

Eco Mark Product Category No.128

“Household Commodity Version1.10”
Certification Criteria

Established: July 1, 2004
Term of validity: June 30, 2015

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.128

“Household Commodity Version1.10” Certification Criteria

Japan Environment Association
Eco Mark Office

1. Purpose of Establishing Certification Criteria

Commodities consist of various products, ranging broadly from kitchen utensils to tableware, home and living supplies, etc. They are the most closely related daily-use products to consumers. Setting an Eco Mark Category for such a group of commodities to recommend eco-friendly products within the category to consumers would therefore contribute enormously to reducing environmental impact in daily living, as well as enhance the environmental awareness of consumers. For this reason, the establishment of this Product Category is considered to have vast environmental significance.

Under the Eco Mark program, the certification criteria of several current product categories have been established taking material into account, namely Product Category No.115 “Wooden Products Using Waste Wood, Thinned-Out Wood, Small-Diameter Logs, etc.”, No. 118 “Plastic Products Using Recycled Materials”, and No.124 “Glass Products”. This new Product Category was established by integrating the commodity products included in those product categories and adding tableware, kitchen utensils, footwear, and home and living supplies to cover a broad range of products.

Currently existing eight categories of the Eco Mark program cover kitchen utensils including sponges, coffee filters, cooking oil filters, rubber gloves, waste oil absorbers, draining filter bags, strainers, and triangle strainers for kitchen sinks. They have also been organized and integrated into this Commodity category. For these types of products, previous criteria were established from the environmental perspective of preventing discharge of water pollutants, using natural materials, and non-bleaching, but as a result of a general evaluation based on the new product lifecycle concept, they were reviewed also from the perspectives of effective use of resources and chemical substances this time.

As a specific example, Product Category No.5 “Absorbents for Used Cooking Oil” was established for the purpose of reducing waste by preventing the discharge of waste oil which causes water pollution and the use of recycled material, while in this Product Category, the effective use of thinned-wood and waste fiber (cloth, etc.) as unused material differing from recycled material was selected as a new criteria.

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.

2. Applicable Scope

Applicable products of this Product Category are those shown in Attachment 1,

selected out of the product categories covered by the Standard Commodity Classification for Japan, issued by the Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications. They include “products made of rubber fabricated basic materials such as general rubber hose, rubber gloves, and rubber matting (dust control mats, power conduction and power elimination mats, etc.)”, “filter bags for vacuum cleaners from other consumer electronic and electric appliances”, “kitchen utensils and tableware, except silverware, plated ware and similar metalwares”, “footwear (excluding those made of leather)”, “compacts, cosmetic brushes, combs, and artificial flowers from jewelry, personal adornments and silverware”, “other household equipment and utensils (excluding photo frames)”, “home massage devices, supplies for the sick, and baby goods from medical supplies and related products”, and “matches, buttons, religious accessories, and bamboo products from other living and cultural supplies”.

However, for products using electricity other than automatic can litter collectors, packaging boxes of specific products, and products not applicable to “4-1-3 Criteria for individual products in Certification Criteria”, products whose weight percentage of metal materials, leather materials, and stone that make up more than 50% of the total product weight are excluded.

Applicable	Non-applicable products
Products in Attachment 1 out of: rubber hoses, gloves, mats filter bags for vacuum cleaners, kitchen utensils, tableware, footwear, toiletries, supplies for the sick, etc., other household equipment and utensils, other living and cultural supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electric appliances • Packaging boxes for specific products • Products not subject to specific criteria + products made up of over 50% metal, leather, or stone material • Products on left not given in Attachment 1

3. Terminology

Terms for the common criteria	
Disposal products	Products not intended for repeated use while other products in the same area are used repeatedly with durability.
Reusable	Nature of products and packaging designed for repeated use for a certain number of times through recycling.
Recycling	Indicates material recycling. Does not include energy recovery (thermal recycling).
Prescription constituents	Components intentionally added with the purpose of providing specific characteristics to the product. Impurities which are inevitably mixed during the manufacturing process are excluded.
Plastic sheet	Plate-like thin plastic with 0.25mm and more thickness
Terms for material	
Recycled material	Materials made of post-consumer materials, pre-consumer materials, or a mixture of these. In

	this Product Category, includes waste fiber.
Pre-consumer material	Materials or defective products generated from disposal route of manufacturing process. However, excludes those recycled within the same process as the raw material (same plant).
Post-consumer material	Materials or products disposed after used as a product.
Terms for paper	
Percentage of waste paper in the pulp mixture	Weight percentage of waste pulp in pulp contained in product. Expressed by $(\text{waste paper pulp}) / (\text{virgin pulp} + \text{waste paper pulp}) \times 100 (\%)$. However, the weight of the pulp is measured under the condition of containing 10% moisture. For materials with 100% yield such as pulp mold and cushioning made of cut waste paper, percentage of waste paper in pulp mixture is taken to be 100% regardless of the actual percentage.
Terms for wood	
Reused/Unused wood	Indicates the following: thinned wood, waste wood, construction waste wood, and less useful wood.
Thinned wood	Wood produced from work activities adjusting the individual density of the objective tree type according to the congested state of forest stand.
Waste wood	Used wood (used packaging material, etc.), remainder material generated in wood processing plants (shavings generated in plywood and lumber plants, etc, low quality chips not used as raw material for paper, etc.), and wood and wooden materials such as trimmed branches, bark, etc.
Construction waste wood	Wood and wooden materials disposed as waste in construction work such as dismantling of buildings, construction of new buildings, building extensions, renovation, and construction related to other work.
Less useful wood	Abandoned lumber in the forest, shrubs, tree roots, wood obtained from lumber damaged by disease, pests, disasters, bent or small diameter logs, etc. Also includes bamboo cut down in bamboo groves for the purpose of maintenance and management in environment preservation. Small diameter logs measuring less than 14 cm in diameter corresponding to “a” or “b” below must be certified as forests sustainably managed by an independent third party. a. Small diameter logs from logs felled from natural forests. b. Small diameter logs from logs produced by clear cutting, patch logging, and strip logging in plantation forests.
Waste plant fiber	Fiber made from agricultural residue (such as stalks that are usually disposed, etc.) generated in harvesting and manufacturing process of crop.

