



Product manufacturers and suppliers & Green Star for New Buildings Fact sheet

As the challenges of the next decade come to the forefront, Green Star for New Buildings aims to create market demand for innovative, responsible, and low carbon products.

Announced in March 2019, Green Star for New Buildings reimagines the existing rating tool for new buildings and major refurbishments. It aims to deliver a better, more accessible and relevant experience that meets today's challenges.

It's been eight months since we released our initial [consultation paper](#). We received more than 100 written submissions from you about our proposals in that paper. Our [feedback report](#) released in November confirmed that we are on the right track. Now it's time to reveal the detail underpinning our upcoming rating tool.

The new rating tool aims to ensure that buildings are built with the more environmental and socially sustainable products. This rating tool is a reflection of where the industry is headed, and we want help you make sure you are ready. We also want to help you find your market by introducing a new product directory that speaks to your Green Star customers.

We are seeking your views on the proposed credits and on the changes to the certification process. The feedback process closes at the end of February and the draft credits can be found on our [website](#).

We have also released a [summary paper](#) that we encourage you to read first.

The changes to Green Star are significant. This fact sheet shows you the credits we believe are of interest to you. It may not be a comprehensive list and there may be others that you are keen to see as well. However, we strongly believe these are critical to you and your profession.

We encourage you to provide us with feedback on our new rating tool. This is your chance to shape the future of Australia's built environment.

“The supply chain has always risen to meet the needs of the market. The future is clear: low carbon, responsible, and transparent products are the future. Green Star aims to enable you to take advantage of this opportunity and help you find your market.”

Nicole Sullivan
Senior Manager Green Star Solutions



What you should do:

- 1 Read the summary paper
- 2 Explore the credits highlighted below
- 3 Provide us with your feedback

Want more? Look at the other credits or join our [webinars](#).

Why are we changing Green Star?

Global megatrends are shaping the built environment like never before.

Climate action, resource efficiency and health & wellbeing are at the top of issues to address. Issues related to these, such as resilience, biodiversity and nature losses, and a stronger focus on social impacts are rising in importance.

Green Star for New Buildings rises to the challenge.

The seven megatrends underpinning Green Star for New Buildings:

- 1 **Carbon emissions** and energy use
- 2 **Resilience** against climate change and other shocks and stresses
- 3 **Water consumption** during operations and construction
- 4 **Nature** and our part in restoring the planet's biodiversity.
- 5 **Circular economy** and the trend to close the loop on the supply chain.
- 6 **Health and wellbeing** for all occupants
- 7 **People**, human rights, and the inclusion of all in green buildings



Your goals are our goals

We've designed Green Star for New Buildings to help you succeed in the upcoming decade.

The global megatrends are affecting the supply chain like no other. From reducing carbon to driving a circular economy, the pressures to deliver innovative and responsible products will be bigger than ever. **With any set of challenges comes incredible opportunity to rise above the rest, future-proof your business, and meet the demands of your customers.**

These are the goals of the next decade. The supply chain will need to respond, and we are here to help you do that. The credits in the **Responsible** category and the **Positive** category are designed to help you achieve them.

These goals aren't just our own. These goals will also help you achieve your commitments to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

What we'd like to achieve with Green Star for New Buildings

Recognise ethically manufactured products

Drive investment in a circular supply chain

Create demand for low carbon products

Reduce significant environmental impact

Drive transparency in the supply chain



Global megatrends snapshot:

Circular economy

As the world changes how we use our resources, Green Star for New Buildings is there to drive this transformation.

The circular economy movement is gaining momentum worldwide, and the impact on the built environment is yet to be realised. From turning waste streams into valuable resources to developing buildings from prefabricated low carbon materials, the circular economy will drive innovation in the resources sector like never before.

Green Star for New Buildings aims to help builders, owners, and the supply chain on this journey, starting with a focus on reducing carbon. The **Positive** category introduces a minimum expectation: All new buildings must be built with less upfront carbon emissions than a typical building. From there, the 'Upfront carbon emissions' credit, combined with the 'Impacts from resources' credit, rewards deeper cuts in the carbon emitted from design and use of products and materials.

The circular economy is not just about carbon. It also involves creating the necessary supply chain changes to enable better materials and products to be created. These changes can and will be driven by increased demand from the market.

We aim to create this demand through our **Responsible** category. We will do this through the 'Responsible procurement' and the 'Responsible (products)' credits. In addition to also looking at transparency, social, and environmental issues, these credits will reward further the use of reused products, products that were developed through a circular supply chain solution, and the use of more recycled content in products.

The **Responsible** category also addresses the waste streams from our buildings. Two credits, 'Operational waste' and 'Responsible construction' address those respective waste streams, and encourage significant reductions of waste generation and waste to landfill.

“The new credits addressing the circularity of the supply chain are an exciting step to creating demand for more innovative and low impact materials for the built environment.”

Barbara Nebel
CEO at thinkstep-anz

Credits involved in this megatrend

Responsible

- ◆ Responsible construction
- ◆ Operational waste
- Responsible procurement
- Responsible structure
- Responsible envelope
- Responsible systems
- Responsible finishes

Positive

- Upfront carbon emissions
- Impacts from resources

◆ This credit includes a minimum expectation

Developed by the
Green Building Council of Australia

Getting ready for Green Star for New Buildings

There are still a number of steps prior to the release of Green Star for New Buildings, and there is plenty of time to prepare.

You have a chance to put your products and materials at the forefront of sustainability. Green Star for New Buildings recognises that the more you've done to make your product more sustainable, the more benefits you should provide to your customer.

In Green Star for New Buildings, products are recognised across a number of initiatives. While you won't be able to claim that you are providing a point to a project, you will be able to state that your product meets the credit threshold needed for them to comply. You will be able to make the statement if you achieve the Responsible Product Score (RPV). There will also be opportunities to position your product as a high achiever and be recognised for that too.

The RPV is determined based on the environmental and social initiatives that are achieved across four themes: Responsibility, Transparency, Foresight, and Stewardship. The products' final RPV will be calculated based on achieving multiple recognised initiatives. Each initiative will have a different RPV assigned to it. By adding a number of initiatives, your product will be able to be recognised if it passes the threshold.

The scoring matrix will be released next year. If you'd like more information, or to be put on the mailing list for its release, please contact us at futurefocus@gbca.org.au

What is Green Star for New Building looking for?

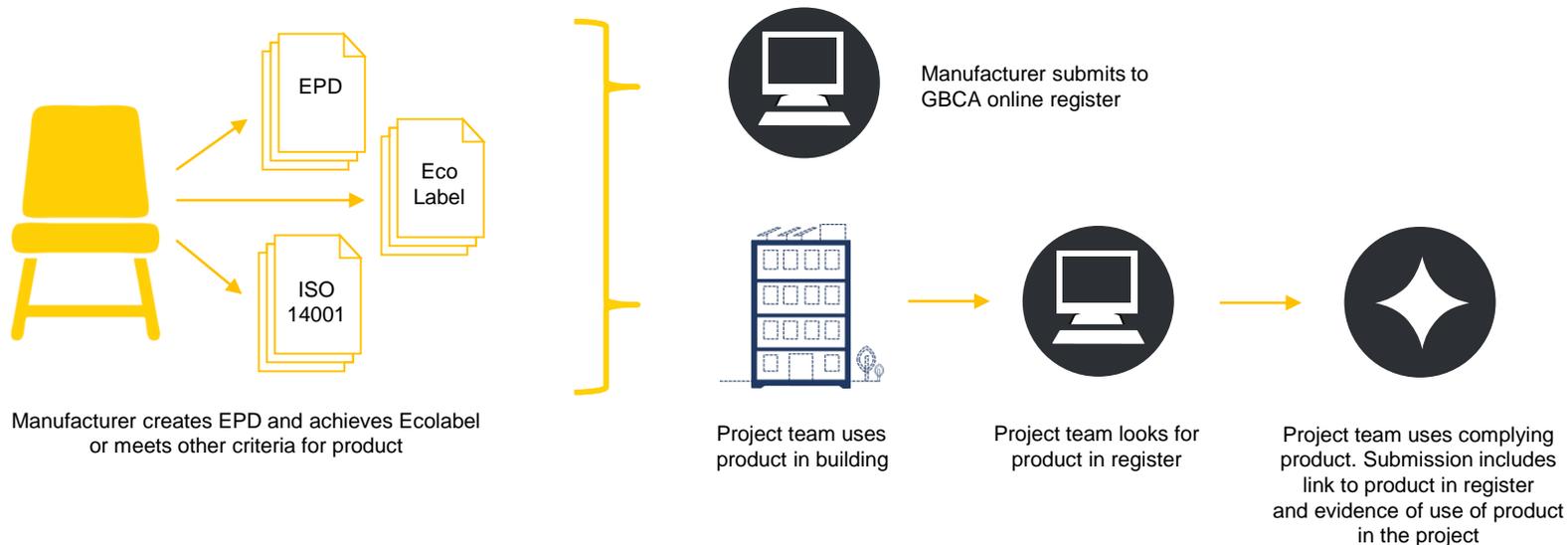
The new rating tool is looking for products that meet one or more of these initiatives.

