Nordic Ecolabelling of

Sanitary Products



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Draft for consultation

Nordic Ecolabelling

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This document is a translation of an original in danish. In case of dispute, the original document should be taken as authoritative.

Addresses

In 1989, the Nordic Council of Ministers decided to introduce a voluntary official ecolabel, the Nordic Ecolabel. These organisations/companies operate the Nordic ecolabelling system on behalf of their own country's government. For more information, see the websites:

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What is a Nordic Ecolabelled Sanitary Product?

Nordic Ecolabelling aims to stimulate products composed out of the very best materials regarding energy consumption, chemicals and emissions without influencing the weight or the function of the final product. Sanitary products are evaluated in a life cycle perspective and the requirements of the Swan criteria generation 6.0:

- Meets strict environmental requirements on the materials in the product
- Promotes good health through strict chemical requirements
- Promotes materials from renewable raw materials in the product and packaging

Why choose the Nordic Ecolabel?

- Manufacturers and retailers may use the Nordic Ecolabel trademark, the Swan, for marketing. The Nordic Ecolabel is a very well-known and well-reputed trademark in the Nordic region.
- The Nordic Ecolabel is a cost-effective and simple way of communicating environmental work and commitment to customers and suppliers.
- Reducing environmental impact often creates scope for lowering costs, such as by cutting the consumption of energy and reducing amounts of packaging and waste.
- Environmentally suitable operations prepare manufacturers for future environmental legislation.
- Environmental issues are complex. It can take a long time and extensive resources to gain an understanding of a specific area. Nordic Ecolabelling can be seen as aid in this work.
- The Nordic Ecolabel not only covers environmental issues but also quality requirements, since the environment and quality often go hand in hand. This means that a Nordic Ecolabel licence can also be seen as a mark of quality.

What can carry the Nordic Ecolabel?

The product group “Sanitary products” covers disposable products with an absorbent and/or protective/removing function for bodily fluids and faecal matter. The function of the products may furthermore be to facilitate bodily cleansing of such fluids or to facilitate the removal of products applied intentionally to the body, such as cosmetics.

Products included are: breast pads, children’s diapers, incontinence care products, (panty-liners, formed diapers and diapers with tape strips), sanitary towels (pads and panty-liners), tampons, cotton buds, cotton pads, cotton wool, sauna underlays, bibs, plasters, compresses, mattress covers/protectors, draw sheets, bed linen, wash cloths, surgical gowns, patient gowns/patient covers, surgical masks and caps.

Relevant disposable products in addition to those specified above may be included in the product group upon request if they are viewed as sanitary products. This applies only to products made of materials for which requirements are imposed in the criteria. Nordic Ecolabelling will determine which new products may be included in the product group.

Serviettes, wet wipes, dry wipes, paper towels or wash cloths made of paper, multiple use wash cloths, mesh pants, disposable gloves and toothpicks are not eligible for a Nordic Ecolabel under these criteria for sanitary products. Many of these products can, however, be labelled under other criteria for the Nordic Ecolabel or the EU Ecolabel.

Products with added cosmetics, medication/medicines, disinfecting substances and similar cannot be ecolabelled in this product group.

Products that can be ecolabelled according to the criteria for tissue paper or cosmetic products (i.e. products that comply with the product group definitions in these criteria documents) cannot be ecolabelled according to the criteria for sanitary products.

Other, similar, products that have a function other than absorbing and/or protecting against bodily fluids/faecal matter or cleansing of cosmetic products, for example, cannot be ecolabelled under the criteria for sanitary products. Please contact Nordic Ecolabelling for more information.

How to apply

Producers, importers, wholesalers and retailers may apply for a licence.

Application

Applications are made to the ecolabelling organisation in the applicant's own country or in the country where the product is marketed and the application is valid for 12 months. Applications may be processed by another ecolabelling organisation according to agreement between the organisations. The applicant is notified of this. Companies located outside the Nordic countries make applications to the national ecolabelling organisation of the primary market.

The application must consist of a completed application form together with all of the documentation required to demonstrate compliance with the requirements specified in the criteria document (this is specified for each requirement). The application form must specify in which Nordic countries the products in question are to be sold and the estimated turnover from the products in each country.

All information submitted to Nordic Ecolabelling is treated confidentially. Suppliers can send documentation directly to Nordic Ecolabelling, and this will also be treated confidentially.

Costs

An application fee is charged to companies applying for a licence. There is an additional annual fee based on the turnover of the Nordic Ecolabelled sanitary product.

Sales in the Nordic region

Once granted, a licence is valid throughout the Nordic region. The licence document specifies in which Nordic countries the products are sold according to the information provided on the application. The products are published on Nordic Ecolabelling's website(s). The licensee undertakes to inform Nordic Ecolabelling of any changes as to where the product is sold. If the product is to be sold in other Nordic countries than those initially specified in the application, the licensee must provide written notification of this and submit any extra documentation required to Nordic Ecolabelling in the country that issued the licence.

What is required?

Each requirement is marked with the letter O (obligatory requirement) and a number. All requirements must be fulfilled to be awarded a licence.

The text describes how the applicant shall demonstrate fulfilment of each requirement. There are also icons in the text to make this clearer. These icons are:

✉ Enclose

🔑 The requirement checked on site.

Licence validity

The ecolabel licence is valid providing the criteria are fulfilled and until the criteria expire. The validity period of the criteria may be extended or adjusted, in which case the licence is automatically extended and the licensee informed.

Revised criteria shall be published at least one year prior to the expiry of the present criteria. The licensee is then offered the opportunity to renew their licence.

On-site inspection

In connection with handling of the application, Nordic Ecolabelling normally performs an on-site inspection to ensure adherence to the requirements. For such an inspection, data used for calculations, original copies of submitted certificates, test records, purchase statistics, and similar documents that support the application must be available for examination.

Further information

Please contact Nordic Ecolabelling if you have any queries or require further information. See page 2 for addresses. Further information and assistance (such as calculation sheets or electronic application help) may be available. Visit the relevant national website for further information.

1 The requirements in general

1.1 About the requirements and necessary definitions

There are detailed requirements for the production of the constituent materials and the chemical substances used within the sanitary product, additional components as well as for the primary packaging. The requirements are based upon both health and environmental perspectives.

Definitions

The explanation of the criteria layout, requires some basic definitions:

- Sanitary product: refers to the product used, i.e. excluding additional components, information sheets and primary packaging. S = the weight of the materials in the sanitary product.
- Additional component: mean components belonging to the hygiene product that are removed before use of the product. Examples include release paper, a plastic film around a tampon or a sanitary towel or an applicator for tampons. A = the weight of the materials in the additional components.
- Primary packaging: means the packaging around the sanitary products and additional components as sold in retail outlets or directly to the customer. Primary packaging does not include transport packaging. P = the weight of the materials in the primary packaging.
- Material: For example material types like: fluff pulp, PP, PE, PET, SAP, paper, viscose and cotton. A material type can be used in more than one component.
- Component: Is made out of one or several materials and chemical products that together fulfil a desirable function. For example: a layer of non-woven, an outer barrier film or an absorbent core of fluff pulp and super absorbents.

Chapter "Definitions and Abbreviations" contains an extended list of terms, definitions and abbreviations.

Structure of the requirements

The requirements and nominal limits are based upon the percentage of the weight (weight %) of the individual materials. Many of the material requirements are divided into different levels of stringency and come into force when specific limits of weight % are exceeded. The weight % of a specific material is calculated as the total weight of the material type (in the sanitary products and in the additional components) divided by the weight of the sanitary product and additional components in a pack (excluding the weight of information sheets and primary packaging). The weight of the sanitary product and additional components are, in the criteria, hereafter referred to as (S+A). Please note that a material can be found in several components within the sanitary product, additional components and in the primary packaging. E.g. the amount of fluff pulp or the amount of polyethylene (PE) from all multiple suppliers in the sanitary products and the additional components shall be summed up.

The requirements are set in correlation to the material types. But if a material type is used in different forms/types that require different production processes as in

fibres, films or foams, these shall be summed up individually. The requirements for the primary packaging are given in O36 and O38.

The table below provides a guiding overview of which requirements the different material types will have to fulfil.

Table 1: Guiding overview of the requirements.

Req. no.	Requirement domain	Material	Comments	Who will document?
O1		Description of the product		The manufacturer of the sanitary product
O2		Material composition		The manufacturer of the sanitary product
O3 - O5	Chemicals	General chemical requirements	Requirements to classified chemical products, CMR-substances and other excludes substances	The producer of the chemical product
O6		Silicone	Applies to silicone added to other materials or silicone for coating	The producer of the product for silicone treatment
O7		Adhesives/ Binders		The producer of the adhesive/Binder
O8		Fragrances and skin care preparations	Prohibited	The manufacturer of the sanitary product
O9		Odour control substances	Odour control substances are permitted only in incontinence care products, and must fulfil O3 - O5	The manufacturer of the sanitary product and the chemical products
O10		Medicaments and antibacterial agents	Prohibited with exemption of lactic acid bacteria	The manufacturer of the sanitary product
O11 - O12		Dying	Applies to dying and printing on the sanitary product	Manufacturer/Supplier of the dyes and inks
O13	Materials	Fluff/cellulose pulp/airlaid	Mandatory requirement	The pulp/airlaid manufacturer
O14			Additional requirement when 10.0 % by weight or more	The pulp/air-laid manufacturer
O15		Paper	Applies for tissue, printing and silicone paper, carton, cardboard and other paper. Mandatory.	The paper manufacturer
O16			Additional requirement when 10.0 % by weight or more	The paper manufacturer
O17		Wood material	Mandatory	The supplier of the wood material
O18		Cotton	Mandatory, bleaching with Cl_2 prohibited	The supplier of the cotton
O19 - O20			Additional requirement when 10.0 % by weight or more	The supplier of the cotton
O21		Viscose	Mandatory, bleaching with Cl_2 prohibited and AOX limitation	The manufacturer of viscose
O22			Additional requirement when 5.0 % by weight or more	Additional requirement when 10 % by weight or more
O23		Plastic/ polymer	PVC (halogenated polymers) prohibited in product and packaging	The manufacturer of the sanitary/plastic product

Req. no.	Requirement domain	Material	Comments	Who will document?
O24			Part A: Requirements to chemical substances in PE, PP, PS, PET, PA, PUR (included elastan) Part B: when 20.0 % by weight or more requirements for added chemicals	The manufacturer of the plastic product or test by the producer of the component
O25			When 5.0 % by weight or more elastan/PUR: Production requirements	The manufacturer of the plastic/polymer product
O26			When 5.0 % by weight or more PA: Production requirements	The manufacturer of the plastic/polymer product
O27			When 5.0 % by weight or more for fossil based polymers: Energy requirements for polymerisation of PE, PP, PS, PA, PET, PUR	The polymer producer
O28			When 5.0 % by weight or more for bio-based polymers: Energy requirements for production	The polymer producer
O29			When 20.0 % by weight or more for renewable raw materials polymers: Requirements to origin and certification	The polymer producer
O30			Mandatory requirement for recycled plastic	The producer of the recycled plastic
O31		SAP	Mandatory requirement	The producer of the SAP
O32			Additional requirement when 5.0 % by weight or more	The producer of the SAP
O33			Additional requirement when 20.0 % by weight or more: Requirements to origin and certification	The producer of the SAP
O34 - O35		Non-woven	Refers to the relevant material and chemical requirements	See relevant requirement
O36	Material composition	Share of recycled and renewable materials	Applies to product and primary package	The manufacturer of the sanitary product
O37		Other components	Like cotton shafts material, tape, elastic/rubber band etc. Refers to relevant requirements	See relevant requirement
O36 og O38		Packaging	Refers to relevant requirements	The manufacturer of the sanitary product, see also relevant requirement
No require-ments		Other materials	May each make up a maximum of 2.0 % by weight of but not exceed 5.0 % by weight. For example latex, rubber, silicone and silk	Se O2
O39	Products	Function		The manufacturer of the sanitary product
O40		Tampons		The manufacturer of the sanitary product
O41		Information on packaging	Applies to size designations and that relevant products must not be discarded in the toilet	The manufacturer of the sanitary product
O42 - O49	Quality and regulatory requirements		Mandatory	The manufacturer of the sanitary product

1.2 Description of the product

O1 Description of the product

The applicant must provide a description of the product with a technical description of the manufacture as well as information about packet sizes. The following information on all components of the sanitary product, any additional components, product information sheets and primary packaging must be provided:

- Function (as outer foil around each product, information sheet, primary packaging etc.)
- Weight
- Constituent materials
- Chemical products that are added the sanitary product (with safety data sheets or equivalent)
- Supplier/producer (with the components or the production processes they perform, business name, country of production and contact person)

The production chain with suppliers back to the material manufacturers (to the stage where there requirements are) for the sanitary product and additional components must be illustrated by i.e. a flowchart.

