of environmental data in a digital, machine-readable format (e.g., XML, ILCD+EPD).	☐ Fulfilled	Selection Criterion A2
Criterion 5.7 (Access)	Digital EPD data is hosted on a recognized public database (e.g., ÖKOBAUDAT, EPD Hub) or accessible via a digital product passport.	☐ Fulfilled	Award Criterion B10.1

Supplementary Digital Data Handover Statement

The auditor confirms that the organisation has made all required environmental and circularity data (LCA results and GWP indicators) available to the customer in a format suitable for direct integration into building-level LCA tools. This supports the aggregation of GWP indicators for the following building elements as required by GPP:

Structural frame (beams, columns, and slabs)

Internal walls and partitions
External walls, cladding, and insulation
Etc.

Auditor Sign-off

I hereby certify that the information presented above accurately reflects the documentation and evidence collected during the conformity assessment.

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Auditor Name

--

Certification Body (CAB)

Date: ___________________________________

3. PART 3 - Requirements for accreditation bodies, certification bodies and auditors accreditation and certification process

3.1. Minimum requirements for the Audit

Auditing shall be done by an accredited certification body.

The third party audit needed to assess conformity with the VinylPlus® Product Label requirements can be performed by any Certification Assessment Body (CAB) specifically accredited for the Label. The accreditation shall be awarded by the national Accreditation Body (NAB) of the country where the audit needs to be performed. The choice of the CAB is made by the Label Applicant based on the list of accredited certification bodies made available by VinylPlus® or one of its mandates.

Certification Assessment Body is eligible to apply for an accreditation to a national accreditation body (NAB). Certification body shall have ISO 17065 accreditation.

In order for an audit performed by the accredited CAB to be considered as valid, all of the following minimum requirements shall be met:

-The auditor selected by the CAB to perform the audit shall be properly trained by VinylPlus® An untrained auditor is invited to participate to the next Auditor Accreditation Course organised by VinylPlus® and to participate to an audit run by BRE at the facilities of a label applicant. BRE and the untrained auditor collect together the evidences and edit together the audit report. BRE certifies in writing that the auditor has achieved full compliance with all the training requirements. All the costs related to the training are borne by the CAB.

Further steps are explained in "Guide to the Auditing and Verification processes v1.4 20221213" see Annex 2.

3.2. Minimum requirements for the Auditor

To Become an (Accredited) Auditor the candidate needs to achieve following:

1. Successful completion of an Auditor Accreditation Course

2. Participation to one audit supervised at the facilities of a label applicant

3. If VinylPlus® judges it necessary, successful lead of an audit for another applicant

Training Completion Certificate delivered by VinylPlus® . Validity period is 3 years.

List of Auditors (accredited or not by a national accreditation body (NAB)) is maintained and updated on a regular basis by VinylPlus® and posted on the website.

The list is to be submitted for selection to any new applicant or Label holder needing to be re-audited.

Annexes

ANNEX 1: Self Assessment document

ANNEX 2: Guide to the Auditing and Verification processes v1.4 20221213

ANNEX 3: Terms and conditions

ANNEX 4: Evidence assessment sheet

ANNEX 1: Self Assessment

Requirement	Performance Rating
1.1 Integration of the VinylPlus® programme into company life	Compulsory ϒ Points: 1 ϒ 2 ϒ 3 ϒ 4 ϒ
2.1 Responsible sourcing policy	Compulsory ϒ
2.2 Legal compliance	Compulsory ϒ
2.3 Quality management system	Compulsory □ Points: 1 ϒ 2 ϒ
2.4 Procurement and supplier management system	Compulsory □ 1 ϒ 2 ϒ
3.1 Material traceability through the supply chain	Compulsory ϒ Points: 1 ϒ 2 ϒ
3.2 Environmental management systems in the supply chain	Compulsory ϒ Points: 1 ϒ 2 ϒ 3 ϒ
3.3 Health and safety management systems in the supply chain	Compulsory ϒ Points: 1 ϒ 2 ϒ 3 ϒ
4.1 Use of recycled PVC	Points: 2 ϒ 4 ϒ 6 ϒ 10 ϒ
4.2 Use if PVC by-product	Points: 1 ϒ
4.3 Re-use of PVC Components	
4.4 Waste prevention and waste management	Compulsory ϒ Points: 1 ϒ 2 ϒ 3 ϒ 4 ϒ
4.5 Product Eco-Design	Points: 2 ϒ 3 ϒ 4 ϒ
4.6 Water Usage and Abstraction	Compulsory ϒ Points: 1 ϒ 2 ϒ 3 ϒ
5.1 PVC resin	Compulsory ϒ Points: 2 □ 4 ϒ
5.2 Use of additives	Compulsory □ Points: 1 □ 2 □ 3 ϒ 4 □ 5 □ 6 □ 7 ϒ 8 □ 9 □ 10 □
5.3 Greenhouse gas emission reduction	Compulsory □ Points: 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 □
5.4 Energy use	Compulsory □ Points: 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □
5.5 Use of renewable energy resources	Points: 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □

