

VACUUM CLEANERS

Covered Products:

Vacuum Cleaners are designed to be used on conventional household or commercial carpet styles. This specification is for commercial vacuum cleaners designed and tested for use on commercial carpet with a low pile measuring approximately a quarter inch or less.

Definitions

Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) – certifies vacuum cleaners under its Seal of Approval/Green Label (SOA/GL) Program. To be approved, vacuum cleaners must be tested by an independent laboratory to perform well at removing soil without releasing dust into the air or altering the texture of the carpet.

For additional information on this program, visit the Carpet and Rug Institute’s website at

<http://www.carpet-rug.org/commercial%2Dcustomers/cleaning%2Dand%2Dmaintenance/seal%2Dof%2Dapproval%2Dproducts/vacuums.cfm>

Specifications:

Routine, frequent vacuuming is the most effective means of keeping carpets clean. Vacuum cleaners should remove soil and dust from the carpet, should not affect the texture appearance of the carpet and should effectively contain the dust and soil removed from the carpet. Vacuum cleaners shall be rated for commercial use and certified by an independent laboratory to the CRI SOA/GL standard. More detail about the vacuum cleaner testing criteria can be found at:

<http://www.carpet-rug.org/commercial-customers/cleaning-and-maintenance/seal-of-approval-products/testing-criteria.cfm>

An Alternative Self-Attestation is offered for companies that do not have Carpet and Rug Institute’s certification for vacuum cleaners mentioned above, but can prove they meet their standards. In such cases, manufacturers must:

Complete and sign and send the affidavit to: New York State Office of General Services, Attn: Environmental Services Unit, Corning Tower, 39th Floor, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12242. This affidavit shall attest that the manufacturer’s cleaning product meets or exceeds the existing Carpet and Rug Institute’s Seal of Approval/Green Label (SOA/GL) standard, and the manufacturer has the necessary data to support such claim. A sample affidavit may be found at: https://greencleaning.ny.gov/PublicCommentDocs/AppendixI_092409.pdf

- Vacuum Cleaners meeting Carpet and Rug Institute Seal of Approval/Green Label (SOA/GL) criteria will be added to the OGS Approved Green Cleaning Products List under the self-attestation category.
- All commercial vacuum cleaners listed on the “approved green cleaning products” list at www.greencleaning.ny.gov meet the Carpet and Rug Institute’s Seal of Approval/Green Label (SOA/GL) standard, or have provided the requisite self-

attestation to OGS.

Encouragement for Affected Entities: CRI uses a gold, silver and bronze rating system for vacuums based on the vacuum cleaner's ability to remove soil and contain the dust. Gold-rated vacuums are encouraged because they produce the least amount of suspended particulates in the air, thus protecting the health of building occupants. Gold-rated vacuums are also more effective at removing soil and dust from carpets. Silver-rated vacuums are more effective at removing soil and dust from carpets than bronze-rated ones. However, both silver- and bronze-rated vacuums produce more than three times as much suspended particulates in the air as gold-rated vacuums.

Packaging:

In accordance with Environmental Conservation Law section 37-0205, packaging shall not contain inks, dyes, pigments, adhesives, stabilizers, or any other additives to which any lead, cadmium, mercury or hexavalent chromium has been included as an element during manufacture or distribution in such a way that the sum of the concentrations levels of such lead, cadmium, mercury or hexavalent chromium exceed the following concentration level: 100 parts per million by weight (0.01%).

All bidders are encouraged to offer packaging which minimizes or eliminates the use of disposable containers; is made from recycled content; contains a minimum of 25% by weight of post consumer materials; and/or meets or exceeds the minimum post consumer content level for packaging in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines.