

CertainTeed  
*Sustainability Features*

Fence, Railing and Decking



**CertainTeed**  
SAINT-GOBAIN

# Is it greener on the *other side* of the fence?



CertainTeed offers a comprehensive line of sustainably designed fence, railing and decking that stands out from the competition. Available in an industry-leading array of styles, colors and textures, CertainTeed products let you create beautiful outdoor spaces that are friendly to the environment.

## Smart and Sustainable Solutions

CertainTeed products combine a timeless look with superior durability and long-lasting performance. Our fence products contain recycled content and help conserve resources with low environmental impact. Studies show that some CertainTeed PVC fence styles can reduce noise pollution<sup>1</sup>.

## Recycled PVC Is Greener than Virgin PVC

CertainTeed fence is manufactured of PVC, or polyvinyl chloride, a thermoplastic resin combined with micro-ingredients that gives PVC fence a distinctive look and **high durability**. CertainTeed vinyl fence has a minimum 30-year life span. PVC is **low maintenance**, particularly when compared to other materials such as wood. **No painting or staining is required!**

CertainTeed is proud to offer products with recycled PVC content. By incorporating recycled PVC into our products, less nonrenewable

fossil resources are extracted from the earth. The embodied energy and carbon footprint of recycled PVC (obtained from a specific recycled PVC supplier<sup>2</sup>) is also significantly less compared to virgin PVC resin (National Renewable Energy Laboratory<sup>3</sup>). The chart to the right shows a 97% and 95% decrease in the embodied energy and carbon footprint, respectively. (Note: This represents just the raw material, not the actual products.) **The recycled material content does not impact product quality or durability.**

CertainTeed strives to continue increasing the amount of recycled content in our products. By using recycled PVC while maintaining the same durability and quality characteristics through CertainTeed's co-extrusion manufacturing process, CertainTeed fence products are **less impactful on our environment and more sustainable** compared to virgin PVC fence. The recycled content of our fence and railing is verified by GreenCircle Certified, LLC, which transparently shows CertainTeed's commitment to sustainable product development and material conservation. CertainTeed fence is a smart choice for the customer and the planet!

<sup>1</sup> ArchitecturalTesting. ASTM E 90 Sound Transmission Loss Test Report for CertainTeed Chesterfield Vinyl Privacy fence. September 2012.

<sup>2</sup> Confidential Supplier. Response from Data Questionnaire. April 2012.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Life Cycle Inventory Database. National Renewable Energy Laboratory. <http://www.lcacommons.gov/nrel/search>

## Benefits of CertainTeed Fence

- Exceptional durability for long-lasting performance
- Certain styles reduce noise pollution
- Contains recycled content while maintaining high quality
- No painting, staining or chemical treatment required



## Recyclable Products Protect Natural Resources

CertainTeed fence is designed to last for many years and is backed by a strong warranty. Fence dealers can recycle any installation scrap or, if replacing another PVC fence, the old PVC fence can be recycled in certain areas of the United States. CertainTeed's PVC decking and railing products and Panorama® composite railing can also be recycled. Recycling CertainTeed products conserves precious resources.

## Sustainably Made in the USA

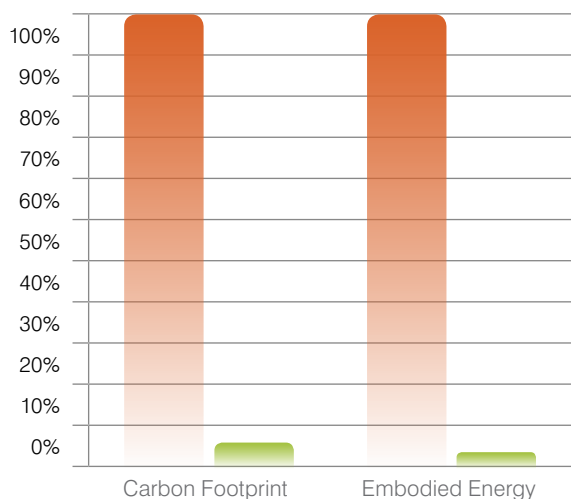
CertainTeed vinyl fence, railing and decking products are manufactured in Buffalo, NY, at a facility committed to sustainability. This commitment is shown through their **ISO 14001 certification** for implementation of an environmental management system. The Buffalo facility is **built on a brownfield site** and **uses 100% hydropower**. A closed loop water system at the plant **saves more than 372 million gallons of water per year**. The water that is used is self-contained and not released into the environment. Buffalo also has a recycling program that **diverted more than a million pounds of waste from landfills**.