Wooden part	Actual wood (including plant fiber)
Terms for plastic	
Plastic	Materials made of single or multiple polymers, additives, fillers, etc. added to give characteristics
Polymer	Macromolecules, which are the main components of plastic.
Terms for glass	
Glass cullet content	Percentage of glass cullet in the whole glass materials used in a product. i.e. Glass cullet content = Glass cullet/Whole glass materials (per product), (materials are expressed in weight)
Cullet	Glass materials recycle-processed (sorting, elimination of foreign bodies, etc.) from waste glass
Terms for fiber	
Waste fiber	Fibers consisting of cotton linter, staples produced in spinning, etc. In this product category, use as a raw material of paper or pulp is excluded.
Recycled fibers	Recovered wool fiber, recycled PET fiber, or chemically recycled fiber.
Recovered wool fiber	Fibers consisting of used wool including lint from spinning plants, cut lint from clothing plants, and used clothing (including torn), etc.
Recycled polymer fiber:	Fibers made of recycled resins using recovered flakes, or pellets, etc. of post-consumer and pre-consumer materials.
Pre-consumer material	Wastes generated from the disposal route of processes manufacturing synthetic polymer products and synthetic fiber products. However, this excludes those recycled in the same process (plant) as raw materials.
Post-consumer material	Synthetic polymer products such as PET and synthetic fiber products disposed after use. Includes used packaging material.
Chemically recycled fiber:	Fibers consisting of polymers obtained through polymerization using monomers as raw materials that are obtained by depolymerizing used nylon or polyester products and pre-consumer materials.
Ozone bleaching	A method for scouring and bleaching chemical fibers by applying oxidation bleaching action of ozone and having ozone react with fibers at lower temperatures than usual bleaching method.

4. Certification Criteria and Certification Procedure

To show conformance to the individual criteria item, the respective Attached Certificates shall be submitted.

When certified products under Product Category No. 118 “Plastic Products Using Recycled Materials” are reexamined under this product category, certification procedure of “Raw Material Certificate” issued by a raw material

supplier, which is one of the certificates in 4-1-2.C(15), 4-1-2.C(16),(18)-(19) and 4-2.(51) can be replaced by declaration of no change from those certificates of current certified products with submission of attached certificate filled with necessary information.

4-1. Environmental Criteria and Certification Procedure

4-1-1. Common Criteria and Certification Procedure

(1) In manufacturing, related environmental laws and regulations and pollution control agreement must be followed with respect to air pollution, water contamination, noise, offensive odor, and emission of hazardous substances.

[Certification Procedure]

A certificate by the manager of the plant manufacturing the product shall be submitted to certify that relevant local environmental laws, regulations, etc. have been observed with no violation for the last 5 (five) years before the filing of the application

(2) Products shall not increase waste (not be products that are disposable). However, this requirement does not apply to paper bird and animal bleeding supplies.

[Certification Procedure]

The category name of the applied product shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage according to Attachment 1.

(3) Products shall consist of less than 50% metal for the total product weight. However, this requirement does not apply to triangle strainers for kitchen sinks, strainers for kitchen sinks, food oil filters, and can litter collectors.

[Certification Procedure]

The total weight of metals used in the applied products shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage.

(4) Products shall be shipped in the unpackaged state or in simple packaging at the retail stage. Products shipped in simple packaging shall meet the following criteria for packaging material:

~~a. Percentage of waste paper in the pulp mixture shall be above 70%~~

~~b. Percentage of waste paper in the pulp mixture of board paper shall be above 90%~~

~~e.~~ Weight percentage of recycled polymers in the total raw material polymers used in plastic sheets shall be above 60%. Material labeling of plastic materials used for packaging shall conform to ISO11469. However, labeling can be omitted in accordance with the standards on ID marks in the “report developed by the Package Labeling Review Committee” (Ministry of Economics, Trade and Industry) such as “labeling for plain containers”, “labeling for containers with physical restrictions of display space, etc.”, “labeling conditions and methods for multi-layer containers, etc.”, “labeling for packaging printed with company/brand

name”, and “labeling on export products”.

[Certification Procedure]

The packaging state in the retail stage of products, packaging material used (content rate of recycled materials), material labeling state shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage. (Drawings and photographs can be used to supplement description). If material labeling is omitted, the reason shall be indicated.

- (5) Plastic materials used for packaging shall not be added with polymers including halogens, and organic halogenides shall not be added to products as prescription constituents.

[Certification Procedure]

whether polymers including halogens and organic halogenides have been added to packaging shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage.

4-1-2. Material criteria and Certification Procedure

Materials of which the product is composed shall meet the material criteria specified below. However, the following material criteria shall not apply to small accessories (screws, shoestrings and other small parts required by the product function) and (14) shall apply to adhesive and the other material criteria shall not apply to adhesives.

A. Paper

- (6) Percentage of waste paper in the pulp mixture shall be above 70%.

