Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

Textile standards

Date	Version No.	Change
2003	1.0	Introduction of mandatory requirements
January 2010	2.0	Revision of mandatory requirements and introduction of award and best practice criteria.

IMPACT AREA	MANDATORY CRITERIA
Pesticides	For products made from cotton or other natural cellulosic fibres, the final product shall not contain more than 1 ppm (parts per million) in total of the following substances (*Note: Most of these pesticides are already banned from placing on the market and use.)* • 2,4,5-T • Dinoseb and salts • Methamidophos • Aldrin • Endrin • Monocrotophos • Captafol • Heptachlor • Parathion • Chlordane • Hexachlorobenzene • Parathion-methyl • Chlordimeform • Hexachlorcyclohexane α • Propethamphos • DDT • Hexachlorcyclohexane, β • Toxaphene • Dieldrin • Hexachlorcyclohexane, δ

Dyes	**Dyes** classified as sensitising/allergenic, carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic to reproduction: The following dyes shall not be used in the final product: • C.I. Basic Red 9 C.I. 42 500 • C.I. Disperse Blue 26 C.I. 63 305 • C.I. Disperse Orange 37 • C.I. Acid Red 26 C.I. 16 150 • C.I. Disperse Blue 35 • C.I. Disperse Orange 76 (previously designated Orange 37) • C.I. Basic Violet 14 C.I. 42 51 • C.I. Disperse Blue 102 • C.I. Disperse Red 1 C.I. 11 110 • C.I. Direct Black 38 C.I. 30 235 • C.I. Disperse Blue 106 • C.I. Disperse Red 11 C.I. 62 015 • C.I. Direct Blue 6 C.I. 22 610 • C.I. Disperse Blue 124 • C.I. Disperse Red 17 C.I. 11 210 • C.I. Direct Red 28 C.I. 22 120 • C.I. Disperse Brown 1 • C.I. Disperse Yellow 1 C.I. 10 345 • C.I. Disperse Blue 1 C.I: 64 500 • C.I. Disperse Orange 1 C.I. 11 080 • C.I. Disperse Yellow 3 C.I. 11 855 • C.I. Disperse Blue 3 C.I. 61 505 • C.I. Disperse Orange 3 C.I. 11 005 • C.I. Disperse Yellow 9 • C.I. Disperse Blue 7 C.I. 62 500 • C.I. Disperse Orange 11 C.I. 60 700 • C.I. Disperse Yellow 39 • C.I. Disperse Yellow
Arylamines	The final product shall not contain the following arylamines (from azo dyes): • 4-aminodiphenyl (CAS no. 92-67-1) • 3,3'-dimethylbenzidine (CAS no. 119-93-7) • Benzidine (CAS no. 92-87-5) • 3,3'-dimethyl-4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane (CAS no. 838-88-0) • 4-chloro-o-toluidine (CAS no. 95-69-2) • p-cresidine (CAS no. 120-71-8) • 2-naphthylamine (CAS no. 91-59-8) • 4,4'-methylene-bis-(2-chloraniline) (CAS no. 101-14-4) • o-amino-azotoluene (CAS no. 97-56-3) • 4,4'-oxydianiline (CAS no. 101-80-4) • 2-amino-4-nitrotoluene (CAS no. 99-55-8) • 4,4'-thiodianiline (CAS no. 139-65-1) • p-chloroaniline (CAS no. 106-47-8) • o-toluidine (CAS no. 95-53-4) • 2,4-diaminoanisol (CAS no. 615-05-4) • 2,4-diaminotoluene (CAS no. 95-80-7) • 4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane (CAS no. 101-77-9) • 2,4,5-trimethylaniline (CAS no. 137-17-7) • 3,3'-dichlorobenzidine (CAS no. 91-94-1) • 4-aminoazobenzene (CAS no. 60-09-3)

