

#### **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

#### **GRS Certified**

Merit contains GRS Certified recycled yarns.

The Global Recycled Standard (GRS) is an international, voluntary, full product standard that sets requirements for third-party certification of recycled content, chain of custody, social and environmental practices, and chemical restrictions. Developed in 2008, the GRS is administered by the Textile Exchange, a global non-profit organization dedicated to driving changes in sourcing and manufacturing with the ultimate goal of reducing the textile industry's impact on the world's water, soil, air, and people.

The GRS is intended to meet the needs of companies looking to certify the recycled content of their products and to verify responsible social, environmental, and chemical practices in their production. Through set objectives, the GRS defines requirements to ensure accurate content claims and good working conditions, and to minimize harmful environmental and chemical impacts.

#### **Greenguard and Greenguard Gold Certification**

Merit 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 Merit 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 Merit. Merit is REACH Compliant.

#### **Environmentally Improved Manufacturing Processes**

- Merit is free of flame retardant chemicals.

#### **Manufacturing**

Location of Manufacture: Burlington, NC

Location of Harvest/Extraction: Due to the complex and changing nature of the textile supply chain, location of harvest/extraction is unknown.

#### **Recycled Content**

76% Post-Consumer Recycled Polyester

#### **LEED**

Merit may contribute to the following LEED points:

- LEED V4 ID+C MR Credit: Building Product Disclosure and Optimization - Recycled Content
- 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.

Complete product information at [maharam.com](http://maharam.com)  
800.645.3943