

Green Products Database Pilot- Virtual Consultation: Office Furniture

Green Public Procurement Tool for Federal Assets Initiative

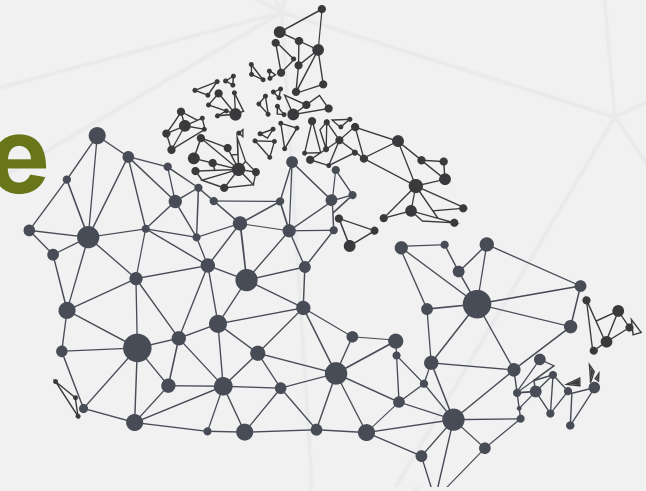
Wednesday October 9, 2024

1 - 2:30 PM EST (Zoom)



Public Services and
Procurement Canada

Services publics et
Approvisionnement Canada



Consultation Supported by:



Today's Objectives

- ◆ Learning about the Green Public Procurement Tool for Federal Assets Initiative – what it is and what it's trying to do
 - ◆ Hearing from you
 - ◆ Are the environmental certifications we cover today ones you recognize?
 - ◆ Do you use these in your organization / industry?
 - ◆ What is missing and what do you recommend for the Canadian version?
 - ◆ Learning about the product search platform itself and what its capabilities are
-

Today's Agenda

Content	Organization
Welcome & PSPC overview Green Public Procurement Tool Pilot Phase	Public Services and Procurement Canada
Stakeholder engagement overview Customization of U.S. platform	Circular Innovation Council
Stakeholder Feedback Review of Ecolabels and Certifications Additional Suggestions and Feedback	Circular Innovation Council
Platform overview: Pilot Canadian version of the database	Ecomedes
Next Steps	Circular Innovation Council

Public Services and Procurement Canada: Overview

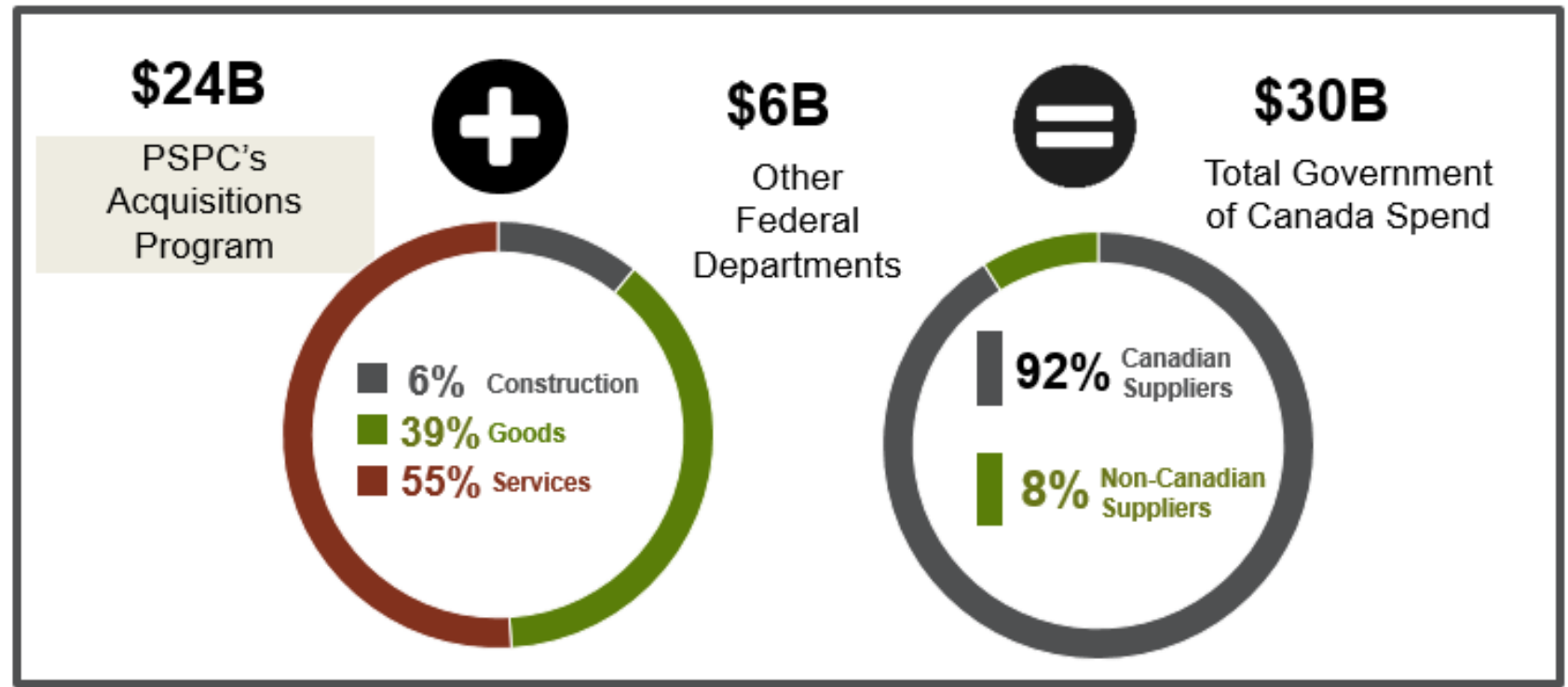
PSPC is the central federal purchasing agent and real property manager for the Government of Canada

