



Grenite and LEED certification.

Grenite applauds all efforts to enhance the quality of today's environment and reclaim tomorrow. The U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED®) program is often at the forefront of a project, defining the standard for environmental excellence. In answer to the often asked question "How does Grenite contribute to LEED certification?", we offer the following explanation.

What is LEED® ?

"LEED® " stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. The LEED rating system is a program that was developed by the U.S. Green Building Council to define a set of national standards for sustainable building design. LEED is a voluntary, performance-oriented system which takes a holistic view of a particular project. To quantify the achievements made in a particular project, points and credits are awarded for specific building features or design choices that satisfy the various criteria encompassed by the LEED rating system.

Is there just one LEED® Standard?

No. There are now several different LEED standards that cover different types or phases of construction. The majority of projects using Grenite® products are covered by LEED-NC, the LEED standard for new commercial construction and major renovation projects.

How are LEED® points and credits earned?

The LEED-NC rating system is organized as a set of 34 credits and 7 prerequisites, together worth a total of 69 points. In order to earn the points associated with a credit, the project must meet (and document that it meets) all of the credit requirements.

Are there different levels of LEED® certification?

Yes. Depending on the number of points achieved, a building can attain Platinum (52–69 points), Gold (39–51 points), Silver (33–38 points) or LEED certified (26–32 points) status.

Are Grenite products LEED® certified?

No. The intent of the LEED standard is to provide design guidelines and a third-party certification tool for green building. Products cannot be LEED certified; only buildings can be. However, proper use of Grenite products can positively contribute to a project's overall LEED score.

Can Granite products help a project earn LEED® points and credits?

Yes. While points or credits are not awarded specifically for using a particular product, many Granite products offer features that can be factored into a project's point and credit calculations. Such calculations can be based on recycled content or other qualities that relate to the criteria encompassed by the LEED rating system. Granite-R contains a higher recycled content than most competing materials, making it the product of choice in solid surface applications.

TO WHICH LEED® CREDITS ARE GRANITE PRODUCTS APPLICABLE?

Materials & Resources - Credit 4.1 & 4.2: Recycled Content

The intent of this credit is to increase demand for building products that incorporate recycled content materials, thereby reducing impacts resulting from extraction and processing of virgin materials.

Materials & Resources - Credit 5.1 & 5.2: Regional Materials

The intent of this credit is to increase demand for building materials and products that are extracted and manufactured within the region, thereby supporting the use of indigenous resources and reducing the environmental impacts resulting from transportation.

Indoor Environmental Quality - Credit EQ 4: Low emitting VOC

The intent of this guideline is to reduce the quantity of indoor air contaminant's that are odorous, irritating and/or harmful to the comfort and well-being of installers and occupants. Granite itself emits no VOC's. Installation of Granite can occur in many ways, including physical methods that also emit no VOC's. Should adhesive adherence become the installation solution, Granite can be used with specific low-VOC or no-VOC adhesives.

Please notify your Granite representative when using Granite to help achieve LEED certification. The products will then be supplied with ISO 14021 type labels.