

Interstyle Products and LEED

Potential Credits for New Construction & Major Renovations

What is LEED?

LEED is an internationally recognized green building certification system, providing third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance across all the metrics that matter most: energy savings, water efficiency, CO2 emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts.

Developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), LEED provides building owners and operators a concise framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions.

The LEED 2009 Green Building Rating System for New Construction and Major Renovations is a set of performance standards for certifying the design and construction of commercial or institutional buildings and high-rise residential buildings of all sizes, both public and private. The intent is to promote healthful, durable, affordable, and environmentally sound practices in building design and construction.

Prerequisites and credits in the LEED 2009 New Construction and Major Renovations include:

- Sustainable Sites (SS)
- Energy Efficiency (WE)
- Energy and Atmosphere (EA)
- Materials and Resources (MR)
- Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ)
- Innovation in Design (ID)
- Regional Priority (RP)

LEED Credit Potential Using *Interstyle Ceramic & Glass* Products

Materials and Resources MR 4.1 Recycled Materials 10%
Materials and Resources MR 4.2 Recycled Materials 20%

1 Point
2 Points

Use materials with recycled content such that the sum of post-consumer recycled content plus ½ of the pre-consumer content constitutes at least 10% or 20%, based on cost, of the total value of the materials in the project.

Interstyle manufactures eight glass tile product lines and two glass surfacing materials, which incorporate significant recycled glass content.

Materials and Resources MR 5.1 Regional Materials 10%
Materials and Resources MR 5.2 Regional Materials 20%

1 Point
2 Points

Use building materials or products that have been extracted, harvested or recovered, as well as manufactured, within 500 miles of the project site for a minimum of 10% or 20% based on cost, of the total materials value. If only a fraction of a product or material is extracted, harvested, or recovered and manufactured locally, then only that percentage (by weight) can contribute to the regional value.

Interstyle glass tiles and glass surfaces are manufactured in Burnaby BC, while Earthenglass tile is manufactured in Blaine WA. For projects reaching points as far as Prince George BC, Calgary AB, Missoula MT, Washington State and Oregon LEED points can be obtained as they are within a 500 mile radius of the factory.

Innovation in Design Process ID 1-1.4 Innovation in Design

1-4 Points

Innovation credits can be awarded for exceptional performance and innovation above the requirements set by LEED.

Interstyle frequently collaborates with designers to create custom product designs while implementing cutting edge technology.

A potential innovation credit may be available for including *Interstyle's* products that improve sustainability due to long lifetime, durability and low maintenance requirements.

Potential LEED Credits for *Interstyle* Products

Interstyle Product	% Recycled Content	LEED Credit Potential	Credit Points
Agates glass tile	100% pre consumer recycled glass	MR 4.1 or MR 4.2	1-2 points
		MR 5.1 or MR 5.2	1-2 points
Aquarius glass tile	80% pre consumer recycled glass	MR 4.1 or MR 4.2	1-2 points
		MR 5.1 or MR 5.2	1-2 points
River Crystals glass tile	100% pre consumer recycled glass	MR 4.1 or MR 4.2	1-2 points
		MR 5.1 or MR 5.2	1-2 points
Icestix glass tile	60-100% recycled scrap glass	MR 4.1 or MR 4.2	1-2 points
		MR 5.1 or MR 5.2	1-2 points
Dewdrops glass tile	60-100% recycled scrap glass	MR 4.1 or MR 4.2	1-2 points
		MR 5.1 or MR 5.2	1-2 points
Glassblends glass tile	60-100% recycled scrap glass	MR 4.1 or MR 4.2	1-2 points
		MR 5.1 or MR 5.2	1-2 points
Cobbletones glass tile	60-100% recycled scrap glass	MR 4.1 or MR 4.2	1-2 points
		MR 5.1 or MR 5.2	1-2 points
Earthenglass glass & clay ceramic tile	50% post consumer recycled glass	MR 4.1 or MR 4.2	1-2 points
		MR 5.1 or MR 5.2	1-2 points
Crush glass surfaces	100% pre consumer recycled glass	MR 4.1 or MR 4.2	1-2 points
		MR 5.1 or MR 5.2	1-2 points
Ribbon glass surfaces	30% pre consumer recycled glass	MR 4.1 or MR 4.2	1-2 points
		MR 5.1 or MR 5.2	1-2 points

Interstyle's Environmental Initiatives

Glass Tile was first introduced as a means of recycling freight damaged glass. When first developed by *Interstyle* 25 years ago, it was never imagined that a new segment of the tile industry would be created. Glass tile has grown to become an internationally significant wall and floor finish material, the popularity of which continues to increase at an unprecedented rate.

Commitment to a Healthy Environment

Interstyle has taken significant actions to minimize the effects of our production on the environment. Each stage of our processing has been reviewed to determine that waste is minimized, that any reusable materials are recycled and that energy conservation measures are in place.

Some examples of the environmental procedures that are in place are;

- using packaging materials that contain a high percentage of recycled content,
- packaging of incoming materials such as cardboard and paper is completely recycled,
- using heat from kiln exhaust for drying of bisque and coatings,
- recycling wash water from the glazing production line in a closed loop water system.
- rain water harvesting for all industrial purposes

Leadership by example:

- In 2002 *Interstyle* moved to a facility located with a short walking distance to mass transit and convenient bike routes.
- *Interstyle's* 85,000 square foot facility located in Burnaby was slated for demolition when it was purchased in 2002. *Interstyle* then set out to work with Burnaby City Hall to retain the industrial zoning and rehabilitated the structure and improved services to increase energy efficiency and improved life and safety systems for its workers. Such as:
 - The roof system was replaced with a white membrane to reduce urban heat gain.
 - Installation of opening skylights improves air quality and cut down lighting requirements.
 - Factory lights have been replaced with the most energy efficient system available and provided task lights whenever possible.

While many manufacturers have moved offshore in order to take advantage of reduced labor costs and a lower regulatory burden, *Interstyle* remains committed to manufacturing all of its products in North America and providing its employees with decent wages and an excellent working environment.

Interstyle strongly believes that any of its operations that impact on the environment should be critically reviewed and improved regularly. *Interstyle* remains committed to finding better ways to innovate, manufacture, recycle and reduce its energy requirements while keeping a watchful eye on the future instead of taking in any short term gains.