

The EU Ecolabel for Furniture products
"The official European label for Greener Products"

Choose the EU Ecolabel for your Furniture products to show your commitment to a better environment.

# Once it's on your products, the EU Ecolabel guarantees

- That any virgin wood, cork, bamboo and rattan is from legal sustainably managed forests;
- That the use of hazardous substances is restricted;
- That harmful residues in any upholstery are limited
- That the product has low formaldehyde emissions

EU Ecolabel furniture comprises free-standing or built-in units whose primary function is to be used for the storage, placement or hanging of items and/ or to provide surfaces where users can rest, sit, eat, study or work, whether for indoor or outdoor use. The scope extends to domestic furniture and contract furniture items for use in domestic or nondomestic environments. Bed frames, legs, bases and headboards are included in the scope.

### Meet your customers' demand

Today, consumers are more aware that protecting the environment is of fundamental importance. Four out of five European consumers would like to buy more environmentally friendly products, provided that they are properly

certified by an independent organisation.

With your products bearing the EU Ecolabel, you offer consumers a reliable logo to easily identify environmentally friendly products available on the European market.

## Give your furniture products a credible sign of environmental excellence... apply for the EU Ecolabel!

For a quick test, use the check list on the back!

#### For more information...

... on the scheme, its features, the actors involved, the application process: <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel</a>

... on the detailed criteria for the furniture product group: <u>http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/products-groups-and-criteria.html</u>



