BLUE ANGEL

The German Ecolabel



Wallpapers and Woodchip Wallpapers made primarily from Recycled Paper

DE-UZ 35

Basic Award Criteria
Edition June 2014
Version 6

The Environmental Label is supported by the following four institutions:









The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety is the owner of the label. It regularly provides information on the decisions taken by the Environmental Label Jury.

The German Environmental Agency with its specialist department for "Ecodesign, Eco-Labelling and Environmentally friendly Procurement" acts as office of the Environmental Label Jury and develops the technical criteria of the Basic Criteria for Award of the Blue Angel.

The Environmental Label Jury is the independent, decision-making body for the Blue Angel and includes representatives from environmental and consumer associations, trade unions, industry, the trade, crafts, local authorities, academia, the media, churches, young people and the German federal states.

The RAL gGmbH is the awarding body for the Environmental Label. It organises the process for developing the relevant award criteria in independent expert hearings – which involve all relevant interest groups.

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Version 1 (06/2014):	First Edition, Expiry date: December 31, 2018
Version 2 (01/2018):	Prolongation without changes for 4 years, until 31.12.2022
Version 3 (04/2020):	Changes in chapter 3.7
Version 4 (12/2021):	Prolongation without changes for 1 year, until 31.12.2023
Version 5 (01/2023):	Prolongation for 1 year without any changes, until 31.12.2024
Version 6 (01/2024):	Prolongation without changes, Expiry date: December 31, 2025

Table of contents

1	Introduction	4
1.1	Preface	4
1.2	Background	4
1.3	Objectives of the Environmental Label	4
2	Scope	5
3	Requirements and Compliance Verifications	5
3.1	Use of waste paper	5
3.1.	1 Wallpapers	5
3.1.	2 Woodchip wallpapers	5
3.2	Auxiliary agents	6
3.3	Formaldehyde	6
3.4	Anti-slime agents and preservatives	6
3.5	Azo colorants	7
3.6	Heavy metals	7
3.7	Used substances and mixtures	7
3.8	Waste paper processing	8
3.9	Origin of the virgin fibres	9
3.10	Exclusion of ingredients	9
3.11	1 Note	9
4	Applicants and Parties Involved	9
5	Use of the Environmental Label	10
App	endix A Extract from "Altpapier, Liste der Deutschen Standardsorten und ihre Qualitäten" (Waste Paper, List of German Standard Grades and their Qualities)	

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

1 Introduction

1.1 Preface

In cooperation with the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, the German Environmental Agency and considering the results of the expert hearings conducted by RAL gGmbH, the Environmental Label Jury has set up these Basic Criteria for the Award of the Environmental Label. RAL gGmbH has been tasked with awarding the Environmental Label.

Upon application to RAL gGmbH and on the basis of a Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label to be concluded with RAL gGmbH, the permission to use the Environmental Label may be granted to all products, provided that they comply with the requirements as specified hereinafter.

The product must comply with all the legal requirements in the country in which it is to be marketed. The applicant shall declare that the product meets this requirement.

1.2 Background

The use of waste paper for the production of wallpapers, especially waste paper from household and commercial collections, helps to save resources, above all the forest ecosystem, to protect the climate and to reduce the amount of waste.

It also helps avoid the environmental impacts directly associated with the production of pulp and wood pulp.

In a comparison of ecological systems paper products made from post-consumer recycled paper do much better than paper products made from virgin fibres using wood as a source of fibrous raw materials in terms of consumption of resources, wastewater load, water and energy consumption.

1.3 Objectives of the Environmental Label

Where percentages of virgin wood fibres are used for the production of wallpapers and woodchip wallpapers it is imperative from an ecological point of view that the respective timber comes from sustainably managed forests and forestry operations meeting high ecological and social standards. Use of timber from forests of high conservation value, e.g. tropical or boreal primeval forests, shall be unacceptable. From an ecological point of view, the FSC Standard is of great significance for fibre certification. The Environmental Label Jury expects the PEFC Standard to be further developed during the term of these Basic Criteria with regard to the requirements for plantation operations, the ban on genetically modified organisms as well as with regard to a responsible use of primeval forests. The Jury will pay special attention to these issues when next revising these Basic Criteria.

