

Comments to the USGBC TSAC PVC Task Group  
In reference to the USGBC TSAC PVC Draft Report dated December 17, 2004  
from Cliff Goldman, President of Carnegie Fabrics

Dear Sirs:

It is clear that by not rewarding architects, designers and building owners with a LEED credit for avoiding the use of PVC that USGBC is flying in the face of conventional industry wisdom that chlorine chemistry should and will be eliminated in the near future. Numerous manufacturers are already moving away from PVC in their product development process. By not supporting this generally accepted direction, USGBC is sending the wrong message to the entire design and building community.

Quite frankly I don't think it will make a bit of difference. Manufacturers and designers will change the market, more than large organizations, and that is already happening. Companies such as Shaw, Herman Miller, Steelcase, C/S Group have either or are on the road to eliminating PVC.

It is clear that the Vinyl Institute still carries a lot of weight with organizations such as USGBC, but they can't prevent what even major PVC manufacturers already know - there is no long term future for PVC. It's just a shame that USGBC either couldn't or wouldn't take a leading role in making this happen.

I hope you will reconsider your position.

Sincerely,

Cliff Goldman  
President  
CARNEGIE  
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