# **BUILDINGENERGY BOSTON**

## **Scaling Up Material Health**

Christine M. Vöhringer (Perkins Eastman Architects) Madaline Hale (HMFH Architects) Christine Vandover (HOK) Mandy Miller (Elkus Manfredi Architects)

**Curated by Greg Smith and Frank Nitti** 

Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA) March 29, 2023

## MEET THE PRESENTERS



#### Christine Vohringer

Firmwide Sustainability Specialist, Boston Perkins Eastman Architects



Mandy Miller

Materials Specialist/ Resource Librarian Elkus Manfredi Architects Boston



**Christine Vandover** 

Design Principal HOK New York



Madaline Hale

Interior Designer Manager HMFH Boston

# **The Material**

# Health

# Challenge



The selection of products + materials to prioritize the protection of human health and the environment, generating a positive impact on the quality of materials available for future use and cycling.

Cradle to Cradle on the Materials Health definition.

### **BEAUTY + DURABILITY + SUSTAINABILITY**











WTAE Train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio

CNN Ohio train derailment: EPA says it can ...

🔤 CNN Ohio train derailment: EPA says it car





MPR

M The New Republic

Derailed in East Palestine, Ohio ...

Ohio train derailment ...





🚥 Indiana Public Media Pollution from Ohio train derailment ...

Ohio Train Derailment: Questions Linger...

🔚 The Weather Channel

ABC News East Palestine derailr



East Palestine train derailment ...

AP AP News 50-car train derailment causes bi...



w Wikipedia 2023 Ohio train derailment - Wikipedia



East Palestine derailment: Timeline of ...



C KSL TV

Train derailment in no

CBS News Train derailment causes massive fire in ...

Train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, on Feb. 3. Photo by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency / Handout/Anadolu Agency via Getty Image



## WHY?

## HUMAN HEALTH

## CLIMATE CHANGE

## SOCIAL EQUITY

ENOUGH

## We EVOLVE our PROFESSION

## Material Health & the Industry

#### Prescription for Healthier Building Materials:

A Design and **Implementation Protocol** 

**AIA** ARUP



PASSED

#### MAIA Climate Action **URGENT & SUSTAINED** The AIA RESOLUTION

by Avlintab Ralatopal December 2, 2020

Comment of Street and Street

13 CLIMATE ACTION



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that commencing in 2019 and continuing until zero-net-carbon practice is the accepted standard of its members, the AIA prioritized and support urgent climate action as a health, safety, and welfare issue, to exponentially accelerate the "decarbonization" of buildings, the building sector, and the built environment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the AIA engage its full membership; the clients and communities members serve; federal, state and local policy makers and governing bodies; other professional organizations and affiliates, and the public on climate action through a multi-year strategy for education, practice, advocacy, and outreach.

#### " ...exponentially accelerate the "decarbonization" of buildings, the building sector, and the built

#### anvironment"

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that following the example of the AIA Guides for Equitable Practice, the AIA prepare Guidelines for Ethical practice on Climate Action to delineate practices for complying with Canon VI, Obligations to the Environment in the AIA Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the AIA revise its Public Policies and Position Statements to support urgent climate action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the AIA adopt and implement the recommendations of the Blue-Ribbon Panel on Codes and Standards and the Sustainability Leadership Group.



SUSTAINABLE

**GOALS** 

Æ

"When materials such as asbestos were put into use, when lead was added to paint, and we discovered the properties of PVC, we didn't know any better. **Now we do, and it is time to start acting like it.**"

