

Eco Mark Product Category No.140

**“Refill Containers and Resource Saving Containers  
Version 1.11”  
Certification Criteria**

—Applicable Scope—

- A. Refill Containers
- B. Resource Saving Containers (Edible Oil Containers)
- C. Container for Sterile-Packed Cooked Rice
- D. Lightweight PET Bottles (Container)
- E. PET Bottles (Containers) Using Reprocessed Materials in Kitchen Utensils and Containers/Packages
- F. PET bottles (containers) using plant-based plastics
- G. Plastic containers and packaging using recycled plastic
- H. Plastic containers and packaging using plant-based plastics

Established: July 2, 2007

Last revised: February 1, 2017

Expiration: June 30, 2022

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.140

### “Refill Containers and Resource Saving Containers Version 1.11” Certification Criteria

#### C. Container for Sterile-Packed Cooked Rice

Japan Environment Association  
Eco Mark Office

##### 1. Purpose of establishing criteria

Omitted

##### 2. Applicable Scope

Plastic containers and packages for sterile-packed cooked rice

##### 3. Terminology

Omitted

##### 4. Certification Criteria and Certification Procedures

With respect to Certification Procedures to criteria items, the Attached Certificates shall be submitted.

###### 4-1. Environmental Common Criteria and Certification Procedures

(1) In one packing unit (a packing unit capable of storing at normal temperature for a long period (around 6 months)), weight of a container/package for 100 g of cooked rice shall be 5.0 g or less.

[Certification Procedures]

The Attached Certificate shall contain the number of packed products A (meals), weight of cooked rice per meal: B (g), total weight of tray/lid/deoxidizer (If an outer bag is to function to maintain a storage period, total weight of tray/lid/deoxidizer/outer bag): C (g), and weight of one packing unit per 100g of cooked rice ( $C/B \times 100$ ).

(2) In the case of a product for multiple meals sold in an outer bag, weight of the outer bag for 100g of cooked rice shall be 1.0 g or less. Note, however, that this section shall

not apply to an outer bag contained in one packing unit.

[Certification Procedures]

The Attached Certificate shall contain the number of packed products: A (meals), weight of outer bag D (g), and weight of an outer bag for 100g of cooked rice (D/A)

(3) In manufacturing the applying 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 materials 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 last five years from the date of application (whether there is any violation) must be reported. If there is any violation, it is necessary that proper remedies and preventive measures 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 manufacturer of the applying product or the manager of the relevant plant (entry or attachment of the list of names of the Environmental Laws, etc.) must be submitted.

In addition, it is necessary to report whether there is any violation during the last 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 (making a series of progress clear);
- b. Following materials (copies of recording documents, and so on) 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 entry of roles, etc.);
  - 3) Document 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).

(4) Substances regulated by "Self-imposed Controls on Printing Ink (Negative List regulations) by the Japan Printing Ink Makers Association shall not be added in the printing ink used for the product (labels, etc.) as a prescribed constituent.

[Certification Procedures]

Compliance with the Negative List regulations shall be indicated in the Attached Certificate.

(5) Plastic materials to be used in the container shall not be added with plastics that contain halogen in polymer backbone as a prescribed constituent.

[Certification Procedures]

Whether any halogen element is added or not in polymer backbone shall be indicated in the Attached Certificate.

(6) Plastics additives such as the plasticizers, colorants, stabilizers, lubricants, etc. used in the plastic materials shall comply with the positive list of the Japan Hygienic Olefin and Styrene Plastics Association, etc.

[Certification Procedures]

A certificate to show that plastic additives such as the plasticizers, colorants, stabilizers, lubricants, etc. used in the plastic materials shall comply with the positive list of the Japan Hygienic Olefin and Styrene Plastics Association, etc., shall be submitted.

(7) If recycled plastic is used in food apparatus, the measures to ensure the safety based on "Guidelines on the use of recycled plastic in food apparatus and containers and packaging" of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Shokuan, 0427 No.2, April 27 2012), shall be taken.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant

The written document shall be submitted which shows the ensuring the safety based on "Guidelines on the use of recycled plastic in food apparatus and containers and packaging" of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Shokuan, 0427 No.2, April 27 2012).

(8) Adhesives to be used for the containers and packaging in one packaging unit shall comply with voluntary regulations on adhesives for food package materials, etc. by the Japan Adhesive Industry Association (NL regulations).

[Certification Procedures] Compliance with the Negative List regulations shall be

indicated in the Attached Certificate.

(9) The containers and packaging in one packaging unit shall meet the requirement of harmful substances described in “the Standards and Criteria for Foods, Food Additives, etc. (Ministry of Health and Welfare Notice No. 370, 1959)”.

[Certification Procedures]

The test results to certifying that the products do not contain the corresponding harmful substances shall be submitted.

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

(10) Quality of containers shall conform to the industrial voluntary standards or the manufacturer’s own standards.

[Certification Procedures]

A certificate to show the compliance with the appropriate standards shall be submitted.

#### 5. Considerations

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

- (1) Volume reduction of a tray for a container/package shall be possible at the time of disposal.
- (2) Plastic materials to be used in a container/package shall not be a disincentive for recycling after use.

#### 6. Product Classification, Indication and Others

Omitted.

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October 1, 2013	Addition of Category C, D and E (Version 1.7)
June 1, 2015	Revised (Category A-D) Version1.8
June 1, 2016	Addition of Category G and H (Version 1.9)
September 16, 2016	Addition of Category F (Version1.10)

February 1, 2017	Revised (Category D 4-1-1(1) and 5, Category E 5, and Category H 3: Version.11)
June 30,2022	Expiration

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