

Commission Decision of 28 May 2014 establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Ecolabel for indoor and outdoor paints and varnishes (notified under document C(2014) 3429) (Text with EEA relevance) (2014/312/EU)

Article 1

1 The product group of ‘indoor and outdoor paints and varnishes’ shall comprise indoor and outdoor decorative paints and varnishes, woodstains and related products intended for use by consumers and professional users falling under the scope of Directive 2004/42/CE of the European Parliament and of the Council⁽¹⁾.

2 The product group of ‘indoor and outdoor paints and varnishes’ shall comprise: floor coatings and floor paints; paint products which are tinted by distributors at the request of consumer (non-professional) or professional decorators, tinting systems, decorative paints in liquid or paste formulas which may have been pre-conditioned, tinted or prepared by the manufacturer to meet consumer's needs, including wood paints, wood and decking stains, masonry coatings and metal finishes primers and undercoats of such product systems as defined in Annex I to Directive 2004/42/CE.

3 The product group shall not comprise the following products:

- a anti-fouling coatings;
- b preservation products for wood impregnation;
- c coatings for particular industrial and professional uses, including heavy-duty coatings;
- d powder coatings;
- e UV curable paint systems;
- f paints primarily intended for vehicles;
- g product which primary function is not to form a film over the substrate, e.g. oils and waxes;
- h fillers as defined by EN ISO 4618;
- i road-marking paints.

Article 2

For the purpose of this Decision, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) ‘Paint’ means a pigmented coating material, supplied in a liquid paste or powder form, which, when applied to a substrate, forms an opaque film having protective, decorative or specific technical properties and after application dries to a solid, adherent and protective coating;
- (2) ‘Varnish’ means a clear coating material which, when applied to a substrate forms a solid transparent film having protective, decorative or specific technical properties and after application dries to a solid, adherent and protective coating;
- (3) ‘Decorative paints and varnishes’ means paints and varnishes that are applied in-situ to buildings, their trim and fittings, for decorative and protective purposes;
- (4) ‘Lasure’ means coatings producing a transparent or semi-transparent film for decoration and protection of wood against weathering, which enables maintenance to be carried out easily;
- (5) ‘Tinting system’ means a method for preparing coloured paints by mixing a ‘base’ with coloured tints;

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- (6) 'Masonry coating' means a coating that produce a decorative and protective film for use on concrete, paintable brickwork, blockwork, rendering, calcium silicate board or fibre-reinforced cement;
- (7) 'Binding primers' means coatings designed to stabilise loose substrate particles or impact hydrophobic properties;
- (8) 'UV curable paint system' means the hardening of coating materials by exposure to artificial ultra-violet radiation;
- (9) 'Powder coating' means protective or decorative coating formed by the application of a coating powder to a substrate and fusion to give a continuous film;
- (10) '[^{F1}In-can preservatives' are active substances within the meaning of Article 3(1)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁽²⁾ that are for use in product-type 6 as described in Annex V to that Regulation. They are in particular used for the preservation of manufactured products during storage by the control of microbial deterioration to ensure their shelf life and used for the preservation of tints that will be dispensed from machines;
- (11) 'Dry-film preservatives' are active substances within the meaning of Article 3(1)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 that are for use in product-type 7 as described in Annex V to that Regulation, in particular for the preservation of films or coatings by the control of microbial deterioration or algal growth in order to protect the initial properties of the surface of materials or objects;]
- (12) 'Anti-skinning substances' are additives that are added to the coating materials to prevent skinning during production or storage of the coating material;
- (13) '[^{F2}Volatile organic compounds' (VOC) means any organic compounds having an initial boiling point less than or equal to 250 °C measured at a standard pressure of 101,3 kPa as defined in Directive 2004/42/EC and which, in a capillary column, are eluting up to and including n-Tetradecane (C₁₄H₃₀);]
- (14) '[^{F2}Semi volatile organic compounds' (SVOCs) means any organic compound having a boiling point greater than 250 °C and less than 370 °C measured at a standard pressure of 101,3 kPa and which, in a capillary column are eluting with a retention range after n-Tetradecane (C₁₄H₃₀) and up to and including n-Docosane (C₂₂H₄₆);]
- (15) 'White and light coloured' paints are those with a tri-stimulus (Y-value) > 70 %;
- (16) 'Gloss paints' are those which at an angle of incidence of 60° show a reflectance of ≥ 60;
- (17) 'Mid sheen paints' (also referred to as semi-gloss, satin, semi matt) are those which at an angle of incidence of 60° or at 85° show a reflectance of < 60 and ≥ 10;
- (18) 'Matt paints' are those which at an angle of incidence of 85° show a reflectance of < 10;
- (19) 'Dead matt paints' are those which at an angle of incidence of 85° show a reflectance of < 5;
- (20) 'Transparent' and 'semi-transparent' means a film with a contrast ratio of < 98 % at 120µ wet film thickness;
- (21) 'Opaque' means a film with a contrast ratio of > 98 % at 120µ wet film thickness.

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Textual Amendments

- F1** Substituted by [Commission Decision \(EU\) 2016/397 of 16 March 2016 amending Decision 2014/312/EU establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Ecolabel for indoor and outdoor paints and varnishes \(notified under document C\(2016\) 1510\) \(Text with EEA relevance\)](#).
- F2** Substituted by [Commission Decision \(EU\) 2015/886 of 8 June 2015 amending Decision 2014/312/EU establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Ecolabel for indoor and outdoor paints and varnishes \(notified under document C\(2015\) 3782\) \(Text with EEA relevance\)](#).

Article 3

The criteria for awarding the EU Ecolabel under Regulation (EC) No 66/2010, for a product falling within the product group ‘paints and varnishes’ defined in Article 1 of this Decision as well as the related assessment and verification requirements are set out in the Annex.

^{F3} Article 4

The ecological criteria for the product group ‘indoor and outdoor paints and varnishes’ and the related assessment and verification requirements shall be valid until 31 December 2022.]

Textual Amendments

- F3** Substituted by [Commission Decision \(EU\) 2018/666 of 27 April 2018 amending Decision 2014/312/EU as regards the period of validity of the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Ecolabel for indoor and outdoor paints and varnishes \(notified under document C\(2018\) 2479\) \(Text with EEA relevance\)](#).

Article 5

For administrative purposes, the code number assigned to the product group ‘indoor and outdoor paints and varnishes’ shall be ‘044’.

Article 6

Decisions 2009/543/EC and 2009/544/EC are repealed.

Article 7

1 Applications for the EU Ecolabel for products falling within the product group ‘paints and varnishes’ submitted within two months from the date of adoption of this Decision may be based either on the criteria set out in Decision 2009/543/EC or 2009/544/EC, or on the criteria set out in this Decision. Applications shall be evaluated in accordance with the criteria on which they are based.

^{F2} EU Ecolabel licences awarded in accordance with the criteria set out in Decision 2009/543/EC or 2009/544/EC may be used for 21 months from the date of adoption of this Decision.]

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Textual Amendments

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Article 8

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

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- (1) Directive 2004/42/CE of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on the limitation of emissions of volatile organic compounds due to the use of organic solvents in certain paints and varnishes and vehicle refinishing products and amending Directive 1999/13/EC (OJ L 143, 30.4.2004, p. 87).
- (2) [^{F1}Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2012 concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products (OJ L 167, 27.6.2012, p. 1).]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Substituted by [Commission Decision \(EU\) 2016/397 of 16 March 2016 amending Decision 2014/312/EU establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Ecolabel for indoor and outdoor paints and varnishes \(notified under document C\(2016\) 1510\) \(Text with EEA relevance\).](#)

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