



November 9, 2010

To: Whom it may concern

Subject: U.S. Green Building Council's LEED for New Construction

General Panel is a manufacturer of Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs) for the building and construction industry. We use EPS (expanded polystyrene) cores for these panels. This letter is to certify that the EPS is made from 10% pre-consumer recycled product. We use rapidly renewable Oriented Stranded Board (OSB) as our outer skins for these panels. The adhesive is made by Ashland Performance Materials, see attachment for their LEED certification.

#### How do SIPs Score?<sup>1</sup>

*It is important to note that the below table is meant for reference only. Actual project scoring will depend on the individual rater, builder, and other factors.*

**EA 1: Optimize Energy Performance**  
Maximum 10 Points

The project can be awarded up to 10 points for total energy savings. Total energy savings are determined by whole building energy modeling according to ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2004, Appendix G. Alternately, certain types of commercial buildings can qualify for energy efficiency points by complying with several listed prescriptive standards.

By reducing the amount of energy needed for heating and cooling, SIPs contribute to overall energy savings. Space heating and cooling account for 44% of energy use in commercial buildings.<sup>21</sup>

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**MR 7: Certified Wood**  
1 Point

If 50% of the wood products used in the building are Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified, 1 point will be awarded. SIPs are available with FSC certified OSB facings from some manufacturers.

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**EQ 4.1: Low Emitting Materials: Adhesives and Sealants**  
1 Point

The structural adhesives used in SIP production meet the requirements for low emitting materials defined in EQ Credit 4.1. All adhesives and sealants used on the interior of the building must meet the requirements to earn the credit.

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**EQ 4.4: Low Emitting Materials: Wood and Agrifiber Products**  
1 Point

The OSB used in SIPs meets the requirement that composite wood products used on the interior of the building (defined as inside of the weatherproofing system) shall contain no added urea-formaldehyde resins.

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<sup>21</sup> Energy Information Administration. <http://www.eia.doe.gov/kids/energyfacts/uses/commercial.html>

<sup>1</sup> part of the SIPA literature on Green Building with SIPs. [www.Sips.org](http://www.Sips.org)