Therefore, following benefits for the environment and health are stated in the explanatory box:



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- low use of energy and water in the manufacturing process
- · primarily made from waste paper
- particularly low level of harmful materials

2 Scope

These Basic Criteria apply to:

- a) wallpapers made of wallpaper base according to DIN 6730,
- b) woodchip wallpapers according to DIN 6730.

3 Requirements and Compliance Verifications

The products under paragraph 2 may be marked with the Blue Angel eco-label on page 1, provided that they meet the following requirements:

3.1 Use of waste paper

The products under para. 2 must be made from recycled waste paper.

Waste paper or recovered paper is the generic term for papers and boards recovered in quantifiable amounts after use or processing.

The specifications of the waste paper grades are listed in Appendix A to the Basic Criteria DE-UZ 35.

Leaving the incorporated wood fibres out of account the minimum waste paper content must be:

3.1.1 Wallpapers

for wallpapers a minimum of 600 kg of waste paper per 1000 kg of manufactured new paper (weight air dried), at least 50 percent of which must consist of ordinary, medium, kraft and special waste paper grades (groups 1, 2, 4 and 5 – except for the individual grade 4.07);

3.1.2 Woodchip wallpapers

Woodchip wallpapers must be made from 100 percent waste paper, at least 50 of which must consist of ordinary and medium waste paper grades (groups 1, 2).

Compliance Verification

The applicant shall specify in Survey A in Annex 1 to the Contract pursuant to DE-UZ 35 the average percentages of the used paper grades of groups 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and declare compliance with the requirement in para. 3.1.

The correctness of the data provided in Annex 1 to the Contract shall be confirmed once a year in accordance with Annex 6 to the Basic Criteria

- by a certification body accredited by Deutsche Akkreditierungsstelle (DAkkS) (national accreditation body) for ISO 14001 for the scope of paper mills (NACE 17.12) or
- by an environmental auditor accredited for this scope (NACE 17.12) by Deutsche Akkreditierungs- und Zulassungsgesellschaft für Umweltgutachter mbH (DAU) (German Association for Accreditation and Recognition of Environmental Auditors) in accordance with the Umweltauditgesetz (Environmental Audit Act) or
- by an accredited FSC certifier or
- by a UBA-recognised expert in the field of fibrous raw materials, waste paper grades and waste paper recycling.

The applicant shall present a product sample.

3.2 Auxiliary agents

The wallpapers shall not be manufactured using chemical auxiliary agents that contain glyoxal or formaldehyde as constituents or are able to split off formaldehyde.

Compliance Verification

The applicant shall declare compliance with the requirement of para. 3.2.

3.3 Formaldehyde

Woodchip wallpapers or wallpapers shall not be manufactured using formaldehyde or chemicals that contain or split off formaldehyde.

Compliance Verification:

The applicant shall declare compliance with the requirement in Annex 1 to the Contract.

3.4 Anti-slime agents and preservatives

Only those substances may be used as anti-slime agents or preservatives for the manufacture of the products which have been approved under the Biocidal Products Regulation - Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 - (EU List of approved active substances; formerly inclusion in Annex I of the Biocidal Products Directive 98/09 EC) or which are still being reviewed as notified existing active substances for the respective type of biocidal product under the EU Review Programme for Existing Active Substances.

Only those products may be used as biocidal products which have been approved for the respective field of use. Products containing existing active substances which are still under EU review may continue to be used without authorisation until a decision is reached.

Moreover, the products must not contain active substances considered as candidates for substitution in accordance with Article 10 of the Biocidal Products Regulation (EU) 528/2012. Pending the respective entry into force of the approval requirement for the use of biocidal products containing existing active substances only those substances may be used which are additionally listed in the 36th Recommendation of BfR (Federal Institute for Risk Assessment).

The following substances shall not be used:

		CAS No
•	Sodium hexafluorosilicate	[16893-85-9]
•	N-[a-(1-nitroethyl)benzyl] ethylenediamine	[14762-38-0]
•	Mixture of	
	 tris-(hydroxymethyl)-nitromethane 	[126-11-4]
	 5-chloro-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one 	[26172-55-4]
	and	
	 2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one 	[2682-20-41]
•	Tetramethylthiuram disulfide	[137-26-8]
•	Nanosilver	[7440-22-4]

Compliance Verification

The applicant shall declare compliance with the requirement in para. 3.4 and give in Annex 1 to the Contract pursuant to DE-UZ 35 the anti-slime agents and preservatives by their IUPAC names and specify the quantities used per kilogram of product.

