

***USER MANUAL FOR
THE EU ECOLABEL***



***Supplementary document
Legal requirements of the Member States of EU***

Version 1.0 – June 2013

Commission Decision 2013/250/EU of 21 May 2013 establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Ecolabel for sanitary tapware



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1. Introduction

This document contains a non- comprehensive list of mandatory and voluntary requirements on materials in contact with drinking water of the Member States of EU. This list is a collection of the information provided by the Competent Bodies (CBs) and relevant stakeholders, and it is not all-inclusive. Further information from several CBs, or potential (indicated by them) responsible authorities, is needed to complete this document, which also requires a frequent update in order to ensure the validity of the requirements that it contains. Thus, it shall be used by applicants and Competent Bodies as mere recommendations for the compliance, assessment and verification of the **Criterion 2 Materials in contact with drinking water – Chemical and hygienic characteristics of materials in contact with drinking water** of the EU Ecolabel for Sanitary Tapware (Commission Decision 2013/250/EU of 21 May 2013 establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Ecolabel for sanitary tapware).

Below information are presented for the Member States and in the form it was received by the CBs.

2. Austria

- Empfehlung: Anforderungen an Materialien in Kontakt mit Wasser für den menschlichen Gebrauch (Trinkwasser) im Hinblick auf die Bestimmungen der Trinkwasserverordnung

3. Czech Republic

In Czech language:

- Zákon č. 22/1997 Sb. o technických požadavcích na výrobky
- Nařízení vlády č. 190/2002 Sb, kterým se stanoví požadavky na stavební výrobky označované CE
- Nařízení vlády č. 163/2002 Sb, kterým se stanoví technické požadavky na vybrané stavební výrobky

In English language:

- Act No. 22/1997 Col. on technical requirements for products
- Government regulation No. 190/2002 Coll, establishing requirements for CE-labelled construction products
- Government regulation No. 163/2002 Coll, establishing technical requirements for selected construction products



4. Denmark

- Executive order on issue of approvals for building components that come into contact with drinking water

<https://www.retsinformation.dk/Forms/R0710.aspx?id=145108>

- Executive order on payments for processing of applications for approval of building components that come into contact with drinking water

<https://www.retsinformation.dk/Forms/R0710.aspx?id=145109>

5. Estonia

- §1, section 5 in the Estonian regulation "Drinking water quality and control requirements and analysis methods" (<https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/111012013002>) states:

Water supply system equipment, tools and materials exposed to the drinking water while treating drinking water should not degrade water quality and threaten human health directly or indirectly, and must be in accordance with the "Construction Act" in paragraph 3 and 7, and on the basis of established standards.

6. Finland

- COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption

7. France

Acceptance of materials in contact with drinking water: Arrêté du 29 mai 1997

<http://www.sante.gouv.fr/reglementation-nationale-applicable-a-la-mise-sur-le-marche-et-a-l-utilisation-des-materiaux-et-objets-entrant-en-contact-avec-l-eau.html>

8. Germany

Acceptance of materials in contact with drinking water:

<http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/wasser-e/themen/trinkwasser/verteilung.htm>

- Guideline for the Hygienic Assessment of Organic Materials in Contact with Drinking water (KTW Guideline) Leitlinie des Umweltbundesamtes zur hygienischen Beurteilung von organischen Materialien in Kontakt mit Trinkwasser (KTW-Leitlinie)



published in: Bundesgesundheitsblatt Gesundheitsforschung Gesundheitsschutz 2005 48:1409-1415, 2007 50:1180-1181, 2008 51: 692, 2009 52: 963-964

- Guideline for the Hygienic Assessment of Organic Coatings in Contact with Drinking water
Leitlinie des Umweltbundesamtes zur hygienischen Beurteilung von organischen Beschichtungen im Kontakt mit Trinkwasser

published in: Bundesgesundheitsblatt Gesundheitsforschung Gesundheitsschutz 2007 50:1152-1176, 2008 51: 689-690, 2009 52: 960, 2011 54: 243,

- Guideline for the hygienic assessment of elastomers in contact with drinking water (Elastomer Guideline) Leitlinie des Umweltbundesamtes zur hygienischen Beurteilung von Elastomeren im Kontakt mit Trinkwasser (Elastomerleitlinie)

published in: Bundesgesundheitsblatt Gesundheitsforschung Gesundheitsschutz 2012 55: 998-1022.

