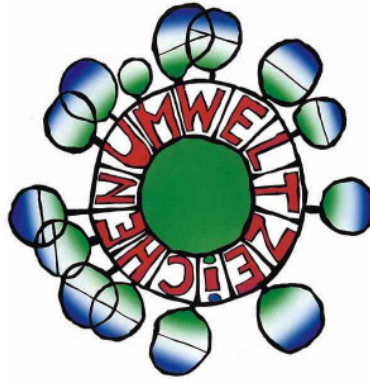


UZ 07



1. Juli 2007

## **Summary of Criteria Document for Awarding the Austrian Ecolabel**

### **Wood and Wooden material**

Many conventional products made of wood or wooden materials contain a number of substances which are pollutants and health hazards. This is particularly critical in the case of products found in the home. They constitute a potential source of pollutant emissions which, when combined with limited ventilation, can become a considerable air-pollution factor. Outdoor applications of products made of wood or wooden materials may endanger the environment because of timber preservation. During use the regarding chemicals are washed out and contaminate the soil. After use the waste disposal causes problems.

This guideline covers wood and wooden material with surfaces in raw or decorative finished condition. Wooden beams used for supporting constructions are not included.

The types of timber must be in accordance with the provisions of international species protection agreements. Timber for particleboards and fibreboards must originate from forest care, wood off-cuts, wood residues and recycled wood. In addition any solid wood should originate from sustainably managed forests.

Strict criteria are set for the use of chemicals, which are hazardous to health or the environment. Preparations which require labelling (e.g. as "toxic", "may cause cancer", "may impair fertility") are excluded to the greatest possible extent.

This also applies to paints and other surface treatment agents, and these may only contain a maximum of 10% organic solvents and must comply with other justification criteria regarding constituent materials which are hazardous to the environment or health.

Finished board products must comply with the following emission limit values:

Adhesive type	Substance	Limit value (proportion by weight)	
Containing formaldehyde	Formaldehyde	0.05 ppm mean concentration in the test chamber <i>or</i> 2.0 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /h <sup>2</sup> )	
Containing phenol	Phenols	14 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Based on polymer MDI	Monomer MDI	Not detectable	
<b>VOC Emission of the finished boards</b>	<b>Substance</b>	<b>Limit Value</b>	
		Two-dimensional board	Products with three-dimensional surface area
	VOC (boiling point 50 - 250 °C)	≤ 300 µg m-2h-1	≤ 600 µg m-2h-1
	VOC (boiling point > 250 °C)	≤ 100 µg m-2h-1	
	Cancerogenic substances	< 1 µg m-2h-1	

The principle applied to products awarded the Austrian eco-label is to minimize pollutant and noise emissions during all production stages. The required submission of a waste management concept as part of an input-output projection of the facility represents a suitable means of weak point analysis. In addition, evidence must be provided of material or thermal recycling of residues.

Producers have to submit a waste management concept or be certified with an environmental management scheme. These instruments represent suitable means of ecological weak point analysis.

The fitness for use of the products must comply with product-specific standards currently applicable in Austria. Information concerning any coatings, paints or other surface treatments agents used must be clearly indicated on the packaging or in a product information sheet.

Further information and certified products:

[www.umweltzeichen.at](http://www.umweltzeichen.at)

For further information please contact one of the following organisations:

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