5.6 Transport impacts	Compulsory Points: 1 2 3 4
5.7 Lifecycle assessment	Compulsory Points: 2 ϒ
5.8 Use of renewable feedstock in the final product	Points: 1 2
5.9 Operation Clean Sweep	Compulsory Points: 1 2
6.1 Demonstrating commitment and communication	Compulsory Points: 2 3
6.2 Local communities	Compulsory Points: 1 2 3
6.3 Biodiversity and site stewardship	Compulsory Points: 1 2
6.4 Human rights and Modern Slavery	Compulsory Points: 1

ANNEX 2: Guide to the Auditing and Verification processes v2.0

Process Step	Process Substeps	Owner	Duration/Lapse of time	Actions
1. Application	1.1 Self Assessment	Applicant	30 minutes	Check if all compulsory requirements are met using the Self Assessment document from the website
	1.2 Online Application	Applicant	15 minutes	Draft an online application on the website, including first choice for the accredited Certification Body
2. Audit Preparation	2.1 Application review and Audit Offer	Certification Body	3 days	Application review and submit a Proposal Letter for auditing services to the Applicant, following the Offer Preparation and Audit Fee Guidelines. The proposal covers the certification period of 3 years and include the initial onsite audit and the 2 annual surveillance audits.
				Propose a timeline and audit dates to the Applicant
				Ask the Applicant to formally accept the Terms and Conditions available on the website
				With the Offer, submit a Non Disclosure Agreement protecting the Applicant's confidential information
				Collect the signed-off Terms and Conditions, Offer and Non Disclosure Agreement between the CAB and the applicant
				Nominate an Auditor meeting the minimum required knowledge and skills and having followed the Auditor Accreditation Course
3. Certification process	3.1 Audit plan and evidence Assessment Sheet	CAB Auditor	1 week	Prepare a plan for evaluation activitiy and carry out the audit not later than 6 weeks after collecting the signed off documents
				Ask the Applicant to nominate 1 coordinator for preparing the audit
				Submit the Evidence Assessment Sheet to the Applicant for preparing the onsite audit
				Address any question asked by the Applicant during the audit preparation
	3.2 Pre-Audit conducting and reporting	CAB Auditor	2-3 weeks	Collect evidences prior to audit; request any further documentation needed
				Issue a pre-assessment report clearly identifying any missing evidence
				Applicant gets maximum 1 year to provide the missing evidences after the signature of the Offer
	3.3 Audit conducting	CAB Auditor	1-2 days per manufacturing location	Review the pre-audit report with the Applicant onsite. Ask to have one reprentative of each needed function present at least part time.
				Ask for having a tour of the production facilities
				Collect evidences relating to a period between 6 months to 24 months
				Check that all local regulatory requirements are fullfilled
	3.4 Missing Evidence Collection	CAB Auditor	2 weeks	Report any needed evidence and documentation that could not be collected onsite, to be provided
	3.5 Audit Report	CAB Auditor	2-3 weeks	Finalize the audit report including all provided evidences and ask the Applicant to sign off the final audit report.
				Using the Evidence Assessment Sheet template for reporting the audit findings and calculate scores for each criteria
4. Decision process	4.1 Review	CAB Technical reviewer	2 days	The audit report is submitted to indipendent technical reviewer
	4.2 Certificate Decision	CAB Decision maker	1 day	Based on audit results, confirmed by Technical review the CAB makes decision to grant or not the certificate of conformity. If CAB decides to grant the certificate of conformity, CAB sends the result to the Applicant and notifies the decision and the audit report in English to VinylPlus (ot its mandate). The Certification body issues the Certificate of Approval.
	4.3	CAB auditor	7 days	CAB auditor shares the audit report with VinylPlus.
5. Certification maintenance	5.1 Annual Surveillance Audits	Certification Body/ CAB auditor	2 days	Organize and conduct the annual desktop surveillance audit
	5.2 Re-certification	Applicant	15 minutes	Draft a re-certification request online