Vision: to excel in government operations

Mission: to deliver high-quality, central programs and services that ensure sound stewardship on behalf of Canadians and meet the program needs of federal institutions

The GoC owns approx. 32,000 buildings, 20,000 engineering assets and 40,000 fleet and is the largest asset owner in Canada.

Average Annual Value of Federal Procurement over 3 Fiscal Years: 2019-2020 to 2020-2021



Source: PSPC Business Analytics Services Directorate 2023

Policy on Green Procurement, 2006

- ◆ PSPC will: “include environmentally preferable options (i.e. that have a lesser or reduced impact on the environment over the life cycle of the good or service, when compared with competing goods or services serving the same purpose) in the procurement services offered to client departments where feasible.”

PSPC provides environmentally preferable option to client



Client buys it where value for \$ is demonstrated



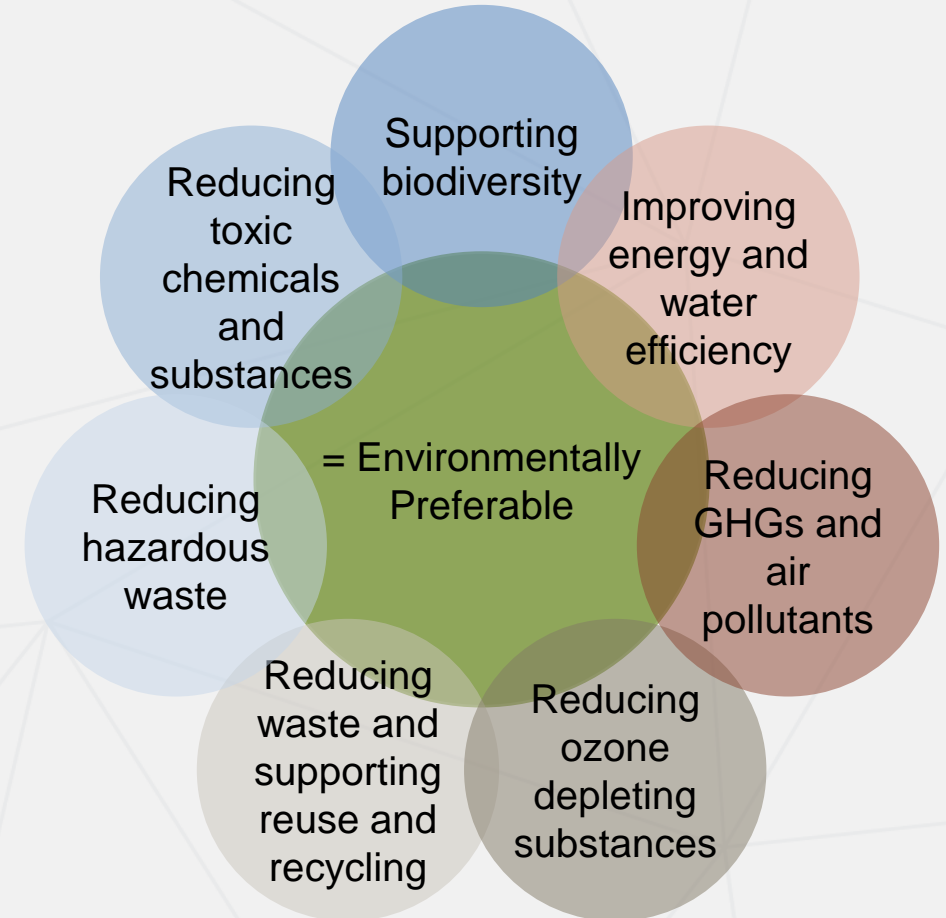
Green procurement

Definition of “Green” or environmentally preferable

“Environmentally preferable goods and services are those that have a lesser or reduced impact on the environment over the life cycle of the good or service, when compared with competing goods or services serving the same purpose. Environmental considerations include, among other things: the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and air contaminants; improved energy and water efficiency; reduced waste and support reuse and recycling; the use of renewable resources; reduced hazardous waste; reduced toxic and hazardous substances; and biodiversity.”

