

Asbestos and the WELL Building Standard

At GECA, we are committed to certifying products that support safe and healthy environments. As such, we unequivocally prohibit using asbestos in any product certified under the GECA ecolabel.

Asbestos is a known hazardous substance linked to severe health impacts, including asbestosis, lung cancer, and mesothelioma. In recognition of these risks, the use, reuse, or sale of all forms of asbestos has been <u>comprehensively prohibited</u> in Australia since 31 December 2003 under the <u>Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011 (Cth)</u> and corresponding state and territory legislation.

GECA's Position Statement

GECA aligns with these national regulations by enforcing a zero-tolerance approach to asbestos. As part of our rigorous certification process, all products are assessed under GECA's **hazardous substances criteria**. This includes verification that no asbestos is present. No exemptions or thresholds are permitted in GECA standards under any circumstances.

This means that every product certified by GECA automatically satisfies the intent of <u>WELL Building Standard Feature X01, Part 1 (Prohibition of Asbestos)</u>, which mandates the exclusion of asbestos in building materials. **WELL X01 is part of the Materials concept under WELL v2**, which seeks to reduce human exposure to hazardous building materials, chemicals or ingredients. GECA certified products thus provide project teams with a clear, credible pathway to demonstrate compliance with this WELL requirement.

GECA helps empower healthier spaces across residential, commercial, industrial and institutional settings by requiring full material transparency and prohibiting all asbestos content. Our position is simple, clear, and non-negotiable: **no product containing asbestos can or will ever be eligible for GECA certification**.

Contact us

If you have any questions, you can reach us via info@geca.org.au or **+61 2 9699 2850** for further information on how we can help.