level

ANSI/BIFMA e3 Furniture Sustainability Standard and level® Certification Program

1 hr Session

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level

Introductions

what's your name ?

what do you do ?

Course Description

This course offers a review of the content of the ANSI/BIFMA e3 Furniture Sustainability Standard including scope, structure, elements, pre-requisites, etc., as well as information on the third-party level® certification process. It is intended to familiarize the A&D community, facility managers, commercial building owners, end users, dealers, and manufacturers with e3 and level so that they may understand the standard in a framework that showcases how it applies to their everyday need to specify sustainable products.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the this course, participants will be able to:

1. Understand the BIFMA sustainability standard and its application to the design of interior environments through the utilization of products from the contract furniture industry.

2. Identify and compare furniture products by using level's certification as a framework for sustainable interior design.

3. Measure the degree of sustainability that the furniture manufacturer has implemented through their corporate, facility and product related efforts.

4. Specify sustainable furniture based on the level certification program.

BIFMA

Provider Number 50110107

ANSI/BIFMA e3 Furniture Sustainability Standard & level® Certification Program
Course Number e320130000

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5. Ensure that you provide the full IDCEC number with all zeros and hyphen to providers of CEUs

GBCI CMP

The GBCI CMP mark indicates that this course will be monitored by GBCI to ensure that it upholds the quality, relevance, and rigor necessary to contribute to ongoing learning in knowledge areas relevant to LEED professionals.

ANSI/BIFMA e3 Furniture Sustainability Standard and level® Certification Program

By: **BIFMA**

GBCI cannot guarantee that course sessions will be delivered to you as submitted to GBCI. However, any course found to be in violation of the standards of the program, or otherwise contrary to the mission of GBCI, shall be removed. Your course evaluations will help us uphold these standards. Please complete them as requested by GBCI or the education provider.

Approval date: 08/08/2010

Course ID: 0090004015

Approved for:

1

General CE hours

LEED-specific hours

- LEED GREEN ASSOCIATE ☐
- LEED AP BD+C ☐
- LEED AP HOMES ☐
- LEED AP ID+C ☐
- LEED AP ND ☐
- LEED AP O+M ☐

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level

Topics

1. Sustainability – the driving force
2. BIFMA
3. What **level** is, why we need it, its applicability
4. Introductory video
5. How it works
6. What it measures
7. Relating to LEED
8. Certified products
9. Making it work

"Humanity has the ability to make development sustainable – to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

World Commission on Environment and Development, Brundtland Commission
Convened by the United Nations – 1987

why?

do we need **level**

BIFMA

leads, advocates, informs and develops standards for the North American office and institutional furniture industry

BUSINESS + INSTITUTIONAL FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

BIFMA

- Founded in 1973 as a not-for-profit in Grand Rapids, Michigan
- Develops voluntary product/industry standards that support safe, healthy and sustainable environments
- Publishes key industry statistics
- Advocates for legislation/regulations impacting industry health
- Facilitates meaningful dialog and education

What it is

A voluntary, holistic confirmation
of a product's environmental and social impact
in the built environment

What it is

level **is to**

AS

USGBC **is to**

Why we need it

The marketplace is filled with green product ratings and evaluation metrics.

What is it?

Accounts for more attributes than most other standards

Product Facility Organization

Materials Energy & Atmosphere Human & Ecosystem Health Social Responsibility

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What is it?

- An ANSI approved standard

- Streamlined process for evaluating a product's sustainable benefits, reducing the proliferation of certifying labels

- Assures an accredited **third-party certifier** has verified conformance

Third-Party Certifier

First Party
A claim made by the producer

Second Party
A claim usually made by a party with a financial interest in the sales transaction

→ **Third Party**
An independent assessment and declaration that specific requirements have been met

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Third-Party Certifier

Several third-party certifiers utilize the ANSI/BIFMA e3 Standard and issue the **level** mark

Intertek
NSF International
Orion Registrar
SCS Global Services
TUV Rheinland/LGA
UL Environment

www.levelcertified.org/thirdparty/

Applicability/All Business and Institutional Furniture

Architectural products

Systems furniture

Desking systems

Casegoods

Tables

Seating

Accessories

+

Materials and components manufactured by suppliers to furniture manufacturers

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What it is...