✉ Description in accordance with the requirement.

O2 Material composition

Composition

The specific material types in the sanitary product and additional components must be stated in terms of percentage by weight of (S+A). Also the specific material types in the primary packaging must be stated in terms of percentage by weight of (S+A).

The same material type included in more than one component shall be summed up.

Nominal limit

Specific material types present in quantities of maximum 1.0 % by weight of (S+A) is exempted from the material requirements, even if there is a requirement for the particular material type in the document.

Materials for which no requirements are imposed in the document, and which are not explicitly prohibited, may each make up a maximum of 2.0 % by weight of (S+A), but not exceed 5,0 % by weight totally.

All chemicals added during the manufacturing of sanitary product must meet the chemical requirements in Chapter 2.1.

Ecolabelled materials

Constituent materials/components with Nordic Ecolabel or EU Ecolabel added in the sanitary product and additional components are exempted from further material requirements.

Recycled materials

Recycled materials may not be used in the sanitary product, with exception of plastic materials recycled in a closed loop system and meeting requirements for recycled plastics materials and articles intended to come into contact with foods. For more information, see requirement O30. Recycled materials can be used in additional components, information sheets and primary packaging.

✉ Description in accordance with the requirement. See Appendix 1 for template. Form 15 for non-woven materials may also be used. For materials/components marked with Nordic Ecolabel or EU Ecolabel are includes shall licence number/standard contract number be included.

2 Environmental requirements

2.1 Requirements for chemical products and chemical substances

The chemical requirements are split into three sections: general chemical requirements, other chemical requirements and requirements regarding dyes and printing inks.

The general chemical requirements O3, O4 and O5 apply for all chemical products added during the manufacture/composition of the sanitary products and additional components (i.e. adhesives). These requirements are also to be consulted for chemical products and additives used by suppliers for examples in or on different components and materials like cotton, cellulose pulp, and polymer/plastic materials. For more information, see the individual material requirements.

No requirements are imposed on chemicals used for maintenance of machines or in the production processes (such as lubricants, cleaning chemicals etc.) without being added to the materials, unless otherwise stated.

O3 Chemical products, classification

Chemical products used in the production/composition of sanitary products and additional components or added materials where it later in the document is referred to this requirement, must not be subject to a classification requirement specified in Table 2

Table 2: Classification of chemical products

Classification under CLP Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008*	
Toxic to aquatic organisms Aquatic Acute 1 Aquatic chronic 1-4	 H400 H410, H411, H412, H413
Acute toxicity Acute Tox 1, 2 Acute Tox 3 Acute Tox 4	 H330, H310, H300 H331, H301, H311 H332, H312, H302
Specific target organ toxicity STOT SE 1 STOT SE 2 STOT RE 1 STOT RE 2	 H370 H371 H372 H373
Aspiration hazard Asp. Tox 1	 H304
Causes serious eye damage or eye irritation Eye Dam. 1	 H318
Allergenic Resp. sens 1 or Skin sens 1	 H334 H317

Carcinogenic Carc 1A/1B Carc. 2	 H350 H351
Mutagenic Muta. 1A/B Muta. 2	 H340 H341
Toxic for reproduction Repr 1A/1B Repr 2	 H360, H361 H362

**Classification in line with the Regulation on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (Regulation (EC) no 1272/2008).*

The producers of the chemical products are responsible for the classification.

✉ Product data sheets for all chemical products in accordance with current European legislation.

Duly completed and signed Appendix 1, form 2, Declaration of chemical products. To be completed by the producer of the chemical product.

O4 Chemical substances, CMR

The chemical products must not contain substances that are or may degrade into substances that are classified as carcinogenic (Carc), mutagenic (Mut) and/or toxic for reproduction (Rep) according to CLP Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 (see Table 3).

This requirement applies to chemical products used in production/composition of sanitary products and additional components, or added to material, where reference is made to this requirement (O4) later in the document.

Table 3: Classification of CMR substances

Classification in line with CLP Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008	
Hazard class and category	**H phrases (Code)**
Carcinogenic Carc. 1A/1B Carc. 2	 H350 H351
Mutagenic Muta. 1A/B Muta. 2	 H340 H341
Toxic for reproduction Repr. 1A/1B Repr. 2	 H360 H361

✉ Duly completed and signed Appendix 1, form 2, Declaration of chemical products. To be completed by the producer of the chemical product.

O5 Other excluded substances

Chemical products used in the production/composition of sanitary products and additional components or added to material, where reference is made to this requirement later in the document, must not contain substances from the list below.

- Substances on the Candidate List*
- Substances that have been judged in the EU to be PBT (Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic) or vPvB (very Persistent and very Bioaccumulative)**

- Substances considered to be potential endocrine disruptors in category 1 or 2 on the EU's priority list of substances that are to be investigated further for endocrine disruptive effects[***]

In addition, the following individual substances and substance groups are prohibited or restricted. There may be overlap between the substances listed below and substances categorized over.

- Organotin compounds
- Phthalates
- APEO – alkylphenol ethoxylates and alkylphenol derivatives (substances that release alkylphenols on degradation)
- Halogenated organic compounds. Preservatives are exempt, and so are colourants that meet the EU's requirements concerning colourants in food packaging under point 2.5 of Resolution AP (89)
- Preservatives that are not bioaccumulative in accordance with Appendix 2 (BCF < 500 / logKow < 4). The mixture CMIT + MIT (3: 1) may be present in quantities no more than 15 ppm. CMIT is 5-chloro-2-methyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one (CAS no. 26172-55-4) and MIT is 2-methyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one (CAS no. 2682-20 -4)
- Antibacterial agents (e.g. nanosilver and triclosan)[****]
- Flame retardants
- Additives based on lead, cadmium, chromium VI and mercury, or their compounds

[*]*The Candidate List can be found on the ECHA website: http://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table*

[**]*PBT and vPvB in accordance with the criteria in Annex XIII of REACH*

[***]*Substances considered to be potential endocrine disruptors in category 1 or 2, see following link: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/endocrine/strategy/being_en.htm*

[****]*An antibacterial agent is a chemical that inhibits or stops growth of microorganisms such as bacteria, fungi or protozoa (single-celled organisms)*

✉ Duly completed and signed Appendix 1, form 2, Declaration of chemical products. To be completed by the producer of the chemical product.

O6 Silicone

The following requirements must be fulfilled in the event of silicone treatment of the whole or parts of the sanitary product:

- Solvent-based silicone coatings must not be used.
- Octamethyl-cyclotetrasiloxane, D4, (CAS 556-67-2) and decamethyl cyclopentasiloxane, D5, (CAS 541-02-6) must not form part of the product. The requirement does not apply to D4 and D5 contained as impurities[*].
- Organotin catalysts must not be used in the production of the silicone polymer.
- The silicone emulsion (emulsion's coating bath) must fulfil the chemical requirements O3-O5.

[*]*Impurities of D4 and D5are defined as residual products from the raw material production that can be found in the finished product in concentrations below 800 ppm (0.08% by weight, 800 mg/kg),*

Substances added to a raw material or product deliberately and with a purpose, regardless of amount are not considered impurities, irrespective of quantity. Finished product means the silicone emulsion's coating bath.

Nordic Ecolabelled grease-proof paper meets the requirement.

✉ Duly completed and signed Appendix 1, form 3, Silicones for coating and form 2. To be completed by the producers of the silicone products. If the paper is Nordic Ecolabelled, the certification number must be submitted.

O7 Adhesives/Binders

Adhesives/binders must not have added phthalates or rosin.

Formaldehyde generated during the production process may amount to no more than 250 ppm (0.025 %) measured in newly produced polymer dispersion.

The content of free formaldehyde in hardened adhesive must not exceed 10 ppm (0.001 %).

The adhesive/binder must fulfil the general chemical requirements O3-O5.

Hotmelt adhesives are exempted from the requirement to document formaldehyde.

Information on sampling, methods of analysis and analysis laboratories is provided in Appendix 2.

✉ Declaration from the adhesive supplier that the adhesive used does not contain phthalates or rosin. Results of analysis of the formaldehyde content of the adhesive. Appendix 1, form 2 may be used.

O8 Fragrances and skin care preparations

Fragrance or other scents (e.g. essential oils and plant extracts) and lotion, skin care and/or moisturising preparations must not be added to the product or to the constituent materials.

✉ Duly completed and signed declaration from the manufacturer. Appendix 1, form 4 may be used.

O9 Odour control substances

Odour control substances are permitted only in incontinence care products.

If used, the substances must fulfil the general chemical requirements O3-O5.

✉ In the case of products that are not incontinence care products, the manufacturer must declare that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 2, form 4 may be used.

O10 Medicaments and antibacterial agents

Sanitary products containing chemical substances designed to prevent, alleviate or cure illness, sickness symptoms, pain and bacterial growth or to alter bodily functions cannot be ecolabelled.

Lactic acid bacteria added to tampons are exempted from the requirement.

✉ The manufacturer must declare that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 1, form 4 may be used.

2.1.1 Dyes and printing inks

The requirements concerning printing and dyeing apply for the sanitary product as a whole, the individual components in the sanitary product, but not on the additional components, the information sheet and the primary packaging.

O11 Dyeing

Sanitary products and additional components must not be dyed. This requirement also applies to the individual components and materials, with the exception of tampon strings. Materials that are not directly in contact with the skin may, however, be dyed if the dye has a special function. An example of a special function can be dyeing of breast pads to reduce the visibility of the product through white or light coloured clothing.

Titanium dioxide in polymers and viscose is exempted from this requirement.

Exceptions may be granted in the case of certain specialist products for use in hospitals and nursing homes, subject to agreement with Nordic Ecolabelling. If the products are dyed, the dyes must fulfil requirements O3-O5 in this criteria document and R9-R12 in the Chemical Module (Nordic Ecolabelling of Paper Products – Chemical Module, Version 2 or later).

✉ Declaration from the manufacturer of the sanitary product that neither the product nor the raw materials have been dyed. Appendix 1, form 4 may be used.

In the case of exemptions for specialist products, the manufacturer/supplier of the dye must declare that the requirement is fulfilled by means of safety data sheets and duly completed and signed Appendix 2, form 2 and 16.

O12 Printing inks

The inks for printing on the sanitary products or part of this must fulfil O3-O5 in this criteria document and R9-R12 in the Chemical Module (Nordic Ecolabelling of Paper Products – Chemical Module, Version 2 or later). The requirement does not apply to printing on additional components, information sheets and primary packaging.

✉ The manufacturer/supplier must declare that the requirement is fulfilled by means of safety data sheets and appendix 1, form 2 and 16.

2.2 Requirements concerning materials

2.2.1 Fluff/cellulose pulp

The requirements concerning fluff/cellulose pulp are split into different levels, depending on the quantity of cellulose pulp present.

- All fluff/cellulose pulp/airlaid must fulfil requirement O13.
- If there 10.0 % by weight or more of fluff/cellulose pulp/airlaid in the sanitary product and additional components in a primary package (S+A), requirement O14 must also be fulfilled.

