

# Labelling of textiles and leather products and private labels

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## EU Framework

- EU legislation related to textile labelling:
  - Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011 on textile fibre names and related labelling and marking of fibre composition of textile products
    - COM(2013)656: regarding possible new labelling requirements of textile products and on a study on allergenic substances in textile products
      - Related subjects: COM(2013)75: on market surveillance of products and COM(2013)78: on consumer product safety
  - Regulation (EC) No 66/2010 on the EU Ecolabel (repealing Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000)
    - Commission Decision 2009/567/EC establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the Community Ecolabel for textile products
    - Commission Decision 2003/200/EC (laundry detergents)
  - Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 on European standardisation
- Private label: Öko-Tex standard 100

## EU Standardisation

- *Standardisation is the voluntary process of developing technical specifications based on consensus among all interested parties (industry including Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), consumers, trade unions, environmental Non Governmental Organisations (NGO), public authorities, etc). It is carried out by independent standards bodies, acting at national, European and international level. [DG Enterprise and Industry]*
- Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 defines the legal framework of the EU Standardisation.
- *It establishes rules with regard to the cooperation between European standardisation organisations, national standardisation bodies, Member States and the Commission, the establishment of European standards and European standardisation deliverables for products and for services in support of Union legislation and policies, the identification of ICT technical specifications eligible for referencing, the financing of European standardisation and stakeholder participation in European standardisation..*

# Labelling of textiles and leather products and private labels

**REGULATION (EU) NO 1007/2011  
ON TEXTILES FIBRE NAMES AND RELATED  
LABELLING AND MARKING OF THE FIBRE  
COMPOSITION OF TEXTILES PRODUCTS AND  
REPEALING DIRECTIVES 73/44/EEC, 96/73/EC AND  
2008/121/EC**

## Overview

- Scope: approach of Directive 2008/121 + methods of analysis;
- Definitions: the regulation (Article 3 introduce many new definitions, compared to the former Directive;
- Textiles products shall only be made available provided they are labelled, marked or accompanied with commercial documents (...) (Art. 4) + other requirement under Article 14 + Special categories (Art, 13 + Annex IV);
- It considers more specifically the textile products containing non-textile parts of animal origin and have several specific articles for categories of products (articles 5 to 12 + 16 and 17);
- Chapter 3 covers the overall market surveillance (but there are also other rules > see, in particular COM(2013) 75 and 78);
- Articles 23 to 25 requires a study on possible new requirements on labelling and use of hazardous substances (by 30 September 2013) [see **COM(2013) 656** of 25 September 2013)] and a general report (by 8 November 2014).
- Entered into force on 8 May 2012 with transitional arrangement until 9 November 2014 (under Directive 2008/121/EC)

## Subject matter

- This Regulation lays down
  - rules concerning the use of **textile fibre names** and related labelling and marking of fibre composition of textile products,
  - rules concerning the labelling or marking of textile products **containing non-textile parts of animal origin** and
  - rules concerning the determination of the **fibre composition** of textile products by quantitative analysis of binary and ternary textile fibre mixtures,
- with a view to
  - improving the functioning of the internal market and
  - to providing accurate information to consumers.

## Main definitions and scope

- The Regulation covers:
  - (a) products containing at least 80% by weight of textiles fibres;
  - (b) furniture, umbrella and sunshade coverings containing at least 80% by weight of textiles components;
  - (c) the textiles components of various products provided such components constitute at least 80% of the concerned products;
  - (d) textiles incorporated in other products and forming an integral part thereof, where their composition is specified.
- Article 3 defines several words
- NB some products, like carpets and other floorings and home decoration products, are also covered by Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 laying down harmonized conditions for the marketing of construction products.

## Naming of Textiles

- The main part of the Regulation is dedicated to the naming of textiles products as a follower of the Directives 2008/121/EC and 96/73/EC. As it includes a rather ‘technical directive’ (96/73) its annexes are very important (10 annexes – 53 pages in the original publication on 64 pages, in total – **Annex VIII** alone (38 pages) could be considered as a separate Regulation in itself).
- The following categories are considered:
  - Textile fibre (in general) (Art. 5) [+ Annex I]
  - New textile fibre names (Art 6) [+ Annex II]
  - Pure textiles products (Art. 7)
  - Fleece wool or virgin wool products (Art 8) [+ Annex III]
  - Multi-fibre textile products (Art. 9)
  - Decorative fibres and fibres with antistatic effect (Art. 10)
  - Multi-component textile products (Art 11)
  - Textile products containing non-textile parts of animal origin (Art. 12)
  - Use of textile fibre names and fibre composition descriptions (Art, 13)
  - Derogations (Art 17) [+ Annexes V and VI]

