



September 18, 2009

NOTIFICATION TO STAKEHOLDERS: GREEN SEAL ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARD FOR STAINS AND FINISHES GS-47 ISSUANCE

After just over a year of development, the new Green Seal Environmental Standard for Stains and Finishes, GS-47, has been approved by the stakeholders with a consensus vote, is complete and is now available for applications for Green Seal certification:

<http://greenseal.org/certification/standards/gs47stainsandfinishes.cfm>

The standard includes product performance requirements and environmental and health requirements such as reduced use of hazardous substances and requires low volatile organic compound (VOC) content. The standard can serve as a tool to help companies begin to take action to improve their products and is available for Green Seal certification.

In addition, Green Seal is in the final procedural steps of complying with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) requirements for developing an American National Standard (ANS). Such a designation may permit broader use and distribution of the standard. The ANSI process includes a final public review. The general standard development process, as well as the appeals process for those who may object to the final standard, are available on Green Seal's web site at: <http://greenseal.org/certification/standards.cfm>

Green Seal is now accepting applications for certification to GS-47: <http://www.greenseal.org/getcertified/index.cfm>. Green Seal certification involves a Green Seal technical staff review of data and information for compliance to the standard's requirements. A site visit is then conducted to evaluate the practices and control procedures. This ensures that the company can continue to meet the requirements. If the product meets the Green Seal standard, it will be awarded the Green Seal.

Once certified, companies are subject to continuous monitoring to ensure that the product continues to meet the standard. Non-compliance may result in termination of the manufacturer's privilege to carry the Green Seal.

Thank you for your interest and time to help develop this new standard, and we look forward to helping the Stains and Finishes industry make significant environmental improvements through this standard.

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