

General Description of Operation Directions for Recycled Marine Debris Product Label, Environmental Protection Administration, Executive Yuan

In recent years, waste has been disposed of or washed by tides into the coastal or marine environment, which has aroused international concern. The EPA referred to national statistics for beach cleaning and found that the marine debris mainly consists of waste fishing nets, Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles, take-away beverage cups, and plastic bottle caps and straws. In terms of materials, plastic waste is the most common. Considering that marine debris in the coastal or marine environment not only threatens the survival of living creatures but also causes harm to the environment, the EPA is promoting the Recycled Marine Debris Product Label by clarifying the certification mechanism and labeling regulations for such products. Enterprises are encouraged to apply for the Label for their products so that the public can understand the Label and become aware of the impact marine debris has on the environment. The EPA further prompts the public to recycle for effective repurposing to achieve the goal of marine debris reduction. Therefore, the Environmental Protection Administration, Executive Yuan has formulated the "Operation Directions for Recycled Marine Debris Product Label, Environmental Protection Administration, Executive Yuan", the key points of which are as follows:

1. Purpose of the provisions. (Point 1)
2. Definition of terms. (Point 2)
3. Application, review and management of the recycled marine debris product. (Point 3)
4. Requisite documents for the application of the Label. (Point 4 and Point 5)
5. Review procedure and the number of days for the review. (Point 6)
6. Awarding the Label by the EPA according to the grade. (Point 7)
7. Regulations governing the use of the Label pattern. (Point 8)
8. Validity period of the Label and application for an extension upon expiration. (Points 9)
9. Regulations governing change of the Label. (Point 10)
10. Unscheduled follow-up checks by the EPA. (Point 11)
11. Label pattern shall not be used for products that have not been approved by the EPA. (Point 12)
12. Handling of the right to use the Label upon expiration. (Point 13)
13. Publication of information on violations. (Point 14)
14. Circumstances and handling of revocation and annulment of the Label. (Point 15 and Point 16)

Operation Directions for Recycled Marine Debris Product Label, Environmental Protection Administration, Executive Yuan

Provisions	Notes
Chapter 1 General Provisions	Name of the chapter.
<p>1. The Environmental Protection Administration, Executive Yuan (hereinafter referred to as the EPA) has formulated the Guidelines to raise public awareness of environmental protection and promote marine debris reduction.</p>	<p>1. The purpose of the Guidelines.</p> <p>2. The EPA promotes the Recycled Marine Debris Product Label by establishing a certification mechanism and labeling regulations for such products to encourage enterprises to apply for the Label for their products in accordance with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and ultimately achieve marine debris reduction. In the meantime, the public learn to recognize the Label through consumption activities and consider the possible impact of marine debris on the environment. The ultimate goal is to raise public awareness of environmental protection and promote marine debris reduction.</p>
<p>2. The terms used in the Guidelines are defined as follows:</p> <p>(1) Marine debris: waste that has been disposed of or washed by tides into the coastal or marine environment.</p> <p>(2) Certification institute: a domestic or foreign certification institute that conforms to both ISO17065 and ISO17021 and is capable of verifying the operation of the management mechanism for the source and production of marine debris.</p> <p>(3) Recycled marine debris product: a product with at least 20% of its weight originating from a marine debris, which has been certified by the certification institute in the preceding subparagraph, and approved by the EPA and granted the right to use the Recycled Marine Debris Product Label (as shown in the attachment).</p>	Definition of terms.
<p>3. The EPA handles the following application, review, management and</p>	The EPA's rights and responsibilities in handling recycled marine debris product.

<p>other matters concerning recycled marine debris product:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The formulation of the standard specifications of the Label. (2) Acceptance and process of applications for the Label and review. (3) Grant, annulment and revocation of the right to use the Label. (4) Follow-up management of recycled marine debris product. (5) Promotion of recycled marine debris product. (6) Other related matters. 	
<p>Chapter 2 Application and Review</p>	<p>Name of the chapter.</p>
<p>4. Institutions (organizations), groups and legal entities (hereinafter referred to as Applicants) that use marine debris as raw materials to produce products shall follow the format prescribed by the EPA to apply for the use of the Label by submitting the following documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Application form. (2) Verification statements and verification reports issued by certification bodies. The verification report shall at least include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Verification plan. ii. Collection time, location, personnel, estimated number of people, and the weight of marine debris. iii. Entry and exit records of the storage site. iv. The composition and proportion of the main raw material, production process, basic product information, product specifications and sampling plans of the manufacturing plant. (3) Description of the labeling method for the Label. (4) Other documents designated by the EPA. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Documents required for the application for the right to use the Recycled Marine Debris Product Label when marine debris is used as the raw material. 2. Application for the Label shall contain a verification statement and a verification report issued by a certification body, and the verification report shall at least include the verification plan, collection time, location, personnel, estimated number of people, and the weight of marine debris. The personnel in Item 2 of Subsection 2 may be represented by the organization or group that conducts the collection activities.