O13 Fluff/cellulose pulp/airlaid, general requirements

State the name and quality of the pulp/airlaid. The following requirements must be met:

- The pulp must not be bleached with chlorine gas (Cl_2)
- Optical brightener or fluorinated chemicals must not be added to the pulp.
- The pulp must not have a growth inhibiting effect on microorganisms, under test method EN 1104.
- Chemicals added to the pulp to provide specific properties must fulfil the chemical requirements O3-O11*.

Production chemicals used during the production of the cellulose pulp are not included in the requirement.

✉ Duly completed and signed Appendix 1, form 5, Fluff/cellulose pulp, general requirements. To be completed by the pulp manufacturer.

Documentation as specified in requirements O3-O11 if chemicals are used.

O14 Fluff/cellulose pulp/airlaid, production requirements

The fluff/cellulose pulp/airlaid must fulfil all the requirements in version 2 of the Basic Module for paper products, and version 2 of the Chemical Module, or corresponding requirements in later versions. For the requirements concerning energy consumption and emissions, the following limits and reference values apply:

Energy;

- $P_{electricity(total)} < 1.25$
- $P_{fuel(total)} < 1.25$
- The reference values for cellulose pulp are found in the Basic Module.
- The reference values for fluff pulp are $E_{reference}$ = 900 kWh/ADT and $Fuel_{reference}$ = 6000 kWh/ADT.
- Addition in reference values for airlaid process: $El_{reference}$ = 1000 kWh/ADT and $Fuel_{reference}$ = 1000 kWh/ADT.

Emissions:

Emissions of AOX from production of fluff/cellulose pulp and pulp for airlaid ≤ 0.15 kg/tonne for each pulp.

Total emission points ≤ 4.0, and individual emission points ≤ 1.5. The reference values in the Basic Module shall be used.

- $P_{emissions(total)} = P_{COD} + P_P + P_S + P_{NOx} \leq 4$

CO_2

For production of fluff/cellulose pulp andairlaid, the limit value for emissions of CO_2 is 450 kg CO_2/ADT

The application tool My Swan Account may be used. Contact the ecolabelling organisation for a password.

✉ Documentation from the manufacturer of the fluff/cellulose pulp/airlaid showing that the requirements are fulfilled. If the pulp has previously been approved by Nordic Ecolabelling, state the name of the pulp and when it was approved.

2.2.2 Paper (tissue paper, release paper, paperboard and other paper)

The requirements apply for different types of tissue paper, paper in tape or release paper (silicone paper) and other paper, carton and cardboard. The requirements refer to the criteria for the Nordic Ecolabelling of paper:

- Nordic Ecolabelling of copy and printing paper, version 4. These include requirements concerning wood-containing and wood-free non-converted printing paper made from chemical and/or mechanical pulp and/or recycled fibre, and the following paperboard types: Solid Bleached Board (SBB), Solid Bleached Sulphate (SBS), Solid Unbleached Board (SUB), Folding Boxboard (FBB) and recycled fibre-based White Lined Chipboard (WLC).
- Nordic Ecolabelling of tissue paper, version 5. Cellulose-based tissue paper made from virgin and/or recycled fibre.

- Nordic Ecolabelling of grease-proof paper, version 4. This includes cellulose-based paper, which may be coated in different ways as parchment paper/grease-proof paper and various types of release paper.

All paper/carton/cardboard/used in sanitary products must fulfil O15. In addition paper/carton types that account for 10.0 % by weight or more of (S+A) must fulfil requirement O16. Each papertype shall be summarized separately.

All primary packaging of paper or cardboard must fulfill requirements O15, paragraphs a) and b).

O15 Paper/paperboard, general requirements

State the name, grade, grammage and manufacturer of the paper. The following requirements must be met:

a) The paper/carton/cardboard must not be bleached with chlorine gas (Cl_2).

b) The paper/carton/cardboard must also not be coated or treated with fluorinated chemicals. Requirement also applies to fluorinated additives in the paper pulp.

c) The pulp must not have a growth inhibiting effect on microorganisms, under test method EN 1104.

If the paper is coated with silicone, requirement O6 must be fulfilled*.

* *Nordic Ecolabelled grease-proof paper fulfils the requirement.*

Information on analysis laboratories is given in Appendix 2.

✉ Documentation showing that the requirements are fulfilled. Appendix 1, form 6 may be used for the declaration.

O16 Paper/paperboard, production requirements

Paper/paperboard must be:

- Nordic Ecolabelled according to the criteria for Nordic Ecolabelling of copy and printing paper (version 4 or later) or complies with the Nordic Ecolabelling requirements for inspected paper. The requirements for inspected paper are given in appendix 3.

or

- Nordic Ecolabelled according to the criteria for Nordic Ecolabelling of tissue paper (version 5 or later)

or

- Nordic Ecolabelled according to the criteria for Nordic Ecolabelling of grease-proof paper (version 4 or later).

If the paper/carton is treated with silicone, O6 silicone must be fulfilled if unless the paper is Nordic Ecolabelled according to Nordic Ecolabelling of grease-proof paper.

✉ Documentation from the manufacturer showing that the requirements are fulfilled. If the paper material is already Nordic Ecolabelled, the certification number must be submitted in addition.

2.2.3 Wood materials

The requirements apply to components made from solid wood, such as the shaft of a cotton bud.

O17 Wood raw material

- The applicant must state the name of the tree species (species name). Listed wood species* must not be used.
- The supplier of the wood material to the sanitary manufacturer must be Chain of Custody (CoC) according to FSC or PEF certification schemes.
- A minimum of 70 % by weight of all wood raw materials must come from certified forestry according to FSC or PEF certification schemes. The remainder of the wood raw material must come from controlled sources, i.e. those covered by the certification schemes FSC or PEFC (Controlled Wood).

The requirement may be documented as volume of wood purchased on an annual basis.

**There will be prepared a list of excluded wood species.*

✉ Name (tree species) for the wood raw material used. Appendix 1, form 7 can be used.

The applicant must document that at least 70 % of all the wood raw material used in the Nordic Ecolabelled product on an annual basis comes from certified forestry, and the remainder is Controlled Wood. Valid CoC form the supplier of wood. Nordic Ecolabelling may request further documentation if there is lack of clarity surrounding wood raw material origin.

2.2.4 Cotton

The requirements for cotton depend on the quantities involved. All cotton must fulfil O18. If cotton makes up 5.0 % percent or more by weight of (S+A), the requirements O19 and O20 must also be fulfilled.

O18 Cotton, bleaching with chlorine gas

The cotton must not be bleached with the aid of chlorine gas (Cl_2).

✉ Declaration from the cotton manufacturer/supplier showing that the requirements are fulfilled. Appendix 1, form 8 may be used for the declaration.

O19 Cotton, raw fibre

The cotton must be organically cultivated or cultivated in the transitionary phase to organic production.

The string on tampons is exempted from the requirement.

Organic means cotton grown in line with Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 of 28 June 2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products, or products produced in the same way and under similar control schemes. Examples include: KRAV, IFOAM, KBA, OCIA, TDA, DEMETER.

✉ Duly completed and signed Appendix 1, form 8 and attached certificate or transition certificate from a competent body for the certification of organic cultivation. If in the case of cultivation in a transitionary process no certificate is available, the ecolabelling organisation must be supplied with information on the supplier and method of cultivation and sufficient documentation showing that the cultivation is in the process of transition to organic production. The cotton plantation may be inspected by the ecolabelling organisation.

O20 Cotton, additives

Substances added to cotton must fulfil the chemical requirements O3-O11.

✉ Duly completed and signed Appendix 1, form 8 and in addition form 2, 3 and 4 and safety data sheets for any chemical additives.

2.2.5 Viscose

The requirements for viscose depend on the quantities involved. All viscose must fulfil O21. If viscose makes up 10.0 % by weight or more of (S+A), requirement O22 must be fulfilled.

O21 Viscose, bleaching

Chlorine gas (Cl_2) must not be used to bleach cellulose pulp or cellulose fibre.

The resulting total amount of adsorbable organic halogens (AOX) and organically bound chlorine (OCl) must not exceed:

- 0.15 kg per tonne of fibre pulp in wastewater from the fibre pulp production (AOX)

and

- 150 ppm in the finished fibre (OCl)

Information on sampling, methods of analyses and analysis laboratories is provided in Appendix 2.

✉ Declaration from the manufacturers of the cellulose pulp and regenerated cellulose that the requirement is fulfilled including a test report. Appendix 1, form 9 can be used.

O22 Viscose, production requirements

COD emissions from viscose production (the production of cellulose pulp and regenerated cellulose) must not exceed a combined total of 35 kg per tonne of regenerated cellulose.

Sulphur emissions to air must not exceed more than 20 g/kg of staple fibre expressed as an annual average.

Zinc emissions must not exceed 0.2 kg Zn/kg of regenerated cellulose, expressed as an annual average.

The cellulose pulp must fulfill the energy requirement 014.

The quantity of oxygen depleting substances may also be stated as the equivalent quantity of TOC.

Information on sampling, methods of analysis and analysis laboratories is provided in Appendix 2.

✉ Duly completed and signed Appendix 1, form 9 and test report from the production of regenerated cellulose showing that the requirement is fulfilled. The methods of analysis must be described and the laboratories responsible must be stated. The sanitary manufacturer must inform the viscose producer on which paragraphs to fill in.

2.2.6 Polymers/plastic materials (materials/films and fibre)

Polymers that are subject to requirements when used in sanitary products, additional components and primary packaging are: polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), polyester (PET), polystyrene (PS), polyamide (PA), ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) and polyether/polyurethane (e.g. elastane, lycra, spandex,

thermoplastic polyurethane and PUR-foam) and polymers based on renewable raw materials. Superabsorbent polymers (e.g. SAP and bioSAP), viscose and cotton are not covered by this section, but have requirements in other chapters. Other polymers and rubber may be included together with other materials for which no requirements have been set, up to a maximum of 2.0 % by weight for each material and a total of 5.0 % by weight, see O2. This means, for example, that silicone materials and latex may be used in small quantities, even though no requirement has been set for these materials. However, if silicone is used as an additive in other materials or as a coating, requirement O6 must be fulfilled.

If a sanitary product and additional component comprises both a polymer film and a polymer fibre of the same polymer type (e.g. PP), these are counted individually when calculating the percentage by weight to see which requirement applies. Polymer fibre of the same type from multiple suppliers should be combined to see whether the weight limit is achieved. It the limit of the polymer/plastic type is obtained by 4 or more suppliers, the requirement must be fulfilled for at least 50 % of the material.

The requirements for the polymers/plastic materials depend on the quantity in percent by weight related to the total weight of sanitary products and additional components in a pack (S+A):

- All polymers/plastic materials must meet requirement O23 and O24, part A.
- If elastane/polyurethane accounts for 5.0 % by weight or more, requirement O25 must also be fulfilled.
- If polyamide accounts for 5.0 % by weight or more requirement O26 must be fulfilled.
- If a polymer type accounts for 5.0 % by weight or more, one of the requirements O27 and O28 must also be fulfilled.
- If a polymer type accounts for 20.0 % by weight or more requirement O24, part B must also be fulfilled.
- Requirements regarding raw materials (O29) applies if:

  - polymers which are based on one commodity type accounts 20.0 % by weight or more of (S+A)

  or

  - if a single commodity type (in polymers made of several commodity types) accounts for 20.0 % by weight or more) of (S+A)

The following requirements are set for polymers:

O23 Polymers, halogen-based

Sanitary products, additional components and their packaging must not contain halogen-based polymers, e.g. PVC.

✉ Declaration from the polymer manufacturer or documentation from the manufacturer of the sanitary products showing that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 1, form 10 may be used.

