

The Committee for Health-related Evaluation of Building Products (AgBB)

Structures and tasks

Who we are

The Committee for Health-related Evaluation of Building Products (AgBB) was established in 1997 by decisions of the Conference of Ministers of Health (GMK) and the Conference of Ministers of Construction (BMK). It is a committee of the States' Working Group on Environment-Related Health Protection (LAUG) of the Permanent Working Group of the Highest State Health Authorities (AOLG). AgBB is supported by committees of the Conference of Ministers of Construction (ARGEBAU).

Besides the State Health Authorities, the German Environment Agency (UBA), the German Institute for Building Technology (DIBt), ARGEBAU, the Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing (BAM) and the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) are also represented in AgBB.

The AgBB secretariat is located at the German Environment Agency.

What we do

AgBB creates the fundamentals for developing building regulations for protection against indoor health risks that may arise when building products are used. The committee provides this in the form of uniform and transparent evaluation criteria and standards for building products.

This fulfills, on the one hand, the requirements specified in the building regulations of the German Federal States and the European Construction Products Regulation and, on the other hand enables a comprehensible and objective product evaluation.

As technical Federal-States-Committee, AgBB develops and publishes the "Requirements for the indoor air quality in buildings: Health-related evaluation procedure for emissions of volatile organic compounds (VVOC, VOC and SVOC) from building products" (short AgBB evaluation scheme).

Since 2004, the AgBB evaluation scheme has been the basis for the health-related assessment of building products emissions in the approval process of the DIBt.

The AgBB evaluation scheme is the essential basis of the "Health protection requirements for physical structures (ABG)", that have been part of the Model Administrative Provisions - Technical Building Rules (MVV TB) since 2017. MVV TB is the basis for the technical building regulations enacted in the respective States' law.

The AgBB evaluation scheme is continuously developed on the basis of new findings from research and science and through professional exchange with all parties involved.

AgBB actively supports efforts to harmonise the health assessment of emissions from building products in Europe.