EN

ANNEX

FRAMEWORK

EU ECOLABEL CRITERIA

Criteria for awarding the EU Ecolabel to hard surface cleaning products

CRITERIA

1. Toxicity to aquatic organisms
2. Biodegradability
3. Sustainable sourcing of palm oil, palm kernel oil and their derivatives
4. Excluded and restricted substances
5. Packaging
6. Fitness for use
7. User information
8. Information appearing on the EU Ecolabel

ASSESSMENT AND VERIFICATION

(a) Requirements

The specific assessment and verification requirements are indicated within each criterion.

Where the applicant is required to provide the competent bodies with declarations, documentation, analyses, test reports, or other evidence to show compliance with the criteria, these may originate from the applicant and/or their supplier(s), as appropriate.

Competent bodies shall preferentially recognise attestations which are issued by bodies accredited in accordance with the relevant harmonised standard for testing and calibration laboratories and verifications by bodies that are accredited in accordance with the relevant harmonised standard for bodies certifying products, processes and services. Accreditation shall be carried out in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council[1] .

[1] Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 339/93 (OJ L 218, 13.8.2008, p.30).

Where appropriate, test methods other than those indicated for each criterion may be used if the competent body assessing the application accepts their equivalence.

Where appropriate, competent bodies may require supporting documentation and may carry out independent verifications or site visits.

As a prerequisite, the product shall meet all applicable legal requirements of the country or countries in which the product is intended to be placed on the market. The applicant shall declare the product's compliance with this requirement.

The 'Detergent Ingredient Database' list (DID list), available on the EU Ecolabel website, contains the most widely used ingoing substances in detergents and cosmetics formulations. It shall be used for deriving the data for the calculations of the Critical Dilution Volume (CDV) and for the assessment of the biodegradability of the ingoing substances. For substances not present on the DID list, guidance is given on how to calculate or extrapolate the relevant data.

The list of all ingoing substances shall be provided to the competent body, indicating the trade name (if existing), the chemical name, the CAS number, the DID number, the ingoing quantity, the function and the form present in the final product formulation (including water-soluble foil.

Preservatives, fragrances and colouring agents shall be indicated regardless of concentration. Other ingoing substances shall be indicated at or above the concentration of 0,010 % weight by weight.

All ingoing substances present in the form of nanomaterials shall be clearly indicated in the list with the word ‘nano’ written in brackets.

For each ingoing substance listed, the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council[2] shall be provided. Where an SDS is not available for a single substance because it is part of a mixture, the applicant shall provide the SDS of the mixture.

(b) Measurement thresholds

Compliance with the criteria is required for all ingoing substances as specified in Table 1.

Table 1 Threshold levels applicable to ingoing substances by criterion for hard surface cleaning products (% weight by weight)

Criterion name	Surfactants	Preservatives	Colouring agents	Fragrances	Other (e.g. enzymes)
Toxicity to aquatic organisms	≥ 0,010	no limit*	no limit*	no limit*	≥ 0,010

[2] Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) (OJ L 396, 30.12.2006, p. 1).

Biodegradability	Surfactants	≥ 0,010	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Organics	≥ 0,010	no limit*	no limit*	no limit*	≥ 0,010
Sustainable sourcing of palm oil		≥ 0,010	N/A	N/A	N/A	≥ 0,010
Excluded or limited substances	Specified excluded and limited subst.	no limit*	no limit*	no limit*	no limit*	no limit*
	Hazardous subst.	≥ 0,010	≥ 0,010	≥ 0,010	≥ 0,010	≥ 0,010
	SVHCs	no limit*	no limit*	no limit*	no limit*	no limit*
	Fragrances	N/A	N/A	N/A	no limit*	N/A
	Preserva-tives	N/A	no limit*	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Colouring agents	N/A	N/A	no limit*	N/A	N/A
	Enzymes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	no limit*
	Micro-organisms	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	≥ 0,010
* "no limit" means: all substances intentionally added, by-products and impurities from raw materials (analytical limit of detection) regardless of the concentration.						

(c) Product group specifities

If a product can be found both in RTU and undiluted form and both forms are sold as part of a single lot (e.g. one bottle of RTU product and a refill bottle of undiluted product), both types of products shall meet the requirements set out in all the criteria for their respective types.

Undiluted products in packaging designed for the sole purpose of refilling trigger sprays shall meet the packaging requirements for RTU products.

