

# Green PRODUCTS “reducing risk”



## To learn more on the practice of architecture in California visit:

- [https://www.cab.ca.gov/docs/reports/occupational\\_analysis\\_of\\_the\\_architect\\_profession\\_2014.pdf](https://www.cab.ca.gov/docs/reports/occupational_analysis_of_the_architect_profession_2014.pdf).

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is taken from “*Sustainable  
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## GREEN PRACTICE RISK MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Stay up-to-date with green legislation and changes in standards or codes:
  - 2019 California Green Building Standards Code, Title 24, Part 11 - <https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/CAGBSC2019>.
2. Know what the current standard of care is for your profession. Standard of care is the level of skill and care employed by architects practicing in the same or similar circumstances, project types, and geographical area.
  - AIA Understanding the Standard of Care: <https://www.aia.org/articles/146491-the-standard-of-care-should-i-care>.
3. Read the AIA code of ethics. If a dispute arises, the applicable code of ethics will be used to establish a professional duty: <https://www.aia.org/pages/3296-code-of-ethics-and-professional-conduct>.
4. Be familiar with the major green rating systems. This is a good resource: <https://www.wbdg.org/resources/green-building-standards-and-certification-systems>.
5. Be careful that advertising and marketing staff are not overselling design professional and firm experience with green design.
6. Understand the Owner's green expectations early in the process. If their expectations are high or unattainable, explain the green process with them and discuss realistic outcomes. If the client expects specific results or 100% perfection in design, carefully consider whether to accept the project.
7. Examine whether the design contract requires green design services. If you do not plan to offer green services eliminate those provisions.
  - AIA Contracts for projects sustainable projects:
    - AIA B132-2009 SP - Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect, for use on a Sustainable Project, Construction Manager as Adviser Edition
    - AIA B214-2012 - Standard Form of Architect' Services: LEED® Certification.
  - Other AIA contracts may contain services related to sustainability: <https://www.aiacontracts.org/contract-doc-pages/71171-b-series-ownerarchitect-agreements>
8. Do not promise, warrant or guarantee specific design results such as specific certification or third-party approval, waste reduction, decreased energy use, or anything else beyond your control.
9. Document communications with the client about green design services and options.
10. Do not include in your contracts or in your documentation unproven or experimental products.
11. When meeting with product representatives, ask for green documentation; when researching on-line, if documentation is not published, call and ask for it.