

**COMMISSION DECISION**

of *[date]*

**establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Ecolabel for laundry detergents**

**(Text with EEA relevance)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 66/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 on the EU Ecolabel<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 8(2) thereof,

After consulting the European Union Eco-labelling Board,

Whereas:

- (1) Under Regulation (EC) No 66/2010, the EU Ecolabel may be awarded to those products with a reduced environmental impact during their entire life cycle.
- (2) Regulation (EC) No 66/2010 provides that specific EU Ecolabel criteria are to be established according to product groups.
- (3) Commission Decision 1999/476/EC<sup>2</sup> has established the ecological criteria and the related assessment and verification requirements for laundry detergents. Following the review of the criteria set out in that Decision, Commission Decision 2003/200/EC<sup>3</sup> has established revised criteria which are valid until 31 December 2010.
- (4) Those criteria have been further reviewed in the light of technological developments. It results from the review that it is necessary to modify the definition of the product group so as to include new sub-product groups and to establish new criteria. Those new criteria, as well as the related assessment and verification requirements, should be valid for eight years from the date of adoption of this Decision.
- (5) Decision 2003/200/EC should be replaced for reasons of clarity.
- (6) A transitional period should be allowed for producers whose products have been awarded the Ecolabel for laundry detergents on the basis of the criteria set out in Decision 2003/200/EC, so that they have sufficient time to adapt their products to comply with the revised criteria and requirements. Producers should also be allowed to submit applications based on the criteria set out in Decision 2003/200/EC or on the criteria set out in this Decision until the lapse of validity of that Decision.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 27, 30.1.2010, p. 1-19.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 187 du 20.7.1999, p. 52.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 76 du 22.3.2003, p. 25.

- (7) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established by Article 16 of Regulation (EC) No 66/2010,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

#### *Article 1*

The product group “Laundry Detergents” shall comprise: laundry detergents, laundry fabric-softeners and pre-treatment stain removers whether in powder, liquid or any other form which are marketed and used for the washing of textiles principally in household machines but not excluding their use in launderettes and common laundries.

Laundry fabric-softeners include products that are intended to modify the feel of fabrics in processes which are to complement the washing of fabrics.

Pre-treatment stain removers include stain removers used for direct spot treatment of textiles (before washing in the machine) but do not include stain removers dosed in the washing machine and stain removers dedicated to other uses besides pre-treatment.

This product group shall not comprise products that are dosed by carriers such as sheets, cloths or other materials nor washing auxiliaries used without subsequent washing, such as stain removers for carpets and furniture upholstery.

#### *Article 2*

1. For the purpose of this Decision, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) *heavy-duty detergents* means detergents used for ordinary washing of white and coloured textiles at any temperature.

(2) *low-duty detergents* means detergents intended for delicate fabrics.

2. For the purposes of paragraph 1(1), a detergent shall be considered a heavy-duty detergent except where the detergent is predominantly intended and marketed for delicate fabrics.

For the purposes of paragraph 1(2), liquid detergents for ordinary washing of white and coloured textiles shall not be considered low-duty detergents.

#### *Article 3*

In order to be awarded the EU Ecolabel under Regulation (EC) No 66/2010, an item of laundry detergent, fabric softener or pre-treatment stain remover shall fall within the product group "Laundry Detergents" as defined in Article 1 of this Decision and shall comply with the criteria as well as the related assessment and verification requirements set out in the Annex of this Decision.

#### *Article 4*

The criteria for the product group "Laundry Detergents", as well as the related assessment and verification requirements, shall be valid for **eight years** from the date of adoption of this Decision.

**The criteria for the product group "Laundry Detergents", as well as the related assessment and verification requirements, shall remain valid for eight years unless revised criteria for this product group are adopted in which case they will be replaced by the revised criteria from the date of its adoption. In this case a transitional period of twelve months will apply for existing**

license holders to comply with the revised criteria. Licenses issued by the Competent Bodies will reflect these conditions.

*Article 5*

For administrative purposes the code number assigned to the product group 'Laundry Detergents' shall be '6'.

*Article 6*

Decision 2003/200/EC is repealed.

*Article 7*

1. By derogation from Article 6, applications for the EU Ecolabel for products falling within the product group "Laundry Detergents" submitted before the date of adoption of this Decision shall be evaluated in accordance with the conditions laid down in Decision 2003/200/EC.

