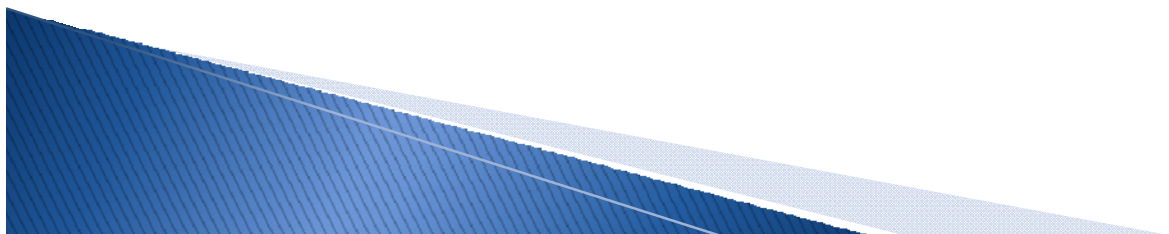




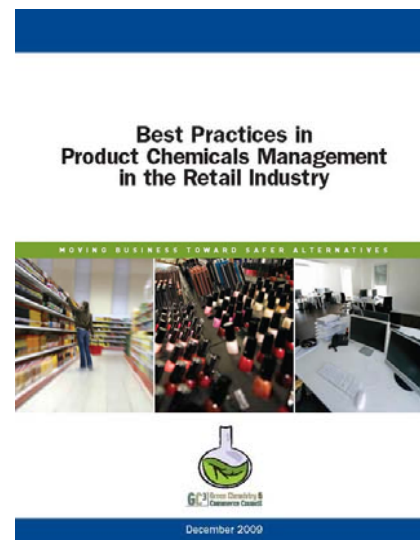
# Retail Project Group 2010-2011



# Project history

□ Building on report: *Best Practices in Product Chemicals Management in the Retail Industry* where 11 best practices identified, group decided to:

- Focus on one best practice:  
*“A retailer should determine which product chemicals management approach is the best fit for its retail operation”*
- Continue to engage retailers around product chemicals management

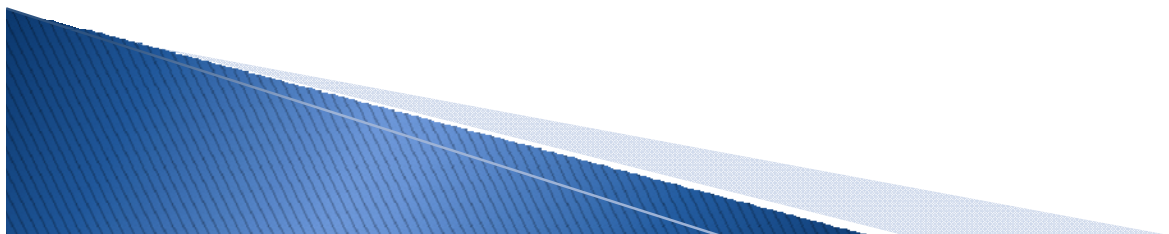




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# Project design

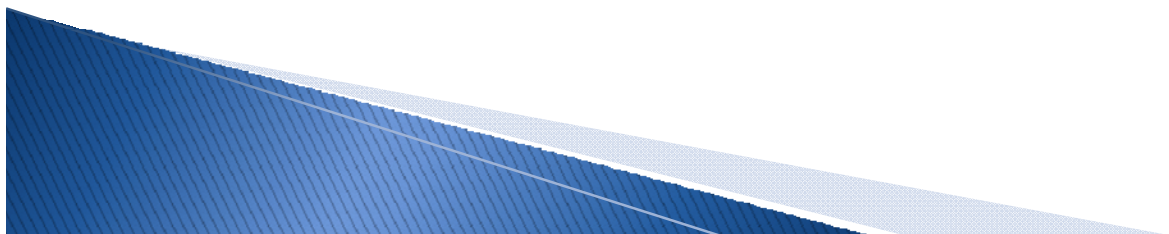
- ☐ Web resource designed to help retailers begin the education process around tools and systems currently available to manage chemical ingredients in products they sell
- ☐ Plan a meeting for retailers on this topic