For filter bags of vacuum cleaners, the percentage of waste wood in the pulp mixture shall be above 20%, and that of parts other than the filter shall be above 70%.

For “Kitchen sink filter water draining paper bag”, the percentage of waste paper in the pulp mixture shall be above 20%. This criteria does not apply to cooking oil absorbing material, and pet sheets and cat litter among products for breeding birds and animals.

- (7) The coating amount on coated printing paper shall be 30 g/m² or less on both sides. However, the maximum amount per side shall be 17g/ m².
- (8) The brightness of uncoated printing paper shall be about less than 70%.
- (9) Addition of fluorescent whitening agents as a prescription constituent shall be minimized.
- (10) Chlorine gas shall not be used in the bleaching process of pulp.

[Certification Procedure]

Certificates issued by the paper manufacturer shall be submitted. For (6) and (7), the waste paper pulp content, and specific coating amount (numerical value) on either and both sides shall be indicated. Documents indicating the results of brightness tests by the Hunter method or based on the ISO whiteness (diffuse

blue reflectance factor) shall be submitted. These documents shall indicate the specific whiteness value for the test results, whether florescent whiteners are added. If added, the amount used in the documents submitted.
Whether chlorine has is used in the pulp whitening process shall be indicated.

B. Wood

(11) The percentage of reused/unused wood or waste plant fiber provided by terminology as materials for wooden parts shall be 100% (weight percentage). Less useful wood with small diameters shall satisfy Attachment 2 for forest certification if corresponding to “a” or “b”. This criteria does not apply to cooking oil absorbing material, and pet sheets and cat litter among products for breeding birds and animals.

(Note) The weight percentage means the weight percentage of the product or each material at the air dried state*1 or at the point of constant weight*2 under the condition of a temperature of $20\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ and humidity of $65\pm 5\%$.

*1: Indicates leaving in a well-ventilated room for seven days or more.

*2: Change is less than 0.1% when weight is measured every 24 hours.

*1 is not applicable if lumber and logs are used. It can be applied when using wood corresponding to the water content percentage of 15% or below in domestic and overseas public dried material water content percentage criteria.

[Certification Procedure]

Documents issued by the raw material vendor certifying that the raw material is reused /unused wood or waste plant fibers shall be submitted. If there are multiple vendors, a list of the vendors and list of certification of the top 10 vendors in terms of volume of material traded shall be submitted.

If using thinned wood as the material, a certificate of origin that includes information on the place of production, type of tree, and year of planting shall be submitted with photographs of the forest concerned (showing clearly that the forest stand has been thinned). The thinning percentage and how many times the forest stand has been thinned, including the most recent thinning shall also be indicated if possible.

If using less useful wood, the following information shall be submitted. At the same time, official documents stating that the forest has been certified as sustainable by a third party shall be submitted.

- Type of forest (natural or man-made, etc.), place of production, type of tree, and year of tree planting if man-made forest.
- Under what conditions was the wood produced (damaged by disease/pests, damaged by disaster, bent or narrow trees, etc.). For small diameter log, indicate logging method and tip end diameter.

If using bamboo as the raw material in less useful wood, certificates indicating the following information and photographs/maps of the surroundings of the bamboo grove shall be submitted.

- Type of bamboo, place of production, surrounding conditions, and description that logging is carried out for the purpose of appropriate maintenance and management in environment preservation, as well as management plans and quantity.

- (12) Products shall not use wood preserving agents (wood termiticides, preservatives, pesticides, and fungicides) as prescription constituents. However, this item is not applicable to “incense stick”.

[Certification Procedure]

Whether termiticides, preservatives, and pesticides are used as prescription constituents shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage

- (13) Regarding products used indoors, no emissions of toluene or xylene shall be detected at product shipment. “No emissions detected” means less than the minimum value measured by JIS A 1901. “Measuring methods for emission of volatile organic chemicals (VOC), formaldehyde and other carbonyl compounds—small chamber method.” However, this item is not applicable to “incense stick”.

[Certification Procedure]

Results of tests prescribed in JIS shall be submitted. The test method shall be based on JIS A 1901. However tests can be exempted for products not added with toluene and xylene as prescription constituents.

- (14) For products used indoors and using adhesive or paint, emissions of formaldehyde from the product, wood material, adhesive or paint shall be of the F**** grade in accordance with JIS or JAS, or falling outside the scope of regulations by the Ministry of the Land, Infrastructure and Transport. The products should meet the numerical criteria of “a” or “b” below. However, this item is not applied to “incense stick”.

- a. The amount of Formaldehyde emissions measured by JIS A 1460 “Building boards Determination of formaldehyde emission -- Desicator method” shall be below 0.3 mg/l for average value and below 0.4 mg/l for maximum value.
- b. The emission rate of formaldehyde measured by JIS A 1901 “Determination of the emission of volatile organic compounds and formaldehydes for building products -- Small chamber method” shall be less than 5µg/(m²-h).

[Certification Procedure]

Results of tests prescribed in JIS A 1460 or JIS A 1901 or tests by methods prescribed in specific JIS or JAS criteria shall be submitted to indicate that standard values are met. For materials and products permitted to be labeled F**** grade in accordance with JIS and JAS, documents certifying this or copies of such documents can be submitted in place of test results. For materials and products authorized as falling outside the scope of regulations by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, documents certifying this or copies of such documents can be submitted in place of test results. For materials and products permitted to be labeled as using non-formaldehyde adhesives by JAS, documents certifying this or copies of such documents can be submitted in place of test results.

