

## Eco Mark Product Category No. 129

“Recycled Soap Made from Cooking Oil, etc.

Version 1.8”

### Certification Criteria

**- Applicable Scope -**

Soap products based on the “Standard Commodity Classification for Japan” issued by the Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications. (Limited to those not containing any surface-activating agent other than pure soap constituents)

Established: July 1, 2004

Revised: February 1, 2023

Expiration date: June 30, 2030

Japan Environment Association

Eco Mark Office

NOTE: This document is a translation of the criteria written in Japanese. In the event of dispute, the original document should be taken as authoritative.

**Eco Mark Product Category No.129****“Recycled Soap Made from Cooking Oil, etc. Version 1.8” Certification Criteria**

Japan Environment Association  
Eco Mark Office

**1. Purpose of Establishing Criteria**

Used cooking oil after being used in households, etc. poses as a substance polluting water when disposed from the kitchen sink. Cooking oil can be disposed by processing using absorbents, etc., but there are also efforts led by civic groups, welfare organizations, etc. to recycle cooking oil into soap for such purposes as the prevention of water pollution, promotion of recycling, environment education, etc. In 1989, the Eco Mark Office established soap made by recycling used cooking oil as Product Category No. 11 “Recycled Soap Made of Cooking Oil” under the Eco Mark Program and has been promoting such efforts.

This time, in the overall assessment conducted based on the product life-cycle concept promoted since 1996, this product category was reviewed from the aspects of effective use of resources, prevention of water pollution, and chemical substances, etc., and soap recycled from used cooking oil was once again taken up as a product category of the program.

**2. Applicable Scope**

Soap products based on the “Standard Commodity Classification for Japan” issued by the Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications. (Limited to those not containing any surface-activating agent other than pure soap constituents)

**3. Terminology**

Recycling	Indicates material recycling. Does not include energy recovery (thermal recycling)
Used cooking oil	Cooking oil disposed after use as a product. This also includes used cooking oil refined and processed into fat acid.
Used soap	Solid soap offered as amenities and wasted as left-over soap in a hotel or Japanese inn. This also includes used soap

	refined and recycled to fat acid.
Plastic	Materials composed of single or multiple polymers and additives, fillers, etc, which provide specific characteristics.
Polymer	Macro molecules, serving as the main components of plastic.
Prescription constituents	Components intentionally added with the purpose of providing specific characteristics to the product. Impurities which are inevitably mixed during the manufacturing process are excluded.

#### 4. Certification Criteria and Certification Procedure

To show conformance to the individual criteria item, the respective Attached Certificates shall be submitted.

##### 4-1. Environmental Criteria and Certification Procedure

- (1) The product shall contain raw material fat into which used cooking oil (including used soap) is mixed at the ratio higher than those shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Mixing Ratio of Used Cooling Oil in Raw Material Fat

Soap Type	Ratio
Powder soap, solid soap	70%
Liquid soap	50%

##### [Certification Procedure]

A flow diagram showing collection of used cooling oil to production, raw material supply certificate issued by a raw material supplier (collector), and document certifying a mixing ratio of used cooking oil.

- (2) In manufacturing the applied product, related environmental laws and regulations and pollution control agreement (hereinafter referred to as the “Environmental Laws, etc.”) must be followed with respect to air pollution, water contamination, noise, offensive odor, and emission of hazardous substances in the area where the plant performing the final manufacturing process is located.

In addition, the state of compliance with the Environmental Laws, etc. for the

past five years from the date of application (whether there is any violation) must be reported. If there is any violation, proper remedies and preventive measures shall have been already taken, and the related Environmental Laws, etc. must thereafter be followed appropriately.

[Certification Procedure]

With respect to the compliance with the Environmental Laws, etc. in the area where the plant performing the final manufacturing process is located, a certificate issued by the representative of the business of manufacturing the applied product or the relevant plant manager (entry or attachment of a list of names of the Environmental Laws, etc.) must be submitted.

In addition, the applicants shall report whether there is any violation in the past five years, including a violation subject to administrative punishment or administrative guidance, and if there is, the following documents in a and b must be submitted:

- a. With respect to the fact of violation, guidance documents from administrative agencies (including order of correction and warning) and copies of written answers (including those reporting causes and results of correction) to such documents (clearly indicating a series of communication);
- b. Following materials (copies of recording documents, etc.) concerning the management system for compliance with the Environmental Laws, etc. in 1)-5):
  - 1) List of the Environmental Laws, etc. related to the area where the plant is located;
  - 2) Implementation system (organizational chart with roles, etc.);
  - 3) Bylaws stipulating retention of recording documents;
  - 4) Recurrence prevention measures (future preventive measures);
  - 5) State of implementation based on recurrence prevention measures (result of checking of the state of compliance, including the result of onsite inspection).