# Web resource tools

- ❑ Tools / systems included in Web resource:
  - Enable retailers to evaluate chemicals or chemical-containing products for their potential human health and environmental impacts
  - Identify chemicals or materials that are regulated or are of concern and not yet regulated
  - Go beyond ensuring compliance with existing environmental regulations (provide additional information to “green” product lines)
  - Are free or commercially available to retailers





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# Web resource

## Product sectors

Retail operation classified by 20 product sectors (type of products sold):

- ☐ Apparel & Footwear; Automotive
- ☐ Building Materials & Products
- ☐ Cleaning & Janitorial Products (Residential & Commercial/Industrial)
- ☐ Electronics
- ☐ Food & Beverage
- ☐ Furniture
- ☐ Hard Goods & Appliances
- ☐ Health & Beauty, Cosmetics, & Pharmacy
- ☐ Jewelry & Crafts
- ☐ Lawn & Garden
- ☐ Outdoor/Sporting Goods
- ☐ Packaging
- ☐ Paints & Coatings
- ☐ Pet
- ☐ Photo & Printing
- ☐ Pool & Spa
- ☐ Textiles
- ☐ Tools
- ☐ Hardware & Plumbing
- ☐ Toys

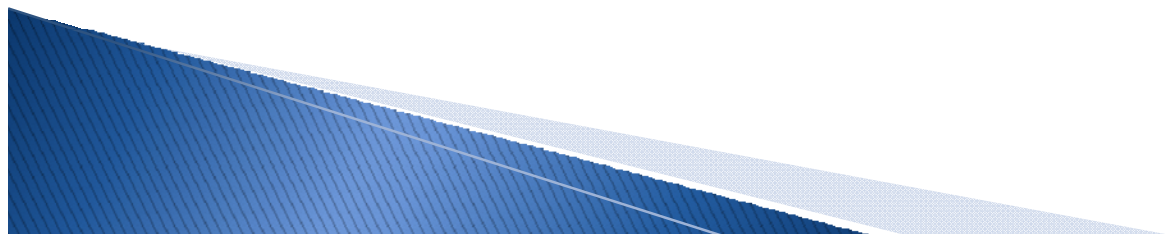


# Web resource

## Tool Categories

Tools classified into 4 categories:

- ☐ Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs)
- ☐ Standards, Certifications and Labels
- ☐ Third-Party Evaluation Tools and Systems
- ☐ Consumer Guides





# Web resource

## Standard Format Used to Characterize Each Tool

Data summarized for each tool includes:

- ☐ Focus of Evaluation
  - Substances (chemicals, ingredients), products (articles), companies/product lines
- ☐ Product Stage of Life Evaluated
  - Manufacturing, transportation, consumer use, end of life
- ☐ Impacts Evaluated
  - Air emissions, ecological health, energy use, GHGs, material impacts, ozone depletion, human health, water use, water emissions, worker health and safety
- ☐ Process description
- ☐ Data needs
- ☐ Cost
- ☐ Evaluation frequency
- ☐ Some retailers who use it
- ☐ Similar tools



# Product Chemicals Management Web Resource for Retailers

(BY PRODUCT SECTOR)

**KEY:** Restricted Substances Lists Standards, Certifications & Labels Third-party Evaluation Tools Consumer Guides

## Apparel & Footwear

Tools relevant to this product sector	Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs) e.g. AAFA RSL, & ETAD	bluesign <sup>®</sup>	EcoLogo	Global Organic Textile Standard	OekoTex Standard 100	Outdoor Industry Association EcoIndex Beta <sup>®</sup>		
Tools relevant to all product sectors	Cradle to Cradle <sup>®</sup>	3E Green Product Analyzer <sup>™</sup>	Actio Material Disclosure	Chemical Compliance Systems, Inc. (CCS) Tools	GreenWERCs	IHS Inventory Greening Solutions	SciVera Lens <sup>™</sup>	

