



Corrections and Clarifications Report

April 2023

The following Green Seal standards underwent non-substantive changes on April 26, 2023.

- GS-8, Edition 5.7, Cleaning Products for Household Use
- GS-20, Edition 2.1, Environmental Innovation
- GS-37, Edition 7.8, Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use
- GS-41, Edition 2.4, Hand Cleaners and Hand Sanitizers for Industrial and Institutional Use
- GS-42, Edition 2.3, Commercial and Institutional Cleaning Services
- GS-48, Edition 1.7, Laundry Care Products for Household Use
- GS-52, Edition 2.7, Specialty Cleaning Products for Household Use
- GS-53, Edition 2.8, Specialty Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use

Introduction

Corrections and Clarifications Reports (CCRs) are Green Seal's public record of all non-substantive changes made to Green Seal standards. CCRs do not undergo a public comment process due to their low impact on the standards. Substantive changes, which may raise or lower the bar of health and environmental leadership, are required to undergo Green Seal's rigorous stakeholder engagement process, including a 30-day public comment period.

Publication Schedule of CCRs

Corrections and Clarifications Reports are released on a quarterly basis on the last Friday of the month (currently, January, April, July, and October). These reports are available on Green Seal's website.¹

Edition Numbers of Standards

Although the text of a standard is clarified or corrected, the edition number of a standard (e.g., GS-8 Standard, Edition 5.5) remains the same after a Corrections and Clarifications Report.

Our Stakeholder-Based Process

Although non-substantive changes are not published for public comment, Green Seal remains open to input from our stakeholders on all issues regarding the text of standards. We encourage any interested party or individual to submit feedback on Green Seal standards via Green Seal's website contact form, email, or phone.

Clarifications

Green Seal periodically identifies problems with the text of a standard. In certain cases, a requirement may be worded in a way that leads to misinterpretations. In these cases, Green Seal clarifies the text of the standard via text deletions or text additions. The intent and reasoning behind clarifications is summarized in Corrections and Clarifications Reports.

Corrections

Green Seal standards undergo scheduled quality reviews during which errors may be noted. Examples of errors include typos, grammatical errors, misplaced text, omissions in information, and inconsistencies within a standard. The background of the error and the explanation for the correction is summarized in Corrections and Clarifications Reports.

Information about the Red-lined Text within CCRs

CCRs use formatting that is consistent with Green Seal's Standard Revision Proposals to depict the differences between the previous edition of a standard and the current edition.

- Text Boxes are used to highlight the excerpts of standard content.
- **Red font** is used to show that text has been added to a standard.
- Text with ~~strikethrough lines~~ show that text has deleted from a standard.

¹ Green Seal Standards Documents Library, <http://www.greenseal.org/green-seal-standards/library>

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Standard for Cleaning Products for Household Use, GS-8

1. Spray Packaging, Annex D – Microorganisms (Normative), Clarification

In November 2021 Green Seal revised the GS-8 Standard for Cleaning Products for Household Use to clarify that products that contain microorganisms and are sold for use in spray packaging were included in scope of the standard.

However, language that clarifies that the requirements apply to both products sold in spray packaging, or designed for use in spray packaging was incorrectly not included. This clarification is important given the large number of household cleaning products that are sold as concentrates, diluted, and then used in spray packaging. In Section G of Annex D, which focuses on products containing microorganisms, the language still references products that are sold specifically ‘in spray packaging’. To correct this error, the term “for use” will be added to the final sentence of Section G.

Updates to the Text

G. Product Label and User Information. The product label shall disclose that the product contains microorganisms. An alternative phrase for *microorganisms* may be approved by the certification program, e.g., “bacterial cultures.” The product label shall include a statement that the product will not function effectively when used in conjunction with disinfectants, such as chlorine bleach. For products that are sold **for use** in *spray packaging*,⁹ the product label shall include a statement that the product should not be sprayed into the air.

Final Text

G. Product Label and User Information. The product label shall disclose that the product contains microorganisms. An alternative phrase for *microorganisms* may be approved by the certification program, e.g., “bacterial cultures.” The product label shall include a statement that the product will not function effectively when used in conjunction with disinfectants, such as chlorine bleach. For products that are sold for use in *spray packaging*,⁹ the product label shall include a statement that the product should not be sprayed into the air.

2. Editorial Error, Alternative Performance Requirements, Correction

Subsections 2.1 and 2.2 contain a grammatical error: the incorrect usage of a hyphen between ‘nationally’ and recognized’. The hyphen has been removed in both criteria.