ANNEX 3: Terms and conditions

Guidance for use – The VinylPlus® Product Label

1. The fundamentals

The VinylPlus® Product Label may only be used by organisations holding a valid Certificate of Approval issued by VinylPlus®. It may only be strictly use for the product/product family that the Product Label is granted for.

The use of the VinylPlus® Product Label relates only to the certification scheme operated by VinylPlus®. The Product Label is the property of VinylPlus®, and its use is subject to the conditions of use set out below.

The rules for the VinylPlus® branding and Vinyl Verified logo need to be strictly respected. The replication or reproduction of the Product Label can only be made with the authorisation of VinylPlus®.

The Product Label can be mentioned on product specifications, product sales literature, product brochures, on the product itself and any publicity material that is directly related to the relevant product.

The company holding the VinylPlus® Product Label rests solely responsible for the correct product label use by its design and marketing service partners.

The VinylPlus® Product Label must not be used to imply approval of products or services not approved or covered in the criteria scheme by VinylPlus®.

Electronic versions of the VinylPlus® Product Label shall only be obtained from VinylPlus®.

2. Standard Amendment or Withdrawal

The Product Label is valid from the date of the VinylPlus® certification for three years with two annual desktop verifications in the intervening years. The initial audit is repeated every three years and a new certificate based on the audit results is issued each time by VinylPlus®. The annual desktop verifications are typically performed remotely by the auditor, based on documents sent by the applicant.

An onsite audit shall always remain the default method for the initial audit. A certification body shall always attempt to have an onsite audit when travelling to the site is possible due to exceptional local or national safety and sanitary measures. When and only when such measures do not allow the auditor to travel (e.g. due to lockdown measures during a pandemic), a remote audit may be used as an alternative method. A risk analysis shall be performed prior to the remote audit for reviewing the impact of the exceptional safety and sanitary measures on the applicant's organisation (are some departments needed for the audit closed? are some of the collaborators needed for the audit working from home?). A remote audit typically requires additional attention shall be paid to the information exchange before the date of the audit. When the travel restriction measures are no longer of application, the initial onsite audits shall be reinstated. If the initial audit has to be carried out remotely, the next annual verification shall be made onsite instead of remotely, whenever possible. The audit report shall clearly mention which method (onsite or remote) has been used for the initial audit.

A remote audit shall have the same time scope as an onsite audit. The time scope shall be pre-agreed with the applicant. During a remote audit, the auditor and applicant shall use a real time connection via a secure webinar system (Microsoft Teams, Zoom, Cisco Webex) and camera. Less secure communication systems (Google Hangouts, WhatsApp) should be avoided. If the applicant

decides to use a less secure system, this shall be duly reported by the auditor in his report. The auditor and applicant shall have a good knowledge of IT connection tools to perform the audits and must use a private wifi connection to secure confidentiality. Recording of a remote audit should be avoided at all time.

If the Product Label Criteria Scheme document is amended after the applicant has accepted an audit, the previous Criteria Scheme shall be used. The Product Label certificate based on the previous scheme remains valid for three years.

If the VinylPlus® Product Label is withdrawn or becomes obsolete, the use of the Label shall cease within twelve months of the date of withdrawal or obsolescence.

Audit results have a general validity of maximum one year. Shall the applicant not be able to deliver the requested remaining evidence to conclude the audit process within this time frame, audit results will no longer be valid.

