



SPECIFICATIONS

*Rules and standards for the inspection
and certification of ecological products*

PART III WASHING AND CLEANING PRODUCTS

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VISION & MISSION

The vision of Ecogarantie®

Ecogarantie®, a Belgian trademark, registered at a Community level for ecological products is a management system and a promotional instrument which guarantees the consumer that a given product bearing the label Ecogarantie® meets strict requirements in terms of ecological quality.

Indeed, Social, Economic and Ecological aspects are taken into account, while respecting both life cycle and the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs.

The mission of Ecogarantie® includes

1. Helping consumers and companies to identify easily and reliably ecological products. Thereby guaranteeing as much as possible transparency for consumers and companies through clear rules and a complete labelling of the product.
2. Verifying the use of the trademark Ecogarantie® on ecological product. Actually, the ecological quality of a product is more contained in the principle of “*obligatory means*” than in the principle of “*obligatory results*”. The presence of the trademark Ecogarantie® aims at the ecological quality of the product in the field of :
 - Sustainability,
 - Safety,
 - Minimal impact on the environment.
3. Anticipating - in the aim of a continual improvement of the own specifications - the positive evolution of the regulation by defining standards for fields not yet covered by the European regulation.

This can be accomplished through

- The specifications
- A (good) management of the trademark
- The independent system of inspection and certification

The products

Ingredients and methods of preparation are selected according to their ecological properties and origin.

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● PART III > WASHING AND CLEANING PRODUCTS

A. GENERAL PURPOSE

1. The selection of the ingredients is based on the principles of sustainability and ecological responsibility. Agricultural ingredients (raw materials and semi-manufactured products) are organically-grown unless it can be proved that they are not available. If such is the case, it will be mentioned in the present specifications. Synthetic products, colouring agents and preservatives will not be used or used in a very restricted way. The positive list only mentions those substances which, because of their specific characteristics and their function in the product, cannot be substitute, in the short run, by a better and more ecological alternative.

The use of genetically modified organisms (GMO's) or of GMO techniques in the production chain is strictly forbidden.

2. The processes used in the production and processing may not be polluting and must respect both our health and the environment. This will be done by taking measures during the production process, as far as biodegradability, recycling of packages, waste products, ... are concerned. The commercialisation of these quality washing products takes into account the wellbeing of the consumer by setting up clear rules as well as by favouring communication and transparency in the chain.
3. End products may not be tested on animals (see § D.4).

B. FIELD OF APPLICATION

The name “detergent” is defined following the European Regulation EC 648/2004 as:

“Any substance or preparation containing soaps and/or other surfactants intended for washing and cleaning processes. Detergents may be in any form (liquid, powder, paste, bar, cake, moulded piece, shape, etc.) and marketed for or used in household, or institutional or industrial purposes.”

Other products to be considered as detergents are:

- ‘Auxiliary washing preparation’, intended for soaking(pre-washing), rinsing or bleaching clothes, household linen, etc.;
- ‘Laundry fabric-softener’, intended to modify the feel of fabrics in processes which are to complement the washing of fabrics;
- ‘Cleaning preparation’, intended for domestic all purposes cleaners and/or other cleaning of surfaces (e.g.: materials, products, machinery, mechanical appliances, means of transport and associated equipment, instruments, apparatus, etc.);
- ‘Other cleaning and washing preparations’, intended for any other washing and cleaning processes.

All detergent following this definition can be certified as long as they follow the requirements of the Ecogarantie specification. Additionally to the definition of the European Regulation EC 648/2004 salt for dishwashers is also part of this standard. Detergents could be meant for private and professional use.

C. REGULATION AND USE OF THE TRADEMARK

C.1. REGULATION

It is the responsibility of each applicant to conform to the regulations of the European Parliament and to local or national laws in its sector of activity.

Products classified as “**detergent**” must conform to:

- The Regulation (EC) N° 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of December 16th 2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures
- The Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of December 18th 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) concerning washing and cleaning products,
- The Regulation (EC) N° 648/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of March 31st 2004 on detergents and meet the additional stipulations of the present specification.

