

ISO 14001 Certification

The framework of Maharam's efforts to reduce its corporate environmental impact is ISO 14001 certification.

To obtain certification, all corporate practices are carefully evaluated and measured for environmental impact. An environmental policy is defined, including concrete goals to reduce identified impacts. This environmental policy includes a commitment to compliance with environmental laws and company policies, continual improvement and prevention of pollution.

An environmental management system is created to ensure that environmental policy is implemented. An independent ISO consultant is retained to continually monitor and measure progress, and to verify that ISO standards are observed. ISO 14001 processes are audited on an annual basis and certified companies must demonstrate continual reduction of their environmental impact.

Through ISO 14001, Maharam is committed to minimizing the environmental impacts of its business practices, including, but not limited to:

- Reduction of energy consumption
- Reduction of water consumption
- Reduction of paper consumption
- Reduction of waste through recycling
- Optimization of textile finishes

Greenguard and Greenguard Gold Certification

Big Foot is Greenguard certified and Greenguard Gold certified as a low-emitting material.

- Certification: T10So99122-4

Greenguard certification verifies that chemical and particle emissions fall within acceptable indoor air quality pollutant thresholds for adults. Products are tested for emissions of formaldehyde, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), respirable particles, ozone, and other pollutants using environmental chamber protocols designed to simulate typical indoor environments.

Greenguard Gold certification is a separate program tailored to the needs of children who have a greater sensitivity to indoor air quality. Greenguard Gold sets lower thresholds on allowable emissions by a factor of 0.43 to account for the needs of educational environments. Greenguard Gold certified textiles comply with CA Section 01350 requirements for schools and are accepted for Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) Low-Emitting Materials credits.

REACH Compliant

REACH stands for the European Community Regulation on chemicals and their safe use. The aim of REACH is to improve human health by requiring manufacturers to gather information on the properties of their chemical substances, register the information in a central database run by the European Chemicals Agency, and substitute Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) when suitable alternatives have been identified.

The resource that produces Big Foot has fulfilled their obligations according to REACH and has confirmed they have made the necessary pre-registrations for the chemicals involved in the production of Big Foot.

Big Foot is REACH Compliant.

LBC Red List Compliant

The Living Building Challenge Red List is a chemical list that contains the worst in class materials prevalent in the building industry. The commonly-used chemicals on the Red List are have been designated as harmful to living creatures or the environment. Products that are Red List Compliant do not contain any of the toxic chemicals listed on the LBC Red List.

Healthier Hospitals Compliant

The Healthier Hospitals Initiative is an on-going effort to limit the dangerous chemicals that are commonly used in hospitals and health care facilities. Maharam products that are listed as Healthier Hospitals Compliant avoid the use of formaldehyde, per fluorinated compounds (PFC), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), antimicrobials, and all flame retardants (FR).

Leather Working Group Certification

The Leather Working Group Certification (applicable to rawhide suppliers, finished leather suppliers, and everyone in between) is designed to provide transparency and accountability within the leather supply chain.

The standard was updated in 2021 and now covers all elements of responsible leather manufacturing including environmental management, traceability, chemical management, social responsibility, and governance. Independent audits typically take place on site over two days, and the certification is valid for two years. Suppliers can achieve bronze, silver, or gold level certification based on their adherence to the standard. All tanneries we currently work with are either certified or are in the process of achieving certification.

Big Foot is produced in a Leather Working Group Silver Certified facility.

Environmentally Improved Manufacturing Processes

- Big Foot is free of flame retardant chemicals.

LEED

Big Foot may contribute to the following LEED points:

- LEED V4 ID+C MR Credit: Building Product Disclosure and Optimization - REACH Compliant
- LEED V4 ID+C EQ Credit: Low-Emitting Materials

Biodegradable and Recyclable Content

Maharam does not make claims that could misrepresent the environmental attributes of its products. At this time, a national infrastructure to collect and process textiles at the end of their useful lives does not exist. For this reason, Maharam does not claim that any of its products are biodegradable or recyclable. Maharam supports industry initiatives to develop these facilities, but until such a system is in place, Maharam's position is to not label its products as either biodegradable or recyclable.

Maharam's cardboard packaging materials are readily recyclable.

Free of Intentionally Added PFAS

Complete product information at maharam.com

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