C. Plastic

(15) Weight percentage of recycled plastic in the total weight of the product shall be over 50% for products made of post-consumer materials as the raw material polymer. Products can be made of plastic combined with other materials, or recycled polymers combined with virgin polymers.

For products made of pre-consumer materials as the raw material polymer, weight percentage shall be over 60%.

For film products, weight percentage of recycled polymer in the total weight of raw material polymer shall be over 40%. Weight percentage of recycled polymer of kitchen sink water draining filter bag in the total weight of raw material polymer shall be over 20%.

For dust boxes, weight percentage of recycled polymer in the total weight of raw material polymer shall be over 70%. For dust boxes made of post-consumer materials as the raw material polymer, weight percentage of recycled plastic in the total weight of the products shall be over 60%.

For synthetic paper, weight percentage of recycled polymer in the total weight of raw material polymer shall be over 50%.

This criteria does not apply to “cooking oil absorbent”, “cooking oil filter”, “rubber footwear”, “plastic footwear”, “sports shoes”, and “pet sheets and cat litter among products for breeding birds and animals”.

[Certification Procedure]

The weight percentage of pre-consumer materials and post-consumer materials making up the whole product shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage. Raw material certificates issued by the raw material supplier shall also be attached.

(16) HCFCs shall not be used during the manufacture of plastic materials.

[Certification Procedure]

Certificates issued by the manager of the plant manufacturing the plastic material shall be submitted.

(17) Polymers including halogens and organic halogenides shall not be added to plastic products as prescription constituents. For automatic can litter collectors, polybrominated biphenyl (PBB), polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE), and chlorinated paraffin (chain carbon number of 10-13, content chloride concentration of above 50%) shall not be added to plastic materials as prescription constituents.

[Certification Procedure]

Whether polymers including halogens and organic halogenides have been added to packaging shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage.

(18) Products shall not contain harmful substances such as heavy metal, etc. prescribed in laws and voluntary criteria of the industry concerned as

prescription constituents.

Plastic additives shall conform to the positive list prescribed in the voluntary criteria of each industry such as the Japan Hygienic Olefin And Styrene Plastics Association.

The plastic color material shall conform to the “color material criteria” of the Japan Hygienic Olefin And Styrene Plastics Association for the content and emissions of heavy metal, etc.

- (19) Products shall not contain residual organic chemical substances listed in the United Nations Environment Program (Table 1: POPs), and shall not generate these substances in use and disposal.

Table 1 Residual Organic Chemical Substances Listed in United Nations Environment Program

DDT	Aldrin	Dieldrin	Endrin
Chlordane	Heptachlor	Hexachlorobenzene	Mylex
Toxaphene	Polychlorinated biphenyl	Dioxins	Furans

[Certification Procedure]

Certificates issued by the raw material supplier, or documents certifying results of tests performed by a third party testing center or public institution shall be submitted. However, if all the raw materials used do not contain the corresponding chemical substances as prescription components, documents certifying this issued by the raw material suppliers or applicant can be submitted instead.

D. Glass

- (20) Use of glass cullets shall be above 70% (weight percentage). It shall be above 20% in heat-resistant glass.

[Certification Procedure]

The utilization rate of glass cullets and weight percentage of glass materials making up the whole product shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage.

- (21) Safety of the glass bottle (elution of total mercury, chromium, arsenic, selenium) shall be verified and explained. The elution of the subject materials shall conform to the requirement of the Environmental Standard concerning soil pollution (the Ministry of Environment Notice No.46, Aug.23, 1991).). However, for the tableware, cooking ware, or other apparatus for food or food additives that comes in contact with them as defined in the Food Sanitation Law, this provision will not be applied in the test for cadmium and lead.

[Certification Procedure]

Purchasing methods and acceptance test standards (for cadmium, lead, mercury, chromium, arsenic, and selenium; tests may not be required for certain substances) of glass cullets shall be submitted.

- (22) Coloring agents used in products shall not contain cadmium, lead, mercury, chromium, arsenic, selenium and their compounds as prescription constituents.

[Certification Procedure]

Component tables or the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) issued by the manufacturer of coloring agents shall be submitted.

E. Fibers

- (23) Fibers shall make up less than 50% of the exterior of products. However, this criterion is not applicable to “kitchen sink water draining filter bag” and “cooking oil absorbent”

[Certification Procedure]

The percentage of fibers making up the exterior of products excluding accessories shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage.

- (24) Fibers of products shall meet one of the following conditions: a, b, or c. However this criterion is not applicable to cooking oil absorbent, rubber footwear, plastic footwear, sports shoes, vacuum cleaner filter bags and pet sheets and cat litter among products for breeding birds and animals.

a. The weight of waste fibers or recycled fibers in the total weight of the product shall meet the Standard Mixture Amount shown in Table 2.

b. The fiber portion of products shall be made of 100% cotton. At the same time, products shall be unbleached or made of hydrogen peroxide bleached cotton without using fluorescent whitener or ozone bleached cotton.

c. The fiber portion of products shall be made of 100% natural fibers such as cotton. At the same time, products shall be organically grown material.

