

Environmental Choice^M Program

CERTIFICATION CRITERIA DOCUMENT

CCD-039



Product: Printing Cartridges - Remanufactured

Preamble

Pursuant to paragraph 54 (1)(b) of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*, the Minister of the Environment is pleased to publish the following national guideline on **remanufactured printing cartridges** under the auspices of the Environmental Choice^M Program (ECP).

The Environmental Choice Program is designed to support a continuing effort to improve and/or maintain environmental quality by reducing energy and materials consumption and by minimizing the impacts of pollution generated by the production, use and disposal of goods and services available to Canadians.

Printing cartridges are widely used in equipment such as photocopier and facsimile machines and laser printers. They are often thrown away once the toner inside the cartridge is depleted or the toner waste sump is filled. This typically occurs after several thousand copies have been made, depending upon the make and model of the printing cartridge. It is estimated that in Canada one million cartridges are disposed of annually in landfill sites and most are not reused.

Conventional single-use cartridges contain many components which are in perfect condition at the end of the expected life of the cartridge. Remanufacturing printing cartridges includes disassembling the cartridge, inspecting, cleaning and adjusting the components, refurbishing or replacing the organic photoreceptor cell and replacing the supply of toner if applicable.

Based on a review of currently available life cycle information, the product category requirements will produce an environmental benefit through **reduction of waste entering the landfill and conservation of resources**.

Life cycle review is an ongoing process. As information and technology change, the product category requirements will be reviewed and possibly amended.

Environment Canada anticipates that manufacturers or importers of the **remanufactured printing cartridges** which conform to this guideline will apply to the Environmental Choice Program for verification and subsequent authority to label the qualifying products with the Environmental Choice EcoLogo^M.

Notice

For purposes of this guideline, wet process printing cartridges are excluded from certification.

Any reference to a standard means to the latest edition of that standard.

The Environmental Choice Program reserves the right to accept equivalent test data for the test methods specified in this guideline.

Interpretation

1. In the following guideline:

"remanufactured printing cartridge" means a printing cartridge to which the following service has been performed: the disassembly of the cartridge, inspection, cleaning and adjustment of all components, repair where necessary, replacement of worn or damaged parts, reassembly and testing of the remanufactured cartridge, and, where applicable, removal of the remaining toner, replacement of the toner supply, and, refurbishing the organic photoreceptor cell (OPC) or replacing the OPC with a new or aftermarket cell;

"remanufacturing" means the disassembly of previously used printing cartridges into components and the assembly of the reusable parts into functioning printing cartridges introducing new or aftermarket parts or components only where expressly required (e.g. new toner); and

"printing cartridge" means an assembly used for printing, and depending on the style of machine, containing but not limited to, one or more of the following: a photosensitive element, a corona unit, a developer unit, a wiper wand and toner. (e.g. laser printer, photocopier machine, facsimile machine and micrographic printing cartridges).

Category Definition

2. This category includes all **remanufactured printing cartridges**.

General Requirements

3. To be authorized to carry the EcoLogo **remanufactured printing cartridges** 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 the **remanufactured printing cartridge** must:

- (a) comply with Canadian General Standards Board Standard CAN/CGSB-53.148, *Rejuvenation of Laser Printer Cartridges*;

Note: To comply with does not necessarily mean to be registered with CGSB. The purpose of referencing this standard is to ensure that remanufactured printing cartridges produce prints of the same or better quality as the Original Equipment Manufacturers cartridges.

- (b) be accompanied by educational materials indicating installation and maintenance procedures.

5. Printing cartridge remanufacturers shall direct waste metals, plastics and cardboard to appropriate recycling facilities, where available.

Verification

6. To verify a claim that a product meets the criteria listed in the guideline, the Environmental Choice Program 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.

7. Compliance with section 3(b) shall be attested to by a signed statement of the Chief Executive Officer or the equivalent officer of the manufacturer. The Environmental Choice Program 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. In the event of a dispute related to the suspension or termination of the license, the license agreement provides for arbitration.

Conditions for EcoLogo Use

8. The EcoLogo may appear on wholesale or retail packaging, or on the product itself, provided that the product meets the requirements in this guideline.

9. It is recommended that a criteria statement appear with *the* EcoLogo whenever the EcoLogo is used in association with the **remanufactured printing cartridge**. The intent of this statement is to provide clarification as to why the product was certified and to indicate constraints to which the certification is limited. This is to ensure no ambiguity over, or misrepresentation of, the reason(s) for certification.

ECP suggested criteria statement wording for this product type is “*Remanufactured Printing Cartridge*”. The licensee may propose other wording for the criteria statement, but any such proposed wording must be approved by the Environmental Choice Program.

10. All licensees and authorized users must comply with the Environmental Choice Program's *Guide to Proper Use of the EcoLogo^M* regarding the format and usage of the EcoLogo.

11. Any accompanying advertising must conform with the relevant requirements stipulated in this guideline, the license agreement and the Environmental Choice Program's *Guide to Proper Use of the EcoLogo^M*.

***For additional copies of this guideline or for more information about the Environmental Choice Program, please contact: TerraChoice Environmental Services Inc.,
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