



# GreenScreen Certified™ Standard for Furniture & Fabrics v1.1

WEBINAR

MARCH 2022

# Clean Production Action – solutions for a safer & healthier tomorrow



lean Production Action

# Webinar Questions

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Post your question to the <u>Q&A</u> section of your Zoom Control Panel

Presentation and recording will be available at greenscreenchemicals.org













#### Shari Franjevic

GreenScreen Program Manager

**Clean Production Action** 

**Joel Sigler** Director, National Environmental Health and Safety

**Kaiser Permanente** 

#### **Betsy Phillips**

Director of Strategic Partnerships

Maharam

#### **Heather Covert**

Sustainability Manager

**Glen Raven** 



# Outline

- GreenScreen Certified<sup>™</sup> Furniture & Fabric what's new?
- 2. Value to Health Care Providers
- 3. Value to Manufacturers
- 4. Q&A







# GreenScreen Certified™ Standard for Furniture & Fabrics v1.1

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# **Material Health Matters**

# High levels of toxic flame retardant chemicals found in dust inside college classrooms

by Silent Spring Institute



Credit: CC0 Public Domain

https://phys.org/news/2020-09-high-toxic-flame-retardant-chemicals.html

### Your furniture may contain harmful chemicals

New research finds that children living in homes with vinyl flooring or sofas that contain flame retardants have traces of potentially harmful toxins in their urine or blood.



New research suggests that sofas and vinyl floors, in particular, contain substances that may harm children's health.

https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/324511



# PFAS: Per- and Polyfluroalkyl Substances



#### Carbon-fluorine bond is strongest in organic chemistry



# Why are PFAS Such a Big Deal?

- Do not break down in the environment
- Can move through soils and contaminate drinking water sources
- Build up in fish, wildlife, and our bodies
- Health concerns at low exposure levels
  - pregnancy-induced hypertension
  - liver damage
  - increased cholesterol
  - thyroid disease
  - immune system harm





# GreenScreen Certified for Furniture & Fabrics



#### **Technical Peer Reviewers**

- Alex Misna, Technical Services Manager, Kimbali International
- Anne McManus, Senior Sustainability Engineer, Haworth
- Betsy Phillips, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Maharam
- Elizabeth Eldridge, Director of Sustainable Sourcing, Kaiser Permanente
- Jane Abernethy, Chief Sustainability Officer, Humanscale
- Jennifer Mason MacDaniel, Principal Interior Designer, Kalser Permanente
- Joel Sigler, Director, National Environmental, Health & Safety, Kalser Permanente

- Judy Levin, Pollution Prevention Director, Center for Environmental Health
- Kelsey Balka, Design for Environment Engineer, Herman Miller
- Luke Zhou, Lead Sustainable Materials Specialist, Humanscale
- Veena Singla, Senior Scientist, Natural Resources Defense Council
- William Paddock, Managing Director, WAP Sustainability
- Yoav Einy, Director, Environmentally Preferred Purchasing, Vizient



# Simplifying the Complexity of Chemical Hazard

To support informed, proactive, and precautionary decision-making





# GreenScreen: Globally Recognized & Used





# Why GreenScreen Certified?



- Independent, non-profit organization
- Comprehensive and detailed evaluation
- Easy to understand accreditation
- Avoids regrettable substitutes
- Creates a roadmap



# **Facilitates Communication**





# All Fabrics Verified PFAS-free



1. Three samples/lots tested at a commercial analytical laboratory

NEW!

- 2. Testing for all PFAS by measuring total fluorine
- 3. < 100 ppm total fluorine
- 4. Ongoing testing required for shared processes



## **Disclosure under Confidentiality**



All **materials** present in the product at any level must be disclosed under confidentiality.

