memo

Date: December 2017
Subject: Contribution of MOSO bamboo products to
             Green Star South Africa certification

To whom it may concern:

In common with other leading green building certification systems worldwide such as BREEAM and LEED, the South African Green Star – design and as-built certification system assesses the sustainability and environmental performance of the design and construction of buildings across South Africa. It provides a rigorous and holistic rating across ten impact categories: management, indoor environment quality, energy, transport, water, materials, land use and ecology, emissions, innovation and socio-economic.

The table below provides an overview of which MOSO bamboo products contribute to a higher overall rating for a Green Star SA rated building. For more detailed background information and testing reports please contact us at contact@moso-bamboo.co.za.

Green Star attribute/aspect	Credits	Applicable MOSO product groups	Rationale / evidence
FSC certification	Office v1.1 MAT-8 Sustainable Timber Interiors v1 MAT-2, MAT-3, MAT-4, MAT-5 (depending on what application the bamboo is used for)	MOSO flooring MOSO outdoor (decking & cladding) MOSO panels & beams	FSC chain of custody certificate MOSO International (CU-COC-810267), available on request
ISO 14001 certified production facility	Interiors v1 MAT-2, MAT-3, MAT-4, MAT-5 (depending on what application the bamboo is used for)	MOSO flooring MOSO outdoor (decking & cladding) MOSO panels & beams	ISO 14001 certificate of the production facility (available on request)
Take back program MOSO Africa	Interiors v1 MAT-2, MAT-3, MAT-4, MAT-5 (depending on what application the bamboo is used for)	MOSO flooring MOSO outdoor (decking & cladding) MOSO panels & beams	Take back declaration MOSO Africa (available on request)
Formaldehyde Minimisation	Office v1.1 IEQ-14 Formaldehyde Minimisation; Interiors v1 IEQ-6 Reduced exposure to pollutants	MOSO flooring MOSO panels & beams	Formaldehyde emission tests (EN 717-1) by Bremer Umwelt Institut (Germany), available on request
Urban heat island		MOSO outdoor decking	Solar Reflectance Index (SRI) testing following ASTM E1980, reveals an SR value of 0.32 which also meets the LEEDv4 Heat Island Reduction credit. Report available on request.
Third party Green Star SA approved certification	Interiors v1 MAT-2, MAT-3, MAT-4, MAT-5 (depending on what product application the bamboo is supplied as)	MOSO Bamboo Forest flooring	Nordic Ecolabel license no 2029 0014 (valid until 31 December 2019), certificate available on request.

Please note that besides the ecological benefits taken into account in the Green Star SA certification, MOSO bamboo products hold many other environmental certifications and assessments (LCA – ISO 14040, EPD - EN 15804, VOCs – ISO 16000-9 at E1 and even E0 level, etc) which are not currently recognised in Green Star SA, but are valued in other leading green building systems such as LEED, BREEAM, HQE. Further should be noted that the rapid renewable character of the giant bamboo is not taken into account in Green Star. MOSO bamboo products are made from 4 - 5 year old giant bamboo stems sustainably harvested every year based on an annual thinning scheme; therefore by default there is no deforestation. This is a huge difference with traditional hardwood timber species which may take 50-80 years to be ready for harvest, which is also why these species are susceptible for clear-cutting and resulting deforestation.

For more information please refer to:
- Certifications: https://www.moso.eu/en/bamboo/certifications
- Sustainability: https://www.moso.eu/en/bamboo/sustainable-choice
- LCA / EPD: https://www.moso.eu/en/bamboo/moso-bamboo-lca-and-epd