

## HEALTH PRODUCT DECLARATION GUIDE

# Stego<sup>®</sup> Wrap -Material Ingredient Disclosure and Healthier Buildings



The industry's first and only below-slab vapor barrier HPD that directly contributes to LEED



### What is an HPD?

A Health Product Declaration (HPD) provides building product manufacturers a standard way to report material ingredient content and potential associated health hazards. Likewise, it provides building designers, owners, and construction firms a consistent template, which is helpful when reviewing products' health impact information. As such, HPDs have become one of the most utilized industry-established reporting tools for ingredient disclosure of building materials. This transparent sharing of information is important for the industry as it allows for better informed product decisions to be made with the goal of creating healthier buildings.

#### What has Stego Done?

Stego Industries was an HPD Pilot Manufacturer and worked closely with the Health Product Declaration Collaborative (HPDC) during the development of the HPD Open Standard. We subsequently became one of the first manufacturers in the industry to publish an HPD and have continued our support as a Member of the HPDC. Although there are a number of material content disclosure options for manufacturers, we gravitated to the HPD as an easy-to-use, reliable, and consistent reporting tool.



Stego Industries is also a member and signatory of the Living Product 50, a collaboration of industry-leading manufacturers working to continue driving towards ingredient transparency and high performing building materials for healthier buildings.

#### The Stego Wrap HPD Evolution

The original Stego Wrap HPD was based on SDS information, which was not in line with the higher-level of ingredient and health disclosure expectations indicated by the industry. Through continued work with our upstream suppliers, we have been able to refine the chemical inventory level for all Stego Wraps to the minimum 0.1% (1,000 ppm) threshold demanded by many in the industry and outlined in project certifications, like LEED and the WELL Building Standard.

#### How Did We Get There?

To get to the level of ingredient disclosure we have striven for (1,000 ppm), it took some diligent work between our Technical and Sustainability teams and our upstream suppliers. This involved navigating trade secret and proprietary information concerns, as well as introducing suppliers to the importance of ingredient disclosure/health hazard reporting for our industry. In the end, the process for gathering information down our supply chain was invaluable. It allowed us to learn more about our products and strengthen relationships with some suppliers.

At minimum, we feel these efforts reinforce Stego's core values by demonstrating a commitment towards innovation, education, and improving lives.

#### What Does the Stego Wrap HPD Really Say?

An initial review of the Stego Wrap HPD may raise some common questions: Why are the ingredients "undisclosed"? Does this really tell me the ingredients in Stego Wrap? The simple answer is that the Stego Wrap HPD does not disclose proprietary ingredients. This is a benefit of the HPD reporting tool that many manufactures appreciate: the ability to disclose health information without compromising valuable trade secrets critical to the performance and/or differenti-ating characteristics of the product. In other words, the HPD allows us to not give away the secret sauce. The important thing here, however, is although the exact ingredients may not be reported, the associated health hazards of those ingredients are disclosed and reported. Ultimately, this is the information project teams want to know.



#### Is Stego Wrap Safe? Does it Help Make our Buildings Healthier?

Yes! An important element of the HPD is a hazard screening of the substances in a product and a listing of any potential health hazards. It's a valuable tool we have used to help formulate the following important conclusions:



Stego Wrap contains no intentional ingredients with known human health hazards.



Stego Wrap is an inert, safe product that will not pose a health hazard risk to building occupants or construction workers.



The Stego Wrap system plays a critical role in the overall durability, efficiency, health, and other sustainability goals of buildings.

The sub-slab environment can be a significant source of soil gases, including water vapor and radon gas. The ingress of these gases can lead to concerns with indoor air quality, damage/replacement of building materials (i.e. flooring and concrete), as well as considerations with energy efficiency. Stego Wrap is the industry's most trusted below-slab vapor barrier solution, providing Life of the Building™ protection from water vapor diffusion.

#### How Can Project Teams Use the Stego Wrap HPD?

The Stego Wrap HPD provides a useful tool for project teams to identify Stego Wrap as a safe product for their buildings. Beyond that, the Stego Wrap HPD allows for a direct contribution to the LEEDv4 and v4.1 credit for material ingredient disclosure (<u>MRc: Building Product Disclosure</u> and Optimization - Materials Ingredients). In fact, Stego Wrap is the first and only below-slab vapor barrier that provides a direct contribution to this LEED credit.



Moreover, the Stego Wrap HPD may also contribute to the Material Transparency credit in the WELL Building Standard. The Stego Wrap HPD may also be useful as supplementary documentation for Living Building Challenge project requirements for Red List Free materials.

Stego Wrap is the **first and only** below-slab vapor barrier that provides a direct contribution to this LEED credit.

#### What About Stego Wrap Accessories (i.e. Stego® Tape, Stego® Mastic, etc.)?

All Stego accessory products also have published HPDs. With that said, these accessory products do not currently report ingredient disclosure down to 1,000 ppm. We are working with our upstream suppliers of these products as well. As the main component to the below-slab vapor barrier system, we aimed to update our HPD for Stego Wrap first.





#### What else are we doing?

The work does not stop, however, with our products. Stego intends to "walk the walk" in our industry and in our business activities with a variety of corporate sustainability efforts:

- 100% solar power since 2010, producing roughly 288 megawatt-hours of clean solar electricity in just the past seven years
  - Offsetting company air travel with the purchase of carbon offsets
  - Serving as a pilot manufacturer in the Health Product Declaration Collaborative since its inception, contributing to the open standard with the goal of material transparency
- Providing our employees a vehicle purchase incentive to upgrade their work-use vehicles to more efficient choices
- A dedicated Wellness Program to ensure employees, families, and community are living happy, healthy, and fulfilled lives

Stego HPDs are available on the Stego website. More information can also be found on Mindful Materials, HPD Repository, and Sustainable Minds Transparency Catalog.





For information about Stego Wrap, the most widely-specified below-slab vapor barrier in North America, talk to a Stego Representative. This game-changing barrier brings not only an unmatched track record of proven performance but also an express warranty in support of your building - The Stego Life of the Building™ Warranty. **(877) 464-7834** | www.stegoindustries.com



#### GAME-CHANGING BARRIER SOLUTIONS

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