

# Pharos™

Signaling The Future of  
Material Selection™



## *Environment \* Health \* Social justice*

- The only building material assessment tool with a comprehensive view
- Search for the best products with the lowest impacts
- Evaluate manufacturer claims.
- Discuss with other users

***Make sure that the materials that go in your facilities reflect your organizational priorities for patient, staff, community and global health***

Completely web based, up to date, and preloaded with over 500 prescreened products. Everything you need to know to get the green in your project.

Coming in 2008.

Register now for more information.

[www.pharosproject.net](http://www.pharosproject.net)



## Principles

**The Right To Know** - We have a right to know what is in the products we specify, buy and use.

**Life Cycle Thinking** - Assess impacts along the entire life cycle of the material from extraction to disposal using a wide range of tools

**Precautionary Principle** - Take precautionary actions based upon the weight of available evidence and in the face of uncertainty.

**Define the Ideal** - It is an act of optimism to set an ideal goal representing how we believe our products can be good for the world, rather than just issue prohibitions and seek the less-bad.

**Manufacturer Responsibility** - Manufacturers possess the most information about the contents of their product and have a responsibility to be accountable for things they make.

**Transparency** - Share all assumptions, methodology, data and analysis. Reward manufacturers who fully disclose contents and processes to allow for meaningful analysis.

**Open Source Democratic Tools** - Create an on-line collaborative user community that defines and shapes the future direction of green materials.

**Coalition and Consensus Building** - Spark the discussions that will help sort out the confusion of ratings and standards in the market place and shape a consensus on goals and the framework for evaluating green materials.

**Accessible Presentation** - Mindful of the complexity of the work we undertake, Pharos will provide accurate summary materials that are elegant, informational and user-friendly.

**Optimism** - Acknowledging that our goals are ambitious and difficult to attain, we believe they are within the grasp of committed professionals working in good faith.

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## Ideal Product Goals

Products are measured for progress toward ideals in 16 categories:

### Health & Pollution

- **IAQ/User Exposure** - eliminate content and emissions that may directly endanger the health of occupants of the building and those in its vicinity.
- **High Hazard Toxics** - eliminate the use and generation of persistent, bioaccumulative, toxic, and/or untested chemicals in the life cycle of the product.
- **Global Warming** - eliminate release of gases that contribute to global warming or stratospheric ozone depletion.
- **Air Quality** - eliminate releases of criteria pollutants to the air.
- **Water Quality** - eliminate releases of criteria pollutants to the water.

### Resources

- **Renewable Materials** - derive product entirely from refurbished or recycled materials, or from bio-based materials harvested in an ecologically sustainable manner.
- **Embodied Energy** - minimize the amount of energy, regardless of source embodied in the product.

- **Renewable Energy** - utilize or produce energy through sustainable sources.
- **Embodied Water** - minimize the use of water
- **Solid Waste** - reduce the generation of solid waste.
- **Habitat Restoration** - extract and harvest raw materials in a fashion that protects and restores sensitive habitats.

### Social & Community

- **Occupational Safety** - protect the safety, health, and well-being of the workers who produce the products and materials.
- **Consumer Safety** - minimize inherent hazards to consumers in products.
- **Fairness & Equity** - provide fair compensation and non-exploitative conditions with equal and equitable opportunities for all workers.
- **Community Contributions** - actively contribute to the overall welfare and sustainability of affected communities.
- **Corporate Leadership** - provide transparency and leadership in reporting and improving corporate impact on environment, health & social justice.

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