









# Top 8 Sustainable Supplies Procurement Criteria

## Recommended for Public Sector

Topic	Why it matters	What criteria should you be looking out for?
<b>Producer responsibility WEEE (printer cartridge)</b> 	Compliance to EU and member state Producer / First Importer's obligations.	Compliance of Supplies Producers or First importers to the WEEE Directive 2012/19/EU.
<b>Indoor Air Quality (printing system)</b> 	Substance and particle emissions of the printing system should be within recognized acceptable levels. Indoor Air Quality, IAQ, is important to comply with EHS (Environment, Health and Safety) requirements (these vary per nation).	Supplies in use with a compatible printer should guarantee indoor air quality as per international standard threshold limits.
<b>Life cycle environmental impact (printing system or cartridge)</b> 	Covers environmental aspects such as energy efficiency in printing, materials used in products, noise level of printer and more. Related to requirements for EHS, circular economy and eco design of products.	Printing system (cartridges with printer) or cartridges should meet the requirements of recognized ecolabels covering environmental aspects during the lifecycle of the printing system (or cartridge). These criteria cover all lifecycle aspects besides Indoor Air Quality (covered in IAQ criteria).
<b>CE-marking (printing system)</b> 	Compliance to EU and member state Producer/First Importers obligations (Do not use a printer when CE compliance is not confirmed)	CE conformity for a printing system is assured by manufacturers, typically with test reports reflecting relevant printer components.
<b>SDS, Safety Data Sheet (printer cartridge)</b> 	Documents Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) information. Tool to show if the toner/ ink is hazardous or not.	Supplier to provide Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) for offered printer cartridges containing toner or ink (if hazardous, in local language).
<b>Page Yield (printer cartridge)</b> 	Page yield is connected to usability, number of pages possible to print at certain cost of supplies Ensures resource efficiency (circular economy).	Report cartridge page yield in accordance to ISO/IEC 19752, ISO/IEC 19798 and ISO/IEC 24711.
<b>Archivability, durability of printouts (printing system)</b> 	Guarantees permanence of printed documents over certain period of time, e.g. for legal reasons. Typically needed for documents generated and/or used by governmental and other public organizations, e.g. notary.	Supplies in conjunction with certain printing devices (all listed in the test report) must meet the requirements of ISO 11798.
<b>"Warranty (printer cartridge)"</b> 	Warranty is connected to cost, and in many routes to market for supplies providers a legal requirement. Ensures durability (circular economy)	The product must be covered by a warranty.

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## Topic

## How will you know whether these criteria are being met?

## What criteria should you be looking out for?

## Is it a legal requirement?

### Producer responsibility WEEE (printer cartridge)



Compliance to national WEEE regulation and its rules, mainly:

- wheelie bin marking on the supplies is required at time of POM
- registration (in all/most countries either direct or via compliance scheme)

Additional obligations are:

- information to consumers that they must dispose of these products separately
- financing of take-back

Some countries have a National EEE Producer Register, some require producers to be members of a Compliance Scheme, others to use a Service Producer depending on the area where the waste must be picked-up.

Verification will vary per member state rules. An example could be the presentation of a Registration Number or Membership Certification.

Check on the supply that the “wheelie bin” marking is applied.



Verify on national register if the producer of the product (both original supplies producers or any type of producers of compatibles, remanufactured or refilled supplies) is listed.<sup>1</sup>

YES

The WEEE Recast Directive 2012/19/EU entered into force on 13 August 2012 and became effective on 14 February 2014.<sup>2</sup>

All EEE shall be classified within the categories set out in Annex III. Annex IV contains a non-exhaustive list of EEE which falls within the categories set out in Annex III (open scope).

See Annex IX, Marking on EEE.<sup>3</sup>

### Indoor Air Quality (printing system)



The supplies tested with a compatible printer must meet the emissions limit values regarding the release of chemical substances (TVOCs, undefined VOCs, Styrene and Benzene) and ultrafine particles as defined by the Blue Angel RAL-UZ 171 or RAL-UZ 205 standard.

Verification by certifications according to RAL-UZ 171, 205, 177, Nordic Ecolabelling for Imaging Equipment version 6.4 (and for cartridge TBC), TUEV (TÜV)/LGA toner certification or other ISO Type I (ISO 14024) equivalent eco-label, compliant to these criteria or technical dossiers confirming that a chemical emissions and particle test has been conducted in accordance with ISO/IEC 28360:2012 and where the emission limit values of RAL-UZ 171 or RAL-UZ 205 are met.

Require a:

- Valid certificate or
- Contract of use of an ecolabel or
- Attestation issued by one of the listed ecolabel systems.

