To consultative bodies

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Consultation – proposal for criteria for Nordic Swan Ecolabelling of Printing companies and printed matter

Nordic Ecolabelling hereby invites you to comment on our proposal for the Nordic Swan Ecolabelling of Printing companies and printed matter – generation 6. See more at www.svanemerket.no where you also find the background document and the submission form.

The proposed criteria have been prepared by representatives from the Nordic Ecolabelling offices under the leadership of Thomas Christensen. Please contact the Norwegian office if you wish to receive a hard copy of the documents and/or a list of the bodies consulted.

The main changes proposed are listed here:

- The requirement for consumption of inspected and Nordic Swan/EU Ecolabelled paper has been strengthened from at least 25% to 70% on an annual basis.
- New requirements for printing substrates other than paper.
- Changes in the chemical requirements:
    - The requirement has been updated in relation to CLP and the general chemical requirements for The Nordic Swan Ecolabel.
    - New requirements have been introduced for the definition of ingoing substances and impurities in chemical products, and the limit for impurities in the chemical product is 100 ppm.
    - The chemical requirement has been restructured (no longer included in a matrix and point system) and replaced with absolute requirements for the individual chemical.
    - Printing inks, toners, inks, varnished and adhesives must be tested for de-inkability.
- Several exemptions and trivial limits for specific chemical has been removed in generation 6 e.g.:
    - Toluene-based washing agents and printing ink and chemicals containing chrome trioxide and copper sulphate used in gravure printing. This means that it is not possible to use rotogravure printing in the new generation 6.
    - UV inks (energy-curable inks) used in inkjet machines. This means that there is limited opportunity to use UV inks in the new generation 6.

We would very much appreciate your comments on the proposed requirements. The contact person in Norway is Arne Godal. We kindly ask you to send your comments to us no later than June 30th 2020, via the submission form on our website, by mail or by e-mail to post@svanemerket.no. A summary of consultation comments that are received will be available at Nordic Ecolabelling.

Best regards
Ecolabelling Norway

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