- Policy on Green Procurement

- Canada’s Competition Bureau requires that environmental claims must not be false or misleading and must be based on adequate and proper testing



Objectives of the GPPT

Primary objective:

- ◆ To help buyers (contracting authorities) and clients to easily identify green and cleantech products

Secondary objectives:

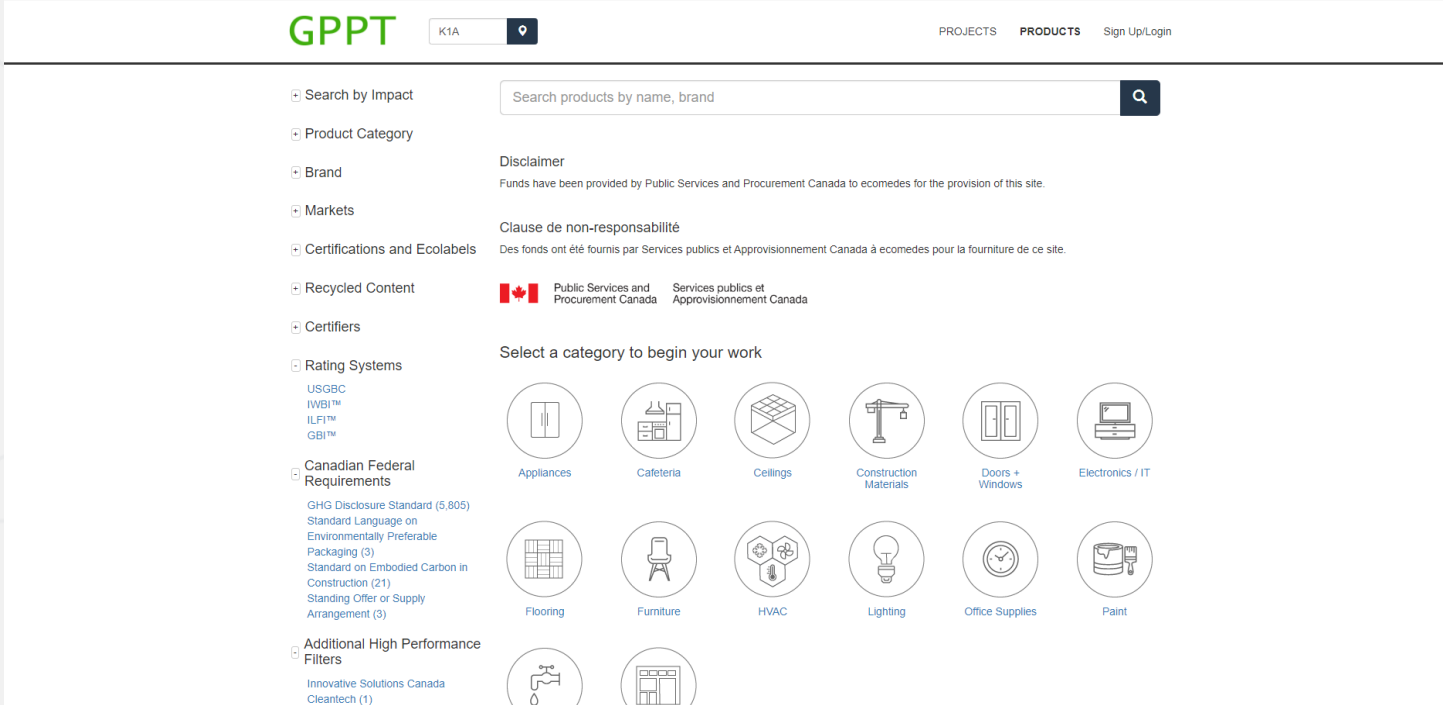
- ◆ Enable PSPC to meet its responsibilities under the Policy on Green Procurement to provide verified and up-to-date environmentally preferable options to client departments
- ◆ Align green procurement requirements with the U.S. and other public procurers to better signal market demand
- ◆ Increase green and clean technology procurement and support Canadian SMEs



Configuring a Canadian Green Product Search Tool

What is it?

- Customized and configured (“Canadianized”) version of a certified environmentally preferable products database used by the United States General Services Administration and other large institutional buyers in the U.S. (e.g. universities, the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council etc.) in procurement and real property applications



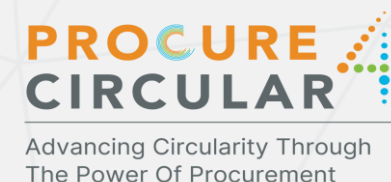
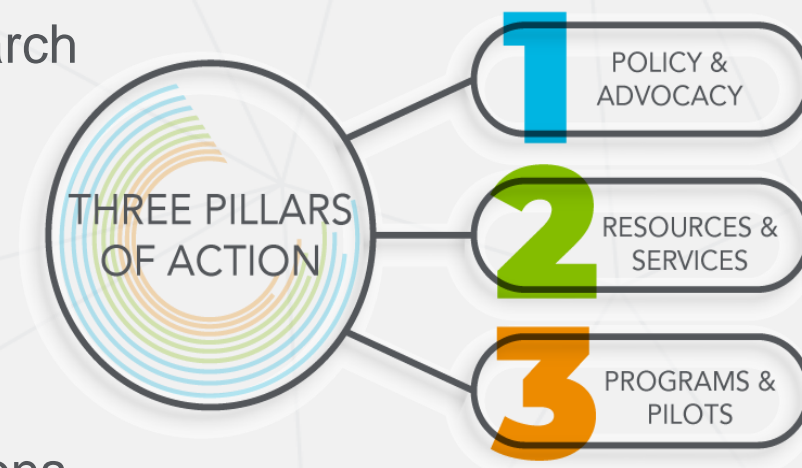
How we intend to use it in Canada

Pending uptake:

- ◆ Internally as a research tool to understand what the market can provide in terms of environmental performance for buyers and clients
 - ◆ As a public and transparent source of third-party verified environmental information that is up-to-date (database updated monthly) usable across supply chains and product categories
 - ◆ As a resource to build projects/buildings/retrofits with multiple products and calculate savings and benefits (e.g., whole building LCA)
-



- Formerly Recycling Council of Ontario, with 40 years of expertise in circular policies, programs, standards and research
- Research and promote best practices
- Act as a collaborator, convening public and private sector interests
- Unique membership: spans entire value and supply chains
 - Governments at all levels; industry producers, corporations, SMEs, collectors, processors; academia, researchers; start-ups; community



GPPT Customization Methodology

- Review and summarize existing U.S. GSA and other environmental labels and product certifications available within ecomedes platform
- Research additional relevant Canadian product-focused environmental labels and certifications
- Stakeholder engagement including
 - Virtual consultations, based on product categories
 - Stakeholder feedback survey (online)
 - Targeted engagements: industry associations, domestic manufacturers, etc.
- Based on stakeholder feedback, propose environmental labels and other data sources (*third party verified*) that reflect environmental preferability relevant to domestic Canadian perspective
- PSPC finalizes product category filters selection
- Import into GPPT

Scope of Product Category Consultation

Appliances



Building Construction



Cleaning Products



Doors and Windows



Flooring



Finishes



HVAC



IT – Office Electronics



Lighting



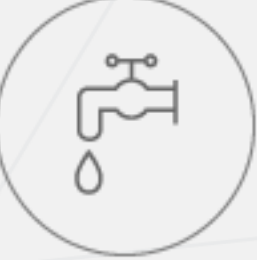
Office Furniture



Office Supplies and Packaging



Plumbing



Stakeholder Consultation

Key Objectives Today

- Gather your insights on ecolabels and certifications stakeholders are using for each product category
- Identify additional certifications, standards and ecolabels that should be considered
- Solicit feedback on the benefits and obstacles of such ecolabels/ and certifications
- Solicit other considerations for the GPPT tool
- Identify whether your products may already be represented in the searchable database

Getting to know you:

Stakeholder type?

Organization HQ?

Business size?



Customization of ecomedes Product Search Tool developed for U.S. General Services Administration

Basis for U.S. GSA tool:

- Third-party verified data
 - Simplify informed decision making
- Ecolabelling programs
 - Voluntary, consensus-based
 - Multiple 'attributes' preferred (i.e. more than one environmental impact)
- U.S. EPA 'required purchasing programs' basis
 - EPA Framework for the Assessment of Environmental Performance Standards and Ecolabels for Federal Purchasing

Furniture

Last Updated: 07/18/24



Click to see brand name products that meet these requirements



PRODUCT DETAILS

To the maximum extent practicable, federal agencies are required to buy sustainable products, which are products that meet the purchasing program(s) listed below.

If there is more than one program listed below, agencies are directed to prioritize multi-attribute products, which meet statutory purchasing program requirements (*) and one or more required Environmental Protection Agency purchasing programs.

Review our [frequently asked questions](#) for more information.

PROCUREMENT INFO

WHERE TO BUY

Statutory Purchasing Program Requirements:



CPG *

(see Office Furniture Components)

Required EPA Purchasing Programs:



ANSI/BIFMA e3 (Addresses PFAS)



Cradle to Cradle Certified (C2C) (Addresses PFAS)



GECA Furniture, Fittings, and Foam



International Living Futures Institute: Living Product Challenge (Addresses PFAS)



Sustainable Materials Rating Technology (SMaRT)



SCS Indoor Advantage Gold



Ecologo/UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification



International Living Futures Institute: Declare (Addresses PFAS)



Global Recycled Standard

[Buy on GSA Advantage!](#)

[AbilityOne](#)

[UNICOR](#)

[GSA Global Supply](#)

OFFICE FURNITURE U.S. GSA Required	Certification Logo	Biodiversity	GHG Emission & Air Quality	Hazardous Waste	Resource Efficiency	Ozone Depleting	Toxic, Hazardous Chemicals	Solid Waste / Reuse & Recycling	Recycled Content
C2C Certified					✓		✓	✓	
Global Recycled Standard			✓	✓	✓		✓		
SCS Indoor Advantage Gold			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
UL GREENGUARD - UL2818			✓				✓		
GECA furniture, fittings and foam		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	
BIFMA LEVEL					✓		✓		

OFFICE FURNITURE

Other Ecolabels, Certifications and Standards



AFRDI Green Tick



Biopreferred



ENERGY STAR
Certified



Floor Score



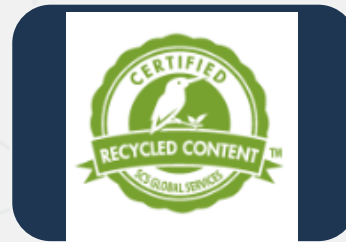
FSC



Greenhealth
Approved



Intertek Clean Air
Gold/Silver



SCS Recycled
Content Certified



UL Greenguard
Certificate



Environmental
Product Declaration
(EPD)



Health Product
Declaration (HPD)



EU Ecolabel



Stakeholder Consultation

Revisiting Key Objectives

- ◆ Gather your insights on ecolabels and certifications stakeholders are using for each product category
- ◆ Identify additional certifications, standards and ecolabels that should be considered
- ◆ Solicit feedback on the benefits and obstacles of such ecolabels/ and certifications
- ◆ Solicit other considerations for the GPPT tool
- ◆ Identify whether your products may already be represented in the searchable database

Qualitative/Open Feedback

Chatham House Rule


- ◆ When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed. The purpose of the rule is to encourage open discussion since anything said is "off the record".
- ◆ Facilitators are neutral parties who will filter the input and feedback gathered into a summary document. No contracting authorities are here today.

