

Eco Mark Product Category No.107

“Printing Paper Version3”  
Certification Criteria

—Applicable Scope—

Printing paper.

Excludes drawing papers included in the “writing and art papers” category designated in the “Paper and Pulp Statistics Annual Report” by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

Established: May 1, 2009  
Term of validity: April 30, 2016

Japan Environment Association  
Eco Mark Office

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

## Eco Mark Product Category No.107

### “Printing Paper Version3” Certification Criteria

Japan Environment Association  
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#### 1. Purpose of Establishing Certification Criteria

Annual production of printing paper in Japan in 2007 totaled some 9.97 million tons. Printing paper is widely used for books, leaflets and many other applications.

The scam of falsely reporting the percentage of waste paper pulp (in the problem which started with New Year greeting postcards made from recycled paper, it was found that for office paper or communication paper, etc. included in Eco Mark Product Categories, the waste paper pulp was falsely mixed at the rate lower than the standard waste paper pulp percentage of the Eco Mark), which was revealed in January 2008, developed into the major social problem. It confused a number of people including printers or consumers who had promoted separate collection of waste papers, etc. In order to regain trust in the Eco Mark as third party authentication, and cope with the scam of the percentage of waste paper pulp, the Japan Environment Association conducted site visits to paper manufacturing plants and sampling analysis, etc., and released results thereof. At the same time, on the basis of the review made by “the Exploratory Committee on Measures to Prevent Recurrence of Deception of Eco Mark Environment”, which was established to take actions to strengthen the Eco Mark System and its operation, the Association revised Certification Criteria Version2 in an attempt to build the inquiry and confirmation system of production sites by exercising complete control and specifying manufacturing plants/plant control managers, etc., thus enhancing the certification screening. In this review of the Certification Criteria Version3, it made a study to regain trust of consumers, etc. in the Eco Mark and recycled paper and not to discourage their efforts to recycle waste paper, clarified the definition of the percentage of waste paper pulp, etc., and newly drew up requirements for handling of waste sheets and the mixture rate, so that any similar problem can be prevented.

In this product category, as a review of Certification Criteria of No.107 “Printing Paper Version 2”, use of waste paper is continuously promoted, and information paper that is environment conscious in aspects of raw material, manufacturing, recycling, disposal, etc. is featured.

#### 2. Applicable Scope

Printing paper. Excludes drawing papers included in the “writing and art papers” category designated in the “Paper and Pulp Statistics Annual Report” by the Ministry

of International Trade and Industry.

### 3. Terminology

Printing paper	Paper produced for the printing of books and magazines and as writing paper for use in notebooks, etc.
Uncoated paper	Office paper with no white pigmentation applied to its surfaces.
Light-weight coated paper	Office paper with less than 12g of white pigmentation per square meter applied to both surfaces.
Coated paper	Office paper with 15g-40g of white pigmentation per square meter applied to both surfaces to enhance printability.
Waste paper	Collected post-consumer waste paper and pre-consumer waste paper.
Post-consumer waste paper	Used paper generated in shops, offices, or homes.
Pre-consumer waste paper	<p>Paper diverted from the waste stream during the processing stage at facilities which use paper for material such as paper processing factories, paper products factories, printing and bookbinding plants. Excluded is paper generated during processing (in the factories) and reused as a raw material during the same process (and factories).</p> <p>However, if waste paper resulting from the paper making process in a plant or works of a party (hereinafter referred to as “paper manufacturer”) that conducts business related to the paper manufacturing industry (hereinafter referred to as “plants, etc.”) or those resulting when processing, etc. is performed in the plants, etc. of the paper manufacturer (including the case in which the paper manufacturer has other contractor to conduct processing through commissioning of the product before its shipment) is not shipped as a product, and used as raw material for papers by the paper manufacturer, they shall not be treated as waste paper (from “Regarding operation of ministry ordinances, etc. defining matters that should be criteria for judgment on use of waste paper of those who conduct business related to the paper manufacturing industry” of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry dated December 24, Heisei 3 (1991)).</p>
Percentage of waste paper pulp	Weight percentage of waste paper pulp in the total pulp contained in the product. Indicated as $(\text{waste paper pulp}) / (\text{virgin pulp} + \text{waste paper pulp}) \times 100 (\%)$ . Pulp containing 10% moisture is used to measure the weight. In addition, waste sheets shall not be included in the denominator and numerator, respectively, of the calculating formula of waste paper pulp combination rate.
Waste sheet	<p>Waste paper resulting from the paper making process. Waste paper include waste paper that is wet due to a wet part of a paper machine and dry waste paper after a drying part and resulting from the finish process. This is normally used as defiberization (From JISP0001: Terms of Paper/Paper Board and Pulp).</p> <p>The wet waste paper may be referred to a wet broke, the dry</p>

