

# Sustainable Acquisition Success Story

## Product Spotlight on Office of Scientific and Technical Information

### OSTI Installs Ceiling Tile and Grid with Recycled and Biobased Content

The Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) installed a new ceiling grid and tiles with recycled and biobased content. In an effort to purchase more sustainable products and reduce their environmental footprint, the facility support staff decided to replace their discolored and damaged ceiling tiles with new tiles that are GreenGuard certified for low emissions, contain 25% recycled and 89% biobased content, and are reasonably priced. These tiles are USG Radar ceiling tiles and installation is the same as other ceiling systems, which allows for a smooth transition. Through the purchase of these new tiles, OSTI has also identified a potential way to recycle old ceiling tiles in the future.

In addition to the ceiling tiles, OSTI procured a new ceiling grid (framework that holds the ceiling tiles in place). The grid has greater than 50% total recycled content. With cross-tee ends that resist twisting, the grid offers a professional and clean appearance.

OSTI puts considerable effort into maintaining and modernizing the site, which results in a safe and aesthetic work environment. Like all DOE sites, OSTI is faced with the ongoing challenge of maintaining and improving the site, meeting Sustainable Acquisition requirements, and working to contain costs. Purchasing the new ceiling tiles has allowed OSTI to achieve those goals. OSTI will continue to review all purchase requests for the potential to replace standard materials with sustainable materials.

### Keys to Success



#### Challenges

Need to replace ceiling tiles with discolored, damaged, and mismatched ceiling tiles.

#### Solution

OSTI replaced traditional ceiling tiles and grid with a product that contains both recycled as well as biobased content.

#### Results/Benefits

- Healthier work environment by using non-toxic materials.
- Higher employee satisfaction with well-maintained surroundings.
- Met recycled and biobased content legal requirements
- Complied with OSTI sustainable procurement policy.
- Developed a system for recycling old ceiling tile
- Cost effective

# Product Spotlight

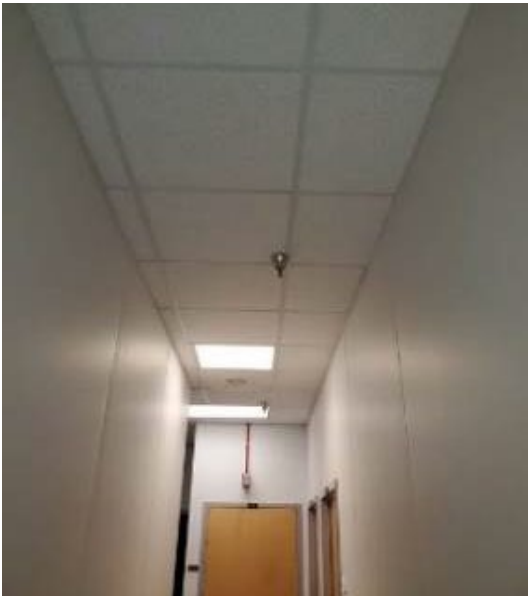
**Product Type:** Acoustical Ceiling Tile and Grid

**Sustainable Attributes:** *Tile:* 25% recycled content; certified 89% biobased content; ULE 2818 GREENGUARD Gold. *Grid:* >50% recycled content

**Cost per Unit/Unit Type:**  
Panels: \$2.56 each  
Grids: 12 ft sections - 8.16 each  
4 ft sections - \$2.64 each  
2 ft sections - \$1.32 each  
12 ft wall mount - \$5.16 each

**Brand/Model Number:** USG Radar Basic Panel #2110

**Manufacturer:** USG



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