REFERENCE DOSAGE

The following dosage shall be taken as the reference dosage for the calculations aiming at documenting compliance with the EU Ecolabel criteria and for testing of cleaning ability.

Ready-to-use (RTU) products	1 litre of RTU product
Undiluted products	Highest dosage recommended by the manufacturer for preparing 1 litre of cleaning solution for cleaning normally soiled surfaces (indicated in g/l of cleaning solution or ml/l of cleaning solution)

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide the product label or user instruction sheet that includes the dosing instructions.

Criterion 1 – Toxicity to aquatic organisms

The critical dilution volume ($CDV_{chronic}$) of the product shall not exceed the following limits for the reference dosage.

Product type	**Limit CDV (l/l of cleaning solution)**
All-purpose cleaners, RTU	350 000
All-purpose cleaners, undiluted	18 000
Kitchen cleaners, RTU	600 000
Kitchen cleaners, undiluted	45 000
Window cleaners, RTU	48 000
Window cleaners, undiluted	18 000
Sanitary cleaners, RTU	600 000
Sanitary cleaners, undiluted	45 000

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide the calculation of the $CDV_{chronic}$ of the product. A spreadsheet for calculating the $CDV_{chronic}$ value is available on the EU Ecolabel website.

The $CDV_{chronic}$ is calculated for all ingoing substances (*i*) in the product, except micro-organisms, using the following equation:

$$CDV_{\text{chronic}} = \sum CDV(i) = 1000 \cdot \sum dosage(i) \cdot \frac{DF(i)}{TF_{\text{chronic}}(i)}$$

Where:

dosage(i): weight (g) of the substance (i) in the reference dose;

DF(i): degradation factor for the substance (i) ;

$TF_{chronic}$(i): chronic toxicity factor for the substance (i) .

The values of DF(i) and $TF_{chronic}$(i) shall be as given in the most updated Part A of the DID list. If an ingoing substance is not included in Part A, the applicant shall estimate the values following the approach described in Part B of that list and attaching the associated documentation.

Criterion 2 – Biodegradability

(a) Biodegradability of surfactants

All surfactants shall be readily degradable (aerobically).

All surfactants classified as hazardous to the aquatic environment: Acute Category 1 (H400) or Chronic Category 3 (H412), in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council[3] shall be in addition anaerobically biodegradable.

(b) Biodegradability of organic compounds

The content of organic substances in the product, except micro-organisms, that are aerobically non-biodegradable (not readily biodegradable, aNBO) or anaerobically non-biodegradable (anNBO) shall not exceed the following limits for the reference dosage.

Product type	**aNBO (g/l of cleaning solution)**	**anNBO (g/l of cleaning solution)**
All-purpose cleaners, RTU	3,00	55,00
All-purpose cleaners, undiluted	0,20	0,50
Kitchen cleaners, RTU	5,00	35,00
Kitchen cleaners, undiluted	0,20	0,50
Window cleaners, RTU	2,00	20,00

[3] Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures, amending and repealing Directives 67/548/EEC and 1999/45/EC, and amending Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (OJ L 353, 31.12.2008, p. 1).

Window cleaners, undiluted	0,20	0,50
Sanitary cleaners, RTU	5,00	35,00
Sanitary cleaners, undiluted	0,20	0,50

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide documentation for the degradability of surfactants, as well as the calculation of aNBO and anNBO for the product. A spreadsheet for calculating aNBO and anNBO values is available on the EU Ecolabel website.

For both the degradability of surfactants and the aNBO and anNBO values for organic compounds, reference shall be made to the most updated DID list.

For ingoing substances that are not included in Part A of the DID list, the relevant information from literature or other sources, or appropriate test results, showing that they are aerobically and anaerobically biodegradable shall be provided, as described in Part B of that list.

In the absence of documentation for degradability, an ingoing substance other than a surfactant may be exempted from the requirement for anaerobic degradability if one of the following three alternatives is fulfilled:

(1) it is readily degradable and has low adsorption (A < 25 %);

(2) it is readily degradable and has high desorption (D > 75 %);

(3) it is readily degradable and non-bioaccumulating[4].

Testing for adsorption/desorption shall be conducted in accordance with OECD Guideline 106.