## Market Surveillance

- This chapter contains only 3 Articles with specific purposes:
  - Article 18 concerns the controls [there is no provision on sanctions like, for example in Article 126 of REACH – a rather current provision in EU Regulations];
  - Article 19 on the determination of fibre composition, Among other it introduce the methods to be used on the composition of the composition of textiles products, > Annex VIII, In accordance with the delegation foreseen in Article 22, one may considered that Annex VIII is a sort of Commission Regulation incorporated in this EP and Council Regulation [Presently a normal procedure]; Annex IX is also linked to this Article (allowances)
  - Article 20 foresees some tolerances in specific cases
- The ‘whereas’ remind the existence of other pieces of legislation > **See under new market surveillance**

## Review and comitology – Transitional provision

- Chapter 4 (final provisions) contains tradition final provision, including the new comitology (delegated acts (Art. 290 of TFEU), repeal of former legislation (directives 73/44/EEC, 96/73/EC and 2008/121/EC) with effect on 8 May 2012, entry into force (applicable from 8 May 2012) and transitional provision (for textile products placed on the market before 8 May 2012 that are made available on the market until 9 November 2014).
- It contains an usual reporting Article (23) that should emphasis on the requests for and adoption of new textile fibre names.
- Article 25 requires that the Commission shall carry out a study on the causal link between allergic reactions and chemical products.
- Article 24 requires as well a review on labelling aspects.
- > Communication COM(2013) 656 of 25 September 2013

## Methods for the quantitative analysis of binary and ternary textile fibre mixtures

- **The Annex VIII** replaces the former Directive No 96/73/EC. It covers the following aspects:
  - Preparation of laboratory test samples and test specimens to determine the fibre composition of textile products (Ch. 1)
  - Methods for quantitative analysis of certain binary textile fibre mixture (Ch. 2). It defines 16 methods.
    - These are based on two main processes: the manual separation and the chemical separation of fibres (see introduction under point II of Chapter I)
    - Annex IX gives the agreed allowances used to calculate the mass of fibres contained in a textile product
  - The quantitative analysis of ternary textiles mixtures are covered by the Chapter 3

## Labelling and their review (COM (2013) 656)

- Textile products available on the EU market must have a label or marking which shows the fibre composition using the fibre names listed in Annex I to the Regulation. The fibre names and the percentage by weight of all constituent fibres have to be indicated in descending order.
- Article 12 introduces a specific rule for the presence of non-textile parts of animal origin in textiles products
- The Regulation does not regulate other aspects of labelling and marking. Leather products are not subject to labelling and marking requirements, except for footwear products, which are covered by the Footwear Directive 94/11/EC.
- The review examines the following questions:
  - an origin labelling scheme,
  - a harmonised care labelling system,
  - a Union-wide uniform size labelling system,
  - an indication of allergenic substances,
  - a possible electronic labelling and the use of other new technologies,
  - language-independent symbols or codes for the identification of textile fibres

## Outcome of the review (I)

- Origin labelling scheme > Proposal for a Regulation on **Consumer Product Safety**
- Care labelling system > Consumers are familiar with and understand the current labelling system as adopted by the private sector. This voluntary and worldwide well-established system is owned and controlled by stakeholders and is the basis for the standard EN ISO 3758:2012 (Textiles — Care Labelling Code Using Symbols) and other schemes (e.g. in the USA).
- Size labelling system > Consumers are familiar with various existing voluntary systems and businesses and public organisations do offer conversion tables. European and international (ISO) standards have been developed, notably EN 13402 standard. Emphasis should be placed on pursuing and completing on-going standardisation work.

## Outcome of the review (II)

- Indication of allergenic substances > Some voluntary chemicals content-related certification and labelling schemes already exist [see Öko-Tex] Existing horizontal legislation, in particular Regulation (EC) N° 1907/ (REACH) and Regulation (EC) N° 1272/2008 CLP) and other legislation (e.g. cosmetics, biocides, pesticides) could provide a solution to address the risks from certain substances in textile products.
- Electronic labelling and other technologies, and language-independent symbols or codes (for identifying fibres) > The benefits of a legislative (mandatory) approach for consumers are perceived as limited and the costs still too high. Individual enterprises should be able to choose among different competing systems.

## Outcome of the review (III)

- Other types of labelling and leather authenticity labelling : The Commission also analysed other types of labelling, in particular organic, environmental, social, flammability and authenticity labelling. It appeared that consumers were aware of the different existing standards and international, national or EU schemes, e.g. organic labelling (private system), environmental labelling (EU **Ecolabel**, Nordic Swan, Blue Angel, etc.), social labelling (ISO 26000 standard). A survey of consumers and manufacturers regarding leather labelling indicated that there are perceived benefits from a label for leather authenticity. the Commission will decide whether any action at EU level should be put forward.

