



The New Zealand Ecolabelling Trust

Licence Criteria for

PAINTS

EC-07-09

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1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. BACKGROUND	4
3. INTERPRETATION	6
4. CATEGORY DEFINITION	7
5. ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA	7
5.1 Legal Requirements	7
5.2 Raw Materials	8
5.2.1 Heavy Metals	8
5.2.2 Solvents	9
5.2.3 Crystalline silica in raw materials	9
5.2.4 Other Hazardous Substances	10
5.3 Formulated Paint	11
5.3.1 Volatile Organic Compounds	11
5.3.2 Hazard Classification	13
5.4 Packaging	13
5.5 Consumer Information	14
5.6 Product Stewardship	15
5.7 Waste Management	15
5.8 Energy Management	16
6. PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS	16
7. REQUIREMENTS AND NOTES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CHOICE LICENCE HOLDERS	17

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1. INTRODUCTION

Environmental Choice New Zealand (ECNZ) is an environmental labelling programme which has been created to help businesses and consumers find products and services that ease the burden on the environment. The programme results from a New Zealand Government initiative and has been established to improve the quality of the environment by minimising the adverse and maximising the beneficial environmental impacts generated by the production, distribution, use and disposal of products, and the delivery of services. The programme is managed by the New Zealand Ecolabelling Trust (the Trust).

ECNZ operates to the ISO 14024 standard "Environmental labels and declarations - Guiding principles" and the Trust is a member of the Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN) an international network of national programmes also operating to the ISO 14024 standard.

ISO 14024 requires environmental labelling specifications to include criteria that are objective, attainable and verifiable. It requires that interested parties have an opportunity to participate and have their comments considered. It also requires that environmental criteria be set, based on an evaluation of the environmental impacts during the actual product or service life cycle, to differentiate product and services on the basis of preferable environmental performance.

The life cycle approach is used to identify and understand environmental issues (adverse or beneficial impacts) across the whole life of a product or service (within a defined product or service category). This information is evaluated to identify the most significant issues and from those to identify the issues on which it is possible to differentiate environmentally preferable products or services from others available in the New Zealand market. Criteria are then set on these significant and differentiating issues. These must be set in a form and at a level that does differentiate environmentally preferable products or services, is attainable by potential ECNZ licence applicants and is able to be measured and verified. As a result of this approach, criteria may not be included in an ECNZ specification on all aspects of the life cycle of a product or service. If stages of a product or service life cycle are found not to differentiate environmentally preferable products or services, or to have insufficient data available to allow objective benchmarking in New Zealand, those stages will not generally be included in criteria in the specification. For some issues, however, (such as energy and waste) criteria may be set to require monitoring and reporting. These criteria are designed to generate information for future reviews of specifications.

The New Zealand Ecolabelling Trust Board is pleased to publish this specification for Paints. The specification has been published to take account of substances harmful to the environment, energy management and consumption of resources.

This specification sets out the requirements that Paint products are required to meet in order to be licensed to use the Environmental Choice New Zealand Label. The requirements include environmental criteria and product characteristics. The specification also defines the testing and other means to be used to demonstrate and verify conformance with the environmental criteria and product characteristics.

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This specification has been prepared based on an overview level life cycle assessment, information from specifications for similar products from other GEN-member labelling programmes, relevant information from other Environmental Choice New Zealand specifications, information made available from current licensees and advice from independent environmental scientists.

This specification will be valid for a period of five years. Twelve months before the expiry date (or at an earlier date if required), the Trust will initiate a further review process for the specification.

2. BACKGROUND

Some 25 million litres of decorative paint is manufactured and sold each year in New Zealand¹. Almost 100% of this is manufactured in New Zealand and a majority of this by three manufacturers. Approximately 78% of this paint is water-based, pigmented paint, 12-13% is solvent-based pigmented paint, with stains and clear paint (which may be either water or solvent-based) making up the remaining 9-10%. Retail and trade sales each make up 50% of the consumer market, with the trade portion of this growing.

