

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 B Plastic containers and packaging materials

Japan Environment Association
Eco Mark Office

1. Applicable Scope

- Plastic containers and packaging materials,
that use plastic 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 (no version),” the certifications procedures 4-1. (2), (3), (5)-(8) and (13) 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, emission of harmful substances, and industrial hygiene safety 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 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. However, this requirement does not apply to the cases that neither comparable one-way containers nor packaging materials are available.

[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.

(7) Packaging material shall not use the specific chlorofluorocarbons (five CFCs), other CFCs, carbon tetrachloride, trichloroethane, and CFC substitutes (HCFCs) during product manufacturing.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Manufacturing process manufacturer

Conformance to this criterion shall be stated in the attachment. In addition, certification issued by the authorized representative or plant general manager of the manufacturer of the plastic material used in the product or of the business establishment that assembles the product shall be submitted.

(8) With respect to products which are intended as containers for food, cosmetics, medicine-related products and the like and for which plastic materials are used, the plasticizers, colorants, stabilizers, lubricants and other plastics additives shall conform to the positive list of the Japan Hygienic Olefin and Styrene Plastics Association. In case of using the plastic additives which are not listed in the positive list for the products which are not intended as containers for food, cosmetics, medicine-related products and the like, the plastic additives shall meet the requirements of harmful substances described in ISO 8124-3 (Corresponding standard: 88/378/EEC EN71 Part 3).

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Manufacturing process manufacturer or a third party body

Certification to indicate that products which are intended as containers for food, cosmetics, medicine-related products and the like and for which plastic materials are used, the plasticizers, colorants, stabilizers,

lubricants and other plastics additives shall conform to the positive list of the Japan Hygienic Olefin and Styrene Plastics Association shall be submitted.

In case of using the plastic additives which are not listed in the positive list for the products which are not intended as containers for food, cosmetics, medicine-related products and the like, test results to indicate that the plastic additives can meet the requirements of harmful substances described in ISO 8124-3 (Corresponding standard: 88/378/EEC EN71 Part 3) shall be submitted.

(9) Cadmium, lead, hexavalent chromium, mercury, or their compounds as formulation ingredients shall not be added.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant
 Certification to indicate not to add chemical substances as formulation ingredients during manufacturing process shall be submitted.

(10) With respect to products which are intended as containers for food, cosmetics, medicine-related products and the like shall not be added the substances classified as Groups 1, 2A and 2B by IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer) as formulation ingredients. However, it excludes the chemical substances to use for the purpose of making polymers by polymerization reaction (ex; polyvinyl monomer, styrene).

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant
 Fill in the attached certificate that if the applied product falls under this criteria item or not. In the case that the product falls under this criteria item, document certifying that the products do not contain chemical substances described in each criteria item as formulation ingredients during manufacturing process shall be submitted.

(11) Products which are intended as containers for food, cosmetics, medicine-related products and the like 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.

(12) The parts of different construction materials shall be separable at the time of disposal. Provided, however, this separation performance shall not be required if the product is made of FRP.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant

Documents explaining that the product can be separated into parts of different construction materials at the time of disposal shall be submitted.

(13) Products made of FRP, in case of failure, shall be repairable.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant

Documents indicating the address, repair methods and the capability of the facility shall be submitted.

(14) The product shall be marked to facilitate recycling. To indicate a type of polymers, a symbol of JIS K 6899-1 or ISO 1043-1 is used, and regarding to the indicating method, it shall follow the JIS K 6999. Though the above mentioned display method is basically followed, it is possible to substitute it by the display that is obligated by other laws, etc. In addition, for the product to use multiple types of polymers, the indication such as “R-PE, PP, PS” can be used. In case to use three or more types of polymers, indicate the top two polymers and the rest can be omitted.

[Certification Procedure] Applicant

Photographs and/or design drawings to show the contents and the labeled portion of indication shall be submitted.

(15) 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

Addition or non-addition of halogens in the polymer skeleton of the plastic materials used in the product shall be stated in the attachment.

If the material is used, 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.

(16) 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.