



# Eco Mark News

Eco Mark News No. 17

Edited and Published by Japan Environment Association Eco Mark Office  
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The “Eco Mark News” has been published since June 14, 1996 by Eco Mark Office in response to a revision of the “General Procedures for the Eco Mark Program”. In this “Eco Mark News”, the information related to Eco Mark Program such as newly selected Eco Mark product category and proposals for certification criteria is provided on the basis of the “General Procedures for the Eco Mark Program”.

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This brochure is using Eco Mark certified printing papers.

## Announcement of (planned) discontinuance of the product category

On January 25, 2000, the third meeting of the Eco Mark Committee for Establishing Category and Criteria (Chairman: Prof. Takashi Gunjima, Faculty of Economics, Doshisha University) of the Japan Environment Association Eco Mark Office was held to discuss about the discontinuance of the product category No. 63, “Load Stabilizing Equipment for Electric Power-Saving”. As a result, the discontinuance of this product category was determined from the reasons described below.

Accordingly, the Eco Mark Office is planning to discontinue this product category by the end of this April.

If you have any comment or opinion on this subject, please refer to the “Acceptance of Opinions on the Discontinued Product Category Certification” shown on the next page.

### <Reason for Discontinuance>

The certification criteria for the subject product aims to “save energy by correcting the voltage imbalance in each phase of the single-phase three-wire system”, as shown in Attachment 1. However, the energy-saving effect due to lowering of the voltage in use was actually included because there was no description on the method for testing the energy-saving effectiveness of more than 10% in the criteria. For this reason, the Eco Mark Committee for Product Certification requested a more strict application of the certification criteria. After reviewing the test methods,

however, the certification of products was found difficult when this criterion was applied strictly. Accordingly, the continuance of this product category was determined not appropriate.

<Planned Date of Discontinuance>

The criteria for this product category will be discontinued effective April 30, 2000 (planned date).

<p><b>“Acceptance of Opinions on the Discontinued Product Category Certification”</b></p> <p>(1) Acceptance by mail and FAX</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Address, Name, Gender, Occupation, Contact Address, Telephone number, FAX number</li><li>- Name of the proposal Eco Mark Product Prototype criterion to give opinion</li><li>- Opinions on the above proposal criterion</li></ul> <p>A summary of the above matters should be sent in writing (on A4 size paper) <u>to Eco Mark Office, Japan Environment Association at the address below by Friday, April 14, 2000 by mail (postmark effective) or FAX.</u></p> <p>Japan Environment Association, Eco Mark Office Toranomom Takagi Building 7F, 1-7-2, Nishi-Shinbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0003 TEL: +81-3-3508-2653 FAX: +81-3-3508-2656</p>
<p>(2) Acceptance by e-mail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Address, Name, Gender, Occupation, Contact Address, Telephone number, FAX number, e-mail address</li><li>- Name of the proposal Eco Mark Product Prototype criterion to give opinion</li><li>- Opinions on the above proposal criterion</li></ul> <p>A summary of the above matters should be sent <u>to the address below by 17:00, Friday, April 14, 2000 by e-mail.</u></p> <p>e-mail: <a href="mailto:ecomark@japan.email.ne.jp">ecomark@japan.email.ne.jp</a></p>

### Revision of the product category certification criteria

The revision of certification criteria for the following three product categories was discussed in the Third Meeting of the Eco Mark Committee for Establishing Category and Criteria. As a result, the revision of those criteria was decided, and the Eco Mark Office has revised the criteria as follows effective January 25, 2000.

1) No. 57 “Ornamental Sound Absorbing Board of Rock Wool Using Steel Slag”

<Reason for the Revision>

In relation to provisions 1.(1) and (3) in the criteria, the applicable Japan Industrial Standard (JIS A6307) has been revised.

<Before Revision>

1.(1) The product shall be the ornamental sound absorbing board of rock wool, prescribed by

the Japan Industrial Standard, JIS A6307, and using the rock wool which contains more than 80% of steel slag.

1.(3) The quality shall comply with the requirements of JIS A6307.