Jon Smieja, VP, Circularity & Senior Analyst. GreenBiz Group

## ELKUS MANFREDI

# Evolution of the Materials Library



**Resource Liaison** 



**Resource Liaison- Dual Roles** 





# THAN MY



**Resource Liaison - Dual Roles** 



# Ex. Global A&D Firm 28 Studios

**2** Studios Dedicated Librarians

**8** Studios Library Consultants

**18 Studios Dual Roles** 

## orarians ultants

### **Resource Liaison – Library Consultants**







**The Evolution – Material Health** 

Traditional Gatekeeping







Eco Gatekeeper Transparency



The Evolution – Green Rating Systems, Certifications, Eco Labels, and Pledges



**Scaling Up - Transparency** 









#### **ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION**

#### Interface

Interface, Inc Americas Moduler Carpet on GlasBac® Nylon

#### 4. Life Cycle Assessment Results

#### Table 6. Description of the system boundary modules (X = system included in boundary; MND = module not declared)

	PRO	oucrsi	AGE	CONST ION PR STA					LUSE S	TASE			Ð	ID OF I	IPE ŞTAĞI	E	BENEHTS AND LOADS BEYOND THE SYSTEM BOUNDARY
	A1	AZ	A3	.A4	AS	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	а	<b>c</b> 2	в	64	D
	Raw material supply	Transport	Manufacturing	Transport from gate to site	Assembly/hrstall	Use	Maintenance	Repar	Replacement	Returbistrement	Building Operational Energy Use During Product Use	Building Operational Water Use Outing Product Ore	Deconstruction	Transport	Waste	Disposal	Reuse, Recovery, Recycling Potenial
PD Type		x		x	x	MND	x	MND	×	MND	MND	MND	MND	x	MND	x	MND

#### 4.1. Life Cycle Impact Assessment Results

Table 7. North American Impact Assessme	ent Results
---	-------------

TRACI v2.1	A1-A3	A4	A5	B2	B4	C2	C4
GWP [kg CO2 eq]	4.78E+00	2.37E-01	2.78E-02	4.12E-01	2.11E+01	4.94E-03	2.16E-01
ODP [kg CFC-11 eq]	5.01E-06	6.32E-17	8.67E-10	2.12E-09	2.00E-05	1.32E-18	7.44E-16
AP [kg SO2 eq]	2.91E-02	1.27E-03	1.02E-04	8.24E-04	1.24E-01	2.65E-05	5.91E-04
EP [kg N eq]	4.28E-03	9.51E-05	1.80E-05	2.69E-04	1.87E-02	1.99E-06	2.81E-04
SFP [kg O3 eq]	4.02E-01	2.85E-02	1.23E-03	1.36E-02	1.77E+00	5.95E-04	9.97E-03
ADProssi [MJ, LHV]	1.02E+01	4.57E-01	5.96E-02	3.69E-01	4.46E+01	9.55E-03	4.33E-01

Кеу	GWP 100 = global warming potential; ODP eutrophication potential; SFP = smog formation renewabl
-----	---

#### Environment

#### PURLINE ORGANIC FLOORING by Windmoeller

Health Product Declaration v2.3 reated via: HPDC Online Builder

#### HPD UNIQUE IDENTIFIER: 31234 09 65 00 Resilient Floriding

RUPTION: PUFILINE by Windmoeller, is the first elastic organic flooring worldwide from Bio-polyurethane, made from natural and enewable materials. The PURLINE organic flooring made in various designs in sheet, file and plank formats is easy to maintain, requiring no applied d chioride.

