

GREENGUARD

- The most respected independent testing program for low-emitting products.
- GREENGUARD-certified products help reduce indoor air pollution and create healthier interior environments.
- Knoll GREENGUARD–certified products help achieve points for the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED–CI (Commercial Interiors) Program.
- GREENGUARD-tested and certified office furniture is required for Credit 4.5 in the LEED-CI Indoor Environmental Quality section.

GREENGUARD provides the only guide to certified low-emitting interior products and building materials. Its goal is to help building owners and managers, architects, interior designers and product specifiers build and furnish healthier offices, hospitals, schools and homes by providing a register of tested and certified low-emitting products and materials. GREENGUARD certification is recognized by LEED. Air Quality Science, an independent indoor air quality laboratory, tests products submitted for GREENGUARD certification using stringent environmental chamber testing protocols and current indoor air quality standards. Certification is administered by the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute.

All Knoll textiles have been tested and are awaiting GREENGUARD certification. All other products are currently in the process of being certified. Meanwhile, Knoll is addressing specific client requirements for GREENGUARD certification. For example, in response to the commitment by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to environmental air quality in the new Maryland offices of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Knoll secured GREENGUARD registration for Reff, Caliber and RPM products specified for 627 offices at the site.

GREENGUARD Allowable Emission Levels

All products are tested in dynamic environmental chambers following ASTM standards D–5116–97 and D–6670–01, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's testing protocol for furniture and the State of Washington's protocol for interior furnishings and construction materials. Products are measured for emission levels, which must meet the following indoor air concentrations within five days of unpackaging. Air concentrations are based on the product being in a room 32 m3 in volume with an outdoor air concentration of 0.8 air changes per hour (ACH). Maximum allowable emission levels are those required by the state of Washington's indoor air quality program for new construction, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's procurements specifications, the recommendations from the World Health Organization, and Germany's Blue Angel Program for electronic equipment.

Allowable Emission–Office Furniture (Workstation)

- Total VOCs
- Formaldehyde
- Total aldehydes
- 4-phenylcyclohexene

Listing of measured carcinogens and reproductive toxins as identified by California Proposition 65.

- National Toxicology Program (NTP), and the International Agency on Research on Cancer (IARC) must be provided.
- Any pollutant not listed must produce an air concentration level no greater than 1/10 the Threshold Limit Value (TLV) industrial work place standard (Reference: American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists, 6500 Glenway, Building D–7, Cincinnati, OH 45211–4438).