3.5 Azo colorants

Azo colorants that may split off any of the amines listed in Directive 2002/61/EEC or TRGS 614 shall not be used as colorants.

Compliance Verification

To verify compliance with the requirement in para. 3.5 the applicant shall submit a declaration from the colorant supplier in accordance with Annex 2 to the Contract pursuant to DE-UZ 35.

3.6 Heavy metals

Colorants (pigments or dyes) that contain mercury, lead, cadmium or chromium (VI) compounds as constituent ingredients shall not be used.

Compliance Verification

To verify compliance with the requirement in para. 3.6 the applicant shall submit a declaration from the colorant supplier in accordance with Annex 2 to the Contract pursuant to DE-UZ 35.

3.7 Used substances and mixtures

No colorants, surface finishing agents, auxiliaries and coating materials shall be used,

- which according to the criteria of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008¹ (or Directive 67/548/EEC) are marked with the H-Phrases (R Phrases) listed in the following table or meet the criteria for such classification².
- or which according to TRGS 905³, as amended, are classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic or reprotoxic substances.

_ ` `	Directive 67/548/EEC (Dangerous Substances Directive)	Phrase
Toxic, mutagenic and reprotoxic substances		
H340	R46	May cause genetic defects.
H341	R68	Suspected of causing genetic defects.
H350	R45	May cause cancer.

Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (GHS Regulation).

The GHS Regulation (Globally Harmonized System) that has come into force on January 20, 2009, replaces the old Directives 67/548/EEC (Dangerous Substances Directive) and 1999/45/EC (Dangerous Preparations Directive). According to the said regulation, substances are classified, labelled and packed until December 1, 2010 according to Directive 67/548/EEC while mixtures (formerly preparations) are classified, labelled and packed until June 1, 2015 according to Directive 1999/45/EC. After these dates the GHS Regulation shall be applied. Both the new indications of danger (H-Statements) and the formerly applicable Risk or R-phrases shall be indicated for substances until the 1st of June 2015 (Material Safety Data Sheet).

The harmonized classifications and labellings of dangerous substances can be found in Part 3 of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 (GHS Regulation). Table 3.1 lists classifications and labellings according to the new system using H Phrases; Table 3.2 lists classifications and labellings according to the old system using R Phrases.

The GHS Regulation can be found, for example, at: http://www.reach-info.de/ghs

http://www.baua.de/de/Themen-von-A-Z/Gefahrstoffe/TRGS/TRGS-905_content.html

Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 (GHS-Regulation)	Directive 67/548/EEC (Dangerous Substances Directive)	Phrase
H350i	R49	May cause cancer by inhalation.
H351 ⁴	R40	Suspected of causing cancer.
H360F	R60	May damage fertility.
H360D	R61	May damage the unborn child.
H360FD	R60/61	May damage fertility. May damage the unborn child.
H360Fd	R60/63	May damage fertility. Suspected of damaging the unborn child.
H360Df	R61/62	May damage the unborn child. Suspected of damaging fertility.
H361f	R62	Suspected of damaging fertility.
H361d	R63	Suspected of damaging the unborn child.
H361fd	62/63	Suspected of damaging fertility. Suspected of damaging the unborn child.
Sensitizing substances		
H317	R43	May cause an allergic skin reaction.

Compliance Verification:

To verify compliance with the requirement the applicant shall present declarations from the suppliers of chemical additives according to Annex 3 to the Contract pursuant to DE-UZ 35. The declarations shall be signed by the head of the company's product development unit or a comparable engineering department. The relevant Material Safety Data Sheets shall be made available to RAL gGmbH, if so requested.

3.8 Waste paper processing

Waste paper shall be processed without using any chlorine, halogenated bleaching agents and not readily biodegradable complexing agents, such as ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) and diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid (DTPA). No optical brighteners shall be used for product manufacture and refinement.

Additional demand for fibres may only be met with virgin fibres that are manufactured without using any optical brighteners, chlorine and halogenated bleaching chemicals.

Compliance Verification

The applicant shall declare compliance with the requirement of para. 3.8. Also, the applicant shall use Survey B in Annex 1 to the Contract pursuant to DE-UZ 35 to list the bleaching chemicals and complexing agents used.

⁴ Except titanium dioxide, because its classification only applies to inhalable powders.