2. Applications for the EU Ecolabel for products falling within the product group "Laundry Detergents" submitted from the date of adoption of this Decision but by 31 December 2010 at the latest may be based either on the criteria set out in Decision 2003/200/EC or on the criteria set out in this Decision.

Those applications shall be evaluated in accordance with the criteria on which they are based.

3. Where the Ecolabel is awarded on the basis of an application evaluated according to the criteria set out in Decision 2003/200/EC, that Ecolabel may be used for 12 months from the date of adoption of this Decision.

*Article 8*

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels,[]

*For the Commission*  
**Janez POTOČNIK**  
*Member of the Commission*

## ANNEX

### FRAMEWORK

#### **The aims of the criteria**

The criteria aim, in particular, at promoting products that have a reduced impact on aquatic ecosystems, contain a limited amount of hazardous substances and whose performance has been tested.

#### **CRITERIA**

Criteria are set for each of the following aspects:

1. Dosage requirements
2. Toxicity to aquatic organisms: Critical Dilution Volume (CDV)
3. Biodegradability of organics
4. Excluded or limited substances and mixtures
5. Packaging requirements
6. Washing performance (fitness for use)
7. Points
8. Consumer information
9. Information appearing on the EU Ecolabel

#### **(1) Assessment and verification**

##### a) Requirements

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

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

Where possible, the testing should be performed by laboratories that meet the general requirements of EN ISO 17025 or equivalent.

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

Appendix I makes reference to the detergent ingredient database (DID list) which contains the most widely used ingredients used in detergent 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 ingredients. For substances not present on the DID list, guidance is given on how to calculate or extrapolate the relevant data. The latest version of the DID list is available from the EU Ecolabel website or via the websites of the individual competent bodies.

Where appropriate, Competent Bodies may require supporting documentation and may carry out independent verifications.

##### b) Measurement thresholds

Constituent substances the concentration of which exceeds 0.010 % by weight of the preparation shall comply with the ecological criteria.

For preservatives, colouring agents and fragrance compliance with the criteria is required regardless of their concentration except for criterion 4(b) on excluded or limited substances and mixtures. Ingoing substances are defined as all substances in the product including additives (e.g. preservatives or stabilizers) in the ingredients. Pollutants resulting from the raw material production, which are present in concentrations > 0.010 % by weight of the final formulation shall also comply with the criteria.

Where the dosage instruction on the package has specifications for both prewash and subsequent wash (in addition to a normal, single wash), the total dosage (prewash + wash) shall also comply with the ecological criteria.

## **(2) Functional unit**

The functional unit for this product group shall be expressed in g/kg wash (grams per kilo wash).

## **(3) Reference dosage**

For *heavy-duty detergents* the dosage recommended by the manufacturer to consumers for the water hardness of 2.5 mmol CaCO<sub>3</sub>/l and ‘normally soiled’ textiles is taken as the reference dosage for the calculation of the ecological criteria, and for the testing of washing performance. For heavy-duty detergents this is related to the dosage per 4.5 kg load (dry textiles) in the washing machine.

For *low-duty detergents* the dosage recommended by the manufacturer to consumers for the water hardness of 2.5 mmol CaCO<sub>3</sub>/l and ‘lightly soiled’ textiles is taken as the reference dosage for the calculation of the ecological criteria, and for the testing of washing performance. For low-duty detergents this is related to the dosage per 2.5 kg load (dry textiles) in the washing machine.

If the recommended dosage is stated for other wash load sizes than the above, the reference dosage used for calculation of the ecological criteria must, however, correspond to the average load size. If the water hardness of 2.5 mmol CaCO<sub>3</sub>/l is not relevant in the Member States in which the detergent is marketed, the applicant shall specify the dosage used as the reference.

***Requirements relating to assessment and verification of (2) Functional unit and (3) Reference dosage:*** The full formulation indicating trade name, chemical name, CAS no., DID no.\*, the ingoing quantity including and excluding water and the function of all the ingoing ingredients (regardless of concentration) in the product must be submitted to the Competent Body. A sample of the artwork including dosage recommendations must be submitted to the Competent Body.