	• 3,3'-dimethoxybenzidine (CAS no. 119-90-4) • o-anisidine (CAS no. 90-04-0)
Flame retardants	The following flame retardants shall not be used in the final product: • PBB (Polybrominated biphenyls) CAS no. 59536-65-1 • pentaBDE (Pentabromodiphenylether) CAS no. 32534-81-9 • octaBDE (Octabromodiphenyl ether) CAS no. 32536-52-9
Pentachlorophenol and tetrachlorophenol	For products made from cotton or other natural cellulosic fibres, the final product shall not contain more than 0.5ppm (parts per million) of pentachlorophenol. *(Note: Pentachlorophenol is already banned from pesticide applications in the group of plant protection products and severely restricted for other pesticide applications including biocides applications.)*
Phthalate softeners	For products that come into direct contact with the skin the following phthalate softeners shall not make up more than 0.1% by weight of the final product: • DEHP (Di-(2-ethylhexyl)-phthalate) CAS no. 117-81-7 • BBP (Butylbenzylphthalate) CAS no. 85-68-7 • DBP (Dibutylphthalate) CAS no. 84-74-2
Formaldehyde	The amount of free and partly hydrolysable formaldehyde in the final fabric shall not exceed 20 ppm in products for babies and young children under 3 years old, 30 ppm for products that come into direct contact with the skin, and 75 ppm for all other products.
Heavy metals	The amount of Cadmium (Cd), Chromium (Cr), Nickel (Ni), Lead (Pb), Copper (Cu) in the final product shall not exceed: • Cadmium (Cd) - 0.1 ppm • Chromium (Cr) - 2.0 ppm • Nickel (Ni) - 4.0 ppm • Lead (Pb) - 1.0 ppm • Copper (Cu) - 50.0 ppm
Useful life of textiles products: durability	Where relevant, the following fitness for use criteria of the EU Ecolabel must be met (full criteria document available at http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:197:0070:0086:EN:PDF): • Shrinkage (criterion 34) • Resistance to fading from washing (criterion 35) • Colourfastness to perspiration (criterion 36) • Colourfastness to wet rubbing (criterion 37) • Colourfastness to dry rubbing (criterion 38) • Resistance to fading from light (criterion 39)

IMPACT AREA	AWARD CRITERIA
Recycled fibres	Bidders must indicate the proportion of the product by weight made of recycled fibres, i.e. fibres originating only from cuttings from textile and clothing manufacturers or from post-consumer waste (textile or otherwise). **Verification:** The supplier must provide evidence of the origin of the recycled fibres used.
Ethical standards in production	Bidders must provide information to illustrate that suppliers and production sites should hold an independently audited and internationally-recognised standard relevant to the product, in order to demonstrate how they are addressing ethical and social issues such as living wage provision, avoidance of child labour, application of fair trade principles, adequate working conditions, animal welfare in the manufacture of textiles. **Verification**: Relevant protocols and standards include those by the ILO, Fair Trade Foundation, Ethical Trading Initiative. Indicative standards are SA8000 or ISEAL. Other private or national textile labels fulfilling the listed criteria can also be accepted. Any other appropriate means of proof, such as a technical dossier of the manufacturer or a test report from a recognised body will also be accepted.
Whole life of product	Use of materials that have lower environmental impacts over whole life of the product. Bidders should indicate how they have applied life cycle thinking to select fibres and materials that have the lowest environmental impact over the whole life of the product. A number of fibres, for example flax and hemp, have been identified as having lower environmental impacts in production than, for example, commoner fibres such as cotton and polyester. Hence the proposal of lower impact fibres as alternatives is encouraged, but their use must be justified over the whole product lifecycle. Single fibre types are generally more recyclable than blends of fibres and are to be preferred, subject to the lifecycle issues identified above. **Verification:** The supplier must provide evidence of the benefit compared with a realistic alternative fibre over its lifetime, as justified by independent studies (e.g. life cycle assessment)
Sustainable practice through product use or / and at end of life.	Innovative approaches to encourage more sustainable practice through product use or / and at end of life. **In-use phase impacts** are mainly from the use of energy and water to wash and dry clothes, use of detergents and subsequent load on the wastewater treatment system. Line drying can lead to a significant reduction in impact. • There may be scope to include information on and communication relating to clothing (particularly those articles that may be washed frequently) to usefully include, for example; guidance notes on best methods, correct temperature, detergent dosing and line drying • This option could be used to ensure cleaning service contracts oblige the supplier to minimise energy use, detergent consumption and have appropriate environmental and sustainable performance management objectives and systems. It is recognised that industrial and institutional ("I and I") cleaning systems, for example those used in hospitals, are likely to operate at higher temperatures and use more concentrated cleaning agents and therefore be expected to follow closer scrutiny