3.9 Origin of the virgin fibres

The origin of the wood for the virgin fibres used shall be documented. The timber must come from forests certified as managed in accordance with the principles of sustainable forestry. The respective forest enterprises shall manage their forests in compliance with high environmental and social standards and be certified accordingly. From an ecological point of view, great significance is attached to the FSC standard.

In addition to this, wood harvested from regional forests managed in harmony with nature helps avoid long and hence ecologically detrimental transport distances. The use of timber from forests of high conservation value, e.g. tropical or boreal primeval forests, shall be unacceptable.

Compliance Verification

The applicant shall name the manufacturer(s) of virgin fibres and provide information on the origin of the timber used in Annex 1 to the Contract

The applicant shall present the relevant fibre certificate.

The correctness of the data provided in Annex 1 to the Contract shall be confirmed once a year in accordance with Annex 6 to the Basic Criteria

- by a certification body accredited by Deutsche Akkreditierungsstelle (DAkkS) (national accreditation body) for ISO 14001 for the scope of paper mills (NACE 17.12) or
- by an environmental auditor accredited for this scope (NACE 17.12) by Deutsche Akkreditierungs- und Zulassungsgesellschaft für Umweltgutachter mbH (DAU) (German Association for Accreditation and Recognition of Environmental Auditors) in accordance with the Umweltauditgesetz (Environmental Audit Act) or
- by an accredited FSC certifier or
- by a UBA-recognised expert in the field of fibrous raw materials, waste paper grades and waste paper recycling.

3.10 Exclusion of ingredients

The products under paragraph 2 shall not contain any ingredients that would require the labelling of the product in accordance with the German Ordinance on Hazardous Substances.

Compliance Verification

The applicant shall declare compliance with the requirement of para. 3.10.

3.11 Note

The following information (or words to that effect) shall appear on the packaging of the product: "Painted woodchip wallpaper and old wallpaper can be disposed of with your residual (non-recyclable) household waste".

Compliance Verification

The applicant shall declare compliance with the requirement of para. 3.11.

4 Applicants and Parties Involved

Manufacturers of final products according to Paragraph 2 shall be eligible for application.

Parties involved in the award process are:

- RAL gGmbH to award the Blue Angel Environmental Label,
- the federal state being home to the applicant's production site,
- Umweltbundesamt (German Environmental Agency) which after the signing of the contract receives all data and documents submitted in applications for the Blue Angel in order to be able to further develop the Basic Award Criteria.

5 Use of the Environmental Label

The use of the Environmental Label by the applicant is governed by a contract on the use of the Environmental Label concluded with RAL gGmbH.

Within the scope of such contract, the applicant undertakes to comply with the requirements under Paragraph 3 while using the Environmental Label.

Contracts on the Use of the Environmental Label are concluded to fix the terms for the certification of products under Paragraph 2. Such contracts shall run until December 31, 2025. They shall be extended by periods of one year each, unless terminated in writing by March 31, 2025 or March 31 of the respective year of extension.

After the expiry of the contract, the Environmental Label may neither be used for labelling nor for advertising purposes. This regulation shall not affect products being still in the market.

The applicant (manufacturer) shall be entitled to apply to RAL gGmbH for an extension of the right to use the ecolabel on the product entitled to the label if it is to be marketed under another brand/trade name and/or other marketing organisations.

The Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label shall specify:

- Applicant (manufacturer)
- Brand/trade name, product description
- Distributor (label user), i.e. the above-mentioned marketing organisations.

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Appendix A Extract from "Altpapier, Liste der Deutschen Standardsorten und ihre Qualitäten" (Waste Paper, List of German Standard Grades and their Qualities)

in accordance with DIN EN 643, as amended.

Published by:

- Bundesverband der Deutschen Entsorgungswirtschaft e.V., Köln (Association of German Disposal Management Cologne)
- Bundesverband Sekundärrohstoffe und Entsorgung e.V., Bonn (Association of Secondary Raw Materials and Disposal)
- Verband Deutscher Papierfabriken, Bonn (Association of German Paper Mills)