Alternatively require a:

- Technical dossier meeting the listed requirements and prepared according to the Chapter 5 of Appendix S-M of RAL-UZ 171 or 205.

Not directly. Member states have EHS laws and there is a rising public awareness on IAQ.

Legal references for relevant mandatory occupational exposure limit values:

- **EU** Indicative and Binding Occupational Exposure Limit Values: Binding Occupational Exposure Limit Values (BOELV), Directive 2004/37/EC, European Parliament and Council, 2004 (as amended)

- **Italy:** Decreto Legislativo 81/2008<sup>4</sup>




- **Germany** Occupational Exposure Limit Values: Workplace limits (AGW), TRGS 900, German Ordinance of Hazardous Substances (GefStoffV), German Committee on Hazardous Substances (AGS), 2006 (as amended).

- **France** has recommendations by health agencies.

- **Spain** has the Real Decreto 374/2001 (Royal Decree 374/2001, of 6 April, on the protection of the health and safety of workers from the risks related to chemical agents at work)<sup>5</sup>




RAL UZ 171 (office printing system) criteria.<sup>6</sup>

ISO/IEC 28360:2012 is a standard measurement procedure for determining chemical emissions from information and communication technology and consumer electronics equipment. The ISO standard defines the internationally recognised test methodology for measuring printer emissions and requires testing under high-use operating conditions.

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<p><b>Life cycle environmental impact (printing system or cartridge)</b></p> 	<p>Proof can be given by offering products with the following certifications, listed in the order of how many different types of environmental aspects they cover: Blue Angel RAL-UZ 2015 (or RAL-UZ 171), Blue Angel RAL UZ 177, Nordic Ecolabelling (Nordic Swan) for IE ver. 6.4, TUEV(TÜV)/LGA toner certification or other ISO Type I (ISO 14024) equivalent eco-label (consider adding technical dossier) compliant to these criteria.</p>	<p>Require a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valid certificate or</li> <li>Contract of use of an ecolabel or</li> <li>Attestation issued by one of the listed ecolabel systems.</li> </ul> <p>Alternatively require</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical dossier meeting for the named ecolabels</li> </ul>	<p>NO (not compulsory in EU GPP Directive), however the requirement overall to consider lifetime impact of product already exists in regulations, it's a holistic view. ISO14024 for type I ecolabels.<sup>7</sup></p>
<p><b>CE-marking (printing system)</b></p> 	<p><b>EU Declaration of Conformity.</b> EU Declaration of Conformity (EU DoC) for a printer reflects product options/supplies that have been used during compliance tests to assure conformity to applicable EU Directives.</p> <p>Test reports shall reflect printer components (modules, supplies, printer adapter...).</p> <p>Manufacturer added CE marking on printer that is legally mandatory to utilize a printer in EU member states.</p> <p>If supplies are used in a printer that are not reflected on EU DoC, CE marking is no longer assured and printer shall not be utilized (i.e. switched on), except if the reman/refill manufacturer offers evidence of compliance (e.g. EMC test report) that confirms "CE compliance" of the printer with reman/refill supplies is assured.</p>	<p>Assure "printer EU Declaration of Conformity" includes used supplies.</p> <p>If non-original supplies are utilized, ask "supplies manufacturer" to provide "evidence of compliance" for CE marking. Either with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) a new EU DoC, or</li> <li>b) with adequate test reports</li> </ul> <p>Do not use a printer when CE compliance is not confirmed.</p>	<p>YES - CE marking on product</p> <p>a) Following EU Directives are typically applicable for IT office printing system and require CE marking on printer (as visible compliance symbol):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2014/35/EU: Low Voltage Directive (Product Safety, LVD)</li> <li>2014/30/EU: Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive, (EMC-D)</li> <li>2014/53/EU: Radio Products Directive (RE-D)</li> <li>2011/62/EU: Restriction of hazardous substances (RoHS)</li> <li>2009/125/EC: Ecodesign Directive - energy-related products (eco-design)</li> </ul> <p>Printer EU DoC includes manufacturers' compliance statement for CE requirements that is valid only for "tested/verified options/supplies". The one who changes a "supported printer configuration" takes over "manufacturers' responsibilities" and has to assure CE compliance (e.g. offer test reports). Otherwise CE marking is no longer valid and printer shall not be switched on anymore.</p> <p>b) Yes as of 2019 (RoHS) Supplies will be covered by the RoHS recast Directive 2011/65/EU became effective on 3 January 2013</p>
<p><b>SDS, Safety Data Sheet (printer cartridge)</b></p> 	<p>SDS available on the web or in another form.</p>	<p>A SDS should be immediately available at first delivery of supply (required for hazardous toner/ink cartridges, in local language) or upon request (enough for non-hazardous). A suggestion is to get the confirmation before placing an order to ensure SDSs are available.</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Based on 1272/2008/EC</p> <p>The format and content of the safety data sheets are specified in Annex II of REACH: Regulation (EU) 2015/830 of the Commission dated 28 May 2015 amending Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH).</p>

