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Environmental labels and declarations — Self-declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labelling)

AMENDMENT 1

Marquage et déclarations environnementaux — Autodéclarations environnementales (Étiquetage de type II)

AMENDEMENT 1

Reference number
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ISO copyright office
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.org
Web www.iso.org

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Foreword

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International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Amendment 1 to ISO 14021:1999 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Environmental labelling*.

Environmental labels and declarations — Self-declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labelling)

AMENDMENT 1

Page 1, Clause 2

Delete the whole list of referenced documents and replace with the following:

ISO 7000, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment — Index and synopsis*

ISO 14020:2000, *Environmental labels and declarations — General principles*

ISO 14025:2006, *Environmental labels and declarations — Type III environmental declarations — Principles and procedures*

ISO 14040:2006, *Environmental management — Life cycle assessment — Principles and framework*

ISO 14044:2006, *Environmental management — Life cycle assessment — Requirements and guidelines*

Pages 1 to 3, Clause 3

Add the following new definition at the start of 3.1:

3.1.1
biomass
material of biological origin, excluding material embedded in geological formations or transformed to fossilized material and excluding peat

NOTE This includes organic material (both living and dead) from above and below ground, e.g. trees, crops, grasses, tree litter, algae, animals and waste of biological origin, e.g. manure.

Renumber definitions 3.1.1 to 3.1.7 as definitions 3.1.2 to 3.1.8, respectively, and add the following new definition:

3.1.9
greenhouse gas
GHG
gaseous constituent of the atmosphere, both natural and anthropogenic, that absorbs and emits radiation at specific wavelengths within the spectrum of infrared radiation emitted by the Earth's surface, the atmosphere and clouds

NOTE 1 GHGs include, among others, carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) and sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6).

NOTE 2 A list of recognized GHGs is provided by IPCC, *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis*, Chapter 2, Table 2.14.

Renumber definition 3.1.8 and 3.1.9 as definitions 3.1.10 and 3.1.11 and add the following new definition:

3.1.12
offsetting
mechanism for compensating for the carbon footprint of a product through the prevention of the release of, reduction in, or removal of, an equivalent amount of GHG emissions in a process outside the boundary of the product system

EXAMPLE External investment in renewable energy technologies; energy efficiency measures; afforestation/reforestation.

Renumber definitions 3.1.10 to 3.1.13 as definitions 3.1.13 to 3.1.16, respectively, and add the following new definition:

3.1.17
sustainable development
development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

NOTE Sustainable development is about integrating the goals of a high quality of life, health and prosperity with social justice and maintaining the earth's capacity to support life in all its diversity. These social, economic and environmental goals are interdependent and mutually reinforcing. Sustainable development can be treated as a way of expressing the broader expectations of society as a whole.

[ISO 26000:2010, definition 2.23]

Renumber definitions 3.1.14 and 3.1.15 as definitions 3.1.18 and 3.1.19, respectively.

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Add the following new subclauses immediately after 7.13.3:

7.14 Renewable material

7.14.1 Usage of term

Material that is composed of biomass from a living source and that can be continually replenished.

7.14.2 Qualifications

When claims of renewability are made for virgin materials, those materials shall come from sources that are replenished at a rate equal to or greater than the rate of depletion.

An unqualified claim of renewability shall only be made when the product consists of 100 % renewable material, allowing for *de minimus* amounts of non-renewable materials being contained in that material. Otherwise, renewability claims shall be qualified as follows:

a) where a claim of renewable material content is made, the percentage by mass of renewable material to the total mass shall be stated;

b) the percentage of renewable material content (mass fraction) for products and packaging shall be separately stated and shall not be aggregated.

All renewable claims shall be compliant with all other requirements of this International Standard. In particular, the onus on a claimant to follow the principles set out in this clause shall not be diminished by substituting like terms (see 7.1).

7.14.3 Evaluation methodology

Evaluation shall be undertaken in accordance with Clause 6.

7.15 Renewable energy

7.15.1 Usage of term

Energy derived from sources that are non-exhaustible or capable of continuous replenishment. Renewable energy sources include, but are not limited to, sunlight and wind energy. They also include biomass and geothermal sources that conform to 7.14.