Product Sub-category Feedback

◆ Mural Board post-it notes

1. Office Furniture – Blue

Office Furniture






Procedural

1. Are there certifications/standards that we have/use in Canada that should be considered (in one or both official languages)?

2. Are you aware of other international environmental certifications/standards that are applicable to this commodity or that may be used in the industry which you would recommend for inclusion moving forward? If so what are they and why?



Environmental

3. For ecolabels you are familiar with, are there environmental impact categories that are missing or important from a Canadian perspective? Similarly, are there life cycle stages not being considered?

4. Are there environmental criteria which would be more impactful?




Other Considerations

5. Do you have feedback on certification and verification fees - are they transparent? are they prohibitive?

6. Are there other sources of third-party verified data that identify environmental performance or preferability that should be considered in this category? Which organization/certification?

7. Do you have additional suggestions or feedback to using these ecolabels and certifications to simplify identification of environmentally preferable products?



Social

8. Are you aware of 3rd party certifications applicable to this category that Canada might eventually like to include in relation to:

- a) Diversity and inclusion
- b) Indigenous reconciliation
- c) Forced labour and modern slavery
- d) Gender Based-Analysis (including LGBTQ2+)
- e) Persons with disabilities
- f) Economic equality

Canada.ecomedes.com Pilot Platform Introduction



Introduction to ecomedes



ecomedes MISSION

Simplify **Product Research and
Accelerate **Sustainable Procurement**
by automating the **Search** for sustainability data,
automating compliance **Analysis** and
streamlining **Documentation & Reporting****

Topics we will cover

- Introduction to Ecomedes
 - Ecomedes Technology Overview
- Canada.ecomedes.com Platform Overview
 - What the platform is designed to support
 - Data Flows into the system
 - Platform Tour
 - Signup for a test account
 - Search & Discovery
 - Product Analysis & Documentation

Ecomedes Technology

Data Collection & Curation

3rd Party Product Ecolabels + Certifications + Standards + EcoDATA registries

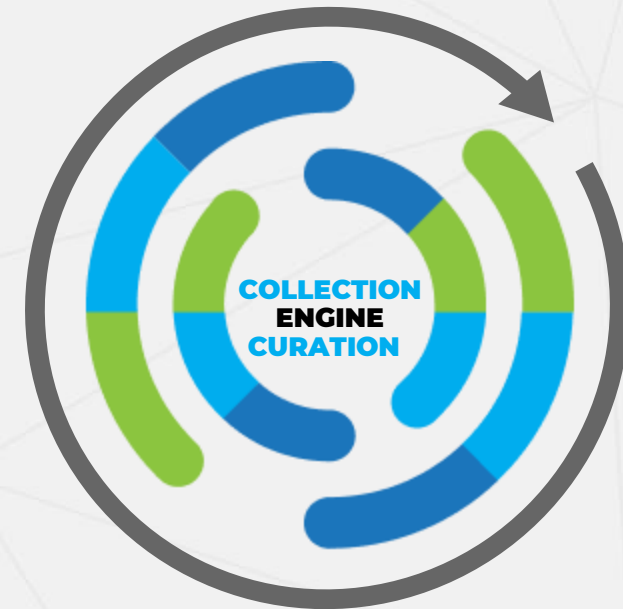


Data Enrichment

Building Product Manufacturer Sourced:

- Company / Organizational Attributes
- Brand / Product Assets
- Product Performance Attributes
- Adjacent Brand Resources

