

# Steelcase and Cradle to Cradle™ Product Certification

Cradle to Cradle product certification provides an important new sustainability benchmark for all manufactured products. Introduced in 2005 by McDonough Braungart Design Chemistry (MBDC), Cradle to Cradle design protocol outlines environmentally-intelligent design criteria, which is the basis for Cradle to Cradle product certifications.

Steelcase pursues Cradle to Cradle product certifications as part of an effort to help designers and customers specify and purchase products that are environmentally sustainable. We offer an extensive collection of Cradle to Cradle certified products, in fact, more than any other company in any industry.

## Stringent Criteria

There are stringent criteria to achieving Cradle to Cradle certification. It requires using environmentally safe and healthy material reutilization such as recycling or composting; conserving energy materials; designing for and using renewable energy, embedding water stewardship practices, and instituting strategies for social responsibility.

Cradle to Cradle certification requires that a company's manufacturing processes and products be evaluated and meet MBDC's certification protocol for the following:

- all product component materials against 19 human and environmental health criteria
- materials reutilization using recycled materials that can be easily and effectively recycled
- water conservation and maximum water quality using as little water as possible and then ensuring the water quality is better *after* the manufacturing process than at the beginning
- energy practices - again, being smarter and more efficient about using less energy and optimizing renewable resources
- strategies for social responsibility

## Materials Assessment

Using safe and healthy materials, often called Materials Chemistry, requires analyzing and evaluating the chemical properties of product materials. It is a critical element in the Cradle to Cradle protocol.

In 2004, we began an aggressive assessment of the materials used in our Steelcase North American product portfolio. Since then, we have evaluated hundreds of materials against 19 human and environmental health criteria. We feel so strongly about the environmental benefit of materials assessment that, in addition to evaluating all new product materials, we include existing products in that process and are building exit strategies for materials of concern.



*Answer® is the world's first and only Cradle to Cradle workstation. It is fully powered and PVC-free.*



*Think® is the world's first ever Cradle to Cradle product.*

*Think is up to 99% recyclable, contains 41% recycled material and disassembles in 5 minutes.*

## Steelcase and Cradle to Cradle™ Product Certification, *continued*

### LEED® Credit

The environmental benefit of Cradle to Cradle product certification is also recognized by the U. S. Green Building Council. In May, 2007, the USGBC announced that projects seeking certification under the LEED® Green Building Rating System™ can now earn an "Innovation in Design" point by using the Cradle to Cradle program for certified building and furniture products.

In addition to Steelcase branded products, other Steelcase companies including Designtex, Metro and Polyvision also offer Cradle to Cradle certified products. In fact, all Premium Whiteboards from Polyvision feature Cradle to Cradle certified e<sup>3</sup> environmental ceramicsteel™ surfaces. Developing Cradle to Cradle certified products supports our commitment to continuously generate environmentally sensitive products, processes and applications for our customers -- and our planet.

### Cradle to Cradle certified products from Steelcase companies include:

- Think® – first ever certified product
- Answer® – the first certified powered workstation
- Pathways® Privacy Wall – the first certified movable wall
- Amia™
- Move™ seating
- Leap® seating
- Siento™ seating
- Montage® systems furniture
- e<sup>3</sup> environmental ceramicsteel, by PolyVision, the first markerboard surface certified and first globally certified product
- Premium Whiteboards featuring e<sup>3</sup> environmental ceramicsteel™, from Polyvision
- Eco-Intelligent Polyester™, from Designtex
- Climatex® Lifecycle™, from Designtex - the industry's first compostable contract fabric
- Crypton® Green, from Designtex
- 180 Walls™ from Designtex
- Enviro™ and 19" Keyboard Platforms, from details!, the world's first Cradle to Cradle certified keyboard assemblies
- 100 Series markerboards, chalkboards and tackboards, from Polyvision
- 500 Series markerboards, chalkboards and tackboards, from Polyvision



*Montage® is the newest Cradle to Cradle certified powered workstation from Steelcase .*



*Move™ is VOC-free, up to 99% recyclable and disassembles in only five minutes.*

*A Life Cycle Assessment has been completed.*



*Polyvision Premium Whiteboards featuring e<sup>3</sup> environmental ceramicsteel™ surfaces are the world's first and only certified whiteboards. They are also VOC-free.*