E.g., polypropylene, steel, nylon fabric, adhesive

CONFIDENTIAL DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT All **chemicals** present in all materials must be disclosed – requirements depend on certification level



# **Chemicals Disclosed**







# Prohibits Chemical Classes of Concern



Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Bisphenols Ortho-phthalates Flame retardants (non-electronics) Antimicrobials Specific metals and their compounds Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) Specified Authoritative Government Lists





# Avoids Chemicals of High Concern



#### CMRs =

- Carcinogens,
- Mutagens, or
- Reproductive / Developmental Toxicants
- PBTs =
  - Persistent, and
  - Bioaccumulative, and
  - Toxic
- Equivalent Concern =
  - Endocrine Disruptors



# **Chemicals Assessed**







# **Other Considerations**

#### 1. Sustainability Requirements

- Indoor Air Quality (VOCs), Sustainably Sourced Wood, Waste & Recyclability
- Aligned with Kaiser Permanente Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Standard

#### 2. Material Specific Considerations

- Pragmatic criteria to address specific needs and constraints
- Minor Fasteners, Undefined Post-consumer Recycled Content (PCR), Electronic
  Components, Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) in Powder Coats, Metal Parts e.g., metal alloys, Form Specific Hazards e.g., carbon black



# List of GreenScreen Certified<sup>™</sup> Products

https://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/certified/products/category/furniture-fabrics/

GreenScreen Certified™

You are here: Home / Certified / Certified Products / Furniture & Fabrics



#### GreenScreen Certified<sup>™</sup> Products > Furniture & Fabrics

TIFIED	Company 🔻	Product Type	Product •	Level 🔻	Version & Certificate#	Expires 🔹	Notes	v
	Herman Miller Inc.	Furniture & Fabrics Furniture	Tu® Metal Pedestal	Bronze	v1.0 #20201012	2025-09-30	W-Pull Mobile, LW110.20BFSRSS8QKC4MH1 Herman Miller Inc.	
E 1.1 VERSION 01 VBER Clean Production Action	Glen Raven Inc	Furniture & Fabrics Fabric	Sunbrella with Assure - specified patterns (see product codes in	Bronze	v1.1 #20221001	2027-07-31	FF 87009-001 to FF 87009-008 Glen Raven, Inc.	
	Maharam	Furniture & Fabrics Fabric	Arcade	Bronze	v1.1 #20221003	2027-07-31	466447/001 to 466447/005 Maharam	



# Steps to Certification

https://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/certified/get-certified

- 1. Pre-Registration
- 2. Registration
- 3. Application
- 4. Evaluation
- 5. Certification





# GreenScreen Certified<sup>™</sup> for Furniture & Fabrics

- 1. Verifies claims of no PFAS and use of preferred chemistry
- 2. Builds upon gold standard GreenScreen tools
- 3. Meets Kaiser Permanente's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
- 4. Restricts classes of chemicals of concern
- 5. Enables use of Health Product Declaration (HPD) Open Standard
- 6. Aligns with US Green Building Council's LEED standard
- 7. Provides clear steps on journey to increasingly preferable products



# **THANK YOU!**

Slides from the webinar will be posted on the website

#### **Contact Clean Production Action:**

Shari Franjevic shari@cleanproduction.org certifications@cleanproduction.org https://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/



GreenScreen Certified<sup>™</sup> Standard for Furniture & Fabrics

Learn More https://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/certified/furniture-fabrics

Factsheet

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# Kaiser Permanente Sustainable Sourcing for **Furniture & Fabric**

**Joel Sigler, CSP** National Environmental Program Leader

March 23, 2022



#### **About Kaiser Permanente**

Kaiser Permanente is one of the nation's largest not-for-profit health plans, serving 12.5 million members. At Kaiser Permanente, physicians are responsible for medical decisions. The Permanente Medical Groups, which provide care for Kaiser Permanente members, continuously develop and refine medical practices to help ensure that care is delivered in the most efficient and effective manner possible. **In 2020, Kaiser Permanente invested \$3.6 billion in its communities.** 





# **Environment and Health: Why we Care**

- Where we live, the places we work and the air we breathe profoundly impact our health.
- Now more than ever, it's clear that Kaiser Permanente's has a responsibility to address how climate changes health and mitigate future impacts.
- The health disparities exacerbated by COVID-19 have further underscored that protecting the health of our planet and its people can no longer be treated as separate efforts.
- Creating a healthier, more sustainable path forward requires us to address these inseparable issues as one.



### Safer Products Goal

- Reduce and eliminate chemicals of concern
- Reduce health risks to our members and the community
- Reduce compliance risks

Performance and other business criteria must continue to be met!