Safety data sheets for each ingredient shall be submitted to the competent body in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup>OJ L 396, 30.12.2006

\* DID no. is the number of the ingredient on the DID list (“Detergent Ingredient Database” list), and is used in determining compliance with Criteria 2 and 3 on the critical dilution volume. See Appendix I.

The DID list can be found on the EU Ecolabel website:

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabe/ecolabelled\\_products/categories/did\\_list\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabe/ecolabelled_products/categories/did_list_en.htm)

## EU ECOLABEL CRITERIA

### Criterion 1 – Dosage requirements

The dosage corresponds to the recommended dosage in g/kg wash (powders/tablets) or ml/kg wash (liquids). The recommended dosage for a water hardness of 2.5 mmol CaCO<sub>3</sub>/l for normally soiled textiles (heavy-duty detergents) and lightly soiled textiles (low-duty detergents), respectively, shall be used.

The dosage shall not exceed the following amounts:

Product type	Dosage, powder/tablet	Dosage, liquid/gel
Heavy-duty laundry detergent	17.0 g/kg wash	17.0 ml/kg wash
Low-duty laundry detergent	17.0 g/kg wash	17.0 ml/kg wash
Stain remover (pre-treatment only)	2.7 g/kg wash	2.7 ml/kg wash*
Fabric softener	5.6 g/kg wash	5.6 ml/kg wash

\* *Estimated average dose to be used in CDV calculations. Actual dosing will depend on number of stains in any given wash-load. The estimated dose is based on a dosage of 2 ml per application and 6 applications per wash-load of 4.5 kg (liquid stain remover).*

If recommendations for both prewash and subsequent wash apply, the total recommended dosage (prewash + subsequent wash) shall comply with the maximum dosage level.

**Assessment and verification:** *Full formulation of the product, label or artwork including dosage instructions. The density (g/ml) shall be stated for all products (either on the packaging or in a Safety Data Sheet).*

### Criterion 2 - Toxicity to aquatic organisms: Critical Dilution Volume (CDV)

The critical dilution volume of the product shall not exceed the following limits (CDV<sub>chronic</sub>):

Product type	CDV <sub>chronic</sub>
Heavy-duty laundry detergent (all forms)	35,000 l/kg wash
Low-duty laundry detergent (all forms)	20,000 l/kg wash
Stain remover (pre-treatment only)	3,500 l/kg wash*
Fabric softener	7,500 l/kg wash

\* *CDV limit based on an estimated dosage of 2 ml per application and 6 applications per wash-load of 4.5 kg for a liquid stain remover. Products dosed as e.g. powder or paste shall comply with the same CDV limit.*

The critical dilution volume toxicity ( $CDV_{\text{chronic}}$ ) is calculated for all ingredients (i) in the product using the following equation:

$$CDV_{\text{chronic}} = \sum CDV_{(i)} = \frac{\text{weight}_{(i)} \cdot DF_{(i)}}{TF_{\text{chronic}(i)}} \cdot 1,000$$

where

*weight (i) = the weight of the ingredient per recommended dose*

*DF = the degradation factor*

*TF = the chronic toxicity factor of the substance as stated in the DID list.*

Preservatives, colouring agents and fragrances present in the product shall also be included in the CDV calculation even if the concentration is lower than 0.010% (100 ppm).

**Assessment and verification:** *Calculation of the  $CDV_{\text{chronic}}$  of the product. A spreadsheet for calculation of the CDV value is available on the EU Ecolabel website.*

*The values of the DF and TF parameters shall be as given in the Detergent Ingredient Database list (DID list). If the substance is not found on the DID list, the parameters shall be calculated using the guidelines in part B of the DID list and attaching the associated documentation.*

### Criterion 3 - Biodegradability of organics

The content of organic substances in the product that are aerobically non-biodegradable (not readily biodegradable) (aNBO) and/or anaerobically non-biodegradable (anNBO) shall not exceed the following limits:

#### aNBO

Product type	aNBO, powder	aNBO, liquid/gel
Heavy-duty laundry detergent	1.0 g/kg wash	0.55 g/kg wash
Low-duty laundry detergent	0.55 g/kg wash	0.30 g/kg wash
Stain remover (pre-treatment only)*	0.10 g/kg wash	0.10 g/kg wash*
Fabric softener	0.03 g/kg wash	0.03 g/kg wash

