

Eco Mark Product Category No.121

“Returnable Containers / Packaging Materials Version2.4” Certification Criteria

Category G Fiber packaging materials

Japan Environment Association

Eco Mark Office

1. Purpose of Establishing Criteria

Omitted.

2. Applicable Scope

- Fiber packaging materials,
that use fiber not less than 70% in weight to the whole product as a major material

3. Terminology

Omitted.

4. 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)- (9) 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.

4-1. 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) 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] Certifier: Final product manufacturer

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).

(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 described in the Standards for Foods, Food Additives, etc. (Ministry of Health and Welfare Notice No. 370, 1959).

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Third party testing body, Applicant, manufacturer, etc.

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

(7) 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.

- (8) Various types of finishing to the product (fungicidal, fluorescent, softener, hygienic, product bleaching, flame retardant/resistant) shall be kept to the minimum required and maximum care shall be taken to prevent excess application of finishing. Use of finishing agents that are suspected of their safety to human health shall be refrained. Provided, the finishing of wool products by the use of dieldrin or DTTB shall conform to the provisions of Ordinance No.34 of the Ministry of Health and Welfare, in addition to the aforesaid general attention to finishing.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant and manufacturing process manufacturer

Finishing or non-finishing of the product shall be stated in the attachment. If any finishing is given, the identity of finishing agents, their dosage and other information shall be reported in accordance with the attachment. With respect to wool products, finishing or non-finishing by the use of dieldrin or DTTB shall be stated, and if affirmative, conformance to Ordinance No.34 of the Ministry of Health and Welfare shall be shown.

- (9) The amount of free formaldehyde shall be no more than 300 ppm by the test method prescribed in Ordinance No.34 of the Ministry of Health and Welfare. Provided this criterion shall not apply to products that are used outdoors only

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

Test results for every different fabric pursuant to Ordinance No.34 of the Ministry of Health and Welfare shall be submitted.

- (10) With respect to the colorants used in the product, no azo dyes that are likely to generate one or more of the amines listed in Table 1 through reduction decomposition of one or more of their azo radicals, no carcinogenic dyestuffs listed in Table 2, and no skin-sensitive dyestuffs listed in Table 3 shall have been added as formulation

ingredients. Except for wool fibers, no chromic dyestuffs shall have been added formulation ingredients.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Applicant and manufacturing process manufacturer

A certificate issued by the general manager of the dye-house for the product shall be submitted.

Table 1 Amines that should not be generated by reduction decomposition of azo radicals

		CAS No
1	4-amino diphenyl	92-67-1
2	Benzidine	92-87-5
3	4-chloro-o-toluidine	95-69-2
4	2-naphthyl amine	91-59-8
5	σ amino azo toluene	97-56-3
6	2-amino-4-nitrotoluene	99-55-8
7	<i>p</i> -chloroaniline	106-47-8
8	2,4-diamino anisole	615-05-4
9	4,4'-diamino diphenyl methane	101-77-9
10	3,3'-dichloro benzidine	91-94-1
11	3,3'-dimethoxy benzidine	119-90-4
12	3,3'-dimethyl benzidine	119-93-7
13	3,3'-dimethyl-4,4'-diamino diphenyl methane	838-88-0
14	<i>p</i> -cresidine	120-71-8
15	4,4'-methylene-bis-(2-chloroaniline)	101-14-4
16	4,4'-oxydianiline	101-80-4
17	4,4'-thiodianiline	139-65-1
18	σ toluidine	95-53-4
19	2,4-tolulene diamine	95-80-7
20	2,4,5-trimethylaniline	137-17-7
21	σ anisidine	90-04-0
22	4-aminoazobenzene	60-09-3

Table 2 Carcinogenic dyestuffs

CAS No.	Name	Color Index
569-61-9	C.I. BASIC RED 9	CI 42500

2475-45-8,	C.I. DISPERSE BLUE 1	CI 64500
3761-53-3	C.I. ACID RED 26	CI 16150
6459-94-5	C.I. ACID RED 114	CI 23635
2602-46-2	C.I. DIRECT BLUE 6	CI 22610
1937-37-7	C.I. DIRECT BLACK 38	CI 30235
573-58-0	C.I. DIRECT RED 28	CI 22120
	C.I. DISPERSE YELLOW 3	CI 11855