- Guideline for the Hygienic Assessment of Lubricants in Contact with Drinking water (sanitary lubricants) **Leitlinie des Umweltbundesamtes zur hygienischen Beurteilung von Schmierstoffen im Kontakt mit Trinkwasser (Sanitärschmierstoffe)**

published in: Bundesgesundheitsblatt Gesundheitsforschung Gesundheitsschutz 2003 46: 818-824, 2007 50: 1177-1179, 2008 51: 691, 2009 52: 965, 2011 54: 244

- Guideline for the hygienic assessment of thermoplastic elastomers in contact with drinking water (TPE Guideline) Empfehlung des Umweltbundesamtes zur vorläufigen hygienischen Beurteilung von Produkten aus Thermoplastischen Elastomeren im Kontakt mit Trinkwasser (TPE-Übergangsempfehlung)

published in:

http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/wasser/themen/trinkwasser/thermoplastische_elastomere.htm

- Recommendation by the Federal Environment Agency: List of Metallic materials suitable for contact with drinking water (in German) Empfehlung des Umweltbundesamtes: Liste der trinkwasserhygienisch geeigneten metallenen Werkstoffe

published in:

http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/wasser/themen/downloads/trinkwasser/liste_trinkwasserhygienisch_geeignete_metallene_werkstoffe.pdf

Acceptance of products in contact with drinking water

- Deutscher Verein des Gas- und Wasserfaches e.V. DVWG Arbeitsblatt W 574: Sanitärarmaturen als Entnahmearmaturen für Trinkwasser-Installationen – Anforderungen und Prüfungen als Zertifizierungsgrundlage



Where applicable, requirements for testing, enhancement of microbial growth and/or assessment of odour and flavour of water

- The testing and assessment of the enhancement of microbial growth and of odour/flavour is part of the above mentioned UBA-Leitlinien (UBA guidelines). The test methods are: Enhancement of microbial growth: DVGW W270; Odour/flavor testing: EN 1420-1.

9. Italy

Quality of water intended for human consumption

- Legislative Decree No 31 of 2 February 2001: transposition into the Italian law of the Council Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption.

The decree requires that water for human consumption shall be:

- wholesome and clean,
 - free from any micro-organisms and parasites and from any substances which, in numbers or concentrations, constitute a potential danger to human health,
 - meets the minimum requirements set out in Annex I
- The Italian Health Institute (ISS) has published the two following volumes that set out microbiological and chemical reference methods:
 - “Metodi analitici di riferimento per le acque destinate al consumo umano ai sensi del D. Lgs. 31/2001. Metodi Microbiologici” (Reference Methods for the analysis of water intended for human consumption. Microbiological Methods)
 - “Metodi analitici di riferimento per le acque destinate al consumo umano ai sensi del D. Lgs 31/2001. Metodi chimici” (Reference Methods for the analysis of water intended for human consumption. Chemical methods.)

Quality of materials and substances that may come into contact with water intended for human consumption

- Ministerial Decree of 6 April 2004, No 174: Regulation making provision on the materials which may be used in installations for the abstraction, treatment, adduction and distribution of water destined to human consumption.

The regulations set out the technical requirements of all materials used for both new installations and repairs to ensure compliance with the Leg. Decree 31/2001, Sec. 9.

Materials and substances shall be compatible with the characteristics of water intended for human consumption as prescribed in D. Lgs 31/2001, Annex I. Annex I. In addition, under



normal or expected operating conditions, they shall not alter the water they come into contact with, by making it harmful to human health or affecting its organoleptic, physical, chemical and microbiological characteristics.

- Annex I: Metals and alloys that can be used for the manufacturing of equipment that may come into contact with water intended for human consumption.
- Annex II: Materials based on hydraulic binders, vitreous enamels, ceramics and glasses that can be used for the manufacturing of equipment that may come into contact with water intended for human consumption.
- Annex III: Plastic materials, natural rubber and synthetic rubber that can be used for collection/treatment plants and distribution networks of water intended for human consumption.

10. Netherlands

- ATA – mandatory – Approval of organic materials
- KIWA – voluntary – Approval of complete products including hygiene and mechanical and hydraulic requirements

11. Portugal

- Decree-Law n° 306/2007, from 27th august that transposed Directive 98/83/ CE, concerning drinking water quality. Article 21st of this Decree-Law foresees the implementation of a national system for the approval of products that are meant to be in contact with drinking water;
- That national system, its rules (certification scheme with auditing to the manufacturing process) and technical specifications (toxicological evaluation of chemicals and product testing) are described in a draft Regulation from ERSAR. ERSAR will notify this regulation to the EC during 2013.
- This draft Regulation is aligned with the Appendix I of the Decision on Sanitary tapware EU Ecolabel, and incorporates the last version made by the group of 4MS.

12. Sweden

- Building regulations

The Swedish requirements on construction works are performance based rather than setting detailed requirements on the performance of individual construction products. The building regulations contain the mandatory provisions and general recommendations pursuant to the Planning and Building Act, and the Planning and Building Ordinance.

