








## The EU Ecolabel for Textiles

"The official EU mark for Greener Products"

### Choose the Flower for your Textiles

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

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

-  A limited use of substances harmful to the environment
-  Limited substances harmful to health
-  Reduced water and air pollution
-  Textile shrink resistance during washing and drying
-  Colour resistance to perspiration, washing, wet and dry rubbing and light exposure

It can be awarded to all kind of textile clothing and accessories, interior textiles, and fibres, yarn and fabric.

### 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 textile a credible sign of Environmental Excellence...

Apply for the EU Ecolabel!

For a quick test use the check list overleaf.

### They said it!


"As Europe's leading manufacturer of image workwear, protective wear and casual apparel fabrics, we see Ecolabel accreditation as an important recognition and logical extension of our continuing and long-term commitment to the environment. Thanks to the EU Ecolabel, we can differentiate our product and propose high value products to our consumers. We find it is also a good way to show our respect for workers."

*Judith Emslie, marketing services manager at Klopman International Srl*


"We have decided to certify our product with the EU Ecolabel because it is the ultimate guarantee that customers are acquiring products which are 100% ecological and have been tested and inspected at all levels by an independent authority within the European Union."

*Christine Araújo, sales manager at Naturapura Iberica*

### For more information...

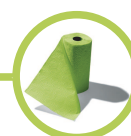
... on the scheme, its feature, the actors involved, the application process... 

[www.ecolabel.eu](http://www.ecolabel.eu)

... on the "textiles" product group: detailed criteria, date of revision... 

[www.ecolabel.eu](http://www.ecolabel.eu)

Choose "Ecolabelled products" on the menu on the left





Life Cycle Step	Criterion	Expectations	Commission Decision 2009/567/EC of 9 July 2009
Manufacturing (fibres)	Type of fibres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>  All types of fibres can be used, with the exception of mineral fibres, glass fibres, metal fibres, carbon fibres and other inorganic fibres.</li> <li>  The criteria for a given-fibre type need not be met if that fibre contributes to less than 5% of the total weight of the textile fibres in the product, or if the fibres are of recycled origin.</li> </ul>	
Manufacturing (fibres)	Limitation of toxic residues in fibres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>  Acrylic: Acrylonitrile &lt; 1.5mg/kg</li> <li>  Cotton: residues of certain pesticides &lt; 0.05ppm</li> <li>  Elastane and polyurethane: no organotin compounds</li> <li>  Greasy wool and other keratin fibres: limitations of certain pesticides</li> <li>  Man-made cellulose: AOX &lt; 250ppm</li> <li>  Polyester: Antimony &lt; 260ppm</li> <li>  Polypropylene: no lead based pigments</li> </ul>	
Manufacturing (fibres)	Reduction of air pollution during fibre process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>  Acrylic: acrylonitrile &lt; 1g/kg</li> <li>  Elastane and polyurethane: aromatic diisocyanates &lt; 5mg/kg</li> <li>  Man-made cellulose: S &lt; 120g/kg (filament) and 30g/kg (staple)</li> <li>  Polyamide: N<sub>2</sub>O &lt; 10g/kg polyamide 6 and &lt; 50g/kg polyamide 6.6</li> <li>  Polyester: VOCs &lt; 1.2g/kg</li> </ul>	
Manufacturing (fibres)	Reduction of water pollution during fibre process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Flax and other bast fibres: COD/TOC from water retting reduced by at least 75% (hemp) and 95% (flax, other)</li> <li>● Viscose: Zn &lt; 0.3g/kg</li> <li>● Cupro: Cu &lt; 0.1ppm</li> <li>● Greasy wool and other keratin fibres: COD &lt; 60 g/kg, 75% reduction of COD, off-site treatment. If on-site treatment, COD &lt; 5 g/kg, 6 &lt; pH &lt; 9 and T &lt; 40 °C</li> </ul>	
Manufacturing (processes and chemicals)	Limitation of the use of substances harmful for the environment (in particular aquatic environment) and health process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 90% of carding and spinning oil, lubricants and finishes for primary spinning and 95% of sizing preparations, detergents, fabrics softeners and weight complexing agents shall be sufficiently biodegradable or else shall be recycled.</li> <li>● Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PaH) in mineral oils &lt; 3% by weight.</li> <li>● No cerium compounds, halogenated carriers</li> <li>● No heavy metals and formaldehyde in stripping and depigmentation</li> <li>● No APEOs, DTDMAC, DSDMAC, DHTDMAC, EDTA, LAS, DTPA, chrome mordant dyeing</li> <li>● Chlorine agents are excluded for bleaching yarns, fabrics and end products</li> <li>● Level of impurities in dyes (in ppm): Ag &lt; 100 Ba &lt; 100 Co &lt; 500 Se &lt; 20 Fe &lt; 2500 As &lt; 50 Cd &lt; 20 Cr &lt; 100 Cu &lt; 250 Hg &lt; 4 Ni &lt; 200 Pb &lt; 100 Sb &lt; 50 Sn &lt; 250 Zn &lt; 1500 Mn &lt; 1000</li> <li>● Level of impurities in pigments (in ppm): As &lt; 50 Cd &lt; 50 Cr &lt; 100 Hg &lt; 25 Pb &lt; 100 Sb &lt; 250 Zn &lt; 1000 Ba &lt; 100 Se &lt; 100</li> <li>● No chlorophenols, PCB and organotin compounds during transportation or storage</li> <li>● No biocidal or biostatic products active during use phase</li> <li>● Discharge to the water of metal complex dyes based on Cu, Cr or Ni: max 20% (cellulose dyeing), 7% (other dyeing process). After treatment: Cu &lt; 75 mg/kg (fibre, yarn, fabric), Cr &lt; 50 mg/kg, Ni &lt; 75 mg/kg</li> <li>● No azo dyes that cleave to a list of aromatic amines</li> <li>● No dyes classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic for reproduction according to Directive 67/548/EEC.</li> <li>● No potentially sensitising dyes if fastness to perspiration &gt; 4</li> <li>● Printing pastes &lt; 5% VOCs. No plastisol based printing</li> <li>● Formaldehyde &lt; 30ppm for products in direct contact with the skin. 20ppm for products for babies and young children and 75ppm for others</li> <li>● COD from wet-processing &lt; 25g/kg. If on-site treatment, 6 &lt; pH &lt; 9 and T &lt; 40°C</li> <li>● No flame retardants or finishing substances containing &gt; 0.1% of substances classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic for reproduction and dangerous for the environment according to Directive 67/548/EEC</li> <li>● Shrink resistant finishes only allowed for wool slivers and loose scouted wool</li> <li>● Coatings, laminates and membranes: no plasticizers or solvents assigned a list of R-phases according to Directive 67/548/EEC</li> </ul>	
Use	Performance and durability	<p>The following tests shall be carried out either on dyed yarn, final fabrics or final product:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dimensional changes during washing and drying: 8% for knitted products, 8% for terry towelling, 6% for other woven products, 2% removable and washable curtain and furniture fabric</li> <li>● Colour fastness to perspiration (acid, alkaline), washing, wet rubbing, dry rubbing, light (see criteria)</li> </ul>	

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](http://www.ecolabel.eu) and click on the 'Green Store' at the top right of the page.