# Progression of Furniture and Fabric EPP Criteria at Kaiser Permanente





### **Environmental Preferable Purchasing Challenges**



# **Third Party Certification**

KP seeks to identify and utilize third party certifications to help address EPP challenges

Examples:

- Green Seal (GS 37 for cleaning products)
- EPEAT Registry (Computers, Copiers)
- GreenScreen Certified (Furniture, Fabric)







### **Next Steps**

KP will integrate Green Screen certification requirements into contractual agreements with Furniture and fabric suppliers. Example:

- Within 12 months: at least one product/product line must receive certification that it has met one of six levels of requirements for safer chemicals in product formulations specified in the GreenScreen Certified<sup>™</sup> Standard for Furniture & Fabrics v1.0: Bronze, Bronze+, Silver, Silver+, Gold, and Gold+; or product must receive certification that it met "GSC Reviewed" requirements but did not meet the certification requirements.
- Within X months: same as above for all products/product lines



# Thank you!

# maharam












#### PFAS Removal Progress





# maharam

# Glen Raven

GreenScreen Certified<sup>™</sup> for Furniture and Fabrics

> Heather Covert Sustainability Manager

> > March 23, 2022





Who and Where are We?



R.J. Stern R.J. Stern Witkinson, WV 800.292.7826

Strata India Daman Plant 011.91.260.222016

Dickson PTL Dagneux, France 011.33.04.37.65.80.0

Glen Raven Asia • Suzhou, JangSu, China 011.86.512.6763.810

Glen Raven locations



- Global focus on manufacturing, marketing, and selling performance textiles
- Markets we serve:
  - Awnings & Shades
  - Automotive
  - Marine
  - Indoor and Outdoor Upholstery
  - Residential outdoor rugs



#### In harmony with the environment

Glen Raven is committed to exceeding industry benchmarks for environmental stewardship. Through ongoing initiatives with our vendors, trade partners, and customers, we will continually stay in the forefront of protecting our environment while producing quality, high-performance textiles.

Our work is aligned to Support Our People and Communities, while also Sustaining Our Planet.



Recognized the need in the healthcare space for non-PFOA fabric that also met the needs of Environmentally Preferred Purchasing (EPP) programs

What's Next?

No independent verification that products meet EPP specifications

Third-party certifications exist to many environmental and sustainability standards, none of these verify that fluorine is not intentionally added

Growing need to have third-party verification that the products meet the EPP requirements of Healthcare and Governmental Organizations

One state (Michigan) and one federal (US govt) level EPP program have been developed and launched, both excluding PFAS containing products from their programs

GreenScreen Certified<sup>™</sup> for Furniture and Fabric standard meets these guidelines

## Introducing Sunbrella Contract with Assure









- Greenguard Gold good indoor air quality
- Facts Silver level certified to the ANSI/NSF 336 Multi-attribute Sustainable Commercial Furnishings Fabric Assessment - manufactured sustainably
- Standard 100 by OEKO-TEX<sup>®</sup> tested for harmful substances and deemed safe for end use.
- GreenScreen Certified Furniture and Fabrics Standard - confirms that PFAS is not intentionally added

## Introducing Sunbrella Contract with Assure





Independent, highly regarded, peer review

- CPA has been doing this for 20 years!

We release our ingredients for review, but our trade secret information remains confidential

Sets a transparent industry standard

Confirmation that we are not making a regrettable substitute with other concerns

Not just focused on PFAS, but thousands of other chemicals

Validates our commitment to sustainable products

What We Admire About GSC

#### Was it Easy?

- NO
- Suppliers not initially wanting to cooperate
- It helps to have rigorous supplier requirements and production protocols

### Was it Worth It?

- YES
- Sets the products up for success long-term
- Easy for customers to identify our commitment to sustainable products



### **THANK YOU!**

- I hope I have encouraged others to see that this certification could be possible for them
- We are excited to see how this new certification will advance the marketplace
- We look forward to what the future holds

Heather Covert | Sustainability Manager BS ChE, MS Textile Technology, Authorized GreenScreen® Practitioner Glen Raven, Inc <u>hcovert@glenraven.com</u> o:864.716.4427 | m:864.617.8467

### Questions & Answers





### THANK YOU!

Slides from the webinar will be posted on the website

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### Learn More https://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/certified/furniture-fabrics

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