
Step by Step to Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Certification

Would you like to have a product Cradle to Cradle Certified™ by EPEA? Then the following steps show you how it works.

- ✓ Download the current information and data forms (Applicant Data Form, Banned List Declaration) from our website.

Please clarify directly with EPEA which data forms you need in addition. General Information about the Cradle to Cradle Certified™ -Certification Program can be obtained from the website of the Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute (<http://c2ccertified.org>). The Institute is a certifying independent institution and as such responsible for the Audits of all Cradle to Cradle Certified™ -Certifications as well as the organization of the Cradle to Cradle Certified™ program according to the valid Standard worldwide.

Cradle to Cradle Certified™ is a certification mark licensed by the Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute

- ✓ Talk to EPEA about the procedure. To start the cooperation, you will need to sign a secrecy agreement and a contract with EPEA and a Certification order.
- ✓ Fill out the data forms (available from EPEA) and send them to EPEA.
- ✓ If you have suppliers, please forward the „BoM-Details“ („Bill of Materials“) to them. EPEA can support you in the communication with your suppliers.

If your supplier regards the data of their product as confidential they can deliver them directly to EPEA after signing a Non-Disclosure-Agreement. This is a standard procedure at EPEA and is utilized frequently („know-how-trustee“-Model).

- ✓ EPEA compiles your data for the „Assessment Summary Report“ which is sent later in the process to the C2CPII as a basis for a certification decision according to the Cradle to Cradle Certified™ -Certification criteria. Included in this is an assessment of all materials used down to the level of chemicals as well as an evaluation of the production process according to the Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Product Standard.
- ✓ If your product contains ingredients assessed as „X“ (recommendation „phase out“) in the particular use scenario, you will be informed in order to discuss further actions for optimization. A Certification is basically still possible as long as these substances are not included in the „Banned List“. Even so the customer has to develop a plan which describes in which way the product will be optimized.
- ✓ EPEA usually visits your company („site visit“) in order to get an impression of the main manufacturing step of the production and to answer your questions.
- ✓ EPEA develops now an Assessment Summary Report and suggests an achieved level (Basic, Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platin) for the Certificate.
- ✓ The data and the summary are forwarded to C2C PII for auditing (confidential data will be made anonymous).

- ✓ C2CPII carries out the audit. In cooperation with EPEA the Certification level is determined and the Certificate is submitted. The product is listed on the C2CPII website.

You will receive two invoices: one from EPEA for conducting the procedure, another from C2CPII for carrying out the Audit. Furthermore the C2CPII invoices 500€ yearly as license fees. The fee schedule of C2CPII is publicly available on their website.

- ✓ You sign a License Agreement with C2CPII (Trademark Licence) which allows use of the logo. This agreement will be sent to you by C2CPII. It is recommended to negotiate and to sign it early in the certification process.
- ✓ You receive the Certificate (online from C2CPII, on request also in paper form), the summary and the Certification logo.
- ✓ The certificate is valid for two years. Afterwards it is time for Re-Certification.

The Basic level is consciously planned as a lower-level entrance to Cradle to Cradle Certified™ - Certification which requires on the other hand an upgrade to a higher level after two years. Otherwise the product will be listed out.

- ✓ Before Re-Certification you receive a reminder from C2CPII. Please note that for Re-Certification optimizations are required not only regarding the product itself but also in the criteria Energy and Carbon Management, Social Fairness and Water-Management.

Even if the composition of the product is optimized there are mostly potentials for optimization in the other criteria according to continuous improvement.



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