<After Revision>

1.(1) The product shall be the ornamental sound absorbing board of rock wool, prescribed by the Japan Industrial Standard, JIS A6301, and using the rock wool which contains more than 80% of steel slag.

1.(3) The quality shall comply with the requirements of JIS A6301, applicable to “Ornamental Sound Absorbing Board of Rock Wool”.

2) No. 68 “Office Chair with Easy-to-Replace/Repair Parts”

<Reason for the Revision>

JIS S1032 has been revised from “Steel Office Chair” to “Office Chair” in February 1999, and its scope of application has been expanded. Furthermore, JIS S1011 is a standard that gives provisions for the “size of office chairs”.

<Before Revision>

1.(5) The quality shall comply with JIS S1101 for the office chair, and JIS S1032 for the steel office chair.

<After Revision>

1.(5) The quality shall comply with JIS S1011, “Size of the Office Chair”, and JIS S1032, “Office Chair”. However, the chair for reception room, prescribed in JIS S1032, 4.1 c) is excluded from the scope of application.

3) No. 108 “Sanitary Paper”

<Reason for the Revision>

The test method for elution of fluorescent materials in JIS S3104 has been revised, and the number of Standard has been changed accordingly.

<Before Revision>

4-2.(1) The fluorescence shall comply with the requirements of JIS S3104, Article 7 Fluorescence (6).

<After Revision>

4-2.(1) The fluorescence shall comply with the requirements of JIS S3104, Article 7.7 Elution of Fluorescent Materials.

### **Results of the review of reexamined criterion, “Plastic Product Using Recycled Materials (Draft)”**

As for this subject, a hearing was held on January 14, 2000. Based on this hearing, the establishment of this reexamined criterion was discussed in the Third Meeting of the Eco Mark Committee for Establishing Category and Criteria. As a result, further review was determined necessary for this criterion, and the subject was carried over to the next meeting.

## “Load Stabilizing Equipment for Electric Power-Saving”

The Japan Environment Association  
Eco Mark Committee

The certification criteria for the “Load Stabilizing Equipment for Electric Power-Saving” shall be as follows:

### 1. Certification Criteria

(1) The load stabilizing equipment for electric power-saving is a device for saving electric power by correcting the imbalance of electrical voltage between each phase of single-phase three-wire system installed between the input and load at the user site.

(2) The electric power-saving efficiency of using the subject equipment shall be more than 10%.

(3) The quality and safety of the product shall comply with the Institute of Electrical Engineers of Japan, Electrical Standard Review Committee’s standard, JEC-204-1987.

(4) The product shall not incorporate materials that are restricted for use or difficult to dispose of (heavy metals, materials that generate hazardous substances at incineration, etc).

### 2. Conditions for Certification

(1) The classification of products shall be by model, and there shall be no classification by capacity.

(2) The effectiveness marking in the lower column of the Mark shall be “Energy-saving”.

Established January 1, 1995.

## NEWS

### **Eco Mark Product Catalog**

Recently, the "Eco Mark Product Catalog" (2000 Edition) was published by Chikuma Shuhan Publishing. All Eco Mark certified products up to August 20, 1999 are included in this catalog, and 618 Eco Mark certified products from 247 companies are presented with pictures by category. Also, the certification criteria are described briefly, and reasons for the certification for each product is presented.

For the information about purchasing products presented in the catalog, please contact the suppliers of those Eco Mark products directly. Price: 1,000 Yen (tax exclusive)

#### How to buy the Catalog:

(Book Store) Can be obtained at major bookstores including Kinokuniya, Maruzen, Yaesu Book Center, Yurin-do, Junku-do, Asahiya Bookstore, and Libro, and the Government Publications Center.

(Post) Please send a post card, writing the name, postal area code, address, telephone number, and number of copies required, to the address below. Invoice will be sent later and postage is free.

30-1 Miyamotocho, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 174-8790  
Chikuma Shuhan Publishing, Eco Mark Product Catalog

### **On the Green Purchase Fair**

The Association will hold the Green Purchase Fair entrusted by the Environment Agency of Japan.

