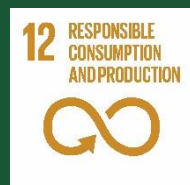


Core Sustainable Development Goals



Sanitary Paper Products

Standard No: SPPv3.0ii

Type 1 ecolabel standard in accordance with ISO 14024

Issued 20 Dec 2021 by GECA

(Good Environmental Choice Australia Ltd)



CONTENTS

DOCUMENT HISTORY	5
HOW TO APPLY FOR GECA CERTIFICATION	6
DEFINITIONS & ACRONYMS.....	7
ABOUT GECA	10
AN OVERVIEW OF GECA’S STANDARDS	11
STRUCTURE OF THE STANDARD	13
REQUESTING ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE.....	13
RELEVANCE WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	14
BACKGROUND	16
FIT FOR PURPOSE CRITERIA.....	17
1. STANDARD CATEGORY SCOPE	17
1.1 Scope Schedule	17
2. FITNESS FOR PURPOSE	18
2.1 Applicable Standards and Demonstrated Performance	18
2.2 Product Safety.....	18
HEALTH CRITERIA	20
3. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	20
3.1 Banned Substances	20
3.2 Alkylphenol Ethoxylates (APEOs)	22
3.3 Elemental Chlorine.....	22
3.4 Complexing Agents.....	22
3.5 Dyes, Inks, Pigments, Coatings, Foils, Laminates	22
3.6 Biocides.....	24
3.7 Surfactants, Washing and Cleaning Agents and Foam Inhibitors.....	24
3.8 Wet Strength Agents.....	25
3.9 Other Chemical Additives.....	25

ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA	26
4. MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS	26
4.1 Fibre Raw Materials	26
4.2 Non-Fibrous Raw Materials	28
5. AIR AND WATER EMISSIONS	29
5.1 Emission of COD, NO _x , P and S	29
5.2 AOX Emission	31
5.3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions	31
6. ENERGY MANAGEMENT	33
7. WATER USAGE	34
8. WASTE MANAGEMENT	35
9. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	36
10. DESIGN FOR ENVIRONMENT	37
10.1 Packaging.....	37
11. ENVIRONMENTAL CLAIMS.....	38
SOCIAL CRITERIA	39
12. SOCIAL AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE	39
12.1 Environmental Legislation.....	39
12.2 Minimum Entitlement including Wages.....	40
12.3 Workplace Health and Safety	40
12.4 Equal Opportunity	41
12.5 Lawful Conduct	41
12.6 Modern Slavery.....	42
12.7 Human Rights including Labour Rights.....	43
EVIDENCE OF CONFORMANCE.....	45
Demonstration of Conformance (DoC)	45
APPENDIX A List of dyes that may cleave to restricted amines.....	46
List of potentially sensitising dyes	47
APPENDIX B.....	48

APPLICATION CHECKLIST	48
------------------------------------	-----------

Sanitary Paper Products

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Status: **Current**

Version: **3.0ii**

Date Published: **20 December 2021**

Versions	Date Published	Summary of Changes
1.0	May 2003	
2.0	May 2005	Review
2.2	October 2007	Review and update
3.0	January 2015	Revision
3.0i	July 2017	Update: "Definitions and Acronyms"; Inclusion of notes in 'How to apply for GECA Certification' and 'Social and Legal Compliance' sections change of social criteria.
3.0ii	December 2021	Social criteria updated: Modern slavery criterion added, human and labour rights criterion revised, wording updated in other social criteria; reference to Sustainable Development Goals included, criteria reordered into four sections: fit for purpose – health – environmental – social, Small updates in 'Use of GECA standards', update of 'How to apply for GECA certification; wording updated according to new GECA Scheme Rules (e.g. exception, assessor, assurance provider); office address updated.

HOW TO APPLY FOR GECA CERTIFICATION

Organisations interested in GECA certification using the Good Environmental Choice Australia Ecolabel are encouraged to read carefully through the entire standard. A **checklist at the back of the standard** provides a helpful list of all criteria within the standard.

Please contact us via email enquiries@geca.org.au or complete the [brief form located here](#) on the GECA website to begin the application process. We will then forward an **information pack** and a link to complete an **obligation-free application form**. After receiving the completed application form, an approved GECA Assurance Provider will contact the applicant and give a clear overview of the steps needed to achieve certification and provide a quote for assessment.

Note: GECA reserves the right to refuse, suspend or postpone an application if (a) the organisation does not meet minimum compliance with Environmental Law, Labour Law, Fair Pay, Work, Health and Safety, Lawful behaviour (e.g. pending or ongoing lawsuits), (b) the organisation does not have transparent reporting that is available/accessible on request or (c) the core mission of the organisation and/or product is in conflict with GECA's mission and/or is perceived by GECA to pose a risk to the GECA brand or reputation.

DEFINITIONS & ACRONYMS

% w/w: Percent weight/weight, equivalent to percent by mass.

ADt: Air dry tonne of pulp (ADt) meaning dry solids content of 90 %.

Aerobically biodegradable: A substance that is biodegradable according to AS 4351.

Anaerobically degradable: A substance that, when measured as directed in ISO 11734 "Water quality - Evaluation of the "ultimate" anaerobic biodegradability of organic compounds in digested sludge - Method by measurement of the biogas production", achieves at least 60 % degradation.

ADG: Australian Dangerous Goods.

AOX: Adsorbable Organic Halides. A measure of the quantity of chlorine (and other halogens) bound to organic compounds.

APEO: Alkylphenol ethoxylate and other alkylphenol derivatives.

Aromatic substance: In the context of this standard, aromatic substances are chemicals which contain a planar unsaturated ring of atoms that is stabilised by an interaction of the bonds forming the ring. Such compounds are typified by benzene and its derivatives.

Assessment: Process performed by the assessor to determine if the product conforms with the applicable GECA standard.

Assessment report: Full document composed by the assurance provider that states how the nominated product conforms or fails to conform to GECA standards. This report shall include appropriate and substantial evidence to justify a conformance decision.

Assessor: The individual performing the assessment as an employee or contractor of the assurance provider.

Assurance provider: Person or organisation accredited by the Independent Appointment Panel performing the conformance assessment.

Bioaccumulative: A substance is classified as potentially bioaccumulative if the log K_{ow} (log water/octanol partition coefficient) is equal to or greater than 3.

Biodegradable: Organic substances that decompose in the natural environment due to the action of living organisms.

Carcinogenic: Capable of causing cancer. The International Agency for Research on Cancer is the internationally accepted body for the classification of carcinogenic substances. See www.iarc.fr.

CAS number: Chemical Abstract Service number. Unique CAS numbers are assigned to chemical compounds as a means of identification.

Chemical pulp: Pulp produced using the sulphite or sulphate (Kraft) methods (using bisulphite or sodium hydroxide liquor).

CI number: Colour Index Number, as assigned by the Society of Dyers and Colourists and the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colourists.

Coating: Substance added to the base paper for certain qualities.

COD: Chemical Oxygen Demand – means the mass of oxygen equivalent to the amount of dichromate consumed by dissolved and suspended matter when a water sample is treated with that oxidant under defined conditions.

Dangerous goods: Any product classifiable as dangerous according to the GHS criteria or Code of Practice for Managing Risks of Hazardous Chemicals in the Workplace or Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code, including classification as an Environmentally Hazardous Substance.

Demonstration of Conformance (DoC): Defines sources of evidence acceptable to GECA to demonstrate compliance with each criterion of the standard. An applicant manufacturer must provide documentation to the approved assurance providers in order to demonstrate conformance of its products under assessment. For further information on Demonstration of Conformance requirements see APPENDIX B – Evidence of Conformance at the end of this standard.

DIP: De-inked or recycled pulp.

EDTA: Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid or ethylenedinitrilotetraacetic acid, or any of its salts or primary derivatives.

Exception: An exception is granted when an applicant is given permission by the GECA CEO or Board to become certified despite not meeting a particular criterion in the standard as identified during the assessment process, usually with a mandatory transition period.

FSC: Forest Stewardship Council.

GEN: Global Ecolabelling Network.

GECA: Good Environmental Choice Australia Ltd.

GECA approved assessor: An assessor that has been accredited to assess against GECA's scheme rules.

GECA mark: The Good Environmental Choice Australia Mark, the mark awarded to applicants complying with GECA ecolabelling standards after assessment by a GECA approved assurance provider.

GHS: Global Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals.

Halogen: Any element in Group 17 on the periodic table (previously Group VIIA). Halogens include fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine.

Heavy metal: Elements including antimony (Sb), arsenic (As), cadmium (Cd), chromium (Cr), cobalt (Co), lead (Pb) mercury (Hg), and tin (Sn).

ISO: International Organisation for Standardisation.

Mechanical pulp: Pulp produced using mechanical methods, including stone groundwood, thermomechanical pulp (TMP) and chemithermomechanical pulp (CMTP).

Mutagenic: Any substance that causes mutations or genetic abnormalities. The criteria for classification of a substance as mutagenic are defined by the National Industry Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS).

NO_x: chemical abbreviation for nitrogen oxides (NO, N₂O and NO₂). In this document NO_x means total NO and NO₂ measured as NO₂ equivalents.

P: Chemical abbreviation for phosphorus. In this document P means phosphorus discharge to water.

Packaging: Materials used for the transport, containment or display of products.

PEFC: Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.

Post-consumer material: Material generated by households or by commercial, industrial and institutional facilities in their role as end-users of the product which can no longer be used for its intended purpose. This includes returns of material from the distribution chain.

Pre-consumer material: Pre-consumer (sometimes also referred to as post-industrial) material is recovered from the manufacturing process before it is sold to end consumers.

Producer/manufacturer: For the purpose of this standard these terms comprise both manufacturers of a product as well as service suppliers. These may not necessarily be the companies that apply for GECA certification, since certification can also be awarded to retailers of a product. However, for some criteria it is required that the original manufacturer of the product conforms to particular requirements.

