

6 Renewable Energy Use

6.1 Characterization of Energy

Required for Basic, Silver, Gold, and Platinum certification levels.

Applicant shall supply data describing the amount of energy (both quantity and quality) for product manufacture/assembly.

6.2 Strategy Developed to Use Renewable Energy

Required for Silver, Gold, and Platinum certification levels.

The ultimate goal of Cradle to Cradle® Design is to have all energy inputs come from what we term “current solar income”. Forms of current solar income include geothermal, wind, biomass, hydro (in certain circumstances – to be determined on a case-by- case basis) and, of course, photovoltaic. Once the manufacturing/assembly energy has been quantified in 6.1 above, applicant shall present a strategy to supply that energy via current solar income. The strategy should contain a timeline as well as measurable goals and milestones.

6.3 Use of Renewable Energy for Manufacture

Required for Gold and Platinum certification levels.

Applicant shall demonstrate the strategy developed in 6.2 has been implemented. Fifty (50) percent of the energy required for manufacture/final assembly of the product must come from current solar income.

For the purposes of this certification program, final manufacture/assembly is defined as the assembly of homogeneous materials or assemblies into the finished product. This occurs at the client’s facility or at a contract facility and is typically the last step before the product is sold to the customer. While the exact definition of “final manufacture/assembly” may vary from industry to industry, the idea is to have a consistent definition across each specific industry to “level the playing field” for those manufacturers that have different levels of vertical integration.

This may be accomplished through the active use of energy sources derived from current solar income (as listed above) or through the purchase of Green-e certified renewable energy certificates to offset the energy used to manufacture/assemble the product. Examples of organizations offering Green-e certified renewable energy certificates include: Native Energy, Sterling Planet, Wind Current, Bonneville Environmental Foundation, 3 Phases Energy Services, Community Energy, Renewable Choice Energy, and EAD Environmental.

Note: Only Green-e certified (or equivalent in other countries) renewable energy certificates will be accepted.

6.4 Use of Renewable Energy for Entire Product

Required for Platinum certification level only.

Applicant shall demonstrate that at least fifty (50) percent of the energy required to manufacture the entire product (i.e. total energy footprint of the product, not including transportation) comes from current solar income. This includes not only the energy used to manufacture/assemble the final product, but the energy used to manufacture the components as well. In addition, the energy required for final manufacture/assembly must come entirely from current solar income.

Once again this is accomplished through the supply chain's active use of renewable energy, the supply chain's purchase of renewable energy credits, or through the purchase of renewable energy credits by the final manufacturer/assembler equal to fifty (50) percent of the total energy used to produce the components.