



June 18, 2026

TO: All CARE California Registered Manufacturers

RE: Approved Back Stamping Protocol

Dear California Program Manufacturers,

CARE is writing to share an important update regarding efforts of the Back Stamping Task Force (BSTF). The BSTF was a joint effort between CARE and the Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI). The result is the official back stamping protocol (attached) which is now approved as a universal set of specifications that are intended to apply across California, New York, and any future states that adopt similar requirements. Some manufacturers are currently back stamping their own information and may choose to continue, the CARE/CRI protocol must be followed in a clearly delineated field.

The current effective date for implementation in California is January 1, 2027. A detailed record of existing inventory prior to January 1, 2027 should be maintained. Implementation of this protocol prior to January 1 may help eliminate the potential for confusion. Be advised, CalRecycle will likely initiate field testing, and a transition period is being discussed to take into account existing inventory.

We recommend that you begin reviewing the approved specifications and plan accordingly to support a smooth transition.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss implementation considerations, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your continued collaboration and support.

Sincerely,

Robert Peoples

Robert Peoples, Ph.D.
CEO & Executive Director, CARE

bpeoples@carpetrecovery.org