Criterion 3 – Sustainable sourcing of palm oil, palm kernel oil and their derivatives

Ingoing substances used in the products which are derived from palm oil or palm kernel oil shall be sourced from plantations that meet the requirements of a certification scheme for sustainable production that is based on multi-stakeholder organizations that has a broad membership, including NGOs, industry and government and that addresses environmental impacts including on soil, biodiversity, organic carbon stocks and conservation of natural resources.

Assessment and verification: The applicant shall provide evidence through third-party certificates and chain of custody that palm oil and palm kernel oil used in the manufacturing of the ingoing substances originates from sustainably managed plantations.

[4] A substance is considered to be not bio-accumulating if the BCF is < 100 or log K_{ow} is < 3,0. If both the BCF and log K_{ow} values are available, the highest measured BCF value shall be used.

Certificates accepted shall include Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) (by identity preserved, segregated or mass balance) or any equivalent or stricter sustainable production scheme.

For chemical derivatives of palm oil and for palm kernel oil, it shall be acceptable to demonstrate sustainability through book and claim systems such as GreenPalm certificates or equivalent by providing the Annual Communications of Progress (ACOP) declared amounts of procured and redeemed GreenPalm certificates during the most recent annual trading period.

Criterion 4 – Excluded and restricted substances

(a) Specified excluded and restricted substances

(i) Excluded substances

The substances indicated below shall not be included in the product formulation regardless of concentration:

- Alkyl phenol ethoxylates (APEOs) and other alkyl phenol derivatives;
- Atranol;
- Chloroatranol;
- Diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid (DTPA);
- Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) and its salts;
- Formaldehyde and its releasers (e.g. 2-bromo-2-nitropropane-1,3-diol, 5-bromo-5-nitro-1,3-dioxane, sodium hydroxyl methyl glycinate, diazolidinylurea) with the exception of impurities of formaldehyde in surfactants based on polyalkoxy chemistry up to a concentration of 0,010 % weight by weight in the ingoing substance;
- Glutaraldehyde;
- Hydroxyisohexyl 3-cyclohexene carboxaldehyde (HICC);
- Microplastics;
- Nanosilver;
- Nitromusks and polycyclic musks;
- Phosphates;
- Perfluorinated alkylates;
- Quaternary ammonium salts not readily biodegradable;

– Reactive chlorine compounds;
– Rhodamine B;
– Triclosan;
– 3-iodo-2-propynyl butylcarbamate;
– Aromatic hydrocarbons;
– Halogenated hydrocarbons.

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance supported by declarations from suppliers, if appropriate, confirming that the listed substances have not been included in the product formulation regardless of concentration.

(ii) Restricted substances

The substances listed below shall not be included in the product formulation above the concentrations indicated:

– 2-methyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one: 0,0050 % weight by weight (should the value of 2-methyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one allowed in Annex V (List of preservatives allowed in cosmetic products) to Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009[5] be lower at the time of the application, then this lower value shall take precedence);
– 1,2-Benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one: 0,0050 % weight by weight;
– 5-chloro-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one/2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one: 0,0015 % weight by weight.

The total phosphorus (P) content calculated as elemental P shall be limited to the following values for the reference dosage.

Product type	**P content**
All-purpose cleaners, RTU	0,02 g/l of RTU product
All-purpose cleaners, undiluted	0,02 g/l of cleaning solution
Kitchen cleaners, RTU	1,00 g/l of RTU product
Kitchen cleaners, undiluted	1,00 g/l of cleaning solution

[5] Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on cosmetic products (OJ L 342, 22.12.2009, p. 59–209).

Window cleaners, RTU	0,00 g/l of RTU product
Window cleaners, undiluted	0,00 g/l of cleaning solution
Sanitary cleaners, RTU	1,00 g/l of RTU product
Sanitary cleaners, undiluted	1,00 g/l of cleaning solution

Fragrance substances subject to the declaration requirement provided in Regulation (EC) No 648/2004[6] shall not be present in quantities ≥ 0,010 % weight by weight per substance.

VOCs** shall not be present above the limits specified below.

Product type	**VOC limit**
All-purpose cleaners, RTU	30 g/l of RTU product
All-purpose cleaners, undiluted	30 g/l of cleaning solution
Kitchen cleaners, RTU	60 g/l of RTU product
Kitchen cleaners, undiluted	60 g/l of cleaning solution
Window cleaners, RTU	100 g/l of RTU product
Window cleaners, undiluted	100 g/l of cleaning solution
Sanitary cleaners, RTU	60 g/l of RTU product
Sanitary cleaners, undiluted	60 g/l of cleaning solution

**VOCs means any organic compound having a boiling point lower than 150 °C.

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide the following documents:

(a) If isothiazolinones are used, a signed declaration of compliance supported by declarations from suppliers, if appropriate, confirming that the content of isothiazolinones used is equal to or lower than the limits set.