O24 Polymers, constituent substances

Part A:

The following substances must not be present in the polymer apart from impurities*:

a) halogenated organic compounds

b) phthalates

c) organotin compounds

d) compounds based on lead, cadmium, chromium^{VI} and mercury

The amount of antimony in polyester, measured as an average value on an annual basis, must not exceed 260 ppm (the requirement does not, however, apply to recycled polyester**).

Part B:

Additives and chemical substances in polymers/plastics must fulfil the chemical requirements O3-O11.

**Impurities are traces from polymer production (including residual catalysts), which is contained in concentrations below 100 ppm (0.01 weight %, 100 mg/kg), but not substances that have been added to the raw material or product actively and for a particular purpose irrespective of quantity.*

***For recycled polyester see 030.*

Information about test methods and analysis laboratories is provided in Annex 2.

✉ Declaration from the polymer producer that the requirement is fulfilled. Alternatively, a test may be used as documentation for the requirement in part A. The test can be requested by for example the non-woven supplier that is using the polymer/plastic material. Annex 1, Form 10/11 may be used. The sanitary manufacturer must inform the viscose producer on which paragraphs to fill in.

O25 Polyurethane

a) A closed process must be used when producing elastane/polyurethane.

b) Organotin compounds shall not be used.

c) Fibre (as elastan, spandex and lycra)

Emissions to air of aromatic diisocyanates during polymerisation and, if applicable, spinning must be less than 5 mg/kg of produced fibre, expressed as an annual average.
N,N-Dimethylacetamide (DMAc, CAS no. 127-19-5) must not be used in the production of elastane.

d) PUR foam and thermoplastic PUR must fulfil criterion 2 i EU Ecoabels criteria for Bed mattresses.

✉ Declaration from the polymer producer that the requirement is fulfilled. Annex 1, Form 10 may be used in addition to test reports from the polymer producer. The sanitary manufacturer must inform the polymer/plastic material producer on which paragraphs to fill in.

O26 Polyamide

Emissions of nitrogen dioxide (N_2O) to the air from the production of monomers must not exceed 9 g/kg caprolactam (for PA 6) or adipinsyre (for PA 6.6), expressed as an annual average.

✉ Detailed information and/or a test report from the polyamide manufacturer showing that the requirement is fulfilled or a valid EU Ecolabel licence in accordance with the Commission's decision from July 2009. Annex 1, Form 10 may be used.

O27 Energy consumption in polymer production for fossil-based polymers

The total energy consumption for polymerisation must not exceed:

- 2.1 MJ/kg for PP, HDPE and LLDPE
- 2.6 MJ/kg for LDPE and EVA
- 1.1 MJ/kg for PS
- 8 MJ/kg for PA 6.6
- 10 MJ/kg for PA 6
- 6.0 MJ/kg for PET
- 15 MJ/kg for elastane/PUR

The calculation must show the factory-specific values for the energy consumption for the polymerisation of the monomers.

✉ Annex 1, Form 10 may be used in addition to a calculation of the energy consumption in MJ/kg of polymer. A description must also be provided of how the energy consumption from different subprocesses has been included in the calculation, divided according to the different energy types involved (electricity, fossil energy sources, steam and so on). The energy consumption must be declared by the polymer producer. The sanitary manufacturer must inform the polymer/plastic material producer on which paragraphs to fill in.

O28 Energy consumption for production of polymers from renewable raw materials

The energy consumption from fossil fuels in the production of renewable polymers must not exceed:

- 37 MJ/kg of polymer based on renewable raw materials

The calculation of energy consumption for renewable polymers must include the processes from the monomer production to the finished polymer. Energy from raw material cultivation from extraction of the raw material, transport of the raw material to the production site or the energy content of the actual raw material should not be included in the calculation.

✉ Annex 1, Form 11 may be used in addition to a calculation of the energy consumption of accordance with the certification scheme fossil fuels in MJ/kg of polymer. A description must also be provided of how the energy consumption from the different sub processes is included in the calculation. The sanitary manufacturer must inform the polymer/plastic material producer on which paragraphs to fill in.

O29 Palm oil, soybean oil and sugar beet as feedstock for the renewable polymer

The following requirements are set for certification of the raw materials:

- Palm oil must be RSPO certified after version P&C 2013 with physical segregation at all process steps (Track and Trace).
- Soya oil must be RTRS certified after version 2/2013 with physical segregation in all process steps (Fully Segregated type).
- Sugar beet must be Bonsucro* ccertified with physical separation at all stages (Physical shipment).
- The polymer producer, buying in the renewable feedstock, must be chain of custody certified (CoC) accordance with the certification scheme.

Nordic Ecolabelling will assess whether the standard meets the Nordic Ecolabelling requirements set for standard, certification scheme and certification bodies given in Appendix 4.

✉ Annex 1, Form 12, copy of relevant certificates or other documentation. Nordic Ecolabelling may require further documentation if there is any uncertainty about the origin of the raw material.

O30 Recycled plastic

a) Recycled plastic must comprise pre- and/or post-consumer* recycled material and/or industrial scrap.

b) Recycled plastic must not contain polybrominated biphenyls or diphenyl ethers, phtalates, organotin compounds, lead, cadmium, mercury or chromium^{VI}. Impurities up to 100 ppm are, however, permitted. A test of the recycled plastics is required or documentation that the material comes from known sources where it has been established that this type of content is unlikely to occur.

c) Recycled plastic materials used in the sanitary product must be recycled in a closed loop system** and meet requirements for recycled plastics materials and articles intended to come into contact with foods***.

The requirement does not apply to recycled plastic in additional components, information sheets and primary packaging.

d) If the polymer type makes up 20 % or more by weight of the sanitary product and the additional components (S+A) substances added to the recycled plastic material must meet the requirements O3, O4, O5 and O11.

**Pre- and/or post-consumer recycled material is defined in the standard ISO 14 021.*

***Closed loop systems mean controlled systems where the materials are traceable from source through to the finished recycled material.*

****EU commission regulation (EC) No 282/2008 on recycled plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foods and amending Regulation (EC) No 2023/2006.*

✉ Documentation from the plastics supplier showing that the requirements have been fulfilled. Appendix 1, form 13 may be used for a) and b). If the material is not tested, documentation regarding sources and a description of why a test is not required must be provided.

2.2.7 Superabsorbent polymers

All superabsorbent polymers must meet O31. If superabsorbent polymers accounts for 5.0 % by weight or more of (S+A) requirement O32 must also be fulfilled. If renewable feedstock for superabsorbent polymers makes up 20.0 % by weight or more of (S+A) the renewable raw materials must meet requirements O33.

O31 Superabsorbent polymers (SAP), residual monomers and extracts

Acrylamide (CAS no. 79-06-1) must not be used as a monomer.

Superabsorbents polymers (SAP) may contain a maximum of 400 ppm residual monomers (the total of unreacted acrylic acid and crosslinkers) that are subject to a classification requirement and have been allotted the risk or hazard phrases specified in requirement O3, Table 2.

SAP may as a maximum contain 5.0 % by weight of water-soluble extracts.

Water-soluble extracts in SAP: monomers and oligomers of acrylic acid with lower molecular weight than SAP, and salts.

Information on sampling, methods of analysis and analysis laboratories is provided in Appendix 2.

✉ The manufacturer must document the composition of the superabsorbent polymer by means of a product safety data sheet which specifies the full name and CAS number and the residual monomers contained in the product classified in accordance with the above requirement and the quantities thereof. The manufacturer must specify the quantity of water-soluble extracts in the superabsorbent. The methods of analysis must be described and the laboratories responsible must be stated. Appendix 1, form 14 may be applied. The sanitary manufacturer must inform the producer of the superabsorbent on which paragraphs to fill in.

O32 Superabsorbent polymers, additives

Additives in superabsorbent materials must fulfil requirements O3-O11.

✉ Documentation as specified in the requirements listed above. Duly completed and signed Appendix 1, form 2, 3 and 4. The sanitary manufacturer must inform the producer of the superabsorbent on which paragraphs to fill in.

O33 Superabsorbent polymers based on renewable raw materials

Renewable feedstock must fulfil relevant requirements O29.

If a mass balance used as approach to calculate the proportion of renewable feedstock in superabsorbent polymers the calculation must be certified by an independent third party or standard that lives up to the guidelines for mass balance sheets given the Renewables Directive (2009/28 / EC).

✉ Documentation as specified in the requirements listed above. Certificate showing the percentage of renewable raw material in the superabsorbent if it is less than 100 %.

2.2.8 Non-woven

Non-woven may be produced from a variety of materials. The requirements concerning non-woven therefore regularly refer to other requirements in the document.

No specific nominal limit has been set for non-woven. The choice of applicable requirement depends on how much of the different materials are contained in the sanitary product. The description of which requirements apply to the quantity of materials can be found under the chapters for the different materials.

O34 Non-woven, general requirement

The manufacturer of the non-woven used must specify the materials (raw materials and additives) used in the production and state the names of the raw material suppliers. The materials must fulfil the following requirements:

- Fluff/cellulose pulp must fulfil the requirements in chapter 2.2.1.
- Cotton must fulfil the requirements in chapter 2.2.4.
- Viscose must fulfil the requirements in chapter 2.2.5.
- Polymers as fibre or binder must fulfil the requirements in chapter 2.2.6.
- Superabsorbents must fulfil the requirements in chapter 2.2.7.

If other materials are present and have requirements in these criteria, these must also be fulfilled. If co-spun fibres are used, the polymer that accounts for the highest proportion must fulfil the requirements.

✉ The manufacturer of the non-woven used must specify the materials used in production and state the names of the raw material suppliers. Documentation as in the referred requirements. Appendix 1, form 15 can be used.

O35 Non-woven, chemicals

All additives/chemical products used in the production of the non-woven must fulfil the chemical requirements O3-O11.

A substance that is classified as sensitising with risk phrase H317 and/or H334 can only be used in the process water if the residue in the non-woven is <0,10 ppm for each sensitising substance.

Other process- and auxiliary chemicals (e.g. spinning additives and machine oils) are exempt from the requirement.

The requirement applies, for example, to $CaCO_3$.

✉ Documentation in accordance with O3-O11. Appendix 1, form 2, 3 and 4 may be used in addition to form 15.

2.3 Requirements for material composition and packaging

O36 Material composition, renewable and recycled materials

1. Share of renewable and recycled material

One of the following requirements (a, b, c or d) must be fulfilled:

a) The primary packaging and additional components in a pack must comprise plastic/polymer from renewable feedstock or recycled* materials from cardboard/carton/plastic.

or

b) The weight of renewable raw materials (excluding fluff, airlaid and paper) in the sanitary product in a pack must, as a minimum, be at a level equivalent to the weight of the primary packaging and additional components.

or

c) The sanitary product in a pack must, as a minimum, comprise material from recycled plastic at a level equivalent to twice the weight of the primary packaging and additional components.

d) A combination of a, b and c.

The following condition must be met in order to comply with the requirement:

$$Y \leq X + Z$$

- Y = The weight of primary packaging and additional components, expressed in grams (g)
- X = Material from renewable raw materials (excluding fluff, airlaid and paper) in the sanitary product, additional components and/or the primary packaging, expressed in grams (g)
- Z = Recycled material expressed in grams (g) in the primary packaging and in additional components plus two times the amount in the sanitary product.

If the sanitary product is marketed in different pack, the calculation must be made for a worst case scenario, which in many cases is the smallest pack size (i.e. the pack that contains the lowest number of products).

The material is considered fully renewable if at least 90 % of the raw materials originate from renewable sources. If it is below 90 %, the actual share shall be accounted for in the calculation, se paragraph 2.

**Recycled material means post- and pre consumer recycled material as defined in the standard ISO 14021.*

2. Calculation of the share of renewable raw material in the polymer

If the renewable raw material comprises less than 90 % by weight, the share can be documented by mass balance. The calculation must be certified by an independent third party in accordance with a standard that lives up to the guidelines for mass balance sheets given the Renewables Directive (2009/28 / EC).