\* *aNBO limit based on an estimated dosage of 2 ml per application and 6 applications per wash-load of 4.5 kg for a liquid stain remover. The aNBO limit shall comply with the same limit for products dosed as e.g. powder or paste.*

## anNBO

Product type	anNBO, powder	anNBO, liquid/gel
Heavy-duty laundry detergent	1.3 g/kg wash	0.70 g/kg wash
Low-duty laundry detergent	0.55 g/kg wash	0.30 g/kg wash
Stain remover (pre-treatment only)	0.10 g/kg wash	0.10 g/kg wash*
Fabric softener	0.03 g/kg wash	0.03 g/kg wash

\* anNBO limit based on an estimated dosage of 2 ml per application and 6 applications per wash-load of 4.5 kg for a liquid stain remover. The aNBO limit shall comply with the same limit for products dosed as e.g. powder or paste.

**Assessment and verification:** Calculation of aNBO and anNBO for the product. A spreadsheet for use in calculating aNBO and anNBO values is available on the EU Ecolabel website.

Refer to the DID list. For ingredients which are not included in 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. See Appendix I.

[Note that TAED should be considered anaerobically biodegradable.]

### Criterion 4 - Excluded or limited substances and mixtures

#### a) Specified excluded ingredients

The following ingredients must not be included in the product, neither as part of the formulation nor as part of any preparation included in the formulation:

- Phosphates
- EDTA (ethylenediamine tetraacetate)
- NTA (nitrilotriacetic acid)\*
- Nitromusks and polycyclic musks
- Biocidal active substances used as antimicrobial or disinfecting ingredients added to the formulation for other purposes than preservation. Only biocidal products containing biocidal active substances included in Annex IA of the Directive 98/8/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, and authorised for use in detergents, shall be allowed for use for this purpose.

\* Complexing agents of the type MGDA and GLDA may however contain NTA as impurities in concentrations lower than 1.0% as long as the total concentration in the final product is lower than 0.10%.

**Assessment and verification:** the applicant shall provide a completed and signed declaration of compliance.

#### b) Hazardous substances and mixtures

This criterion applies to all ingredients present in concentrations  $\geq 0.010$  %, including preservatives, colouring agents and fragrances.

According to the Article 6(6) of the Regulation No 66/2010 on EU Ecolabel, the product or any part of it thereof shall not contain substances or mixtures meeting the criteria for classification with the hazard classes or categories specified below nor shall it contain substances referred to in Article 57 of REACH Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.

*Text in red – the criteria document undergone certain changes due to the fact that the criteria were revised under the old Ecolabel regulation and are to be adopted under the newly revised regulation. The concentration limits of 0.01% were presented at the inter-service consultation, however, certain new H-phrases were introduced by the standard text interpreting article 6 (6) (7) of the new Ecolabel regulation. For these, inter-service agreement to maintain concentration limits of 0.01% will be sought before the Regulatory committee meeting.*

*List of hazard statements:*

H300 Fatal if swallowed	R28
H301 Toxic if swallowed	R25
<i>H304 May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways</i>	<i>R65</i>
H310 Fatal in contact with skin	R27
H311 Toxic in contact with skin	R24
H330 Fatal if inhaled	R23/26
H331 Toxic if inhaled	R23
H340 May cause genetic defects	R46
H341 Suspected of causing genetic defects	R68
H350 May cause cancer	R45
H350i May cause cancer by inhalation	R49
H351 Suspected of causing cancer	R40
H360F May damage fertility	R60
H360D May damage the unborn child	R61
<i>H360FD May damage fertility. May damage the unborn child</i>	<i>R60/61/60-61</i>

H360Fd May damage fertility. Suspected of damaging the unborn child	R60/63
H360Df May damage the unborn child. Suspected of damaging fertility	R61/62
H361f Suspected of damaging fertility	R62
H361d Suspected of damaging the unborn child	R63
H361fd May damage fertility. May damage the unborn child	R62-63
H362 May cause harm to breast fed children	R64
H370 Causes damage to organs	R39/23/24/25/26/27/28
H371 May cause damage to organs	R68/20/21/22
H372 Causes damage to organs	R48/25/24/23
H373 May cause damage to organs	R48/20/21/22
H400 Very toxic to aquatic life	R50/50-53
H410 Very toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects	R50-53
H411 Toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects	R51-53
H412 Harmful to aquatic life with long-lasting effects	R52-53
H413 May cause long-lasting effects to aquatic life	R53
EUH059 Hazardous to the ozone layer	R59
EUH029 Contact with water liberates toxic gas	R29
EUH031 Contact with acids liberates toxic gas	R31
EUH032 Contact with acids liberates very toxic gas	R32
EUH070 Toxic by eye contact	R39-41
Sensitising substances	
H334: May cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled	R42
H317: May cause allergic skin reaction	R43