Refreshed Monthly



Largest Curated Product Database in the market

~10,000 Brands ~1,200,000+ Products

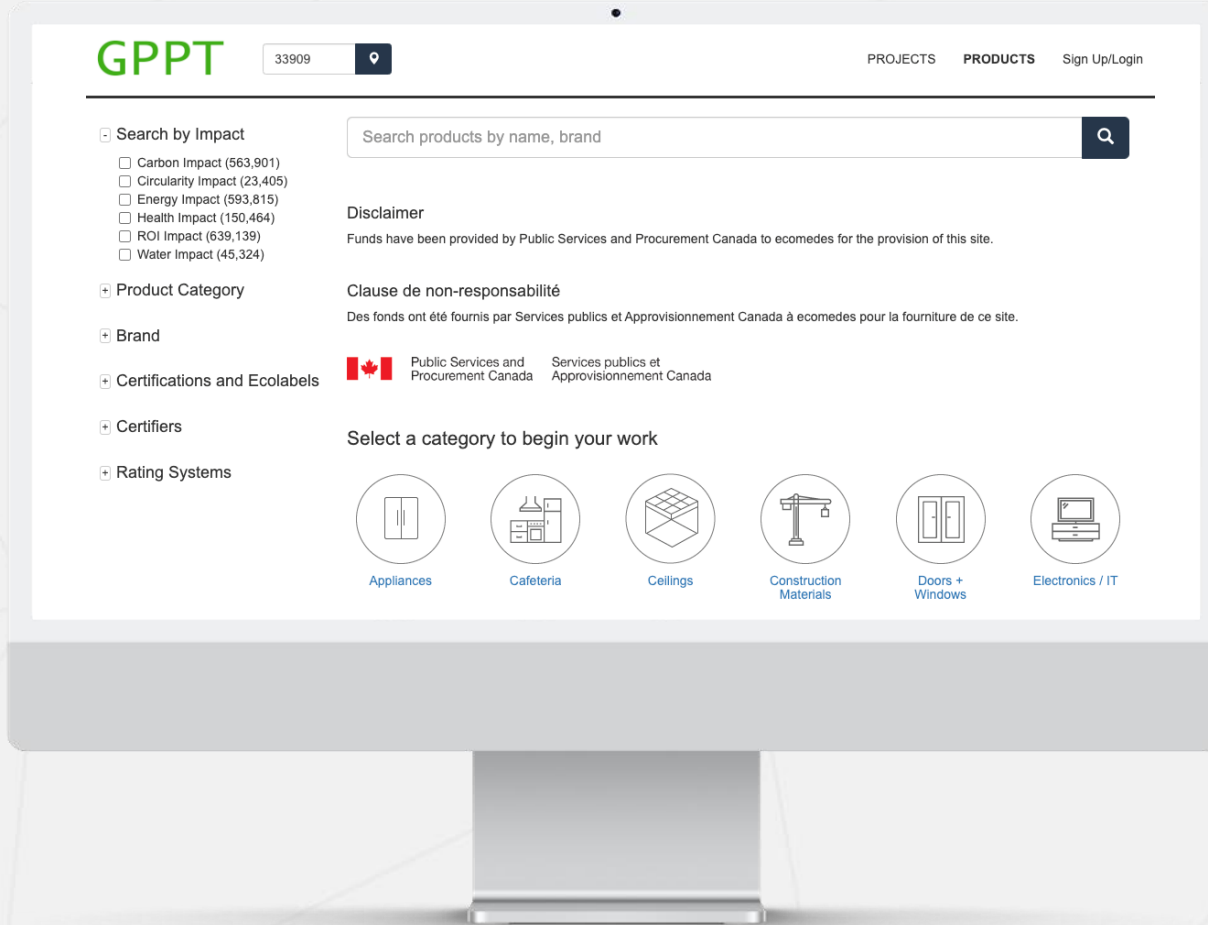
~100+ Ecolabels / Certifications / Standards

~60+ Registry Sources

~3,000 Unique Brand/Factory/Product Attributes

Ecomedes Technology

Platforms configured for Institutional Buyers



Canada.ecomedes.com

How Does this Help You?

- The platform was designed to save you time
- Increase Green Procurement within Government
- Streamline Green procurement reporting for Agencies and Departments

Some of the most common activities that the platform streamlines:

- **Searching** for products that meet the certifications, ecolabels, specifications, etc
- **Analyzing** product performance attributes
- **Documenting** procurement and project decisions
- **Sharing** Impact Reports with project team members

Platform Tour

Pilot Account Sign-up

The screenshot shows the GPPT website interface. At the top left is the GPPT logo and a search bar containing '33909'. To the right are navigation links for 'PROJECTS', 'PRODUCTS', and 'Sign Up/Login'. Below the search bar is a search input field with the placeholder text 'Search products by name, brand' and a magnifying glass icon. A green arrow points from the search bar area towards the sign-up modal. The modal is titled 'Welcome' and features the Ecomedes logo. It prompts the user to 'Log in to Ecomedes Inc. to continue to Ecomedes.' and includes input fields for 'Email address' and 'Password'. A blue 'Continue' button is at the bottom of the modal. Below the modal, there is a section titled 'Select a category to begin your work' with various product category icons: Appliances, Cafeteria, Ceilings, Flooring, Furniture, HVAC, Lighting, Office Supplies, Paint, Plumbing, and Walls. On the left side of the page, there are several filter categories: Search by Impact (Carbon, Circularity, Energy, Health, ROI, Water), Product Category, Brand, Certifications and Ecolabels, Certifiers, and Rating Systems.

Simple Signup takes 1 minute & saves 100s of hours per year

- The Platforms are typically open to anyone who wants to simplify sustainable product search, analysis and documentation.
 - Procurement Teams
 - Vendor Teams
 - Project Teams
 - Manufacturer Teams
- Creating an account lets you:
 - Analyze Products and projects
 - Download product documentation
 - Save your work on projects

Platform Tour

Search & Discovery: Driven by Data

- Search by Impact
- Product Category
- Brand
- Certifications and Ecolabels
 - Over 50 to choose from
 - This can be configured to your needs
 - Additional Resources can be added