finish or harsh chemicals. PUF plasticizers, solvents and has					
Section 1: Summ	ary			Basic Metho	a / Product Threshold
CONTENT INVENTORY Inventory Reporting Format © Nested Materials Method © Basic Method Threshold Disclosed Per © Material © Product	Threshold Level e 100 ppm c 1,000 ppm c Per GHS SDS c Other	Residuals/Impurities Completed Partially Complete Not Completed Explanation(s) provid R Yes C No	d	For all contents above the b Characterized Provided weight and role. Screened Provided screening results methods. Identified Provided name and CAS RI	C Yes ⊂ No
CONTENT IN DESCENDING O Summary of product contents chemical substances against I GreenScreen for Safer Chemic using or handling this product substances or any health risk. PRODUCT (MATERIAL OR SU GREENSCREEN SCORE) HAZ PURLINE ORGANIC FLOORIN POLYURETHANE FOAMS IT BM-2 ZEOLITES LT-UNK COO NON-RESPIRABLE LT-UNK CON NON-RESPIRABLE LT-UNK CON NON-RESPIRABLE LT-UNK CON MICROCRYSTALLINE LT-UNK UNDISCLOSED LT-UNK RES TITANIUM DIOXIDE LT-1 (CA	and results from so HPD Priority Hazard alst0. The HPD does will expose individu Refer to Section 2 fr JBSTANCE   AESJO ARD TYPE IG   LIMESTONE IG UNK ALUMINUM PT TINUOUS FILAMEN OLYETHYLENE TEF FUNK CELLULOSE RES KAOLIN LT- WHITE MINERAL C	Teening individual Lists and the a not assess whether als to its chemical or further details. <i>UAL OR IMPURITY</i> 4-3dg YDROXIDE, DRIED IT GLASS FIBER, REPHTHALATE (PET) UNK CAN	Contents LT-1 Nanomate INVENTO	rial No RY AND SCREENING NOTES ents have been screened aga	1 score(s) (BM-1, LT-1, LT-P1)
VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPO VOC Content data is not appli	ALCONT AND A CONTRACT		VOC emis VOC emis systems C VOC emis Multi-attri CONSIST	ATIONS AND COMPLIANCE sions: GreenGuard - Gold (pre sions: Danish Indoor Climate ) Ziteria sions: RFCI FloorScore bute: C2CPII Material Health C ENCY WITH OTHER PROGRA ecks completed or disclosed.	eviously Children & Schools) Labelling - Wall & ceiling Certificate - Silver (V3.1) MMS
Tried Party Verified? C Yes & No		PREPARER: Self-Pre VERIFIER. VERIFICATION #	epared	SCREENING DA PUBLISHED DA EXPIRY DATE: 2	TE 2023-01-30



#### **Polyurethane Floor Covering** Windmöller GmbH

Final Assembly: Detmold, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany: Augustdorf, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany Life Expectancy: 30 Year(s) End of Life Options: Landfill (100%)

#### Ingredients:

Filler: Calcium carbonate; Zeolite; Polymer: Polyurethane; Nonwoven: Glass; Polyester; Polypropylene; Flame Retardant; Aluminium Hydroxide; Decor Paper: Cellulose; Decor Paper Filler: Kaolin; Decor Paper Pigment: Titanium dioxide; Additives and Decor Paper Dyes: Undisclosed (0.5-1%)<sup>1</sup>, Foam Regulator: White Oil

LBC Temp Exception RL-004b - Proprietary Ingredients in Declare

#### Living Building Challenge Criteria: Compliant

#### I-13 Red List:

LBC Red List Free % Disclosed: 99% at 100ppm LBC Red List Approved VOC Content: Not Applicable Declared

1-10 Interior Performance: AgBB Scheme 2009 I-14 Responsible Sourcing: Not Applicable

WDM-0001 EXP. 01 NOV 2023 Original Issue Date: 2018



PURLINE ORGANIC FLOORING

HPD v2.3 created via HPDC Builder Page 1 of 10

INTERNATIONAL LIVING FUTURE INSTITUTE" Inving-tubure org/declare







#### According to ISO 14025 EN 15804 and ISO 21930/2017

= ozone depletion potential; AP = acidification potential; EP = potential; ADP fossil = abiotic resource depletion potential of nonle (fossil) energy resources



Scaling Up – Transparency Protocol

## Prepare

Products must be listed in either website. These are free and open to all manufacturers and building product materials with transparency documents.

mindfulMATERIALS Sustainable Minds Catalog

## Meet

After the required transparency documentation has be submitted. schedule a transparency review appointment.\*

MaterialsLibrarian@Elkus-Manfredi.com

## Present

Priority for presentation scheduling will be given to vendors who have brought their products in and have at least one of the required form of transparency.