Readily biodegradable: Readily biodegradable surfactants are those where the average level of biodegradation observed in an aerobic sewage treatment plant is at least 90 % during a residence time of not more than 3 hours. In order to meet this requirement the surfactant must either meet the requirement for “readily biodegradable” when determined using one of the five test methods described in the OECD Guidelines for Testing of Chemicals, Test Guidelines 301A-301E or be readily biodegradable according to AS 4351.

Recycled content: Denotes the proportion of a product that is generated from post-consumer and pre-consumer material.

S: Chemical abbreviation for elemental sulphur. In this document S means all forms of gaseous sulphur emissions to air.

SDGs: (Sustainable Development Goals): Adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, SDGs are a universal set of goals, targets and indicators that UN member states are expected to use to frame their agendas and political policies over the next 15 years.

SDS: Safety Data Sheet. Contains information relating to the composition, classification and risk assessment of the product. To qualify as suitable, the SDS and information therein must not be more than 5 years old.

Surfactant or “surface-active agent”: Any substance which is intended to reduce surface tension thereby helping water to surround and remove dirt or staining from surfaces.

Teratogenic: Any substance capable of causing heritable genetic damage, producing congenital deformations or causing birth defects. The criteria for classification of a substance as teratogenic are defined by the National Industry Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS).

VOC: Volatile Organic Compounds; any organic compound (compound which contains carbon) with a boiling point below 250°C measured at 101.3 kPa. VOC content of products will be calculated according to the content of ingredients that fit this definition.

Note: all percentages described in this document are to be measured as per cent by mass.

ABOUT GECA

At GECA, we help organisations and individuals to *make, buy and do* better for people and planet. We are a purpose-driven not-for-profit that stands for **integrity, independence** and **impact**.

We offer a suite of services designed for anyone committed to continuous improvement in their sustainability, including Australia's only not-for-profit multi-sector ecolabelling program.

GECA has proudly been a [Certified B Corp](#) since November 2015. We are part of a global movement of organisations in over 50 countries across 130 industries trying to make the world a better place.

AN OVERVIEW OF GECA'S STANDARDS

Following ISO 14024: *Environmental labels and declarations - Type I environmental labelling - Principles and procedures* and [ISEAL frameworks](#) for global best practice in ecolabelling, we've developed our rigorous standards, which are independently assessed by GECA Approved Assurance Providers.

ISO 14024 is internationally recognised and has been adopted as a benchmark for life cycle-based ecolabels by GEN, the international federation of ecolabelling bodies. Our standards are relevant to critical Australian industries, and GECA is the only Australian [GEN member](#).

ISO 14024 requires environmental labelling specifications to include criteria that are objective, reasonable and verifiable. The purpose of voluntary environmental labels and declarations is to communicate **verifiable and accurate** information for the numerous environmental and social aspects of goods and services. As required by the [Trade Practices Act](#), the information cannot be misleading. Such transparent information encourages the demand for, and supply of, those products or services that cause less harm to people and planet, thereby stimulating the potential for market-driven continuous environmental and social improvement.

While following ISO 14024 for environmental, health and fit for purpose criteria, **GECA's standards go above and beyond**, including social impact criteria. At GECA, we know that nothing can be truly sustainable if it only looks at environmental impacts and ignores the treatment of people. GECA standards identify the **environmental, human health, fit for purpose** and **social impact** criteria that the top environmentally and socially performing products or services sold in the Australian marketplace can meet to be recognised by GECA as "environmentally and socially preferable".

All GECA standards are based on life cycle thinking, allowing organisations to understand their sustainability impacts and where they occur within their operation's life cycle, **from raw materials to end-of-life**. We have used these principles to set criteria to address relevant sustainability loads typical in a product category. As such, this standard may also offer guidance for organisations to reduce the harmful impacts of their products or services. Organisations may use the criteria in this standard as an optimisation tool to design and refine the processing, manufacturing, packaging and delivery of their products or services. Also, organisations may uncover other sustainability issues and potential measures within the product's or service's life cycle.

At GECA, we encourage both manufacturers and retailers to include and adapt improvements in their processes and product designs that will enable them to achieve even better sustainability results where technically possible. GECA welcomes feedback where this has occurred.

While all GECA ecolabelling standards are voluntary, nevertheless they contain criteria that address compliance with specific laws. Also, a GECA standard may recognise specific Australian standards. A prerequisite for certification under the GECA ecolabel is to satisfy the relevant Australian and international standards, where required by law. However, Australia's compulsory standards typically focus on fit for purpose criteria instead of assuring environmental and social preferability. **GECA's ecolabelling standards go beyond mandatory Australian standards** and define an environmental and social benchmark for specific product categories.

Where a product or service is certified under our standard, it may display the GECA ecolabel (the "Good Environmental Choice Australia Mark") to show that it has been independently assessed and demonstrates conformance with the environmental and social criteria detailed in this standard.

Products or services certified as conforming to our standards may gain a marketing advantage in government and business procurement programs, as well as greater market recognition in general because of their independently verified sustainability attributes. GECA certification demonstrates leadership and may help to future-proof supply chains and improve economic performance. By generating genuine benefits for people and planet, it is possible to gain increased customer loyalty.

For further information please contact GECA

+61 (2) 9699 2850 standards@geca.org.au www.geca.org.au
Level 32, 101 Miller Street North Sydney NSW Australia 2060

© Good Environmental Choice Australia Ltd 2021

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any material form or transmitted to any other person without the prior written permission of Good Environmental Choice Australia except as permitted under the Copyright Act 1968 (as amended) or unless expressly permitted in writing by Good Environmental Choice Australia.



STRUCTURE OF THE STANDARD

Within each section of this standard, you will find criteria and Demonstrations of Conformance (DoCs). The criteria outline the requirements for the product and applicant company regarding its sustainability performance. The DoCs list the information required to verify compliance with the criteria. Selected sections also contain introductory text which outlines the purpose behind the criteria or the reason for its inclusion in the standard.

REQUESTING ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE


DoCs are listed for each criterion within this standard; however, a GECA Approved Assessor may request additional information to ensure conformance on a case-by-case basis. Therefore, the DoCs listed below should be considered a guide to the applicant organisation's minimum DoCs.

RELEVANCE WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Each of GECA's standards is linked to specific [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) set by the United Nations. The 17 SDGs are an internationally agreed framework for urgent action to achieve the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) adopted by all UN member states in 2015, including Australia. The goals address global challenges, including global inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice. Each standard criterion answers specific SDG targets.

Each criterion within this standard answers to a specific SDG target. These specific SDGs are shown below and are highlighted throughout each section of the standard, including the core SDGs related to this standard as further illustrated.









12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



If the global population reaches **9.6 billion** by 2050, the equivalent of almost **three planets** will be required to sustain current lifestyles

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

All SDGs relevant to GECA's Sanitary Paper Products standard

<div style="background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING </div> 	<div style="background-color: #ff4500; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 5 GENDER EQUALITY </div> 	<div style="background-color: #00b0f0; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION </div> 
<div style="background-color: #800000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH </div> 	<div style="background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES </div> 	<div style="background-color: #d95319; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION </div> 
<div style="background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 13 CLIMATE ACTION </div> 	<div style="background-color: #0072bc; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 14 LIFE BELOW WATER </div> 	<div style="background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 15 LIFE ON LAND </div> 

Core SDGs relevant to GECA's Sanitary Paper Products standard



CORE SDG: 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

GECA Standard Criterion

- Hazardous substances: criteria 5-17
- Workplace health and safety: criterion 32

SDG 3 Specific target 3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.



CORE SDG: 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

GECA Standard Criterion

- Social and legal compliance: criteria 30-36

SDG 10 Specific target 10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

SDG 12 Specific target 10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.

SDG 12 Specific target 10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality.



CORE SDG: 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

GECA Standard Criterion

- Material requirements: criteria 18, 19
- Hazardous substances: criteria 5-17
- Waste management: criterion 26

SDG 12 Specific target 12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.

SDG 12 Specific target 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

SDG 12 Specific target 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.



CORE SDG: 15 LIFE ON LAND

GECA Standard Criterion

- Material requirements: criteria 18, 19
- Environmental legislation: criterion 30

SDG 15 Specific target 15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements.

SDG 15 Specific target 15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.

SDG 15 Specific target 15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.

BACKGROUND

A GECA product standard sets limits for the most material environmental loads attributable to goods and/or services throughout their life cycle. This particular standard seeks to set an environmental benchmark for sanitary paper products. The scope is intended to cover sanitary paper products sold in the Australian market. The criteria are used for environmental labelling, implemented by Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA) as part of the Australian Ecolabelling program. This standard is voluntary, and after verification, enables certified products to display an environmental label (ecolabel) as implemented by GECA to show it is environmentally preferable.

Paper products have the potential to create significant environmental impacts throughout their life cycle, from raw material sourcing and manufacturing of pulp and paper to the disposal of the paper product. These impacts can include forest management practices such as unsustainable management of native forests; effluents from the manufacturing processes containing oxygen depleting substances that affect plants and animals in receiving waters; release of toxic and bioaccumulative substances including for example sulphurous compounds and halogenated organics (from e.g. bleaching); usage of significant amounts of energy and production of greenhouse gases during pulp and paper manufacturing processes; and impact from the packaging and disposal of the product at the end of its life.

The standard aims at promoting:

- The application of sustainable management principles in order to safeguard forests and other areas used to obtain fibre raw materials. It is important that operations are managed in a way that minimises disturbance of natural eco-systems and conserves biodiversity. Third party certification is a useful tool to verify sustainable forest management.
- The reduction of emissions to air and water of certain toxic or otherwise polluting substances (e.g. oxygen depleting substances, halogenated organics, phosphorus, sulphurous and nitrogen compounds).
- The reduction of environmental damage or risks related to the use of energy (global warming, acidification, ozone depletion, depletion of non-renewable resources) by reducing energy usage and encouraging energy from renewable resources.
- Improved waste management as considerable quantities of waste may be generated between the raw material stage and the completed paper product.