<sup>1</sup> - ITALY <https://www.registroaee.it/en> - AUSTRIA [https://secure.umweltbundesamt.at/edm\\_portal/home.do](https://secure.umweltbundesamt.at/edm_portal/home.do) - FRANCE <http://www.syderep.ademe.fr/en/commun/deee> - SPAIN [https://sedeaplicaciones.minetur.gob.es/rrii\\_aee](https://sedeaplicaciones.minetur.gob.es/rrii_aee)  
<sup>2</sup> See art 2, letter 1 (b) from 15 August 2018, subject to paragraphs 3 and 4, to all EEE.  
<sup>3</sup> Links: 1) <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX-:32012L0019&from=EN> 2) See also: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/weee/pdf/faq.pdf> qu. 3.9.  
<sup>4</sup> <http://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2008/04/30/008G0104/sg>

<sup>5</sup> Details available at: [http://www.insht.es/InshtWeb/Contenidos/Documentacion/LEP%20\\_VALORES%20LIMITE/Valores%20limite/LEP%202017.pdf](http://www.insht.es/InshtWeb/Contenidos/Documentacion/LEP%20_VALORES%20LIMITE/Valores%20limite/LEP%202017.pdf)  
<sup>6</sup> <https://www.blauer-engel.de/en/products/office/drucker-und-multifunktionsgeraete-2017>  
<sup>7</sup> ISO 14024: [http://www.iso.org/iso/iso\\_catalogue/catalogue\\_tc/catalogue\\_detail.htm?csnumber=23145](http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=23145) Blue Angel : [www.blauer-engel.de/en](http://www.blauer-engel.de/en) Nordic Ecolabelling (Nordic Swan) for Imaging Equipment ver. 6.4 and for Remanufactured OEM toner cartridges ver.5.3 : [www.nordic-ecolabel.org](http://www.nordic-ecolabel.org)

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<p><b>Page Yield (printer cartridge)</b></p> 	<p>Page yield test reports as described in these standards have to be provided as proof for the page yield claim (ISO standards assess the number of pages which can be printed from a cartridge with a specific printer, with continuous printing in a controlled environment.)</p>	<p>Require test reports from testing performed in accordance with one of the following standards ISO/IEC 19752, or ISO/IEC 19798 or ISO/IEC 24771, and that state the page yield claim.</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p><b>Archivability, durability of printouts (printing system)</b></p> 	<p>Proper test reports in accordance to ISO 11798 or the ISO 11798 certificates issued by a certification body. Printout quality always depends on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Print engine (i.e. printer), and</li> <li>b) Supplies, and</li> <li>c) Paper</li> </ul> <p>All three components are reflected in a ISO 11798 certificate. Recertification is needed if another cartridge than the cartridge listed in the certificate/test report is utilized in a printer.</p>	<p>Identify whether “Archivability” or “Durability” of printouts is desired for your application. If so, ask supplies manufacturer for ISO 11798 certification. When offered, printouts fulfill legal requirements. Without such certificate, printouts may not fulfill such legal duties.</p>	<p>Not mandatory for all EU countries, but for some and then in certain applications (Legally required, at least in certain applications related to use by public sector in Belgium, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland). ISO11798 - Permanence and durability of writing, printing and copying on paper.<sup>8</sup></p>
<p><b>“Warranty (printer cartridge)”</b></p> 	<p>Provide information on your supplies warranty (repair and replace) conditions including the duration of the warranty.</p>	<p>Verify documentation delivered with product or referenced online.</p>	<p>The laws related to legal obligation on warranties, although there is a minimum harmonization within the EU, vary from country to country. Applicability needs to be checked per country and route to market.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When a supplies manufacturer sells directly (i.e. web stores for instance) the producer must provide customers with a 2 years legal warranty within EU, and HP as seller must provide the warranty statement upon request by the consumer.</li> <li>• Retailers, as sellers to consumers, are obliged to provide the 2 years legal warranty mentioned above. There are countries where such obligations extend and also apply to the manufacturer.</li> <li>• A manufacturer’s warranty statement must cover details on the warranty conditions, limitations and exclusions. The warranty statement is binding on manufacturer as well as retailers.</li> </ul>

<sup>8</sup> ISO11798 - [http://www.iso.org/iso/iso\\_catalogue/catalogue\\_tc/catalogue\\_detail.htm?csnumber=20031](http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=20031)