Updates to the Text

2.1 Standard Performance Requirements. Each product as used, when diluted with water from the cold tap at no more than 50oF, shall clean common soils and surfaces in its category effectively, as measured by a standard test method. Carpet cleaners may be diluted with warm or hot water where required by the test method or performance considerations. The following test methods are recommended:

- Carpet cleaners. Using a standard test method, the manufacturer must demonstrate that its carpet cleaner product performs as well as a ~~nationally recognized~~ **nationally recognized** or marketing-leading product in its category in both cleaning efficiency and

resoiling resistance. Acceptable test methods/procedures to demonstrate performance include, but are not limited to, the following sources: the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC), ASTM, the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), WoolSafe, the Carpet and Rug Institute or laboratory testing conducted as part of a bid evaluation by a government purchasing entity.

2.2 Alternative Performance Requirements. Alternatively, using standard test methods conducted under objective, reproducible laboratory conditions, a manufacturer can demonstrate that its product performs as well as or better than a ~~nationally recognized~~ nationally recognized or market-leading product of its type or achieves the removal efficiency defined in this section with alternate test methods and has a documented rationale for the method modification for Green Seal's review.

Final Text

2.1 Standard Performance Requirements. Each product as used, when diluted with water from the cold tap at no more than 50oF, shall clean common soils and surfaces in its category effectively, as measured by a standard test method. Carpet cleaners may be diluted with warm or hot water where required by the test method or performance considerations. The following test methods are recommended:

- Carpet cleaners. Using a standard test method, the manufacturer must demonstrate that its carpet cleaner product performs as well as a nationally recognized or marketing-leading product in its category in both cleaning efficiency and resoiling resistance. Acceptable test methods/procedures to demonstrate performance include, but are not limited to, the following sources: the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC), ASTM, the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), WoolSafe, the Carpet and Rug Institute or laboratory testing conducted as part of a bid evaluation by a government purchasing entity.

2.2 Alternative Performance Requirements. Alternatively, using standard test methods conducted under objective, reproducible laboratory conditions, a manufacturer can demonstrate that its product performs as well as or better than a nationally recognized or market-leading product of its type or achieves the removal efficiency defined in this section with alternate test methods and has a documented rationale for the method modification for Green Seal's review.

Standard for Environmental Innovation, GS-20

1. VOC Definition, Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Clarification

Section 5.4 of the GS-20 Standard on Environmental Innovation identifies the regulatory limit for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) content in possible certified products. However, the definition of VOCs was incorrectly not included in the standard criterion. The definition that is used in other Green Seal Standards has therefore been added to the Section for clarity.

Updates to Text

5.4 Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). VOCs include all organic compounds that have a vapor pressure of greater than 0.1 mm mercury at 1 atm pressure and 20° C. The VOC content of the product as used shall contain no more than the current regulatory limits of the Air Resources Board for the State of California (CARB) for its product category. If no CARB limit exists for the product category, Green Seal will determine the acceptable VOC content.

Final Text

5.4 Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). VOCs include all organic compounds that have a vapor pressure of greater than 0.1 mm mercury at 1 atm pressure and 20° C. The VOC content of the product as used shall contain no more than the current regulatory limits of the Air Resources Board for the State of California (CARB) for its product category. If no CARB limit exists for the product category, Green Seal will determine the acceptable VOC content.

2. Chronic Inhalation Toxicity Definition, Chronic Inhalation Toxicity, Clarification

Section 5.12 of the GS-20 Standard on Environmental Innovation identifies the chronic inhalation toxicity threshold for any product undergoing certification. The default measurements for this threshold are drawn from prior testing and established criteria from the OECD Harmonized Integrated Classification System; the components to be measured have a vapor pressure greater than 1mm Hg at 1 atm pressure and 20°C and are at 0.01% or more percent of the undiluted product.

However, the threshold measurements as written in Section 5.12 did not include the percentage requirement and did not match the language used in other standards, such as the GS-53 Standard for Specialty Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use. The component percentage wording from that Standard was added to Section 5.12 to realign GS-20 with other Standards.

Updates to Text

5.12 Chronic Inhalation Toxicity. The *product as used* shall not contain *components* that are classified as producing significant toxic effects in mammals via inhalation, with a possible inhalation *exposure pathway* e.g., with a vapor pressure above 1 mm mercury at 1 atm pressure and 20°C, which shall be determined from all components at 0.01% or more in the undiluted product, when the component has a vapor pressure greater than 1mm Hg at 1 atm pressure and 20°C, from repeated inhalation exposure at or below 1.0 mg/L as a vapor, according to Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Harmonized Integrated Classification System for Human Health and Environmental Hazards of Chemical Substances and Mixtures.

