

Environmental Choice^M Program
Panel Review Process

VERIFICATION AND LICENSING CRITERIA

PRC-047

Product Type: Photochemical Recovery Service

Notice

Throughout this document, any reference to a standard or guideline means to its latest edition.

The Environmental Choice^M Program (ECP) reserves the right to accept equivalent test data for the test methods specified in this document.

Interpretation

1. In this set of requirements, please note the following definitions:

"Biochemical oxygen demand" or "BOD₅" means the amount of dissolved oxygen required for the biodegradation of the organic matter in water, when tested in accordance with the 5 day test set out in the *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste Water*, latest edition, Sub-part 5210, jointly published by the American Public Health Association, the American Water Works Association and the Water Pollution Control Federation.

"Commercial lab" means a photo finishing lab providing a range of photo finishing services to professionals, students, institutional and industrial customers. It includes custom, school and studio labs offering only limited direct service to the general public.

"Iron" means the amount of iron, when tested in accordance with the test set out in the *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste Water*, latest edition, Sub-part 3500 jointly published by the American Public Health Association, the American Water Works Association and the Water Pollution Control.

"Minilab" means an establishment having a colour and/or black and white film processor and a combined paper printer and processor, capable of providing on-site photographic film and paper processing and printing services to the general public.

"Phosphorus" means the amount of phosphate when tested in accordance with the test set out in *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste Water*, latest edition, Sub-part 4500 jointly published by the American Public Health Association, the American Water Works Association and Water Pollution Control.

"Photo finishing establishments" means those performed by minilabs, wholesale labs and commercial labs which offer photo processing services.

"Recovery of silver" means reclaiming silver from spent photochemical solutions, or from liquid or solid wastes prior to disposal. All resulting silver levels must be measured using either Atomic Absorption (AA) Spectrometry or Inductively Coupled Plasma (ICP) Spectrometry.

"Regeneration" means the treatment of a spent processing solution to make it, in part, reusable. Typically, regeneration involves discarding a portion of the used solution and adding a regenerating concentrate to a pre-treated, desilvered overflow solution.

"Regeneration rate" means the percentage of spent photo processing solutions which are treated and then reused.

"Sulfate" means the amount of sulfate when tested in accordance with the test set out in *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste Water*, latest edition, Sub-part 4500 jointly published by the American Public Health Association, the American Water Works Association and Water Pollution Control.

"Total kjeldahl nitrogen" or "TKN" means the sum of organic and ammonia nitrogen, when tested in accordance with the test set out in the *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste Water*, latest edition, Sub-part 4500 jointly published by the American Public Health Association, the American Water Works Association and the Water Pollution Control.

"Waste materials" means materials such as spent single-use cameras, plastic cartridges, canisters, bottles, drums and rolls, metal film cassettes and magazines, non-photographic paper (e.g. fine paper, corrugated cardboard) and wooden pallets, that would otherwise go to landfill.

"Wholesale lab" means a large-scale automated photo finishing lab providing a range of photo finishing services to retail outlets such as grocery stores and drug stores. There is limited direct service to the general public.

General Requirements

2. In order to minimize the solid waste burden, conserve resources, and reduce quantities and impacts of toxic substances and other pollutants associated with packaging, the ECP requires the submission of an attestation of commitment to the objectives of the National Packaging Protocol.

3. To be authorized to carry the EcoLogo^M, the *photochemical recovery service* must:
- (a) meet or exceed all applicable governmental and industrial safety and performance standards; and
 - (b) be provided 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 *photochemical recovery service* must:
- (a) offer the following to photo finishing establishments:
 - (i) delivery of photochemicals to the establishment,
 - (ii) collection of the spent photochemical solutions using the same containers in which they were originally delivered, and
 - (iii) achieve at least a 70% regeneration rate for the spent photochemical solutions;
 - (b) recover silver from the portion of the spent photochemical solutions to be regenerated such that the resulting level of silver does not exceed 20%;
 - (c) recover silver from all silver bearing wastes prior to proper disposal such that the resulting level of silver does not exceed 5 mg/L after the terminal silver recovery unit(s). This includes all photochemical solutions rejected for regeneration;
 - (d) operate in a manner such that liquid chemical effluent is in compliance with one of the following:
 - (i) applicable local sewer use by-laws for BOD₅, iron, sulphate, TKN, and total phosphorous; or
 - (ii) in the absence of such by-laws or for those chemicals/compounds listed in (i) for which no criterion exists in an applicable sewer use by-law, the following criteria:
 - BOD₅ ≤ 300 mg/L,
 - iron ≤ 50 mg/L,
 - sulphate ≤ 1500 mg/L,
 - TKN ≤ 100 mg/L, and
 - total phosphorus ≤ 10 mg/L;

Verification

5. To verify a claim that a service meets the criteria listed in this document, the ECP 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 requirement 3(b) shall be attested to by a signed statement of the Chief Executive Officer or the equivalent officer of the licensee. The ECP 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.

Conditions for EcoLogo Use

8. The EcoLogo may appear on retail or wholesale products, signs or sign boards, point-of-purchase displays, delivery vehicles, and any accompanying advertising or corporate literature provided the service meets the requirements in this document.
9. All licensees and authorized users must comply with the ECP'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 ECP's *Guide to Proper Use of the EcoLogo^M*.

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