EMA advocate manufacturers for materials that positively impact human health, the climate, the environment, and society. Manufacture must have one form of transparency documentation on their

website. Acceptable transparency forms, in order of preference:



Health Product Declaration (HPD) a technical specification for reporting information on product contents and associated health information. 100/1000ppm disclosed.



Declare is a multi-attribute transparency standard label. Answers three questions: Where does the product come from? What is it made of? Where does it go at the end of its life? 99% contents disclosed.



Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) a life-cycle report. Provides information about a products impact upon the environment, such as global warming potential, embodied carbon, and water pollution.



Cradle to Cradle (C2C) a multi-attribute standard used globally across industries. C2C certificate provides the framework to assess the safety, circularity, and responsibility of materials and products across five categories of sustainability performance.

# Scale Up by Subtracting!





# Scaling Up the Materials Library





HOK

Clarity of a Framework + Embedding Tracking into the Process



### ACCELERATING SUSTAINABLE INTERIOR DESIGN IN 2020

#### THE ASK

Be personally accountable in your everyday work to address human health, climate change + social equity

# 250-350+

MATERIALS ON EVERY INTERIORS PROJECT

## SUSTAINABLE ACTION



# HOK's future viability will track with our action on sustainability

We will either have an advantage OR a disadvantage

## PRODUCT SELECTION FRAMEWORK

### EMBODIED CARBON

The measurement of embodied energy and carbon for a material, with consideration for the total amount of greenhouse gases released from raw material extraction to the end of its useful life

# 

### GREEN CHEMISTRY

Design of products and processes that **reduce or eliminate** hazardous substances and VOCs

### SUSTAINABLE SOURCING

Products made from raw materials that are either **recycled or limit environmental damage** caused by their production

### | CIRCULARITY

## SUSTAINABILITY COLUMNS ADDED

	ROJECT INFORMATION	1																				
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	rnjøct Interior Derique inirh Lirt Documenter																					
	oparting Toar	2023												E	MBODIED CARBO	эн	GREEM	CHEMISTRT		SUSTAINA	BLE SOURCING	
				-				-							MBODIED CARBO See EPD for A1-A3	м	Declare, Gradie ta Gradie, Green Screen	LOW EMITTING CERTIFICATIONS Gradle to Gradle, Living	z PF Bi	EPOST CONSUMER	FSC	BIO-BASED / REUSE Big-Bared, Material Rewe, etc.
_	PROJECT HUMBER	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TTPE	HOK OFFICE	PURSUING CERTIFICATION?	CERTIFICATIONS BEING PURSUE	OF PROJECT								CHALLENGE: 55X		INTERNAL CHALLENGE: SNX have third party avelifications	INTERNAL CHALLENGE: SNX Complian TOC.		LENGE: SSX have enquired analysis	INTERNAL CHALLENCE: 1002 PSC	INTERNAL CHALLENCE: 25X
L			Curpurate		H.	Ha Cartifications	25,001 - 100,000 S					FLAM	HABILITT	SEX	Project Pr	reformanor (-7)	58.82	1883	SEX	Project Performance [-T]	400.0X	101.02
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# SUSTAINABILITY INFORMATION COLUMNS

# A CLOSER *LOOK*



1							
	EMBODIED CARBON						
	EMBODIED CARBON						
	See EPD for A1-A3						
INTERNAL CHALLENGE: 65% have EPD's							
50%	Project P	erformance (=Y)					
Is the Product in EC3 or does the Product have an EPD? [Y/N]	GWP #	Units					

### 2

GREEN CH	EMISTRY
MATERIALS CERTIFICATIONS	LOW EMITTING CERTIFICATIONS
Declare, Cradle to Cradle, GreenScreen, etc.	Cradle to Cradle, Living
INTERNAL CHALLENGE: 50% have third party certifications	INTERNAL CHALLENGE: 90% Compliant VOCs
50.0%	100%
Select the certification that applies to this product	Select the certification that applies to this product2