The use of substances or mixtures which upon processing change their properties (e.g., become no longer bioavailable, undergo chemical modification) in a way that the identified hazard no longer applies are exempted from the above requirement.

Concentration limits for substances or mixtures meeting the criteria for classification with the above mentioned hazard classes or categories, and for substances meeting the criteria of Article 57 (a), (b) or (c) of REACH, shall not exceed the generic or specific concentration limits determined in accordance with the Article 10 of CLP Regulation No1272/2008. If specific concentration limits are determined they should prevail against the generic ones.

Concentration limits for substances meeting criteria of Article 57 (d), (e) or (f) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 shall not exceed **0, 1%** weight by weight.

Derogations: The following substances or mixtures are specifically derogated from this requirement:

Surfactants	H400 Very toxic to aquatic life	R 50
Fragrances	H412 Harmful to aquatic life with long-lasting effects	R52-53
Fragrances*	H334: May cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled	R42
Enzymes*		
Bleach catalysts in low-temp/coldwater products*		
Fragrances*	H317: May cause allergic skin reaction	R43
Enzymes*		
Bleach catalysts in low-temp/coldwater products*		

*\*Including stabilisers and other auxiliary substances in the preparations*

**Assessment and verification:** Concentration limits shall be specified in the Safety Data Sheets according to Article 31 of REACH Regulation 1907/2006.

*In case of mixtures:*

*The applicant shall provide a declaration of compliance with this criterion, together with a list of ingredients and related Safety Data Sheets according to Annex II of the REACH*

regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 for the product as well as for all substances or mixtures listed in the formulation(s). For fragrances, the Safety Data Sheet shall include information on chemical names and concentration ranges of the classified substances present in the fragrance mixture

*In case of articles:*

*The applicant shall provide a declaration of compliance with this criterion, together with related documentation, such as declarations of compliance signed by the material suppliers and copies of relevant Safety Data Sheets for substances or mixtures.*

***c) Substances listed in accordance with article 59(10) of REACH***

According to Article 6(7) of Regulation No 66/2010 on the EU Ecolabel, no derogation from the exclusion in Article 6(6) shall be given concerning substances identified as substances of very high concern and included in the list foreseen in Article 59 of REACH, present in mixtures, in an article or in any homogenous part of a complex article in concentrations higher than **0.1%**. Specific concentration limits determined in accordance with Article 10 of CLP Regulation No1272/2008 shall apply in case it is lower than **0, 1%**.

***Assessment and verification:*** *The list of substances identified as substances of very high concern and included in the candidate list in accordance with Article 59 of REACH can be found here:*

[http://echa.europa.eu/chem\\_data/authorisation\\_process/candidate\\_list\\_table\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/chem_data/authorisation_process/candidate_list_table_en.asp)

*Reference to the list shall be made on the date of application. Concentration limits shall be specified in the Safety Data Sheets according to Article 31 of REACH Regulation 1907/2006.*

#### ***d) Specified limited ingredients - fragrances***

Any ingredients added to the product as a fragrance shall be manufactured and handled following the code of practice of the International Fragrance Association (IFRA). The code can be found on IFRA website: <http://www.ifraorg.org>.

The recommendations of the IFRA Standards concerning prohibition, restricted use and specified purity criteria for materials shall be followed by the manufacturer.

Fragrance substances subject to the declaration requirement provided for in Regulation 648/2004/EEC<sup>5</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council on detergents (Annex VII) and (other) fragrance substances classified R43 / H317 (May cause allergic skin reaction) and/or R42 / H334 (May cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled) shall not be present in quantities  $\geq 0.010\%$  ( $\geq 100$  ppm) per substance.