FIT FOR PURPOSE CRITERIA

1. STANDARD CATEGORY SCOPE

1.1 Scope Schedule

Criterion 1: The scope of this standard is applicable to sanitary paper products, including:

- Toilet paper
- Facial tissues
- Paper towels, hand towels
- Table napkins
- General purpose wipes
- Table coverings, placemats, tray liners

The sanitary paper product must comprise at least 95 % of materials that are covered by criteria in this standard.

Exclusions and Notes

This standard does not include nonwoven sanitary products, disposable diapers, and sanitary napkins and tampons.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 1.1: A description of the product(s) or product range as they apply to the scope of this standard, accompanied by a list including the type of fibre/raw material used, the location of pulp and paper mills, the location of manufacturing sites.

2. FITNESS FOR PURPOSE

To be certified, the product(s) must be fit to perform its intended purpose or application. A minimum level of quality and durability is implicit before the GECA ecolabel can be displayed on the product. The applicant must ensure that the product is fit for its intended purpose.

2.1 Applicable Standards and Demonstrated Performance

Criterion 2: The product must be fit for its intended purpose and must meet performance requirements of relevant Australian or international standards, or prove fitness for purpose with other appropriate documentation.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 2.1: Documentation identifying applicable standards or performance requirements, and test reports and other relevant documentation to demonstrate that standards and requirements are met and maintained.

2.2 Product Safety

End-users can be exposed to harmful chemicals released from the final product during its use phase.

Criterion 3: Products made from recycled fibres or mixtures of recycled and virgin fibres shall not contain more than:

- Formaldehyde: 1 mg/dm²
- Glyoxal: 1.5 mg/dm²
- PCP: 0.15 mg/kg
- PCB: 0.05 mg/kg

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 3.1: Test reports showing that the limits are met. Test methods to be used:

- Formaldehyde - EN 1541:2001 Paper and board intended to come into contact with foodstuffs. Determination of formaldehyde in an aqueous extract.
- Glyoxal - DIN 54603 Testing of paper, paperboard and board. Determination of glyoxal content.
- PCP - ISO 15320:2011 Pulp, paper and board. Determination of pentachlorophenol in an aqueous extract.
- PCB - ISO 15318:1999 Pulp, paper and board. Determination of 7 specified polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB).

Criterion 4: All tissue products must fulfil the following requirements:

- Slimicides and antimicrobial substances: No growth retardance of micro-organisms
- Dyes: No bleeding

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 4.1: Test reports showing that the limits are met. Test methods to be used:

- Slimicides and antimicrobial substances - EN 1104:2005 Paper and board intended to come into contact with foodstuffs. Determination of the transfer of antimicrobial constituents.
- Bleeding of dyes - EN 646:2006 Paper and board intended to come into contact with foodstuffs. Determination of colour fastness of dyed paper and board. Level 4 is required.

HEALTH CRITERIA

3. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

The criteria in this section are intended to address some of the main hazardous substances found across this product category which may be added to the final product or to product ingredients during manufacturing. The intention is to reduce the use of hazardous materials and to prevent pollutants entering the environment and to protect human health.

This section covers chemicals and substances used in the production of pulp and paper, and chemicals used in the manufacturing process of the final product.

3.1 Banned Substances

The use of harmful chemicals can affect the health of manufacturing staff and users of the finished product as well as negatively impact the environment.

Criterion 5: Substances or mixtures classified with risk phrases and hazard statements listed in Table 1 or listed below must not be used in the pulp and paper production process or the production of the final product (where applicable); or be found on the final product.

Table 1. Hazard statements and R-phrases for banned substances

Acute toxicity and specific organ toxicity					
H300	Fatal if swallowed	R28	H300	Causes damage to organs	R39/23, R39/24, R39/25, R39/26, R39/27, R39/28
H301	Toxic if swallowed	R25			
H304	May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways	R65			
H310	Fatal in contact with skin	R27	H300	May cause damage to organs	R48/20, R48/21, R48/22
H311	Toxic in contact with skin	R24			
H330	Fatal if inhaled	R23/26	H300	Causes damage to organs	R48/25, R48/24, R48/23
H331	Toxic if inhaled	R23			
Respiratory and skin sensitisation					
H317	May cause allergic skin reaction	R43	H334	May cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled	R42
Carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction					
H340	May cause genetic defects	R46	H360	May damage fertility or the unborn child	R60, R61
H341	Suspected of causing genetic	R68			

	defects				
H350	May cause cancer	R45, R49	H361	Suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child	R62, R63
H351	Suspected of causing cancer	R40	H362	May cause harm to breast-fed children	R64
Hazardous to the environment					
H400	Very toxic to aquatic life	R50	H413	May cause long-lasting effects to aquatic life	R53
H410	Very toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects	R50/53			
H411	Toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects.	R51/53	H420/ EUH59	Harms public health and the environment by destroying ozone in the upper atmosphere	R59
H412	Harmful to aquatic life with long-lasting effects	R52/53			

Or

- EU C/M/R; or
- IARC Group 1* and 2A; or
- Substances/mixtures classified as dangerous good; or
- Substances of Very High Concern listed on the REACH Candidate list (available at http://echa.europa.eu/chem_data/authorisation_process/candidate_list_table_en.asp)

Exceptions

- Biocides excepted from ban on ecotoxic substances (addressed in Criterion 12);
- Foam inhibitors, cleaning, washing and de-inking chemicals excepted from ban on ecotoxic substances (addressed in Criterion 13 to Criterion 15);
- Peracetic acid (bleaching agent);
- Chemicals that are 100% inorganic (e.g. NaOH);
- Cationic polymers and dyes excepted from the ban on ecotoxic substances if the classification is due to the cationic charge;
- Chemicals with a consumption of less than 0.05 kg/tonne pulp product, toluene for use in rotogravure printing processes.

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 5.1: Signed declaration of conformance supported by documentation identifying hazardous substances used in materials and production processes or demonstrating by providing data that no substances with classifications listed in Table 1 are used.

3.2 Alkylphenol Ethoxylates (APEOs)

Criterion 6: Alkylphenol ethoxylates or other alkylphenol derivatives (substances that produce alkylphenols upon degradation) must not be added to cleaning chemicals, de-inking chemicals, foam inhibitors, dispersants, coatings, retention agents, flocculants, foam inhibitors/defoamers, wet strength agents, dyes, toners, or adhesives.

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 6.1: Signed declaration of conformance from the relevant supplier(s) supported by relevant documentation (e.g. ingredients list, SDS).

3.3 Elemental Chlorine

Criterion 7: Chlorine gas must not be used as a bleaching agent.

Demonstration of Conformance:

DoC 7.1: Signed declaration of conformance from the pulp producer. It is accepted that recycled fibres may have been bleached with chlorine gas in their previous life cycle.

3.4 Complexing Agents

Criterion 8: The complexing agents ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) or diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid DTPA must not be used in quantities larger than 2.5 kg per ton of pulp. If ≥ 1 kg of EDTA/DTPA (active substance) is used per ton of pulp, it must be reported on the emissions of EDTA/DTPA to the recipient environment.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 8.1: Signed declaration from the pulp/paper producer and/or relevant supplier(s) that EDTA/DTPA are not used; or

DoC 8.2: Documentation stating the use/quantities and, if applicable, emissions of DTPA/EDTA from pulp production, measurement result, method of analysis, frequency of measurement, laboratory name and laboratory compliance.

3.5 Dyes, Inks, Pigments, Coatings, Foils, Laminates

Certain additions to the product such as dyes, pigments and coatings can contain substances that pose a risk to human and the environment.

Criterion 9: No dyes, pigments or coatings must be used that contain phthalates (that at the time of application are classified with risk phrases H360, H361), mercury, lead, copper, chromium, nickel, aluminium or cadmium as constituent parts. Copper phthalocyanine dyes or pigments may, however, be used.

The levels of ionic impurities in the dyes and pigments used must not exceed the following: Ag 100 ppm; As 50 ppm; Ba 100 ppm; Cd 20 ppm; Co 500 ppm; Cr 100 ppm; Cu 250 ppm; Fe 2,500 ppm; Hg 4 ppm; Mn 1,000 ppm; Ni 200 ppm; Pb 100 ppm; Se 20 ppm; Sb 50 ppm; Zn 1,500 ppm.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 9.1: Declaration of Conformance from the supplier(s) supported by documentation that identifies the dyes, pigments and coatings used; and

DoC 9.2: Relevant SDSs and other information demonstrating the level of impurities, if applicable.

Criterion 10: Acrylamide monomer must not be present as a constituent part of coatings.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 10.1: Relevant SDSs, demonstrating that no acrylamide monomer is used.

Criterion 11: Azo dyes or pigments which may release one of the amines listed in Table 2 must not be used. An indicative list of dyes that may cleave to the restricted amines is listed in APPENDIX A and can be used as a guide to dyes that should not be used.

Table 2: Restricted amines

Substance	CAS number
2,4,5-trimethylaniline	137-17-7
2,4-diaminoanisole	615-05-4
2,4-diaminotoluene	95-80-7
2,4-xylidine	87-62-7
2,6-xylidine	95-68-1
2-amino-4-nitrotoluene	99-55-8
2-naphthylamine	91-59-8
3,3'-dichlorobenzidine	91-94-1
3,3'-dimethoxybenzidine	119-90-4
3,3'-dimethyl-4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane	838-88-0
3,3'-dimethylbenzidine	119-93-7
4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane	101-77-9
4,4'-methylene-bis-(2-chloraniline)	101-14-4
4,4'-oxydianiline	101-80-4
4,4'-thiodianiline	139-65-1
4-aminoazobenzene	60-09-3
4-aminobiphenyl	92-67-1
4-chloro-o-toluidine	95-69-2
Benzidine	92-87-5
o-amino-azotoluene	97-56-3
o-anisidine	90-04-0
o-toluidine	95-53-4
p-chloroaniline	106-47-8
p-cresidine	120-71-8

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 11.1: Documentation that identifies the azo dyes or pigments used.