## Automotive

Tools relevant to this product sector	Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs) e.g. GADSL	EPA Design For Environment Safer Product Labeling Program	EcoLogo	Green Seal				
Tools relevant to all product sectors	Cradle to Cradle <sup>®</sup>	3E Green Product Analyzer <sup>™</sup>	Actio Material Disclosure	Chemical Compliance Systems, Inc. (CCS) Tools	GreenWERCs	IHS Inventory Greening Solutions	SciVera Lens <sup>™</sup>	

## Building Materials & Products

Tools relevant to this product sector	Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs)	EcoLogo	Greenguard	Green Seal	SMaRT <sup>™</sup> 4.0 Sustainable Product Standard	Pharos		
Tools relevant to all product sectors	Cradle to Cradle <sup>®</sup>	3E Green Product Analyzer <sup>™</sup>	Actio Material Disclosure	Chemical Compliance Systems, Inc. (CCS) Tools	GreenWERCs	IHS Inventory Greening Solutions	SciVera Lens <sup>™</sup>	



Cleaning & Janitorial Products (Residential & Commercial / Industrial)								
Tools relevant to this product sector	Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs)	DfE Safer Product Labeling Program	EcoLogo	Green Good Housekeeping	Greenguard	Green Seal	Clean Gradients	Good Guide
Tools relevant to all product sectors	Cradle to Cradle®	3E Green Product Analyzer™	Actio Material Disclosure	Chemical Compliance Systems, Inc. (CCS) Tools	GreenWERCs	IHS Inventory Greening Solutions	SciVera Lens™	
Electronics								
Tools relevant to this product sector	Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs) e.g. Joint Industry Guide	EcoLogo	Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)	Greenguard	Good Guide			
Tools relevant to all product sectors	Cradle to Cradle®	3E Green Product Analyzer™	Actio Material Disclosure	Chemical Compliance Systems, Inc. (CCS) Tools	GreenWERCs	IHS Inventory Greening Solutions	SciVera Lens™	
Food & Beverage								
Tools relevant to this product sector	Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs)	Organic Materials Review Institute	USDA National Organic Program	Good Guide				
Tools relevant to all product sectors	Cradle to Cradle®	3E Green Product Analyzer™	Actio Material Disclosure	Chemical Compliance Systems, Inc. (CCS) Tools	GreenWERCs	IHS Inventory Greening Solutions	SciVera Lens™	
Furniture								
Tools relevant to this product sector	Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs) e.g. ETAD	ANSI/BIFMA e3-2010 Furniture Sustainability Standard	bluesign®	EcoLogo	Global Organic Textile Standard	Greenguard	OekoTex Standard 100	SMaRT™ 4.0 Sustainable Product Standard
Tools relevant to all product sectors	Cradle to Cradle®	3E Green Product Analyzer™	Actio Material Disclosure	Chemical Compliance Systems, Inc. (CCS) Tools	GreenWERCs	IHS Inventory Greening Solutions	SciVera Lens™	