(3) Products shall be shipped in simple packaging at the retail stage.

If using plastic for packaging, material composition shall be labeled in accordance with ISO11469. Labeling of material composition can be omitted if complying with “Measures for Plain Container and Packaging”, “Measures for Container and Packaging Imposed with Physical Restrictions such as Insufficient Indication

Space”, “Labeling Requirements and Methods for Multi Container and Packaging”, “Measures for Packaging Printed with Corporate or Brand Names”, “Measures for Exported Products” related to the discriminating mark item in the “Container Packaging Identification Labeling Review Committee Report (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, July 2000).

[Certification Procedure]

The packaging state and material used at the retail stage of the product (percentage of recycled material used) and material composition labeling details shall be described specifically in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage (drawings and/or photographs may be used). If omitting material composition labeling, the reason shall be stated.

(4) Plastic materials used for packaging shall not use plastics containing halogens in the polymer backbone.

[Certification Procedure]

Whether plastics containing halogens in the polymer backbone for plastic materials used for packaging shall be stated in the Attached Certificates.

#### 4-2. Quality Criteria and Certification Procedure

(1) Products shall comply with corresponding standards of the JIS including JIS K 3301, JIS K 3302, and JIS K 3303. Quality control in the manufacturing shall also be adequately implemented.

[Certification Procedure]

Documents certifying conformity of products to corresponding quality standards shall be submitted. Certificates by the manager of the plant manufacturing the product shall be submitted to certify that quality control has been implemented adequately in the manufacturing stage, and that no laws have been violated. If the product under application or the plant manufacturing the product under application is JIS certified, a copy of the JIS certificate can be submitted as proof of conformity to the concerned criteria.

(2) Products shall observe the “Household Products Quality Labeling Law” and “Fair Competition Regulations Related to Labeling”. Body soap shall observe the “Act on Securing Quality, Efficacy and Safety of Products Including Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices (Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Act) ”.

[Certification Procedure]

Samples of labeling shall be submitted based on the “Household Products Quality Labeling Law” and “Fair Competition Regulations Related to Labeling”. A certificate to the effect that body soap observes the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Act shall be submitted.

## 5. Considerations

In the process of manufacturing products, it is desirable to consider the following, although they are not requirements for certification. The conformance to the individual criteria items shall be indicated in the Attached Certificate.

(1) The material of this simple packaging shall contain 70% or more used paper pulp if made of paper.

## 6. Product Classification, Indication and Others

(1) Product classification (application unit) shall be by brand name. Products shall not be classified by size or color.

(2) In principle, Eco Mark shown as below shall be indicated on the product. Regarding licensee of Eco Mark Utilization Contract who already own Eco Mark products, the indication of the logo and certification number that have been used is also acceptable.



(Note for the indication)

\*For indicating the logo, Eco Mark certification number (eight-digit number) or the name of the licensee using the logo shall be appeared.

\* Such expression as “Eco Mark product” can be used following the 2.(2) of the Guide to Eco Mark Usage.

“Eco Mark product”, “#Eco Mark”, “www.ecomark.jp”, “Eco Mark Certificate”

\* In accordance with “Environmental Labeling Guidelines” of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, etc., the environmental claims of certified products may

be indicated in association with Eco Mark.

(<https://www.env.go.jp/policy/hozen/green/ecolabel/guideline/>)

\* The Guide to Eco Mark Usage shall be followed for any cases not listed above.

(<https://www.ecomark.jp/office/guideline/guide/>)

Established: July 1, 2004 (Version 1.0)

Revised: October 19, 2006 (Version 1.1)

Revised: Feb. 14, 2008 (Version 1.2)

Revised: August 21, 2008 (Version 1.3)

Revised: March 1, 2011 (Version 1.4)

Revised: October 1, 2011 (Version 1.5)

Revised: November 1, 2011 (Version 1.6)

Revised: July 13, 2012 (Version 1.7)

Extension of Expiration date: February 1, 2014

Extension of Expiration date: January 7, 2019

Revised: April 1, 2019 (Eco Mark Indication)

Revised: February 1, 2023 (Version 1.8)

Extension of Expiration date: March 15, 2024

Expiration date: June 30, 2030

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