Final Text

5.12 Chronic Inhalation Toxicity. The product as used shall not contain components that are classified as producing significant toxic effects in mammals via inhalation with a possible inhalation exposure pathway, which shall be determined from all components at 0.01% or more in the undiluted product, when the component has a vapor pressure greater than 1mm Hg at 1 atm pressure and 20°C, from repeated inhalation exposure at or below 1.0 mg/L as a vapor, according to Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Harmonized Integrated Classification System for Human Health and Environmental Hazards of Chemical Substances and Mixtures.

Standard for Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use, GS-37

1. Spray Packaging, Annex E – Microorganisms (Normative), Clarification

In November 2021 Green Seal revised the GS-37 Standard for Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use to clarify that products that contain microorganisms and are sold for use in spray packaging were included in scope of the standard.

However, language that clarifies that the requirements apply to both products sold in spray packaging, or designed for use in spray packaging was incorrectly not included. This clarification is important given the large number of household cleaning products that are sold as concentrates, diluted, and then used in spray packaging. In Section G of Annex E, which focuses on products containing microorganisms, the language still references products that are sold specifically ‘in spray packaging’. To correct this error, the term “for use” will be added to the final sentence of Section G.

Updates to the Text

G. Product Label and User Information. The product label shall disclose that the product contains microorganisms. An alternative phrase for *microorganisms* may be approved by the certification program, e.g., “bacterial cultures.” The product label shall include a statement that the product will not function effectively when used in conjunction with disinfectants, such as chlorine bleach. For products that are sold **for use** in *spray packaging*,¹¹ the product label shall include a statement that the product should not be sprayed into the air.

Final Text

G. Product Label and User Information. The product label shall disclose that the product contains microorganisms. An alternative phrase for *microorganisms* may be approved by the certification program, e.g., “bacterial cultures.” The product label shall include a statement that the product will not function effectively when used in conjunction with disinfectants, such as chlorine bleach. For products that are sold for use in *spray packaging*,¹¹ the product label shall include a statement that the product should not be sprayed into the air.

2. Editorial Error, Alternative Performance Requirements, Correction

Subsection 2.2 contains a grammatical error: incorrect usage of a hyphen between ‘nationally’ and ‘recognized’. The hyphen was removed.

Updates to the Text

2.2 Alternative Performance Requirements. Alternatively, using another objective, scientifically validated method conducted under controlled and reproducible laboratory conditions, the product performs as well as or better than a ~~nationally-recognized~~ **nationally recognized** or market leading product of its type and at equivalent product-specific use directions. Test methodology and results must be documented in sufficient detail for this determination to be made.

Final Text

2.2 Alternative Performance Requirements. Alternatively, using another objective, scientifically validated method conducted under controlled and reproducible laboratory conditions, the product performs as well as or better than a nationally recognized or market leading product of its type and at equivalent product-specific use directions. Test methodology and results must be documented in sufficient detail for this determination to be made.

Standard for Hand Cleaners & Sanitizers, Industrial & Institutional Use, GS-41

1. Editorial Error, Product-Specific Performance Requirements, Correction

Subsection 2.1 contains a grammatical error: incorrect usage of a hyphen between ‘nationally’ and ‘recognized’. The hyphen was removed.

Updates to the Text

2.1 Hand Cleaners. Using a fixed, repeatable procedure, the product shall demonstrate efficacy against a ~~nationally recognized~~ **nationally recognized** or market-leading product of its type, showing equivalent or better performance. The testing protocol shall include, at a minimum: cleaning ability, lathering/rinsing, and skin condition after use. A standard soil shall be used and conclusions shall be derived from at least six separate samples. All results, a summary of conclusions and a description of how panelists are chosen shall be submitted.

Final Text

2.1 Hand Cleaners. Using a fixed, repeatable procedure, the product shall demonstrate efficacy against a nationally recognized or market-leading product of its type, showing equivalent or better performance. The testing protocol shall include, at a minimum: cleaning ability, lathering/rinsing, and skin condition after use. A standard soil shall be used and conclusions shall be derived from at least six separate samples. All results, a summary of conclusions and a description of how panelists are chosen shall be submitted.

Standard for Commercial and Institutional Cleaning Services, GS-42

1. Editorial Error, Annex A – Definitions (Normative), Correction

The definition for Environmentally Preferable Product contains a grammatical error: incorrect usage of a hyphen between ‘nationally’ and ‘recognized’. The hyphen was removed.