Table 3 Skin-sensitive dystuffs

CAS No.	Name	Color Index
2475-46-9	C.I. DISPERSE BLUE 3	CI 61505
12222-75-2	C.I. DISPERSE BLUE 35	
	C.I. DISPERSE BLUE 106	
	C.I. DISPERSE BLUE 124	
2832-40-8	C.I. DISPERSE YELLOW 3	CI 11855
730-40-5	C.I. DISPERSE ORANGE 3	CI 11005
	C.I. DISPERSE ORANGE 37	
2872-52-8	C.I. DISPERSE RED 1	CI 11110
2475-45-8	C.I. DISPERSE BLUE 1	CI 64500
3179-90-6	C.I. DISPERSE BLUE 7	CI 62500
3860-63-7	C.I. DISPERSE BLUE 26	CI 63305
	C.I. DISPERSE BLUE 102	
	C.I. DISPERSE ORANGE 1	CI 11080
	C.I. DISPERSE ORANGE 76	
2872-48-2	C.I. DISPERSE RED 11	CI 62015
	C.I. DISPERSE RED 17	CI 11210
119-15-3	C.I. DISPERSE YELLOW 1	CI 10345
	C.I. DISPERSE YELLOW 9	CI 10375
	C.I. DISPERSE YELLOW 39	
	C.I. DISPERSE YELLOW 49	

Reference: International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)

National Toxicity Program (NTP)

EU Directive 76/769/EC

EU Directive 2006/61/EC

Ecological and Toxicological Association of Dyes and Organic Pigments Manufacturers (ETAD)

Oeko-Tex Standard 100

(11) Each construction material shall be separable at the time of disposal.

Documents showing that each construction material is separable at the time of disposal shall be submitted.

(12) The product shall not use plastics containing halogens in its polymer backbone. 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, se or not of plastics containing halogens in its polymer backbone
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.

4-2. Quality Criteria and Certification Procedure

(13) The quality of the product shall conform to the following conditions (a) to (c). In case that the product functions as part of equipment such as a printer, the Applicant shall certify the fact that repeated use of the product would not disrupt its performance by the following conditions (a) to (c).

(a) For the product which is applicable to quality criteria such as JIS, it shall conform to the quality criteria.

(b) For the product which is not applicable to (a) on the above, it shall conform to the voluntary quality standards of the industry.

(c) For the product which is not applicable to (a) or (b) on the above, there shall be in-house quality standards for quality management.

[Certification Procedure] Certifier: Third party testing body or Applicant
 The Applicant shall submit test results regarding quality criteria of the product based on the applicable laws, JIS standards, voluntary standards, etc. or a copy of a certification issued by a JIS certified plant.

5. Product Classification, Indication and Others

- (1) Product shall be applied by a returnable business operator.
- (2) An application shall be made by applicable scope of this product category, by structured returnable system unit, or by brand name (including structured returnable system name). Classification by size or color is not performed.
- (3) In principle, the Eco Mark shall be indicated on the product, etc. The licensees of Eco Mark Utilization Contract who own the Eco Mark products shall also be allowed to use the indication and the certification number as before.



(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
[\(https://www.env.go.jp/policy/hozen/green/ecolabel/guideline/\)](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.
[\(https://www.ecomark.jp/office/guideline/guide/\)](https://www.ecomark.jp/office/guideline/guide/)

July 2, 2007:	Established (Version 2.0)
August 21, 2008:	Revised (4-1(4) Version2.1)
March 1,2011	Revised (5 Version2.2)
July 13,2012	Revised (5 Version2.3)
March 15, 2016	Extension of Expiration
April 1,2019	Revised (5. (3) Mark indication)
March 1, 2021	Extension of Expiration
February 1, 2023	Revised (4-1.(12), Version2.4)
June 30, 2027	Expiration date

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