

Eco Mark Product Category No.121

“Returnable Containers and Packaging Materials

Version2.0”

Certification Criteria

—Applicable Scope—

- A. Glass bottles, glass containers, and packaging materials
- B. Plastic containers and packaging materials
- C. Paper containers and packaging materials
- D. Wood or bamboo containers and packaging materials
- E. Metal containers and packaging materials
- F. Pottery and earthenware containers
- G. Fiber packaging materials
- H. Other containers and packaging materials

Established: July 1, 2007 (scheduled)

Term of validity: June 30, 2012

Japan Environment Association

Eco Mark Office

Eco Mark Product Category No.121 “Returnable Containers and Packaging Materials Version2.0” Certification Criteria

Category A Glass bottles, glass containers, and packaging materials

Japan Environment Association
Eco Mark Office

1. Applicable Scope

- Glass bottles
- Glass bottles and packaging materials,
that use glass not less than 70% in weight to the whole product as a major material

2. Certification Criteria and Certification Procedure

To show conformance to the individual criteria, the Applicant shall submit the respective Attached Certificate forms duly filled in.

In the event re-examination under the present Certification Criteria is sought for a product that is already certified in the Product Category 121 “Returnable Containers and Packaging Materials Version 1,” the certifications procedures 4-1. (2), (3), (5) and (8) may be substituted by filling in necessary items on the Attached Certificate form and declaring further therein that no alternations have been made to the product already certified.

2-1. Environmental Criteria and Certification Procedure

- (1) An average product shall be repeatedly used at least five times.

[Certification Procedure] * Certifier: Applicant

The Applicant shall submit a document indicating that the actual average number of recycling uses of a product is five times or more (for new products, the data for comparable products may be submitted instead).

(2) The product shall be designed so as to be used repeatedly.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant or a third party body

The Applicant shall submit a certificate by a third party or company design documents describing:

1. Strength
2. Cleaning characteristics
3. Label's adhesive or removable characteristics (for those products requiring attachment or removal of a label after each reuse)

(3) A product collecting (recycling) system shall be established, and this fact shall be made known by marking or information disclosure.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant

The Applicant shall submit the following:

1. A document describing a system or a product collecting route to make a product returnable
2. A document or photos illustrating a container (if any) in which products are put for transportation
3. Marking or information disclosure stating that a product is reusable

(4) Laws and regulations related to discharge of air and water pollutants, noise, odor, waste treatment, and emission of harmful substances as well as agreements on pollution prevention shall be followed during manufacturing.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: final product manufacturer

The Applicant shall submit a certificate that a manufacturer complied with relevant local environmental laws and regulations for five years at the time of application.

(5) Of printing ink used on a product (product labels, etc.), substances restricted by the Japan Printing Ink Maker's Association's "Self-imposed Controls on Printing Ink for Food Packaging Materials (Negative List Control)" shall not be added as components.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant

The Applicant shall state in the Attached Certificate that the product complies with Negative List regulations.

(6) The product whose content is food, cosmetic containers, or medical related products shall meet the requirement of harmful substances in the Food Sanitation Law (December 24, 1947, Law No. 233).

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Third party testing body, Applicant or manufacturer
The Applicant shall submit test results to certifying that the products do not contain the corresponding harmful substances.

(7) Additives, such as coloring agents, used in the product shall not contain cadmium, lead, mercury, hexavalent chromium, arsenic, selenium or their compounds as formulation ingredients. Provided, however, additives, such as decolorizing agents, used in colorless glass bottles or in colorless lightweight glass bottles shall not contain cadmium, lead, mercury, hexavalent chromium, arsenic or their compounds as formulation ingredients.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant (Applicant and manufacturer if the product is a glass bottle of other color or a lightweight glass bottle of other color.)
Use or non-use of the aforesaid substances shall be stated in the attachment. With respect to glass bottles of other colors and lightweight glass bottles of other colors, furthermore, the composition data or Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) issued by the manufacturer of the additives (such as coloring agents) shall be submitted in addition.

(8) The amount of the material, such as throw-away attachments, of products which is discarded during distribution or after use shall be smaller than or equal to that of comparable one-way containers and packaging materials (this requirement does not apply to the coating (e.g., full-shrink) to protect glass surfaces). However, this requirement does not apply if there are no one-way containers or packaging materials to be compared with.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant
A document prepared by the applicant shall be submitted that explains the generation of label, cap and other wastes during the phases of distribution, use and consumption is less than or equivalent to that generated by comparable one-way containers or packaging materials.

(9) Any plastic material that may be used for the product shall not contain any halogens in its polymer skeleton as formulation ingredients. If any such plastic is used, 70% or more of it shall be material-recycled.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant

The following shall be stated in the attachment:

1. Use or non-use of plastic materials in the product
2. In the event of affirmative answer to 1 above, addition or non-addition of halogens in the polymer skeleton of the plastic materials used in the product
3. If the answer to 2 above is affirmative, a document assuring proper material recycling after disposal shall be submitted. The Secretariat reserves the right to collect reports on the recycling ratio (or conduct an audit) after conclusion of the license agreement, and the applicant hereby agrees to cooperate for these purposes.

(10) In the event the applicant is a “specified business entity” under the Containers and Packaging Recycling Law and the product for which application is made is subject to the recycling obligation, the certification for voluntary recycling shall have been obtained (recycling ratio approximately 90%). If no certification has been obtained, the recycling fee shall have been duly paid.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant

In the event the applicant is a “specified business entity” under the Containers and Packaging Recycling Law and the product for which application is made is subject to the recycling obligation, the attachment shall state that the certification for voluntary recycling shall have been obtained. If no certification has been obtained, a document evidencing due payment of the recycling fee shall be submitted.

2-2. Quality Criteria and Certification Procedure

(11) The quality of the product shall conform to the applicable JIS standards, voluntary standards of the industry or in-house standards.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant

Documents prepared by the applicant that prove conformance to the applicable JIS standards, voluntary standards of the industry or in-house standards shall be submitted.

Established (scheduled) (Version 2.0): July 1, 2007

Validity Period: June 30, 2012

The Certification Criteria for the Product Category will be revised when necessary.