GreenNY Specification: Binders

Last updated: May 28, 2025 [FOR TENTATIVE APPROVAL]

Specifications

Covered Products

- Three-ring view binders
- Three-ring non-view binders
- Three-ring flexible plastic binders

Exclusions

- Folders (e.g., classification folders, pocket folders)
- Padfolios and portfolios
- Report covers

Minimum Requirements

Products MUST have the following sustainability attributes:

- Labeled "PVC-free" or the cover is listed as a material other than PVC or vinyl
- Not labeled "antimicrobial" nor claim to kill bacteria, viruses, or other pathogens

Additional Desirable Attributes

Products are ENCOURAGED to have one or more of the following sustainability attributes:

- Plastic-free (e.g., paperboard), preferably with post-consumer recycled content (PCRC) and/or total recycled content (TRC)
- If the binder contains a chipboard insert:
    - 75% PCRC or higher
    - 100% TRC
    - Certified by Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)
- Made by a Certified B Corp
- Made in the USA

Product Compliance with NY State Sustainability Policies

Products meeting these GreenNY specifications comply with the following NY state sustainability policies:

DRAFT

- Executive Order 22: Leading by Example: Directing State Agencies to Adopt a Sustainability and Decarbonization Program
- Pollution Prevention Policy

Resources

- GreenNY Sustainable Purchasing Definitions
- NY State Sustainability Policies
- GreenNY Sustainability Certifications and Standards

Sample Contract Language

To support compliance with NYS policies and GreenNY procurement requirements, contract managers are encouraged to incorporate the GreenNY Sample Contract Language into bid solicitations and contracts. The GreenNY sample contract language covers the following topics:

- GreenNY Sales Reporting
- Packaging Language
- Product Labeling per GreenNY Specifications
- Takeback Services
- Verification of Vendor Compliance with GreenNY Requirements and Documentation of Desirable Attributes and Other Environmental Claims

DRAFT

Definitions

- **Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)** – A type of plastic (also called "vinyl" or #3 plastic) made up of vinyl chloride molecules linked together. Vinyl chloride is classified as a reasonably anticipated human carcinogen by the National Toxicology Program (NTP). Additives commonly found in PVC include, but are not limited to, plasticizers (e.g., phthalates) and heavy metals (e.g., lead, cadmium). PVC is commonly found in packaging, carpeting and flooring, building materials, medical equipment, office supplies, food service ware, and more.
- **Post-Consumer Recycled Content (PCRC)** – A material that has served its intended use and has been collected in a municipal or commercial recycling program and incorporated into new materials or products. PCRC does not include pre-consumer recycled content (also referred to as post-industrial recycled content), which is material diverted from the waste stream during the manufacturing process.

- **Total Recycled Content (TRC)** – The sum of post-consumer and pre-consumer recycled content.

Approved:

DRAFT