

SMITHGROUP

January 1, 2013

RE: Transparency and Disclosure of Chemicals of Concern

Dear Product Manufacturer,

As you are aware, material selection has traditionally involved evaluating materials based on cost, performance, durability, aesthetics, and availability. As our industry advances, opportunities and requirements to evaluate the chemical content of materials has grown as well. Projects seeking certification through the Living Building Challenge require 'Red List' compliance and it is our understanding that the forthcoming LEED v4 gives credit for using products that disclose chemical contents. This, coupled with growing awareness of chemicals of concerns by our clients, has led SmithGroup to expand its material research endeavors towards increased transparency.

To support this growing awareness, we have been evaluating our specifications in order to endeavor to identify and eventually eliminate a select group of chemicals that to our knowledge are known or suspected of being hazardous. In an effort to assist us in our endeavors, we are requesting manufacturers to provide additional product information on the chemical content of their primary products. This can be done by providing a completed [Health Product Declaration](#) (HPD), an International Living Futures Institute (ILFI) [Declare](#) label, or another form of third-party disclosure. We are looking for increased transparency, and manufacturers that comply with this request may be more likely to be specified on current and future projects as compared to those that do not comply.

Accordingly, we would highly encourage all manufacturers to complete a free, online [GreenWizard](#) (GW) profile for these primary product lines and to upload the above referenced transparency documentation along with other standard documentation to GW. GreenWizard provides SmithGroup the ability to track, manage and assign products to specific projects, and permits the quick sharing of information; expediting construction submittal reviews and LEED documentation.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Russell Perry, FAIA, LEED AP BD+C



Greg Mella, AIA, LEED AP BD+C
Co-Directors of Sustainable Design