



## **Guidance on Performance Testing for Green Seal Certification to the GS-52 and GS-53 Standards**

*The purpose of this document is to provide supplemental information about performance testing to meet the requirements in the Green Seal Standards for Specialty Cleaning Products, GS-52 ( Household Use) and GS-53 (Industrial and Institutional Use) for Green Seal certification. This document does not replace the standard as the source of actual requirements for performance testing for certification. Please refer to the complete Green Seal GS-52 and GS-53 Standards for reference.*

The Green Seal Standards for Specialty Cleaning Products, GS-52 (Household Use) and GS-53 (Industrial and Institutional Use) detail specific performance test methods and cleaning thresholds for many product categories. Test methods are included in the standards if they have been shown to be internationally or nationally-recognized standardized methods that are routinely applied to a specific product category. However, there are some product categories where a recognized standard test method is not available or is not routinely applied. As a result, Green Seal accepts data from a comparative test that demonstrates that a product performs as well as or better than a national market-leading product for its marketed uses. Comparative testing is also used in some standardized methods. Below is information about selecting a product to compare to (a national market-leading product) and a method to use for information or testing.

### **Comparative Testing To National Market-Leading Products**

In a comparative test the product applying for certification should be tested along with a national market-leading product. National marketing-leading products are considered the top selling ones for its category from nation-wide data. Such national market-leading products have proven to meet the users’ performance expectations – being a top selling product for its category, and thus are a relevant benchmark for evaluating product performance. The determination of which products are the top sellers for a category should be based off of relevant market research on retail sales, Nielson survey data, or purchaser surveys. The actual products that represent market leaders may change over time. It is suggested that manufacturers discuss their product testing with Green Seal before the testing is performed to ensure that an appropriate comparison product was chosen.

### **Performance Test Methods Not Cited in the Standards**

There are standardized methods available for some product uses that were not cited in the standards. This was usually because the methods are not routinely used for testing. However, they or parts of the methods may provide guidance on how to test performance for these uses. The following table provides some of these additional reference test methods that were not cited in the Green Seal GS-52 and GS-53 standards.

<b>Product Type/Use</b>	<b>Performance Testing Methods</b>
Boat cleaner - bilge	Informative reference military test, MIL-C-22230
Boat wax, polish, sealant or glaze	Informative reference ASTM D 4330-94
Dish cleaner – hand	Informative reference ASTM D 4009
Dish cleaner - automatic	Informative reference IKW Dishwasher Method
Furniture polish	Informative reference ASTM D 3751
Graffiti remover	Informative references ASTM STP 935 and ASTM D6189
Motor vehicle windshield washer fluid	Informative reference U.S. military specification document A-A-59664
Odor remover	Informative reference ASTM E544-99