## New Market surveillance and Consumer product safety proposals of 13 February 2013 (COM(2013) 75 and 78)

- The preamble of the Regulation reminds the following: *The market surveillance in Member States of products covered by this Regulation is subject to Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products and Directive 2001/95/EC on general product safety.*
- 
- The rules are currently under revision after the Commission proposed on the 13 February 2013b a new package on product safety and market surveillance (COM(2013) 75 and 78)
- Among others are also covered by these proposals: the indication of origin (Art. 7) and the traceability of products (Art 15 of consumer product safety Regulation)

## New Market surveillance and Consumer product safety proposals of 13 February 2013 (II)

- The current RAPEX (adapted) will be part of the Regulation on market surveillance. This regulation also defines the Union market surveillance framework reminding the market surveillance obligations of the Member States and the general obligation of economic operators. Its Chapter III is specifically dedicated to the control of products within the Union while Chapter IV concerns the products entering the Union (also applicable to restriction under REACH).
- The regulation on consumer products safety defines the obligations of Economic operators (*Economic operators shall place or make available on the Union market only safe products*) [see Chapter II]
- Chapter III concerns European standards providing presumption of conformity.

# Labelling of textiles and leather products and private labels

**REGULATION (EU) NO 66/2010  
ON THE EU ECOLABEL  
EU STANDARDISATION  
PRIVATE LABELS**

## Overview of Regulation 66/2010 on EU Ecolabel

- This Regulation repeals the Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000 (with transitional provisions for contracts concluded before the entry into force of the Regulation (February 2010) until their date of expiry). This Regulation itself replace the first Regulation on Ecolabel (880/92).
- The Regulation defines the framework for awarding Ecolabels and their use (Art. 9) and the establishment of EU criteria (Art. 8: procedure), their development and revision (Art. 7 and Annex I) and the General requirements for the EU Ecolabel criteria (Art. 6)
- After the traditional definition of the Subject matter (Art. 1), the Scope (Art. 2) and the Definitions used (Art. 3), a substantial part is dedicated to the role of the different actors [Competent bodies (Art. 4 and Annex V), the European Union Ecolabelling Board (Art. 5), as well as on the Ecolabelling schemes in the Member States (Art 11) and the exchange of information and experiences (Art. 13).]
- An important element is the market surveillance (Art 10) another particular element is the promotion of the EU Ecolabel.
- Article 14 to 20 are the traditional procedural and final provision.

## Subject matter and scope

- The Regulation lays down rules for the establishment and application of the voluntary EU Ecolabel scheme.
- It shall apply to any goods or services which are supplied for distribution, consumption or use on the Community market whether in return for payment or free of charge. (see Annex III).
- It is not applicable to medicinal products nor to goods containing toxic, hazardous for the environment or carcinogenic mutagenic or toxic for reproduction (CMR) as defined by the REACH and CLP regulations [Art. 6 (6)] (+ exception under §7)

## Award Criteria

- The label shall be awarded in consideration of European environmental and ethical objectives. In particular:
- the impact of goods and services on climate change, nature and biodiversity, energy and resource consumption, generation of waste, pollution, emissions and the release of hazardous substances into the environment;
- the substitution of hazardous substances by safer substances;
- durability and reusability of products;
- ultimate impact on the environment, including on consumer health and safety;
- compliance with social and ethical standards, such as international labour standards;
- taking into account criteria established by other labels at national and regional levels;
- reducing animal testing.

## Procedure for award and use of the label

- In order to be awarded the label, **economic operators** shall submit an application to:
- one or more Member State(s), which will send it to the competent national body;
- a third State, which will send it to the Member State where the product is marketed.
- If the product complies with the label criteria, the competent body shall conclude a contract with the operator, establishing the terms of use and withdrawal of the label. The operator may then place the label on the product. The use of the label is subject to payment of a fee when the application is made, and an annual fee.
- The Commission has created a catalogue of products which have been awarded the label.