How it works

- ANSI/BIFMA e3 Standard provides measurable criteria by which a product may be evaluated
- Manufacturer hires a third-party certifier to evaluate and verify a point score
- **level** certification mark confirms achievement

How it works

4

Impact areas (elements)

- Materials
- Energy and Atmosphere
- Human and Ecosystem Health
- Social Responsibility

3

Categories

Product

Facility

Organization

How it works

Prerequisites
Each section has prerequisites

Credits
Credits can come from any of the elements

Points
Credits have 1 or more points
A minimum number for each level
Minimum number of product related points

How it works

Conformance Tiers	Total Points (min/max)	Product Related Points
level 1	32 – 44	5
level 2	45 – 62	11
level 3	63 – 91	18

What it measures

Materials	Energy & Atmosphere	Human & Ecosystem Health	Social Responsibility
Prerequisite	**Prerequisite**	**Prerequisite**	**Prerequisite**
Climate Neutral	Building Energy	ISO 14001	Social Policy
Life Cycle Assessment	LEED Facilities	Chemical Mgmt. Plan	Health and Safety
Material Efficiency	Embodied Energy	Chemical Use	Inclusiveness
Rapidly Renewable	Lighting	Chemical Reduction	Community Outreach
Sustainable Wood	Transportation	Furniture Emissions	Social Reporting
Recycled Content	Renewable Energy		Supply Chain
Biodegradable	Greenhouse Gases		
Product Responsibility			
Solid Waste Management			
Water Management			

What it measures

	Organization	Facility	Product	Totals
Materials	4	4	18	26
Energy & Atmosphere	4	17	4	25
Human & Ecosystem Health	0	15	15	30
Social Responsibility	8	2	0	10
Totals	16	38	37	91

What it measures

Materials

Energy & Atmosphere

level

Social Responsibility

Human & Ecosystem Health
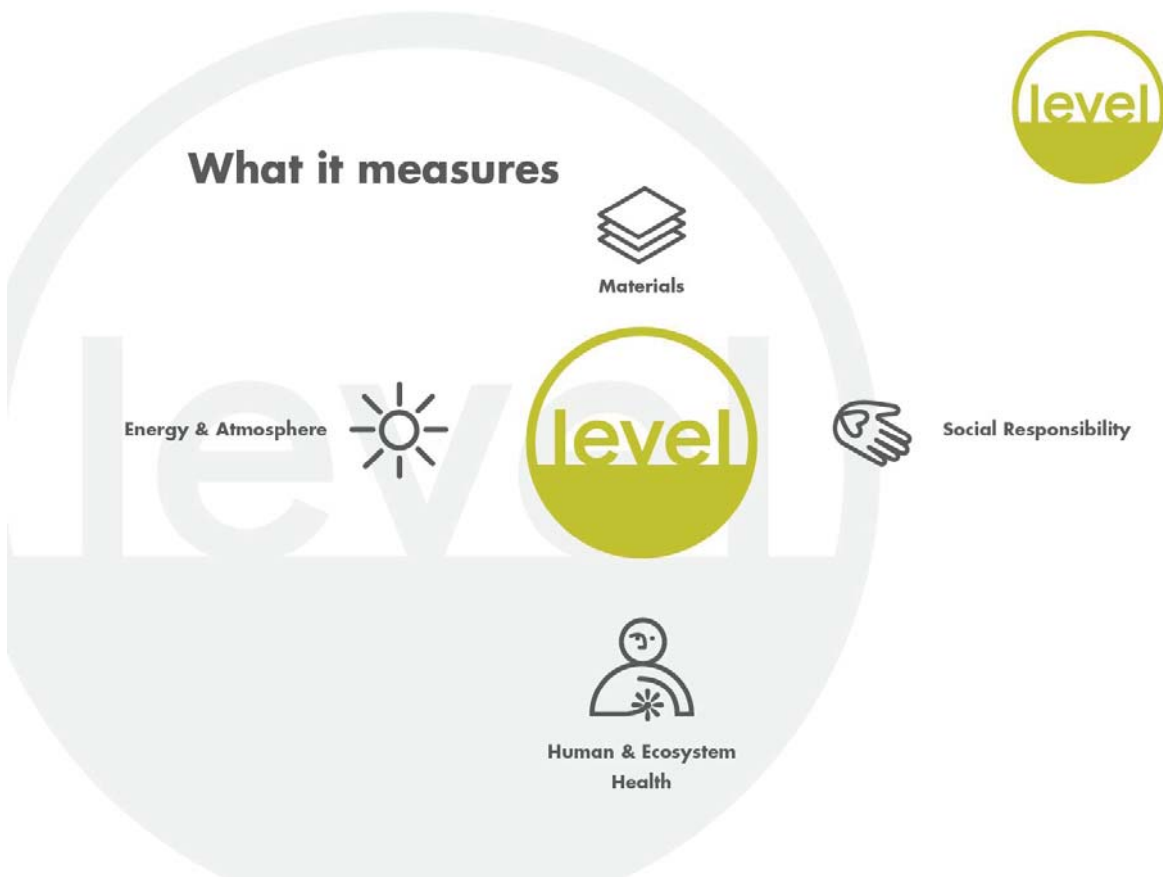
What it measures