Detergents are not covered by EC Regulation 834/2007 concerning organically-grown products and therefore do not need to be certified.

However, the raw materials that would be organically- grown in the framework of the Ecogarantie® specifications, must meet the requirements of:

- EC Regulation 834/2007 and its modifications and/or
- The Biogarantie® standards.

C.2. USE OF THE TRADEMARK

The Ecogarantie® logo may be used on:

- Raw materials and/or
- Semi-manufactured products and/or
- Final products

if they meet the requirements of the present specifications and have therefore been submitted to the inspection and certification of one of the approved certification bodies.

D. PREPARATION

D.1. RAW MATERIALS AND PHYSICAL PROCESSES USED IN PROCESSING

D.1.¹ Vegetable products

Vegetable products are authorised based on the following criteria:

- Organically-grown and/or harvested from wild plants according to EC Regulation 834/2007 and its modifications.
- Not being part of the European and international list of protected species (see the Washington Convention or the Bern Convention)

Derogations can only be granted if a written substantiate file can be provided proving that:

- the technical quality
- and/or the quantity
- and/or the economic viability

is not sufficient with the organic version.

The company has to motivate why it was not possible to find organic ingredients.

The technical committee will deal with this matter, in cooperation with the inspection bodies.

D.1.² Animal products

Authorised animal products are recorded in a positive list, based on the following criteria:

- Not be part of the European and international list of protected species (see the Washington Convention or the Bern Convention)
- From organic husbandry, if available
- Are not used as main component

Positive list:

Authorised animal secretions
Ox bile / Ox gall (for the production of soaps)
Tallow (in abrasives)

D.1.³ Animal secretions

Authorised animal secretions are recorded in a positive list, based on the following criteria:

- From organic husbandry, if available
- The exploitation of which has no detrimental effect on the ecological balance.

Positive list:

Authorised animal secretions
Butyris Lac
Butyrum
Caprae Lac (goat milk)
Cera alba
Cera flava
Lac (milk)
Lanolin
Lanolin cera

Mel
Ovum
Propolis Cera
Royal Jelly
Shellac

D.1^{.4}. Minerals

Minerals are authorised based on the following criteria:

- Must be used for their intrinsic properties
- Their exploitation causes no pollution or damage to the landscape
- Whole and unmodified
- No disinfection through gamma rays

It is the producer's duty to show the certification body that he examined these elements while selecting his raw materials.

Examples of authorised products:

- Alumina
- Montmorillonite clay (bentonite)
- Kaolin clay
- Chalks
- Sand
- Talc
- Drinkable water: spring water, reverse-osmosis water, un-mineralised water...
- Silicates
- ...

Examples of forbidden raw materials:

- Petroleum and its derivatives
- Borium and its compounds
- Phosphorus, phosphates and their derivatives (phosphonates, ...)
- Silicone and its derivatives
- Mineral acids (H_3PO_4 , HCl , H_2SO_4 ,... and their derivatives)
- Mineral bases with the exception of $NaOH$, $Ca(OH)_2$, KOH which are allowed (see also § D.4. for rules on final products)

D.1^{.5}. Maritime products

Maritime products are authorised based on the following criteria:

For the vegetable maritime products: see criteria under point D.1^{.1}.

For the animal maritime products: see criteria under point D.1^{.2}.

For the mineral maritime products: see criteria under point D.1^{.4}.

D.1^{.6}. Gas

Authorised gasses are recorded in a positive list.