GPPT 33909 PROJECTS PRODUCTS Sign Up/Login

Search by Impact Search products by name, brand

Product Category

Brand

Disclaimers

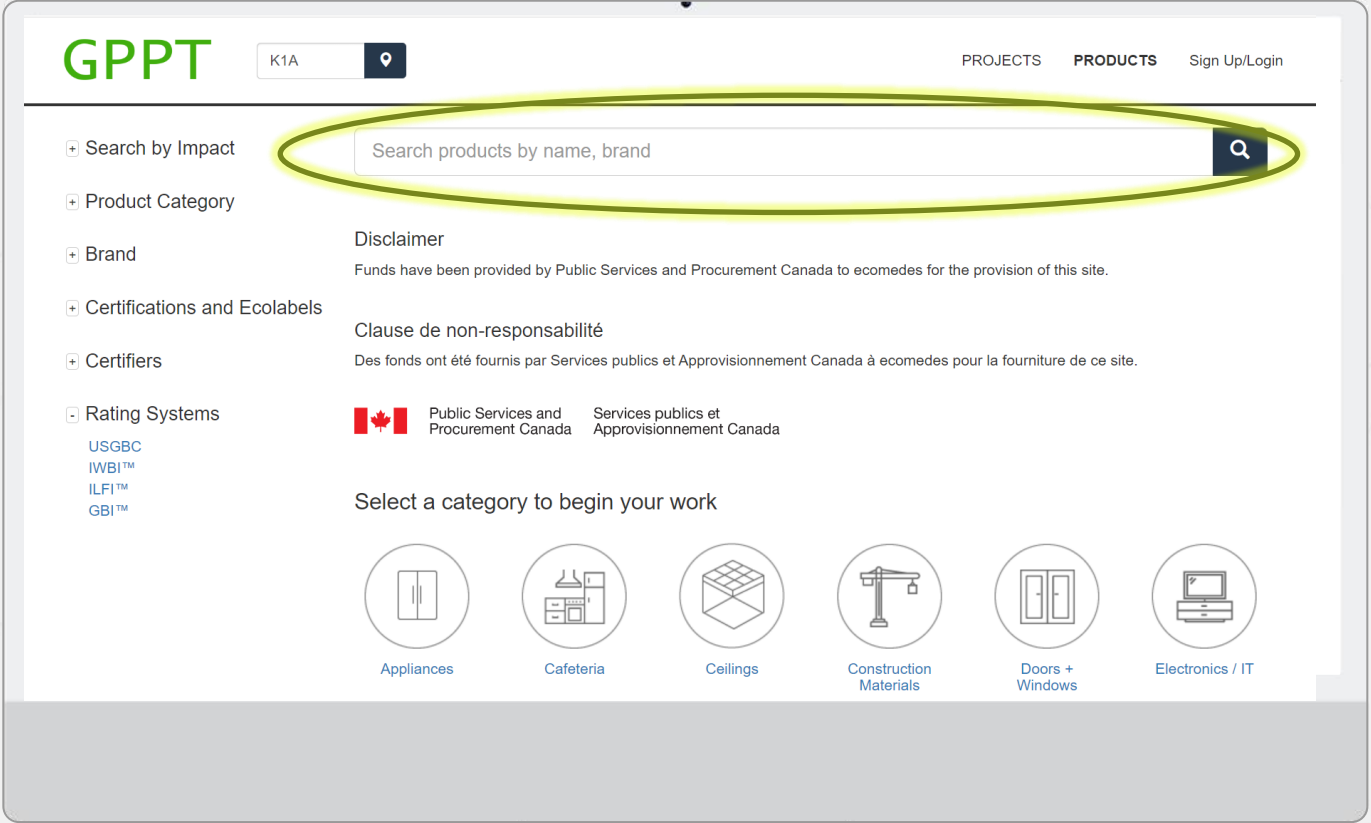
Clause de non-responsabilité

Select a category to begin your work

- Appliances
- Cafeteria
- Ceilings
- Construction Materials
- Doors + Windows
- Electronics / IT
- Flooring
- Furniture
- HVAC
- Lighting
- Office Supplies
- Paint
- Plumbing
- Walls

Canada

Product Search



canada.ecomedes.com

Platform Tour

Search & Discovery: Driven by Data

As you refine your search with left hand navigation, you can discover products through a variety of paths

- **Product Category / Subcategory / Type Refinement**
 - Furniture (40,765)
 - Seating (936)
 - **Task (187)**
- **Certifications and Ecolabels Refinement**
 - BIFMA LEVEL® (5,043)
 - LEVEL 1 (1,618)
 - LEVEL 2 (1,904)
 - **LEVEL 3 (1,521)**
- Brands that have Task Seating that have achieved BIFMA LEVEL 3 Certification are summarized in the left-hand navigation with product count.

- [-] **Brand**
 - 9to5 Seating (4)
 - Affordable Interior Systems (AIS) (5)
 - Allseating (37)
 - Allsteel (75)
 - Andreu World (108)
 - ergoCentric Seating Systems Inc. (15)
 - Global Furniture Group (268)
 - Gunlocke (65)
 - Haworth (53)
 - HBF (20)
 - Herman Miller (90)
 - HON (73)
 - Humanscale (71)
 - Interstuhl (20)
 - KI (36)
 - Knoll (82)
 - Krug Inc. (32)
 - Pyrotech Workspace Solution Pvt. Ltd (9)
 - Steelcase (218)
 - Teknion (144)
 - VS Vereinigte Spezialmobelfabriken GmbH & Co. KG (96)