Table 2. Standard Mixture Amount of Fiber Versus Total Weight of Product

Type of Fiber	Standard Mixture Amount		
Waste fibers	Above 10%	Standard mixture amount of products using cupra fibers should be above 70%	
Recycled fiber	Recovered wool fiber	Above 10%	
	Recycled PET fiber	Above 50%	Recycled PET resin content should be above 50%
	Chemically recycled fiber	Above 50%	Recycled monomer content should be above 50%
	If recycled polymer fibers and chemically recycled fibers are used in combination, the content according to the following formula shall satisfy the standard content rate of 50% or over. $(A \times B + C \times D) / 100$ <p>A = Weight percentage of chemically recycled fibers in the entire product B = Content rate of recycled monomers in the chemically recycled fiber</p>		

	C = Weight percentage of recycled polymer fibers in the entire product D = Content rate of recycled resins in the recycled polymer fiber
--	---

[Certification Procedure]

Raw material certificates issued by the textile manufacturer shall be attached. The certificates shall indicate the names of the raw materials, names of the suppliers of the raw materials, and content rate of each material. However if Eco Mark-certified products are used for the cloth, the brand name and certification number of the cloth can be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage to prove compliance with this criterion.

- (25) Use of chemical substances in products shall meet standards shown in Attachment 3. However, this item is not applicable to “vacuum cleaner filter bags”.

[Certification Procedure]

Certificates shall be submitted in accordance with Attachment 3.

- (26) Products shall not use resins made of halogens. (This item applies to resin fibers and post-processes and does not apply to coloring materials and fluorine-based additives). However, this criteria does not apply to this item is not applicable to “vacuum cleaner filter bags”..

[Certification Procedure]

Whether resins composed of halogens are used shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage

F. Rubber

- (27) The weight percentage of recycled rubber out of the total rubber used in the product shall be above 10%. However, this shall be over 60% for normal temperature molded products using rubber powder. This criteria is not applicable to dust control mats among cleaning tools, rubber footwear, plastic footwear, and sport shoes.

[Certification Procedure]

The weight percentage of recycled rubber materials making up the total rubber weight shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage. Raw material certificates issued by raw material suppliers shall be attached.

- (28) Harmful substances contained in rubber shall conform to criteria on heavy metals prescribed in the Ministry of Environment Notice No.46, Aug.23, 1991.

[Certification Procedure]

Certificates issued by raw material suppliers and documents certifying results of tests implemented by a third party testing center or public institution shall be submitted. However, if all the raw materials used do not contain the corresponding chemical substances as prescription components, documents certifying compliance with this criterion issued by the raw material suppliers or applicant can be submitted instead.

- (29) Information on appropriate handling of products such as precautions on handling and storage and allergy information, etc. shall be provided in instruction manuals, on product labels, and in pamphlets. However, this criteria is not applicable to “dust control mats among cleaning tools” which do not directly touch human skin when the product is used.

For labeling of allergy information on products, the following requirements shall be observed:

- a. In material labeling, name of materials related to natural rubber, rubber, or plastic shall be indicated. For synthetic rubber and plastic, indicate the specific name in brackets behind the name of the material.

Example: Synthetic rubber (nitrile rubber), natural rubber

- b. For synthetic rubber, natural rubber and plastic products, in addition to the current precautions on use, also include precautions on use for allergy referring to Example 1 below. For natural rubber products, in addition to the current precautions on use, also include precautions on use for latex allergy referring to Example 2.

Example 1: May cause itchiness, skin irritation, rash. In such cases, discontinue use.

Example 2: This product is made of natural rubber. Natural rubber can rarely cause itchiness, redness, rash, bloating, fever, difficulty in breathing, asthma-like symptoms, drop in blood pressure, shock, and other allergic symptoms. In such cases, discontinue use promptly and consult your physician.

[Certification Procedure]

Labeling of allergy information shall be indicated specifically in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage. (Drawings and photographs can be used to supplement description)

G. Ceramics

- (30) For ceramics, for each raw material category given in Table 3, the weight of recycled materials in the total weight of the product shall meet the Standard Mixture Amount shown. For plant pots, cold molding products shall be applicable, and also mixture of sewage sludge which was pre-treated to make incineration ash or molten matter shall be applicable.

However, for products made of several recycled materials so that they apply to several Standard Mixture Amount in Table 3 below, the total weight percentage of all recycled materials shall be above the standard mixture amount shown. The Standard Mixture Amount lower limit is calculated using the following equation based on the proportional composition.

$$\text{Standard Mixture Amount (lower limit of recycled material)(\%)} \\ = (A_x X_1 + B_x X_2) / (A + B)$$

(Set for products using [Standard Mixture Amount X1% category material] = A% and [Standard Mixture Amount X2% category material] = B%)

Table 3 Raw Material Categories of Recycled Materials, Certification on Use, and Standard Mixture Amount

Category and name of waste serving as raw material of recycled materials		Standard Mixture Amount ^{Note2)} (Weight%)
Category	Name of recycled material	
Waste from mines and quarries	-Waste sand from quarries and ceramics -Micro silica sand generated at separation of silica by water	35%
Metal industry waste	-Steel slug • Casting sand -Copper slug -Ferro-nickel slug -Electrical furnace slug	
Used pottery		15%
Glass cullet		Glass weight/product weight \geq 15% Glass cullet use rate \geq 70%
Other industrial waste	-Coal ash -Shell	50%
Living and natural sludge (can be mixed only for plant pot)	-Sewage sludge (incineration ashing or melting as pre-treatment)	50%

Note 1) For products in which a small amount of colorant is added to molten parts, the weight of colorant shall not be included in the weight of all materials used for calculating the standard mixture amount.

Note 2) For the products containing moisture, use dry weight, and for fired and molten products, the weight loss on burning shall not be included.

Note 3) For products applicable to several standard mixture amounts in this table due to multiple recycled materials used, calculate the standard mixture amount on a proportional basis.