Materials

Materials — what's in it				
Prerequisites & Credits	Organization	Facility	Product	**Totals**
5.1 Prerequisite-Design for Environment	Required			
5.2 Climate Neutral Materials			1	**1**
5.3 Life Cycle Assessment			3	**3**
5.4 Efficient Use of Materials			2	**2**
5.5 Rapidly Renewable Materials			2	**2**
5.6 Bio-based Renewable Materials			2	**2**
5.7 Recycled Content			3	**3**
5.8 Recyclable & Biodegradeable Materials			1	**1**
5.9 Extended Product Responsibility	3		3	**6**
5.10 Solid Waste Management	1		1	**2**
5.11 Water Management		4		**4**
Totals:	**4**	**4**	**18**	**26**

What it measures

Energy & Atmosphere — what it took to make				
Prerequisites & Credits	Organization	Facility	Product	**Totals**
6.1 Prerequisite-Develop Energy Policy	Required			
6.2 Building Energy Performance Baseline		3		**3**
6.3 Building Energy Performance Rating		4		**4**
6.4 LEED Certified Facility		2		**2**
6.5 Embodied Energy			3	**3**
6.6 Finished Product Energy Consumption			1	**1**
6.7 Transportation	2			**2**
6.8 On-Site & Off-Site Renewable Energy		4		**4**
6.9 Greenhouse Gases	2	4		**6**
Totals:	**4**	**17**	**4**	**25**

What it measures

Human & Ecosystem Health — impact on wellbeing				
Prerequisites & Credits	Organization	Facility	Product	**Totals**
7.1 Prerequisite-Demonstration of Compliance: Key Chemical, Risk & EMS Policies	Required			
7.2 ISO 14001 or Equivalent		2		**2**
7.3 Chemical Management Plan (CMP)		1		**1**
7.4 Effects of Product, Process and Maintenance Chemicals		3	4	**7**
7.5 Reduction/Elimination of Chemicals of Concern		9	8	**17**
7.6 Low Emitting Furniture			3	**3**
Totals:	**0**	**15**	**15**	**30**

What it measures

Social Responsibility — labor and human rights				
Prerequisites & Credits	Organization	Facility	Product	**Totals**
8.1 Prerequisite-Employee Health & Safety, Labor and Human Rights	Required			
8.2 Policy on Social Responsibility	1			**1**
8.3 External Health and Safety Management Standard		1		**1**
8.4 Inclusiveness		1		**1**
8.5 Engage in community outreach and involvement	1			**1**
8.6 Social Responsibility Reporting	3			**3**
8.7 Supply Chain	3			**3**
Totals:	**8**	**2**	**0**	**10**

Relating to LEED

Separate yet related

level

Similar

intent

process

categories

structure

U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL USGBC

Relating to LEED

level	USGBC
Materials	Water Efficiency
	Materials & Resources
Energy & Atmosphere	Energy & Atmosphere
	Indoor Environmental Quality
Human & Ecosystem Health	Innovation in Design
	Regional Priority
Social Responsibility	Sustainable Sites

Relating to LEED

Materials
Life cycle assessment
Rapidly renewable materials
Bio-based renewable materials – sustainable wood
Recycled content

Energy & Atmosphere
Finished product energy consumption

Human & Ecosystem Health
Low emitting furniture

LEED Pilot Credit 80: Environmentally Preferable Interior Finishes and Furnishings

What is Pilot Credit 80?

- Released in June 2013

- Created to recognize interior finishes and furnishings from manufacturers who have validated multiple environmental attributes relevant to the product via independent, third-party certifications

- 1 design and innovation point

LEED Pilot Credit 80: Environmentally Preferable Interior Finishes and Furnishings

How to earn the credit?

- Use at least 5 different third-party certified product series which account for at least 50% of the total interior finishes and furnishing materials by cost

- The project team must also complete a survey

LEED Pilot Credit 80: Environmentally Preferable Interior Finishes and Furnishings

What is the process?

- Register the pilot credit to your project on the LEED website
- Supply credit documentation
- Provide a list of products contributing toward Pilot Credit 80 and indicate the applicable certification (level certificates)
- List the end-user cost and number of items purchased by product series and calculate the weighted value

Disclosure Methodology - Scorecard

Certified Products

Certified Products

Search Fields: Manufacturer, Category, level Certification, Certifier

Certified Products

level Certified Products Database

+

Product Hang Tag
Third-party Certifier Websites
Manufacturer Websites
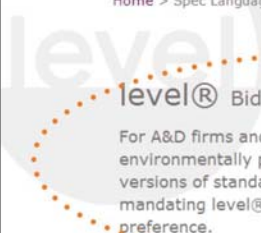

Making it work

http://levelcertified.org/speclanguage/

Home | Certified Products | The Blog | Videos | Spec Language | Training | Certifiers | News | BIFMA | Contact Us |

Home > Spec Language

level® Bid Spec Language

For A&D firms and customers that want to ensure they specify environmentally preferable furniture products, we offer two versions of standardized bid specification language, one mandating level® certified products and one expressing a preference.

