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16<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**Ref: Compliance of Altro flooring and wall cladding products and associated accessories to BREEAM**

To whom it may concern,

Altro flooring, wall cladding and adhesives are compliant to the requirements of the following sections of BREEAM:

**HEA 02 – Indoor Air Quality**

**Altro safety flooring, Smooth Vinyl & Altro Nuvola Cirrus and Stratus Rubber Flooring**

All Altro safety flooring, smooth vinyl and rubber flooring products comply with the requirements of ISO 14041:2004 and are declared E1 with regards to formaldehyde. The testing requirement for these criteria is BS EN 13986:2004 and relates to the *Determination of Formaldehyde Release in Wood Based Panels* and is hence not valid.

Under ISO 14041:2004 "this testing requirement does not apply to floor coverings to which no formaldehyde containing materials were added during production or post production processing. These do not need to be classified but may without any testing be declared as E1"

Regulated preservatives as defined by the standard are also absent.

**Altro Whiterock Ceilings**

Altro Whiterock Ceiling systems are also declared as E1 for formaldehyde according to EN 13964:2004, asbestos is also absent.

**Altro Whiterock & Altro Fortis Titanium Wall Cladding**

All Altro Whiterock and Altro Fortis Titanium wall cladding products comply with the requirements of Hea 02 under BREEAM

For compliance to these BREEAM credits, wall coverings should satisfy the limits for VCM, formaldehyde, heavy metals and other toxic substances listed in Table 1 of the relevant product standard. Standards quoted in HEA 02, (BS EN 233:1999, BS EN 234:1997, BS EN 259-1:2001, BS EN 12149:1998) refer to wall coverings in roll form and hence are not relevant. Altro Whiterock & Altro Fortis Titanium products are rigid un-plasticised PVC sheets however Altro Whiterock & Fortis Titanium comply with the requirements of these standards as detailed below.



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*Compliance is as follows:*

1. Formaldehyde – formaldehyde is not used in the manufacture of raw PVC, compounding of dry blend or production sheets. Formaldehyde <120ppm.
2. VCM – for general regulation of production of raw PVC the VCM content of the PVC has to be below 5ppm. The manufacturing process further reduces the unbound VCM in the final product.
3. Heavy metals – none of the heavy metals or toxic substances listed in Table 1 are used within our products.

## Altro Safety Flooring and Wall Cladding Adhesives.

### **Altrofix A19, A19 Plus and Altrofix A15 flooring adhesives**

We can confirm that the above adhesives have been tested for carcinogenic and sensitising substances and VOCs according to EN 13999-1:2013

EN 13999-1:2013 describes a conventional standard test method for assessing potential emissions from adhesives after their application but doesn't give any acceptance limits for the obtained values.

The reference limit values taken are established by the GEV-EMICODE system, a very well accepted system in Europe for adhesives using EN 13999-1:2013 as the test method.

According to GEV-EMICODE the analytical acceptance limits for the carcinogenic substances potentially present in adhesive formulations are:

K1 Benzene, vinyl chloride <2µg/m<sup>3</sup>

K2 Acrylamide <10µg/m<sup>3</sup>

K3 Vinyl acetate, dioxane, acetaldehyde, formaldehyde <50µg/m<sup>3</sup>

Both Altrofix A19 Plus and Altrofix 15 are very well below these limits (in fact, below analytical detection limits) and can be claimed as free from carcinogenic substances.

We can also confirm that formaldehyde, the most common sensitising volatile substance in adhesives is not detectable in both products and also isocyanates are not present.



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## **Altrofix W139 Wall Cladding Adhesive**

We can confirm that Altrofix W139 wall cladding adhesive complies with the requirements of HEA9 and HEA 02 according to EN 13999-1:2013. The requirements of HEA 02 state that for adhesives that are used in conjunction with rigid wall coverings such as Altro Whiterock, the requirements for flooring adhesives should be used.

### *Performance Summary*

W139 has been tested for VOCs, isocyanates and formaldehyde emissions according to EN 13999-1:2013

W139 falls below the current reference limits set by GEV-EMICODE after testing for emissions for 24 hours.

W139 does not emit isocyanates, formaldehyde or any carcinogenic or sensitising substances above detectable limits.

## **MAT 01 – Life Cycle Impact**

### **Generic Green Guide Ratings for Safety Flooring**

Altro safety flooring and rubber based flooring achieves the following generic Green Guide to Specification ratings:

#### **Polyvinyl chloride floor coverings with enhanced slip resistance (safety flooring) EN 13845**

Building Application	Element Number	Generic Green Guide Rating
Health	821570055	A+
Education	921570010	A+
Commercial	821570043	A
Retail	821570055	A+/A



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### **Smooth Surface and Profiled Surface Rubber Floor Coverings.**

Building Application	Element Number <i>Smooth Surface Rubber sheet</i>	Generic Green Guide Rating	Element Number <i>Profiled Surface Rubber</i>	Generic Green Guide Rating
Health	821570056	A+	821570057	A+
Education	821570014	A+	821570015	A+
Commercial	821570044	A	821570045	A
Retail	821570056	A+/A	821570057	A+/A

### **MAT 03 – Responsible Sourcing of Materials**

Altro products are not certified to BES 6001 – Responsible Sourcing of Construction Products, however Altro is certified to the environmental management standard ISO 14001:2004. A copy of this certificate is available upon request or can be downloaded from our website [www.altro.com](http://www.altro.com)

### **WST 01 Construction Waste Management**

Altro is a co-founder of Recofloor, the UK's vinyl take back scheme. Recofloor can be used in conjunction with a Site Waste Management Plan to divert vinyl flooring waste from landfill and potentially earn BREEAM credits.

If you require any further information about compliance of our products to BREEAM please contact me here at Letchworth.

Kind regards

**Tracy Perry**  
**New Product Development Manager**  
**[tper@altro.com](mailto:tper@altro.com)**

Altro, Works Road, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire SG6 1NW  
**Tel:** +44 (0) 1462 480480 **Fax:** +44 (0) 1462 480010 **e-mail:** [info@altro.com](mailto:info@altro.com) [www.altro.com](http://www.altro.com)

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