✉ The manufacturer of the sanitary product must include a calculation showing fulfilment of the requirement. Documentation of the actual content of renewable or recycled raw material in the materials on which the calculation is based must also be provided. Examples of such documentation include information sheet/product data sheet.

O37 Cotton buds, shaft material

The shaft of cotton buds must be made from renewable raw materials, such as wood, board or polymers from renewable raw materials.

- If the shaft is made of board, the material must not be bleached using chlorine gas.
- If the shaft is made of wood, requirements O17 must be fulfilled.
- If the shaft is made of polymers from renewable raw materials, requirements in chapter 2.2.6 must be fulfilled.

Other material parts as tape, elastic etc. shall fulfil relevant material requirements if comprises in percentage by weight that require this, see O2.

A polymer is counted as 100% renewable if it consists of more than 90% renewable raw materials.

✉ Documentation showing that the requirement is fulfilled. For O17 Appendix 1, form 7 may be used.

O38 Primary packaging, material requirements

The following material requirements must be met if the primary packaging makes up more than 1.0 % of the weight of the sanitary products plus the additional components in a pack.

- If the packaging is made of board, the material must meet the requirement part A and part B in O15.
- If the packaging is made of plastic, the requirement O23 and O24 part A must be fulfilled. For recycled plastic, the requirement O30 shall be fulfilled in addition.

✉ Documentation showing that the requirement is fulfilled.

2.4 Product performance

O39 Performance

The performance/quality of the product must be satisfactory and must match that of equivalent products on the market.

In the case of products where an acknowledged test exists, this test must be used. The test may be a laboratory test, the applicant's internal quality test, a consumer test or a comparative test with an equivalent product.

In the case of diapers, sanitary products (sanitary towels and panty-liners), incontinence care products and breast pads, the performance test must as a minimum include absorption capacity and rewet under pressure (dryness on the outside).

In the case of tampons, the performance test must as a minimum encompass absorption capacity.

If a consumer test is performed, a minimum of 80 % must be satisfied with the product out of a minimum of 10 users, see the conditions in Appendix 2

✉ Documentation (test report or user report) of the performance of the product including, where applicable, tests of absorption capacity and wet back. The chosen test must be described and data attached.

O40 Tampons

Tampons may as a maximum contain 1,000 aerobic microorganisms per gram of product.

✉ Description of the test for aerobic microorganisms and a statement on the test results from the sanitary product manufacturer.

O41 Information on the primary packaging

Copy of the information on the primary packaging (artwork) for all the relevant languages must be submitted.

The absorption ability must be specified on the packaging in the case of product types where this is relevant. For diapers, sanitary products (sanitary towels and panty-liners), tampons and incontinence care products, for example, this information can be provided by means of clear details of the size (e.g. the weight of the child in kilos or pictograms/values indicating the absorption capacity of the product).

In the case of relevant products, consumers must be urged not to discard them down the toilet. This information can be stated using a pictogram. Relevant products include diapers, sanitary towels, panty-liners, tampons, cotton buds, etc.

✉ Sample of the packaging information.

3 Quality and regulatory requirements

To ensure that Nordic Ecolabel requirements are fulfilled, the following procedures must be implemented.

O42 Responsible person and organisation

The company shall appoint individuals who are responsible for ensuring the fulfilment of Nordic Ecolabel requirements, for marketing and for finance, as well as a contact person for communications with Nordic Ecolabelling.

✉ Organisational chart showing who is responsible for the above.

O43 Documentation

The licensee must archive the documentation that is sent in with the application, or in a similar way maintain information in the Nordic Ecolabelling data system.

🔑 Checked on site as necessary.

O44 Quality of Sanitary products

The licensee must guarantee that the quality of the Nordic Ecolabelled product does not deteriorate during the validity period of the licence.

✉ Procedures for archiving claims and, where necessary, dealing with claims and complaints regarding the quality of the Nordic Ecolabelled sanitary product

🔑 The claims archive is checked on site.

O45 Planned changes

Written notice must be given to Nordic Ecolabelling of planned changes in products and markets that have a bearing on Nordic Ecolabel requirements.

✉ Procedures detailing how planned changes in products and markets are handled.

O46 Unplanned nonconformities

Unplanned nonconformities that have a bearing on Nordic Ecolabel requirements must be reported to Nordic Ecolabelling in writing and journalled.

✉ Procedures detailing how unplanned nonconformities are handled.

O47 Traceability

The licensee must be able to trace the Nordic Ecolabelled sanitary product in the production.

✉ Description of/procedures for the fulfilment of the requirement.

O48 Take-back system

Relevant national regulations, legislation and/or agreements within the sector regarding the recycling systems for products and packaging shall be met in the Nordic countries in which the Nordic Ecolabelled sanitary product are marketed.

✉ Declaration from the applicant regarding adherence to existing recycling/take-back agreements.

O49 Legislation and regulations

The licensee shall ensure compliance with all applicable local laws and provisions at all production facilities for the Nordic Ecolabelled product, e.g. with regard to safety, working environment, environmental legislation and site-specific terms/permits. The product must also fulfil relevant product-specific requirements laid down by the authorities. For example, sanitary products that may be classified under the EU Directive on Medical Equipment, 93/42/EU as amended, must be safe to use and their performance must be in accordance with the Directive.

✉ Applications must state which supervisory authorities they are covered by, and the plant-specific conditions and environmental permits issued by the authorities.

Marketing

The Nordic Ecolabel is a very well-known and well-reputed trademark in the Nordic region. Nordic Ecolabelled products and services may be marketed using the Nordic Ecolabel so long as the associated licence is valid.

The label must be positioned so that there is no doubt as to what the label refers and so that it is clear that the sanitary product is ecolabelled.

More information on marketing can be found in "Regulations for the Nordic Ecolabelling of products" 22 June 2011 or later versions.

Design of the Nordic Ecolabel

Design of the Nordic Ecolabel:



Each licence has a unique eight-figured licence number that must be displayed along with the label.

More information on the design of the label can be found in "Regulations for the Nordic Ecolabelling of products" 22 June 2011 or later versions.

Follow-up inspections

Nordic Ecolabelling may decide to check whether the sanitary product fulfils Nordic Ecolabel requirements during the licence period. This may involve a site visit, random sampling or similar test.

The licence may be revoked if it is evident that the sanitary product does not meet the requirements.

Random samples may also be taken in-store and analysed by an independent laboratory. If the requirements are not met, Nordic Ecolabelling may charge the analysis costs to the licensee.

Terms and definitions

Term	Explanation or definition
Additional components	Additional components mean components belonging to the hygiene product that are removed before use of the product. Examples include release paper, a plastic film around a tampon or a sanitary towel or an applicator for tampons.
BioSAP	Term used for superabsorbent polymers made from renewable raw materials.
Chemical product	A chemical product is made of one substance or a mixture of substances. For chemical substances, unless otherwise stated, the constituent substances are all substances in the product, including additives (i.e. preservatives or stabilisers) in the raw materials, but not impurities from the raw material production. For chemical substances in materials, requirements are set for constituent substances where these are added by the material/fibre producer or their supplier (actively added), but not impurities from the production of the additive or its raw material production. The requirements for each material set out whether there are requirements concerning chemical substances in the materials and state when to refer back to the relevant requirements. Impurities are defined as residual products from the ingredient production that can be found in the final product in concentrations below 100 ppm (0.01% by weight, 100 mg/kg), but not substances added to an ingredient or product deliberately and with a purpose, regardless of amount. However, impurities at the raw material level at concentrations of over 1.0 % of the raw material will be regarded as a constituent substance. Substances known to be degradation products of the constituent substances are also themselves considered to be constituent substances. The declaration concerning constituent substances is made by the chemical producer using the knowledge it possesses at the time in question, based on information from the raw material producer/supplier, the formulation and available knowledge of the chemical product. Reservations are made for developments and new knowledge. Should such new knowledge arise, the undersigned is obliged to submit an updated declaration to Nordic Ecolabelling.
Component	Components are formed out of one or several materials and chemical products that together fulfil a desirable function. For example: a layer of non-woven, an outer barrier film or an absorbent core of fluff pulp and super absorbents.
Information sheet	Printed information that is included in the primary package. They do not have to meet any requirements.
Material	For example: fluff pulp, PP, PE, PET, SAP, paper, viscose and cotton
Plastic	Plastic materials are polymers that has been added chemical products like dyes, stabilisers or other additives. Plastic materials may in addition be processed into foil, fiber or other components.
Polymer	A polymer is a substance consisting of molecules with high molecular mass with a repeating structural unit (monomers). In this document polymers includes various synthetic polymers such as polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), polyester (PET), polystyrene (PS), polyamide (PA) and polyether/polyurethane (e.g. spandex, lycra, spandex, thermoplastic polyurethane and polyurethane foam) and polymers based on renewable raw materials like PLA and bio-based PE. The document differs between the polymers and other materials such as pulp, superabsorbent polymers, viscose fibers and cotton that have other requirements in this criteria document.
Primary packaging	Primary packaging means the packaging around the sanitary products and additional components as sold in retail outlets or directly to the customer. Primary packaging does not include transport packaging.
Renewable raw material	Renewable resources are defined as raw materials taken from biological materials that are continuously regenerated within a short space of years, such as corn and treas.
Recycled material	Recycled plastic can be used in sanitary products when derived from a closed loops recycling system, which include tractability of the raw material to the source of it. It must also fulfil the EU commision directive (EF) nm. 282/2008.

	In additional components, information sheets and primary packaging also other types of recycled material can be used. Like plastic materials and cardboard that is not derived from closed loop system.
Sanitary product	Sanitary product refers to the product used, i.e. excluding additional components, information sheets and primary packaging
Transport packaging	Transport packaging contains and protects the packs of sanitary products during transport to stores and consumers.

Appendix 1 Forms for declarations and documentation for the manufacturers and suppliers

Form 1, Material composition of the product and the packaging

Manufacturer of sanitary product:	Contact person:
Product:	Total weight (kg):

In table A1, please list all the components in the sanitary product as well as in additional components (S+A) with material composition and weight, and supplier. Please also list the weight and composition of the primary packaging and the weight% in relation to S+A.

Table A1 Overview on materials, suppliers and amount

Components	**Supplier of component**	**Materials**	**Supplier of material**	**Weight per product (g) (S+A)**	**% by weight (S+A)**

Tabel A2 Example for material composition for two different sanitary products

Components	**Supplier of component**	**Materials**	**Supplier of material**	**Weight per product (g) (S+A)**	**% by weight (S+A)**
Example product 1					
Inner layer 1		Non-woven of viscose			
		EVA			
Inner layer 2		Airlaid (cellulose)			
Filling		SAP			
Adhesive 1		Adhesive 1, hotmelt			
Adhesive 2		Lim 2			
Outer layer		Bioplastic, film (PLA)			
Paper		Tissue paper			
Release paper		Silicone paper			
		Sum sanitary product and additional components in the pack			(100 %)
Primary packaging		Plastic film, PE			
Example product 2					
Non-Woven A		Polyester fiber			
		Fluff pulp A			
		Adhesive A			
Non-Woven B		PP fiber			
Back sheet		Film of PE (fossil based)			

Fluff		Fluff B			
Elastic		Synthetic rubber			
Chemicals					
Chemicals					
Additional component		Film around the product made of bio based PE			
		Sum sanitary product and additional components in the pack			(100 %)
Primary packaging		Carton			

Date and place:	Name of the manufacturer of the sanitary product:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 2, Declaration - Chemicals

for the requirements O3, O4, O5 and O7

Name of the chemical and purpose of use:

_____

Name of the chemical producer:

_____

O3 Is the chemical classified according to the table below? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Table A3: Classification of chemical products

Classification under CLP Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008	
Toxic to aquatic organisms Aquatic Acute 1 Aquatic chronic 1-4	 H400 H410, H411, H412, H413
Acute toxicity Acute Tox 1, 2 Acute Tox 3 Acute Tox 4	 H330, H310, H300 H331, H301, H311 H332, H312, H302
Specific target organ toxicity STOT SE 1 STOT SE 2 STOT RE 1 STOT RE 2	 H370 H371 H372 H373
Aspiration hazard Asp. Tox 1	 H304
Causes serious eye damage or eye irritation Eye Dam. 1	 H318
Allergenic Resp. sens 1 or Skin sens 1	 H334 H317
Carcinogenic Carc 1A/1B Carc. 2	 H350 H351
Mutagenic Muta. 1A/B Muta. 2	 H340 H341
Toxic for reproduction Repr 1A/1B Repr 2	 H360, H361 H362

O4 Chemical substances, CMR

Does the product/raw material contain substances that are or may degrade into substances that are classified according to the table below? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Table F3-2: Classification of CMR substances

Classification in line with CLP Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008	
Hazard class and category	**H phrases (Code)**
Carcinogenic Carc. 1A/1B Carc. 2	 H350 H351
Mutagenic Muta. 1A/B Muta. 2	 H340 H341
Toxic for reproduction Repr. 1A/1B Repr. 2	 H360 H361

O5 Other excluded substances

Does the chemical product contain any of the substances from the list below?