Paints provide protective and decorative coatings for a wide range of surfaces. The protection paints provide to many surfaces, to prevent corrosion and deterioration, can significantly prolong the useful life of structures and claddings. This generates important environmental benefits by reducing resource use demands associated with repairing and replacing those structures and claddings.

Paint products can have significant impacts on the environment throughout their lifecycle, including through the release of environmentally harmful substances:

- during manufacturing processes;
- when paints are being applied;
- from painted surfaces throughout their “life”; and
- when unused paint is disposed or paint is removed.

A range of environmentally harmful substances are used in paint products. Many of these present specific concerns for human health and the environment, for example:

- heavy metals that have human toxicity hazards as well as ecotoxic effects in the environment;
- solvents, such as hydrocarbons, aromatic hydrocarbons, halogenated solvents, ethylene glycols and glycol ethers, which can have toxicity effects on human reproduction and development and impacts on air quality (including ozone depletion or ozone formation);
- substances that are, or are probably, human carcinogens or mutagens or have other significant toxic hazards for humans or ecotoxic effects in aquatic environments; and
- volatile organic compounds can be released at concentrations indoors that can be associated with a variety of illnesses including eye, nose, and throat

¹ Responsible Resource Recover Ltd, April 2006. Product Stewardship Study Unused/Unwanted Paint and Paint Packaging in New Zealand: Final Report.

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irritation, headaches, loss of coordination, nausea, and damage to liver, kidney, and central nervous system.

Restricting and minimising the content of the environmentally harmful substances in paint products reduces the nature and level of hazard and releases of environmentally harmful substances during manufacturing, use and disposal.

Manufacturing processes, including those for raw materials used in paints can involve significant use of energy (with associated discharge of carbon dioxide contributing to global warming) and may produce significant volumes of hazardous wastes and discharges. Life cycle work completed in Europe has identified production processes for white pigments (in particular titanium dioxide) as one of the main impacts of paint products across their life cycle. Measures to reduce energy use and increase energy efficiency and to minimise the use of titanium dioxide will help to reduce impacts on the environment from production processes.

Inappropriate and ineffective management of paint products and disposal of unwanted paints has been identified as a significant environmental concern in New Zealand. The Auckland Regional Council, for example, has reported that 8% of the pollution incidents they were involved in from 2003-2005 involved spills or inappropriate disposal of paints¹. Unwanted paint has comprised over 50% of the total volume of hazardous waste received in Hazmobile hazardous waste collection days in Auckland and Wellington. Measures to encourage reuse, recycling and correct disposal of unwanted paint will help to divert waste from landfills and reduce the adverse effects at the disposal stage of the product's life cycle.

Packaging for paint products is a potentially significant use of resources. It comprises over 30% of the materials associated with post consumer paint waste (steel 25%, plastic 6%)¹. Measures to ensure packaging materials are able to be recycled and to encourage recycled content to be included in the packaging will help to reduce demand on raw materials and divert waste from landfills.

Consumer behaviour is an important aspect that can affect the environmental impacts of paint products. Selecting the correct products and applying these correctly helps to ensure efficient use of resources. Following appropriate processes to clean equipment will reduce the impacts of discharges during paint application stages of the life cycle. Correctly storing and disposing of unwanted paint will help to reduce impacts by facilitating reuse, recycling and diversion of wastes (including packaging) from landfills.

Based on a review of currently available information, this specification sets requirements that will provide an environmental benefit by:

- reducing the use and subsequent release of environmentally harmful substances to the environment at all stages of the paint product's life cycle;
- reducing impacts from energy use in production processes;
- encouraging more efficient and effective use of products by consumers; and
- encouraging recovery, reuse, recycling and responsible disposal of unwanted paint and packaging.

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3. INTERPRETATION

“**APAS**” means the Australian Paints Approval Scheme

“**Aromatic Solvent**” means any organic solvent that has a benzene ring in its molecular structure.