**Assessment and verification:** *The applicant shall provide a signed declaration of compliance indicating the amount of fragrances in the product. The applicant shall also provide a declaration from the fragrance manufacturer specifying the content of each of the substances in the fragrances which are listed in Annex III, Part I to Council Directive 76/768/EEC as well as the content of (other) substances which have been assigned the risk phrases R43 / H317 and/or R42 / H334.*

### **Criterion 5 - Packaging requirements**

#### ***a) Weight/utility ratio (WUR)***

The weight/utility ratio (WUR) of the product shall not exceed the following values:

<b>Product type</b>	<b>WUR</b>
Powders	1.2 g/kg wash
Others (e.g. liquids, gels, tablets, capsules)	1.5 g/kg wash

WUR shall be calculated only for primary packaging (including caps, stoppers and hand pumps/spraying devices) using the formula below.

$$WUR = \Sigma [(W_i + U_i)/(D_i * r_i)]$$

Where:

$W_i$  = the weight (g) of the packaging component (i) including the label if applicable.

$U_i$  = the weight (g) of non-recycled (virgin) material in the packaging component (i). If the proportion of recycled material in the packaging component is 0% then  $U_i = W_i$ .

$D_i$  = the number of functional units contained in the packaging component (i). The functional unit = dosage in g/kg wash

$r_i$  = recycling figure, i.e. the number of times the packaging component (i) is used for the

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<sup>5</sup> OJ 104, 8.4.2004, p. 1-35

same purpose through a return or refill system ( $r=1$ , if the packaging is not re-used for the same purpose. If the packaging is reused  $r$  is set to 1 unless the applicant can document a higher number. (See background report for further details)

### **Exceptions:**

Plastic/paper/cardboard packaging containing more than 80% recycled material is exempted from this requirement.

Packaging is regarded as 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. Where the raw material is industrial waste from the material manufacturer's own production process, then the material will not be regarded as recycled.

**Assessment and verification:** Calculation of the WUR of the product. A spreadsheet for this calculation is available on the EU Ecolabel website. Account on the content for recycled material in the packaging. For approval of refill packaging, the applicant and/or retailer shall document that the refills will be/are available for purchase on the market.

#### **b) Plastic packaging**

Only phthalates that at the time of application have been risk assessed and have not been classified according to criterion 4(b) (and combinations hereof) may be used in the plastic packaging. Additionally DNOP (di-n-octyl phthalate), DINP (di-isononyl phthalate), DIDP (di-isodecyl phthalate) are not permitted in the packaging.

**Assessment and verification:** the applicant shall provide completed and signed declaration of compliance.

### **Criterion 6 - Washing performance (fitness for use)**

The product shall be compared in its washing performance with reference detergents of the same type according to the EU Ecolabel laundry detergents performance test's latest version that can be found here:

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/ecolabelled\\_products/categories/laundry\\_detergents\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/ecolabelled_products/categories/laundry_detergents_en.htm)

**Assessment and verification:** the applicant shall provide a test report indicating that the product fulfils the minimum requirements defined in this test.

### **Criterion 7 – Points**

#### **a) Heavy-duty laundry detergents**

A minimum of 3 points shall be achieved from the matrix below. (The maximum achievable points are 8 points for coldwater products, 7 points for low-temperature products and 6 points for other products).

Climate profile	Coldwater product (washing performance documented at $\leq 20$ °C)	2 P
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	Low-temperature product (washing performance documented at > 20 °C to ≤ 30 °C)	1 P
Maximum dosage	Max dosage ≤ 14 g/kg wash (powder, tablet) <i>or</i> ≤ 14 ml/kg wash (liquid, gel)	2 P
	Max dosage ≤ 16 g/kg wash (powder, tablet) <i>or</i> ≤ 16 ml/kg wash (liquid, gel)	1 P
CDV	CDV <sub>chronic</sub> < 25,000 l/kg wash	2 P
	CDV <sub>chronic</sub> between 25,000 to 30,000 l/kg wash	1 P
aNBO	aNBO ≤ 75% of limit value	1 P
anNBO	anNBO ≤ 75% of limit value	1 P
<i>Minimum points to be achieved in order to be awarded EU Ecolabel</i>		<i>3 P</i>

### ***b) Low-duty laundry detergents***

A minimum of 3 points shall be achieved from the matrix below. (The maximum achievable points are 8 points for coldwater products, 7 points for low-temperature products and 6 points for other products).