Substances on the Candidate List* ☐ Yes ☐ No

Substances that have been judged in the EU to be PBT (Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic) or vPvB (very Persistent and very Bioaccumulative)** ☐ Yes ☐ No

Substances considered to be potential endocrine disruptors in category 1 or 2 on the EU's priority list of substances that are to be investigated further for endocrine disruptive effects*** ☐ Yes ☐ No

Organotin compounds ☐ Yes ☐ No

Phthalates ☐ Yes ☐ No

APEO – alkylphenol ethoxylates and alkylphenol derivatives (substances that release alkylphenols on degradation) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Halogenated organic compounds. Preservatives are exempt, and so are colourants that meet the EU's requirements concerning colourants in food packaging under point 2.5 of Resolution AP (89) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Preservatives which are not bioaccumulating (BCF < 500/log Kow < 4). The mix of CMIT+MIT (3:1) can be present with a maximum of 15 ppm. CMIT is 5-chloro-2-methyl-2H-isotiazol-3-on (CAS-no. 26172-55-4) and MIT is 2-methyl-2H-isotiazol-3-on (CAS-no. 2682-20-4) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Antibacterial agents (e.g. nanosilver and triclosan)****	☐ Yes	☐ No
Flame retardants	☐ Yes	☐ No
Additives based on lead, cadmium, chromium VI and mercury, or their compounds.	☐ Yes	☐ No

** The Candidate List can be found on the ECHA website: http://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table*
*** PBT and vPvB in accordance with the criteria in Annex XIII of REACH*
**** Substances considered to be potential endocrine disruptors in category 1 or 2, see following link:*
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/endocrine/strategy/being_en.htm
***** An antibacterial agent is a chemical that inhibits or stops growth of microorganisms such as bacteria, fungi or protozoa (single-celled organisms)*

Please attach safety data sheets:

The questions below are only to be answered if the chemical is an adhesive/binder. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O7 Adhesives/Binders

Is the product added phthalates or rosin?	☐ Yes	☐ No
Is the content of formaldehyde generated during the production process less than 250 ppm (0.025%) measured on newly produced polymer dispersion?	☐ Yes	☐ No
Is the content of free formaldehyde in hardened adhesive less than 10 ppm (0.001%).	☐ Yes	☐ No

Hotmelt adhesives are exempted from the requirement to document formaldehyde.

Please attach results from analysis of the formaldehyde content in the adhesive:

If there are changes in product composition, a new declaration of compliance with the requirements must be submitted to Nordic Ecolabelling.

Date and place:	Name of the chemical producer
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 3, Silicone treatment

for requirement O6.

Name of silicone product and purpose of use:

Name of producer of the silicone:

Is the product solvent-based?	☐ Yes	☐ No
Are organotin catalysts used in the production of the silicone polymer?	☐ Yes	☐ No
Do octamethyl-cyclotetrasiloxane, D4, (CAS 556-67-2) and decamethyl cyclopentasiloxane, D5, (CAS 541-02-6) form part of the product? The requirement does not apply to D4 and D5 contained as impurities∗.	☐ Yes	☐ No
Does the silicone emulsion (emulsion's coating bath) fulfil the chemical requirements O3-O5 and is form 3 duly completed?	☐ Yes	☐ No

∗ *Impurities are defined as residual products from the raw material production that can be found in the finished product in concentrations below 800 ppm (0.08% by weight, 800 mg/kg), but not substances added to a raw material or product deliberately and with a purpose, regardless of amount. Finished product means the silicone emulsion's coating bath.*

Nordic Ecolabelled grease-proof paper meets the requirement.

If there are changes in product composition, a new declaration of compliance with the requirements must be submitted to Nordic Ecolabelling.

Date and place:	Name of the chemical producer:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 4, Other substances in the hygiene product

for requirements O8, O9, O10, O11 and O23.

Name of sanitary product:

_____

Name of producer of the sanitary product:

_____

O8 Fragrances and skin care preparations

Is fragrance or other scents (e.g. essential oils and plant extracts) and lotion, skin care and/or moisturising preparations added to the product or to the constituent materials? ☐ Yes ☐ No

O9 Odour control substances

Are odour control substances added to the product or to the constituent materials? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Odour control substances are permitted only in incontinence care products. The products must fulfil the general chemical requirements O3-O5.

O10 Medicaments and antibacterial agents

Is the sanitary product added chemical substances designed to prevent, alleviate or cure illness, sickness symptoms, pain and bacterial growth or to alter bodily functions? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Lactic acid bacteria added to tampons are exempted from the requirement.

O11 Dyeing

Is the sanitary product or any of the constituent materials dyed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, which materials:_____

O23 Polymers, halogen-based

Does the sanitary products, additional components and their packaging contain halogen-based polymers, e.g. PVC? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Tampon strings, packaging material and additional components are exempt from the requirement. Other exceptions may be granted in the case of certain specialist products for use in hospitals and nursing homes, subject to agreement with Nordic Ecolabelling. If the products are dyed, the dyes must fulfil requirements O3-O5 in this criteria document and O9-O14 in the Chemical Module (Nordic Ecolabelling of Paper Products – Chemical Module, Version 2 or later).

Date and place:	Name of the manufacturer of the sanitary product:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 5, Fluff/cellulose pulp and air-laid, general requirements

for requirement O13.

Name and quality of the pulp:

_____

Name of pulp producer:

_____

Is the pulp bleached with chlorine gas (Cl_2)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are optical brighteners or fluorinated organic chemicals added to the pulp? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Does the pulp have a growth inhibiting effect on microorganisms, under test method EN 1104? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please attach any additional documentation.

Attachment number/name: _____

Date and place:	Name of the pulp producer:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 6, Paper/paperboard, general requirements

for requirement O15.

Name, grade and grammage of the paper:

Name of the paper producer:

Is the paper/paperboard Nordic Ecolabelled or inspected by Nordic Ecolabelling? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, please fill in the following questions:

Is the pulp bleached with chlorine gas (Cl_2)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the paper/paperboard coated or treated with fluorinated chemicals? (This also applies to fluorinated additives in the paper pulp). ☐ Yes ☐ No

Does the pulp have a growth inhibiting effect on microorganisms, under test method EN 1104? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the paper/paperboard coated with silicone? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes: Requirement O6 needs to be fulfilled.
Please fill in form 3.

Date and place:	Name of the paper manufacturer:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 7, Wood materials

for requirement O17.

Supplier of wood material:

_____

Documentation for wood raw material:

- Name (species name):_____
- Copy of chain-of-custody certificate from the suppliers of the wood raw material (FSC/PEFC systems)
  Please give the certificate number:_____
- Percentage (%) of wood raw material from certified forestry in the product:
  _____

If different species or different suppliers are used, the following table can be used:

Specie name	**Amount of purchaged wood (m^3 or kg)**	**Forestry standard (FSC or PEFC)**	**Percentage of certified wodd (%)**	**Percentage of controled wood (%)**

Date and place:	Name of the wood supplier:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 8, Cotton

for requirement O18, O19 and O20

To be completed by the sanitary manufacturer:

Do the sanitary product and any additional components contain cotton in 5.0 % by weight or more? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of cotton:

_____

Name of cotton producer/supplier:

_____

To be completed by the cotton producer.

O18 Cotton, bleaching with chlorine gas

Is the cotton bleached with the aid of chlorine gas (Cl_2). ☐ Yes ☐ No

If cotton makes up 5% percent or more by weight of the sanitary product, please fill in the following questions. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O19 Cotton, raw fibre

Is the cotton organically* cultivated or cultivated in the transitionary phase to organic production? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Attached certificate:_____

The string on tampons is exempted from the requirement.

O20 Cotton, additives

Do substances added to cotton fulfil the chemical requirements O3-O11? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please attach completed forms 2, 3 and 4:

**Organic means cotton grown in line with Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 of 28 June 2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products, or products produced in the same way and under similar control schemes. Examples include: KRAV, IFOAM, KBA, OCIA, TDA, DEMETER.*

Date and place:	Name of the cotton supplier:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 9 Viscose

for requirements O21 and O22.

To be completed by the sanitary manufacturer:

Do the sanitary product and any additional components contain viscose fibres in 10.0 % by weight or more? ☐ Yes ☐ No

To be completed by the viscose producer.

Name of the viscose:

_____

Name of the viscose producer:

_____

O21 Bleaching with chlorine gas

Is the cellulose pulp or cellulose fibre bleached with chlorine gas (Cl_2)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

The resulting total amount of adsorbable organic halogens (AOX) and organically bound chlorine (OCl) must not exceed:

- 0.15 kg per tonne of fibre pulp in wastewater from the fibre pulp production (AOX) and
- 150 ppm in the finished fibre (OCl)

Do you comply with the requirements? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Attach analysis report:_____

Information on sampling, methods of analysis and laboratories is provided in Appendix 2.

If the sanitary product and any additional components contain viscose fibres in 10.0 % by weight or more, please fill in the following questions. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O22 Viscose, COD emissions

Do the COD emissions from viscose production (the production of cellulose pulp and regenerated cellulose) exceed a combined total of 35 kg per tonne of regenerated cellulose? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Attachment number/name:_____

The quantity of oxygen depleting substances may also be stated as the equivalent quantity of TOC.

Do the sulphur emissions to air exceed more than 20 g/kg of staple fibre expressed as an annual average? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Attachment number/name:_____

Do the zinc emissions exceed 0.20 kg Zn/kg of regenerated cellulose, expressed as an annual average? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Attachment, analysis report:_____

Information on sampling, methods of analysis and analysis laboratories is provided in Appendix 2.

Date and place:	Name of the producer of viscose:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 10, Polymers/plastic materials from fossil raw materials

For requirements O23, O24, O25, O26 and O27

To be completed by the sanitary manufacturer:

State the polymer type_____

and the percentage % by weight in the sanitary product and any additional components (S+A):_____

To be completed by the polymer/plastic material or the sanitary product producer.

Name of the polymer/plastic material and polymer type:

_____

Name of the producer of the polymer/plastic material:

_____

O23 Polymers, halogen-based

Do the sanitary products and their packaging contain halogen-based polymers, e.g. PVC?	☐ Yes	☐ No

If the sanitary product and any additional components contain polymer types in 10.0 % by weight or more, please fill in the following questions. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O24, part A Polymers, constituent substances

This part can be filled in by a supplier (e.g. a non-woven producer) if the material is tested.