(b) A signed declaration of compliance supported by declarations from suppliers, if appropriate, confirming that the total amount of elemental P is equal to or lower than the limits set. The declaration shall be supported by the calculations of the product's total P content.

[6] Regulation (EC) No 648/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 on detergents (OJ L 104, 8.4.2004, p. 1–35).

(c) A signed declaration of compliance supported by declarations or documentation from suppliers, if appropriate, confirming that the fragrance substances subject to the declaration requirement provided for in Regulation (EC) No 648/2004 are not present above the limits set.

(d) A signed declaration of compliance supported by declarations from the suppliers, if appropriate, confirming that the total amount of VOCs is below the set limits. This declaration shall be supported by test reports or calculations of the VOC content based on the list of ingredients.

(b) Hazardous substances

(i) Final product

The final product shall not be classified and labelled as being acutely toxic, a specific target organ toxicant, a respiratory or skin sensitiser, carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction, or hazardous to the aquatic environment, as defined in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 and in accordance with the list in Table 2.

(ii) Ingoing substances

The product shall not contain ingoing substances at a concentration limit at or above 0,010 % weight by weight in the final product that meet the criteria for classification as toxic, hazardous to the aquatic environment, respiratory or skin sensitisers, carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction in accordance with Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 and in accordance with the list in Table 2.

Where stricter, the generic or specific concentration limits determined in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 shall take precedence.

Table 2 Restricted hazard classifications and their categorisation

Acute toxicity	
Categories 1 and 2	**Category 3**
H300 Fatal if swallowed	H301 Toxic if swallowed
H310 Fatal in contact with skin	H311 Toxic in contact with skin
H330 Fatal if inhaled	H331 Toxic if inhaled
H304 May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways	EUH070 Toxic by eye contact
Specific target organ toxicity	

Category 1	**Category 2**
H370 Causes damage to organs	H371 May cause damage to organs
H372 Causes damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure	H373 May cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure
Respiratory and skin sensitisation	
Category 1A/1	**Category 1B**
H317 May cause allergic skin reaction	H317 May cause allergic skin reaction
H334 May cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled	H334 May cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled
Carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction	
Categories 1A and 1B	**Category 2**
H340 May cause genetic defects	H341 Suspected of causing genetic defects
H350 May cause cancer	H351 Suspected of causing cancer
H350i May cause cancer by inhalation	
H360F May damage fertility	H361f Suspected of damaging fertility
H360D May damage the unborn child	H361d Suspected of damaging the unborn child
H360FD May damage fertility. May damage the unborn child	H361fd Suspected of damaging fertility. Suspected of damaging the unborn child
H360Fd May damage fertility. Suspected of damaging the unborn child	H362 May cause harm to breast-fed children
H360Df May damage the unborn child. Suspected of damaging fertility	
Hazardous to the aquatic environment	
Categories 1 and 2	**Categories 3 and 4**

H400 Very toxic to aquatic life	H412 Harmful to aquatic life with long-lasting effects
H410 Very toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects	H413 May cause long-lasting effects to aquatic life
H411 Toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects	
Hazardous to the ozone layer	
H420 Hazardous to the ozone layer	

This criterion does not apply to ingoing substances covered by Article 2(7)(a) and (b) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 which set out criteria for exempting substances within Annexes IV and V to that Regulation from the registration, downstream user and evaluation requirements. In order to determine whether that exclusion applies, the applicant shall screen any ingoing substance present at a concentration above 0,010 % weight by weight.

Substances and mixtures included in Table 3 are exempted from requirement 4(b)(ii).

Table 3 Derogated substances

Substance	**Hazard statement**
Surfactants	H400 Very toxic to aquatic life
	H412 Harmful to aquatic life with long-lasting effects
Enzymes (*)	H317 May cause allergic skin reaction
	H334 May cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled
NTA as an impurity in MGDA and GLDA (**)	H351 Suspected of causing cancer
(*) Including stabilisers and other auxiliary substances in the preparations. (**) In concentrations lower than 0,2 % in the raw material as long as the total concentration in the final product is lower than 0,10 %.	