The Fair will provide a place for information exchange in green purchase practices for the purposes such as the exhibition and demonstration of environment preserving products and services by the suppliers, presentation of the grass-roots activities in green purchasing, and propose the practice of selecting environment-conscious products. The Eco Mark Office will introduce the latest scheme of system and product certification criteria in "Eco Mark Introduction Corner". Besides the exhibition, symposia and lectures on the green purchase practices and Eco Mark will be held, and the information on the Eco Label will be provided. The objective of this event is to establish the first step toward the advance of green purchase practices with an integrated effort of consumers, local governments, and private enterprises. Admission will be free of charge.

(Sponsor) The Environment Agency of Japan, Local Government of the Fair sites, The Japan Environment Association

(Joint Sponsor) The Green Purchase Network, Green Purchase Fair Executive Committee

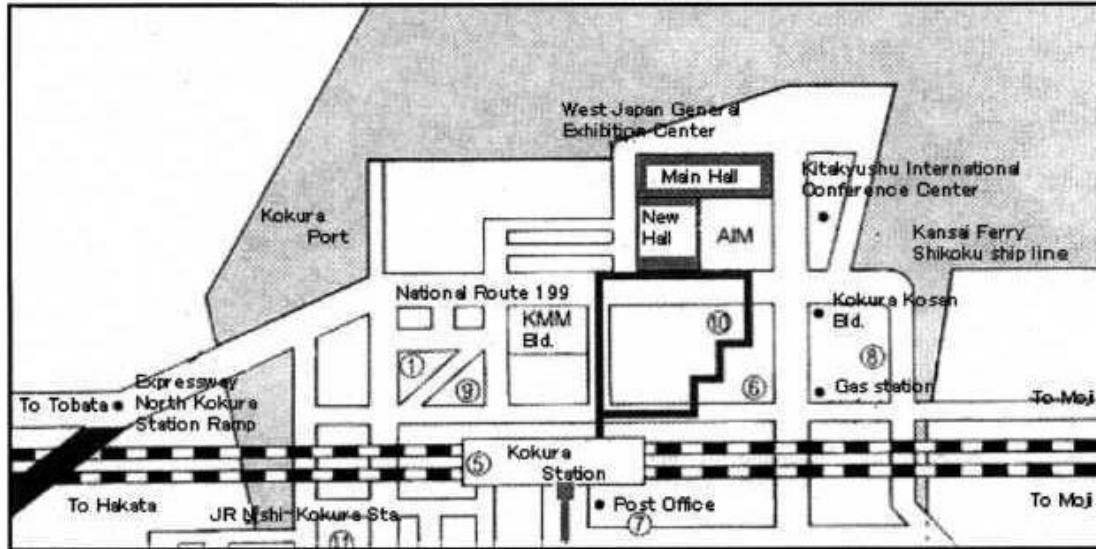
(Supporter) The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (planned)

Green Purchase Fair – Kitakyusyu

Date: March 17 (Friday) - 18 (Saturday), 10:00 – 17:00

Place: (Exhibition) West Japan General Exhibition Center, Medium Exhibition Room of the Main Hall