## **Checklist (for a first assessment only) in terms of requirements**

332/FII) for full details

This is a non-exhaustive list of EU Ecolabel criteria for furniture products. Please see the Commission Decision (2016/1332/EU) for full details.			
Life cycle step	Criterion		Expectations
Manufacturing	cription	•	<b>Technical drawings</b> that illustrate the assembly of component parts/ materials and sub-component parts/materials that form the final furniture product and its dimensions shall be provided to the competent body along with a bill of materials for the product that shall state the total weight of the product itself and how this is split between the following different materials: solid wood, wood-based panels, cork, bamboo, rattan, plastics, metals, leather, coated fabrics, textiles, glass and padding/filling materials. Any remaining materials that do not fall within the categories above shall be listed as 'other' materials. The total quantity of 'other' materials shall not exceed 5 % of the total product weight.
Manufacturing	Hazardous substances and mixtures	•	<b>Restriction of SVHCs</b> The final furniture product and all the component parts and materials thereof shall not contain any Candidate List SVHC at concentrations greater than 0,10 % (weight by weight).
		•	<b>Restriction of</b> <u>hazardous substances and mixtures used by the manufacturer</u> : The furniture manufacturer shall not use any adhesives, varnishes, paints, primers, wood stains, biocidal products, flame retardants, fillers, waxes, oils, joint fillers, sealants, dyestuff, resins or lubricating oils that are classified with defined hazard codes as CMR, toxic or hazardous to the environment unless their use is derogated under specific conditions. (see <u>criteria document</u> )
		•	<b>Restriction of certain hazardous substances and mixtures used by suppliers</b> : any supplied parts greater than 25g in weight will not be manufactured with certain hazardous substances or mixtures that are classified as CMR, toxic or hazardous to the environment unless their use is derogated under specific conditions. The scope of applicable substances and mixtures that need to comply is limited based on the nature of the supplied component part/material (i.e. plastic, tex-tile, metal etc.). See <u>criteria document</u> for more details.
Manufacturing	Wood, cork, bamboo and rattan	•	<b>Sustainable wood, cork, bamboo and rattan</b> : If the content of wood or wood-based panels exceeds 5 % w/w of the final product weight (excluding packaging),all wood, cork, bamboo and rattan shall be covered by valid chain of custody certificates issued by an independent third party certification scheme such as FSC, PEFC or equivalent and at least 70% of the material shall be sourced from sustainably managed forests and/or recycled material (see <u>criteria document</u> for related requirements).
		•	<b>VOC content in paints, primers and varnishes</b> : If coated wood or wood-based component parts account for more than 5% of the furniture product weight (excluding packaging) then one of the following conditions must be complied with: (i) that the in-can concentration of VOCs is less than 5%, (ii) that the total quantity of VOCs applied is less than 30g/m2 of coated surface area, (iii) that the total quantity of VOCs applied is between 30 and 60g/m2 and the coating meets defined minimum durability criteria set out in Table 4 of the <u>criteria document</u> or (iv) that the VOC emissions from the final coated component or entire furniture product meet defined VOC emission criteria.
Manufacturing	Plastic	•	PVC free: PVC shall not be used in any part of the furniture product.
		•	<b>Plastic marking:</b> Plastic parts greater than 100g in weight shall be marked in accordance with EN ISO 11469 and EN ISO 1043 (parts 1-4). The lettering used in markings shall be at least 2,5 mm high and apply to the polymer used as well as any fillers, flame retardants and plasticisers that account for more than 1% of the plastic product.
		•	<b>Heavy metals in plastic additives:</b> plastic parts and any surface layers shall not be manufactured using additives that contain the following heavy metals: cadmium, chromium VI, lead, mercury or tin.
		•	<b>Recycled plastic content:</b> If the total content of plastic in the furniture product (excluding packaging) exceeds 20%, then the average recycled content of all plastic parts combined must be at least 30% (on a weight by weight basis).
Manufacturing	Metals	•	<b>Electroplating restrictions:</b> Chromium VI or cadmium shall not be used for electroplating operations of any metal component parts used in the final furniture product. Nickel shall only be permitted in electroplating operations if the nickel release rate from the electroplated component part is less than 0,5 µg/cm <sup>2</sup> /week according to EN 1811 (see <u>criteria document</u> ).
		•	<b>Heavy metals in paints, primers and varnishes</b> : Paints, primers or varnishes used on metal component parts shall not contain additives based on cadmium, lead, chromium VI, mercury, arsenic or selenium, at concentrations exceeding 0,010 % w/w for each individual metal in the in-can paint, primer or varnish formulation.
		•	<b>VOC content in paints, primers and varnishes</b> : If coated metal component parts account for more than 5% of the furniture product weight (excluding packaging) then one of the following conditions must be complied with: (i) that the in-can concentration of VOCs is less than 5%, (ii) that the total quantity of VOCs applied is less than 30g/m2 of coated surface area, (iii) that the total quantity of VOCs applied is between 30 and 60g/m2 and the coating meets defined minimum durability criteria set out in Table 7 of the <u>criteria document</u> or (iv) that the VOC emissions from the final coated component or entire furniture product meet defined VOC emission criteria.
Manufacturing	Upholstery Covering Mate- rials	•	<b>Upholstery covering materials:</b> Shall not be manufactured from PVC. Requirements are set for minimum physical quality, maximum residues of harmful substances and restrictions on substances used in the production process of any textiles, leather or coated fabric upholstery materials in the <u>criteria document</u> . For cotton, minimum organic (10%) or IPM (20%) contents are set for virgin cotton fibres.
Manufacturing	Upholstery padding mate-	•	<b>VOC emissions</b> : Maximum limits for VOC emissions from latex foams (24h) and polyurethane (PUR) foams (72h) under are set out in the criteria document.
	rials	•	<b>Restricted substances and mixtures</b> in latex and PUR foams: Maximum residual concentrations of certain plasticis- ers, pesticides, heavy metals and other defined hazardous substances are listed in the <u>criteria document</u> .
		•	<b>Blowing agents</b> : Halogenated organic compounds shall not be used as blowing agents or as auxiliary blowing agents.
Manufacturing	Use of glass	•	No leaded glass is permitted in EU Ecolabel furniture. Maximum limits for impurities of lead, mercury or cadmium are set at 100 mg/kg per metal. For mirror glass, any paints, primers or varnishes used on the mirror backing shall have a lead content less than 2000 mg/kg of the in-can substance and not be applied using the 'copper process'.
Manufacturing	Design for disassembly	•	For furniture consisting of multiple component parts/materials, the <b>product shall be designed for ease of disassembly</b> for repair, reuse and recycling. Simple instructions regarding the disassembly and replacement of damaged component parts/ materials shall be provided; these operations shall be capable of being carried out using common and basic manual tools and unskilled labour.
Manufacturing	VOC emission	•	Any furniture with (i) leather upholstery, (ii) coated fabric upholstery or (iii) more than 5% by weight of components coated with high VOC content coatings and/or VOC application rates are not shown to be below 30g/m2 coated area shall be subject to VOC emission testing of either the entire furniture product or the leather upholstery, coated fabric upholstery or coated component parts only. Maximum VOC emission values are set in the <u>criteria document</u> .
Use	Product requi- rement	•	Extended product guarantee: At no additional cost, a minimum of a five year guarantee shall be provided, effec- tive from the date of delivery of the product and without prejudice to the legal obligations of the manufacturer and seller under national law.
		•	<b>Provision of spare parts:</b> The furniture manufacturer shall make spare parts available to customers for a period of at least 5 years from the date of delivery of the product at a cost (if any) that is proportional to the total cost of the furniture product.
Use	Consumer information	•	A single consumer information document shall be provided with the product which includes information in the language of the country where the product is placed on the market (see <u>criteria document</u> for details of information to be included)