

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

The intention of this document is to give any design professional a place to start when considering sustainability within their design, more specifically when selecting products and materials.

WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD I START WITH?

- Is this product on the Mindful Materials library?
- Does this product have any of the following
 - Environmental Product Declaration (EPD)/ Health Product Declaration (HPD)
 - Living Product Certification (LPC)
 - Declare Label
 - Cradle to Cradle (C2C)
- Does this product contain and "harmful" toxins
 - Groups here can determine which chemicals to list or what we should reference to understand what "harmful" toxins we are trying to avoid (Green Science Policy, etc.)
- What is the life cycle of this product?
- What percentage of recycled vs. raw material goes into this product?
- Does this contribute to any green certifications?
 - WELL
 - LEED
 - Living Building Challenge

WHAT DO I ASK MY MANUFACTURER?

- Are you (manufacturer) on the Mindful Materials Library?
- Do you have transparency documentation for your product? Why or why not? Where can I find it if it is available?
 - Product Declarations
 - EPD
 - HPD
 - Declare Labels
- Does your product contain any red list chemicals?
- How are you minimizing known toxins within your products/ how are you optimizing your products?
 - PVC
 - Anti-Microbial
 - Chrome 6
 - Groups here can determine which toxins we are declaring to reduce or eliminate
- Are there any toxic hazards associated with the fabrication/installation of your product?
 - If yes, is there a non-toxic method available?
 - Can the hazard be eliminated all together?
- How do your products meet LEED requirements?
- How are you addressing more stringent requirements like Living Building/Product Challenge?
- Where can I find your corporate sustainability report? Do you have one?
- Do you have or are you developing a take-back/leasing program?
- Do you use rapidly renewable materials in your product?
- Where are your factories located and do you have photos of them to share to showcase conditions? (Social Sustainability)
- Do you have emissions testing for your products/manufacturing facilities?
- Does all your product line have the same level of transparency?
- Where is the product manufactured?
- Where does your recycled material come from?

WHAT DO I ASK MY CLIENT/DEVELOPER?

- What is your corporate culture?
- What do your clients value?
- How do your company values relate to the kind of environment you want to create for your employees?
- Do you use sustainability or your work environment as a recruiting/marketing tool?
- How do you want the materials in your space to perform, specifically in relation to durability?
 - What is your commitment to material maintenance?
- Do you have any concerns or desire for resiliency to natural disasters in the design of your space?
- What do you know about healthy materials?
- What sets you apart in your industry
 - Group should work on rephrasing this question should they decide to include it in the final 5 questions
- If I could demonstrate to you that an environment focused on occupant health and wellbeing improves productivity, would you be interested in learning more?
- Has staff/guests/clients commented on the environment you created? What did they say/not say?

MORE QUESTIONS? REACH OUT.

If you have more questions about TMI's mission, or you'd like further guidance, don't hesitate to reach out to info@thinktmi.com for more information. Also visit [thinktmi.com](https://www.thinktmi.com) for more resources.