The screenshot displays the GPPT search interface. At the top, there's a search bar with the number '33909' and a location pin icon. The main navigation on the left includes sections for 'Search by Impact', 'Product Category', 'Product Subcategory', 'Product Type', 'Product Subtype', 'Brand', 'Certifications and Ecolabels', 'BIFMA LEVEL®', 'Certifiers', and 'Rating Systems'. The 'Product Type' section is expanded to show 'Seating' with a sub-filter for 'Task'. The 'Certifications and Ecolabels' section has 'BIFMA LEVEL®' checked. The 'BIFMA LEVEL®' section shows 'LEVEL 3 (78)' selected. The main content area shows a grid of product cards for office chairs, each with an image, brand name, and certification icons. The top right of the interface shows 'PROJECTS', 'PRODUCTS', and 'Sign Up/Login' links. A 'View Comparison' button and an 'Impact Score' dropdown are also visible.

Platform Tour

Rich Product Data at your fingertips

11 Hyperlinks to external ecoDATA resources to support decision making:

- Certification and Standards
 - BIFMA LEVEL® Certificate
 - CA Section 01350
 - CDPH Standard Method v1.2-2017
 - LBC Red List Free Requirements
 - EPD
 - LCA
 - SCS Indoor Advantage Gold
 - Textile Conformance
- Human Health
 - Ergonomic Strategy
 - Targeted Chemical Elimination URL
- Planet Health
 - Embodied Carbon (Cradle to Gate) - GWP
- Recycled Content
- Materials
 - Material Ingredient Disclosure URL
- Manufacture Product Page Resources

Herman Miller Aeron® Chair Aluminum Base / AER_ALUM_EU

Category: Building Furnishings
Subcategory: Furniture

Certifications and Standards

- CA Section 01350: Yes
- CDPH Standard Method V1.2-2017: Yes
- Conforms with LBC Red List Free Requirements: Yes
- Environmental Product Declaration (EPD): Yes
- Life Cycle Assessment: Yes
- Life Cycle Assessment URL: External Link
- SCS Indoor Advantage Gold: Yes
- Textile conformance to certifications and standards: External Link

Human Health

- Ergonomic Strategy: Yes
- Targeted Chemical Elimination: Yes

Planet Health

- Embodied Carbon (Cradle to Gate) - GWP (kgCO₂e): 58

Recycled Content

- Recyclable: 91%
- Recycled Content - Post Consumer (%): 56.0%
- Recycled Content - Pre Consumer (%): 11.0%

Materials

- Material Ingredient Disclosure: Yes
- Material Ingredient Disclosure URL: External Link

Material Content

- Aluminum Content %: 91%
- Fabric Content %: 1%
- Fiberglass Content %: 1%
- Finish Content %: 1%
- Foam Content %: 2%
- Plastic Content %: 29%
- Steel Content %: 10%

General

- Contact Email: Sustainability@MillerKnoll.com
- Contact Name: Sustainability
- Corporate Sustainability Report (CSR) Link: External Link
- Designer: Bill Stumpf and Don Chadwick
- Environmental Advocacy URL: External Link
- Manufacturer Take Back Program: Yes
- Manufacturer Take Back Program URL: External Link
- Manufacturing Location(s): Wiltshire, UK
- Manufacturer Number: 12 52 00
- Product Page: External Link
- Recyclable packaging: 95%
- Seating Flexibility: Yes

NSF Certificate of Conformity

Herman Miller, Inc.
Aeron® Chair

LEVEL 3 Certification

BIFMA LEVEL® Certificate

Environmental Product Declaration

Aeron® Chair Aluminum Base

SCS Indoor Advantage Gold

RenewedCycle

Design for the Environment (DfE)

MillerKnoll

Material Ingredient Disclosure URL

MillerKnoll
Designing a better world

The 2023 Better World Report

For more than 100 years, our brands have worked to improve spaces—and the world around us. We believe that together we can do more.

Aeron Chair

11

Consultation & onboarding process per category

Stage 1: Collect multiple streams of input and review research findings:

- ❑ What certifications and programs are currently used by Canadian manufacturers?
- ❑ What do other levels of government, other stakeholders specify?
- ❑ Once we know the relevant certifications and programs, are there product registries?

Stage 2: Draft Product Filter Recommendations and ecodata requirements

- ❑ Draft filter language along with market data availability shared with procurement teams for review
- ❑ PSPC shares the draft filter pilot requirements and data structure back with stakeholders for feedback prior to Sn. management decision (*if possible)

Stage 3: Ecomedes launches pilot product filters into canada.ecomedesdemo.com

- ❑ Onboard the registries of certified products or programs where performance testing can be verified
 - these go into the large ecomedes database used in the U.S. also
- ❑ Manufacturers can enrich their product data with more attributes

Stage 4: Move new filters into ecomedes production Canada.ecomedes.com

Next steps

- We are at the beginning of the customization and consultations
- Additional Feedback?
 - [Green Public Procurement Tool for the Government of Canada - Stakeholder Engagement Survey \(survey-sondage.ca\)](#)
- Additional Consultations :
 - <https://circularinnovation.ca/pspc-consultation-sessions-and-registration/>
- Consultation Feedback Poll

Thank you!



Public Services and
Procurement Canada Services publics et
Approvisionnement Canada

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kmotta@circularinnovation.ca

