

BREEAM Recognised Responsible Sourcing Certification Schemes V 1.0

Introduction

BREEAM awards credits for responsibly sourced materials. The aim of these credits is to encourage the specification and procurement of responsibly sourced materials (RSM) in construction. To achieve credits under Mat 03: Responsible Sourcing of Materials, applicable materials (as listed in the relevant assessment manual) specified must be covered by appropriate and compliant BREEAM recognised environmental management or Responsible Sourcing Certification (RSC) Schemes.

This guidance note provides a list of schemes currently recognised under BREEAM, their scope and associated point scores.

The background information on the evaluation of responsible sourcing certification schemes within BREEAM, the evaluation criteria, appeals procedure and details of applications for recognition of responsible sourcing certification schemes within BREEAM assessments including submissions and evaluations are contained in separate documents available in the Resources page on the [BREEAM website](#).

BREEAM version applicable

Initially the associated point scores listed below for recognised responsible sourcing certification schemes (Table-1) will be recognised within the BREEAM UK New Construction 2014 scheme only. Other current and superseded BREEAM schemes, including earlier BREEAM UK New Construction versions, will be updated to take account of this approach by the end of December 2014 and further details will be announced in due course.

BREEAM recognised Responsible Sourcing Certification Schemes

Within the BREEAM assessment method, point scores are awarded for RSC and other certification schemes based on the rigour of responsible sourcing demonstrated by the scheme covering key construction materials.

BREEAM recognised Responsible Sourcing Certification Schemes are those that have as a minimum demonstrated compliance with mandatory requirements set out in the following document:

Criteria for the Evaluation of RSC Schemes within BREEAM V3.0: BRE Global 2014

Table-1 below provides a list of RSC schemes that are currently recognised under BREEAM and their associated point scores on a scale of 1 to 10. At present all RSC schemes fall within a single score level as they all meet a set of mandatory minimum standards. It is envisaged that this will change over time as schemes evolve and detailed criteria are finalised to allow for greater differentiation between schemes.

This Guidance Note will be reissued as necessary to include new schemes or to take account of changes in current schemes. Project teams must, therefore, ensure they are using the latest version of this table when carrying out assessments. To avoid the confusion of changes in scores due to the table being updated, the table that is current at the time of registration of an assessment should be used to assess the issue of responsible sourcing of materials.

In addition to the above, independently certified Environmental Management Systems (EMS) are also recognised to a limited degree, as they partially comply with BREEAM's evaluation criteria for RSC schemes. Internationally recognised schemes such as ISO14001 and EMAS (Eco Management and Audit Scheme) fall into this category. Local or sector specific independent EMS certification schemes would also fall within this category. Associated point scores for EMS are set out in Table-1 and are based on the extent of the supply chain process covered by the scheme as outlined in Table-2 below.

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Table-1: BREEAM recognised Responsible Sourcing Certification schemes.

BREEAM Recognised Responsible Sourcing Certification Schemes	Associated RSCS point score
Reused materials only. Currently there are no other BREEAM recognised responsible sourcing certification schemes that achieve this point score	10
Currently there are no BREEAM recognised responsible sourcing certification schemes that achieve this point score	9
Currently there are no BREEAM recognised responsible sourcing certification schemes that achieve this point score	8
Currently there are no BREEAM recognised responsible sourcing certification schemes that achieve this point score	7
Currently there are no BREEAM recognised responsible sourcing certification schemes that achieve this point score	6
General: — BRE Global, BES 6001 - Framework Standard for Responsible Sourcing (all ratings) Metals: — CARES Sustainable Constructional Steel (SCS) Scheme — Eco-reinforcement Timber and Timber based products: — Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) — Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) affiliated schemes — Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc. (SFI)	5
Currently there are no BREEAM recognised responsible sourcing certification schemes that achieve this point score	4
Currently there are no BREEAM recognised responsible sourcing certification schemes that achieve this point score	3
Environmental Management System (EMS) (certified): Key Process ¹ and supply chain ² extraction process (see Table-2 below).	2
Environmental Management System (EMS) (certified): Key Process ¹ (see Table-2 below).	1
¹ Key Process: The final major aspects of processing that are carried out for the product / material in question. There may be a single process or multiple processes requiring assessment, depending on the end product. The scope of the process covered by the certified EMS for each applicable material category is detailed in Table-2: Compliant EMS scope by material category.	
² Supply Chain EMS: Supply chain EMS covers all of the major aspects of processing and extraction involved in the supply chain for the end product. Note that recycled materials are not required to demonstrate a Supply Chain EMS. If the EMS certification is provided for the Key Processes for recycled materials, this is assumed by default. The scope of the key process and supply chain covered by the certified EMS for each of the assessed material category are detailed in Table-2: Compliant EMS scope by material category.	
Notes: — Recycled content of materials is taken into account in the above schemes where appropriate and is not separately recognised in this table. — This table will be updated periodically to reflect changes arising as a result of scheme development/further evaluation.	

