

LEED Certification and Lyons Manufacturing Products

What is LEED?

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ is a nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. The LEED system provides a rating system to allow building projects to become LEED Certified. A system of credits is used based on various factors to certify the building. There are various levels of LEED Certifications depending on number of points earned. The US Green Building Council promotes, manages and maintains the LEED Rating System.

Projects vs. Products

Building Projects can be LEED Certified, products are NOT.

‘Although USGBC does not certify, promote, or endorse products and services of individual companies, products and services do play a role and can help projects with credit achievement. (Note that products and services do not earn projects points).’

Products can contribute to LEED Certification points based on the way they are used, their recycled content, VOC amounts and other factors. But a product by itself is not LEED Certified. There are other organizations that do provide ‘Green’ Certifications, such as Greenseal, Greenguard and Scientific Certification Systems. These certifications typically cover interior products and are primarily related to chemical emissions and microbotic resistance. None of these agencies at this time offer a category for concrete repair or restoration materials.

Where does that leave us?

While our Products (and any of our competitors) are not LEED certified, their use can contribute to LEED points for the project’s LEED certification. The main LEED points will come from using these products to maintain much of the original building rather than demolishing it.

Existing Building Points.

MR Credit 1.1 and 1.2 – These credits are associated with reducing the amount of Waste Material generated from building retrofits, renovations or modifications. Using Lyons Manufacturing, Inc. products such as PAVECRETE, PATCHCRETE, SUPER FLOWCRETE or POWER-CRETE to repair, restore, recap or reface existing surfaces rather than tear out and replace them can contribute to points in this area. Again it is the USE of these products that earn the LEED points not the products themselves.

Recycled Content Points

MR Credit 4.1 and 4.2 – LEED points can be earned for using materials that have significant recycled content. Recycled Content is measured by percentage of the weight that is the recycled component. However, the Recycled Content is measured against the all of the materials for the project. A project must have 10% by cost of its materials be recycled to earn any points. Concrete Repair and Restoration Materials are typically not a large component of projects and therefore would not affect the recycled content of the entire project significantly either way. So claims by concrete products manufacturers that their products are 'green' because they have small percentage of recycled content, probably does not really affect the LEED credits of the project.

Regional Materials

MR Credit 5.1 and 5.2 – These credits are associated with promoting the use of regional materials to reduce the environmental impact of transportation of materials from outside the local regions. For our products, projects located within 500 miles of Dallas, Texas should qualify for this regional credit. The percentage will be different for each Lyons product based on regional material content. Properly reported most liquid bonding agents are only going to be limited regional materials. In addition to the bonding agent manufacturer having to be regional, the resin manufacturer would also need to be local.

Other LEED Credits

Use of our cementitious products can contribute to other LEED Credits like any concrete material. These can include Heat Island Effect, Minimum Energy Performance, Optimize Energy Performance, ... in general if the Project is applying for these types of LEED Credits using concrete, using our products can add to that.

Summary

Our Products can contribute LEED Points to a project depending on their usage. It is up to the Owner/Architect/General Contractor to plan, design and use products in a way that fits the USGBC definitions for LEED Credits. Despite marketing hype, in concrete repair and restoration materials, recycled content will usually not be a major contributor to a LEED rating for a project. Please refer to our LEED Credit Product Checklist for specific details on individual Products and their possible application toward LEED Credits.

If there are questions on our products and LEED credits please contact the factory at 214-381-8100.