1   Material Health

The table below lists each requirement within the Material Health category. To achieve a given level, the requirements at all lower levels are to be met as well. The sections that follow provide interpretation and suggested methods for achievement.

LEVEL	ACHIEVEMENT
BASIC	• The product is 100% characterized by its generic materials (e.g., aluminum, polyethylene, steel, etc.) and/or product categories and names (e.g., coatings). • The appropriate metabolism (i.e., technical nutrient (TN) or biological nutrient (BN)) is identified for the product and its components. • The product does not contain any Banned List chemicals based on supplier declarations.
BRONZE	• The product is at least 75% assessed (by weight) using ABC-X ratings. Products that contain externally managed components (EMCs) are assessed and contribute to the overall percentage of the product that has been assessed. Products that are entirely BN in nature (e.g., cosmetics, personal care, soaps, detergents, etc.) are 100% assessed. • A phase out or optimization strategy has been developed for those materials with an X rating.
SILVER	• The product has been at least 95% assessed (by weight) using ABC-X ratings. Products that contain EMCs have been assessed and contribute to the overall percentage of the product that has been assessed. Products that are entirely BN in nature (e.g., cosmetics, personal care, soaps, detergents, etc.) are 100% assessed. • The product contains no substances known or suspected to cause cancer, birth defects, genetic damage, or reproductive harm (CMRs) after the A, B, C, X assessment has been carried out.
GOLD	• The product has been 100% assessed (by weight) using ABC ratings. All EMCs have been assessed as non-X. • The product contains no X assessed materials (optimization strategy is not required). • Product meets C2C emissions standards.
PLATINUM	• All process chemicals have been assessed and none have been assessed as X.

2 Material Reutilization

The table below lists each requirement within the Material Reutilization category. To achieve a given level, the requirements at all lower levels are to be met as well. The sections that follow provide interpretation and suggested methods for achievement.

LEVEL	ACHIEVEMENT
BASIC	• Each generic material in the product is clearly defined as an intended part of a biological or technical cycle (this is covered by the Material Health requirement at Basic level; see Material Health guidance in Section 1)
BRONZE	• The product has a Material Reutilization Score that is ≥ 35.
SILVER	• The product has a Material Reutilization Score that is ≥ 50.
GOLD	• The product has a Material Reutilization Score that is ≥ 65. • The manufacturer has completed a "nutrient management" strategy for the product including scope, timeline, and budget.
PLATINUM	• The product has a Material Reutilization Score of 100. • The product is actively being recovered and cycled in a technical or biological metabolism.

3 Renewable Energy & Carbon Management

The table below lists each unique requirement within the Renewable Energy and Carbon Management category. To achieve a given level, the requirements at all lower levels are to be met as well. The following sections provide interpretation and suggested methods for achievement.

LEVEL	ACHIEVEMENT
BASIC	• Annual purchased electricity and direct on-site emissions associated with the final manufacturing stage of the product are quantified.
BRONZE	• A renewable energy use and carbon management strategy is developed.
SILVER	• For the final manufacturing stage of the product, 5% of purchased electricity is renewably sourced or offset with renewable energy projects, and 5% of direct on-site emissions are offset.
GOLD	• For the final manufacturing stage of the product, 50% of purchased electricity is renewably sourced or offset with renewable energy projects, and 50% of direct on-site emissions are offset.
PLATINUM	• For the final manufacturing stage of the product, >100% of purchased electricity is renewably sourced or offset with renewable energy projects, and >100% of direct on-site emissions are offset. • The embodied energy associated with the product from Cradle to Gate is characterized and quantified, and a strategy to optimize is developed. At re-application, progress on the optimization plan is demonstrated. • ≥ 5% of the embodied energy associated with the product from Cradle to Gate is covered by offsets or otherwise addressed (e.g., through projects with suppliers, product re-design, savings during the use phase, etc.).

4 Water Stewardship

The table below lists each unique requirement within the Water Stewardship category. To achieve a given level, the requirements at all lower levels are to be met as well. The sections to follow will provide interpretation and suggested methods for achievement.

LEVEL	ACHIEVEMENT
BASIC	• The manufacturer has not received a significant violation of their discharge permit within the last two years. • Local- and business-specific water-related issues are characterized (e.g., the manufacturer will determine if water scarcity is an issue and/or if sensitive ecosystems are at risk due to direct operations). • A statement of water stewardship intentions describing what action is being taken for mitigating the identified problems and concerns is provided. At re-application, progress on action plans is demonstrated.
BRONZE	• A facility-wide water audit is completed.
SILVER	• Product-related process chemicals in effluent are characterized and assessed. OR • Supply chain-relevant water issues for at least 20% of Tier 1 suppliers are characterized and a positive impact strategy is developed (required for facilities with no product-relevant effluent).
GOLD	• Product-related process chemicals in effluent are optimized (chemicals identified as problematic are kept flowing in systems of nutrient recovery; effluents leaving facility do not contain chemicals assessed as problematic). OR • Demonstrated progress on the strategy developed for the Silver level requirements (required for facilities with no product relevant effluent).
PLATINUM	• All water leaving the manufacturing facility meets drinking water quality standards.

5 Social Fairness

The table below highlights each unique requirement within the Social Fairness category across all levels. In general, to achieve a given level, the requirements at all lower levels are to be met as well. The sections to follow will provide interpretation and suggested methods for achievement.

LEVEL	ACHIEVEMENT
BASIC	• A streamlined self-audit is conducted to assess protection of fundamental human rights. • Management procedures aiming to address any identified issues are provided. Demonstration of progress on the management plan is required for re-application.
BRONZE	• A full social responsibility self-audit is complete and a positive impact strategy is developed (based on UN Global Compact Tool or B-Corp).
SILVER	COMPLETE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: • Material specific and/or issue-related audit or certification relevant to a minimum of 25% of the product material by weight is complete (FSC Certified, Fair Trade, etc.). OR • Supply chain-relevant social issues are fully investigated and a positive impact strategy is developed. OR • The company is actively conducting an innovative social project that positively impacts employee's lives, the local community, global community, social aspects of the product's supply chain, or recycling/reuse.
GOLD	• Two of the Silver-Level requirements are complete.
PLATINUM	• A facility-level audit is completed by a third party against an internationally recognized social responsibility program (e.g., SA8000 standard or B-Corp). • All Silver-Level requirements are complete.