Climate profile	Coldwater product (washing performance documented at ≤ 20 °C)	2 P
	Low-temperature product (washing performance documented at > 20 °C to ≤ 30 °C)	1 P
Maximum dosage	Max dosage ≤ 14 g/kg wash (powder, tablet) <i>or</i> ≤ 14 ml/kg wash (liquid, gel)	2 P
	Max dosage ≤ 16 g/kg wash (powder, tablet) <i>or</i> ≤ 16 ml/kg wash (liquid, gel)	1 P
CDV	CDV <sub>chronic</sub> < 15,000 l/kg wash	2 P
	CDV <sub>chronic</sub> between 15,000 to 18,000 l/kg wash	1 P
aNBO	aNBO ≤ 75% of limit value	1 P
anNBO	anNBO ≤ 75% of limit value	1 P
<i>Minimum points to be achieved in order to be awarded EU Ecolabel</i>		<i>3 P</i>

***Assessment and verification:*** Calculation of the sum of points achieved for the product. A spreadsheet for this calculation is available on the EU Ecolabel website.

## **Criterion 8 - Consumer information**

### ***a) Dosage instructions***

The recommended dosages shall be specified for ‘normally’ and ‘heavily’ soiled textiles and various water harnesses' ranges relevant to the countries concerned and referred as appropriate to the weight of textile. (Not applicable for stain removers).

The difference between the dosage recommendations for the lowest water hardness range (soft) for normally soiled textiles and the highest water hardness range (hard) for heavily soiled textiles may not differ by more than a factor of 2. (Not applicable for stain removers).

The reference dosage used for the washing performance test and for assessment of compliance with the ecological criteria on ingredients shall be the same as the recommended dosage on the package for 'normally soiled' textiles and a water hardness corresponding to 2.5 mmol CaCO<sub>3</sub>/l.

Where only water hardness lower than 2.5 mmol CaCO<sub>3</sub>/l are included in the recommendations, the maximum dosage recommended for 'normally soiled' shall be lower than the reference dosage used in the washing performance test (water hardness 2.5 mmol CaCO<sub>3</sub>/l).

***b) Information on the packaging***

The following washing recommendations (or equivalent) shall appear on the packaging of EU Ecolabelled products within the product group except pre-treatment stain removers. The washing recommendations may be present either as text or symbols:

"- Wash at the lowest possible temperature

- Always wash with full load
- Dose according to soil and water hardness, follow the dosing instructions
- If you are allergic to house dust, always wash bedding at 60° C. Increase wash temperature to 60° C in case of infectious diseases.

Using this EU Ecolabelled product according to the dosage instructions will contribute to the reduction of water pollution, waste production and energy consumption."

***c) Claims on the packaging***

In general, claims on the packaging shall be documented either through performance testing or other relevant documentation (e.g. claims of efficiency at low temperatures, claims of removal of certain stain types, claims of benefits for certain types or colors of textile or other claims of specific properties / benefits of the product).

- E.g. if a product claims efficiency at 20°C, the efficiency test must be performed at ≤ 20°C (and correspondingly for other temperature claims below 40°C).
- E.g. if a product claims to be efficient on certain stain types, this must be documented with efficiency test

***d) Information on the packaging – additional requirements for stain removers***

The removal of stains, for which no performance test has been conducted, shall not be claimed on the product.

***e) Information on the packaging – additional requirements for fabric softeners***

The following text (or equivalent) shall appear on the packaging:

- "- Counteracts static electricity in synthetic materials and softens the textiles
- Use of softeners may reduce water absorbance of textiles"

***Assessment and verification (a-e):*** *The applicant shall provide a sample of the product label, together with a declaration of compliance with this criterion. Product claims shall be documented through appropriate test reports or other relevant documentation.*

### **Criterion 9 - Information appearing on the EU Ecolabel**

Optional label with text box shall contain the following text:

- " - Reduced impact on aquatic ecosystems
- Limited hazardous substances
- Performance tested "

***Assessment and verification:** The applicant shall provide a sample of the label, together with a declaration of compliance with this criterion.*

## APPENDIX I

### Detergents Ingredients Database (DID) list

The DID list (part A) is a list containing information of the aquatic toxicity and biodegradability of ingredients typically used in detergent formulations. The list includes information on the toxicity and biodegradability of a range of substances used in washing and cleaning products. The list is not comprehensive, but guidance is given in part B of the DID list concerning the determination of the relevant calculation parameters for substances not present on the DID list (e.g. the Toxicity Factor (TF) and degradation factor (DF), which are used for calculation of the critical dilution volume). The list is a generic source of information and substances present on the DID list are not automatically approved for use in EU Ecolabelled products. The DID list (part A and B) can be found on the EU Ecolabel website.