3.6 Biocides

Although valuable, certain biocides are harmful to human and environmental health.

Criterion 12: Biocides (used to counter slime forming organism in the circulation water or used to preserve the product) must not be potentially bioaccumulative. A substance is classified as potentially bioaccumulative if the log K_{ow} (log octanol/water partition coefficient) is equal to or greater than 3.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 12.1: The applicant shall provide copies of the material safety data sheets for all biocides used during the different production stages, together with a documentation of the concentrations of the biocides in the final product.

3.7 Surfactants, Washing and Cleaning Agents and Foam Inhibitors

Certain substances used for washing and cleaning in the paper manufacturing process can contain substances that pose a risk to humans and the environment.

Criterion 13: Solvents, washing agents and/or cleaning chemicals used in the cleaning of production/manufacturing equipment and/or used for printing must not contain alkylphenol ethoxylates (APEOs) or other alkylphenol derivatives, halogenated solvents classified with any categories listed in **Error! Reference source not found.**, and/or phthalates (that at the time of application are classified with risk phrases H360, H361).

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 13.1: Declaration of Conformance from the supplier(s) supported by SDS and/or other documentation that identifies the preparation(s) used.

Criterion 14: Where surfactants are used for de-inking recycled paper input, these surfactants shall be readily biodegradable.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 14.1: List of all surfactants used together with relevant test reports showing that the surfactant is readily biodegradable.

Criterion 15: None of the constituent substances that have a foam inhibiting or foam retarding effect in foam inhibitors/defoamers must be classified as environmentally hazardous in accordance with Table 1. As an alternative, foam inhibitors/defoamers for which 95 % by weight of the constituent substances with a foam inhibiting or foam retarding effect are either readily or ultimately biodegradable, may be used. Foam inhibitors/defoamers that are destroyed in chemical recycling are excepted from this requirement.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 15.1: List all substances with foam inhibiting or foam retarding effects together with SDSs and relevant test reports showing that the surfactant is readily or ultimately biodegradable, or, if applicable, evidence demonstrating that the foam inhibitors/defoamers are destroyed in chemical recycling.

3.8 Wet Strength Agents

Wet strength agents are added to certain products to increase their strength when coming into contact with water or other liquids.

Criterion 16: The sum of the chloro-organic substances epichlorohydrin (ECH), 1,3-dichloro-2-propanol (DCP) and 3-monochloro-1,2-propanediol (MCPD) must not comprise more than 7000 ppm (0.7 %) of the wet strength agents.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 16.1: SDS of the wet-strength agent and other relevant information that can be used to calculate the percentage of the above mentioned chloro-organic substances.

3.9 Other Chemical Additives

Criterion 17: Any other additives, such as lotions, fragrances or softeners, added to sanitary paper products must meet the relevant criteria in the Materials Requirements and Hazardous Material section of GECA's Personal Care Products standard (PCPv4.1-2013).

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 17.1: List of additives used identifying applicable criteria of the PCPv4.1-2013 standard together with the DoC required for the relevant criteria.

ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA



4. MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS

The criteria in this section are intended to address impacts that may occur over the life cycle of a product that can be avoided or mitigated during the design phase of product development.

Unless otherwise stated, the requirements in this section apply to each type of material contained in the finished product regardless of weight.

4.1 Fibre Raw Materials

The sourcing of fibre input materials for pulp and paper manufacturing can have significant environmental impacts. Applying sustainable management principles helps safeguarding forests and other areas used to obtain fibre raw materials.

Criterion 18: The fibre input material in the paper component may be recycled or virgin fibre. All fibre sources must fulfil one or a combination of the following requirements.

i. Virgin wood fibre:

All virgin fibre input from native forests must be sourced from forests that are certified under FSC or PEFC as sustainably managed (or equivalent certification); and

All virgin wood fibre must be covered by valid sustainable forest management and chain of custody certificates issued by an independent third-party certification scheme such as FSC, PEFC or equivalent.

However, where certification schemes allow mixing of certified material, recycled materials and uncertified material in a product or product line, at least 50 % of the fibre in the finished product must be from either plantations or forests that are certified. Any uncertified material must be covered by a verification system which ensures that it is legally sourced and meets any other requirement of the certification scheme with respect to uncertified material. The certification bodies issuing forest and/or chain of custody certificates shall be accredited/recognised by that certification scheme.

ii. Recycled fibre:

Fibre material is 100% derived from recycled sources with a minimum 50 % from post-consumer sources.

iii. Waste fibre:

Fibre material is 100 % derived from pre-consumer waste such as sawdust/woodchips and waste wood from wood processing operations, forest harvesting waste, untreated demolition wood, agricultural waste, sugarcane bagasse etc.

All waste wood from native forests must be sourced from forests that are certified under a forest certification scheme.

iv. Bamboo:

If more than 20 % of the overall fibre material is derived from bamboo, the following has to be fulfilled:

50 % of virgin bamboo fibre used in the product must come from plantations or forests certified as sustainably managed under a certification scheme (FSC, PEFC, or equivalent); OR

All bamboo fibre used in the product must originate from certified organic plantations; OR

It must be shown that no bamboo fibre is derived from illegal sources or protected areas, or areas that are under investigation as to their protection status; or areas where ownership or rights of exploitation are unclear; or bamboo species that appear on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) list.

v. Other virgin fibre (non-wood, non-bamboo):

100 % of other virgin (non-wood, non-bamboo) plant-based fibre originates from certified organic plantations (e.g. for cotton, hemp); or it can be demonstrated that a procedure is in place for the procurement of sustainable fibre raw materials, and that all fibre raw materials are traceable, and not derived from illegal sources, or protected areas, or areas that are under investigation as to their protection status; or areas where ownership or rights of exploitation are unclear, and that fibre management does not harm natural woodland, biodiversity, special ecosystems and important ecological functions.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 18.1: Signed declaration of compliance, supported by documentation that demonstrates the proportion of fibre types included and geographic origin (country/state and region/province) of the wood and fibre raw material that is used in each product; plus

- for i: relevant certificates or other evidence on forest management certification and chain of custody (to confirm the virgin fibre that is used is from a certified sustainably managed source); and relevant certificates or other evidence to confirm that the wood originates from legal sources;
- for ii: documentation that demonstrates whether the fibre is pre- or post-consumer; including any relevant certificates (e.g. FSC recycled);
- for iii: documentation that demonstrates the waste wood source of the fibre (including relevant information and documentation); source of all waste wood together with evidence of certification (sustainable forest management) if wood waste originates from native forests;
- For iv: nature and geographical source of all virgin bamboo fibre inputs together with (a) relevant forest certification scheme certificates; or (b) evidence that fibre comes from certified organic plantations; or (c) relevant procurement procedures, and documents and certificates showing legal sources for the bamboo, and declaration that bamboo species do not appear on the CITES list;
- For v: nature and geographical source of all virgin fibre inputs together with relevant certificates or other evidence that fibre comes from certified organic plantations; or certification, harvesting permits or other information to demonstrate that the fibre is legally harvested and does not come from protected areas or areas where ownership rights are in dispute; documentation that describes the procedure for the procurement of sustainable fibre raw materials.

4.2 Non-Fibrous Raw Materials

Criterion 19: Starch products shall not be derived from genetically modified material, e.g. certain potato and maize starches.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 19.1: Signed declaration from the producer/supplier of the starch product.

5. AIR AND WATER EMISSIONS

Pulp mills, boilers, on-site power plants and other manufacturing processes can cause emissions of a range of air and water pollutants and it is important that appropriate emission limits are met.

5.1 Emission of COD, NO_x, P and S

A concern related to paper manufacturing is the emissions of potentially acidifying, eutrophying pollutants and ozone precursors, such as sulphur or phosphorus compounds, and nitrogen oxides.

Criterion 20: Emissions to air and/or water from the production of pulp and paper, finished paper, laminating papers, or board production must be specified in terms of emissions points scores for each of four parameters (P_{COD}, P_P, P_S, P_{NO_x}) according to the following. Water emissions relate to COD and P (phosphorus), and air emissions relate to S and NO_x.

None of the individual points P_{COD}, P_S, P_{NO_x}, P_P shall exceed 1.5.

The total number of points (P_{total} = P_{COD} + P_S + P_{NO_x} + P_P) shall not exceed 4.0.

The calculation of P_{COD} shall be made as follows (the calculations of P_S, P_{NO_x}, P_P shall be made in exactly the same manner).

P_{COD} shall be calculated in the following way (P_P, P_S and P_{NO_x} are calculated in the same way):

$$P_{\text{COD}} = \frac{\text{COD}_{\text{total}}}{\text{COD}_{\text{ref total}}} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n [\text{pulp}_i \times \text{COD}_{\text{pulp}(i)}] + \text{COD}_{\text{paper machine}}}{\sum_{i=1}^n [\text{pulp}_i \times \text{COD}_{\text{ref pulp}(i)}] + \text{COD}_{\text{ref paper machine}}}$$

P_{COD} = Point score for COD

COD_{total} = Total emissions from the production of ecolabelled paper.

COD_{ref total} = The weighted sum of reference values for pulps and reference value for the paper machine.

COD_{pulp(i)} = COD emissions from pulp i.

COD_{paper machine} = COD emissions from paper machine.

COD_{ref pulp(i)} = Reference value for pulp i (see table below).

COD_{ref paper machine} = Reference value for the paper machine (see ref value for Tissue Paper in table below).

pulp_i = Proportion of the pulp type expressed as “tonne 90% pulp per tonne total pulp mix” following the elimination of filler.

n = Number of constituent pulps.

i = Index of each individual pulp and runs from 1 to n.