- Claims are third party verified
- Initiative indicates that the product is an environmentally preferable choice
- Initiative examines the environmental impacts of product and/or production process
- Carbon impacts are transparently declared
- Environmental impacts are transparently declared
- Health impacts are transparently declared
- Content of product is transparently declared
- Initiative examines the occupational hazards associated with producing and/or using the product
- Initiative examines social / human rights performance
- Initiative examines ethical business conduct
- Initiative demonstrates benefits to the circular economy for the product
- Initiative achieves other significant strategic outcomes supported by GBCA

How will we help you stand out from the rest?

Our upcoming products directory will enable your customers find your products.

As part of our digital platform we will be introducing an online directory of pre-approved products. Our goal is to ensure that products are approved once for use in Green Star, not once per project. Therefore you will be able to provide us with information that shows that a product complies with the requirements of the relevant credits. As you do this, the information will be made available to registered projects. This will simplify their Green Star submission and streamline your sales channels.



Fact sheet: Product manufacturers and suppliers

Green Star for New Buildings is a significant evolution to Green Star. We encourage you to review the following credits first, as they are likely to impact you or benefit you directly.



Responsible

- Industry development
- Responsible construction
- Operational waste
- Verification and handover
- Responsible procurement
- Responsible structure
- Responsible envelope
- Responsible systems
- Responsible finishes



Healthy

- Clean air
- Light quality
- Exposure to toxins
- Acoustic quality
- Amenity and comfort
- Human connection to nature



Resilient

- Climate change resilience
- Systems resilience
- Community resilience
- Grid optimisation



Positive

- Energy use
- Energy source
- Upfront carbon emissions
- Other carbon emissions
- Tenant emissions
- Impacts from resources
- Water use



Places

- People movement
- Activated places
- Goods movement
- Enjoyable places
- Access to amenity
- Contribution to place



People

- Community engagement
- Culture, Identify and heritage
- Design for diversity
- Design quality
- Privacy
- Social construction impacts
- Social procurement



Nature

- Impacts to Nature
- Biodiversity Enhancement
- Nature Connectivity
- Nature Stewardship
- Offsite Restoration
- Waterways protection



Leadership

- Innovation Challenges
- Leadership in Sustainability

There are more things to come

- **Provide your feedback** to the [digitisation and certification paper changes](#) and the [draft credits](#).
- **Attend one or all of our [webinars](#)** and be prepared for the new rating tool.
- **Join our Early Access Program.** There is still an opportunity to help influence the development of the rating system and be one of the first to use the new rating tool. Contact FutureFocus@gbca.org.au to arrange.
- **Request a briefing for your staff.** GBCA member organisations can request for a member of the Market Transformation team to brief your team. Contact FutureFocus@gbca.org.au to arrange.
- **Make sure you're [signed up](#)** to receive our *Green Building Voice* newsletter and *Inside Green Star* newsletter for regular announcements on project consultation periods, progress updates and additional opportunities to get involved.
- **Follow our progress via our website.** We're keen to share our work with you so we'll be providing regular updates, feedback reports, surveys and more on the [GBCA website](#).
- **Partner with us.** We aim to redefine world leadership and best practice for the next decade. Partnership opportunities are available. If you are interested please let us know at: Lucy.Harris@gbca.org.au

Thanks to our Future Focus partners for their ongoing support

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Green Building Council of Australia