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall demonstrate compliance with this criterion for the final product and for any ingoing substance present at a concentration greater than 0,010 % weight by weight in the final product. The applicant shall provide a signed

declaration of compliance supported by declarations from suppliers, if appropriate, or SDS confirming that none of these substances meets the criteria for classification with one or more of the hazard statements listed in Table 2 in the form(s) and physical state(s) in which they are present in the product.

For substances listed in Annexes IV and V to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, which are exempted from registration obligations under points (a) and (b) of Article 2(7) of that Regulation, a declaration to this effect by the applicant shall suffice to comply.

The applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance supported by declarations from suppliers, if appropriate, or SDS confirming the presence of ingoing substances that fulfil the derogation conditions.

(c) Substances of very high concern (SVHCs)

The final product shall not contain any ingoing substances that have been identified in accordance with the procedure described in Article 59(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1907/2006, which establishes the candidate list for substances of very high concern.

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance supported by declarations from their suppliers, if appropriate, or **SDS** confirming the non-presence of all the candidate list substances.

Reference to the latest list of substances of very high concern shall be made on the date of application.

(d) Fragrances

Any ingoing substance added to the product as a fragrance shall be manufactured and handled following the code of practice of the International Fragrance Association (IFRA)[7]. The recommendations of the IFRA Standards concerning prohibition, restricted use and specified purity criteria for substances shall be followed by the manufacturer.

Assessment and verification: the supplier or fragrance manufacturer, as appropriate, shall provide a signed declaration of compliance.

(e) Preservatives

(i) The product may only include preservatives in order to preserve the product, and in the appropriate dosage for this purpose alone. This does not refer to surfactants which may also have biocidal properties.

[7] Available at the IFRA website: http://www.ifraorg.org.

(ii) The product may contain preservatives provided that they are not bio-accumulating. A preservative is considered to be not bio-accumulating if the BCF is < 100 or log K_{ow} is < 3,0. If both the BCF and log K_{ow} values are available, the highest measured BCF value shall be used.

(iii) It is prohibited to claim or suggest on the packaging or by any other communication that the product has an antimicrobial or disinfecting effect.

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance supported by declarations from suppliers, if appropriate, along with the SDS of any preservative added and information on its BCF or log K_{ow} values. The applicant shall also provide artwork of the packaging.

(f) Colouring agents

Colouring agents in the product shall not be bio-accumulating.

A colouring agent is considered not bio-accumulating if the BCF is < 100 or log K_{ow} is < 3,0. If both the BCF and log K_{ow} values are available, the highest measured BCF value shall be used. In the case of colouring agents approved for use in food, it is not necessary to submit documentation of bio-accumulation potential.

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance supported by declarations from suppliers, if appropriate, along with the SDS of any colouring agent added and information on its BCF or log K_{ow} value, or documentation to ensure that the colouring agent is approved for use in food.

(g) Enzymes

Only enzyme encapsulated (in solid form) and enzyme liquids/slurries shall be used.

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance supported by declarations from suppliers, if appropriate, along with the SDS of any enzyme added.

(h) Micro-organisms

(i) Identification: all intentionally added micro-organisms shall have an American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) number, belong to a collection of an International Depository Authority (IDA) or have had their DNA identified in accordance with a "Strain identification protocol" (using 16S ribosomal DNA sequencing or an equivalent method).

(ii) Safety: all intentionally added micro-organisms shall belong to both of the following:

- Risk Group I as defined by Directive 2000/54/EC[8] – biological agents at work;
- the Qualified Presumption of Safety (QPS) list issued by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

(iii) Absence of contaminants: pathogenic micro-organisms, as defined below, shall not be in any of the strains included in the finished product when screened using the indicated test methods or equivalent:

- E. Coli, test method ISO 16649-3:2005;
- Streptococcus (Enterococcus), test method ISO 21528-1:2004;
- Staphylococcus aureus, test method ISO 6888-1;
- Bacillus cereus, test method ISO 7932:2004 or ISO 21871;
- Salmonella, test method ISO6579:2002 or ISO 19250.

(iv) All intentionally added micro-organisms shall not be genetically modified micro-organisms (GMMs).

