

The European Ecolabel



What is the EU ECOLABEL?

The **Ecolabel** is an environmental labeling established in 1992 and managed by the European Commission (EU). The **Ecolabel** is backed by all EU Governments. It is delivered in France by the **AFNOR Certification** and is a voluntary endeavor for companies wishing to be part of the program.

This certification relies on a global analysis of the products. It is based on environmental and performance criteria as long as transparency of information for the consumers. These standards ensure the reliability of the products and limit their environmental impact throughout their life-cycle. Packaging is also taken into account.

These standards are revised and updated every 3 to 5 years to keep up with new technologies.

Goals:

- Promoting environmentally-friendly products,
- Providing consumers with better information.

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The EU ECOLABEL: how does it work?

Application for certification: The manufacturer contacts the competent national authority where the product is manufactured.

Application review process: The competent national authority reviews the application based on information and test results (conducted by an independent laboratory) provided by the applicant and determines if the product is in compliance with the Ecolabel criteria and standards.

Granting of the Ecolabel: The competent agency establishes a contract with the applicant defining the terms of use of the label.

Audits are conducted every 2 years to ensure the manufacturer is in compliance with the **ECOLABEL** standards.

All **Ecolabel** products can be easily spotted as they carry the daisy flower logo:



THE EU ECOLABEL: Environmental and employment suitability criteria

Some examples of the Ecolabel standards:

Environmental criteria	Employment suitability criteria	Information criteria
Limited amount of white pigments	Minimum yields	Recommended uses
Limited amount of volatile organic compounds	Wet friction resistance	Cleaning recommendations
No use of heavy metals	Water resistance	Storage recommendations
List of prohibited substances	Adhesion	
Limited amount of preservatives	Abrasion	
	Aging	