*<http://ec.europa.eu/ecat/>*

## Development of Ecolabel criteria

- Following consultation of the EUEB, the Commission, Member States, competent bodies and other stakeholders may initiate and lead the development or revision of EU Ecolabel criteria. Where such other stakeholders are put in charge of leading the development of criteria, they must demonstrate expertise in the product area, as well as the ability to lead the process with neutrality and in line with the aims of this Regulation. In this regard, consortiums consisting of more than one interest group shall be favoured.
- The party which initiates and leads the development or revision of EU Ecolabel criteria shall, in accordance with the procedure set out in Part A of Annex I, produce the following documents:
  - (a) a preliminary report;
  - (b) a proposal for draft criteria;
  - (c) a technical report in support of the proposal for draft criteria;
  - (d) a final report;
  - (e) a manual for potential users of the EU Ecolabel and competent bodies;
  - (f) a manual for authorities awarding public contracts.
- Those documents shall be submitted to the Commission and to the EUEB.

## Procedure for the development and revision of the EU Ecolabel Criteria

- In addition to Article 8, Annex I described 3 procedures:
- A: the standard procedure that includes
  - A preliminary report
  - The proposal draft criteria
  - The final report and draft criteria
  - A manual for potential users of the EU label and competent bodies
  - A manual for authorities awarding public contracts

Among others the draft criteria will considers the life cycle of the products based on the European Reference Life Cycle Data Systems; the preliminary report will provide information on the current and future potential for market penetration of the products bearing the EU Ecolabel

- B: Shortened procedure where criteria have been developed by other EN ISO 14024 type I ecolabelling scheme
- C: shortened for non-substantial revision of the criteria

## Competent bodies

- Each Member State shall designate the body or bodies, within government ministries or outside, responsible for carrying out the tasks provided for in this Regulation.
- The composition of the competent bodies shall be such as to **guarantee their independence and neutrality** and their rules of procedure shall be such as to **ensure transparency** in the conduct of their activities as well as the involvement of all interested parties.
- Member States shall ensure that competent bodies **meet the requirements laid down in Annex V**.
- Competent bodies shall ensure that the **verification process** is carried out in a **consistent, neutral and reliable manner by a party independent** from the operator being verified, based on international, European or national standards and procedures concerning bodies operating product-certification schemes.
- [see for example INTOSAI <http://www.intosai.org/about-us.html> ]

## Requirements relating to competent bodies (Annex V)

- 7 requirements are developed in that Annex
  1. Independence toward the organisation of the product it assesses;
  2. Independence in relation to the products they assess and condition related to confidentiality, objectivity and impartiality;
  3. Professional integrity and technical competences (...);
  4. Capacity to carry on the conformity assessment => technical knowledge and experience; procedures description and access to all necessary equipment or facilities (see also Annex I)
  5. Knowledge of conformity assessments and ability to draw up certification
  6. The remuneration shall not be dependant on the number of assessments carried out;
  7. Ability to participate in the working group set up by the Commission and to cooperate with competent bodies of the other Member States.

## European Union Ecolabelling Board

- This Board is organised by the Commission and consisting of the representatives of the competent bodies of all the Member States and of other interested bodies. It shall contribute to the implementation of EU Ecolabel scheme. It shall also provide advice to the Commission on the minimum environmental performance requirement.
- The EUEB must observe a balanced participation of all relevant interested parties in respect of each product group ...

## Decision establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the Community Ecolabel for textile products (2009/567/EC)

- Products falling within the product group textiles, as defined under Article 1 of the Decision have to comply with the criteria set out in the Annex in they want to be awarded the Community Ecolabel.
- After Defining the framework, the Annex defines the ecologic criteria for different fibres (9 different categories).
- It includes also different processes and chemicals criteria among others on dyes (Azo dyes, CMR dyes, potentially sensitizing dyes) and energy and water use.
- It finally includes fitness for use criteria.
- The final point (40) specifies the information appearing on the Ecolabel.

## An example of Private label : Öko-Tex

- As mentioned in the Communication COM(2013) 656 in addition to the standards established by the Member States, EU or international standardization bodies, several private labels are widely use. For the textile sector the Öko-Tex standard 100 is well known. It was developed in the early 90's. It is clear that it has presently an important impact on the international trade (especially used by different brands). It is maybe not very suitable for SME's..
- An additional label was developed: The new OEKO-TEX® certification for environmentally friendly and socially responsible businesses of the textile chain called **Sustainable Textile Production (STeP)**.
- Öko-Tex as also developed a union of 16 renowned institutes for textile research and testing in Europe and Japan, with representations and contact offices in over 60 countries worldwide.