Positive list:

Authorised gasses
carbon dioxide
nitrogen
oxygen

D.1⁷. Nature of the physical processes used

The hereby authorised raw materials may only be processed through very specific physical processes which are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:

- Processes which give good biodegradable molecules
- Processes which respect the naturally active substances
- Processes which allow a good management of the waste and of the energy consumption

Positive list:

absorption (on an inert support ¹)
bleaching, deodorisation (on an inert support ¹)
blending
centrifuging (separating solid substance from liquids)
clearance
decoction (hot or cold)
desiccation, drying (by means of (non) gradual evaporation or sun radiation)
deterpenation (if fractioned steam distillation)
distillation
extraction (cold; by solvents of natural origin; solar; steam; vacuum)
filtration and purification (ultra-filtration, dialysis, crystallisation)
freezing/individually quick frozen
grinding
infusion (hot or cold)
lyophilisation
maceration
percolation
pressure (cold and warm)
squeezing, crushing
sterilisation by means of heat treatment (according to the temperatures respecting the active substances) and UV (only for water)
sifting
vacuum

Examples of forbidden processes:

irradiation (X-rays)
ionising treatments (gamma rays)
extraction by petrochemical solvents
extraction with ultrasound ²
post extraction <ul style="list-style-type: none">electron beamingirradiationpost packaging sterilisation E.g. UVrectification

¹ Inert support: substance that has no chemical reaction with the original substance.

² Precautionary principle: is forbidden as long as no study has proved the method to be innocuous.

D.2. SEMI-MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS OBTAINED THROUGH CHEMICAL/MICROBIOLOGICAL PROCESSES

D.2¹: Nature of the chemical processes used

In order to produce a semi-manufactured product, the raw materials may only be treated by means of specific chemical processes that are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:

- Processes which give good biodegradable molecules
- Processes which respect the naturally active substances
- Processes which allow a good management of the waste and of the energy consumption

Positive list:

Alkylation
Calcination of vegetable residue
Carbonisation (resins, fatty vegetable oils)
Chlorine chemistry (only inorganic part)
Condensation / addition
Esterification and trans-esterification
Etherification
Hydration
Hydrogenation
Hydrolysis
Neutralisation through bases ³
Neutralisation through acids ³
Oxidation/reduction
Production processes for amphoterics (amidification)
Roasting
Saponification
Sulphation

Examples of forbidden processes:

Amidification in case of main components like the surfactants
Quaternisation
Decolouration, deodorisation (on a support of animal origin)
Sulfonation (in main reaction)
Treatments with ethylene oxide
Treatments with mercury (production of sodium and potassium hydroxide)
Propoxylation
Chlorine chemistry (organic part)

D.2²: Nature of the microbiological/biotechnological processes used

Microbiological/biotechnological processes are allowed based on the following criteria:

- From vegetable or animal raw materials

³ Unable to mention here all the different modalities (catalysts, solvents,...) necessary for the accomplishment of certain processes, we wish to remind you that these must however comply with the criteria mentioned above.

Examples of authorised processes:

- In vitro cultivation, wild or controlled fermentation by means of micro-organisms, production of enzymes as far as they are not obtained from GMO technology.

Negative list:

Cloning, cell culture, methods based on genetically modified organisms (GMO): organism the genetic material of which has been modified in a way that cannot be naturally achieved through reproduction and/or recombination.

For enzymes: the manufacturer of the enzymes has to confirm that the enzymes are free of GMO.

D.2³. Semi-manufactured product of vegetable origin

Semi-manufactured products of vegetable origin are authorised based on the following criteria:

Only the raw materials and processes above mentioned are authorised. Exception is made for the organic quality of the raw materials: if they are not available in their organic version, raw materials from conventional agriculture may be used to produce the semi-manufactured product.

Exception:

Organic ethanol seems to be available on the EU market but its price remains too high. For this reason, non-organic alcohol may be used if wished by companies.

Examples of authorised semi manufactured products

Anthocyan as colouring agent
Peracetic acid
Produce obtained through fermentation like ethanol, citric acid, formic acid,...
Tocopherol
Salts like sodium citrate, zinc gluconate, zinc lactate, zinc ricinoleate, zinc stearate,...

D.2⁴. Semi-manufactured product of animal origin

Authorised semi-manufactured products of animal origin are recorded in a positive list based, among others, on the following criteria:

Only the above mentioned raw materials and processes are authorised. Exception is made for the organic quality of the raw materials: if they are not available in their organic version, conventional raw materials may be used to produce the semi-manufactured product.