Hard goods, Appliances								
Tools relevant to this product sector	Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs)	EcoLogo						
Tools relevant to all product sectors	Cradle to Cradle®	3E Green Product Analyzer™	Actio Material Disclosure	Chemical Compliance Systems, Inc. (CCS) Tools	GreenWERCs	IHS Inventory Greening Solutions	SciVera Lens™	
Health & Beauty, Cosmetics, Pharmacy								
Tools relevant to this product sector	Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs) e.g. ETAD	EcoLogo	Green Good Housekeeping	Green Seal	Good Guide			
Tools relevant to all product sectors	Cradle to Cradle®	3E Green Product Analyzer™	Actio Material Disclosure	Chemical Compliance Systems, Inc. (CCS) Tools	GreenWERCs	IHS Inventory Greening Solutions	SciVera Lens™	
Jewelry & Crafts								
Tools relevant to this product sector	Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs)							
Tools relevant to all product sectors	Cradle to Cradle®	3E Green Product Analyzer™	Actio Material Disclosure	Chemical Compliance Systems, Inc. (CCS) Tools	GreenWERCs	IHS Inventory Greening Solutions	SciVera Lens™	
Lawn & Garden								
Tools relevant to this product sector	Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs)	Organic Materials Review Institute	USDA National Organic Program					
Tools relevant to all product sectors	Cradle to Cradle®	3E Green Product Analyzer™	Actio Material Disclosure	Chemical Compliance Systems, Inc. (CCS) Tools	GreenWERCs	IHS Inventory Greening Solutions	SciVera Lens™	



**GC<sup>3</sup>** Green Chemistry & Commerce Council

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- Business and Academic Partnerships
- Facilitating Chemical Data Flow Along Supply Chains
- Incentivizing Green Chemistry Along Supply Chains
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## Moving Business Toward Safer Alternatives

**bluesign®**



### Evaluation Tool

bluesign®

### Tool Category

Standards, Certifications & Labels

### At a Glance

Bluesign is an independent textile industry standard that optimizes the sustainability of the manufacturing process along the production chain. It is used by raw material and component suppliers that manufacture yarns, dyes, and additives, as well as textile manufacturers. The bluesign® certified fabric, textiles and accessories are then used by retailers and brands in their products.

### Tool Website(s)

[www.bluesign.com](http://www.bluesign.com); bluesign standard: [www.bluesign.com/index.php?id=151](http://www.bluesign.com/index.php?id=151)

### Focus of Evaluation

Substances (chemicals, ingredients), products and companies.

### Product Stage of Life Evaluated

Raw material, manufacturing, consumer use, end of life

### Impact(s) Evaluated

Air emissions, environmental health, human health, material impacts, water emissions, & worker health and safety. See bluesign standard: [www.bluesign.com/index.php?id=151](http://www.bluesign.com/index.php?id=151)

### Process Description

The goal of the standard is to improve environmental, health and safety conditions as well as improve resource efficiency along the whole textile supply chain. The standard guarantees compliance with new national and international legislative standards and aims to do this without compromising functionality, quality, or design.

Web Resource  
for Retailers

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Key to Data  
Category Definitions

The standard analyses input streams from raw materials to chemical components to resources used. Components are then rated according to their impacts and divided into three categories: a blue rating means components, production processes, and technologies have met all criteria for the bluesign® standard and may be used for all applications; a grey rating means components, production processes, and technologies may be used under one or more pre-conditions following the Best Available Technology as defined in the EU Directive 96/61/EC; a black rating is equal to a ban and the component must be eliminated from the manufacturing process.

In addition to the bluesign® standard criteria, documents are provided that describe the criteria for selected industries such as the chemical industry, textile manufacturing mills, producers of accessories, and garment manufacturers. See [www.bluesign.com/index.php?id=151](http://www.bluesign.com/index.php?id=151). The publicly available bluesign standard substances list (BSSL) specifies the restrictions (limits and bans) for consumer safety that are enforced by the bluesign® standard. Retailers using bluesign® approved fabric, textiles, and accessories can have the final product bluesign® safety certified.

### **Product Categories**

Apparel & Footwear, Furniture, Textiles

### **Data Needs**

Suppliers of chemical components must provide detailed chemical and toxicological data in order for bluesign to determine if the components meet the bluesign® standard. An on-site audit to verify handling of chemicals and EHS management is also conducted. For manufacturers, EHS and general production data covering one year is collected, followed by a detailed on-site evaluation of the EHS impacts. This results in a detailed report with recommendations of changes to be made in the components and processes used.

