



## The EU Ecolabel for Footwear products "The official European label for Greener Products"

Choose the EU Ecolabel for your Footwear products to show your commitment to a better environment.

### Once it's on your products, the EU Ecolabel guarantees

- Natural origin raw materials sustainably managed;
- Reduced pollution in production processes;
- Minimised use of hazardous substances;
- Tested for durability

The EU Ecolabel can be awarded to any school, casual, men's and woman's town, general sports, fashion, infants and indoor footwear. "Footwear" shall comprise all articles designed to protect or cover the foot, with an applied sole which comes into contact with the ground.

### Meet your customers' demand

Today, consumers are more aware that protecting the environment is fundamental. Four out of five European consumers would like to buy more environmentally friendly products, provided that they are properly certified by an independent organisation.

With your products bearing the EU Ecolabel, you offer consumers a reliable logo to easily identify high performing environmentally friendly products that are available on the European market.

## Give your footwear products a credible sign of environmental excellence... apply for the EU Ecolabel!

◆ For a quick test, use the check list on the back!

### For more information...

... on the scheme, its feature, the actors involved, the application process:  
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel>

... on the detailed criteria for Footwear product group:  
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/products-groups-and-criteria.html>



...to market your EU Ecolabel products use our free E-catalogue: <http://ec.europa.eu/ecat>

# Checklist (for a first assessment only) in terms of requirements

This is a non-exhaustive list of EU Ecolabel criteria for Footwear products. Please see the [Commission Decision \(2016/1349/EU\)](#) for full details.

Life cycle step	Criterion	Expectations
Manufacturing	Types of material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Raw hides and skins</b> destined to be used in a final product shall be subject to the restrictions specified in the <a href="#">criteria document</a>.</li> <li>• <b>Cotton and other natural cellulosic seed fibres</b> (hereinafter referred to as cotton) that are not recycled fibres shall contain a minimum content of either organic cotton or integrated pest management (IPM) cotton (see <a href="#">criteria document</a> for more information).</li> <li>• With the exception of footwear intended for children under three years of age, a minimum of 10 % weight by weight of the non-recycled cotton fibre used in the product shall be grown according to the requirements laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, the US National Organic Programme (NOP) or equivalent legal obligations set by trading partners of the EU. The organic cotton content may include organically grown cotton and transitional organic cotton.</li> <li>• <b>All wood and cork shall</b> be covered by chain of custody certificates issued by an independent third-party certification scheme such as the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) or equivalent. Where a certification scheme allows the mixing of uncertified material with certified and/or recycled materials in a product or production line, a minimum of 70 % of the wood or cork material, as appropriate, shall be sustainable certified virgin material and/or recycled material (see <a href="#">criteria document</a>).</li> <li>• A minimum of 25,0 % of the <b>non-recycled pulp fibres</b> shall be manufactured from wood that has been grown according to the principles of sustainable forest management as defined by the UN FAO. The remaining proportion of the non-recycled pulp fibres shall be from pulp that is sourced from legal forestry and plantations.</li> </ul>
Manufacturing	Water consumption and emission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raw hides and skins that are destined to be used in the final product shall be subject to the <b>limit on water consumption in the tanning process</b> as specified under <a href="#">criteria document</a>.</li> <li>• The criterion shall apply when the leather content used in shoe uppers or shoe outer soles is greater than 10,0 % weight by weight of either component (see table 1 of the <a href="#">criteria document</a>)</li> <li>• Textiles, leather and rubber that are destined to be used in the final product shall be subject to the limit on emissions to water.</li> <li>• The Chemical Oxygen Demand (<b>COD</b>) <b>value</b> in waste water from leather tanning sites, when discharged to surface waters after treatment (whether on site or off site), shall not exceed 200,0 mg/l.</li> <li>• The COD value in waste water discharges from textile finishing processes shall not exceed 20.0 g/kg of textiles processed.</li> <li>• The COD value in waste water from the processing of natural or synthetic rubber when discharged to surface waters after treatment (whether on site or off site), shall not exceed 150.0 mg/l</li> <li>• The total <b>chromium concentration</b> in tannery waste water after treatment shall not exceed 1,0 mg/l as specified in Commission Implementing Decision 2013/84/EU (see criteria document for more information).</li> <li>• Leather used in products intended for children under three years of age shall be subject to the restriction on chromium-based tanning.</li> <li>• The COD value in waste water discharges from textile finishing processes shall not exceed 20,0 g/kg of textiles processed.</li> </ul>
Manufacturing	Hazardous substance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The final product, and any homogeneous materials or articles thereof, shall not contain substances that have been identified according to the procedure described in Article 59(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and included in the Candidate List for SVHCs in concentrations higher than 0,10 % weight by weight.</li> <li>• The final product, homogeneous materials or articles that form part of the final product, or production recipes used, as applicable, shall not contain substances specified under the <b>Restricted Substances List (RSL)</b> (see <a href="#">criteria document</a>). Specific derogations are granted for certain substances under special conditions of use.</li> <li>• The RSL shall be communicated by the applicant to all the suppliers of materials or articles that will be used as components of the EU Ecolabel product.</li> <li>• Unless otherwise specified, the total use of <b>VOCs in the final footwear production</b> shall not exceed, on average, 18,0 g VOC/pair.</li> <li>• For footwear classified as personal protective equipment in accordance with Directive 89/686/EEC, the total use of VOCs during final footwear production shall not exceed, on average, 20,0 g VOC/pair.</li> </ul>
Manufacturing	Corporate social responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having regard to the <b>International Labour Organisation's (ILO)</b> Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, the UN Global Compact (Pillar 2), the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the applicant shall obtain third-party verification supported by site audit(s) that the applicable principles included in the ILO's fundamental conventions and the supplementary provisions below have been respected at the final footwear assembly site for the product (see <a href="#">criteria document</a> for more information).</li> <li>• In locations where the right to freedom of association and collective bargaining are restricted under law, the company shall recognise legitimate employee associations with whom it can enter into dialogue about workplace issues.</li> </ul>
Use	Packaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cardboard and paper used for the final packaging</b> of footwear shall be made of 100 % recycled material.</li> <li>• Plastic used for the final packaging of footwear shall be made of at least 80 % recycled material.</li> </ul>
Use	User information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The following information shall be supplied with the product: Cleaning and care instructions specified for each product; 'Repair your footwear rather than throw it away. This is less damaging to the environment'.</li> </ul>
Use	Durability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Occupational and safety footwear</b> shall carry the CE mark and shall meet the durability requirements specified in accordance with Directive 89/686/EEC. All other footwear shall meet the requirements listed in the <a href="#">criteria document</a> (See Table 5).</li> </ul>