Waste Paper Grades

Group 1:	Ordinary Grades
1.01	 Mixed paper and board, unsorted, but unusable materials removed Mixture of various grades of paper and board, without restriction on short fibre content.
1.02	Mixed papers and board (sorted) • Mixture various qualities of paper and board, containing a maximum of 40% of newspapers and magazines.
1.03	 Grey board Printed and unprinted white lined and unlined grey board or mixed board, free from corrugated material.
1.04	 Supermarket corrugated paper and board Used paper and board packaging, containing a minimum of 70% of corrugated board, the rest being solid board and wrapping papers.
1.05	Old corrugated containers Used boxes and sheets of corrugated board of various quality.
1.06	Unsold magazines Unsold magazines, with or without glue.
1.06.01	Unsold magazines without glue
1.07	 Telephone books New and used telephone books, with unlimited content of pages coloured in the mass, with and without glue. Shavings allowed.
1.08	 Mixed newspapers and magazines I A mixture of newspapers and magazines, containing a minimum of 50% of newspapers, with or without glue.
1.09	Mixed newspapers and magazines II A mixture of newspapers and magazines, containing a minimum of 60% of newspapers, with or without glue.
1.10	Mixed magazines and newspapers • A mixture of newspapers and magazines, containing a minimum of 60% of magazines, with or without glue

1.11	Sorted graphic paper for Deinking ⁵	
	Sorted graphic paper from households, newspapers and magazines, each	
	at a minimum of 40%. The percentage of non-deinkable paper and board	
	should be reduced over time to a maximum level of 1.5%. The actual	
	percentage is to be negotiated between buyer and seller.	

Group 2:	Medium Grades	
2.01	Newspapers Newspapers containing a maximum of 5% of newspapers or advertisements coloured in the mass.	
2.02	 Unsold Newspapers Unsold daily newspapers, free from additional inserts or illustrated material coloured in the mass. 	
2.02.01	Unsold newspapers, no flexographic printing allowed Unsold daily newspapers, free from additional inserts or illustrated material coloured in the mass, strings allowed. No flexographic printed material allowed.	
2.03	Lightly printed white shavings Lightly printed white shavings, mainly mechanical pulp-based.	
2.03.01	Lightly printed white shavings without glue Lightly printed white shavings, mainly mechanical pulp-based paper, without glue. 	
2.04	Heavily printed white shavings Heavily printed white shavings, mainly mechanical pulp-based paper.	
2.04.01	Heavily printed white shavings without glue Heavily printed white shavings, mainly mechanical pulp-based paper, without glue. 	
2.05	Sorted office paper • Sorted office paper.	
2.06	 Coloured letters Correspondence, in mixed papers coloured in the mass, with or without print, of printing or writing paper. Free from carbon paper and hard covers. 	
2.07	 White woodfree books Books, including misprints of books, without hard covers, mainly of woodfree white paper, black printed only. Containing a maximum of 10% of coated paper. 	

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⁵ For the current special agreement on the share of contraries (Störstoffgehalt) please see the original list.

2.08	 Coloured woodfree magazines Coated or uncoated magazines, white or coloured in the mass, free from non-flexible covers, bindings, non-dispersable inks and adhesives, poster papers, labels or label trim. May include heavily printed circulars and coloured in the mass shavings. Containing a maximum of 10% mechanical pulp based papers.
2.09/5.0	Carbonless copy paper
9	Carbonless copy paper.
2.10	Bleached woodfree PE-coated board • Bleached woodfree PE-coated board from board manufacturers and converters.
2.11	Other PE-coated board Other PE-coated board. May contain unbleached board and paper from board manufacturers and converters.
2.12	 Mechanical pulp-based computer print-out Continuous computer print-out, mechanical pulp based, sorted by colours, may include recycled fibres.

Group 3:	High Grades
3.01	Mixed lightly coloured printers shavings • Mixed shavings of printing and writing papers, lightly coloured in the mass, containing a minimum of 50% of woodfree paper.
3.02	 Mixed lightly coloured woodfree printer shavings Mixed shavings of printings and writing papers lightly coloured in the mass, containing a minimum of 90% of woodfree paper.
3.03	 Woodfree binders White woodfree lightly printed shavings with glue, free from paper coloured in the mass. May contain a maximum of 10% of mechanical pulp based paper.
3.04	 Tear white shavings White woodfree lightly printed shavings without glue, free from wetstrength paper and paper coloured in the mass.
3.05	 White woodfree letters Sorted white woodfree writing papers, originating from office records, free from cash books, carbon paper and non water soluble adhesives.
3.06	White business forms • White woodfree printed business forms.
3.07	White woodfree computer print-out White woodfree computer print-out, free from carbonless paper and glue.
3.08	Printed bleached sulphate board • Heavily printed sheets of bleached sulphate board, without glue, polycoated or waxed materials.
3.09	Lightly printed bleached sulphate boards • Lightly printed sheets of bleached sulphate board, without glue, polycoated or waxed materials.