# SUSTAINABILITY INFORMATION COLUMNS

New column added

% PRE/POST CONSUMER RECYCLED CONTENT     WOOD PRODUCTS FSC     BIO-BASED / REUSE Bio-Based, Material Reuse, etc.       INTERNAL CHALLENGE: 65% have recycled content     INTERNAL CHALLENGE: 100% FSC     INTERNAL CHALLENGE: 10%       50%     Project Performance (=Y)     100.0%     100.0%			SUSTAINAE	BLE SOURCING	
50%         Project Performance (=Y)         100.0%         100.0%	INTERNAL CH	ALLENGE: 65% have recycled	l content	INTERNAL CHALLENGE: 100% FSC	INTERNAL CHALLENGE: 10%
	50%	Project Perfor	mance (=Y)	100.0%	100.0%
	•	what is pre-consumer.	consumer?	1501112	Select Product Contribution
Does the product What % pro-consumer? What % post-	Does the product nave recyled content?	What % pre-consumer?	What % post- consumer?	FSC TYPE	Select Product Contributio

## MEET THE *LIAISONS*



Kelly Jordan Sr. Project Int Designer Toronto

Merissa Reed Interior Designer Ottawa

#### ADVISORS

Elizabeth Baxter, Houston

Christine Vandover, New York







Taylor WelshCSr. Interior DesignerSCalgaryC



Olivia Danielson-Veed Sr Project Int Designer Chicago



Sarah Proefrock Interior Designer Dallas



Jasalyn Douet K Technical Coordinator S Houston D



et Kara Raasch ator Sr. Project Int. Designer Kansas City





Lauren North Interior Designer Kansas City

Ashpreet Khurll Interior Design Asst London



Susana Cerda Interior Design Pro Los Angeles



Selin Gok Interior Design Prof New York Maggie Corgnati Sr. Interior D Philadelph



Heather Dennis Sr Interior Designer San Francisco



s Gayle Bart Interior Design Pro Seattle



Jacquelene Dent Interior Designer St. Louis



e Dent Elizabeth Allen er Interior Design Pro Tampa



Designer

Toronto



to Jamie Barr Interior Design Pro Washington DC

## SHARING KNOWLEDGE MANFACTURER MEETINGS

- + (30+) Virtual Meeting with Manufacturers including: VP of Sales, VP of Sustainability , VP of Marketing and the local rep
- + Opened dialogue / learned from each other + Built new relationships + HOK Leadership
- + HOK's sustainability presentation was shared at several global sales meetings

### + Companies included:

Teknion / Luum Saint Gobain / Decoustics Miller Knoll Benjamin Moore Steelcase Carnegie Shaw / Patcraft Stylex Wilsonart Dal Tile / Mohawk Corian Mapei Tarkett Crossville/ Nemo Interface Martin Brattrud Milliken Lutron Forbo

# **67** *TOTAL SUBMISSIONS*

# 149

TOTAL INTERIOR PROJECTS 2022 @MIDYEAR

45% OF OUR ID PROJECTS SUBMITTED

21	2022 Submissions by Office
1 - 42 - 8314 - 2311211	<ul> <li>Atlanta</li> <li>Calgary</li> <li>Chicago / Columbus</li> <li>Dallas</li> <li>Dallas</li> <li>Houston</li> <li>Kansas City</li> <li>Los Angeles</li> <li>London</li> <li>New York</li> <li>Ottawa</li> <li>Philadelphia</li> <li>San Francisco</li> <li>Seattle</li> <li>St. Louis</li> <li>Tampa</li> <li>Toronto</li> <li>Washington DC</li> </ul>
34	67

## HOW DID WE DO?

	2021 Target	2021 Result	2022 Target	2022 Result
EPDs (embodied carbon)	50%	53%	65%	55%
Materials Certifications	-	42%	50%	43%
Low Emitting Certifications	100%	74%	90%	78%
Recycled Content	50%	55%	65%	43%
FSC Certified Wood	100%	96%	100%	84%



## PERKINS EASTMAN

# A Culture of Material Health


### **Commitment & Resolution**

#### As a company

#### OUR GOALS

Speaking to our HUMAN BY DESIGN ethos, each of our following goals centers around people. And because we believe sustainability encompasses everything—our goals reflect our company's social, economic, and environmental priorities.