“**ASTM**” means American Society for Testing and Materials.

“**Component**” means an intermediate product used in the manufacture of paint.

“**ERMA**” means the New Zealand Environmental Risk Management Authority
www.ermanz.govt.nz

“**Formulated or manufactured with**” refers to the preparation of the paint and not to the preparation of the components of the paint unless the components are specifically mentioned in the product specific requirements.

“**GEN**” means the Global Ecolabelling Network.

“**Halogenated solvent**” means any volatile organic compound incorporating halogens including fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine.

“**HSNO**” means the New Zealand Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act.

“**Integral part**” means a necessary component which is intentionally included in the paint formulation.

“**Label**” means the Environmental Choice New Zealand Label.

“**Paint**” means a liquid (generally pigmented) that is designed for application in single or multiple layers and forms a continuous film after application to decorate or protect surfaces, as well as to conceal surface irregularities. It also includes varnishes and stains, where

- a) "varnish" means a liquid composition that is converted to a transparent or translucent, continuous film after application; and
- b) "stain" means a transparent, semitransparent or opaque mixture of colouring matter (dyes and/or pigments) in a vehicle designed to colour and/or protect a surface by penetration, leaving practically no surface film.

Paint does not include wood preservatives or antifouling paints.

“**Raw material**” means a material used in the manufacture of paint.

“**Recycled or Recovered Content**” includes:

Post-Consumer: Material generated by households, or by commercial, industrial and institutional facilities in their role as end-users of the product, which can no longer be used for its intended purpose. This includes returns of material from the distribution chain.

Pre-Consumer: Material diverted from the waste stream during a manufacturing process. Excluded is re-utilisation of materials such as rework, generated in a process and capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated it.

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“Volatile organic compound” (VOC) means any organic compound which has a vapour pressure more than 0.1mm Hg at 25°C. Organic compounds with a boiling point greater than 250° C, measured at a standard pressure of 101.3kPa, will not be considered to be a VOC.

Where references are made in this document to published lists, standards, or documents, the reference should be read as referring to the most recent edition of these lists, standards or documents.

4. CATEGORY DEFINITION

This category includes:

- Water-based coatings – paints which have water as the primary solvent/diluent component;
- Recycled paint – paints where the recycled or recovered content constitutes more than 20% by weight of the final product.

To be licensed to use the Label, the paint must meet all of the environmental criteria set out in clause 5 and product characteristics set out in clause 6.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA

5.1 Legal Requirements

Criteria

The product must comply with the provisions of all relevant environmental laws and regulations that are applicable during the product’s life cycle.

Verification Required

Conformance with this requirement shall be demonstrated by providing a written statement on regulatory compliance, signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. This statement shall be supported by documentation identifying the applicable regulatory requirements and demonstrating how compliance is monitored and maintained.

Explanatory Notes

Relevant laws and regulations could, for example, include those that relate to:

- producing, sourcing, transporting, handling and storing raw materials and components for manufacture;
- manufacturing processes;
- handling, transporting and disposing of waste products arising from manufacturing;
- transporting product within and between countries; and
- using and disposing of the product.

The documentation required may include, as appropriate:

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- procedures for approving and monitoring suppliers and supplies; and
- information provided to customers and contractors regarding regulatory requirements.

It is not intended to require licence holders to accept increased legal responsibility or liability for actions that are outside their control.

5.2 Raw Materials

5.2.1 Heavy Metals

Criteria

- a) The paint shall not be formulated or manufactured with:
 - mercury;
 - arsenic;
 - selenium; or
 - their compounds.

- b) The paint shall not be tinted (including at the point of sale) with pigments of:
 - lead;
 - cadmium;
 - chromium VI; or
 - antimony.

Exempted from these requirements are impurities of the elements listed above which are contained in raw materials or components in trace levels (< 0.1 %) for each element.