- For each pulp ‘i’ used, the related measured COD emissions (COD_{pulp i} expressed in kg/air dried tonne — ADT), shall be weighted according to the proportion of each pulp used (pulp ‘i’, with respect to air dried tonne of pulp, or paper), and summed together.
- The weighted COD emission for the pulps is then added to the measured COD emission from the paper production to give a total COD emission, COD_{total}.
- The weighted COD reference value for the pulp production shall be calculated in the same manner, as the sum of the weighted reference values for each used and added to the reference

value for the paper production to give a total COD reference value $COD_{ref,total}$. The reference values for each pulp used and for the paper production are given in the

- .
- The total COD emission shall be divided by the total COD reference value (as shown in the formulas).

Table 3: Reference Values

Pulp Grade/ Paper/ Board	Emissions (kg/ADT)			
	$COD_{reference}$	$S_{reference}$	$NO_{xreference}$	$P_{reference}$
Bleached Chemical Pulp (other than sulphite)	18	1.5	2.0	0.045*
Bleached Chemical Pulp (sulphite)	25	1.5	2.0	0.045
Unbleached chemical pulp	10	1.5	2.0	0.04
CTMP	15	0.2	0.3	0.01
TMP/groundwood pulp	3	0.2	0.3	0.01
Recycled fibre pulp	4	0.2	0.3	0.01
Tissue paper/paper product	2	0.3	0.5	0.01

* Exception from this level, up to a level of 0.1 may be given were it can be demonstrated that the higher level of P is due to P naturally occurring in the wood pulp.

In case of a co-generation of heat and electricity at the same plant the emissions of S and NO_x resulting from electricity generation can be subtracted from the total amount. The following equation can be used to calculate the proportion of the emissions resulting from electricity generation:

$$2 \times \frac{MWh(electricity)}{[2 \times MWh(electricity) + MWh(heat)]}$$

The electricity in this calculation is the electricity produced at the co-generation plant. The heat in this calculation is the net heat delivered from the power plant to the pulp/paper production.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 20.1: Signed declaration of compliance, supported by documentation that includes:

- Detailed calculations showing compliance to this criterion
- Relevant documentation and test reports using the following test methods: COD: ISO 6060; NO_x : ISO 11564; S(oxid.): EPA no.8; S(red.): EPA no 16A; S content in oil: ISO 8754; S content in coal: ISO 351; P: EN ISO 6878.

The supporting documentation shall include an indication of the measurement frequency and the calculation of the points for COD, S and NO_x . It shall include all emissions of S and NO_x which occur during the production of pulp, paper and/or board, including steam generated outside the production site, except those emissions related to the production of electricity. Measurements shall include recovery boilers, lime kilns, steam boilers and destructor furnaces for strong smelling gases. Diffuse emissions shall be taken into account. Reported emission values for S to air shall include both oxidised and reduced S emissions (dimethyl sulphide, methyl mercaptan, hydrogen sulphide and the like). The S emissions related to the heat energy generation from oil, coal and other external fuels with known S content may be calculated instead of measured, and shall be taken into account.

Measurements of emissions to water shall be taken on unfiltered and unsettled samples either after

treatment at the plant or after treatment by a public treatment plant. The period for the measurements shall be based on the production during 12 months. In case of a new or a rebuilt production plant, the measurements shall be based on at least 45 subsequent days of stable running of the plant. The measurement shall be representative of the respective campaign.

In case of integrated mills, due to the difficulties in getting separate emission figures for pulp, laminating paper and board, if only a combined figure for pulp, laminating paper and board production is available, the emission values for pulp(s) shall be set to zero and the figure for the board mill shall include both pulp, laminating paper and board production.

5.2 AOX Emission

Halogenated compounds, assessed using the parameter 'Adsorbable Organic Halides' (AOX), can have acute, chronic and mutagenic toxic effects on aquatic life. One of the main sources of AOX discharges world-wide is the bleaching process within the pulp and paper industry.

Criterion 21: The weighted average value of AOX released from the pulps used in the paper product must not exceed 0.17 kg/tonne paper. AOX emissions from each individual pulp used in the paper must not exceed 0.25 kg/tonne.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 21.1: Test reports using the following test method: AOX ISO 9562 accompanied by detailed calculations showing compliance with this criterion, together with related supporting documentation.

The supporting documentation shall include an indication of the measurement frequency. AOX shall only be measured in processes where chlorine compounds are used for the bleaching of the pulp. AOX need not be measured in the effluent from non-integrated board production or in the effluents from pulp production without bleaching or where the bleaching is performed with chlorine-free substances.

Measurements shall be taken on unfiltered and unsettled samples either after treatment at the plant or after treatment by a public treatment plant. The period for the measurements shall be based on the production during 12 months. In case of a new or a re-built production plant, the measurements shall be based on at least 45 subsequent days of stable running of the plant. The measurement shall be representative of the respective campaign.

5.3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Climate change is affecting both human and natural systems. In Australia, key risks include loss of ecosystems such as coral reef systems, extreme weather events and rising sea levels. Effective emission reduction and adaptation measures can help reduce the impacts of climate change.

Greenhouse gas emissions from heating and production of electricity

Criterion 22: The emission of CO₂ equivalents (CO₂ eq.) from non-renewable sources, including purchased electricity and fossil fuel used for heating and production of electricity, must not exceed the following limit values (kg CO₂ eq. / tonne paper substrate):

- De-Inked Pulp (DIP)/recycled pulp: 1000 kg CO₂ eq. / tonne of paper produced from DIP pulp;
- Chemical Pulp: 900 kg CO₂ eq. / tonne pf paper produced from chemical pulp;
- Mechanical Pulp: 1500 kg CO₂ eq. / tonne of paper produced from mechanical pulp.

For paper/board comprising a mixture of chemical pulp, recycled fibre and mechanical pulp, a weighted limit value is calculated, based on the proportion of each pulp type. Fillers are excluded from this calculation.

The emissions shall be calculated as the sum of the emissions from the pulp production and paper/board production.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 22.1: Signed declaration of compliance, supported by documentation that includes:

- Detailed calculations showing compliance to this criterion; CO₂ from surplus energy that is sold off in the form of electricity, steam or heat, is subtracted from total emissions.
- Data on the air emissions of carbon dioxide. This shall include all sources of non-renewable fuels during the production of pulp and board, including the emissions from the production of electricity (whether on-site or off-site).

Factors to determine carbon dioxide contributions of different fuel types and from purchased electricity must be in accordance with the Australian National Greenhouse Accounts Factors.*

<https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/national-greenhouse-accounts-factors>.

* The most recent version should be used for the calculations. Products that are manufactured outside Australia may use the appropriate national greenhouse accounts factors for the relevant country.

Greenhouse gas emissions from transportation and distribution

Criterion 23: The paper manufacturer shall supply calculations of the total CO₂ impact of all forms of transport from the forest to the paper mill. The calculation shall contain:

Transport of raw material:

- Transport of felled timber from the forest (loading area) to the pulp mill.
- Transport of felled timber to the saw/chip plant (average figures).
- Transport of wood chips to the pulp mill (average figures).
- Transport of purchased market pulp.
- Transport of the following raw materials from the supplier: filler, pigment and starch (if the quantities exceed 10 kg/tonne produced pulp/paper).
- Transport of recycled fibre from a central depot to the pulp plant.

Transport from paper mill to conversion plant are not considered in calculations.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 23.1: Documentation showing that the paper manufacturer is already reporting on Greenhouse Gas emissions from transportation; or

DoC 23.2: Calculation of annual carbon dioxide emissions given in kg CO₂/tonne paper grade or kg CO₂/tonne of the mill's total annual production. Details of how the CO₂ values are calculated with reference to any assumption, the use of databases and suchlike.

6. ENERGY MANAGEMENT

The paper industry is a large energy user and in Australia a large part of the energy used in pulp and paper mills may come from fossil fuels such as coal. Energy efficiency and reduction of fossil fuel usage is an important goal and can be achieved in a number of ways, e.g. co-generation of heat and electricity, or use of renewable energy.

Criterion 24: The paper manufacturer(s), paper convertor and licence applicant/holder must have effective energy management policies and procedures and/or an energy management program.

Licence holders must report on energy management, this should include:

- total energy use
- breakdown of total energy use to types of energy used
- energy use related to production
- initiatives taken to reduce energy use and improve energy efficiency; and
- initiatives taken to calculate and reduce CO₂ emissions associated with energy use

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 24.1: Declaration by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company/licence holder accompanied by documentation that: describes the energy management policies, procedures and programmes; and includes reports on energy use and management.

7. WATER USAGE

As water is one of the main elements for paper manufacturing, reduction of water usage is essential, especially in regions with scarce water resources.

Criterion 25: The paper manufacturer(s), paper convertor and licence applicant/holder must have effective water management policies and procedures and/or a water management program.

Licence holders must report on water management, including:

- total water use; and
- initiatives taken to reduce water use and improve water efficiency.

DoC 25.1: Declaration of conformance signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company/licence holder accompanied by documentation that:

- describes the water management policies, procedures and programmes; and
- includes reports on water use and management.

8. WASTE MANAGEMENT

As water is one of the main elements for paper manufacturing, reduction of water usage is essential, especially in regions with scarce water resources.

Criterion 26: All pulp and paper production sites, and facilities where the final product is produced must have a system for handling waste (as defined by the relevant regulatory authorities of the pulp and board production sites in question) and residual products arising from the production of the eco-labelled product. This should include documented procedures regarding:

- handling, collection, separation and use of recyclable materials from the waste stream; and
- recovery of materials for other uses, such as incineration for raising process steam or heating, or agricultural use;
- handling, collection, separation and disposal of hazardous waste, as defined by the relevant local and national regulatory authorities.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 26.1: Detailed description of the procedures adopted for the waste management of each of the sites concerned and a declaration of compliance with the criterion.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

An Environmental Management System (EMS) integrates procedures and processes for training of personnel, monitoring and reporting of environmental performance information to stakeholders of an organisation.