(v) Antibiotic susceptibility: all intentionally added micro-organisms shall be, with the exception of intrinsic resistance, susceptible to each of the five major antibiotic classes (aminoglycoside, macrolide, beta-lactam, tetracycline and fluoroquinolones) in accordance with the EUCAST disk diffusion method or equivalent.

(vi) Microbial count: products in their in-use form shall have a standard plate count equal to or greater than $1x10^5$ colony-forming units (CFU) per ml in accordance with ISO 4833-1:2014.

(vii) Shelf life: the minimum shelf life of the product shall not be lower than 24 months and the microbial count shall not decrease by more than 10 % every 12 months in accordance with ISO 4833-1:2014.

(viii) Fitness for use: the product shall fulfil all the requirements set out in Criterion 6 on Fitness for Use and all claims made by the manufacturer on the actions of the micro-organisms contained in the product shall be documented through third-party testing.

(ix) Claims: it is prohibited to claim or suggest on the packaging or by any other communication that the product has an antimicrobial or disinfecting effect.

(x) User information: the product label shall include the following information:

- that the product contains micro-organisms;
- that the product shall not be used with a spray trigger mechanism;
- that the product should not be used on surfaces in contact with food;
- an indication of the shelf life of the product.

[8] Directive (EC) No 2000/54 of 18 September 2000 on the protection of workers from risks related to exposure to biological agents at work (seventh individual directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of Directive 89/391/EEC) (OJ L 262, 17.10.2000, p. 21–45).

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide:
(i) The name (to the strain) and identification of all micro-organisms contained in the product with ATCC or IDA numbers or documentation on DNA identification.
(ii) Documentation demonstrating that all micro-organisms belong to Risk Group I and the QPS list.
(iii) Test documentation demonstrating that the pathogenic micro-organisms are not present in the product.
(iv) Documentation demonstrating that all micro-organisms are not GMMs.
(v) Test documentation demonstrating that all micro-organisms are, with the exception of intrinsic resistance, susceptible to each of the five major antibiotic classes indicated.
(vi) Test documentation of CFU per ml of in-use solution (for undiluted products, the dilution ratio recommended for 'normal' cleaning shall be used).
(vii) Test documentation of CFU per ml of in-use solution every 12 months for a product stored until the end of its shelf life.
(viii) Test results from a third-party laboratory demonstrating the claimed actions of the micro-organisms and artwork of the packaging or a copy of the product's label highlighting any claims made on the actions of the micro-organisms.
(ix) and (x) artwork of the packaging or a copy of the product's label.

Criterion 5 – Packaging

(a) Products sold in spray bottles

Sprays containing propellants shall not be used. Spray bottles shall be refillable and reusable.

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance along with relevant documentation describing or demonstrating how the spray bottles that are part of the packaging can be refilled.

(b) Packaging take-back systems

If the product is delivered in packaging that is part of a take-back system for a product, that product is exempted from the requirements set out in points (c) and (d) of Criterion 5.

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance along with relevant documentation describing or demonstrating that a take-back system has been put in place for the packaging.

(c) Weight/utility ratio (WUR)

The weight/utility ratio (WUR) of the product shall be calculated for the primary packaging only and shall not exceed the following values for the reference dosage.

Product type	WUR (g/l of cleaning solution)
Undiluted products	15
RTU products	150
RTU products sold in bottles with trigger sprays	200

Primary packaging made of more than 80 % recycled materials is exempted from this requirement.

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide the calculation of the WUR of the product. If the product is sold in different packaging (i.e. with different volumes), the calculation shall be submitted for each packaging size for which the EU Ecolabel shall be awarded.

The WUR is calculated as follows:

$$WUR = \sum((W_i + U_i)/(D_i * R_i)$$

Where:

W_i: weight (g) of the primary packaging (*i*);

U_i: weight (g) of non-post-consumer recycled packaging in the primary packaging (*i*). $U_i = W_i$ unless the applicant can prove otherwise;

D_i: number of reference doses contained in the primary packaging (*i*). In the case of RTU products, Di = product volume (in litres);

R_i: refill index. $R_i = 1$ (packaging is not reused for the same purpose) or $R_i = 2$ (if the applicant can document that the packaging component can be reused for the same purpose and they sell refills). .

The applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance confirming the content of post-consumer recycled material, along with relevant documentation. Packaging is regarded as post-consumer recycled if the raw material used to make the packaging has been collected from packaging manufacturers at the distribution stage or at the consumer stage.