Verification Required

Conformance with this requirement shall be demonstrated by providing a written statement on compliance, signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. This statement shall be supported by **either**

- documentation on virgin raw materials (including Material Safety Data Sheets);
 - formulation documentation; and
 - documentation of procedures and standards for selecting pre and post-consumer recovered paints that are to be incorporated in a recycled paint that will effectively exclude paints suspected of having more than trace levels of the banned heavy metals;
- or**
- test reports from laboratories competent to carry out the relevant tests on components and/or finished products.

Testing Methods

ASTM D2348 (or equivalent) for arsenic.

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Atomic absorption spectroscopy procedures ASTMs D3717, D3718, D3335 and D3624 (or equivalents) for the other elements listed above.
If an equivalent test is used, Environmental Choice may require details of the test method and its validation.

5.2.2 Solvents

Criteria

The paint or any tinter to be added to the paint shall not be formulated or manufactured with:

- a) more than 20 % by weight of hydrocarbon solvents;
- b) aromatic hydrocarbon solvents;
- c) halogenated solvents; or
- d) ethylene glycol.

Exempt from these requirements are trace amounts (<0.1%) that may be present in raw materials or components.

Verification Required

Conformance with these requirements shall be stated in writing and signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. This statement shall be supported by formulation documentation, including MSDS for raw materials.

5.2.3 Crystalline silica in raw materials

Criteria

- (a) The licence applicant/holder must have and effectively implement a purchasing policy to minimise content of crystalline silica in raw materials. The policy must include actions to:
 - obtain and maintain information from suppliers about the levels of crystalline silica present in raw materials being used in Environmental Choice labelled paint products;
 - to preferentially source and use raw materials with lower levels of crystalline silica for Environmental Choice labelled products.
- (b) The licence holder must report annually to Environmental Choice New Zealand on the implementation of their purchasing policy on raw materials containing crystalline silica. These reports must include:
 - tabulated information recording all raw materials being used that contain crystalline silica, the level of crystalline silica in each material, the supplier of the raw material and reference to the supporting data source (MSDS or other technical information provided by the supplier);
 - records of research and correspondence with suppliers regarding sourcing and purchasing raw materials with the lower crystalline silica levels.

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Verification Required

Conformance with these requirements shall be demonstrated by providing a written statement on compliance, signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. The statement shall be supported by documentation that:

- describes or contains the purchasing policy;
- details raw materials containing crystalline silica and the level of crystalline silica present in each; and
- includes annual reports to Environmental Choice New Zealand on implementation of the purchasing policy.

5.2.4 Other Hazardous Substances

Criteria

The paint or any tinter to be added to the paint shall not be formulated or manufactured with:

- (a) substances that are classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic to reproduction/development;
- (b) more than 0.1% by weight of the formulated paint, of substances that are classified as acutely toxic or toxic/very toxic;
- (c) more than 2.5% by weight of the formulated paint, of any single substance classified as ecotoxic;
- (d) more than a total of 5% by weight of the formulated paint, of substances classified as ecotoxic;
- (e) formaldehyde or substances that have the potential to release formaldehyde during use.

The requirements in (a) do not apply to trace levels (<0.1 % by weight) of substances reported in MSDS to potentially be present as contaminants or impurities in raw materials or component substances.

The use of raw materials containing crystalline silica is exempt from the requirements in (a).

Verification Required

Conformance with these requirements shall be demonstrated by providing a written statement on compliance, signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. The statement shall be supported by documentation that:

- identifies all hazardous substances used in formulations (including CAS numbers and Material Safety Data Sheets, where available);
- identifies the classifications that apply to these substances; and
- includes sufficient formulation information to confirm the limits set in the criteria are met for each paint product.