Positive list:

Authorised semi-manufactured products of animal origin
Beeswax acid
Behenyl Beeswax
Behenyl / isostearyl Beeswax
Hydrolysed milk protein
Lactis Proteinum
Lactoferrin
Lanolin alcohol

D.2⁵. Semi-manufactured product of mineral origin

Authorised semi-manufactured products of mineral origin are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:

- The only raw materials and processes to be authorised are those defined above

Positive list:

Authorised semi-manufactured products of mineral origin
calcium sulfate
CI 77000 aluminium
CI 77007 lazzerite
CI 77163 bismuth oxychlorure
CI 77220 calcium carbonate
CI 77400 copper
CI 77480 and CI 77491 iron oxides
CI 77492 iron hydroxide
CI 77499 iron oxides
CI 77510 (Prussian blue)
CI 77711 magnesium oxide
CI 77713 magnesium carbonate
CI 77820 silver
CI 77891 titanium dioxide
CI 77947 zinc oxide
calcium chloride
calcium hydroxide
calcium sulfate
copper chlorophyll
cupric sulphate
hydrated silica
hydrogen peroxide
iron hydroxide
iron sulfate
magnesium chloride
magnesium hydroxide
magnesium sulphate
manganese sulphate
potassium carbonate
potassium chloride
potassium hydroxide
potassium sulphate
silicates
silicium carbonate
silicon dioxide
silver chloride
silver sulphate
sodium bicarbonate
sodium carbonate
Sodium chloride
sodium gluconate
sodium hydroxide
sodium percarbonate
sodium silicate
sodium sulphate if < 5%

sodium thiosulphate
zeolites
zinc gluconate
zinc lactate
zinc ricinoleate
zinc stearate

D.2⁶. Semi-manufactured product of maritime origin

Authorised semi-manufactured products of maritime origin are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:

The only raw materials and processes to be authorised are those defined above. Exception is made for the organic quality of the raw materials: if they are not available in their organic version, conventional raw materials may be used to produce the semi-manufactured product.

Positive list:

Authorised semi-manufactured products of maritime origin
algin
calcium alginate
carraghene
chitosan
potassium alginate
xanthophyll

D.2⁷. Semi-manufactured products of microbial origin

Authorised semi-manufactured products of microbial origin are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:

The only raw materials and processes to be authorised are those defined above. Exception is made for the organic quality of the raw materials: if they are not available in their organic version, conventional raw materials may be used to produce the semi-manufactured product.

Positive list:

Authorised semi-manufactured products of maritime origin
Enzymes (protease, amylase, lipase) as far as they are not obtained from GMO technology
Products obtained through fermentation like ethanol, citric acid, formic acid, ...
Succinoglycan
Xanthan

Examples of forbidden semi-manufactured products:

- Enzymes produced by GMO

D.2⁸. Surfactants

Surfactants are authorised according to the following criteria:

- Based only on the raw materials and processes as defined above
- Petro-chemical synthesis is ruled out of the manufacturing process

Examples of authorised surfactants:

Authorised surfactants
Alkylglucosides of vegetable origin: Sucrose Cocoate, Sucrose laurate
Alkylglutamate of vegetable base
Alkylpolyglucosides of vegetable origin: Decyl Glucoside, Lauryl Glucoside, Octyl Glucoside, Caprylyl/Capryl Glucoside
Alkylpolypentoside
Alkylsulphates of vegetable origin: Sodium Lauryl Sulphate, Sodium Coco Sulphate, Sodium Octyl Sulphate, Sodium Oleyl Sulphate
Condensates of proteins/fatty acids
Fatty acid esters
Fatty alcohol sulphates from fatty alcohol of vegetable origin
Glyceryl stearat citrat
Lipoamines of vegetable origin: Sodium Lauroyl Lipoamines
Soap produced from vegetable fatty acids and anorganic bases (sodium and potassium salts): Palmates, Cocoates, Olivates, Oleates, ... and their blends. Exception: soaps based on resin acids from coniferous trees because of their high level of toxicity in water
Sodium cocoylglutamate, Disodium cocoylglutamate
Sophorolipids