Updates to the Text

Environmentally Preferable Product. A product certified as such by a Type 1 (i.e., third-party) environmental label that was developed in accordance with the ISO 14024 Environmental Labeling Standard. Alternatively, a product may be designated as environmentally preferable by an established and legitimate, ~~nationally recognized~~ **nationally recognized** program developed with the purpose of identifying environmentally preferable products. The program must not have any financial interest or stake in sales of the product, or other conflict of interest. Such designation must be based on consideration of human health and safety, ecological toxicity, other environmental impacts, and resource conservation, as appropriate, for the product and its packaging, on a life cycle basis. Product criteria must distinguish market leadership for that product category, and be publicly available and transparent.

Final Text

Environmentally Preferable Product. A product certified as such by a Type 1 (i.e., third-party) environmental label that was developed in accordance with the ISO 14024 Environmental Labeling Standard. Alternatively, a product may be designated as environmentally preferable by an established and legitimate, nationally recognized program developed with the purpose of identifying environmentally preferable products. The program must not have any financial interest or stake in sales of the product, or other conflict of interest. Such designation must be based on consideration of human health and safety, ecological toxicity, other environmental impacts, and resource conservation, as appropriate, for the product and its packaging, on a life cycle basis. Product criteria must distinguish market leadership for that product category, and be publicly available and transparent.

Standard for Laundry Care Products for Household Use, GS-48

1. Spray Packaging, Annex D – Microorganisms (Normative), Clarification

In November 2021 Green Seal revised the GS-48 Standard for Laundry Care Products for Household Use to clarify that products that contain microorganisms and are sold for use in spray packaging were included in scope of the standard.

However, language that clarifies that the requirements apply to both products sold in spray packaging, or designed for use in spray packaging was incorrectly not included. This clarification is important given the large number of household cleaning products that are sold as concentrates, diluted, and then used in spray packaging. In Section G of Annex D, which focuses on products containing microorganisms, the language still references products that are sold specifically ‘in spray packaging’. To correct this error, the term “for use” will be added to the final sentence of Section G.

Updates to the Text

G. Product Label and User Information. The product label shall disclose that the product contains microorganisms. An alternative phrase for *microorganisms* may be approved by the certification program, e.g., “bacterial cultures.” The product label shall include a statement that the product will not function effectively when used in conjunction with disinfectants, such as chlorine bleach. For products that are sold **for use** in *spray packaging*,²³ the product label shall include a statement that the product should not be sprayed into the air.

Final Text

G. Product Label and User Information. The product label shall disclose that the product contains microorganisms. An alternative phrase for *microorganisms* may be approved by the certification program, e.g., “bacterial cultures.” The product label shall include a statement that the product will not function effectively when used in conjunction with disinfectants, such as chlorine bleach. For products that are sold for use in *spray packaging*,²³ the product label shall include a statement that the product should not be sprayed into the air.

Standard for Specialty Cleaning Products for Household Use, GS-52

1. Spray Packaging, Annex D – Microorganisms (Normative), Clarification

In November 2021 Green Seal revised the GS-52 Standard for Specialty Cleaning Products for Household Use to clarify that products that contain microorganisms and are sold for use in spray packaging were included in scope of the standard.

However, language that clarifies that the requirements apply to both products sold in spray packaging, or designed for use in spray packaging was incorrectly not included. This clarification is important given the large number of household cleaning products that are sold as concentrates, diluted, and then used in spray packaging. In Section G of Annex D, which focuses on products containing microorganisms, the language still references products that are sold specifically ‘in spray packaging’. To correct this error, the term “for use” will be added to the final sentence of Section G.

Updates to Text

G. Product Label and User Information. The product label shall disclose that the product contains *microorganisms*. An alternative phrase for *microorganisms* may be approved by the certification program, e.g., “bacterial cultures.” The product label shall include a statement that the product will not function effectively when used in conjunction with disinfectants, such as chlorine bleach. For products that are sold **for use** in *spray packaging*,²³ the product label shall include a statement that the product should not be sprayed into the air.

Final Text

G. Product Label and User Information. The product label shall disclose that the product contains *microorganisms*. An alternative phrase for *microorganisms* may be approved by the certification program, e.g., “bacterial cultures.” The product label shall include a statement that the product will not function effectively when used in conjunction with disinfectants, such as chlorine bleach. For products that are sold for use in *spray packaging*,²³ the product label shall include a statement that the product should not be sprayed into the air.

