

# MANAGEMENT MEMO

NUMBER:  
**MM 10-01**SUBJECT:  
**CARPET PURCHASES TO MEET ENVIRONMENTALLY  
PREFERABLE CRITERIA**DATE ISSUED:  
December 31, 2009EXPIRES:  
December 31, 2010REFERENCES:  
Chapter 590, Statutes of 2005, (Lowenthal SB 1106)  
Public Contract Code Sections 12153 and 12400-12404  
Supercedes Management Memo 06-08ISSUING AGENCY:  
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL  
SERVICES

**Purpose** The purpose of this Management Memo is to update a previous Management Memo to meet the current national standard for sustainable carpet purchases for State facilities. This will help State agencies, departments, boards, and commissions comply with the requirements of SB 1106 and Public Contract Code Sections 12153 and 12400-12404.

**Referenced Laws** California's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) law (Public Contract Code sections 12400–12404) directs the Department of General Services (DGS) in collaboration with the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) to develop and implement “a strategy to increase environmentally preferable purchasing. This may include the development of statewide policies, guidelines, programs, and regulations.”

SB1106 modified numerous sections of the Public Contract Code to include purchasing and reporting requirements for products purchased by the State of California, including 10 percent minimum post-consumer content for plastic products (including carpet).

Public Contract Code Section 12153 directs the DGS and other agencies “...to draft, establish, and implement policies that ensure the procurement and use of recycled resources.”

**Background** In 2006, Management Memo 06-08 was issued mandating that all carpet purchases for State owned, leased or managed facilities be certified to meet the California Gold Sustainable Carpet Standard, beginning September 2006. This helped State agencies purchasing carpet meet minimum requirements to improve the State's management of materials by reducing its waste stream and better safeguarding human health by protecting indoor air quality. In addition, the establishment of these criteria supported the referenced legislation.

The State continued efforts to support development of an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standard over the next several years, supporting the final development of a Standard developed by NSF from which California's Standard was originally derived. In November of 2007, the NSF/ANSI 140-2007e Sustainable Carpet Assessment Standard (***NSF/ANSI 140-2007 Standard***) was finalized, and partially due to the success of the California Standard, aligned with and met all prerequisites and requirements of the California Gold Sustainable Carpet Standard at the ***Platinum*** certification level of the ***NSF/ANSI 140-2007 Standard***.

## STATE ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL

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In order to combine the State of California's efforts with national efforts to reduce environmental impacts of carpet purchases, the State is aligning with national efforts and transitioning to specifying that all carpets purchased by the State are to be certified to **NSF/ANSI 140-2007** at its **Platinum** level.

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### Description

1. Effective immediately, all carpet purchased by State agencies shall be certified to meet the **NSF/ANSI 140-2007** Standard at its **Platinum** level. All carpet platforms previously certified to the California Gold Sustainable Carpet Standard, have since expired, and are no longer valid. Any carpet orders already placed meeting the California Gold Sustainable Carpet Standard at the time of issuance of this Management Memo, can follow through with their purchases, but all new orders must meet the new Standard. Many carpet manufacturers have already transitioned to NSF/ANSI 140, or are in the process of doing so. This requirement does not replace technical product specifications; rather, it provides a minimum environmental specification.
  2. This requirement shall apply to all modular and broadloom carpet purchases for new construction, renovation, and replacement, whether purchased through construction contracts, leases, Contract Multiple Award Schedule (CMAS), or other procurement methods. Patching and repairing within an existing field of carpet is exempt from this requirement when not possible to match existing patterns with carpet meeting the Standard.
  3. Carpet purchases shall require proof of independent third-party certification as specified in the Standard. Evidence of this certification must accompany carpet submittals, and the owner must receive a copy of the certification at the time of carpet product delivery.
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### Information

The application of this standard may be reevaluated at the conclusion of periodic updates and revisions to the NSF/ANSI 140-2007 Standard. Information regarding the **NSF/ANSI 140-2007 Standard** is at [www.green.ca.gov/EPP/standards](http://www.green.ca.gov/EPP/standards). A comprehensive searchable database of all carpet products certified to meet the NSF/ANSI 140-2007 Standard can be found at <http://www.carpet-rug.org/carpet-and-rug-industry/sustainability/sustainable-carpet/sustainable-carpet-list.cfm>, and can be sorted to show all products certified at the Platinum level, by all certifiers.

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### Contact

Please direct questions concerning this management memo to Dan Burgoyne, Executive Office Green Team, Department of General Services at 916-376-5010.

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### Signature

Original Management Memo signed by Ronald L. Diedrich, Acting Director

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Ronald L. Diedrich  
Acting Director