Examples of forbidden surfactants:

Alkylphenol ethoxylates (APEO) or other alkylphenol derivatives (APD's)
Alkylphenol polyetheneglycolethers (EPEO) like nonylphenolenylethoxylaten
Amine ethoxylates
Amphoterics of vegetable origin: Oleo Ampho Polyglycinate, Alkyl Amido Ampho Polypeptide Carboxylate, Betaines
EO/PO polymers in bloc (EO=ethylene oxide, PO=propylene oxide)
Fatty alcohol ethoxylates
Linear alkylbenzene sulfonate
Quats (quaternary ammonium connections)
Secondary alkane sulphonate (SAS)
Soaps based on resin acids from coniferous trees because of their high level of toxicity in water
Toluolsulphonate

D.3. CHEMICALLY SYNTHESISED SEMI-MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS

Definition: ingredients produced by chemical synthesis

General rule: (petro) chemical synthesis is ruled out of the manufacturing process

Examples of forbidden chemically synthesised semi-manufactured products:

- Chemically synthesised colouring agents
- Chemically synthesised perfumes (phenol, cumolsulphonate, ...) and auxiliary for perfumes (nitromusk connections, ...)
- Polycyclic musks
- Chemically synthesised antioxidants
- Chemically synthesised softeners
- Chemically synthesised oils and fats
- Silicones
- Optical whitening agents
- Chelatat agents based on EDTA and its salts
- Polycarboxylates
- Polyacrylates
- Substances containing iodine
- Formaldehyde
- Glutaraldehyde
- Glycol
- Isopropanol and other synthetic alcohols
- Cellulose thinner
- White spirit
- Chlorinated hydrocarbons
- Benzene and derivatives
- Cetone
- Sulphamine acid and amidosulfonic acid
- ...

Exceptions to the rule: “petrochemical synthesis is ruled out of the manufacturing process” can only be granted according to the following criteria:

A few exceptions are tolerated in these standards (see positive lists D.3.1 and D.3.2)

- when the substances concerned cannot be replaced in the short run by a better and more ecological alternative because of their specific properties and of their function in the product
- when this kind of semi-finished product is not a main component (the maximum tolerated amount depends on the legal rules)

When establishing the positive lists based on the above-mentioned conditions, Probila-Unitrab takes also into account the advantages for the environment on long term (e.g. saving energy, extension of the life cycle of textile...) that some ingredients can add to the end products.

D.3¹. Additives

D.3^{1.1}. Preservatives in the ingredients

Positive list:

Authorised preservatives in the ingredients
acetic acid, its salts and esters
acid ascorbic, its salts and esters
benzoic acid, its salts and esters
dehydroacetic acid
lactoperoxidase
salicylic acid and its salts
sorbic acid and its salts

Parahydroxybenzoic acid, and its salts and esters (parabens) **are unauthorized**.

D.3^{1.2}. Preservatives in the end product

Positive list:

Authorised preservatives in the end product
acetic acid, its salts and esters
acid ascorbic, its salts and esters
dehydroacetic acid
formic acid and salts
glycolic acid
lactic acid and salts
lactoperoxidase
sorbic acid and its salts
tartaric acid and salts

D.3². Denaturing agents for alcohol

Two exceptions are tolerated for the denaturation of alcohol seeing that two substances are imposed by the Belgian authorities (see below the positive list).

Positive list:

Authorised denaturing agents
1% isopropanol (IPA)
1% methylethylcetone (MEK)
0,01g/l denatoniumbenzoate

D.4. PRODUCTION OF WASHING PRODUCTS

Are authorised in the processing of ingredients into a washing product:

- Only the nature of physical and/or chemical processes recorded in the positive lists under D.1.⁷ And D.2.¹.
- Only the raw materials and semi-manufactured products recorded in the positive lists from D.1.¹. To D.1.⁶. And from D.2.³. To D.2.⁸.