Example) Fired and molten parts using ceramic waste and sewer sludge

Ceramic waste A (%) (Standard mixture amount 50%)

Used pottery B (%) (Standard mixture amount 20%)

In this case, the standard mixture amount (lower limit of recycled material content) (%) is $(Ax50+Bx20)/(A+B)$.

Consequently, in this case, the A+B total content rate is required to be above the standard mixture amount calculated in the above equation.

Note 4) For products using glass cullets in the raw material category in Table 3, the weight percentage of glass materials making up the product weight shall be above 15%, and the rate of using glass cullets shall be 70%.

[Certification Procedure]

The standard mixture amount and total weight percentage of the recycled materials shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification

and Usage for each raw material category in Table 3. Raw material certificates issued by raw material suppliers shall be attached.

- (31) The Product shall conform to the standards concerning elusion of hazardous substances that are set forth in Attached Table 2 of the enforcement regulation of the Soil Contamination Countermeasures Law (2002 Ministerial Order No. 29 of the Ministry of the Environment) with respect to cadmium, lead, hexavalent chromium, arsenic, mercury, selenium, boron and fluorine among the specified hazardous substances listed therein. In case to use slag and/or eco-cement as recycled materials, the product shall conform to the standards with respect to boron and fluorine. In addition, for the cold molding products, molten products and burned products made only from the recycled materials which got melting treatment, the target of melting standard shall be the following eight substances including cadmium, lead, hexavalent chromium, arsenic, total mercury, selenium, boron and fluorine.

[Certification Procedure]

The results of tests conducted by an own company or a third party testing organization shall be submitted.

- (32) For containing of toxic substances form the products mixed with sewage sludge shall meet the requirements of all specified toxic substances set forth in Attachment 3 of the enforcement regulations of Soil Pollution Policy Act (December 26, 2002, The ministerial Order No.29 of the Ministry of Environment). For the cold molding products, molten products and burned products made only from the recycled materials which got melting treatment, the target of melting standard shall be the following eight substances including cadmium, lead, hexavalent chromium, arsenic, total mercury, selenium, boron and fluorine.

[Certification Procedure]

The results of tests conducted by an own company or a third party testing organization shall be submitted.

4-1-3. Criteria on individual products

A. Kitchen utensils and tableware shall meet the following criteria

- (33) Information on appropriate handling of products such as precautions on handling and storage, etc. shall be provided in instruction manuals, on product labels, and in pamphlets.

[Certification Procedure]

Copies of instruction manuals, product labels, pamphlets, etc. providing information on handling and storage precautions shall be submitted.

- (34) The tableware, cooking ware, or other apparatus for food or food additives that comes in contact with them shall conform to the elution test for cadmium and lead as defined in the Food Sanitation Act

[Certification Procedure]

Results of tests based on the Food Sanitation Act shall be submitted.

- (35) “The kitchen sink water draining filter bag”, “triangle strainers for kitchen sinks” and “kitchen sink strainers” shall be smaller than mesh 1.5 mm. Products shall not have any structure (smaller number of mesh openings, etc.) that impairs the draining capability as “triangle strainers for kitchen sinks” and “kitchen sink strainers”.

[Certification Procedure]

The mesh size shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage for kitchen sink strainer filter bags. For products using plastic, whether polymers including halogens and organic halogenides have been added to packaging shall be indicated. Results of tests on mesh size and product samples shall also be attached.

- (36) Products composed of multiple materials such as whisks, spatulas, dippers, and vacuum bottles shall be easy to separate and sort to facilitate recycling. The materials used must also be standardized.

[Certification Procedure]

Documents with drawings showing clearly that products have been designed so that separation and sorting are easy shall be submitted. If materials used are consistent, document indicating this shall be submitted.

- (37) Of kitchen utensils and tableware, systems allowing businesses to subcontract repairs and part replacements shall be established for peelers, grating devices, and sharpeners, boilers, pans, pots (including steamers), heat-resistance glass pots, frying pans, fried egg pans, and vacuum bottles, and repair and replacement services shall be provided as requested by the users. In addition, the following information shall be provided:

- a. Information that repair and part replacement services are available.
- b. Information on the scope of repairs and replacement (details of services), required time, costs, and how the service is provided for users of products.

[Certification Procedure]

Documents describing the replaceable parts of products shall be submitted. Documents indicating that information on repairs is provided in instruction manuals, pamphlets, and product labels shall also be submitted. Regarding the repair and parts replacement system, document outlining the recover, repair, return, etc. system shall be submitted.

- (38) Cooking oil absorbents shall contain 100% recycled materials Reused/Unused wood for the absorbent material

[Certification Procedure]

The raw materials used and content rate of recycled materials of absorbents shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage. Raw material certificates issued by raw material suppliers shall be attached.

- (39) Cooking oil filters shall be apparatus for filtering tempura oil and frying oil after use. They shall also have functions to eliminate solid particles, deodorize and de-color oil, and increase the number of repeatable usage. For tempura oil after six uses (every filtration), deodorizing effects shall be below the odor index of 22 and decolorizing effects below Red 3.5.

[Certification Procedure]

Evaluation of the odor index shall follow the triangular odor bag method manual by the Japan Association on Odor Environment. The measurement of color shall follow the Lovibond method, the standard method for the analysis of fats, oils and related materials proposed by the Japan Oil Chemist's Society.

B. Cleaning equipments shall meet the following criteria.

- (40) Of rubber matting products, dust control mats shall be repeatedly used for more than 40 times on average. The product shall be designed for repeated use.

[Certification Procedure]

Documents indicating that products can be repeatedly used for more than 40 times on average as performance for one year shall be submitted. For newly developed products, data of corresponding conventional products can be submitted instead.

