

Environmental Choice^M Program

CERTIFICATION CRITERIA DOCUMENT

CCD-155



Product: Recreational Products Made From Recycled Materials

Preamble

Pursuant to paragraph 54 (1)(b) of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*, Environment Canada is pleased to publish the following national guideline on **recreational products made from recycled materials** under the auspices of the Environmental Choice^M Program (ECP).

The Environmental Choice Program is designed to support a continuing effort to improve and/or maintain environmental quality by reducing energy and materials consumption and by minimizing the impacts of pollution generated by the production, use and disposal of goods and services available to Canadians.

Waste generation is a significant environmental problem. For example, plastic products account for approximately 7% by weight, or 30% by volume, of municipal solid waste in Canada. Paper and paperboard make up another 33%. Recycling of plastics and fibres will help to reduce the solid waste handled by Canadian municipalities.

Based on a review of currently available life cycle information, the product category requirements will produce an environmental benefit through **a reduction in the amount of material that is disposed of in landfills and incinerators**. In addition, the particular product niche (recreational products) is a highly visible one to consumers, thus provides the potential to widely promote the benefits of recycled products.

Life cycle review is an ongoing process. As information and technology change, the product category requirements will be reviewed and possibly amended.

Environment Canada anticipates that manufacturers or importers **recreational products made from recycled materials** which conform to this guideline will apply to the Environmental Choice Program for verification and subsequent authority to label the qualifying products with the Environmental Choice EcoLogo^M.

Notice

Any reference to a standard means to the latest edition of that standard.

The Environmental Choice Program reserves the right to accept equivalent test data for the test methods specified in this guideline.

Interpretation

1. In the following guideline:

"base structure" means a recreational product's basic framing and support structure. For the purposes of this Certification Criteria Document, ancillary items (e.g., connecting screws and bolts, mounting hardware,

support wires or cord, netting, etc.) are not considered part of the products' base structure;

"basketball goal" means a recreational product designed exclusively as goal in the sport of basketball. The product' construction will include, as it base structure, a backboard and hoop, plus such ancillary items as connecting screws and bolts, mounting hardware, and netting;

"bench" means a multi-purpose recreational product designed to provide seating and/or a platform for gymnastics or other similar activities. The product' construction will include, as it base structure, a planks and supports, plus such ancillary items as connecting screws and/or bolts;

"consumer" means a household, industrial or commercial establishment or institutional facility;

"field goal" means a multi-purpose recreational product designed to provide a free-standing, netted goal for such sports as soccer or hockey. The product' construction will include, as it base structure, a posts and/or framing, designed to support ancillary netting;

"post-consumer material" means a product which has served its end-use at the consumer level, has been discarded by the consumer, and would, unless diverted, enter the waste stream;

"pre-consumer material" means materials generated by an industrial process that would, unless diverted, enter the waste stream. This includes, but is not limited to, damaged or defective materials, overstock or obsolete inventories from manufacturers, distributors, and wholesalers;

"recreational products" means a equipment and accessory items used in sports, athletic education and recreational pursuits. Such items are generally added to a generic field, gymnasium or arena and include, *inter alia*, goals, targets, performance apparatuses, scoring devices and player benches ;

"recreational products made from recycled materials" means recreational products whose base structure contains a minimum of 98% by weight of recycled materials. For the purposes of this Certification Criteria Document, ancillary items (e.g., connecting screws and bolts, mounting hardware, support wires or cord, netting, etc.) are not including in determination of the products' recycled content;

"recycled material" means post-consumer material and pre-consumer material. It does not include by-products of an industrial process that can be, and regularly are, used in either the same process, or in a different process, except that proportion which originated as post-consumer material and pre-consumer material. For the purposes of this Certification Criteria Document, it is understood that recycled content may include a combination of plastic, paper, wood fibre and other materials; and

"target" means a multi-purpose recreational product designed to provide a target for thrown, kicked or fired sporting projectiles (e.g., balls, bean bags, arrows, discs etc.). The product' construction will include, as it base structure, a boards and supports, plus such ancillary items as connecting screws and/or bolts, netting and/or applied designs.

Category Definition

2. This category includes all ***recreational products made from recycled materials*** as further defined in the subcategories in this section. The subcategories are:

- (a) field goals;
- (b) targets;
- (c) basketball goals; and
- (d) benches;

Note: Other sub-categories may be added at a later date. The ECP reserves the right to determine which sub-category will be assigned to a particular applicant.

General Requirements

3. To be authorized to carry the EcoLogo the ***recreational products made from recycled materials*** must:
 - (a) meet or exceed all applicable governmental and industrial safety and performance standards; and
 - (b) be manufactured and transported in such a manner that all steps of the process, including the disposal of waste products arising therefrom, will meet the requirements of all applicable governmental acts, by laws and regulations including, for facilities located in Canada, the *Fisheries Act* and the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (CEPA).

Product Specific Requirements

4. To be authorized to carry the EcoLogo the ***recreational products made from recycled materials*** must:
 - (a) be constructed with a base structure that contains a minimum of 100% recycled material by weight, as a proportion of total content.
- 4.1 Whenever the EcoLogo or the words “Environmental Choice” are used in association with the ***recreational products made from recycled materials***, they must be accompanied by a criteria statement. This criteria statement must clarify that the recycled content relates only to the base structure.

Verification

5. To verify a claim that a product meets the criteria listed in the guideline, the Environmental Choice Program will require access, as is its normal practice, to relevant quality control and production records and the right of access to production facilities on an announced basis.
6. Compliance with section 3(b) shall be attested to by a signed statement of the Chief Executive Officer or the equivalent officer of the manufacturer. The Environmental Choice Program shall be advised in writing immediately by the licensee of any noncompliance which may occur during the term of the license. On the occurrence of any noncompliance, the license may be suspended or terminated as stipulated in the license agreement. In the event of a dispute related to the suspension or termination of the license, the license agreement provides for arbitration.

Conditions for EcoLogo Use

7. The EcoLogo may appear on wholesale or retail packaging, or on the product itself, provided that the product meets the requirements in this guideline.
8. A criteria statement must appear with the EcoLogo whenever the EcoLogo is used in association with the ***recreational products made from recycled materials***. The intent of this statement is to provide clarification as to why the product was certified and to indicate constraints to which the certification is limited. This is to ensure no ambiguity over, or misrepresentation of, the reason(s) for certification.

ECP suggested criteria statement wording for this product type is “*base structure contains minimum x% recycled material*”, where “x” corresponds to the recycled content limits set out in Section 4 (a). The licensee may propose other wording for the criteria statement, but any such proposed wording must be approved by the Environmental Choice Program.

9. All licensees and authorized users must comply with the Environmental Choice Program's *Guide to Proper Use of the EcoLogo^M* regarding the format and usage of the EcoLogo.
10. Any accompanying advertising must conform with the relevant requirements stipulated in this guideline, the license agreement and the Environmental Choice Program's *Guide to Proper Use of the EcoLogo^M*.



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