



**ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSURANCE**

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION

LN: PO-2006

USG Australasia

Standard:
GECA 4-2005 Gypsum Plasterboard

Conformance Declaration Date:
28th September 2006



**Environmental
Assurance**

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

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Choice Australia Ltd**

*“setting Australia’s product environmental
standards”*

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EPD

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



environmental solutions for sustainable markets in Australia

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

The national program is managed by two distinct organisations:

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

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

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

The objectives of the program are to:

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

DISCLAIMER:

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



CERTIFICATION FINDINGS

The range of Gypsum Plasterboard products manufactured by USG Pty Ltd have been assessed against the GECA 4-2005 – Gypsum Plasterboard Standard, and awarded the Environmental Choice Australia Eco-Label.

1. MANUFACTURER DESCRIPTION

USG Australasia

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Powerscape is manufactured in Gypsum, Ohio under the Fiberock brand parent company USG Corporation and are distributed in Australia through subsidiary company USG Australasia.

Companies leading
Australia's environmental
response at work.

2: REGISTERED PRODUCTS

LN: PO-2006

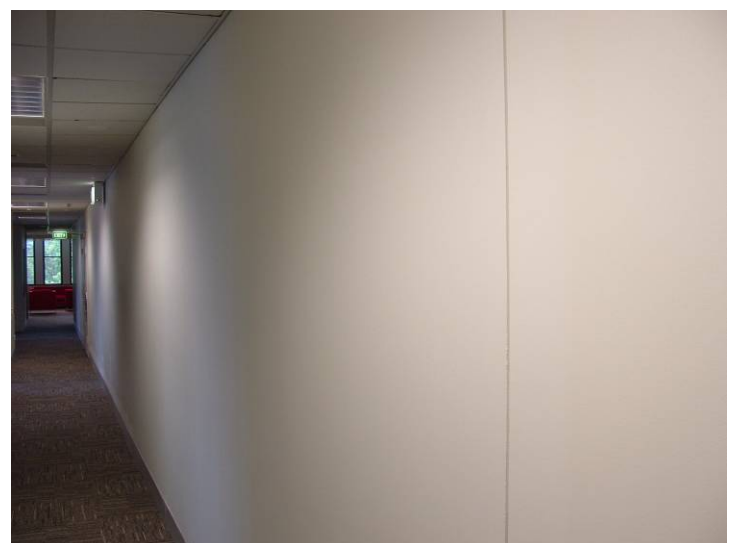
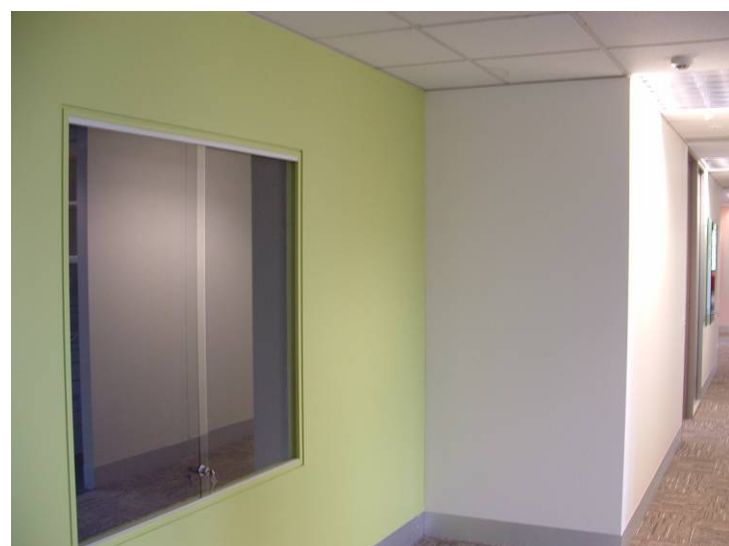
The following USG Pty Ltd products have been awarded the Environmental Choice Australia Declaration:



PRODUCT NAME	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION
Powerscape /Fiberock Aquatuff Health ®	High recycled content gypsum fiberboard Utility Wall Lining.

Powerscape Health ®

High recycled content gypsum fiberboard
Utility Wall Lining.



Products with a distinctive
environmental edge.

3. KEY ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE FINDINGS

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

Criterion	Core Environmental Performance Characteristics
Fitness for Purpose	The certified Powerscape board has been tested according to relevant standards for fire resistance and screw and attachment fixing. The test samples meet the standards for distribution and use on the Australian market. All USG Gypsum products come with a certified warranty. The Powerscape Health® Utility Wall Liner comes with a 10 year product guarantee according to the manufacturer's specifications.
Gypsum Input	There is a recycled content much higher than 5% in the Powerscape Gypsum Utility Wall Liners. Phosphogypsum is not used. The boards do not contain carcinogens with available exposure pathways when used in the manner specified by the manufacturer. The certified Powerscape product does not contain formaldehyde.
Manufacturing process	The US manufacturer of the certified Powerscape Health® product monitors the release of air emissions according to the Clean Air Act. The company also operates under a permit for the discharge of waste water. The manufacturer is a signatory to the Montreal Protocol and so qualify for the requirements for sections c) and d) of this criterion in the standard.
Binding Agents, Additives and Agents for Surface Treatment	No organic tin compounds, halogenated organic substances, phthalates or pigments listed in this criterion are used in the production of the certified USG Pty Ltd gypsum plasterboard utility wall lining product.
Waste Minimisation	Almost all waste materials produced during production are recycled back through the manufacturing process, this includes the high utilization of edge trimming and process water.
Recycling Capacity	The USG Pty Ltd certified Powerscape product is not impregnated, labeled or coated in any way that prevents recycling.
Environmental Regulations	USG Pty Ltd complies with relevant environmental permits or regulations.
Labour, Anti-Discrimination and Safety Regulations	USG Pty Ltd has not received persecution resulting in a guilty verdict in relation to the relevant social regulations or workplace requirements.

Quantifying key criteria for assurance to the market.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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

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



**ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSURANCE**

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FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE WEB

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