End products may not be tested on animals. The tests on the raw material are performed according to the legal rules (e.g. REACH). Claiming “no animal testing” is forbidden.

The final product and its ingredients are not classified in one or more of the following risk categories according to EC regulation 1272/2008:

- Carcinogenic (H350/H351)
- Mutagenic (H340/H341)
- Toxic for reproduction (H360/H361/H362)
- Specific target organ toxic (H370/H372/H373)
- Sensitising (H317/H334) (exceptions tolerated: enzymes, essential oils)
- Acutely toxic (H300/H310/H330/H301/H311/H331)

The final product must not be classified in one or more of the following risk categories according to EC regulation 1272/2008:

- Hazardous to environment (H400/H410/H411/H412/H413)

A general derogation of the above rule is given for products containing essential oils, which are leading to a classification as “hazardous to environment” / “sensitising”. Essential oils can be used in Ecogarantie certified products when:

- They respect the standards of the international Fragrance Association (IFRA) <http://www.ifraorg.org/en-us/standards>
- They are not otherwise classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic for reproduction, specific target organ toxic or acutely toxic (see above)
- They comply with all other requirements of the Ecogarantie Standard
- When plant-based essential oils or mixtures thereof are sold in an individual packaging as a concentrated product, the final user must have access to information on the health and environmental risk which are inherent to the use of essential oils

D.5. ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA

D.5.¹ Environmental criterion: Aerobic and anaerobic biodegradability of the organic substances

Each surfactant that is present in the product must be:

- readily biodegradable in aerobic conditions according to the legal rules
- and biodegradable in anaerobic condition according to the legal rules

D.5⁻². Nanotechnology

Because of the low knowledge of the impact of nanomaterials to the environment and the human health they are forbidden until further notice.

D.5⁻³. Microplastics

The use of microplastics is not allowed in Ecogarantie® products.

E. PACKAGING

E.1. THE PACKAGING / WATER CONTENT RATIO

The minimum requirements are those included in the Commission Decisions on establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Ecolabel (Commission Decision of 23 June.2017 for hand dishwashing detergents, for detergents for dishwashers and laundry detergents and of 28 June 2011 for all-purpose cleaners and sanitary cleaners).

For the evaluation and control, the operator will submit to his certification body a calculation of the weight of the primary packaging.

E.2. AUTHORISED KINDS OF PACKAGING

Besides the conditions stipulated under Part I § 7.2., the following criteria have to be applied:

General:

- The materials must be recyclable or compostable
- If at all possible, reusable packaging will be supplied to the consumer
- The different parts of the primary packaging must be easy to separate in parts of one and the same material

Plastic:

- The plastic must be recyclable (e.g. PE,PP,PET)

Cardboard:

- Cardboard has to contain at least 80% of recycled fibres. Exceptions must be justified.

Sprays:

- Air sprays using propellants are not authorised

For the Evaluation and control, the operator will submit a sample of the packaging, as well as a declaration stating that each section of this criterion has been met.

For cardboard, he will submit to his certification body a declaration about the percentage of recycled material contained in the packaging.

E.3. MENTION ON THE PACKAGING

Once the operator refers to the ingredients and the organic agriculture, the following rules must be applied:

a) Information about the ingredients

A complete ingredient declaration in common language or with the INCI names, depending on the legal requirements, must be mentioned on the label. The labelling of all detergent products must comply with the requirements of the EC Regulation 648/2004 for detergents.

The ingredients according to EC Regulation 648/2004 have to be listed according to following ranges:

- < 5%
- 5% to < 15%
- 15% to < 30%
- $\geq 30\%$

Further ingredients have to be listed in common language or with the INCI names

- Either in the ranges mentioned above according to EC Regulation 648/2004
- Or in a separate section headed “Further ingredients” or “Also contains”, which is located after the compulsory ranges. The further ingredients must be listed in descending order by weight percentage.

