

To the consultation bodies

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Date

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## Consultation – proposal for revision of environmental requirements for Nordic Swan Ecolabelling of textiles, hides and leather

Proposal for a new, revised criteria document for Nordic Swan Ecolabelling of textiles, hides and leather has now been published on Ecolabelling Norway's website [www.svanemarket.no](http://www.svanemarket.no). There you will also find a background document and a reply form.

The proposals for environmental requirements have been prepared by the offices of Nordic Ecolabelling under the leadership of Heidi Belinda Bugge in Ecolabelling Denmark. Please contact the Norwegian office if you wish to receive hard copies of the documents and/or an overview of the consultation bodies.

### New license structure

For Nordic Swan Ecolabelled products a 2-part license structure is introduced, with one license for the brand owner and one for the manufacturer. The brand owner's license is for those companies that own a brand and that want to place Nordic Swan Ecolabelled products on the market. The product may be e.g. fibre, yarn, fabric or finished goods. A brand owner's license will always be based on one or more production licenses. In the production license, the environmental requirements related to the production chain must be documented.

### The main changes proposed are:

- New cotton must be certified 100 % organic. Only for selected textiles for professionals is it alternatively accepted that the cotton is certified according to the standards BCI, FairTrade or Cotton made in Africa (requirement O14).
- Synthetic fibres must be either based on recycled or biobased material (requirements O25, O26 and O27).
- Regenerated cellulose fibres must be recycled or come from certified forestry, and the fibre production itself must be emission-free (requirements O23 and O24).
- Recycled fibres must be tested for undesirable substances (requirement O28).
- The chemical requirements have been given new structure and several of the requirements have been tightened. There are e.g. requirements that exclude classifications as carcinogenic, mutagenic and toxic to reproduction (CMR substances) for all chemicals. A number of other substances are also exc prohibited in all production chemicals (requirements O31, O32 and O33 among others).

- The requirement for energy and water consumption has been extended with the requirement to implement a minimum of BAT techniques to reduce energy and water consumption (requirement O45).
- New requirement for durability for selected textile products with differentiated requirement levels, e.g. for furniture textiles, professional workwear and outdoor clothing in general (requirement O74).
- We introduce design requirements for packaging to promote recycling of primary packaging (requirements O85, O86 and O87).
- Neither the brand owner nor the textile manufacturer can send unsold textiles for incineration or landfill (requirements O2 and O82).

### Criteria guide and requirements overview

To make it easier to find the requirements that are relevant to the individual manufacturer, we have created a criteria guide that lists all the requirements and which actors they are relevant to. The criteria guide can be downloaded from our website. It is divided into the different parts and processes in the value chain. Please note that appendices to the requirements that are to be documented have not yet been created, but this will be finalized when the criteria are adopted.

We would like to receive comments on the new environmental requirements. Contact person in Norway is Elisabeth Magnus, and we kindly ask that you send us your comments by **20 May 2020** via the reply form on our website, by mail or by email to [post@svanemarket.no](mailto:post@svanemarket.no).

An overview of the consultation statements that we receive will be available at Ecolabelling Norway.

We look forward to receiving your comments.

Yours sincerely  
Ecolabelling Norway



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