	wet paper as dry broke, the wet paper that is used as raw material in the system may be referred to as circumfluence waste sheets, and those once stored in the plant and then used as raw material may be referred to as loaded waste sheets.
Brightness	ISO whiteness degree (diffuse blue reflectance) defined in JIS P8148 or degree of whiteness of pulp or paper according to the Hunter method defined by JAPAN TAPPI (Japan Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry). In addition, a controlled standard value refers to a value specified in a written technical standard (quality standard), etc. and controlled in a manufacturing plant.
Fluorescent whitening agent	An agent that fluoresces under UV light and visually enhances the whiteness of paper.
Prescription constituents	Components intentionally added with the purpose of providing specific characteristics to the product. Impurities that inevitably enter during the manufacturing process are excluded.
Prohibited materials	Those materials defined as prohibited materials in the “Waste paper Quality Standard” established by the Paper Recycling Promotion Center (Incorporated Foundation)

#### 4. Certification Criteria and Certification Procedure

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

- (1) The percentage of the waste paper in the pulp mixture shall be at least 70%.

[Certification Procedure]

A paper quality certificate issued by a paper manufacturer who manufactures base paper, which indicates the percentage of waste paper pulp (a specific minimum numerical value to be guaranteed), and includes items 1) and 2) below, shall be submitted.

- 1) Thorough management at a manufacturing plant (by specifying the percentage of waste paper pulp of Eco Mark products in a written technical standard (quality standard), etc.)
- 2) Clear indication of names of those who are in charge of manufacturing or quality control of Eco Mark products at a manufacturing plant (hereinafter referred to as a person in charge of Eco Mark products)

In addition, “Checklist for Verification System of Percentage of Waste Paper Pulp” (April 2, 2008: Japan Paper Association) or a document, etc. in accordance therewith and related to result of an internal audit on the percentage of waste paper pulp of a paper manufacturer, and a sample (10 sheets of A-4 paper) shall be submitted.

In addition, the paper quality certificate and the document, etc. related to result of an internal audit on the percentage of waste paper pulp shall be submitted every year after a use contract is concluded.

- (2) In order to control energy consumption during manufacturing, efforts shall be made to reduce waste sheets and prevent overuse of waste sheets.

[Certification Procedure]

A report on the percentage of usage of waste sheet in an Eco Mark product (mean per one representative lot) to be issued by a paper manufacturer who manufacture base paper shall be submitted.

In addition, the report on the percentage of usage of waste sheet shall be submitted every year after a use contract is concluded.

- (3) When virgin pulp (excluding virgin pulp manufactured from thinned wood, and those manufactured from recycled resources such as lower grade timber and mill ends, etc. generated from plywood and sawmills) is used, the timber used for material wood must be harvested in legal manner consistent with procedures in the forest laws of timber producing countries.

[Certification Procedure]

A certificate shall be submitted to prove that the timber whose legality has been verified\* in accordance with “Guideline for Verification on Legality and Sustainability of Wood and Wood Products” of Forestry Agency has been in custody to be separated by the applicant or the paper manufacturer and is supplied to the applied products. At the same time, the applicant or the paper manufacturer who issues the above certificate shall submit any of the following certificates:

- 1) Certificate that the applicant or the paper manufacturer has been assessed and authenticated by the CoC (Chain of Custody) Certification System;
- 2) Certificate of the authorized company (that guarantees the association member’s adequate way of supplying wood and wood products verified with legality, etc.); and
- 3) Code of management practice which stipulates the way of custody to manage wood and wood products verified with legality (the method in the case that the timber verified with legality only is handled. The same applies to hereunder), retention of certificates for a predetermined period, etc.

In the event that Item 2) or 3) above is chosen and the certificate is submitted, the applicant or the paper manufacturer who issues the above-mentioned certificates shall publicly announce through its Web site the code of management practice prescribed by the association concerned in the case of Item 2) and shall prescribe and publicly announce through its Web site the code of management practice concerning the scheme to assess and guarantee the system for separative management, document management for retention of certificates for a predetermined period, etc. in the case of Item 3).

\*Confirm the certificate issued by the related company closest in commercial process, which at least verifies that wood and wood products they supply are with legality and under separative custody management

- (4) The coating amount on the coated printing paper shall be 30 g/m<sup>2</sup> or less on both sides. However, the maximum amount per side shall be 17g/ m<sup>2</sup>

[Certification Procedure]

Certificates on the volume of coating issued by paper manufacturers shall be submitted. The certificates shall include the specific volumes of coating for single- and dual-sided specifications.

