



**Environmental Choice^M Program
Panel Review Process**

**VERIFICATION AND LICENSING CRITERIA
CCD-098**

Product Type: Sanitary Napkins

Notice

Throughout this document, any reference to a standard or guideline means to its latest edition.

The Environmental Choice^M Program (ECP) reserves the right to accept equivalent test data for the test methods specified in this document.

Interpretation

1. In this set of requirements, please note the following definitions:

“ASPM” means Association of Sanitary Pad Manufacturers;

“biodegradable” means a resulting biodegradation rate of 75% in 28 days when tested in accordance with ISO 9439, *Water Quality - Evaluation in an aqueous medium of the “ultimate” aerobic biodegradation of organic compounds - method by analysis of released carbon dioxide* (also known as the “Strum” test). For the purposes of this application, biodegradation testing may be performed either on the whole product or as a series on the individual components (excluding the adhesive);

“flushable” means successfully flushed from a toilet pan and travelled a sufficient distance in the attached pipeworks system so as not to cause a solids blockage problem when tested on a 6 litre toilet in accordance with ASPM *Towel Flushability Test Method*;

“maximum absorption” means the maximum amount of liquid a product with 3.33 grams of absorbent material is capable of absorbing. It is calculated as the mass of the wet article

less the mass of the dry article; and
“retention coefficient” means the weight of the article after centrifugation less the weight of the dry article, divided by the weight of the absorbent material in the dry article.

General Requirements

2. In order to minimize the solid waste burden, conserve resources, and reduce quantities and impacts of toxic substances and other pollutants associated with packaging, the ECP requires the submission of an attestation of commitment to the objectives of the National Packaging Protocol.
3. To be authorized to carry the EcoLogo^M, **Flushable and Biodegradable Sanitary Napkins** must:
 - (a) meet or exceed all applicable governmental and industrial safety and performance standards; and
 - (b) be manufactured and transported in such a manner that all steps of the process, including the disposal of waste products arising therefrom, will meet the requirements of all applicable governmental acts, by laws and regulations including, for facilities located in Canada, the *Fisheries Act* and the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (CEPA).

Product Specific Requirements

4. To be authorized to carry the EcoLogo^M, **Flushable and Biodegradable Sanitary Napkins** must:
 - (a) be biodegradable;
 - (b) be flushable;
 - (c) have a maximum absorption of 12g;
 - (d) have a retention coefficient of 11g/g; and
 - (e) provide detailed instructions for proper disposal on the product packaging which specifically address any required soaking time.

Verification

5. To verify a claim that a product meets the criteria listed in this document, the ECP will require access, as is its normal practice, to relevant quality control and production records and the right of access to production facilities on an announced basis.
6. Compliance with requirement 3(b) shall be attested to by a signed statement of the Chief Executive Officer or the equivalent officer of the licensee. The ECP shall be advised in writing immediately by the licensee of any noncompliance which may occur during the term of the license. On the occurrence of any noncompliance, the license may be suspended or terminated as stipulated in the license agreement.

Conditions for EcoLogo Use

7. The EcoLogo may appear on wholesale or retail packaging, or on the product itself, provided that the product meets the requirements in this document.
8. All licensees and authorized users must comply with the ECP's *Guide to Proper Use of the EcoLogo^M* regarding the format and usage of the EcoLogo.
9. Any accompanying advertising must conform with the relevant requirements stipulated in this guideline, the license agreement and the ECP's *Guide to Proper Use of the EcoLogo^M*.

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