



Lic No.: AST-2007

Standard: GECA 23-2005 – Architectural Coatings

Initial Verification

Conformance Date: 18th April 2007

Astec Paints
Australasia
Pty Ltd

Good Environmental Choice
- Australia

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION



The Astec Paints Australasia Pty Ltd product range has been tested against the requirements of the GECA 23-2005 – Architectural Coatings Standard, and awarded with the Australian Good Environmental Choice Eco-Label.

1. Description of Company and Product

Company: Astec Paints Australasia Pty Ltd

Product: AC3 IR Grey Primer, Energy Star Cool Pave, Insulcolour- (tinter), Light Weight High Build Skim- (prep), Ezy Float Light Weight, Marble Render, Tileguard S.M. Gloss White, Tileguard Gloss white, Sports Coat MID, Metalflex Gloss White, Energy Star Low Sheen White, Energy Star Gloss White, EC-100 Dirt Guard White, Energy Star Dirtguard IR Gloss White, Energy Star DG IR Elastic White, Energy Star Ceram 4000 White

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Astec Paints Australasia Pty Ltd is a South Australian owned coatings manufacturer, and has been operating in Adelaide since 1978. Astec's product range and systems have proven their quality throughout Australia and overseas.

2. Description of the Verification

The Good Environmental Choice Label is the national product life cycle independent environmental declaration in Australia (www.geca.org.au). The organisation is an independent non-profit environmental research and certification organization recognized as the Australian member of an international network of ecolabelling schemes under the Global Ecolabelling Network.

Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA) Ltd. manages the Good Environmental Choice – Mark of Conformity in conformance to ISO 14 024 – International Standard for Third Party Environmental Labelling and Declaration.

Following an independent audit against the recognition requirements of the Australian Ecolabelling Program the range of products covered by this report have been awarded the "Good Environmental Choice" label for the Australian market. This is awarded to those products that meet or exceed voluntary standards of environmental performance.

The verification procedure is managed via a Documented Quality Management System and Certification Program Manual which have made significant use of the ISO 14 000 series.

The objectives of the program are to:

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

3. The Products

The Astec Paints product has been awarded the Good Environmental Choice Declaration:



Astec is an innovative Australian manufacturer of high quality external and internal paint solutions.

In addition to the reduction in environmental loads in all products under review the Energy Star range meets the requirements of the Energy Star requirements for cool coatings and strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the Environmental Protection authority (E.P.A).

For product specification please view the Astec Paints web site- <http://www.astecpaints.com.au>

4. Key Environmental Performance Findings by GECA

The key environmental performance criterion against which the Astec Paints products were assessed by GECA, are outlined below.