Is the polymer/plastic material free from:

a)	halogenated organic compounds	☐ Yes	☐ No
b)	phthalates	☐ Yes	☐ No
c)	organotin compounds	☐ Yes	☐ No
d)	compounds based on lead, cadmium, chromium VI and mercury	☐ Yes	☐ No
Does the amount of antimony in polyester, measured as an average value on an annual basis, exceed 260 ppm (the requirement does not, however, apply to recycled polyester)		☐ Yes	☐ No

Please attach test report. Name of attachment:_____

If the sanitary product and any additional components contain elastan/polyurethane in 10.0 % by weight or more, please fill in the following questions. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O25 Elastane/Polyurethane

Are you using a closed process when producing elastane/polyurethane?	☐ Yes	☐ No
Do you use tinorganic compounds in the production?	☐ Yes	☐ No
Is the emission to air of aromatic diisocyanates during polymerisation and, if applicable, spinning, less than 5 mg/kg of produced fibre, expressed as an annual average?	☐ Yes	☐ No

Please attach the test report. Name of attachement:_____

Is N,N-Dimethylacetamide (DMAc, CAS no. 127-19-5) used in the production of elastane?	☐ Yes	☐ No

Please attach documentation showing that the requirement is fulfilled.

Name of attachment: _____

If the sanitary product and any additional components contain polyamide in 5.0 % by weight or more, please fill in the following questions. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O26 Polyamide

Does the emission of nitrogen dioxide (N_2O) to the air from the monomer production exceed 9 g/kg caprolactam (for nylon 6) or adipinsyre (for nylon 6.6), expressed as an annual average?	☐ Yes	☐ No

Please attach detailed information and/or test report.

Name of attachment: _____

If the sanitary product and any additional components contain a polymer type in 10.0 % by weight or more, please fill in the following questions. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O27 Energy consumption in polymer production for fossil-based polymers

The total energy consumption for polymerisation must not exceed:

- 2,1 MJ/kg for PP, HDPE and LLDPE
- 2,6 MJ/kg for LDPE
- 1,1 MJ/kg for PS
- 8 MJ/kg for PA6.6
- 10 MJ/kg for PA6
- 6,0 MJ/kg for PET
- 15,0 MJ/kg for elastan/PUR

The calculation must show the factory-specific energy for the polymerisation of the monomers.

A calculation of total energy consumption in MJ/kg of polymer must be submitted. A description must also be provided of how the energy consumption from different subprocesses has been included in the calculation, divided according to the different energy types involved (electricity, fossil energy sources, steam etc.). The energy consumption must be declared by the polymer producer, and can be sent directly to Nordic Ecolabelling if desired.

Please attach a calculation sheet.

Name of attachment:_____

If the sanitary product and any additional components contain a polymer type in 20.0 % by weight or more, please fill in the following questions. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O24, part B Polymers, constituent substances

Do the additives and/or chemical substances in the polymer/plastic material the chemical requirements in O3-O11 and are the forms 2, 3 and 4 filled in? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of attachments:_____

Date and place:	Company name:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 11, Polymer/plastic materials from renewable raw materials

For requirement O24 and O28

To be completed by the sanitary manufacturer:

State the polymer type_____and the renewabel raw material_____

and the percentage % by weight in the sanitary product and any additional components:_____

To be completed by the polymer/plastic producer.

Name of the polymer/plastic material:

_____

Name of the polymer/plastic material producer:

_____

O24, part A Polymers, constituent substances

This part can be filled in by a supplier (e.g. a non-woven producer) if the material is tested.

Is the polymer/plastic material free from:

a)	halogenated organic compounds	☐ Yes	☐ No
b)	phthalates	☐ Yes	☐ No
c)	organotin compounds	☐ Yes	☐ No
d)	compounds based on lead, cadmium, chromium VI and mercury	☐ Yes	☐ No
	Does the amount of antimony in polyester, measured as an average value on an annual basis, exceed 260 ppm (the requirement does not, however, apply to recycled polyester)	☐ Yes	☐ No

Please attach test report. Name of attachment: _____

If the sanitary product and any additional components contain a polymer type from renewable raw materials in 5.0 % by weight or more, please fill in the following questions. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O28 Energy consumption for production of polymers from renewable raw materials

The energy consumption from fossil fuels in the production of renewable polymers must not exceed:

- 37 MJ/kg of polymer based on renewable raw materials

The calculation of energy consumption for renewable polymers must include the processes from the production of monomer to the finished polymer. Energy from cultivation of the raw material, transport of the raw material to the production site, the extraction of the raw material or the energy content of the actual raw material should not be included in the calculation.

Information on energy use from fossil fuels.The total energy consumption in MJ/kg polymer must be calculated. A description of the source of energy from the differed processes should be included in the calculation.

Please attach a separate calculation sheet.

Name of attachment:_____

If the polymer type makes up 20 % or more of the sanitary product's total weight, please fill in the following questions. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O24, part B Polymers, constituent substances

Do the additives and/or chemical substances in the polymer/plastic material the chemical requirements in O3-O11 and are the forms 2, 3 and 4 filled in? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of attachment: _____

Date and place:	Company name:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 12, Renewable raw materials

For requirement O29

Name of the renewable polymer and purpose of use:

_____

Name of the renewable polymer producer:

_____

To be completed by the renewable polymer producer and/or the feedstock supplier

Is the polymer made of 100 % renewable feedstock? ☐ Yes ☐ No

O29 Palm oil, soybean oil and sugar beet as feedstock for the renewable polymer

If palm oil is used as feedstock for the polymer, all process steps must be RSPO certified with physical segregation in all process steps (”Track and trace).
Is the requirement fulfilled? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Soybean oil must be RTRS certified with physical segregation in all process steps (Fully Segregated type).
Is the requirement fulfilled? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Sugar beet must be Bonroso certified with full segregation in all process steps (Physical shipment).
Is the requirement fulfilled? ☐ Yes ☐ No

The polymer producer who is buying the renewable feedstock must have a chain of custody certificate (CoC) in accordance with the certification scheme.
Is the requirement fulfilled? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please attach a copy of the relevant certificates or other documentation. Nordic Ecolabelling reserves the right to require further documentation in the event of uncertainty about the origin of the raw material.

Name of attachment: _____

Date and place:	Company name
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 13, Recycled plastic

For requirement O30

Name of the polymer/plastic material:

_____

Name of the polymer/plastic material producer:

_____

O30 Recycled plastic

The following must be documented:

The polymer/plastic material must comprise post-consumer* recycled material (as defined in ISO 14021) and/or industrial scrap.

Please attach documentation showing that the requirement is fulfilled.

Name of attachment:_____

Does the recycled polymer/plastic contain polybrominated biphenyls or diphenyl ethers, phtalates, organotin ompounds, lead, cadmium, mercury or chromium VI? Impurities up to 100 ppm are, however, permitted.

Please attach a test report or documentation that the material originate from known sources where it is substantiated that these kind of substances are not present.

Name of attachment: _____

Have any chemicals been added to the recycled polymer/plastic material? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If the polymer type makes up 20 % or more by weight of the sanitary product and the additional components, the added chemicals to the polymer/plastic material must fulfill the requirements O3, O4, O5 and O7. Please use form 2 and 4.

Name of attachment:_____

Date and place:	Company name:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 14 superabsorbant polymers

For requirement O31, O32 and O33

Name of the polymer/plastic material and purpose of use:

_____

Name of the polymer/plastic material producer:

_____

To be completed by the producer of the superabsorbent polymer.

O31 Superabsorbentpolymers (SAP), residual monomers and extracts

Is acrylamide (CAS no. 79-06-1) used as a monomer?	☐ Yes	☐ No
Does the super absorbent (SAP) contain more than 400 ppm residual monomers (the total of unreacted acrylic acid and crosslinkers) that are classified with the risk or hazard phrases specified in requirement O3, Table 2? (Table 2 will be included in the form after the public consultation)	☐ Yes	☐ No

Please specify the residual monomers which are classified as described above.

Does the super absorbent contain more than 5 % by weight of the water-soluble extracts (monomers and oligomers of acrylic acid with lower molecular weight than SAP, and salts)?	☐ Yes	☐ No

Please describe the method of analysis and the laboratories responsible for the analysis:

_____

Please describe the amount of water-soluble extracts:

_____

Information on sampling, methods of analysis and analysis laboratories is provided in Appendix 2. The following methods can be used:

- ERT 410.2-02 Residual monomers, EDANA Recommended Test Methods
- EDANA method Ert 470.1-99 with extraction either 1 or 16 hours.

Please attach a product safety data sheet which specifies the composition and full name and CAS number of the super absorbent polymer.

Name of attachment:_____

If the sanitary product and any additional components contain super absorbent polymers in 5.0 % by weight or more, please fill in the following questions. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O32 Superabsorbents, additives

Additives in superabsorbent materials must fulfill requirements O3-O11.

Please use forms 2, 3 and 4 as documentation.

Name of attachment:_____

If the sanitary product and any additional components contain super absorbent polymers in 20.0 % by weight or more, please fill in the following questions. Do not forget to sign on the last page.

O33 Superabsorbenter based on renewable raw materials

The raw materials must fulfil requirements O29. Documentation as specified in the requirements listed above.

Please attach separate documentation showing that the requirements are fulfilled.

Name of attachment:_____

Date and place:	Company name:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 15, Non-woven

For requirements O34 and O35

Name of the non-woven material:

_____

Name of the producer of the non-woven material:

_____

To be completed by the producer of the non-woven material.

O34 Non-woven, general requirement

Please specify the materials (raw materials and additives) used in production and state the names of the raw material suppliers.

Materials/chemicals	**Producer/supplier**	**Weight (gram)**
		Sum:

- Fluff/cellulose pulp must fulfil requirements in chapter 2.2.1, use form 5 in appendix 1
- Cotton must fulfil requirements in chapter 2.2.4, use form 8
- Viscose must fulfil requirements in chapter 2.2.5, use form 9
- Polymers as fibre or binder must fulfil requirements in chapter 2.2.6, use form 10 and/or 11
- Superabsorbents must fulfil requirements in chapter 2.2.7, use form 14
- If other materials are present and have requirements in the criteria documement, these must also be fulfilled. If co-spun fibre is used, the polymer that accounts for the highest proportion must fulfil the requirements.

Attach separate documentation showing that materials comply with the requirements.

Name of attachment:_____

O35 Non-woven, chemicals

All additives/chemical products used in non-woven must fulfil the chemical requirements O3-O11. Forms 2, 3 and 4 can be used.

A substance that is classified as sensitising with risk phrase H317 and/or H334 can only be used in the process water if the residue in the non-woven is < 0.10 ppm for each sensitising substance. Other process- and auxiliary chemicals (e.g. spinning additives and machine oils) are exempt from the requirement.

The requirement does apply to CaCO3, for example. Auxiliary chemicals such as spinning additives are exempted from the requirement.

The non-woven material producer shall send in documentation in accordance with requirements O3 - O11. Forms 2, 3 and 4 can be used.

Name of attachment:_____

Date and place:	Name of the manufacturer of the non-woven:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Form 16 Declaration for inks/dyestuff

For the part of the requirements O11 and O12 that are based on requirements in the Chemical Modul ("Nordic Ecolabelling of Paper Products – Chemical Module, Version 2 or later)

Product name:

Function:

Manufacturer/supplier:

Classification

Do the dyestuff and/or printing inks shall meet the chemical requirements O3 to O5 in the criteria for sanitary products and is Annex 1, Form 2 completed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Pigments

Are any of the pigments based on heavy metals, aluminum or copper?

If yes, please specify the metal:

In case of presence of copper in the pigment, it is confirmed that copper is only present as ptalocyanin pigment.

Impurities

We hereby declare that total lead, cadmium, mercury and chromium impurities do not exceed 100 ppm in the dye or pigment.

Direct colours (dying of fibermaterials)

We hereby declare that the lead content does not exceed 100 ppm, mercury 4 ppm, cadmium 20 ppm and chromium 100 ppm in direct dyes.

Pigment colours (for printing)

We hereby declare that the lead content does not exceed 100 ppm, mercury 25 ppm, cadmium 50 ppm, chromium 100 ppm in the pigment dyes.

Phthalates

Have phthalates been used in the dye formulations contained in the product?