	End of life management: A significant portion of old clothing is sent to landfill. Product labelling or take back schemes can encourage sustainable actions at the end of life stage. Uniforms should not include logos or names that are difficult to remove, but should use removable badges (unless permanent identification for security or tax reasons is required, when these should be as discreet as possible). Design of the garment and of the garment management scheme to facilitate reuse or recycling is encouraged. This can include labelling, product take-back schemes or partnerships with third parties who can reuse or recycle high proportions of the used textiles. **Verification:** The supplier must provide sufficient information to allow the effective evaluation of the innovative approaches proposed, including independently verified estimates of their potential benefits.

IMPACT AREA	BEST PRACTICE CRITERIA
Production process and fibre specific criteria	Production process and fibre-specific criteria are recommended. However it should be noted that there are currently few products on the market which carry the EU Ecolabel for textiles. The procurer is advised to carry out a market search to check prices and availability before applying these criteria in the specifications. Where the following fibres make up more than 5% by weight of the total weight of the textile fibres in the product, the relevant criteria of the EU Ecolabel must be met. The full criteria is contained in Commission Decision 2009/567/EC: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:197:0070:0086:EN:PDF • Acrylic (criterion 1). • Cotton and other natural cellulosic side fibres (including kapok) (criterion 2). Products deriving from organic production will be automatically deemed to comply • Elastane (criterion 3). • Flax and other bast fibres (including hemp, jute and ramie) (criterion 4). • Greasy wool and other keratin fibres (including wool from sheep, camel, alpaca, goat) (criterion 5). • Man-made cellulosic fibres (including viscose, lyocell, acetate, cupro, triacetate) (criterion 6). • Polyamide (criterion 7). • Polyester (criterion 8). • Polypropylene (criterion 9). **Verification:** Bidders must provide a list of all fibres that make up more than 5% by weight of the total weight of the textile fibres in the product, together with appropriate documentation demonstrating that the relevant criteria are met. The EU Ecolabel will be accepted as proof of compliance, as will any other appropriate means of proof, such as a technical dossier of the manufacturer or a test report from a recognised body.
Chemicals and processing methods	Products must meet the following criteria of the EU Ecolabel related to chemicals and processing methods set out in Commission Decision 2009/567/EC http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:197:0070:0086:EN:PDF

	• Auxiliaries and finishing agents for fibres and yarns (criterion 10). • All chemicals and chemical preparations (criterion 14). • Detergents, fabric softeners and complexing agents (criterion 15). • Bleaching agents (criterion 16). • Impurities in dyes (criterion 17). • Impurities in pigments (criterion 18). • Waste water discharges from wet-processing (criterion 27). **Verification:** The EU Ecolabel will be accepted as proof of compliance, as will other private or national textile labels fulfilling the listed criteria, as well as any other appropriate means of proof, such as a technical dossier of the manufacturer or a test report from a recognised body.
Organically produced fibres or other natural fibres	Bidders must indicate the proportion of cotton or other natural fibres used in the final product by weight deriving from organic production. To be considered as such the crop at the origin of the fibre must be produced in compliance with Regulation (EC) No 834/2007. **Verification:** The supplier must provide evidence of the origin of the fibres used and the organic nature of their production, such as the EU organic logo or approved national logos for organic production.

Notes to Award criteria: Award criteria are not mandatory in the way the technical specifications are, but are additional criteria on which a contracting authority will base its award decision. As such, they are not pass/fall criteria, meaning that offers of products that don't comply with them may still be withheld for the final decision, depending on their score on other award criteria, including the price. To stimulate further market uptake of ever improved environmental products, award criteria should be considered depending on the specific circumstances of each case.

Contracting authorities will have to indicate in the contract notice and tender documents how many additional points will be awarded for each award criterion. Environmental award criteria should, altogether, account for at least 10 to 15 % of the total points available. Where the award criterion is formulated in terms of "better performance as compared to the minimum requirements included in the technical specifications", points will be awarded in proportion to the improved performance.