## More information ?

- See Web site:
- <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/> (includes data on the award of Ecolabels)
- <http://www.euroleather.com/cotance.html>
- [https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/manufacturers/concept/oeko\\_tex\\_standard\\_100/oeko\\_tex\\_standard\\_100.xhtml](https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/manufacturers/concept/oeko_tex_standard_100/oeko_tex_standard_100.xhtml)

**Thank you for your attention**

## Helpdesk

- The Helpdesk is able to answer your general queries about the EU Ecolabel scheme.
- Tel: +33 (0)1 40 88 70 88  
Email: [ecolabel@biois.com](mailto:ecolabel@biois.com)  
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BIO by Deloitte  
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185 avenue Charles de Gaulle  
92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France
- Please check our [FAQ section](#) before contacting the Helpdesk.

# Textiles

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## EU Ecolabel and Green Public Procurement for Textiles



### Home

#### Welcome to the 'Textiles' website

##### [Projects/Products Index](#)

This is the project website for a study which prepares the ground for the revision of the Ecolabel criteria for Textiles and the development of Green Public Procurement (GPP) criteria for this product group. The study is carried out by the Joint Research Centre's Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (JRC-IPTS). Ecolabelling Denmark (DK) is supporting JRC-IPTS during the criteria revision focusing on the technical background specifications. The work is being developed for the European Commission's Directorate General for the Environment.

The EU Ecolabel for Textiles promotes the production and consumption of products with a reduced environmental impact along the life cycle and is awarded only to the best (environmental) performing products in the market. Similarly, GPP will address public authorities seeking to procure environmentally friendly goods and services.

The [EU Ecolabel](#) and [GPP](#) criteria will be based on the requirements addressed in the EU Ecolabel Regulation 66/2010 and Communication COM(2008) 400 "Public Procurement for a better Environment". The criteria will be defined on the basis of the environmental information derived from Life Cycle Assessment and product oriented environmental performance assessment studies. Several environmental, safety, technical and functional aspects will be considered. Moreover, during the EU Ecolabel and GPP criteria development continuous wide consultation is foreseen with experts and stakeholders of manufacturers, supply chain industry, consumer organizations and NGOs.

The study will require active participation from stakeholders. If you would like to be involved in the consultation process, you can do so through the website, by registering as a stakeholder. The registered stakeholders will be regularly informed about the progress of the study, have access to [preliminary results and draft documents](#) and can respond to [questionnaires](#) and/or participate at [stakeholder meetings](#).

Please use the [feedback form](#) to send us your comments. If you would like to contact us directly, we refer to the contact details of the [project team](#).



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### Competent Bodies

In each country participating in the EU Ecolabel, a national Competent Body is available to give advice on questions about your company's Ecolabel application. If you don't produce goods or services in any of the countries below, choose a Competent Body from one of the countries of the European Economic Area where your product or service is placed on the market.

### EEA Countries

- |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <br><a href="#">Austria</a>    | <br><a href="#">Belgium</a>     | <br><a href="#">Bulgaria</a>     | <br><a href="#">Cyprus</a>           | <br><a href="#">Czech Republic</a>    |
| <br><a href="#">Denmark</a>    | <br><a href="#">Estonia</a>     | <br><a href="#">Finland</a>      | <br><a href="#">France</a>           | <br><a href="#">Germany</a>           |
| <br><a href="#">Greece</a>     | <br><a href="#">Iceland</a>     | <br><a href="#">Ireland</a>      | <br><a href="#">Hungary</a>          | <br><a href="#">Italy</a>             |
| <br><a href="#">Latvia</a>   | <br><a href="#">Lithuania</a> | <br><a href="#">Luxembourg</a> | <br><a href="#">Malta</a>          | <br><a href="#">Netherlands</a>     |
| <br><a href="#">Norway</a>   | <br><a href="#">Poland</a>    | <br><a href="#">Portugal</a>   | <br><a href="#">Romania</a>        | <br><a href="#">Slovak Republic</a> |
| <br><a href="#">Slovenia</a> | <br><a href="#">Spain</a>     | <br><a href="#">Sweden</a>     | <br><a href="#">United Kingdom</a> |  |

### Candidate and non-EU countries

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## Who Does What?

### EU Ecolabelling Board

The European Union Ecolabelling Board (EUEB) is composed of the representatives of the Competent Bodies of the European Union, the Competent Bodies of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway and the representatives of the following organisations:

- European Environmental Bureau (EEB)
- Bureau Européen des Consommateurs (BEUC)
- European Confederation of Associations of Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises (CEA-PME)
- Business Europe
- EUROCOOP
- European Association of Craft, Small- & Medium-Sized Enterprises (UEAPME)
- EUROCOMMERCE

Full details for [Interest Groups](#).

The EUEB contributes to the development and revision of EU Ecolabel criteria and to any review of the implementation of the EU Ecolabel scheme. It also provides the Commission with advice and assistance in these areas and, in particular, issues recommendations on minimum environmental performance requirements.