### **Cost of Tool**

bluesign® members pay an annual membership fee and actively support the development of the standard. An alternative approach is to subscribe to the bluefinder™ — an online database designed for textile manufacturers which contains bluesign®-approved components (auxiliaries, dyestuffs, finishing agents, coatings, etc.).

### **Evaluation Frequency**

The standard is updated periodically when new chemical components and processes are introduced.

### **Strengths**

The bluesign® standard guarantees compliance with international legislative standards, without compromising functionality, quality, or design. It links suppliers, manufacturers, retailers, and brands to jointly reduce the environmental footprint of a product and foster a responsible textile industry.

### **Weaknesses**

Allows “grey” chemical use without transparency — that is, without specifying what those grey chemicals are.

### **Examples of Retailers Who Use It**

Patagonia, REI, North Face, Mountain Equipment Coop (MEC)

### **Similar Tools**

Oeko-tex, Global Organic Textile Standard

### **For More Information**

bluesign technologies ag, Tel: 41 (0)71 272 29 90, Email: [info@bluesign.com](mailto:info@bluesign.com)





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Moving Business Toward Safer Alternatives

**GreenWERCS™**



#### Evaluation Tool

GreenWERCS™

#### Tool Category

Third-party evaluation tools

#### At a Glance

The GreenWERCS™ is a third party chemical screening tool that allows chemical manufacturers, formulators, and retailers to evaluate the potential impact of chemical ingredients in products on human health and the environment while protecting proprietary information.

#### Tool Owner/Sponsor

The WERCS Ltd. and WerCS Professional Services LLC

#### Type of Entity

For profit

#### Tool Website(s)

[www.greenwerCS.com](http://www.greenwerCS.com); [www.thewerCS.com](http://www.thewerCS.com)

#### Focus of Evaluation

Chemical ingredients in products.

#### Product Stage of Life Evaluated

Manufacturing, consumer use, end of life

#### Impact(s) Evaluated

Ecological health, human health, material impacts

#### Process Description

Web Resource  
for Retailers

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Key to Data  
Category Definitions

GreenWERCS™ was developed to help retailers gain a better understanding of the human and environmental impact of the products they sell. The system requires suppliers to enter ingredient information into a proprietary database. GreenWERCS™ uses this data to examine potential impacts on human health and the environment based on regulatory lists of hazardous substances. An aggregated score based on a company's weighting and scoring methodology is then developed.

A retailer can compare products within a category and make decisions about which to purchase based on its sustainability goals. GreenWERCS™ protects a manufacturer's proprietary data so the ingredient data is not shared directly with the retailer.

Chemical product manufacturers can also use GreenWERCS™ to better understand the potential human health and environmental impact of their product formulations at the development stage. In addition, the tool can compare products and provide "what if" scenarios that allow users to see the impact of changing chemical formulations.

#### **Product Categories**

All products

#### **Data Needs**

Suppliers provide key product ingredient data (chemical composition and formulation) for chemical products.

#### **Cost of Tool**

There are three ways for suppliers to purchase GreenWERCS™: a software as a service model with a monthly fee and tiered pricing; a transactional fee structure with companies paying \$20 to enter each product for scoring; and a perpetual seat license where the purchaser has the software installed at their workplace.

#### **Evaluation Frequency**

Ongoing — an on-demand tool. National and international regulatory lists of hazardous substances are updated quarterly.

#### **Strengths**

Retailers can use product scores generated by GreenWERCS to compare competing products and encourage suppliers to substitute safer ingredients for harmful ones.

#### **Weaknesses**

Chemicals that do not appear on any lists receive a lower score, which indicates a preferable ingredient. This may be misleading, as chemicals not on lists may not have been adequately tested for human health and environmental hazards. Each retailer determines its own weighting methodology so that products may not be comparable across retailers.

#### **Some Retailers Who Use It**

Walmart / Sam's Club, West Marine, Halliburton, and Allergan Pharmaceutical.

