

# BREEAM Recognized Schemes for Emissions from Building Products

Within the Health and Wellbeing category of a number of BREEAM schemes, credits are awarded for specifying materials that minimize emissions from building products, e.g. formaldehyde, volatile organic compounds (VOCs). These criteria involve meeting emission level performance requirements in accordance with compliant performance and testing standards. Similar criteria have been included in the Home Quality Mark (HQM) scheme.



This chart lists where SCS Indoor Advantage, SCS Indoor Advantage Gold, and FloorScore show equivalent or better performance than the current BREEAM and HQM criteria, and therefore can be used to demonstrate compliance with the criteria of the following BREEAM and HQM schemes and assessment issues. They can also be retrospectively applied to previous versions that include similar criteria:

- SD5075 BREEAM International New Construction 2013 (Hea 02 Indoor air quality)
- SD5076 BREEAM UK New Construction 2014 (Hea 02 Indoor air quality)
- SD5077 BREEAM UK Domestic Refurbishment 2014 (Hea 03 Volatile organic compounds)
- SD216 BREEAM UK Non-Domestic Refurbishment and Fit-out 2014 (Hea 02 Indoor air quality)
- SD225 BREEAM International Non-Domestic Refurbishment and Fit-out 2015 (Hea 02 Indoor air quality)
- SD232 Home Quality Mark 2015 (09 Indoor Pollutants)
- SD233 BREEAM International New Construction 2016 (Hea 02 Indoor air quality)

**Table 1.** Applies to BREEAM schemes launched before the end of November 2015.

Product Type	Approved VOC Scheme	General - level One Credit	Exemplary level One Credit <sup>1</sup>	Exemplary level Two Credits <sup>1</sup>
Paints and varnishes	Indoor Advantage™ Gold - Building Materials <sup>2</sup> (2014 version)	Yes	N/A	N/A
Wood panels	Indoor Advantage™ Gold - Building Materials (2014 version)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Timber structures	Indoor Advantage™ Gold - Building Materials (2014 version)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wood flooring	FloorScore® (2014 version)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Resilient, textile, and laminated floor coverings	FloorScore® (2014 version)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Suspended ceiling tiles	Indoor Advantage™ Gold - Building Materials (2014 version)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Flooring adhesives	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wall coverings	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Table 2.** Applies to BREEAM and HQM schemes launched since the beginning of December 2015.

Product Type	Approved VOC Scheme	BREEAM & HQM General level criteria	BREEAM Exemplary level criteria
Interior paints and coatings <sup>3</sup>	Indoor Advantage™ Gold - Building Materials (2014 version)	Yes <sup>4</sup>	No
Wood-based products	Indoor Advantage™ Gold - Building Materials (2014 version)	Yes <sup>4</sup>	No
Flooring materials (including floor leveling compounds and resin flooring)	FloorScore® (2014 version)	Yes <sup>4</sup>	No
Ceiling, wall, and acoustic and thermal insulation materials	Indoor Advantage™ Gold - Building Materials (2014 version)	Yes <sup>4</sup>	No
Interior adhesives and sealants (including flooring adhesives)	FloorScore® (2014 version)	Yes <sup>4</sup>	No
	Indoor Advantage™ Gold - Building Materials (2014 version)	Yes <sup>4</sup>	No

<sup>1</sup> Exemplary level credits do not apply to the BREEAM UK Domestic Refurbishment scheme

<sup>2</sup> Only for products certified through Indoor Advantage™ Gold - Building Materials for the European market

<sup>3</sup> BREEAM: Manufacturer must also confirm: (i) products meet relevant maximum TVOC content limit specified in the technical manual; and (ii) where relevant, products intended for use in wet areas (e.g. bathrooms, kitchens, utility rooms) protect against mold growth. HQM: Manufacturer must also confirm that, where relevant, products intended for use in wet areas (e.g. bathrooms, kitchens, utility rooms) protect against mold growth

<sup>4</sup> Products must comply with SCS Global's "Verification Guidelines: Post-November 2015 Launched BREEAM and HQM scheme requirements for Emissions from Building Products - ECS Indoor Air Quality Technical Guidance Document 002", and product certification must state: "Measured concentration of Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOC) is less than/equal to 0.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for the school classroom and private office parameters" AND "Category 1A and 1B Carcinogens are less than 0.001 mg/m<sup>3</sup>"

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