For substances with no data regarding aquatic toxicity and degradability, structure analogies with similar substances may be used to assess the TF and DF. Such structure analogies shall be approved by the competent body granting the EU Ecolabel license. Alternatively, a worst case approach shall be applied, using the parameters below:

Worst case approach:

Ingredient	Acute toxicity			Chronic toxicity			Degradation		
	EC/LC50	SF <sub>(acute)</sub>	TF <sub>(acute)</sub>	NOEC*	SF <sub>(chronic)</sub> *	TF <sub>(chronic)</sub>	DF	Aerobic	Anaerobic
“Name”	1 mg/l	10,000	0.0001			0.0001	1	P	N

\* If no acceptable chronic toxicity data are found, these columns are empty. In that case TF(chronic) is defined as equal to TF(acute)

### Documentation of ready biodegradability

The following test methods for ready biodegradability shall be used:

(1) *Until 1 December 2010 and during transition period from 1 December 2010 to 1 December 2015:*

The test methods for ready biodegradability provided for in Council Directive 67/548/EEC, in particular the methods detailed in Annex V.C4 to that Directive, or their equivalent OECD 301 A-F test methods, or their equivalent ISO tests.

The 10 days window principle shall not apply for surfactants. The pass levels shall be 70% for the tests referred to in Annex V.C4-A and C4-B to Directive 67/548/EEC (and their equivalent OECD 301 A and E tests and ISO equivalents), and shall be 60% for tests C4-C, D, E and F (and their equivalent OECD 301 B, C, D and F tests and ISO equivalents).

(2) *After 1 December 2015 and during transition period from 1 December 2010 to 1 December 2015:*

The test methods provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of 16 December 2008<sup>††</sup>.

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<sup>††</sup> OJ L 353/1, 31.12.2008

## Documentation of anaerobic biodegradability

The reference test for anaerobic degradability shall be ISO 11734, ECETOC No. 28 (June 1988), OECD 311 or an equivalent test method, with the requirement of 60% ultimate degradability under anaerobic conditions. Test methods simulating the conditions in a relevant anaerobic environment may also be used to document that 60% ultimate degradability has been attained under anaerobic conditions.

### *Extrapolation for substances not listed in the DID-list*

Where the ingredients that are not listed in the DID-list the following approach may be used to provide the necessary documentation of anaerobic biodegradability:

1) Apply reasonable extrapolation. Use test results obtained with one raw material to extrapolate the ultimate anaerobic degradability of structurally related surfactants. Where anaerobic biodegradability has been confirmed for a surfactant (or a group of homologues) according to the DID-list, it can be assumed that a similar type of surfactant is also anaerobically biodegradable (e.g., C12-15 A 1-3 EO sulphate [DID No. 8] is anaerobically biodegradable, and a similar anaerobic biodegradability may also be assumed for C12-15 A 6 EO sulphate). Where anaerobic biodegradability has been confirmed for a surfactant by use of an appropriate test method, it can be assumed that a similar type of surfactant is also anaerobically biodegradable (e.g., literature data confirming the anaerobic biodegradability of surfactants belonging to the group alkyl ester ammonium salts may be used as documentation for a similar anaerobic biodegradability of other quaternary ammonium salts containing ester-linkages in the alkyl chain(s)).

2) Perform screening test for anaerobic degradability. If new testing is necessary, perform a screening test by use of ISO 11734, ECETOC No. 28 (June 1988), OECD 311 or an equivalent method.

3) Perform low-dosage degradability test. If new testing is necessary, and in the case of experimental problems in the screening test (e.g. inhibition due to toxicity of test substance), repeat testing by using a low dosage of surfactant and monitor degradation by <sup>14</sup>C measurements or chemical analyses. Testing at low dosages may be performed by use of OECD 308 (August 2000) or an equivalent method.