



# bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites

## ANNEX: Rating of production sites

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# 1 Background

Responsible management of resources with the focus on preservation of human health and a clean environment shall be the goal for all bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERS.

The bluesign® rating of production sites evaluates and scores the performance level of SYSTEM PARTNERS by allocating them to one of four performance levels. The bluesign® rating shall support adequate priority setting and shall motivate to further minimize environmental impact, improve Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and consumer safety, and increase resource productivity.

The objectives of the bluesign® rating are to:

- Enable SYSTEM PARTNERS to monitor their performance level
- Highlight performance potentials and determine areas for priority setting
- Guide weaker bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERS to a higher performance level
- Support bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERS in drawing up a continual improvement program and assist them in setting proactive goals
- Give recognition to progressive and aspirational bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERS
- Enable progressive and aspirational bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERS to show their success

The document at hand is to be seen in the context of the *bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites* as well as the *Annex - Exclusion criteria* and the *bluesign® glossary*.

## 2 Definitions

For a comprehensive list of terms and abbreviations, please refer to the document *bluesign® glossary*.

## 3 Assessed areas

Six main areas and several sub-areas relating to environmental, Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S), consumer safety and resource aspects are considered to determine the performance of the bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERS. In the following, the assessed areas and important sub-areas for chemical suppliers and manufacturers are listed.

All parameters which are relevant for the rating of a production site are defined in the background papers *Rating matrix for manufacturer* and *Rating matrix for chemical supplier*.

### 3.1 Chemical supplier

- Management system
  - Legal compliance management
  - Management system (quality, environment, OH&S)
  - Housekeeping
- Product Stewardship
  - Input stream management
  - Hazard communication
  - Toll manufacturing
  - Rebranding
  - Finished product
- Resources
  - Management of resources
  - Monitoring of resource consumption

- Equipment and processes
- Renewable energy

- Environment

- Wastewater emissions
- Air emissions
- Environmental noise
- Waste management
- Emissions to soil and groundwater

- Occupational Health & Safety and Emergency Preparedness

- OH&S management
- OH&S training
- Workplace atmosphere
- Workplace noise
- Emergency preparedness
- Safety management

- Share of manufactured bluesign® APPROVED chemical products

### 3.2 Manufacturer

- Management system

- Legal compliance management
- Management system (quality, environment, OH&S)
- Housekeeping

- Input stream management

- Management of raw materials and intermediates
- Supplier evaluation
- Input testing
- Chemicals management
- Share of manufactured bluesign® APPROVED materials

- Resources

- Management of resources
- Monitoring of resource consumption
- Equipment and processes
- Renewable energy
- Resource consumption key figures (applies only to textile manufacturing)

- Environment

- Wastewater emissions
- Air emissions
- Environmental noise
- Waste management
- Emissions to soil and groundwater

- Occupational Health & Safety and Emergency Preparedness

- OH&S management
- OH&S training

- Workplace atmosphere
  - Workplace noise
  - Emergency preparedness
  - Safety management
- Usage share of bluesign® APPROVED chemicals

## 4 Performance levels

The bluesign® rating system consists of following performance levels.

### Level 1: FOUNDATIONAL

This is the entry level for bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP. The company shows clear potential for enhancement, has competency, human, financial and technical resources, and is eager to realize improvements.

### Level 2: DEVELOPING

While further improvements are still possible, the company has already achieved success in optimizing environmental and OH&S performance by single actions. Enhancing performance to reach the next level needs a conceptual approach and planning.

### Level 3: PROGRESSIVE

The company has reached an above-average level. It acts proactively and is anticipating changes rather than simply reacting to legal or stakeholders' requirements. Nevertheless, there is potential for further improvements.

### Level 4: ASPIRATIONAL

To achieve the highest level of performance, a company has continually planned for and worked on reducing its impacts, including beyond the company's boundaries, together with other stakeholders from the value chain.

If one or more main areas fall below the foundational level, a critical underperformance is present and bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is affected.

## 5 Scoring

Depending on the level of performance, between 1 and 4 points can be assigned to each of the lowest sub-areas. Only integer points are assigned. Zero points can be assigned to those sub-areas for which foundational requirements have not been met, i.e. underperformance has been identified. Based on the sub-area scoring, an average score is calculated for every higher sub-area and finally for the main areas of assessment.

To obtain a total performance score, a weighted average is calculated based on the following weighting factors:

	Management	Product Stewardship	Input stream management	Resources	Environment	OH&S + Emergency Preparedness	Share of APPROVED chemicals
Chemical supplier	20	20	-	10	20	20	10
Manufacturer	15	-	15	20	15	15	20

Table 5.1: Weighing of main areas for total score (% share)  
 Share of bluesign® APPROVED chemicals:  
 Chemical supplier: manufactured bluesign® APPROVED chemicals  
 Textile manufacturer: usage share of bluesign® APPROVED chemicals

Scoring calculated for the main areas and the total performance score are translated into the performance levels as follows:

- 0.5 – 1.4 points is level 1: Foundational
- 1.5 – 2.4 points is level 2: Developing
- 2.5 – 3.4 points is level 3: Progressive
- 3.5 – 4.0 points is level 4: Aspirational

If one or more main areas fall below 0.5 points, a critical underperformance is present and SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is affected.

Each system partner should reach the Developing level at the time of the first company (re-)assessment.

Calculation of scores considers whether one or more (sub)areas are not applicable.

In the initial assessment, the share of manufactured bluesign® APPROVED chemicals/materials is not considered for the total performance evaluation.

## 6 Procedure

### 6.1 General

- Rating is performed for all companies with production sites; garment manufacturers/assemblers are excluded.
- The rating result always refers to a single production site.
- Special rating criteria are defined for brands.
- Rating will be performed on the date of the initial assessment of the production site (initial rating) and on the date of each re-assessment.

### 6.2 Dissemination of rating results

- The rating results will be provided with the company assessment report.
- The assessed company receives an overview of the rating results, which include the scores for the sub-areas, main areas and the total performance score.
- BLUESIGN shares the rating results only with the respective company. Each individual company can decide whether or not to communicate their results externally.

## 7 Validity

This document comes into effect from 2020-03. It replaces the *bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites – Annex Rating of production sites* version 1.0.

For all companies that signed an agreement for an assessment or for a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP before 2020-03, the adapted and newly introduced requirements are binding after a transition period of one year from the date of release.

This document is subject to revisions. Details on the revision procedure for regular and unscheduled revisions are compiled in the *bluesign® SYSTEM* document.

## 8 Other applicable documents

The following documents complement the document at hand:

- *bluesign® SYSTEM*
- *bluesign® glossary*
- *bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites*
- *bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites – ANNEX: Exclusion criteria*

Current versions are available for download at [www.bluesign.com/criteria](http://www.bluesign.com/criteria).

### Disclaimer

This document is a publication of bluesign technologies ag. It compiles requirements and guidelines for bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERS on a particular subject or subjects and may not be an exhaustive treatment of such subject(s). Contents are not intended as a statement of legal requirements or as legal advice. This document is provided “as is”. bluesign technologies ag expressly disclaims all implied warranties including, without limitation, warranties of merchantability, title, fitness for a particular purpose, non-infringement, security and accuracy.