CARBON

We strive to be a carbon-neutral firm-in both our operations as well as in our work with our clients.



RESEARCH

We strive to be curious--to use applied research to enhance and advance our work. HOLISTIC WELLNESS

We strive to think about wellness holistically—in terms of people and the planet, and at all scales of work.



#### MATERIALS

We strive for all of the materials we use to have a net positive benefit on human health, climate health, ecosystem health, social health and equity, and to contribute to a circular economy.



DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

We strive to correct the inequities We s in our practice, our projects, and as th our communities, and to celebrate key to diversity and culture, which we emis believe enriches our design and resil our lives. char



RESILIENCE We strive to lead with passive design, as this design strategy provides the

We strive to lead with passive design, as this design strategy provides the key to both reducing future climate emissions and improving livability and resiliency as the impacts of climate change take hold.



TAB		F
	PG. 23 Case Study:	TS OUR
RESOLUTION	In With the Old	CULTURE
PG. 01 Perkins Eastman's Sustainability Resolution	PG. 25 Materials	PG. 43 Knowledge Management and Education
PG. 05 Sustainability Network	PG 27 Case Study: Less Is More	PG. 47 Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
PG. 09	Health and Wellness	PG. 49
Perkins Eastman's Sustainability Journey	PG 31 Case Study:	Celebrating Sustainability
OUR WORK	Net Zero Energy/ Net Positive Education	PG. 51 Thought Leadersl and Advocacy
Good Design Is	OUR	
Sustainable Design	OPERATIONS PG. 35	PG, 53 References
Energy and Carbon	Corporate Sustainability Agenda	
PG. 21		1. 2.6. 660
Case Study: Do You Know Your Carbon Flows?	PG. 37 Perkins Eastman's Footprint	

Austin Boston Charlotte Chicago Costa Mesa Dallas Dubai Guayaquil Los Angeles Mumbai New York Oakland Philadelphia Pittsburgh Providence Raleigh San Francisco Seattle Shanghai Singapore Stamford Toronto Vancouver Washington, DC

### Culture is Key

At every level



## **Project Performance**



-2023-



### **Project Performance**

Setting up goals



Credit: mM Common Materials Framework, "Buckets and Sub-buckets".

### Key considerations and resources

Sustainability Team

Sustainability Lead **Energy Policy** 

Material Health

Hummen Health

Ecosystere Health

Social Health & Equily

ustainability Lead

Circular Econormy Material Health Resources

Climate Health

LEED and WELL Accreditation

Material Health at Perkins Eastman

#### General criteria, tools, and guidance



#### **High Impact Categories**

High Touch areas

- High Volume products
- Notable chemicals of concern





We're not experts, and that's ok!



#### 3<sup>nd</sup> Party Standards

Don't rely on claims!

Resources Monthly Education Module Recent



**Team Work** 

#### Work with manufacturers that want to work with you

#### Perkins Eastman Resources PE Materials Matrix

\_\_\_\_

#### PF Manufacturer Email Template

#### PE Materials Information Request Form

#### Material Health Case Study Template

Material Health Teams Pag

### Materials and Design at PE Presentation

Alphabet Soup: Material Health at PE presentation

#### Material Health at PE: The Common Materials Framework

#### Material Health Education Module 2020

#### Materials Databases \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

mindful Materials CMF Portal

#### **AIA Materials Resources**

A&D Materia

#### AIA Prescription for Healthier Materials

Whether is advocacy, general

questions and communication.