Amines

Does the dye formulation contain dyes that can decompose to form any of the amines listed in R11 (table 2) of the Chemical Modul (”Nordic Ecolabelling of Paper Products – Chemical Module, Version 2 or later”)?

We hereby certify that all changes that are made in the product composition until next revision of the criteria document will immediately be notified to Nordic Ecolabelling.

Signature of supplier/manufacturer

Date and place:	Company name:
Responsible person:	Signature, responsible person:

Nordic Ecolabelling will notify the supplier of the chemical product about any changes in the Chemical Module.

Appendix 2 Analysis and test laboratories

Choice of analysis laboratory

Testing must be performed in a competent manner. The test laboratory must be impartial and competent.

The ecolabelling organization will ensure that the test laboratory fulfils the general requirements in the standard EN 45001 or ISO-IEC Guide 25 or has official GLP approval. The applicant is responsible for documentation and analysis fees.

The manufacturer's own laboratory may be approved for analysis and testing if the authorities check or monitor the sampling and analysis process or if the manufacturer has a quality assurance system in place that encompasses sampling and analysis and is certified to ISO 9001.

In the case of chemicals, scientifically tested literature references or a product safety data sheet containing data on ecotoxicity and the test method used may be used to verify that the chemicals fulfil the requirements.

Formaldehyde in adhesives

The content of formaldehyde in adhesives can be determined with an appropriate method, e.g. derivatisation and analysis with GC-MSD or HPLC with UV detection. A relevant standard method could be ISO EN 16000-10:2006, which is used e.g. for formaldehyde in building products (adhesives included).

Absorbable organic halogens (AOX) and organic bounded chlorine (OCl)

AOX and OCl shall be tested using ISO 9562 or the equivalent EPA 1650C for AOX, and ISO 11480 for OCl. Frequency of measurement for AOX shall be set in accordance with the criterion 2.2.1 for fluff and cellulose pulp or pulp for air-laid..

COD/TOC

COD: ISO 6060 Water quality. Determination of the chemical oxygen demand.

TOC: ISO 8245 Water quality. Guidelines for the determination of total organic carbon (TOC).

Determination of chemical oxygen demand is calculated as an annual average and based on at least one representative 24-hour sample per week unless the emission permit of the authorities prescribes some other means of calculation.

Zinc

Analysis of the zinc content of waste water: SS 02 81 52, DS 263, NS 4773, SFS 3047 or ISO 17294 (2007). Analysis may be performed regularly using photometric or similar methods, provided that the analysis results are checked regularly and comply with the above methods of analysis.

Emissions of zinc to water are calculated as an annual average and based on at least one representative 24-hour sample per week unless the emission permit of the authorities prescribes some other method of calculation.

Content of chemical substances in plastic

Analysis of the content of substances like lead, cadmium, chromium, mercury,

poly-brominated bi-phenyls and diphenyl ethers, halogenated organic substances, organotin compounds and phthalates must be done with XRF (X-ray fluorescence), ICP-MS (inductively coupled plasma - mass spectrometry), SEM (scanning electron microscopy) with EDS (Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy), FTIR (Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy) or an equivalent methods.

The test results may be submitted by the plastic producer or by a later part of the supply chain, for instance a non-woven producer. The test must be performed on the "clean" material before any addition of glue or other additives. The method of analysis and the detection limit must be stated.

Superabsorbents

Residual monomers in SAP

As a test method for residual monomers in SAP could Ert 410.2 (02) Residual monomers, EDANA Recommended Test method, be used.

Water-soluble extracts in SAP

As a test method could EDANA Ert 470.2 (02) be used with an extraction time of 1 or 16 hours.

Consumer test – framework conditions

These framework conditions may be used as documentation of the performance of the product. They are meant solely as guidelines and suggestions and the applicant's own tests will be accepted.

Consumer test

A consumer test should include at least 10 test persons. Consumers are asked about their satisfaction with the product when compared with the product they normally use. The questions put to the test subjects might be worded as follows:

1. How do you rate the performance of the product compared to the product you normally use?
2. How do you rate the absorption capacity of the product compared to the product you normally use?
3. How do you rate the surface dryness of the product compared to the product you normally use?

At least eight of the test persons must be as satisfied with the project as they are with the product they normally use.

Bio accumulation

In order to obtain an assessment of a substance's ability to accumulate in organisms, the bio concentration factor (BCF) for fish or the octanol/water distribution factor (POW or KOW) can be determined. Nordic Ecolabelling of Car and boat care products - 5

Some of the following methods are to form the basis for the assessment: OECD 107, 117 or 305, and classification shall take place in accordance with the following:

Classification	**OECD 107 or 117**	**OECD 305**
Non-bio-accumulative	log KOW < 4,0	BCF < 500
Bio-accumulative	log KOW > 4,0	BCF ≥ 500

OECD test method 107 is not applicable to surface active components capa¬ble to dissolve in both lipids and water. Based on current knowledge, evidence must be presented for such components which demonstrate to a high degree of certainty that the components or their degradation products do not represent a long-term or delayed hazard to the organisms in the aquatic environment.

Data models (such as BIOWIN) are accepted, but if the results of the model calculations are close to the limit values, or if Nordic Ecolabel has contrary data, more accurate information can be required.

If there is information on both BCF and logKOW, the value for the highest BCF measured shall be used.

Appendix 3 Inspected paper

Appendix 3 is for use by paper producers who are applying to Nordic Ecolabelling for inspection of their paper for use in Nordic ecolabelled sanitary products. Appendix 3A is to be used as an application form and 3B as a chemical requirements declaration.

Only paper which 1) has been awarded a Nordic Ecolabel licence and 2) meets the requirements for inspected paper 3) complies with the requirements for paper in this criteria document must be used in Nordic ecolabelled sanitary products. Inspected paper must meet the requirements of A or B below.

A list of inspected paper grades has been published on Nordic Ecolabelling's publicly available web portal. A fee is charged for inspection and publication of paper grades.

Definition of inspected paper

Paper grades eligible for inspection are defined in the Supplementary module for copying and printing paper, version 4:

- Wood-pulp and wood-free non-converted printing paper produced from chemical and/or mechanical pulp and/or recycled fibre, for, printing.
- The following boards produced from chemical and/or mechanical pulp and/or recycled fibre:
  - Homogeneous board SBB (Solid Bleached Board), SBS (Solid Bleached sulphate) and SUB (Solid Unbleached Board)
  - FBB (Folding Boxboard)
  - Board based on recycled fibre WLC (White Lined Chipboard)

Requirements for inspected paper

A. Inspected paper must meet all requirements in the Basic module for paper products, version 2, and the Chemical module, version 2, with the following exceptions:

1. Requirements for carbon dioxide emission from transport cease (K11 in the Basic module version 2)
2. The documentation requirements for K1-K14 in the Chemical module, version 2, has been changed to the effect that documentation must instead be a list of all the chemicals used with brand names, suppliers, function ,and quantities used. . Electronic application aid in My Swan Account shall be used to document the requirement. Chemical suppliers must also use electronic application aid for suppliers in My Swan Account for inspection of chemicals. Nordic Ecolabelling reserves the right to claim further documentation for the chemicals to check that they fulfil the requirements.
3. The definition of special paper and niche products in K4 in the Supplementary module for copying and printing paper version 4 also applies to inspected paper.

B. Paper already labelled with the EU Ecolabel must fulfil the following requirements of the Basic module for paper products, version 2:

1. Requirement for fibre raw material (K7 in the Basic module version 2)

2. Requirement for total energy points (K9 in the Basic module version 2)
3. Requirement for CO2 emission (K10 in the Basic module version 2) with the exception of transports (K11 in the Basic module)
4. Requirement for chemicals (K1-K14 in the Chemical module version 2) The documentation requirements for K1-K14 in the Chemical module, version 2, has been changed to the effect that documentation must instead be a list of all the chemicals used with brand names, suppliers, function, and quantities used. Chemical suppliers must use electronic application aid for suppliers in My Swan Account for inspection of chemicals. Nordic Ecolabelling reserves the right to claim further documentation for the chemicals to check that they fulfil the requirements.

Information regarding inspection of paper

There should be no risk that inspected paper is regarded as a Nordic ecolabelled product. The paper producer must comply with Nordic Ecolabelling's rules governing information of inspected paper. The rules can be obtained from Nordic Ecolabelling.

Form, application for inspected paper

Is the paper EU ecolabelled? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please state licence number_____

Paper producer:_____

Factory/production site:_____

☐ Paper ☐ Carton

Trade names*	Distributor's trade name, if applicable	Distributor/supplier	All grammages**

**) Paper grades applied for must be given a unique trade name in order to avoid mixing inspected paper with uninspected paper.*
***) The grammages comprised must be stated.*

Form, declaration on chemicals

The paper producer applying for inspection of its printing paper in accordance with Nordic Ecolabelling's requirements in the criteria for sanitary products must account for all production chemicals, providing complete names. The declaration must contain all chemicals used in the production of paper. The pulp producer must make a separate statement on the pulp production chemicals. The requirements also apply to internal and external water purification.

List of production chemicals:

Name of chemical	Function	Producer/supplier	Quantity added (kg/ton)	Classification

Signature by paper/pulp producer:

We declare that the above list covers all our production chemicals and that the classification stated is correct.

We also declare that the production chemicals fulfil the requirements K2 – K14 in the Chemical module, version 2.

---------- _____

Date Signature

Company name:	
Address:	
Contact:	
Tel:	E-mail:

Appendix 4 Guidelines for standard, renewable comoditives

Nordic Ecolabelling sets requirements on the standards to which cultivated commoditives is certified. These requirements are described below. Each individual national sustainability standard and each certification system is reviewed by Nordic Ecolabelling as to fulfilment of the requirements. When a standard is revised, it is re-reviewed.

Requirements on standards

- The standard must balance economic, ecological and social interests and comply with the Rio Declaration's principles, Agenda 21 and the Forest Principles, and respect relevant international conventions and agreements.
- The standard must contain absolute requirements and promote and contribute towards sustainable cultivation. Nordic Ecolabelling places special emphasis on the standard including effective requirements and that the requirements protect the biodiversity.
- The standard must be available to the general public. The standard must have been developed in an open process in which stakeholders with ecological, economic and social interests have been invited to participate.

The requirements related to the sustainable standards are formulated as process requirements. The basis is that if stakeholders agree on the economic, social and environmental aspects of the standard, this safeguards an acceptable requirement level.

If a sustainability standard is developed or approved by stakeholders with ecological, economic and social interests, the standard may maintain an acceptable standard. Accordingly, Nordic Ecolabelling requires that the standard balances these three interests and that representatives from all three areas are invited to participate in development of the sustainable standard.

The standard must set absolute requirements that must be fulfilled for the certification. This ensures that the agriculture management fulfils an acceptable level regards the environment. When Nordic Ecolabelling requires that the standard shall "promote and contribute towards sustainable cultivation, the standard must be assessed and revised regularly to initiate process improvement and successively reduce environmental impact.

Requirements on certification system

- The certification system must be open, have significant national or international credibility and be able to verify that the requirements in the sustainable standard are fulfilled.

Requirements on certification body

- The certification body must be independent, credible and capable of verifying that the requirements of the standard have been fulfilled. The certification body must also be able to communicate the results and to facilitate the effective implementation of the standard.

The certification system must be designed to verify that the requirements of the standard are fulfilled. The method used for certification must be repeatable and applicable so the requirements can be verified. Certification must be in respect to a specific sustainable standard. There must be inspection prior to certification.

Requirements on Chain of Custody (CoC) certification

- Chain of Custody certification must be issued by an accredited, competent third party.
- The system shall stipulate requirements regarding the chain of custody that assure traceability, documentation and controls throughout the production chain.

Documentation

Copy of cultivation standard, name, address and telephone number to the organisation who has worked out the standard and audit rapports.

References to persons who represents stakeholders with ecological, economic and social interests who have been invited to participate.

Nordic Ecolabelling may request further documents to examine whether the requirements of the standard and certification system in question can be approved.