Criterion 27: The applicant/manufacturer must have an Environmental Management System in place.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 27.1: Documentation showing that an EMS is in place at the relevant manufacturing sites.

10. DESIGN FOR ENVIRONMENT

10.1 Packaging

Criterion 28: Outer packaging must not be impregnated, labelled, coated or otherwise treated in a manner, which would prevent recycling (i.e. PVC sleeves, metallic labels).

Packaging must comply with at least one of the following:

- Each material constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging used, must contain at least 50% recycled content by weight;
- Each material constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging used, must be derived from plant-based materials (e.g. PLA plastics); or
- Each separable item constituting >20% by weight of the total primary and secondary packaging, must be recyclable in Australia. This may be demonstrated using the Australian Packaging Covenant's Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal ([PREP](#)).

Paper and cardboard packaging must be either certified under recognised forest certification scheme (e.g. FSC or PEFC) or contain at least 30% recycled content by weight.

Material used for the transport of products (tertiary packaging) and whose disposal is not the responsibility of the end consumer may be excepted from the above requirements if they are re-used by the applicant, or are recyclable in specialist recycling facilities.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 28.1: Details of materials used as packaging, including information on the input of recycled and virgin materials reported by weight if applicable. The recycled content can be averaged over a 12-month period to find the amount or range of recycled content; and/or

DoC 28.2: Evidence of recyclability or copy of PREP Assessment Report; and/or

DoC 28.3: Evidence of certification under relevant forest certification scheme; and/or

DoC 28.4: Details of re-use programs for transport materials within the applicant company.

11. ENVIRONMENTAL CLAIMS

Environmental claims are one of the tools utilised by consumers when attempting to make environmentally preferable choices and therefore it is essential that such claims are true and substantiated.

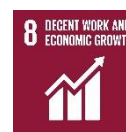
Criterion 29: Public claims made by the licence applicant / holder regarding a product's environmental performance that are beyond the scope of this standard (other than GECA certified content) shall be independently verified as compliant with ISO 14021: Environmental Labels and Declarations - Self Declared Environmental Claims (Type II Environmental Labelling) requirements. Also refer to the GECA Scheme Rules for the Use of the Good Environmental Choice Australia Mark.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 29.1: Report or statement from the applicant listing all public environmental claims regarding the product by the applicant, demonstrating compliance to ISO14021; and

DoC 29.2: A signed declaration from the Chief Executive Officer or authorised representative of the relevant company (e.g. the supplier) stating that any environmental claims made by the company regarding the product in the future will be verified using ISO 14021 and / or GECA certification.

SOCIAL CRITERIA



12. SOCIAL AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

This section addresses compliance with the legal and social attributes of the producer and the applicant company; it also engages with the supply chain to ensure human and labour rights are upheld. These criteria are common to all GECA standards. The social aspect partially addresses the third dimension of sustainability - society. This concept was first understood by producers under the name "Corporate Social Responsibility" (CSR). In this standard, social criteria include laws for equal opportunity, safety and protection of workers, and compliance with human and labour rights. GECA certification cannot be given to any company that illegally exploits workers or their families.

Note: In cases where there is a conflict between GECA requirements in this section and relevant legislation or regulations introduced by governments and agencies, national legislation overrides state legislation and state legislation overrides regulations and standards issued by GECA. Where the GECA requirements go further than the applicable legislation, the producer and/or applicant company shall comply with applicable law while trying as far as possible to act in accordance with the spirit of the GECA requirements.

12.1 Environmental Legislation

Criterion 30: The producer of the product and applicant company shall as per law comply with relevant environmental legislation and government orders at the Local, State, and Commonwealth levels (if these have been issued). Where a producer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's environmental regulations that apply. Where the producer has been found guilty of a breach of any environmental legislation or permit(s) within the last two years, there must be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 30.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance with applicable environmental legislation and government orders;

DoC 30.2: Signed declaration disclosing any breaches of environmental legislation or permits and the date of the breach. Applicant shall:

DoC 30.3: Provide a Legal Register listing applicable environmental legislation (including applicable Regulations under that legislation) in, or as an attachment to the above two declarations (DoC 30.1 and DoC 30.2). The Legal Register shall:

- For each applicable Act and Regulation listed, state whether the manufacturer and applicant company comply; or have a certified ISO 14001, Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) or equivalent environmental management system in place; and;
- List relevant permits granted by the EPA or an equivalent national, state or local body;

DoC 30.4: Evidence of corrective action following identification of a breach of environmental legislation, if applicable.

Note:

In this criterion, 'Regulation' means an entire regulatory instrument (for example, the Environmentally Hazardous Chemicals Regulation 2008) and not the individual sections, provisions or clauses of a regulatory instrument.

12.2 Minimum Entitlement including Wages

Criterion 31: All employees and contractors must receive at least the applicable minimum wage including penalty rates, allowances and superannuation and be provided with all other minimum entitlements including in relation to hours, leave and termination. All employees shall be covered by a Federal or State award, a certified industrial agreement or registered agreement as determined by the Australian Government Workplace Authority or a State or Territory Workplace Relations Agency, or an agreement that complies with Fair Work Act 2009 section 61 – National Employment Standards. A manufacturer/applicant company shall demonstrate compliance to the following requirements as taken from the [ILO](#) Convention: Convention 100 – Equal Remuneration Convention.

Where a producer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply.

Where a producer/applicant company or a third party has identified a breach of applicable legislation, including underpayment of wages within the last two years, there shall be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 31.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation confirming compliance with all minimum entitlements including wages; and

DoC 31.2: List of applicable awards, certified industrial agreements or registered agreements and the number of workers to which they apply, and number of workers not covered by such; and

DoC 31.3: Text or template of a typical workplace agreement offered to employees of the company; and sample payslips; and

DoC 31.4: Evidence of corrective action following identification of a breach of legislation, if applicable.

12.3 Workplace Health and Safety

Criterion 32: A manufacturer/ applicant company shall demonstrate compliance to the following requirements as taken from the ILO Conventions:

a) Convention 155 – Occupational Safety and Health and its accompanying Recommendation No. 164;

b) Convention 161 – Occupational Health Services and its accompanying Recommendation No. 171

And general compliance with applicable State or Territory Legislation concerning Occupational, Health and Safety (OHS) / Work Health and Safety (WHS) and/or the Commonwealth Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988, where applicable. Where a manufacturer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply. Where a producer/applicant company has been found guilty of a breach of relevant legislation within the last 2 years, there shall be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 32.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance to workplace legislation and government orders, as well as declaration of any breaches of legislation and the date of the breach. Applicants shall list all applicable legislation in, or as an attachment to, this declaration;

DoC 32.2: Copy of the company Occupational / Workplace H&S policy and procedures;

DoC 32.3: Copy of employee induction records, training records, meeting records and risk assessments; or current ISO 45001:2018 (or former OHSAS 18001), AS/NZS 4801 or equivalent certification; or third-party certification stating compliance to Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 or equivalent jurisdiction specific legislation; and

DoC 32.4: Evidence of corrective action following a breach of legislation, if applicable; and

DoC 32.5: WHS incidents register

12.4 Equal Opportunity

Criterion 33: The manufacturer/applicant company shall demonstrate general compliance with the requirements of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975, Sex Discrimination Act 1984, Disability Discrimination Act 1992, Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Act 1999, and complementary State Legislation. The manufacturer cannot be in the list of 'named' or non-compliant employers under the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012. Where a manufacturer /applicant company is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply. Where a manufacturer has been found guilty of a breach of relevant legislation within the last two years, there shall be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 33.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance with above legislation;

DoC 33.2: Copy of relevant company policies and procedures;

DoC 33.3: Evidence of corrective action following a breach of legislation, if applicable; and

DoC 33.4: The assessor will verify that the company does not appear on the following list: [Non-compliant list | WGEA](#)

12.5 Lawful Conduct

Criterion 34: The manufacturer/applicant company shall not have been convicted of any breach of criminal law, any breach of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 or the Corporations Act 2001, including prosecution or de-listing by the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX or international equivalent). Where a manufacturer is from an overseas jurisdiction, it is that jurisdiction's equivalent regulations that apply. Where a producer has been found guilty of a breach of relevant legislation within the last two years, there must be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 34.1: Signed declaration from an Executive Officer of the organisation stating compliance with above legislation; and

DoC 34.2: Evidence of corrective action following a guilty verdict, if applicable.

12.6 Modern Slavery

Criterion 35: The applicant company shall promote the elimination of Modern Slavery through collaboration with their supply chain, in accordance with the Australian Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2018 or NSW Modern Slavery Act 2018 and the following requirements as taken from the ILO Conventions:

- a) Conventions 29 and 105 – Elimination of Forced and Compulsory Labour; and
- b) Convention 182 – Worst Forms of Child Labour

Where an applicant has found instances of modern slavery in their business operations and or supply chains in the past two years, there shall be evidence of corrective action.

This criterion shall be valid for applicant companies of any size and is not restricted to any annual revenue threshold.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 35.1: A copy of the published Modern Slavery Statement from within the previous 12 months. The Modern Slavery Statement shall comply with the seven mandatory criteria of the Act as below:

- a) Identify the reporting entity
- b) Describe reporting entity's structure, operations and supply chains
- c) Describe the risks of modern slavery practices in the operations and supply chains of the reporting entity and any entities it owns or controls
- d) Describe the actions taken by the reporting entity and any entities it owns or controls to assess and address these risks, including due diligence and remediation processes
- e) Describe how the reporting entity assesses the effectiveness of these actions
- f) Describe the process of consultation with any entities the reporting entity owns or controls
- g) In addition to the modern slavery report, some supporting documents may be asked to be cited at the main site of manufacturing during the on-site assessment:

If a copy of the Modern Slavery Statement is unable to be presented, a rationale will be required. Also in cases where supportive documentation is unavailable at the time of certification, a grace period of three years or one certification period may be granted (no more than one certification period will be given).