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Compliance with these requirements may be demonstrated by providing data on classifications under hazardous substances regulations in New Zealand or on risk phrases as set out below:

New Zealand:

- a) **Carcinogenic:** HSNO Class 6.7A (Known or presumed human carcinogens)
Mutagenic: HSNO Class 6.6A (Known to induce heritable mutations or to be regarded as if they do in the germ cells of humans)
Toxic to Reproduction/Development: HSNO Class 6.8A (Known or presumed human reproductive or developmental toxicant)
- b) **Acute Toxicity:** HSNO Class 6.1A-6.1C (Oral, dermal, gases, vapours, dusts/mists)
- c)&d) **Ecotoxic:** HSNO Classes 9.1A-9.1C

EU Dangerous Substances Directive Risk phrases:

- a) **Carcinogenic:** R45 (May cause cancer) or R 49 (May cause cancer by inhalation)
Mutagenic: R46 (May cause heritable genetic damage)
Toxic for Reproduction: R60 (May impair fertility) or R61 (May cause harm to the unborn child)
- b) **Toxic or Very Toxic:** R23 (Toxic by inhalation), R24 (Toxic in contact with skin), R25 (Toxic if swallowed), R26 (Very toxic by inhalation), R27 (Very toxic in contact with skin) or R28 (Very toxic if swallowed)
- c)&d) **Ecotoxic:** R50 (Very toxic to aquatic organism), R51 (Toxic to aquatic organisms) or R53 (May cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment)

Compliance with the requirements on carcinogenic classification may also be demonstrated by evidence to confirm the substances are not on the IARC 1 or 2A lists (International Agency for Research on Cancer – www.iarc.fr).

5.3 Formulated Paint

5.3.1 Volatile Organic Compounds

Criteria

Paint products shall not exceed the following Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) levels.

Note: These limits do not include tinters added to the paint products

Paint Type	VOC (g/litre wet paint)
Low sheen (interior)	60
Low sheen (exterior)	60
Flat (interior) –washable	55

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Paint Type	VOC (g/litre wet paint)
Flat (interior) –ceiling	60
Flat (exterior)	55
Semigloss (interior)	65
Semigloss (exterior)	65
Gloss (interior)	75
Gloss (exterior)	75
Stains & varnishes	100
Sealers & Primers	
Exterior timber primer	60
Interior sealer	60
Latex primer (for galvanised iron and zinalume)	50
Undercoats	
Exterior latex	60
Interior latex	60

Verification Required

Conformance with these requirements shall be demonstrated by providing a written statement on compliance, signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. The statement shall be supported by test reports or calculations determining the VOC content as outlined below.

The VOC content of a paint or coating shall be determined by one or more of the following methods:

Calculation Method

Using raw material supplier's data that corresponds with the VOC definition, by calculation for each of the raw materials and individual ingredients in any intermediate raw materials, the total VOC content of the formula.

Constituents added in quantities less than 0.5 % (by volume) of the total volume of the batch need not be taken into account in calculating the VOC content of the paint unless they are known to be essentially volatile materials.

Note

Environmental Choice New Zealand recognises that there is market pressure to identify paints as "low VOC", "low odour", "VOC-free" or "zero VOC". The criteria for VOC levels set in this specification have been developed as part of a life-cycle approach to differentiate environmentally preferable paint and support an overall environmental "seal of approval" for the paint product. Environmental Choice New Zealand is cautious about, and does not want to encourage, approaches to labelling or marketing that may place emphasis on a single environmental issue, and potentially undermine the overall life-cycle-based approval of an environmentally preferable paint.

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The criteria in this specification include significant reductions in VOC levels from those required in the previous revision of this specification. Paints that meet the criteria in this specification for VOC levels and which are licensed by Environmental Choice New Zealand can be considered to contain low concentrations of VOC, compared with other paints available in the market.

The Environmental Choice New Zealand label on a paint product is an assurance that the paint has met the requirements of this Environmental Choice specification. It does not provide any assurance about any other claim about VOC levels in the paint. The Environmental Choice New Zealand label must not be positioned on any paint label in a manner that suggests that any specific claim about VOC levels is endorsed by Environmental Choice New Zealand. Similarly, promotional or marketing material must not suggest any such assurance or endorsement.