- (41) Of rubber matting products, dust control mats shall have a system for collecting products (can be reused) and related information shall be provided or disclosed to the public.

[Certification Procedure]

The following shall be submitted;

- a. Systems to allow reuse and recover route
- b. Description or photographs of containers for collecting products (to be submitted only if the containers are used)
- c. Labeling of required information required on product to indicate that the product is reusable or information disclosed

C. Footwear shall satisfy the following criteria

- ~~(42) For rubber footwear, the standard mixture amount of recycled materials making up the product weight shall be above 30%. For plastic footwear and sports shoes, it shall be above 20%. However, the standard mixture amount of recycled materials shall be above 10% for two years from the date this Product Category has been established.~~

~~[Certification Procedure]~~

~~The weight percentage of recycled materials in product weight shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage. Raw material certificates issued by raw material suppliers shall be attached.~~

- ~~(43) Plastic footwear, sport shoes, and Japanese footwear shall be designed to facilitate repairs of products and replacement of parts such as replacement of~~

outsoles, etc.

[Certification Procedure]

Documents describing the replaceable parts of products shall be submitted.

(44) For plastic footwear, sport shoes, and Japanese footwear, systems allowing businesses to subcontract repairs and part replacements shall be established, and repair and replacement services shall be provided as requested by the users. In addition, the following information shall be provided:

- a. Information that repair and part replacement services are available.
- b. Information on the scope of repairs and replacement (details of services), required time, costs, and how the service is provided for users of products.

[Certification Procedure]

Documents on the replacement methods and sales methods of replaceable parts of products shall be submitted. Documents indicating that information on repairs is provided in instruction manuals, pamphlets, and product labels shall also be submitted. Regarding the repair and parts replacement system, document outlining the recover, repair, return, etc. system shall be submitted.

D. Others satisfy the following criteria.

(45) Information on appropriate handling of products such as precautions on handling and storage, etc. shall be provided in instruction manuals, on product labels, and in pamphlets.

[Certification Procedure]

Copies of instruction manuals, product labels, pamphlets, etc. providing information on handling and storage precautions shall be submitted.

(46) Can refuse collectors shall meet the following criteria.

- a. These are machines with functions to automatically sort, compress and store refuse cans placed inside, or functions to manually compress and sort to facilitate collection of can refuse.
- b. Manual collectors shall be able to compress can refuse easily by human force so that they can be recovered easily.
- c. Automatic collectors shall be equipped with devices that automatically sort aluminum cans from steel ones, compress and store cans.
- d. Automatic collectors shall have after-service systems to ensure repair and inspection services can be provided smoothly.

[Certification Procedure]

Description of functions on sorting, compression, and storage shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage. Documents such as descriptions indicating that information on the after-service system such as range of repair services, required time, expenses, and where to contact is provided shall be submitted.

(47) For products composed of multiple materials such as clothespins, laundry line, bed brushes, show brushes, dustpans, dusters, kitchen towel hangers, clothes hangers, parts composed of different materials including other living and cultural supplies shall be easy to separate to facilitate recycling. If the used materials are consistent, the standard mixture amount of each material shown in Table 4 shall apply.

Table 4 Criteria on Materials in Easy to Recycle and Long-Term Use Products

Material	Standard mixture amount of recycled materials
Paper	Same as 4-1-1. Criteria for paper
Wood	Same as 4-1-1. Criteria for wood
Plastic	50% (Post consumer material is 50%)
Glass	60%
Fiber	Same as 4-1-1. Criteria for fibers
Rubber	Same as 4-1-1. Criteria for rubber
Ceramics	Value deducting 10% from the content rate shown in 4-1-1.(30) Table 3

[Certification Procedure]

Documents with drawings showing clearly that products have been designed so that separation and sorting are easy shall be submitted. If materials used are consistent, document indicating this shall be submitted.

(48) For cleaning accessories (such as mops, paint rollers and squeegees, etc), replacement parts of expendable parts shall be provided. In addition, systems allowing businesses to subcontract repairs and part replacements shall be established, and parts replacement services shall be provided as requested by the users.

[Certification Procedure]

Documents describing the replaceable parts of products shall be submitted. Documents indicating that information on the replacement of expendable parts is provided in instruction manuals, pamphlets, and product labels shall also be submitted. Regarding the repair and parts replacement system, document outlining the recover, repair, return, etc. system shall be submitted.

(49) The content rate of recycled materials in absorbents of pet sheet and cat litter of supplies for breeding birds and animals shall be above 80%.

[Certification Procedure]

The raw materials used and content rate of recycled materials of absorbents shall be indicated in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage. In addition, raw material certificates issued by raw material suppliers shall be attached.

(50) For mouse adhesive sheets and cockroach adhesive traps among flyswatters, fly flappers and mouse traps and other products, parts composed of different

materials shall be easy to separate to facilitate recycling.

[Certification Procedure]

Documents with drawings showing clearly that products have been designed so that separation and sorting are easy shall be submitted.

- (51) The percentage of thinned wood, waste wood, and waste plant fiber in product mass (excluding dyestuff, perfume material, and paste) of “incense sticks” shall be 100% of the product mass.

[Certification Procedure]

The Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage shall describe raw materials of incense sticks (excluding dyestuff, perfume material, and paste) and material mixing percentage of thinned wood, waste wood, and waste plant fiber. In addition, raw material certificates issued by raw material suppliers shall be attached.

- (52) The perfume material to be added to “incense sticks” shall be used in accordance with the standard defined by IFRA (International Fragrance Association).