The documents may include but not limited to the following documentation to support the modern slavery report:

- h) Employment records
- i) List of contractors
- j) Leave entitlements policy
- k) Any relevant Human Resources policy
- l) Payslips/ wage scales/ remuneration policy
- m) Minimum age of employment policy
- n) Any other relevant information

Where an organisation has not previously reported on the Australian Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2018 or NSW Modern Slavery Act 2018 and does not meet the reporting threshold of the NSW or Commonwealth legislation, the organisation shall publish a Modern Slavery Statement within three years of certification on a voluntary basis. A grace period of up to one cycle of certification may be granted depending on the company's reporting period.

For more information about modern slavery and the *Modern Slavery Act 2018*., please see [News and Resources \(modernslaveryregister.gov.au\)](https://modernslaveryregister.gov.au).

12.7 Human Rights including Labour Rights

Criterion 36: The manufacturer/applicant company shall respect internationally recognised human rights, including labour rights, including the rights set out in:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

In particular, this includes the following aspects and ILO conventions: No child/forced/bonded labour (ILO 29 and 105), Minimum age convention (ILO 138), Worst forms of child labour (ILO182), Health and safety procedures and training (155, 161 and 171), Right of freedom of association (ILO 87 and 98), Non-discrimination (ILO 100 and 111), Discipline/harassment and grievance procedures, Fair working hours and compensation, Anti-corruption and bribery.

The applicant company shall also take steps to ensure human rights are respected in its supply chain. Where an applicant has been found to breach this criterion in the past two years, there must be evidence of corrective action.

Demonstration of Conformance

DoC 36.1: The manufacturer/applicant company shall provide evidence of its commitments to human rights including labour rights (e.g. policies, published reports containing disclosure in relation to human rights (e.g. sustainability report) commitments to international initiatives such as the UN Global Compact); and

DoC 36.2: The manufacturer/applicant shall provide a map of at least one tier of its supply chain; and

DoC 36.3: Evidence of implementation of a Supplier 'Code of Conduct'; Code of conduct to include Human and Labour Rights, Health and Safety of workers; and

DoC 36.4: Evidence of assessment of suppliers in relation to human rights and recommendations for improvements in their supply chain; and

DoC 36.5: Evidence of [ISO20400](https://www.iso.org/standard/68554.html) implementation; or

- Evidence of valid [SA8000® Standard](https://www.sa8000.com/), or other equivalent certification; or
- Evidence of being a signatory to the [UN Global Compact](https://www.unglobalcompact.org/); or
- [SEDEX](https://www.seDEX.com/) membership ; or
- [GRI 400](https://www.gri.org/) Report (Global Report Initiative); and

If any of DoC 36.5 cannot be provided, manufacturer/ applicant shall provide:

DoC 36.6: Evidence of commitment to achieve SA 8000 certification within one year; or

DoC 36.7: Evidence of becoming a signatory to the UN Global Compact within six months;
and

DoC 36.8: Evidence of corrective action, if applicable.

GECA acknowledges that this is an emerging area of compliance and conformance. Therefore, alternative certifications, standards, ethical membership organisations or compliance reporting may be recognised as demonstration of conformance where an exception is granted by the GECA Board.

EVIDENCE OF CONFORMANCE

Demonstration of Conformance (DoC)

This section lists the sources of evidence to be considered during an assessment to establish conformance against GECA's standards. This list is provided to guide the applicant through the standard's requirements and facilitate the preparation of an application. The DoC requirements are specified along with each criterion in the standard define specific sources of evidence acceptable to GECA. In cases where criteria offer several DoC requirements, it is the sole decision of the appointed assurance provider to choose the appropriate option throughout the preliminary stage of the assessment. If none of the recommended DoC requirements stipulated for a particular criterion in the standard is applicable for a product under assessment, then the appointed assurance provider may choose an alternative but equivalent source of evidence. In cases where alternative sources of evidence have been accepted for the verification of the product, the assurance provider will inform GECA by providing a report on the details as far as appropriate. GECA will use this information to continuously improve the DoC requirements stipulated by that standard.

All laboratory testing and analysis shall be carried out by a [NATA](#) accredited laboratory. For tests carried out overseas, all analysis shall be carried out by a reputable lab accredited by an [ILAC](#).

The applicant/manufacture shall have processes in place to ensure on-going compliance with the criteria in this standard; for example in relation to hazardous substances, having a process in place for completing a checklist (signed and dated by the authorised person) that lists all the substances and requirements in that section prior to using in/with the GECA product/s. The process may be carried out by relevant supplier/s of relevant material/s if there is no in-house capacity within the organisation being assessed to carry out this process. Documented information about any communication in regards to this process (i.e. between applicant and suppliers) shall be maintained.

The DoC requirements are summarised in Appendix B to assist applicants in preparing documentation for the verification process with a GECA designated assessor.

APPENDIX A

LIST OF DYES THAT MAY CLEAVE TO RESTRICTED AMINES

Disperse dyes that may cleave to aromatic amines		
Disperse Orange 60	Disperse Orange 7	Disperse Orange 149
Disperse Yellow 23	Disperse Yellow 56	Disperse Red 151
Disperse Red 221	Disperse Yellow 218	
Basic dyes that may cleave to aromatic amines		
Basic Brown 4	Basic Red 114	Basic Red 42
Basic Yellow 82	Basic Red 76	Basic Yellow 103
Basic Red 111		
Acid dyes that may cleave to aromatic amines		
CI Acid Black 29	CI Acid Red 24	CI Acid Red 128
CI Acid Black 94	CI Acid Red 26	CI Acid Red 115
CI Acid Black 131	CI Acid Red 26:1	CI Acid Red 128
CI Acid Black 132	CI Acid Red 26:2	CI Acid Red 135
CI Acid Black 209	CI Acid Red 35	CI Acid Red 148
CI Acid Black 232	CI Acid Red 48	CI Acid Red 150
CI Acid Brown 415	CI Acid Red 73	CI Acid Red 158
CI Acid Orange 17	CI Acid Red 85	CI Acid Red 167
CI Acid Orange 24	CI Acid Red 104	CI Acid Red 170
CI Acid Orange 45	CI Acid Red 114	CI Acid Red 264
CI Acid Red 4	CI Acid Red 115	CI Acid Red 265
CI Acid Red 5	CI Acid Red 116	CI Acid Red 420
CI Acid Red 8	CI Acid Red 119:1	CI Acid Violet 12
Direct dyes that may cleave to aromatic amines		
Direct Black 4	Basic Brown 4	Direct Red 13
Direct Black 29	Direct Brown 6	Direct Red 17
Direct Black 38	Direct Brown 25	Direct Red 21
Direct Black 154	Direct Brown 27	Direct Red 24
Direct Blue 1	Direct Brown 31	Direct Red 26
Direct Blue 2	Direct Brown 33	Direct Red 22
Direct Blue 3	Direct Brown 51	Direct Red 28
Direct Blue 6	Direct Brown 59	Direct Red 37
Direct Blue 8	Direct Brown 74	Direct Red 39
Direct Blue 9	Direct Brown 79	Direct Red 44
Direct Blue 10	Direct Brown 95	Direct Red 46
Direct Blue 14	Direct Brown 101	Direct Red 62
Direct Blue 15	Direct Brown 154	Direct Red 67
Direct Blue 21	Direct Brown 222	Direct Red 72
Direct Blue 22	Direct Brown 223	Direct Red 126
Direct Blue 25	Direct Green 1	Direct Red 168
Direct Blue 35	Direct Green 6	Direct Red 216
Direct Blue 76	Direct Green 8	Direct Red 264
Direct Blue 116	Direct Green 8.1	Direct Violet 1
Direct Blue 151	Direct Green 85	Direct Violet 4
Direct Blue 160	Direct Orange 1	Direct Violet 12
Direct Blue 173	Direct Orange 6	Direct Violet 13
Direct Blue 192	Direct Orange 7	Direct Violet 14
Direct Blue 201	Direct Orange 8	Direct Violet 21
Direct Blue 215	Direct Orange 10	Direct Violet 22
Direct Blue 295	Direct Orange 108	Direct Yellow 1
Direct Blue 306	Direct Red 1	Direct Yellow 24
Direct Brown 1	Direct Red 2	Direct Yellow 48
Direct Brown 1:2	Direct Red 7	
Direct Brown 2	Direct Red 10	

LIST OF POTENTIALLY SENSITISING DYES

Substance	Colour Index Number	CAS Number
C.I. Disperse Blue 102		12222-97-8
C.I. Disperse Blue 106		12223-01-7
C.I. Disperse Blue 124		61951-51-7
C.I. Disperse Blue 26	C.I. 63 305	
C.I. Disperse Blue 3	C.I. 61 505	2475-45-8
C.I. Disperse Blue 35		12222-75-2
C.I. Disperse Blue 7	C.I. 62 500	3179-90-6
C.I. Disperse Brown 1		23355-64-8
C.I. Disperse Orange 1	C.I. 11 080	2581-69-3
C.I. Disperse Orange 3	C.I. 11 005	730-40-5
C.I. Disperse Orange 37	C.I. 11 132	
C.I. Disperse Orange 76 (previously designated Orange 37)	C.I. 11 132	
C.I. Disperse Red 1	C.I. 11 110	2872-52-8
C.I. Disperse Red 11	C.I. 62 015	2872-48-2
C.I. Disperse Red 17	C.I. 11 210	3179-89-3
C.I. Disperse Yellow 1	C.I. 10 345	119-15-3
C.I. Disperse Yellow 39		
C.I. Disperse Yellow 49		
C.I. Disperse Yellow 9	C.I. 10 375	6373-73-5

APPENDIX B

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The application checklist guides the applicant through the application and verification process. An applicant may collect all information required for the verification of the product and attach the relevant documents to their application. The table below summarises the DoC requirements for each criterion in the standard.