3.10	 Multi printing Woodfree, coated, lightly printed, free from wet-strength paper or paper coloured in the mass.
3.11	 White heavily printed multiply board New cuttings of heavily printed white multiply board, containing woodfree, mechanical or thermo-mechanical pulp plies, but without grey plies.
3.12	 White lightly printed multiply board New cuttings of lightly printed white multiply board, containing woodfree, mechanical or thermo-mechanical pulp plies, but without grey plies.
3.13	 White unprinted multiply board New cuttings of unprinted white multiply board, containing woodfree, mechanical or thermo-mechanical pulp plies, but without grey plies.
3.14	 White newsprint Shavings and sheets of white unprinted newsprint, free from magazine paper.
3.15	 White mechanical pulp based coated and uncoated paper Shavings and sheets of white unprinted coated and uncoated mechanical pulp based paper.
3.15.01	 White mechanical pulp based paper containing coated paper Shavings and sheets of white unprinted mechanical pulp based coated paper.
3.16	 White woodfree coated paper, without glue Shavings and sheets of white unprinted woodfree coated paper, without glue
3.17	 White shavings Shavings and sheets of white unprinted paper, free from newsprint and magazine paper containing a minimum of 60% of woodfree paper; may contain a maximum of 10% of coated paper. Without glue.
3.18	 White woodfree shavings Shavings and sheets of white unprinted woodfree paper; may contain a maximum of 5% of coated paper. Without glue.
3.18.01	 White woodfree uncoated shavings Shavings and sheets of white unprinted woodfree paper, free from coated paper. Without glue.
3.19	 Unprinted bleached sulphate board Unprinted sheets of bleached sulphate board, without glue, polycoated or waxed materials.

Group 4:	Kraft Grades	
4.01	New shavings of corrugated board	
	Shavings of corrugated board, with liners of kraft or testliner.	

4.01.01	Unused corrugated kraft
	Unused boxes, sheets and shavings of corrugated board, with kraft liners And the flating area to fine a charge of a series leaves at a series leaves.
	only, the fluting made from chemical or thermo-chemical pulp.
4.01.02	Unused corrugating material
	Unused boxes, sheets and shavings of corrugated board, with liners of
	kraft or testliner.
4.02	Used corrugated kraft I
	• Used boxes of corrugated board, with kraft liners only, the fluting made
	from chemical or thermo-chemical pulp.
4.03	Used corrugated kraft II
	• Used boxes of corrugated board, with liners of kraft or testliners but
	having at least one liner made of kraft.
4.04	Used kraft sacks
	Clean used kraft sacks. Wet-strength and non wet-strength.
4.04.01	Used kraft sacks with polycoated papers
	• Clean used kraft sacks. Wet-strength and non wet-strength. May include
	polycoated papers.
4.05	Unused kraft sacks
	Unused kraft sacks. Wet-strength and non wet-strength.
4.05.01	Unused kraft sacks with polycoated papers
	• Unused kraft sacks. Wet-strength and non wet-strength. May include
	polycoated papers.
4.06	Used kraft
	Used kraft paper and board of a natural or white shade.
4.07	New kraft,
	Shavings and other new kraft paper and board of a natural shade.
4.08	New carrier kraft
	New carrier kraft, may include wet-strength paper.

Group 5:	Special Grades
5.01	Mixed recovered paper and board • Unsorted paper and board, separated at source.
5.02	 Mixed packaging A mixture of various qualities of used paper and board packaging, free from newspapers and magazines.
5.03	 Liquid board packaging Used liquid packaging board including used PE-coated liquid packaging board (with or without aluminium content), containing a minimum of 50% by weight of fibres, and the balance being aluminium coatings.
5.04	 Wrapper kraft Poly-lined, sprayed, or laminated used kraft. Must not contain bitumen or wax coatings.

5.05	 Wet labels Used wet labels from wet-strength papers, containing a maximum of 1% glass content, and a maximum of 50% moisture, without other unusable material.
5.06	Unprinted white wet-strength woodfree papers Unprinted white wet-strength woodfree papers.
5.07	Printed white wet-strength woodfree papers • Printed white wet-strength woodfree papers.