<p>If the preceding documents are in a foreign language, the documents shall be accompanied by a Chinese translation certified by an overseas mission or domestic notary public.</p>	
<p>5. Applicants that use a recycled marine debris product as raw material to produce products shall follow the format prescribed by the EPA to apply for the use of the Label by submitting the following documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Application form. (2) Verification statements and verification reports issued by certification bodies. The verification report shall at least include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Verification plan. ii. The composition and proportion of the main raw material, production process, basic product information, product specifications and sampling plans of the manufacturing plant. iii. The Label number of the raw materials. (3) Description of the labeling method for the Label. (4) Other documents designated by the EPA. <p>If the preceding documents are in a foreign language, the documents shall be accompanied by a Chinese translation certified by an overseas mission or domestic notary public.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Documents required for the application for the right to use the Recycled Marine Debris Product Label when Recycled marine debris product is used as the raw material. 2. Application for the Label shall contain a verification statement and a verification report issued by a certification body, and the verification report shall at least include a verification plan. Relevant information on marine debris collection and storage is not required.
<p>6. The review process and the review period of the EPA as regards the application for the right to use the Label and for change are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Formality review of the documents shall be completed within five working days from the date of receipt. (2) Within fifteen working days after the completion of the formality review, the substance review of 	<p>Review process and review period for applications and changes.</p>


<p>the documents shall be completed.</p> <p>If there is any omission or discrepancy in the preceding documents, applicants shall be notified and required to make corrections. The number of days for corrections shall not exceed thirty working days for omissions or discrepancies. If the corrections are not completed by the deadline, the application shall be returned.</p> <p>The number of days for the aforementioned corrections does not count toward the review period.</p>	
<p>7. The EPA may award the Label in the order of gold, silver and bronze grades in accordance with the standard specifications of Recycled Marine Debris Product.</p>	<p>The EPA may award the Label according to the grade.</p>
<p>Chapter 3 Usage and Management</p>	<p>Name of the chapter.</p>
<p>8. The person who has obtained the right to use the Label (hereinafter referred to as the Owner of the Right to Use the Label) shall label products with the Label in accordance with the following regulations:</p> <p>(1) The Label shall be printed in two colors, the standardized green color (2283 C) and the standardized blue color (2143 C), in the international standardized swatch book of the Pantone Matching System.</p> <p>(2) The Owner of the Right to Use the Label shall, during the validity period of the Label, prominently label products or packages with the Label pattern registered by the EPA, and shall not change the ratio of length, width and height or the relative position. However, the Label may be enlarged or downsized in equal proportion, and its width shall not be less than 1.05 centimeters and its height shall not be less than 1.0 centimeter.</p> <p>The Owner of the Right to Use the Label may display the grade of the</p>	<p>1. Regulations governing the use, restrictions and legitimate grade of the Label pattern and the weight ratio of use of marine debris.</p> <p>2. Individual products, if involved in other laws and regulations on the labeling requirements, such as the labeling requirements prescribed by the Act Governing Food Safety and Sanitation for food utensils, containers and other items, shall comply with the provisions of respective laws and regulations.</p>

<p>Label and the weight ratio of marine debris in an appropriate place on the product or package.</p>	
<p>9. The validity period of the Label is three years. If the Owner of the Right to Use the Label wants to continue to use the Label upon expiration, he/she shall apply for an extension within three to five months before the expiration date. Applications submitted after the expiration date shall be regarded as new applications.</p> <p>The foregoing application for an extension shall contain the documents specified in Paragraph 1 of Point 4 or Paragraph 1 of Point 5.</p> <p>If, for reasons other than those attributable to the Owner of the Right to Use the Label, the review of the extension cannot be completed before the expiration date, he/she may apply to the EPA for a temporary extension of the validity period, limited to one time with a maximum extension of three months.</p>	<p>Regulations governing the validity period of the right to use the Label and application for an extension upon expiration.</p>
<p>10. When a recycled marine debris product undergoes change in the composition and proportion of the main raw material, production process or product specifications, resulting in reduction of the weight ratio of marine debris, the Owner of the Right to Use the Label shall apply for change by submitting a document stating the change, and after the approval of the EPA, apply for change by submitting the documents stipulated in Paragraph 1 of Point 4 or Paragraph 1 of Point 5.</p> <p>When the name of the Owner of the Right to Use the Label, the address, or the name of the production plant (site) is changed, relevant documentary proof shall be submitted to the EPA within one month after the fact of the change.</p>	<p>Regulations governing application for change and notification of change.</p>
<p>11. The EPA may conduct the following unscheduled follow-up checks regarding Recycled Marine Debris Product:</p>	<p>Unscheduled follow-up checks the EPA may conduct on the Owner of the Right to Use the Label and the certification bodies.</p>