(Seminar) West Japan General Exhibition Center, Conference Room

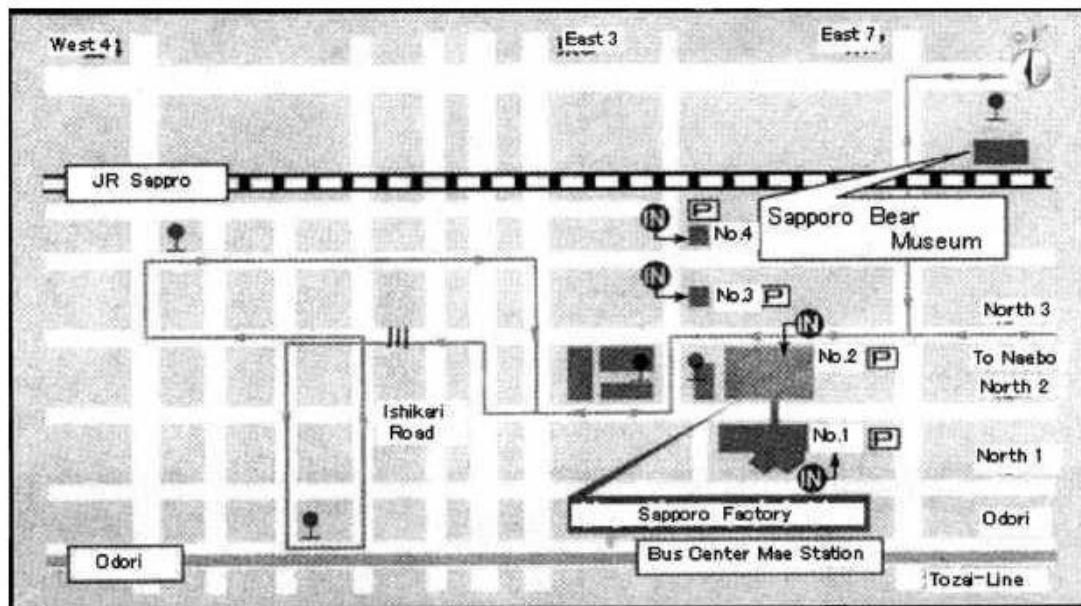


Green Purchase Fair - Sapporo

Date: March 24 (Friday) - 25 (Saturday), 10:00 – 17:00

Place: (Exhibition) Sapporo Factory, Event Plaza

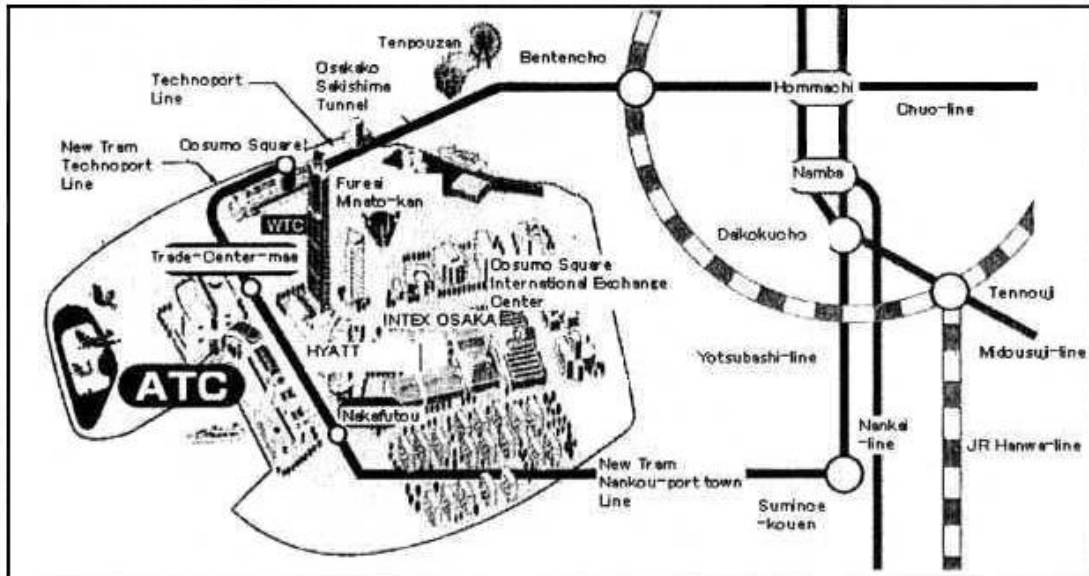
(Seminar) Factory Hall



Green Purchase Fair – Osaka

Date: March 29 (Wednesday) - 30 (Thursday), 10:00 – 17:00

Place: (Exhibition) ATC (Asia and Pacific Trade Center) O's Building South, A Hall  
(Seminar) ATC D Hall



For further information, please contact: Green Purchase Fair Executive Office, The Japan Environment Association

Person in charge: Nakamura, Yasumatsu

Toranomon Takagi Building 7F, 1-7-2, Nishi-Shinbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0003

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