Criterion No.	Criterion Content	Demonstration of Conformance See standard body for details	Evidence Attached	Complies Y/N or NA
FIT FOR PURPOSE CRITERIA				
1. Standard Category Scope				
Criterion 1	Range of products	Description of the product(s) or product range; and a list including the type of fibre/raw material used, the location of pulp and paper mills, the location of manufacturing/assembly sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Fitness for Purpose				
Criterion 2	Applicable standards and demonstrated performance	Documentation identifying applicable standards or performance requirements, and test reports and other relevant documentation to demonstrate that standards and requirements are met and maintained	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 3	Restriction on certain chemicals for products from recycled fibres	Test reports (methods listed in standard) showing that the limits are met	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 4	Restriction for tissue products	Test reports (methods listed in standard showing that the limits are met	<input type="checkbox"/>	
HEALTH CRITERIA				
3. Hazardous Materials				
Criterion 5	No use of substances acutely toxic, carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction, hazardous to the environment, or respiratory or skin sensitisers	Signed declaration of conformance supported by documentation identifying hazardous substances used in materials and production processes or demonstrating by providing data that no substances with classifications listed in Table 1 are used	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Criterion 6	No use of alkylphenol ethoxylates (APEOs)	Signed declaration of conformance from the relevant supplier(s) supported by relevant documentation (e.g. ingredients list, SDS)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 7	No use of elemental chlorine	Signed declaration of conformance from the pulp producer. It is accepted that recycled fibres may have been bleached with chlorine gas in their previous life cycle	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 8	Restrictions on complexing agents EDTA and DTPA	Signed declaration from the pulp/paper producer and/or relevant supplier(s) that EDTA/DTPA are not used; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Documentation stating the use/quantities and, if applicable, emissions of DTPA/EDTA from pulp production, measurement result, method of analysis, frequency of measurement, laboratory name and laboratory compliance	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 9	No phthalates (classified with H360 or H362), no mercury, lead, copper, chromium, nickel, aluminium or cadmium as constituent parts of dyes, pigments or coatings	Declaration of Conformance from the supplier(s) supported by documentation that identifies the dyes, pigments and coatings used; and Relevant SDSs and other information demonstrating the level of impurities, if applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 10	No acrylamide monomer in coatings	Relevant SDSs, demonstrating that no acrylamide monomer is used	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 11	No azodyes or pigments that may release restricted amines	Documentation that identifies the azo dyes or pigments used	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 12	No bioaccumulative biocides	List all biocides used during the different production stages together with test reports for bioaccumulability of biocides or biostatic agents and/or safety data sheets with sufficient data and references to test methods	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 13	No APEOs, phthalates (classified with H360, H361) in cleaning chemicals, and no halogenated solvents	Declaration of Conformance from the supplier(s) supported by SDS and/or other documentation that identifies the preparation(s) used	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 14	De-inking surfactants must be readily biodegradable	List all surfactants used together with relevant test reports showing that the surfactant is readily biodegradable	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Criterion 15	Biodegradability of foam inhibiting substances	List all substances with foam inhibiting or foam retarding effects together with SDSs and relevant test reports showing that the surfactant is readily or ultimately biodegradable, or, if applicable, evidence demonstrating that the foam inhibitors/defoamers are destroyed in chemical recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 16	Restrictions on certain wet strength agents	SDS of the wet-strength agent and other relevant information that can be used to calculate the percentage of the chloro-organic substances	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 17	Other chemical additives required to meet criteria of relevant GECA standard or equivalent	List of additives used identifying applicable criteria of the PCPv4.1-2013 standard together with the DoC required for the relevant criteria	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA				
4. Material Requirements				
Criterion 18	Sustainable Sourcing of fibre raw materials	Signed declaration of compliance, supported by documentation that demonstrates the proportion of fibre types included and geographic origin (country/state and region/province) of the wood and fibre raw material that is used in each product; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		For virgin wood fibre: Relevant certificates or other evidence on forest management certification and chain of custody (to confirm the virgin fibre that is used is from a certified sustainably managed source); and relevant certificates or other evidence to confirm that the wood originates from legal sources	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		For recycled fibre and newspaper products: Documentation that demonstrates whether the fibre is pre or post-consumer; includes any relevant certificates (e.g. FSC recycled)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

		For waste fibre: Documentation that demonstrates the waste source of the fibre (including relevant information and documentation); source of all waste fibre together with evidence of certification (sustainable forest management) if wood waste originates from native forests	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		For bamboo (if >20% overall): Nature and geographical source of all virgin bamboo fibre inputs together with for (a) Relevant forest certification scheme certificates; or for (b) evidence that fibre comes from certified organic plantations; or (c) relevant procurement procedures, and documents and certificates showing legal sources for the bamboo, and declaration that bamboo species do not appear on the CITES list	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Other virgin fibre (non-wood, non-bamboo): Nature and geographical source of all virgin fibre inputs together with relevant certificates or other evidence that fibre comes from certified organic plantations; or certification, harvesting permits or other information to demonstrate that the fibre is legally harvested and does not come from protected areas or areas where ownership rights are in dispute; documentation that describes the procedure for the procurement of sustainable fibre raw materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 19	Starch products must not be derived from genetically modified material	Signed declaration from the producer/supplier of the starch product	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Air and Water Emissions				
Criterion 20	Limits on air and water emissions using point system and reference values	Signed declaration of compliance, supported by documentation that includes:	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Detailed calculations showing compliance to this criterion	<input type="checkbox"/>	

		Relevant documentation and test reports using the following test methods: COD: ISO 6060; NO _x : ISO 11564; S(oxid.): EPA no.8; S(red.): EPA no 16A; S content in oil: ISO 8754; S content in coal: ISO 351; P: EN ISO 6878	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 21	Limit on AOX emissions	Test reports using the following test method: AOX ISO 9562 accompanied by detailed calculations showing compliance with this criterion, together with related supporting documentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 22	Limit on CO ₂ emissions from pulp and paper manufacturing	Signed declaration of compliance, supported by documentation that includes:	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Detailed calculations showing compliance to this criterion. CO ₂ from surplus energy that is sold off in the form of electricity, steam or heat, is subtracted from total emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Data on the air emissions of carbon dioxide. This shall include all sources of non-renewable fuels during the production of pulp and board, including the emissions from the production of electricity (whether on-site or off-site)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 23	Reporting on emissions from transportation	Documentation showing that the paper manufacturer is already reporting on Greenhouse Gas emissions from transportation; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Calculation of annual carbon dioxide emissions given in kg CO ₂ /tonne paper grade or kg CO ₂ /tonne of the mill's total annual production. Details of how the CO ₂ values are calculated with reference to any assumption, the use of databases and suchlike	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 24	Reporting on energy use and initiative to reduce energy use	Signed declaration by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company/licence holder accompanied by documentation that describes the energy management policies, procedures and programmes; and includes reports on energy use and management	<input type="checkbox"/>	

8. Water Usage				
Criterion 25	Water management policies and procedures	Declaration of conformance signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company/licence holder accompanied by documentation that describes the water management policies, procedures and programmes; and includes reports on water use and water use reduction initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Waste Management				
Criterion 26	Procedures around waste handling	Detailed description of the procedures adopted for the waste management of each of the sites concerned and a declaration of compliance with the criterion	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Environmental Management Systems				
Criterion 27	EMS required to be in place	Documentation showing that an EMS is in place at the relevant manufacturing sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Design for Environment				
Criterion 28	Requirements on plastic and paper packaging	Details of materials used as packaging, including information on the input of recycled and virgin materials reported by weight if applicable. The recycled content can be averaged over a 12-month period to find the amount or range of recycled content; and / or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of recyclability or copy of PREP Assessment Report; and/or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of certification under relevant forest certification scheme; and/or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Details of re-use programs for transport materials within the applicant company	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Environmental Claims				
Criterion 29	Public claims made by applicant	Statement of conformance signed by EO, with report showing compliance to ISO 14021	<input type="checkbox"/>	

SOCIAL CRITERIA				
12. Social and Legal Compliance				
Criterion 30	Environmental legislation	Signed declaration confirming conformance to the criterion; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Signed declaration disclosing any breaches of environmental legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Legal register listing applicable environmental legislation (including applicable Regulations under that legislation)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 31	Minimum entitlement including wages	Signed declaration confirming conformance to the criterion; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		List of applicable awards, industrial and registered agreements and number of workers who are covered and not covered	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Text or template of the typical workplace agreement offered to employees, and sample payslips	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 32	Workplace health and safety	Signed declaration stating compliance to workplace legislation and government orders, as well as declaration of any breaches of legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		OHS/WHS policies and procedures; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Copy of employee induction records, training records, meeting records and risk assessments; or current ISO 45001:2018 (or former OHSAS 18001), AS/NZS 4801 or equivalent certification; or third-party certification stating compliance to Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 or equivalent jurisdiction specific legislation; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	

		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		WHS incidents register	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 33	Equal opportunity	Signed declaration confirming conformance to the criterion; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Copy of relevant policies and procedures; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		The assessor will verify that the company does not appear on the WGEA non-compliant list	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 34	Lawful conduct	Signed declaration confirming conformance to the criterion; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 35	Modern slavery	Copy of the published Modern Slavery Statement from within the previous 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criterion 36	Human rights including labour rights	Evidence of commitments to human rights including labour rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Map of at least one tier of their supply chain; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of implementation of a Supplier Code of Conduct; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of assessment of suppliers in relation to human rights and recommendations for improvements in their supply chain	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of ISO20400 implementation; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of valid SA8000® Standard certification or other equivalent certification; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of being a signatory to the UN Global Compact	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		SEDEX Membership; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		GRI 400 Report; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	

		Evidence of commitment to achieve SA8000® Standard certification within one year	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of becoming a signatory to the UN Global Compact within six months; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Evidence of corrective action (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

© Copyright 2021 Good Environmental Choice Ltd ABN 27 118 766 153

Our vision is for a sustainable
future for people and planet