2. Editorial Error and Citation, Alternative Performance Requirements, Correction

Subsection 2.2 contains an incorrect grammatical usage of a hyphen between ‘nationally’ and ‘recognized. This hyphen was removed. In addition, two references to other subsections were incorrectly numbered; these subsections were changed to the correct subsection numbers.

Updates to Text

2.2 Alternative Performance Requirements. Alternatively, the product shall demonstrate that it performs equivalent to or better than a ~~nationally recognized~~ **nationally recognized** or market-leading product of its type, compared at the most dilute/least concentrated manufacturer-recommended dilution level for routine cleaning,⁷ using an objective, scientifically-validated method conducted under controlled and reproducible laboratory conditions. The water temperature requirement in 2.0 shall apply, unless the noted exceptions in ~~2.1.7~~ **2.1.6** for *dish cleaning products* and ~~2.1.14~~ **2.1.13** for *upholstery cleaning products* apply. Test methodology and results shall be documented in sufficient detail and provided to the certification program.

Final Text

2.2 Alternative Performance Requirements. Alternatively, the product shall demonstrate that it performs equivalent to or better than a nationally recognized or market-leading product of its type, compared at the most dilute/least concentrated manufacturer-recommended dilution level for routine cleaning,⁷ using an objective, scientifically-validated method conducted under controlled and reproducible laboratory conditions. The water temperature requirement in 2.0 shall apply, unless the noted exceptions in 2.1.6 for *dish cleaning products* and 2.1.13 for *upholstery cleaning products* apply. Test methodology and results shall be documented in sufficient detail and provided to the certification program.

Standard for Specialty Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use, GS-53

1. Spray Packaging, Annex E – Microorganisms (Normative), Clarification

In November 2021 Green Seal revised the GS-52 Standard for Specialty Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use to clarify that products that contain microorganisms and are sold for use in spray packaging were included in scope of the standard.

However, language that clarifies that the requirements apply to both products sold in spray packaging, or designed for use in spray packaging was incorrectly not included. This clarification is important given the large number of household cleaning products that are sold as concentrates, diluted, and then used in spray packaging. In Section G of Annex E, which focuses on products containing microorganisms, the language still references products that are sold specifically ‘in spray packaging’. To correct this error, the term “for use” will be added to the final sentence of Section G.

Updates to Text

G. Product Label and User Information. The product label shall disclose that the product contains microorganisms. An alternative phrase for microorganisms may be approved by the certification program, e.g., “bacterial cultures.” The product label shall include a statement that the product will not function effectively when used in conjunction with disinfectants, such as chlorine bleach. For products that are sold **for use** in spray packaging,²² the product label shall include a statement that the product should not be sprayed into the air.

Final Text

G. Product Label and User Information. The product label shall disclose that the product contains microorganisms. An alternative phrase for microorganisms may be approved by the certification program, e.g., “bacterial cultures.” The product label shall include a statement that the product will not function effectively when used in conjunction with disinfectants, such as chlorine bleach. For products that are sold for use in spray packaging,²² the product label shall include a statement that the product should not be sprayed into the air.

2. Editorial Error, Alternative Performance Requirements, Correction

Subsection 2.2 contained a grammatically incorrect usage of a hyphen between ‘nationally’ and ‘recognized’. The hyphen was removed.

Updates to Text

2.2 *Alternative Performance Requirements. Alternatively, the product shall demonstrate that it performs equivalent to or better than a ~~nationally recognized~~ **nationally recognized** or market-leading product of its type, compared at the most dilute/least concentrated manufacturer-recommended dilution level for routine cleaning⁵, using an objective, scientifically-validated method conducted under controlled and reproducible laboratory conditions. The water temperature requirement in 2.0 shall apply, with an exception for the products in the following sections: in 2.1.2 *motor vehicle cleaning products*, 2.1.6 for *dish cleaning products*, and 2.1.13

for *upholstery cleaning products* apply. Test methodology and results shall be documented in sufficient detail and provided to the certification program.

Final Text

2.2 *Alternative Performance Requirements. Alternatively, the product shall demonstrate that it performs equivalent to or better than a nationally recognized or market-leading product of its type, compared at the most dilute/least concentrated manufacturer-recommended dilution level for routine cleaning⁵, using an objective, scientifically-validated method conducted under controlled and reproducible laboratory conditions. The water temperature requirement in 2.0 shall apply, with an exception for the products in the following sections: in 2.1.2 *motor vehicle cleaning products*, 2.1.6 for *dish cleaning products*, and 2.1.13 for *upholstery cleaning products* apply. Test methodology and results shall be documented in sufficient detail and provided to the certification program.