It is allowed to use – immediately next to the common chemical name or the INCI – a more comprehensive or popular name of the ingredient, preferably between brackets.

The declaration must detail the type of enzymes used (for example protease, lipase).

This obligation shall not apply to industrial or institutional detergents, for which a technical data sheet, safety data sheet or similar documentation is available.

b) Reference to the organic agriculture

Reference to organic agriculture may be made for agricultural raw materials and semi-manufactured products which conform to the following texts:

- EC Regulation 834/2007 and its modifications
- Ecogarantie® specifications, namely for the conditions regarding the physical and chemical/microbiological processes

The indications referring to organic production methods make it clear that they relate to a method of agricultural production and are accompanied by a reference to the ingredients of agricultural origin concerned unless such reference is clearly given in the list of ingredients.

c) Reference to certification body

The labelling refers to the name of the certification body to which the operator is subject.

Evaluation and control: The applicant will submit to his certification body a sample of the packaging of the product.

F. COMPANY

F.1. TRACEABILITY

The company must be able to prove that it meets the legal regulations in terms of washing products production and that it busies itself with a system such as HACCP and traceability.

Control plan

Following procedures must be set up:

- A file per product, containing all the guarantees from the suppliers (analyses and certificates as to the origin of the ingredients and of the production processes)
- A program of the risk analyses in order to supplement and verify the guarantees from the suppliers
- Guarantees concerning the production of raw materials, which may not damage the environment
- A description of the conformity procedures on end products

F.2. ENERGY CONSUMPTION

The electricity used for the production and packaging must come from renewable sources of energy (green electricity). Efforts will be made by the mother company to insure green energy in the whole channel.

F.3. CLEANING AND DISINFECTION OF THE COMPANY

The company must be cleaned with ecological products and methods.

F.4. TRANSPARENCY, COMMUNICATION, ADVERTISING AND CLAIMS

The communication, advertising and claims of the company about its whole range and any of the products should be true and will not mislead the consumers. The following rules have to be followed:

- Claiming “no animal testing” is forbidden
- The sentence “our products are only plant based” should be submitted to the inspection bodies for approval
- Claiming “100% biodegradable laundry powder” is forbidden because laundry powder contains as a rule 50-70% of minerals, which by their nature are not degradable at all

G. GLOSSARY

Animal products

Products from the animal itself and requiring the slaughtering of the animal (examples are: fat, fresh cells, ox gall, collagen ...)

Animal secretions

Products secreted by animals, such as lanoline or milk.

Detergents

Involves several product groups according to European Regulation EC 648/2004 all meant for both private and professional use.

Fossils

Products from fossilized organisms, such as lignite, pit coal or petroleum.

Ingredients

As well raw materials as semi-manufactured products.

Mineral

Inorganic salt, component of the earth's crust extracted rather than manufactured.

Organic products (coming from organic farming) or wild vegetable products:

Products meeting the EC regulation 834/2007

Raw materials

Vegetable, animal or mineral products, coming from organic, if available, agriculture or obtained by extraction, unprocessed or gained through physical processes, so that the original characteristics have been kept almost intact.

Recyclable

That still has useful physical or chemical properties after serving its original purpose and can, therefore, be reused or remanufactured into additional products. Plastic, paper, glass, used oil, tin and aluminium cans as well as household and industrial waste, after sorting out, are examples of recyclable materials.

Renewable

Can be replaced or replenished, either by spontaneous processes over a short time scale or by human action. Air, water, sun, agricultural products and forests are often considered to be examples of renewable resources. Minerals and fossil fuels are examples of non-renewable resources.

Semi-manufactured products

A product which is obtained through the manufacturing of raw materials, according to physico-chemical and/or microbiological/biotechnological processes and/or chemical synthesis that may sometimes deeply modify the original characteristics, and which is meant to be further processed into a final product.



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