

Commended: More than 30 Building Products Receive Cradle to Cradle Certificates

Over 30 Cradle to Cradle (C2C) certificates have been awarded to building product manufacturers at BAU 2019, the world's leading trade fair for architecture, materials and systems. The commended products include partition systems, glass partition walls, floor coverings, insulation profiles and ceiling systems. They comply with the current C2C standard issued by the Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute and are therefore sustainable and recyclable. The C2C assessors from EPEA – Part of Drees & Sommer – were available to advise the manufacturers throughout the product optimization and certification process. The certificates were presented in Munich on January 15.

The Cradle to Cradle concept, or C2C, stands for the use of nutrients instead of the production of waste, in other words genuine recycling of raw materials. Applied to the construction industry, C2C means that the materials which are integrated into buildings are processed and bonded in such a way that they retain their quality as building materials, and that at the end of their life cycle they can again be used as raw materials for new products. The building materials in the products used must be free from pollutants and without any hazard to health.

Dr. Peter Mösle, a partner of Drees & Sommer SE and manager of EPEA GmbH – Part of Drees & Sommer, says: 'The number of building products which comply with the C2C principle is constantly growing. This shows that manufacturers are paying greater attention to the recyclability, innovative character and sustainability of their building products. For the construction and property industry, this means that Cradle to Cradle is no longer a niche topic, it is now a concept which is fully established in the industry.'

The recipients of new C2C certificates include building product manufacturers such as Strähle Raum-Systeme GmbH, Lindner Group, Technoform Bautech Kunststoffprodukte GmbH, Odenwald Faserplattenwerk GmbH, Tarkett Holding GmbH, Eisinger GmbH, Schüco International KG and Vicona GmbH. To ensure that the products comply with the C2C principle, they were analyzed, evaluated and optimized according to their toxicological properties and recyclability. In addition, records were also presented to show their energy balance, water quantity and quality and their compliance with social criteria during the production process. These tasks were carried out by the Cradle to Cradle auditors of EPEA – Part of Drees & Sommer.

Further information about Cradle to Cradle can be found under: <https://www.dreso.com/de/c2c/>



Picture caption: Tarkett was awarded a total of 25 C2C certificates for its building products. From left to right: Professor Michael Braungart (EPEA GmbH), Maria von Wirth (KOOB Agentur für Public Relations GmbH), Dr. Peter Möhle (Drees & Sommer), Ann-Christine Ayed (Tarkett Holding GmbH), Tilo Höbel (Tarkett Holding GmbH). © Drees & Sommer

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EPEA: Cradle to Cradle, the Engine of the Circular Economy

EPEA GmbH – Part of Drees & Sommer is an international research and consultancy institute for environmentally-friendly products, processes and buildings. Its 35 employees work with experts and legal entities in industry, science and the public sector to advise on solutions for the circular economy. They apply knowledge from the fields of chemistry, biology and environmental science to develop or optimize products of all kinds with a view to materials healthiness and recyclability. They also develop concepts as to how material cycles in production processes, buildings or cities can be closed.

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teams to provide support for clients from a wide variety of sectors. All the services provided by the partner-run company take into consideration both economic and ecological concerns. Drees & Sommer calls this holistic and sustainable approach 'the blue way'.

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