guidance, first steps, or ideas; is here:

#### How to Talk to Clients About Materials

A short article with some useful tips on how to talk to clients about

#### Material & Product Guidance

Six Classes of Chemicals

BuildingGreen's "Spec This Not That"

### Building Green Guide to Product Certifications and Ecolabels

Key to Building Product Certifications & Ecolabels

#### **Building Green Product Guidance**

#### Carbon Smart Materials Palette

#### Healthy Building Network product guidance

#### ILFI's Red List

#### Design For Freedom Report

### **The Common Materials Framework**







Perkins Eastman, Orchard online platform

## **Project Performance**

### Specifics of Tracking Tools





B

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TMVL MATERIAL LIST DESCRIPTION REV DATE: 06/30/2022	RACKER	-			Mater	rials and Roso	PC86				1	-	_	Low-Emiting	g Motenala	-	
Ex. ABC Product		PS/IW	Yes / No	#% / #%	City: State	Yes / No	version 3.0	Yos / No	Yes/No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yos/No	Yes / No	Yes I No	Yes / No		
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## Material Health: Library Working Group

### **Tailoring solutions**



# OBIN MONTESSORI AND VASSAL LANE SCHOOL

case study for Material Health

Perkins Eastman: TMVL south entrance. Project to be completed in 2025





### Wellness through materials selection

### Targeting for broader impact

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\*from a total of 200 researched materials.

### **Research in results**

A tailored effort, including everyone.

HIGH-TOUCH & HIGH-QUANTITY HEALTHY MATERIALS SELECTIONS

**TOBIN MONTESSORI & VASSAL LANE SCHOOL** 



40% - 65%

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATIONS (EPD) OR HEALTH PRODUCT DECLARATION (HPD)TO 1000 ppm, ORCDPH EMISSIONS TEST COMPLIANT HMFH

# Healthy Materials Pilot

partnership to eliminate chemicals of concern inside public schools

**Massachusetts School Building Authority** 



# Health & Wellness

10 factors for healthy school design:

- 1. Natural light and views
- 2. Acoustic control
- 3. Thermal comfort
- 4. Indoor environmental quality
- 5. Healthy materials
- 6. Engages and fosters community
- 7. Safe from outside dangers
- 8. Reduces bullying
- 9. Provides health resources
- 10. Supports an active lifestyle



# Massachusetts School Building Authority

**Pilot Program Partnership** 

- MSBA funding for Bristol-Plymouth is contingent on LEED for Schools certification
- Incentivizing Healthier Materials? Project Advisory 76 is a first step in the effort to address Material Health in Public Schools.
- Public Procurement Process Chapter 149/149A Project Delivery Method: Design-Bid-Build vs CM at Risk

### 'The more you dig into it, you think, Oh, God.' A growing mission seeks to reduce toxic chemicals in schools

By Kay Lazar Globe Staff, Updated May 2, 2022, 7:15 a.m.



Jack McCarthy, executive director of the Massachusetts School Building Authority, aims to slash the number of toxic chemicals used in construction and renovation projects in the state's schools. JONATHAN WIGGS/GLOBE STAFF

The image is seared in Jack McCarthy's mind: a group of pre-kindergarteners gathered for story time, sitting in a circle on the carpet of a classroom, amid an invisible witches' brew of chemicals lurking in the dust on the floor.