<p>(1) The scope and method of marine debris collection, the composition and proportion of raw materials, production process, orders of raw materials, and input and output.</p> <p>(2) The implementation of regular follow-up checks by the certification body.</p>	
<p>12. The Owner of the Right to Use the Label shall not use the Label pattern on products that have not been approved by the EPA.</p>	<p>The Label shall not be used for products that have not been approved.</p>
<p>13. The Owner of the Right to Use the Label shall stop using the Label from the day after the expiration of the right to use the Label. However, Recycled Marine Debris Products which are manufactured during the period of validity may continue to use the Label.</p>	<p>The disposal method for the expiration of the right to use the Label.</p>
<p>14. The EPA may notify the Owner of the Right to Use the Label and require improvement by the deadline if any of the following circumstances exists. If the required improvement is not made by the deadline, the EPA may publish information on the violation in order to protect the safety and rights of consumers.</p> <p>(1) Unauthorized use of the Label on the product per se or packaging, or in other documents or information available to consumers.</p> <p>(2) Unauthorized use of the Label pattern for labeling, promotion, advertising or other outward representations.</p>	<p>The EPA will publish information on violations, namely unauthorized use of the Label, for rigorous management of the Label to protect the safety and rights of consumers.</p>
<p>15. The EPA may revoke the right to use the Label if the Owner of the Right to Use the Label is in any of the following circumstances:</p> <p>(1) The application contains a false document or incorrect information is provided.</p> <p>(2) Fraud, coercion, bribery or other improper methods to obtain the right to use the Label.</p> <p>The owner whose right to use the Label is revoked by the EPA in accordance</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conditions of revocation of the right to use the Label. 2. If the certification body is involved in falsehood or other misconduct, the EPA may publish and notify its accreditation body.

<p>with the preceding paragraph shall stop using the Label and selling products labeled with the Label from the date of service of the notice of revocation. If the certification body is involved in the first circumstance, the EPA may publish and notify its accreditation body.</p>	
<p>16. The EPA may annul the right to use the Label if the Owner of the Right to Use the Label is in any of the following circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Company registration, business registration, factory registration, or other related establishment permits, registrations or licenses have been revoked or annulled by the competent authority. (2) Application for annulment of use. (3) Violation of Point 10 or Point 12, and failure to improve by the deadline prescribed in the notification. (4) Failure to cooperate with the follow-up checks specified in Point 11. (5) The recycled marine debris product does not comply with the standard specifications of the Label. (6) Violation of laws and regulations relating to environmental protection, and the circumstances are considered significant according to that law or regulation. (7) Other circumstances as determined by the EPA. <p>The owner whose right to use the Label is annulled by the EPA in accordance with the preceding paragraph shall stop using the Label and selling products labeled with the Label from the date of service of the notice of annulment.</p>	<p>Conditions of annulment of the right to use the Label.</p>

Attachment

Provisions	Notes
<p data-bbox="231 331 804 439">Attachment Graphic form of the Label for Recycled Marine Debris Product</p>  The logo consists of three blue, curved, overlapping waves on the left side, forming a partial circle. On the right side, there is a green outline of a plastic bottle with a green cap, positioned as if it is being lifted or supported by the waves.	<ol data-bbox="826 331 1404 943" style="list-style-type: none">1. The graphic form of the Label for Recycled Marine Debris Product.2. In the Label, the waves represent the oceans whereas the discarded plastic bottle, representative of marine debris, symbolizes that which is waste yet can be repurposed. The curved waves lift the plastic bottle to form a sustainable cycle.3. The ratio of length, width and height and the relative position of the graphic form shall not be changed. However, it may be enlarged or downsized in equal proportion, and its width shall not be less than 1.05 centimeters and its height shall not be less than one centimeter.