3. Intellectual Property Rights

This document does not confer any right, title or interest in the VinylPlus® Product Label, which shall remain the property of VinylPlus®. VinylPlus® reserves all licensing and enforcement rights and may update this rules and guidance document from time to time.

4. Misuse

Unauthorised use and/or misuse of the VinylPlus® Product Label is not permitted, especially not for other products in the company's product range that have not received the Label Certificate. VinylPlus® will launch an investigation if we find, or are notified of, a potential misuse, whether through negligence or fraud. If proven, such misuse may lead to a suspension and withdrawal of the Label Certification, a publication of the transgression, a legal action, or a fine.

5. Responsibility of the Product Label holder

It is the responsibility of the Product Label holder to:

(i) Ensure that the product supplied under a valid current VinylPlus® Product Label Certificate of Approval and using the appropriate Vinyl Verified logo, conforms at all times with the requirements of the Label Criteria Scheme of application during the last onsite audit, and with all other terms and conditions of the Label.

(ii) In the event of termination of the Agreement howsoever arising, cease using, remove or obliterate the Label.

(iii) Indicate to VinylPlus® any fraud or misuse that comes to your notice including the relevant information needed for VinylPlus® to take action.

6. Some Dos and Don'ts

Dos

- Include the Product Label in your marketing and promotional literature only strictly for the product.
- Contact VinylPlus® if you wish to include the Vinyl Verified logo in any press release or press orientated material. Permission to use the logo in this way will not be unreasonably withheld.
- Ensure that the rules contained in this guidance is adhered to.
- Ensure that the entire Vinyl Verified logo is clearly visible against the background on which it is being reproduced. Use the black and white version if helpful.
- Contact VinylPlus® if you are unsure of any aspect of using the label imagery.

Don'ts

- Make the Vinyl Verified logo too small to identify; it shall be legible to the naked eye.
- Partially cover the image with other brands or copy.
- Overprint the image with text.
- Stretch or squash the marks to fit a given size.
- Use the marks in circumstances that would bring the VinylPlus® Product Label certification into disrepute.
- Use the marks in connection with products or services that are not associated with the VinylPlus® Product Label certification.
- Attempt in any way to redraw or re-create the artwork for the marks.
- Pass on copies of the artwork of the marks to any other parties other than your own design companies.

7. Complaints and Appeals Procedures

- Complaints and appeals are managed by VinylPlus® using well defined procedures aligned with the guidelines of ISO/IEC 17067:2013, Conformity assessment-Fundamentals of product certification and guidelines for product certification schemes.
- A complaint is any expression of dissatisfaction made to VinylPlus® related to its certification scheme, where a response or resolution is explicitly or implicitly expected. An appeal is a request for reconsideration of a decision made by VinylPlus® related to the certification of a product or product system. A complaint or appeal does not affect any legal rights a party might otherwise have under contract or otherwise available by law.
- Complaints shall be addressed to info@vinylplus.eu or to VinylPlus®, Avenue de Cortenbergh 71, 1000 Brussels, Belgium. All complaints received by VinylPlus® are independently investigated and actions are taken where appropriate. If the complaint is related to a certification body, VinylPlus® will transfer the complaint to the certification body having performed the last audit, as recommended in article 6.5.5 of ISO/IEC 17067:2013. The complaint will then be dealt according to the complaint management process of the certification body. If not, VinylPlus® assigns an independent investigator which leads an investigation. If the complaint is upheld by VinylPlus®, a remedial action is completed after which the complainant is advised. If the complaint is not upheld by VinylPlus®, no action is taken and the complainant is advised accordingly. If the complainant agrees that the complaint is settled, the complaint is closed. If the complainant does not agree, the investigation is restarted to find a resolution.
- Appeals shall be addressed to info@vinylplus.eu or to VinylPlus®, Avenue de Cortenbergh 71, 1000 Brussels, Belgium. Appeals will be considered after payment of 300€ on VinylPlus®' bank

account. This fee is to cover the administrative costs of opening an appeal, and is refundable if he Appeal Panel finds in favour of the appellant, if the appeal can be resolved without to recourse to an Appeal Panel, or if the appeal is issued against a decision of a certification body.

