








The EU Ecolabel for Wooden Furniture

"The official EU mark for Greener Products"

If you want to show your commitment to a better environment:

Choose the Flower for Wooden Furniture

Once it's on your products, the Flower guarantees:

-  Use of recycled fibres or virgin fibres from sustainably managed forests
-  Limitation of substances harmful to health and the environment
-  Design for higher product durability, easy disassembly and recycling
-  Use of recycled packaging
-  User instructions for correct environmental use

It can be awarded to all kinds of wooden free-standing or built-in units which are used for storing, hanging, lying, sitting, working and eating of domestic furniture.

Meet your customers' demand

Consumers are today more sensitive to the protection of the environment. Four out of five European consumers would like to buy more environmentally friendly products, provided they are properly certified by an independent organisation.

With the Flower on your products you offer them a reliable guide to easily identify the good environmental performers available on the market.

Give your wooden furniture a credible sign of Environmental Excellence...

Apply for the EU Ecolabel!

For a quick test use the check list overleaf.

They said it!

"Consumers are very concerned by the management of forests and are trying to find ways to avoid deforestation."


"Today there is a growing demand coming from public purchasers for wooden products. The EU Ecolabel can be a plus in comparison to competitors."


"Retailers having a sustainable approach are interested in proposing to their clients products which are more environmentally friendly."

*Patricia Proia, Business Area Manager at AFNOR**

*AFNOR, the French Competent Body, initiated the development of the Wooden furniture criteria.

For more information...

... on the scheme, its features, the actors involved, the application process... 
www.ecolabel.eu

... on the "Wooden furniture" product group: detailed criteria, date of revision... 
www.ecolabel.eu

Choose "Ecolabelled products" on the menu on the left



Check-list (for a first assessment only)



The following two conditions shall be fulfilled: a) The product shall be made of at least 90 % w/w solid wood or wood-based materials; b) The weight of any individual material, other than solid wood and wood-based materials, shall not exceed 3% of the total weight of the product and the total combined weight of such materials shall not exceed 10% of the total weight of the product

Life Cycle Step	Criterion	Expectations	Commission Decision: 2009/894/EC of November 2009
Materials (and manufacturing)	Limitation of the use of substances harmful for the environment and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generic requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No substances and preparations containing substances classified as risk R phase according to Directive 67/548/EEC. No halogenated organic binding agents, azidirin and polyaziridins as well as pigments and additives based on: lead, cadmium, chrome (VI), mercury and their compounds; arsenic, boron, copper and organic tin. No flame retardants containing > 0.1% of substances classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic for reproduction and dangerous for the environment according to Directive 67/548/EEC. 	
Materials (Wood and wood-based materials)	Sustainable use of natural resources by encouraging sustainable forestry management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The producer shall have a policy of sustainable wood and fibre procurement and a system to trace and verify the origin of wood and track it from forest to the first reception point. Minimum percentages of solid wood and wood-based materials from certified sustainably managed forests or recycled materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until 30 June 2011: 50% and 20% respectfully. From 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2012, 60% and 30% respectfully. From 1 January 2013, 70% and 40% respectfully. 	
Materials (Wood and wood-based materials)	Limitation of the use of substances harmful for the environment and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post consumer wood chips or fibres applied in the production of wood-based materials(input) shall at least comply with the provisions in the EPF Industry standard. Arsenic<25, Cadmium<50, Chromium<25, Copper<40, Lead<90, Mercury< 25, Fluorine <100, Chlorine <1000, PCP<5, Tar oils (benzo(a)pyrene)< 0,5 (in mg/kg). Indoor furniture shall not be impregnated. No use of 1a & 1b substances classed by WHO recommended pesticides classification in virgin wood and solid wood after logging treatment and preparations. The treatment of wood shall be in accordance with the provisions of Council Directive 79/117/EEC and Council Directive 76/769/EEC. Free formaldehyde ≤ 0.3% (w/w)in products or preparations used in the panels and 0.5% (w/w) in binding agents, adhesives, and glues for plywood panels or laminated wood panels. Untreated particle boards formaldehyde emission ≤ 50% of E1 threshold value according to standard EN 312-1. Fibre boards formaldehyde emission ≤ 50% of A class according to EN 622-1 (class A will be accepted if they do not represent more than 50 % of the total wood and wood-based materials used in the product). No GMO wood. 	
Manufacturing (surface treatment and assembly)	Limitation of the use of substances harmful for the environment and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plastics and metal ≤ 2% of total weight. Chemical substances classified as harmful for the environment by Directive 1999/45/EC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should not be added to substances and preparations for surface treatment. Applied quantity ≤ 14 g/m² surface area. VOC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VOC ≤ 5% in product. Applied quantity (wet paint/varnish) of VOC ≤ 35 g/m². Formaldehyde < 0.05ppm. No DNOP, DINP and DIDP in plasticizers Only use biocidal products containing biocidal active substances included in Annex IA of the Directive 98/8/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, and authorised for use in furniture. VOC content of adhesives used in the assembly of furniture ≤ 5% (w/w). 	
Manufacturing (Packaging)	Use of recycled materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easily recyclable material. Materials taken from renewable resources. Materials intended to be reusable. All materials shall be easily separable by hand in recyclable parts consisting of one material. 	
Use	Performance and durability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fulfil the requirements on durability, strength, safety and stability in EN or ISO (when no EN exists) or an evaluation performed by an independent test institution on the basis of the design and choice of materials required (when no EN or ISO standard exists). Provide a list of durability assessment norms and standards in user manual. Maintenance shall be possible without organic based solvents. Guarantee the possibility of acquiring spare upon request throughout the actual period of their industrial manufacturing and for a period of 5 years as of the date when production of the relevant range is stopped. 	
Use	Consumer information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on products (fitness for purpose, name of species of solid wood, the treatments or preservatives used for outdoor products). Recommendations for the use and maintenance of the product. Indication of the roles of local authorities when disposing of old furniture and materials. Detailed description of ways of disposal with ranking according to environmental impact. Information on the EU Ecolabel. 	

Your Competent Body will inform you which assessment and verification documents are required (e.g. declarations of compliance, MSDS of ingredients), which test results must be provided and how the testing should be carried out (external test laboratories).

To market your ecolabelled products use our free Green Store:
Go to www.ecolabel.eu and click on the 'Green Store' at the top right of the page.

