



December 11, 2012

RE: HKS's Building Material Disclosure Initiatives

Dear Product Manufacturer:

HKS is dedicated to making environmentally informed decisions regarding architectural building products used in our designs. When selecting these products, it is key to have access to transparent data regarding chemical content and health considerations. Product specification and selection is a complex process, and we occasionally find it advisable to research the chemical content, life cycle, performance and maintenance issues, as well as costs. Therefore, one of HKS's initiatives is to evaluate the chemical content of architectural products, furnishings and equipment. We look to you for your assistance in our efforts.

One tool HKS uses to gather knowledge about the chemical content of building materials is the Pharos Project<sup>1</sup>. Your company already may participate in the Pharos Project. If not, we encourage you to engage in this initiative so that, as partners in the building industry, together we can deliver healthier buildings to owners and end users. Manufacturers that provide full, transparent disclosure of their product content are the most helpful to our designers.

A second, newer industry initiative is the Health Product Declaration Collaborative<sup>TM2</sup>. This initiative asks building material manufacturers to adopt the Health Product Declaration (HPD) as a voluntary, open standard for reporting product content and health information so that similar products can be compared in a straightforward manner. We request that your company provide HKS with an HPD for your primary products.

As we continue to integrate the information gained from these building industry initiatives into our daily practice, we are committed to creating environments that truly enhance the human experience and preserve the health of building occupants.

Contact Nancy Hulseley (nhulseley@hksinc.com) if you have questions. We thank you in advance for taking these steps.

Sincerely,

B. Kirk Teske, AIA, LEED AP BD+C  
Principal | Chief Sustainability Officer

Dan H. Noble, FAIA, FACHA, LEED AP  
Executive Vice President | Director of Design

<sup>1</sup> [Pharos](#) is a project of the [Healthy Building Network](#).

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.hpdcollaborative.org/> The Health Product Declaration<sup>TM</sup> and logo is owned by the Health Product Declaration Collaborative<sup>TM</sup> and is used with permission.