Claims of renewability for energy sources associated with movements of water shall only be made if they are from sources that are managed in accordance with the principles of sustainable development (see 3.1.17).

7.15.2 Qualifications

An unqualified claim for renewable energy shall only be made when 100 % of the energy supply is renewable. Otherwise, renewable energy claims shall be qualified.

Where a proportion of the energy supply is from renewable sources, the percentage shall be clearly stated.

All renewable energy claims shall be compliant with all other requirements of this International Standard. In particular, the onus on a claimant to follow the principles set out in this clause shall not be diminished by substituting like terms (see 7.1).

NOTE Particular care is needed when making a claim for a product or process relating to use of electrical energy from the grid, when that electrical energy is claimed to contain a percentage of renewable energy.

7.15.3 Evaluation methodology

Evaluation shall be undertaken in accordance with Clause 6.

7.16 Sustainable

7.16.1 Usage of term

As stated in 5.5, self-declared claims of achieving sustainability shall not be made. It is re-emphasized in this subclause that unqualified claims of “sustainable” and “sustainability” shall not be used.

When using a qualified claim of “sustainable”, “sustainability” or “sustainable development” (see 3.1.17), any portion of that claim that relates to an environmental aspect shall conform to this International Standard.

NOTE The term “sustainable” can be used in third-party verified schemes, such as those related to forestry and fisheries, but such schemes are outside the scope of this International Standard.

7.17 Claims relating to greenhouse gas emissions

7.17.1 General

“Carbon footprint” is a common term used in the provision of information relating to greenhouse gas (GHG) (see 3.1.9) emissions of both processes and products. This subclause covers claims related to the “carbon footprint” of products and also claims of “carbon neutral”.

NOTE ISO 14067 is currently under preparation. If the published version includes text that is incompatible with this International Standard, further modifications to this International Standard will be initiated and the text in ISO 14067 will take precedence in the interim.

7.17.2 Product “carbon footprint”

7.17.2.1 Usage of term

A product “carbon footprint” is understood as the net amount of life cycle (see 3.1.10) GHG (see 3.1.9) emissions. It also includes long-term net removals of CO_2.

A product “carbon footprint” is a way of reporting the environmental impact category of global warming or climate change that is being assessed during a life cycle assessment. It does not indicate the overall environmental performance of a product during its life cycle [see 5.7 h)].

7.17.2.2 Evaluation methodology

The quantification of a product “carbon footprint” shall be based on the application of ISO 14040 and ISO 14044, and product category rules as specified in ISO 14025 when appropriate.

7.17.3 “Carbon neutral”

7.17.3.1 General

“Carbon neutral” refers to a product (as a product system) that has a “carbon footprint” (see 7.17.2) of zero or a product with a “carbon footprint” that has been offset.

7.17.3.2 Usage of term

In relation to a product, “carbon neutral” requires that all the GHG (see 3.1.9) emissions from all stages of the product life cycle, and within the specified product system, have been reduced, removed or accounted for through a system of offsets or credits, or by other means.

An unqualified claim of “carbon neutral” shall not be made.

7.17.3.3 Qualifications

“Carbon neutrality” claims shall include:

a) a statement that the product “carbon footprint” is zero; or

b) a clear statement about which elements of the product life cycle have been offset.

Claims of “carbon neutrality” involving offsets shall also be qualified with a statement that declares the product “carbon footprint” and clearly explains what has been offset, providing full details of the offset scheme used and information that enables the purchaser to access sources of further information explaining the offset programme.

All carbon neutral claims shall be compliant with all other requirements of this International Standard. In particular, the onus on a claimant to follow the principles set out in this clause shall not be diminished by substituting like terms (see 7.1).

NOTE It is advisable that an organization give preference to achieving carbon neutrality through the strategies of prevention and reduction of its own emissions and substitution of renewable energy sources for fossil energy sources. Acquisition of carbon offsets can be used to compensate for remaining emissions.

7.17.3.4 Evaluation methodology

Determination of “carbon neutrality” is based on, first, the calculation of a carbon footprint (see 7.17.2.2), then the deduction of offsets equivalent to the emissions of the carbon footprint. Alternatively, carbon neutrality can be achieved by a product whose “carbon footprint” is zero.