Ever since he heard a talk a couple of years ago about health problems linked to flame retardants, stain repellents, and other potent building chemicals, McCarthy, executive director of the Massachusetts School Building Authority, has been on a mission to slash the number of such substances in the state's schools. His vision is taking hold in a \$305 million construction project for a new Bristol-Plymouth Regional

Boston Globe - May 2, 2022



# Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School

Products most in contact with occupants

- Ceiling panels
- Wall tile
- Marker boards
- Lockers
- Acoustic treatment
- Toilet partitions
- Doors
- Gym wall pads
- Wall graphics

- Stage drapery
- Wall paneling
- Window treatment
- Casework
- Loose furniture
- Resilient flooring
- Carpet

# **Material Health Goal**

Eliminate chemicals of concern on high-touch surfaces inside the school

- **PFAS** in water, stain repellents, upholstery
- Flame retardants in window treatments, rebonded carpet padding, furniture foam, stage curtains
- **Phthalates** in vinyl flooring, paint coatings and caulk
- Formaldehyde in furnishings and casework



# Work-in-Progress

Material Ingredient Declaration Status

- Transparency Labels
- Classes
- Red List
- Restricted Substances List
- Databases



Green Science Policy Institute "6 Classes of Harmful Chemicals"

# **Pilot Program Product Criteria Ranking**

#### **TIER 1 - LBC Declare Label with Red List Free Status**

Products that disclose 100% of ingredients present at or above 100ppm (0.01%) in the final product and do not contain any Red List chemicals

#### **TIER 2 - LBC Declare Label with Red List Approved Status**

Products that disclose a minimum of 99% of ingredients present in the final product and meet the Red List Imperative requirements through one or more approved exceptions

TIER 3 - Cradle to Cradle Gold TIER 4 - Cradle to Cradle Silver

**TIER 5 - LBC Declare Transparency Label** 

Products disclose 100% of ingredients present in the final product, but contain one or more Red List chemicals that are not covered by an approved exception

Minimum Requirement: Every product specified requires an HPD/EPD or letter verifying none exists

## HMFH Process - Material Health Pilot Program

Schematic Design	Design Development	WE ARE HERE Construction Documents	Construction Administration	Occupancy	Project Closeout Final
Develop program goals Strategize implementation	Develop mission statement Criteria ranking scorecard Research / test implementation strategy Research products aligned with design intent and mission Assess new products for durability	Assess products with on-going cost estimates; create alternates during VE Start material tracking process Assess progress, refine criteria, adjust expectations, reflect on goals Develop specifications and feedback loop transparency objectives	Submittal process LEED document material tracking Assess substitutions for final product selection Furniture selection	Final LEED Submission	Funding

# **Specifications and Material Tracking**

### Refining our process is a work in progress

- Develop a feed-back loop with specs
- Specify EPDs/HPDs for all products
- Track product data and materials installed
- Prioitize manufacturers willing to evolve their product to meet goals
- Assess what we are doing right
- Learn what manufacturers are doing or plan to do relative to labels, certifications, recycled content



Advocate for Transparency

Drive Market Change Red List Free Full Transparency Third Party Verified















# Challenge

Gym Wall Pads & Divider Curtains

- Current product options lack transparency certifications
- Durability requirement often translates to products with Red List Chemicals (vinyl/PVC)



# Challenge

**Furniture & Casework** 

- Assessing furniture assemblies made of various components
- "Accessory Products"
- Options lack transparency certifications
- Durability often translates to Red List Chemicals (chemicals of concern)
- BIFMA LEVEL Certificaton



# Challenge -> Easy Win

Window Treatment

- 2022 Massachusetts passes
   Legislation that effectively bans
   added chemical flame retardants to
   most window roller shades
- Compliant shades are PVC free and PFAS free
- How manufacturers respond to this legislation remains to be seen

## **NEXT STEPS**

Lessons learned to scale up Material Health

- Be accountable for your choices.
- Set goals and measure progress
- **Demand transparency** from manufacturers
- Strategize with like-minded individuals
- Revise **specifications** to require transparency
- Be proactive, don't wait for legislation



Image by https://metropolismag.com/climatetoolkit/ via Materials Bank

### HOW ABOUT YOU...

Are you tracking?



What do you normally track?

What's the resource or database you are using?

Image by https://metropolismag.com/climatetoolkit/ via Materials Bank

# QUESTIONS?

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