(d) Design for recycling

Plastic packaging shall be designed to facilitate effective recycling by avoiding potential contaminants and incompatible materials that are known to impede separation or reprocessing or to reduce the quality of recyclate. The label or sleeve, closure and, where applicable,

barrier coatings shall not comprise, either singularly or in combination, the materials and components listed in Table 4. Pump mechanisms (including in sprays) are exempted from this requirement.

Table 4 Materials and components excluded from packaging elements

Packaging element	Excluded materials and components*
Label or sleeve	- PS label or sleeve in combination with a PET, PP or HDPE bottle - PVC label or sleeve in combination with a PET, PP or HDPE bottle - PETG label or sleeve in combination with a PET bottle - Any other plastic materials for sleeves/labels with a density > 1 g/cm^3 used with a PET bottle - Any other plastic materials for sleeves/labels with a density < 1 g/cm^3 used with a PP or HDPE bottle - Labels or sleeves that are metallised or are welded to a packaging body (in mould labelling)
Closure	- PS closure in combination a with a PET, HDPE or PP bottle - PVC closure in combination with a PET, PP or HDPE bottle - PETG closures or closure material with a density > 1 g/cm^3 in combination with a PET bottle - Closures made of metal, glass or EVA which are not easily separable from the bottle - Closures made of silicone. Silicone closures with a density < 1 g/cm^3 in combination with a PET bottle and silicone closures with a density > 1g/cm^3 in combination with PEHD or PP bottle are exempted. - Metallic foils or seals which remain fixed to the bottle or its closure after the product has been opened
Barrier coatings	Polyamide, functional polyolefins, metallised and light-blocking barriers
* EVA – Ethylene Vinyl Acetate, HDPE – High-density polyethylene, PET – Polyethylene terephthalate, PETG – Polyethylene terephthalate glycol-modified, PP – Polypropylene, PS – Polystyrene, PVC – Polyvinylchloride	

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance specifying the material composition of the packaging including the container, label or sleeve,

adhesives, closure and barrier coating, as appropriate, along with photos or technical drawings of the primary packaging.

Criterion 6 – Fitness for use

The product shall have a satisfactory cleaning performance at the lowest temperature and dosage recommended by the manufacturer for the water hardness in accordance with the 'Framework for testing the performance of hard surface cleaners' available on the EU Ecolabel website[9]

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide documentation demonstrating that the product has been tested under the conditions specified in the framework and that the results showed that the product achieved at least the minimum cleaning performance required. The applicant shall also provide documentation demonstrating compliance with the laboratory requirements included in the relevant harmonised standards for testing and calibration laboratories, if appropriate.

An equivalent test performance may be used if equivalence has been assessed and accepted by the competent body.

Criterion 7 – User information

The product shall be accompanied by instructions for proper use so as to maximise product performance and minimise waste, and reduce water pollution and use of resources. These instructions shall be legible or include graphical representation or icons and include information on the following:

(a) Dosing instructions

The applicant shall take suitable steps to help consumers respect the recommended dosage, making available the dosing instructions and a convenient dosage system (e.g. caps). The following text shall appear on the packaging of RTU products: "This product is not intended for a large-scale cleaning".

Dosage instructions shall include the recommended dosage for at least two levels of soiling and, if applicable, the impact of the water hardness on the dosing.

If applicable, indications of the most prevalent water hardness in the area where the product is intended to be marketed or where this information can be found shall be provided.

(b) Packaging disposal information

[9] Available at: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/documents/performance_test_cleaners.pdf.

The primary packaging shall include information on the reuse, recycling and correct disposal of packaging.

(c) Environmental information

A text shall appear on the primary packaging indicating the importance of using the correct dosage and the lowest recommended temperature in order to minimise energy and water consumption and reduce water pollution.

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance along with a sample of the product label.

Criterion 8 – Information appearing on the EU Ecolabel

The logo shall be visible and legible. The EU Ecolabel registration/licence number shall appear on the product and it shall be legible and clearly visible.

The applicant may choose to include an optional text box on the label that contains the following text:

- Limited impact on the aquatic environment;
- Restricted amount of hazardous substances;
- Tested for cleaning performance.

Assessment and verification: the applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance along with a sample of the product label or artwork of the packaging where the EU Ecolabel is placed.