Environmental Choice New Zealand intends to monitor developments in this area and may re-assess the issue of VOC limits (including or not including tinters) and VOC-related claims in future reviews of the specification.

5.3.2 Hazard Classification

Criteria

The paint product must meet all requirements to be classified as non-hazardous or approved under the Surface Coatings and Colourants (Subsidiary Hazard) Group Standard 2006 issued by ERMA under HSNO (or equivalent standard in force at the time of assessment).

Verification Required

Conformance with this requirement shall be demonstrated by providing a written statement on compliance, signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. The statement shall be supported by documentation that demonstrates the paint hazard has been assessed and has been shown to be non-hazardous or within the scope of the Subsidiary Hazard Group Standard.

5.4 Packaging

Criteria

- a) Paint containers must be made of materials that are able to be recycled. Before use, packaging must not be impregnated, labelled, coated or otherwise treated in a manner that would prevent recycling.
- b) All plastic packaging containers must be marked with the appropriate plastics resin identification code promulgated by Plastics New Zealand, or be marked in accordance with ISO 11496:2000(E) "Plastics – General identification and marking of plastic products" and ISO 1043-1 "Symbols and abbreviated terms: Basic polymers and their special characteristics".

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- c) Licence holders must:
- be actively pursuing initiatives to include recycled content in packaging materials; and
 - report annually to Environmental Choice New Zealand on the recycled content of packaging used and initiatives to increase the percentage of recycled content in packaging.

Verification Required

Conformance with these requirements shall be demonstrated by providing a written statement on compliance, signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. The statement shall be supported by:

- documentation that describes the packaging used and any labelling or treatment processes used, and confirms the packaging's ability to be recycled. This may include information from The Recycling Operators of New Zealand (RONZ) demonstrating that the packaging is recyclable. (*Information about RONZ is available at www.ronz.org.nz*);
- examples (or photographs) of plastic packaging showing the resin code;
- annual reports on packaging recycled content and progress with initiatives to increase recycled content in packaging.

5.5 Consumer Information

Criteria

- a) An MSDS must be readily available to consumers for each paint product.
- b) Information on environmentally sound use of paints (including cleaning methods for equipment and empty containers) and disposal of paints and containers (including information on paint recovery/product stewardship schemes) must be readily available to all consumers. This must include summary information on paint labels.
- c) Information must be readily available to assist consumers to select the most appropriate product type for their needs and to advise consumers on appropriate surface preparation and application methods.

Verification Required

Conformance with these requirements shall be demonstrated by providing a written statement on compliance, signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. The statement shall be supported by:

- copies of MSDS for each paint product;
- copies of labels and other consumer information; and
- information on how consumer information is maintained and made available to consumers (for example on websites, point of sale and/or query "free phone" numbers).

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5.6 Product Stewardship

Criteria

- a) The licence applicant/holder and/or the manufacturer or supplier of paints must be actively participating in a product stewardship scheme that involves:
 - recovery of unwanted or unused paints from pre and post-consumer sources; and
 - re-use and/or recycling of recovered paint and paint containers.
- b) Licence holders must report annually to Environmental Choice New Zealand on the performance of the product stewardship scheme, including:
 - volume of pre-consumer and volume of post-consumer paint recovered;
 - the % of recovered paint that was re-used and the means by which it was reused;
 - the % of recovered paint that was recycled (either the paint and its pigments or by solvent recovery);
 - the % of paint disposed to landfill;
 - the percentages (by weight) of recovered paint containers that are reused, recycled or sent to landfill; and
 - initiatives taken as part of the programme to increase the volume of recovered paint and reduce the percentages of paint and containers that are unable to be re-used or recycled and that are therefore sent to landfill.

Verification Required

Conformance with these requirements shall be demonstrated by providing a written statement on compliance, signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. The statement shall be supported by documentation that:

- describes the product stewardship scheme; and
- includes annual reports on the performance of the product stewardship scheme.