- If the appeal has been issued against a decision of a certification body, the appeal will be transferred to the certification body having performed the last audit, as recommended in article 6.5.5 of ISO/IEC 17067. The appeal will then be dealt according to the appeal management process of the certification body and the fee refunded to the appellant.
- Otherwise, the appeal is reviewed by VinylPlus®' staff and if the situation can be resolved to the satisfaction of the appellant and VinylPlus® within 14 working days, the process is terminated and the fee is refunded.
- If the situation cannot be resolved within this timeframe, an Appeal Panel is assembled by VinylPlus® to review the appeal and, if the appeal is upheld, decide and implement remedial actions. The panel will consist of three investigators designated by the VinylPlus® Managing Director that have not been directly involved in the decision under appeal and have no direct interest in the decision. The VinylPlus® staff will provide secretariat services to the Appeal Panel but will have no voting rights.
- The appellant is advised of the constitution of the Appeal Panel, is given at least 14 day notice of the date set for the meeting organised to make a decision on the appeal, and is advised to be present in this meeting. The appellant has the right to state objections to the constitution of the Appeal Panel within 5 working days of receipt of notice. In this case, the objection will be considered by the VinylPlus® Managing Director, and the membership of the Appeal Panel will be amended if necessary. An Appeal Panel may uphold or reject VinylPlus®' decision, following review of the circumstances surrounding the appeal. The Appellant will be provided with formal notice of the Appeal Panel's decision.

VinylPlus®® Product Label

Auditor Training Certificate

This Training Certificate confirms that:

Auditor Name:………………………..……….

Certification Body:………………………….…..

has successfully completed the VinylPlus® Product Label Training Programme, including the Auditor Accreditation Course organised by VinylPlus® on ………….. 20..., in…………

BRE can confirm that ………………………. has fulfilled the minimum training requirements for the VinylPlus® Product Label scheme (see Annex). Based on this, and evidence of additional auditor training, BRE is happy to make the recommendation that ………………….…. has achieved full compliance with the training requirements of the VinylPlus® Product Label scheme. Following this recommendation, VinylPlus® allows him/her to independently run VinylPlus® Product Label audits.

Date of Issue:

Date of Expiry:

Signed for and on behalf of **VinylPlus®**

Charlotte Röber, Managing Director

Annex: Minimum required knowledge and skills for running a VinylPlus® Product Label audit

Knowledge	
Typical industry's sourcing practices	• Minimum of 2 years experience in a relevant plastic-related industry
Third party audit practices and processes	• Successful completion of an appropriate Auditor/Lead Auditor Course and/or demonstrated in-house company experience with audit systems
Knowledge of the VinylPlus® Product Label scheme and processes	• Successful completion of the Auditor Accreditation Course • Participation to one VinylPlus® Product Label audit run by another experienced auditor (optional, upon request) • Successful lead of one VinylPlus® Product Label audit, under supervision of an experienced auditor (optional , upon request)
Knowledge of plastic-related industry practices, systems and technologies	• Minimum of 2 years experience in a relevant plastic-related industry
Knowledge of client business/technology	• Minimum of 2 years experience in a relevant plastic-related industry
Knowledge of client's products, processes and organisation	• Minimum of 2 years experience in a relevant plastic-related industry
Knowledge of cultural norms	• Minimum of 2 years experience in a relevant plastic-related industry
plastic product market awareness	• Minimum of 2 years experience in a relevant plastic-related industry
Skills	

Language skills appropriate to all functions met during the audit process	• Minimum of 2 years experience in a relevant plastic-related industry
Note-taking and report writing skills	• Minimum of 2 years experience in a relevant plastic-related industry • Successful completion of the VinylPlus® Auditor Accreditation Course • Successful completion of an appropriate Auditor/Lead Auditor Course and/or demonstrated in-house company experience with audit systems
Interviewing and facilitation skills	• Minimum of 2 years experience in a relevant plastic-related industry • Successful completion of the VinylPlus® Auditor Accreditation Course • Successful completion of an appropriate Auditor/Lead Auditor Course and/or demonstrated in-house company experience with audit systems