#### **Similar Tools**

SciVera Lens™, 3E Green Product Analyzer™, IHS Greening Solutions

#### **For More Information**

Tom Carter — Vice President, The WerCS, Ltd., 23 British American Blvd., Latham, NY 12110, Tel: (518)-640-9249

# Key to Data Category Definitions

## Type of Entity

Non-profit, for profit, academic, government, industry, trade association, etc.

## Focus of Evaluation

1. Substances (chemicals, ingredients)
2. Products (articles)
3. Companies/product lines

## Product Stage of Life Evaluated

1. Raw Material
2. Manufacturing
3. Transportation
4. Consumer Use
5. End of Life

## Impact(s) Evaluated

Detail about which attributes are evaluated (Air emissions, ecological health, energy use, GHGs, material impacts, ozone depletion, human health, social responsibility, water use, water emissions, worker health and safety).

## Process Description

Summary of tool goal and use: How it works, process flow. Does it support compliance?

## Product Category

Which product types or industries does the tool evaluate?

## Data Needs

Type of input needed (MSDS, ingredient lists, etc.) and from whom (retailer/ supplier/ vendor).

## Cost of Tool

Fee Structure.

CLOSE WINDOW

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## Impact(s) Evaluated

Air emissions, environmental health, human health, material impacts, water emissions, & worker health and safety. See bluesign standard: [www.bluesign.com/index.php?id=151](http://www.bluesign.com/index.php?id=151)

## Process Description

The goal of the standard is to improve environmental, health and safety conditions as well as improve resource efficiency along the whole textile supply chain. The standard guarantees compliance with new national and international legislative standards and aims to do this without compromising functionality, quality, or design.



Alternatives

Web Resource  
for Retailers

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Key to Data  
Category Definitions

that optimizes the sustainability of the manufacturing material and component suppliers that manufacture their products. The bluesign® certified fabric, textiles and their products.

[www.bluesign.com/index.php?id=151](http://www.bluesign.com/index.php?id=151)

companies.

life

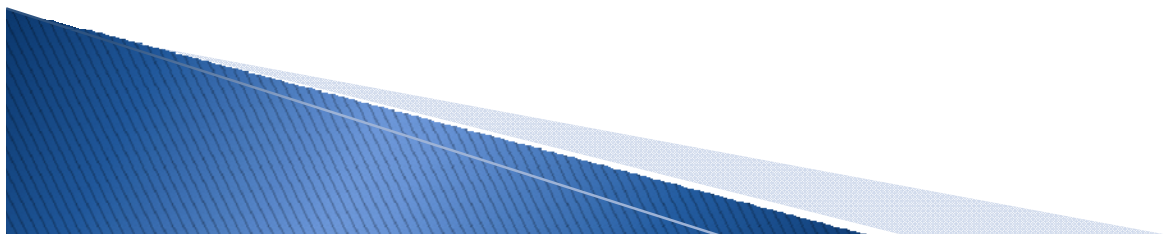




# Retail Meeting

Product Chemicals Management for Retailers:  
Moving Beyond Compliance towards Safer Less  
Toxic Product Lines:

- ❑ May 3, hosted by West Marine, Watsonville CA
- ❑ 40 participants
- ❑ Discussions focused on the role of retailers, drivers of safer chemicals in products, understanding and impacting the supply chain, and product chemicals management solutions for retailers.





# Potential project areas for a retail focused group

- ☐ Promote the web resource to retailers and retail groups. Potential to expand to other supply chain sectors or other product sustainability indicators e.g. energy etc.
- ☐ Map different efforts in the retail arena and what they do e.g. collaborative efforts, efforts by trade organizations etc.
- ☐ Conduct webinar series for retailers - 1) for those not yet engaged in managing chemical ingredients in products 2) topics for all retailers to keep abreast of tools / systems retailers or others are developing
- ☐ Ensure a half day of the annual GC3 meeting is specifically focused on retailers to continue ongoing dialog