[Certification Procedure]

All of perfume materials to be added shall be stated.

- (53) Dyestuff to be added to “incense sticks” shall be a “food additive” specified in Food Sanitation Law, or authorized by “Standards for Cosmetics” specified in the Pharmaceutical Affairs Law or “Ordinance Defining Tar Color that Can be Used in Drug Medicines, etc. (Cosmetic Legal Pigment)”.

[Certification Procedure]

All of dyestuff to be added shall be stated.

- (54) A paste to be added to “incense sticks” shall have Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).

[Certification Procedure]

MSDS shall be submitted.

4-2. Quality criteria

- (55) “Rubber fabricated basic materials”, “consumer electronic and electric appliances such as filter bags for vacuum cleaners”, “kitchen utensils and tableware”, “footwear (excluding those made of leather)”, “compacts, cosmetic brushes, combs, among jewelry, personal adornments and silverware”, “other household equipment and utensils (excluding photo frames)”, “home massage devices, supplies for the sick, and baby goods among medical supplies and related products”, and “matches, buttons, religious accessories, and bamboo products among other living and cultural supplies” shall meet the criteria of the Standard Commodity Classification for Japan, Japanese Agriculture and Forestry Standard, or voluntary criteria of the industry, etc. Quality control must also be

implemented sufficiently in the manufacturing stage.

[Certification Procedure]

Documents certifying compliance with corresponding quality criteria shall be submitted. Certificates and declaration documents issued by the manager of the plant manufacturing the product indicating that quality control is implemented thoroughly in the manufacturing stage and that only products that pass quality tests are shipped shall be submitted. If the product applied or manufacturing plant of the product is JIS or JAS certified, copies of the JIS or JAS certificate can be submitted instead to prove compliance with this requirement.

- (56) The quality of the outer bag of vacuum cleaner filter bags shall be burst strength of above 2kgf/cm, pull strength of above 3 kgf vertically and above 1.5 kgf horizontally, and air permeability of less than 0.5. (The measurement method is based on JIS P 8111.)

[Certification Procedure]

Test results of evaluation items shall be submitted.

- (57) Quality control shall be implemented sufficiently in the manufacturing stage.

[Certification Procedure]

Certificates and declaration documents issued by the manager of the plant manufacturing the product indicating that quality control is implemented thoroughly in the manufacturing stage and that only products that pass quality tests are shipped shall be submitted.

- (58) Can litter collectors shall have robust structures, minimal malfunctions, and be safe in use.

[Certification Procedure]

Certificates and declaration documents issued by the manager of the plant manufacturing the product indicating the toughness of the structure, malfunctions, and safety in use shall be submitted.

5. Product Classification, Indication and Others

- (1) Products shall be classified by the sub-category purposes indicated in 2. Applicable Products, and by brand or series name. Products shall not be classified by size or color. However cutlery, bathroom supplies, and toiletries shall be classified by the sub-category purposes indicated in 2. Applicable Products, and by brand or series name.
- (2) Environmental information for each product category shown in Attachment 3 shall be indicated below the mark. The location and details of the Eco Mark to be indicated shall be submitted when applying for Eco Mark product certification and use. The environmental information indicated shall be aligned to the left and enclosed in a rectangular box.

For Eco Mark products certified under Eco Mark Product Category No.2 ‘Triangle

Strainers for Kitchen Sinks (Smallest Mesh)', No.3 'Strainers for Kitchen Sinks (Smallest Mesh)', No.4 'Filter Bags for Kitchen Disposal', No.5 'Absorbents for Used Cooking Oil', No.22 'Products Made from Used Tires or Inner Tubes', No.34 'Filters for Cooking Oil', No.36 'Waste Can Collectors', No.41 'Filter Bags of Recycled Paper for Vacuum Cleaners', No.115 'Products Using Thinned-out Wood, Reused Wood, etc.', No.118 'Plastic Products' or No.124 'Glass Product' and those which conclude Eco Mark contract under this product category after April 1, 2005, the display of environmental information below mark which is used in the former product category may be indicated the same as before.

- (3) The Eco Mark labeling method shall be used in accordance with Eco Mark Use Regulations Article 7 separately prescribed based on the Guidelines for Eco Mark program Implementation.
- (4) In principle, products to be submitted for application shall be free of "flame retardant" and "antibacterial agent" materials, and shall not be labeled "biodegradable plastic". When using these materials under special circumstances, however, the products shall satisfy the provisions contained in the "Guidelines for Eco Mark program Implementation" concerning the indication of "flame retardant", "antibacterial agent" and "biodegradable plastic". Specifically, the use of these materials shall be described in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage with documents stipulated in the form to be attached.

Established: July 1, 2004 (Version 1.0)

Revised: Oct 14, 2004, Applicable Products, etc (Version1.1)

Revised: May 13, 2005, 4-6(1) and Attachment 1 (Version1.2)

Revised: Sept. 8, 2005, 4-1-2.(15) (Version1.3)

Revised: October 19, 2006, 4.(23)-(26), 4.(51)-(54), 6(2) (Version1.4)

Revised: April 13, 2007, 4-1-2.(15) (Version1.5)

Revised: August 2, 2007, 4-1-3.(42) (Version1.6)

Revised: Oct. 5, 2007 Extension of Term of Validity

Revised: Feb. 14, 2008, (Version1.7)

Revised: August 21, 2008, (Version1.8)

Revised: May 1, 2009, (Version1.9)

Revised: November 4, 2009, (Version1.10)

Term of validity: June 30, 2015

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