Building regulations, section *1:4 Construction products with certified properties* state that properties of construction products are certified through either

- CE-marking
- type approval
- certification by an accredited certification body
- production assessed, monitored and approved by an accredited certification body

Particularly interesting for the questions asked, is found in the building regulations, section **6:6 Hygiene, health and environment – Water drainage**, stating:

“6:62 Tap water installations

Tap water installations shall be designed to ensure tap water, after the water outlet, is hygienic and safe, and comes in a sufficient quantity. Cold tap water shall meet the quality requirements for drinking water after the water outlet. Hot tap water shall be hot enough to allow personal hygiene and household chores.

Tap water installations shall be designed and carried out using materials that ensure that unhealthy levels of harmful substances cannot be released into the tap water. Installations shall not give odour or taste to the tap water.

General recommendations – Rules on drinking water are issued by Livsmedelsverket and Socialstyrelsen.

6: 621 Hot water temperatures for personal hygiene and household purposes

Installations for hot water shall be designed to ensure a water temperature of at least 50 °C can be achieved after the water outlet. To reduce the risk of scalding, the maximum hot tap water temperature must not exceed 60 °C after the water outlet.

However, the hot tap water temperature must not be higher than 38 °C if there is a particular risk of accidents occurring. Devices for regulating hot tap water shall be designed to minimise the risk of personal injury from mistaking hot tap water for cold tap water.

General recommendation

Fixed showers, which cannot be regulated from outside the shower space and showers for people who cannot themselves be expected to be able to regulate the temperature themselves are examples of specific accident risks.

6:622 Microbial growth

Tap water installations shall be designed to ensure that the opportunities for growth of micro-organisms in the tap water are minimised.

6:625 Design

Tap water installations shall be designed and made from materials which have adequate durability against the external and internal mechanical, chemical and microbial processes to which they are likely to be exposed.”

➤ Development of the building regulations

Intentions are to set limit values for release of lead from sanitary tapware, with a proposal for new regulations ready for notification 2014. This is an early proposal which may be modified before the notification process:

Proposed addition to the general recommendations under **6:62 – Tap water installations**:

"To fulfil the requirements regarding unhealthy levels of harmful substances, the quantity of decomposed lead in the water inside the sanitary tapware, assessed either in accordance with NKB 4 or SS-EN 15664, should not exceed the values given in table 6:62. The values refer to sanitary tapware for kitchen sinks and wash basins".

Table 6:62

	Decomposed lead (μg) in the water inside sanitary tapware, in accordance with NKB 4	Decomposed lead ($\mu\text{g/l}$) in accordance with SS-EN 15664
Sanitary tapware	5 μg	
Material		5 $\mu\text{g/l}$

(BFS 2014).

➤ Type approval

The correspondence between product and requirements on construction works is often assessed through a type approval process within the field of sanitary tapware. A manufacturer can obtain a type approval for a product according to Chapter 8, Articles 22-23 of the Planning and Building Act. This is an approval of conformity with Swedish regulations.

SP Sitac and KIWA Swedcert are accredited according to regulation (EC) No 765/2008 for issuing type approvals for sanitary tapware. Both use the method described in NKB 4 for assessment of lead and cadmium release from sanitary tapware.

➤ Standardisation

The Swedish standards institute, SIS, has developed a standard with a method that contains verification and assessment procedures to evaluate the compliance of the applications according to the EU Ecolabel criteria.

The method SS 82000:2010 is a laboratory method for measuring the energy use of mechanical washbasin and kitchen sink mixer taps, and for determining the performance criteria for energy efficiency.



13. United Kingdom

Products and materials in contact with drinking water

- England - Regulation 31 of The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2000 (Statutory Instruments 2000 No 3184) – http://www.dwi.defra.gov.uk/stakeholders/legislation/ws_wqregs2000.pdf
- Wales – Regulation 31 of The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2010 (Welsh Statutory Instrument 2010 No 994 (W.99) – <http://dwi.defra.gov.uk/stakeholders/legislation/wsr2010wales.pdf>
- Scotland – Regulation 27 of The Water Supply (Water Quality) (Scotland) Regulations 2001 – <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2001/20010207.htm>
- Northern Ireland – Regulation 30 of The Water Supply (Water Quality) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 (Statutory Rules of Northern Ireland 2009 No.246) - http://www.opsi.gov.uk/sr/sr2009/nisr_20090246_en_1

Products and materials that can be used when water has passed into the consumers' pipes/buildings

- British Standard (BS 6920) which is the requirement for non-metallic materials in contact with drinking water in the UK.

One route for approval is via the Water Regulations Advisory Scheme (WRAS). The WRAS directory of approved materials and products can be found at <http://www.wras.co.uk/Directory/default.htm>. Another route is via Kiwa who run a specific scheme of testing for compliance against BS 6920 <http://www.kiwa.co.uk/united-kingdom/services/product-testing/water-products.aspx>

A company can also self-declare that its material has been proven to comply with BS 6920 and many manufacturers hold private BS 6920 reports that do this. “