5.7 Waste Management

Criteria

- a) The licence applicant/holder and/or paint manufacturer or supplier must have effective waste management policies and procedures and/or a waste management programme covering manufacturing operations.
- b) Licence holders must report annually to Environmental Choice New Zealand on waste management, including:
 - quantities and types of waste recovered for reuse internally and externally;
 - quantities and types of waste recycled internally and externally;
 - quantities and types of waste disposed of to landfill;
 - quantities and types of waste burned internally for energy recovery;

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- waste generation related to production; and
- initiatives taken to reduce waste generation and improve recovery/recycling of waste.

Verification Required

Conformance with this requirement shall be stated in writing and signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. **This statement shall be accompanied by documentation that:**

- describes the waste management policies, procedures and programmes; and
- includes annual reports to Environmental Choice New Zealand on waste generation, minimisation and management.

5.8 Energy Management

Criteria

- a) The licence applicant/holder must have effective energy management policies and procedures and/or an energy management programme.
- b) Licence holders must report annually to Environmental Choice New Zealand on energy management, including:
 - total energy use;
 - breakdown of total energy use to types of energy used;
 - energy use related to production;
 - initiatives taken to reduce energy use and improve energy efficiency; and
 - initiatives taken to calculate and reduce CO₂ emissions associated with energy use.

Verification Required

Conformance with this requirement shall be stated in writing and signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised representative of the applicant company. This statement shall be accompanied by documentation that:

- describes the energy management policies, procedures and programmes; and
- includes annual reports on energy use and management.

6. PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

Criteria

The product shall be fit for its intended use and conform, as appropriate, to relevant product performance standards.

Verification Required

Conformance with this requirement shall be demonstrated by providing a written statement of compliance, signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorised

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representative of the applicant company. This statement shall be supported by documentation:

- identifying the applicable standards, specifications and or consumer/customer requirements;
- demonstrating how compliance is monitored and maintained (including quality control and assurance procedures);
- records of customer feedback and complaints.

Note:

Published international and national standards are available from the following:

- Standards New Zealand www.standards.co.nz
- Standards Association of Australia www.standards.com.au
- Australian Paint Approvals Scheme (APAS) www.apas.govt.au

7. REQUIREMENTS AND NOTES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CHOICE LICENCE HOLDERS

Monitoring Compliance

Prior to granting a licence, Environmental Choice will prepare a supervision plan for monitoring ongoing compliance with these requirements. This plan will reflect the number and type of products covered by the licence and the level of sampling appropriate to provide confidence in ongoing compliance with criteria. This plan will be discussed with the licence applicant and when agreed will be a condition of the licence.

As part of the plan, Environmental Choice will require access to relevant quality control and production records and the right of access to production facilities. Relevant records may include formal quality management or environmental management system documentation (for example, ISO 9000 or ISO 14001 or similar).

Licence holders are required to advise Environmental Choice immediately of any noncompliance with any requirements of this specification which may occur during the term of the licence. If a non-compliance occurs, the licence may be suspended or terminated as stipulated in the Licence Conditions. The licensee may appeal any such suspension.

Environmental Choice New Zealand will maintain the confidentiality of identified confidential information provided and accessed during verification and monitoring of licences.

Using the Environmental Choice Label

The Label may appear on the wholesale and retail packaging for the product, provided that the product meets the requirements in this specification and in the Licence Conditions.

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Wherever it appears, the Label must be accompanied by the words “Paint” and by the Licence Number eg ‘licence No1234’.

The Label must be reproduced in accordance with the Environmental Choice programmes keyline art for reproduction of the Label and the Licence Conditions.

Any advertising must conform to the relevant requirements in this specification, in the Licence Conditions and in the keyline art.

Failure to meet these requirements for using the Environmental Choice Label and advertising could result in the Licence being withdrawn.

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