- (5) The brightness of uncoated printing paper shall be about less than 70%. However, an allowable error of  $\pm 3\%$  in control of manufacturing processes shall be permitted.

[Certification Procedure]

ISO whiteness degree (diffuse blue reflectance) defined in JIS P8148 and issued by a paper manufacturer or a controlled standard value according to the Hunter method defined by JAPAN TAPPI (Japan Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry) shall be indicated.

- (6) Addition of fluorescent whitening agents as prescription constituents shall be minimized.

[Certification Procedure]

Certificates issued by the paper manufacturer indicating whether fluorescent whitening agents are used shall be submitted. If used, the amount of the agent used shall be included in the certificate

- (7) Azo colorants (dyes and pigments) which may generate one or more amines of Table 1 in the decomposition of one or more azo radicals by reduction shall not be used. If used, one or more amines listed in Table 1 shall not be detected in 30 mg per kg or more of the product.

Table1 Amines that shall not be generated as a result of the decomposition of azo radicals

	Chemical substance	CAS No.
1	4-aminodiphenyl	92-67-1
2	benzidine	92-87-5
3	4-chloro-0-toluidine	95-69-2
4	2-naphthylamine	91-59-8
5	0-aminoazotoluene	97-56-3
6	2-amino-4-nitrotoluene	99-55-8
7	p-chloroaniline	106-47-8
8	2,4-diaminoanisole	615-05-4
9	4,4'diaminophenylmethane	101-77-9
10	3,3'dichlorobenzidine	91-94-1
11	3,3'dimethoxybenzidine	119-90-4
12	3,3'dimethylbenzidine	119-93-7
13	3,3'dimethyl-4,4'diaminodiphenylmethane	838-88-0
14	p-cresidine	120-71-8
15	4,4'methylene-bis-(2-chloroaniline)	101-14-4
16	4,4'oxydianiline	101-80-4
17	4,4'thiodianiline	139-65-1
18	0-toluidine	95-53-4
19	2,4-toluilenediamine	95-80-7
20	2,4,5-trimethylaniline	137-17-7
21	0-anisidine	90-04-0
22	4-amino- azobenzen	60-90-3

[Certification Procedure]

Certificates issued by the paper manufacturer indicating whether the concerned

substances are used shall be submitted. If used, one of the three certificates 1) to 3) below issued by the paper manufacturer to certify that no amines in Table 2 have been detected exceeding 30 mg per kg of the product shall be submitted.

- 1) Certificates specifying that no colorants exceeding 30 mg per kg of the product are contained.
- 2) Certificates specifying that no amines in Table 2 have been detected exceeding 30 mg per kg of the product after considering every such risk in theory.
- 3) Certificates specifying that no amines in Table 2 exceeding 30 mg per kg of the product have been detected by an analysis method prescribed in the list of public testing methods based on Article 35 of the German law on foods and daily supplies.

- (8) Chlorine gas bleaching shall not be conducted for virgin pulp used in the applied product.

[Certification Procedure]

Certificates issued by the paper manufacturer shall be submitted.

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

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

[Certification Procedure]

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

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

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

- 5) State of implementation based on recurrence prevention measures (result of checking of the state of compliance, including the result of onsite inspection).

In addition, if the PRTR law is applicable to a plant manufacturing products and substances covered thereby (Class 1 designated chemical substance) are used more than the prescribed amount the reporting responsibility of which is defined by the law, a certificate stating the amount of emission and transfer of each substance to be issued by Manager of the plant manufacturing the product shall be submitted.

- (10) The product shall contain no prohibited materials.

[Certification Procedure]  
Details shall be indicated in the Attached Certificate

- (11) The product packaging shall be designed to facilitate recycling and shall impart a reduced environmental burden when incinerated.

[Certification Procedure]  
Details shall be indicated in the Attached Certificate

- (12) Eco Mark or the percentage of waste paper pulp (a minimum numerical value to be guaranteed) shall be indicated on a product package.

[Certification Procedure]  
A display plan draft showing Eco Mark indication or the percentage of waste paper pulp on the package shall be submitted.

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

- (13) For quality and safety, appropriate quality criteria shall be met or quality control shall be adequate in the manufacturing process. For items prescribed with measuring methods by the Japanese Industrial Standards, etc., the measurements obtained according to these procedures shall be submitted. In addition, the basis weight shall be controlled within  $\pm 5\%$  of a controlled standard value of each product lot during production.

[Certification Procedure]  
Certification stating that the product complies with appropriate quality criteria shall be submitted. Otherwise, certificates specifying that the quality control was adequately implemented in the manufacturing stage and that no laws and regulations have been violated shall be submitted. In addition, a controlled standard value of basis weight shall be submitted.

Established: May 1, 2009 (Version3.0)

Term of Validity: April 30, 2016

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