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EMS Scope by Material Category

Table-2 below provides a list of the key process and supply chain (extraction) processes (by material category) that the scope of the EMS as specified in Table-1 above must cover in order to achieve the point scores outlined.

Table-2: Compliant EMS scope by material category

Material Category	Key Process	Key supply chain process
Timber / timber based		
Virgin timber	Timber from certified sources	Timber from certified sources
Wood panel and wood based composite products such as Oriented Strand Board, plywood, HPL, chipboard/particle, glulam, LVL, etc.	Wood products, including those with recycled content, can only use the timber certification route	
Concrete / Cementitious		
In situ concrete (including ready mix and cementitious mortars and renders')	Ready mixed concrete plant	Cement production, Aggregate extraction and production
Precast concrete and other concrete products (including blocks, cladding, precast flooring concrete or cementitious roof tiles)	Concrete product manufacture	Cement production, Aggregate extraction and production
Plasterboard/ plaster	Plasterboard or plaster manufacture	Gypsum extraction, Synthetic gypsum (from flue gas desulphurisation) by default (recycled content)
Cement bonded particle board	Due to significant cement content, in addition to requiring timber certification, the key supply chain process must also be considered to obtain the relevant point score. Timber from certified sources	Cement production. Timber from certified sources
Metals		
Metals (steel, aluminium etc.)	Metal product manufacture- e.g. cladding production, steel section production	Metal production: Steel: Electric arc furnace or basic oxygen furnace process, Aluminium, ingot production, Copper: ingot or cathode production
Stone		
Dressed or building stone (including slate)	Stone product manufacture	Stone extraction
Clay based		
Bricks (including clay tiles and other ceramics)	Product manufacture	Clay extraction
Glass		
Glass	Glass production	Sand extraction Soda ash production or extraction

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Plastic, polymer, resin, paint, chemicals and bituminous		
Plastics and rubbers (including polymeric renders, EPDM,TPO, PVC, and VET roofing membranes)	Plastic/ rubber product manufacture	Main polymer production
Resin based composites and materials (including GRP and polymeric render but excluding timber based composites)	Composite product manufacture	Glass fibre production (or other principle matrix material) Polymer production
Bituminous materials, such as roofing membranes and asphalt	Product manufacture	Bitumen production, Aggregate extraction and production
Insulation		
Foam Insulation	Insulation manufacture	Main polymer production, e.g. Polystyrene, MDI, Phenolic resin or equivalent
Stone wool, glass & cellular glass made using < 50% recycled input	Product manufacture	Any quarried or mined mineral over 20% of input
Wool	Product manufacture	Wool scouring
Products using > 50% recycled content except those using timber	Product manufacture	Recycled content by default
Timber-based insulation materials including those using recycled timber	Product manufacture	Recycled timber by default, all other timber from one of the recognised timber certification schemes in BREEAM issue Mat 03
Other renewable-based insulation materials using agricultural by-products (e.g. straw)	Product manufacture	By-product manufacture by default
Other		
Other mineral-based materials, including fibre cement and calcium silicate	Product manufacture	Cement production, Lime production, Other mineral extraction and production
Products with 100% recycled content	Product manufacture	Recycled input by default
Product with lower percentage of recycled content	Product manufacture	Supply chain process/processes for any virgin material in the relevant product type above. Recycled input by default
Any other product	Key processes is likely to be product manufacture	1 or 2 main inputs with significant production or extraction impacts should be identified
¹ Where cement and aggregate, or dry mix concrete are mixed on site, (i.e. not concrete previously certified as pre-cast concrete products or wet ready mix concrete), certification must cover the manufacture of the cement and the primary process, and the extraction of the aggregate and limestone used to make cement as the supply chain process.		

Schedule of changes

Guidance note Version	Release date	Description of changes/ additions to previous changes
1.0	01/09/14	First version of Guidance Note 18, compliant with issue 2.0 of SD5076 BREEAM UK New Construction 2014 scheme technical manual.