Environmental Requirements	Core Environmental Performance Characteristics
<p>Fitness for Purpose:</p> <p>Certified products should be good performers in their intended application. It is implied that certain standards of product performance are implicit in the label.</p>	<p>The nominated products by Astec have been tested in accordance with the following American Society for Testing and Materials - C-11371-04-, and C-1549-02-.</p> <p>Astec Paints operate a laboratory onsite; each batch is tested by color matching software. This system is regularly calibrated; a dry and wet sample is kept for every batch.</p> <p>In addition GECA received a number of client testimonials for the Astec Energy Star range. These show a high level of satisfaction with the performance of the product. Some of the certified product range has been certified by Energy Star, US EPA for high thermal performance.</p>
<p>VOC Levels:</p> <p>The requirements for Exterior flat and low sheen is 50 grams per litre, for Exterior gloss it is 75 grams per litre and for Latex primer for galvanized iron and zinalume the limit is 60 grams per litre</p>	<p>The VOC levels for all Astec paints are less and in many cases significantly less than the VOC limits of this GECA standard.</p>
<p>Titanium Dioxide, Zinc Oxide and Lithopone Content Levels:</p> <p>Levels should not exceed 40 g/m² of dry film.</p>	<p>GECA has been given access to production information during a site assessment. Titanium dioxide and Zink oxide levels were found compliant with the requirements of this criterion.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Glycol Ethers</p> <p>Architectural coatings must not contain any of the glycol ethers listed in this criteria, please refer to the following: http://www.geca.org.au/standards/GECA%2023-2005%20-%20Architectural%20Coatings.pdf</p>	<p>There are no Glycol Ethers used in the product range, this is apparent following a review of formulation for all products and a review of MSDS for all ingredients</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Heavy Metals</p> <p>Sb, Ba, Cd, Pb, Cr, Hg, and Arsenic or any toxic heavy metals and their compounds shall not be added during production.</p>	<p>No heavy metals are used in the product range under assessment this is apparent following a review of MSDS for all production ingredients.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Packaging</p> <p>All plastic packaging containers must have a plastic resin identification code clearly visible on each container. Before use, packaging must not be impregnated, labelled, coated or otherwise treated in a manner that would prevent recycling. Paint containers must be made of materials that are able to be recycled.</p>	<p>The Astec Paints product is marketed in a steel can, these are fully recyclable. Other requirements in this criterion are not applicable to this assessment.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Carcinogenic Substances</p> <p>Approved paints should not contain substances listed as carcinogenic by the International Agency for Research of Cancer (lists 1A, 2B) at a rate of exposure not exceeding one twentieth (1/20) of those defined by exposure standards determined by the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (Work safe Australia).</p>	<p>GECA has reviewed MSDS for all production ingredients, some products contain Celica, Celica is classed as class 1a carcinogen. However the user is not exposed to this substance as it is contained in the paint matrix and therefore this is an allowable use of a carcinogenic substance. No other carcinogens are contained in the nominated product range.</p>

<p>Restricted Substances</p> <p>Alkyl phenol alkoxyates (APEO's) shall not be added during production.</p>	<p>A review of MSDS for all production ingredients and a review of ingredients lists found no APEO's are added to the product during manufacturing.</p>
<p>Use of Ozone-Depleting Substances in Industrial Solvents and Cleaning Agents</p> <p>The solvents used to clean the production equipment of architectural coatings must not contain ozone depleting substances as listed in Annex A, Annex B and Annex C of the Montreal Protocol</p>	<p>Production machinery is easily washed in water, the machinery does not require the use of any cleaning solvents. GECA is satisfied that the Astec Paints products are fully compliant with this criterion. A review of product formulations and MSDS for all ingredients finds no Ozone depleting substances are contained in the nominated product range or the cleaning chemicals used on site.</p>
<p>4.9 Solvents</p> <p>The paint shall not be formulated or manufactured</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * with more than 20% by weight of hydrocarbon solvents, based on the total formulation. * with aromatic hydrocarbon solvents. * with halogenated solvents. * using ethylene glycol as an integral part of the paint formulation. 	<p>A review of product formulations and MSDS for all ingredients finds no aromatic hydrocarbon solvents, halogenated solvents or ethylene glycol are contained in the nominated product range</p>

5. Environmental and Social Regulatory Obligations:

The applicant is required to comply with relevant environmental legislation and government orders at the Local, State and Commonwealth level, if these have been issued. Additionally, an applicant shall demonstrate that all employees are covered by a Federal or State award or a certified industrial agreement or a registered workplace agreement as determined by the Industrial Relations Commission, the Employment Advocate or a State or Territory Workplace Relations Agency.

The manufacturing facility of the Astec Paints releases small amounts of water to water treatment, an environmental licence is not needed for this operation. GECA received confirmation from the Managing Director of Astec Paints stating that the company have not been the subject of prosecution in an environmental court in the past two years.

Astec Paints were found compliant to all Labour, Anti-Discrimination and Safety Regulations.

6. Additional Information

A detailed verification report is supplied to verified manufacturers regarding the environmental characteristics of their products and evidence of compliance. The verification report can be made available at the sole discretion of the manufacturer. The Australian Ecolabel Program is the national environmental product life cycle labelling program for Australia. Further details of the Australian Ecolabel Program are available from www.geca.org.au.

Good Environmental Choice Australia recommends these products to green purchasing officers, specifiers, and every day Australians seeking to purchase products and services on the basis of functional and overall environmental and human health performance.

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