## Easy Installation and Care

CertainTeed products are easier to install than other materials. CertainTeed fence is sold in pre-cut assemblies in 6' or 8' lengths instead of lineals that require field cutting, which saves time and money. Our low-maintenance fence, railing and decking needs just a periodic cleaning with soap and water to keep it looking great. No chemical treatment or painting is ever needed.

### RECYCLED PVC IS GREENER THAN VIRGIN PVC

	Virgin PVC	Recycled PVC
Carbon Footprint (kg CO <sub>2</sub> /kg)	2.2	0.1
Embodied Energy (megajoules/kg)	49	1.5



The **carbon footprint** is a measure of the total amount of greenhouse gases that are directly or indirectly emitted over the life cycle of the product.

The **embodied energy** is the amount of primary energy consumed over the life cycle of the product.

## Environmentally Responsible Manufacturing Facility

- Located in Buffalo, NY
- Built on a brownfield site
- Uses 100% hydropower
- ISO 14001 certified
- Closed loop water system saves more than 372 million gallons of water per year
- Extensive recycling program diverted more than one million pounds of waste from landfills



# Green Building Attributes

Green building rating systems, such as LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and the NGBS (National Green Building Standard), are used by builders all over the world. Green buildings use more sustainable materials during construction and use less energy and water during operation. By the year 2016, 55% of all commercial

buildings and 38% of all residential buildings in the U.S. are expected to conform to green building standards<sup>4</sup>. The following tables illustrate how CertainTeed products contribute to earning points in LEED and NGBS (applies to all CertainTeed fence, railing and vinyl decking products unless otherwise noted).

## LEED-NC, LEED-CS, LEED FOR SCHOOLS, LEED FOR HEALTHCARE & LEED FOR RETAIL

CREDITS	DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE POINTS				
		NC	CS	Schools	HC	Retail
<b>Materials &amp; Resources</b>		<b>version 2009</b>				
MR 3	Sustainably Sourced Materials and Products	NA	NA	NA	1-4	NA
MR 4	Recycled Content	1-2	1-2	1-2	NA	1-2
<b>Materials &amp; Resources</b>		<b>version 4</b>				
MR 3 Option 2	Building Product Disclosure and Optimization — Sourcing of Raw Materials	2	2	2	2	2

## LEED-H

LEED H (2009 and v4), LEED for Canada: Homes 2009

CREDITS	DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE POINTS
<b>version 2009</b>		
<b>Materials &amp; Resources</b>		
MR 2.2	Environmentally Preferable Products – Materials (Vinyl Decking only)	0.5
MR 2.2	Environmentally Preferable Products – Local (Panorama Composite Railing only)	0.5
<b>version 4</b>		
<b>Materials &amp; Resources</b>		
MR 3	Environmentally Preferable Products (Panorama Composite Railing only)	1-4

<sup>4</sup> McGraw-Hill. 2013 Dodge Construction Green Outlook. November 2012.

## NGBS (2012)

National Green Building Standard, 2012

CREDITS	DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE POINTS
<b>Resource Efficiency</b>		
601.7	Site-Applied Finishing Materials (Panorama Composite Railing only)	2-5
602.1.6	Termite-Resistant Materials	2-5
604.1	Recycled Content (Panorama Composite Railing only*)	1-3
606.3	Manufacturing Energy	2
611.1	Manufacturer's Environmental Management System Concepts*	1-10

\*Qualifying CertainTeed products have been Green Certified by the Home Innovation Research Labs to automatically earn points for this particular credit. The certificate numbers for fence, railing and decking products are: Vinyl Railing & Deck: #00069; Panorama Composite Railing: #00218.

Visit our online Architect Binder at <http://www.certainteed.com/architectbinder> — a one-stop destination designed to simplify the specification process.

## Our Commitment to Sustainability

CertainTeed Corporation and our parent company, Saint-Gobain, are committed to sustainability in our products and our operations. Our sustainable development process considers the environmental impact at every stage of a product's life — from design and manufacturing to delivery and end-of-life disposal.

For the third straight year, Saint-Gobain received the ENERGY STAR® Sustained Excellence Award—the highest level of recognition from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency — for the company's innovations in sustainable operations and manufacturing.



### ASK ABOUT ALL OF OUR OTHER CERTAINTEED® PRODUCTS AND SYSTEMS:

ROOFING • SIDING • TRIM • DECKING • RAILING • FENCE  
GYPSUM • CEILINGS • INSULATION

[www.certainteed.com](http://www.certainteed.com) <http://blog.certainteed.com>

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