Option #1

BIFMA level® Certified Product Requirement

Furniture and furnishings products proposed in response to this request shall be independently third-party certified as compliant with the ANSI/BIFMA e3 Furniture Sustainability Standard at level® 1 or higher. Signed documentation of level® certification by a third-party certification body licensed to participate in the BIFMA level® program shall be provided.

Making it work

http://levelcertified.org

Certified Products
Blog
Videos
Spec Language
Training
Certifiers

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level the sustainability certification program for furniture

level® is the multi-attribute, sustainability standard and third-party certification program for the furniture industry. It has been created to deliver the most open and transparent means of evaluating and communicating the environmental and social impacts of furniture products in the built environment. View the level brochure.

Taking into account a company's social actions, energy usage, material selection and human and ecosystem health impacts, level addresses how a product is sustainable from multiple perspectives. (more)

Making it work

www.bifma.org/store

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BIFMA BUSINESS + INSTITUTIONAL FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

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2/18/2013
Sustainability Committee Meeting

3/26/2013
Flammability Standard Subcommittee Meeting

3/28/2013
e3 Work Group 0

4/20/2013 - 4/25/2013
Spring International Home Furnishings Market

Latest News more

1/15/2013
BIFMA and GreenWizard Form Partnership

11/8/2012
New Version of Furniture Sustainability Standard Adds Point for Lower Formaldehyde Emissions

11/2/2012

ANSI/BIFMA e3-2012 Furniture Sustainability Standard
Price: $105.00 $84.00 (As a member, you save $21.00)

This American National Standard was developed to help identify and assess environmentally preferable furniture. The standard allows for multiple levels of achievement and provides an open alternative to proprietary protocols. Includes: Scope, Defini... { View Product }

ANSI/BIFMA M7.1-2011 FES Test Method
Price: $120.00 $96.00 (As a member, you save $24.00)

This standard test method is intended for determining volatile organic compound (VOCs including aldehydes) emissions from office furniture and seating under environmental and product usage conditions that are typical of those found in office buildings. { View Product }

ANSI/BIFMA X5.1 - 2011 Office Chairs
Price: $105.00 $84.00 (As a member, you save $21.00)

American National Standard For Office Furnishings-General Purpose Office Chairs-Tests Includes: Scope, Definitions, General Sections and Tests for: Back Pull, Unit Base, Seat Drop, Swivel Cycling, Tilt Mechanism, Seating Impact, Stability, Arm Strength, Back D... { View Product }

Making it work

- Development team logic and background on the Standard during development
- Printed in the new edition
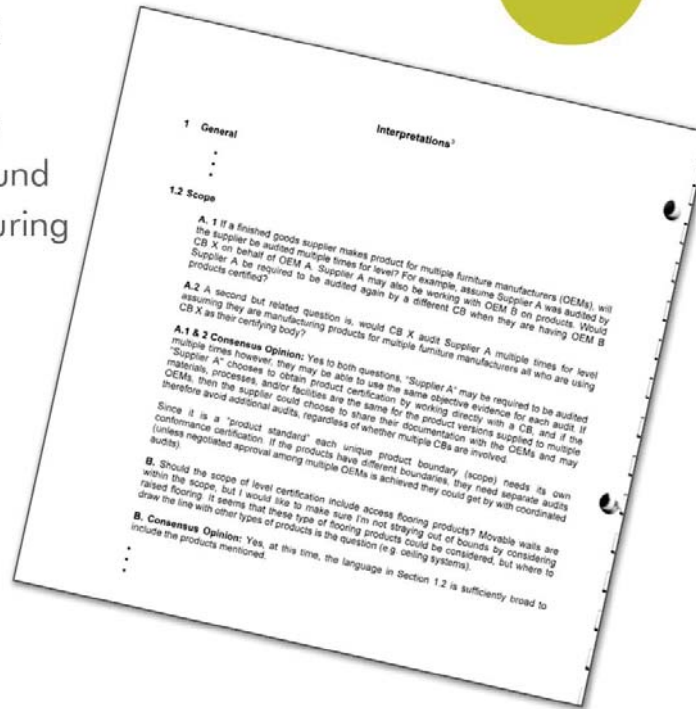
wrap up

questions

wrap up

quick check

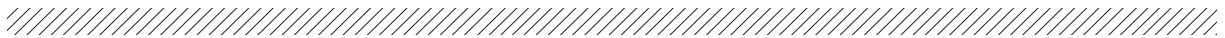**level –** the sustainability certification program for furniture

a simple, comprehensive way to understand how products contribute to sustainability

Thank you and please remember to complete an evaluation.

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