

GREEN CHOICE PHILIPPINES

NELP-GCP- 2006007

CRAYONS

I. Environmental Scenario

The handling of raw material in the manufacture of crayon that includes the operational procedures such as batching, melting, molding, labelling, recovery of rejects, materials for packaging if not properly monitored or regulated will result ill-effect to health particular to production workers considering that the raw materials specifically the pigments which may contain heavy metal including lead has been recognized as an environmental toxicant, based from the draft Policy Statement issued by The Philippine Pediatric Society (A Specialty Society of Philippine Medical Association)

The Philippine Pediatric Society Inc. created the Committee on Policy Statements to formulate policy statement geared toward creating a unified stand regarding key issues in Filipino Pediatric Health.

From the periodical issued in December 10, 2003, the 1997 Philippine Environment Health Assessment cited lead poisoning as important contributing factor to the burden of morbidity and mortality attributable to environmental exposures in this country. For such a widespread problem that spares no one, children are of particular concern because of increased exposure and increased vulnerability. Exposure in children occurs during a critical and sensitive period in their development. Moreover, the hand mouth behavior exemplified children further increases their risk of ingesting paint chips, toys with lead content and other sources.

The American Academy of Pediatric (AAP) includes imported and local crayons in their list of lead exposure which is environmental risk factor.

II. Scope

These criteria shall apply to the raw materials used in the manufacture of crayons and product itself.

III. Green Choice Criteria

To carry the Green Choice Philippines seal, the product must meet the following requirements:

IV. General Requirements

1. The product shall conform to its corresponding Philippine National Standard (PNS) Specification such as PNS 1224.

2. The production process, transport recovery of reject, and waste disposal of the product shall meet the requirement of all applicable environmental laws and regulations, among others RA 6969/IRR.

Product and Waste Specific Requirements

1. The product shall compose of raw materials such as wax, pigments and hardening agent used in the manufacture of crayons.
2. Colorants used in the manufacture of crayons shall not exceed the limits prescribes in PNS 1224.
3. The label of the product shall include the precaution: "Do not eat." Or "Not to be taken orally".
4. Wastewater discharge from the plant shall comply with the applicable standards of Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

VI. Effectivity

These product criteria shall take effect for three (3) years from the date of its approval and subject to change or withdrawal by The Green Choice Philippines Ecolabelling Program Board, if necessary at any period of time

VII. Evaluation and Validation Method

1. Regarding general criterion IV.1, the applicant shall submit the certified true copy of compliance certificate from the Bureau of Product Standards (BPS). If further validation is required, one of BPS' accredited/recognized laboratories will test the product from the market or production line.
2. Regarding general criterion IV.2, the applicant shall submit all applicable licenses, certificates and/or permits indicating the applicant's compliance with all applicable environmental laws and regulations.
3. Regarding product criterion V.1, the applicant shall submit a self-certification from the company President or Chief Executive Officer and certification from the supplier of raw materials that the raw materials conform to standard.
4. Regarding product criterion V.2, the applicant shall submit certification from BPS that the heavy metals and asbestos used in the manufacture of crayon do not exceed the limits prescribed in PNS 1224.
5. Regarding product criterion V.3, the applicant shall submit BPS certification that the label of the product has a precaution: "Do not eat." Or "Not to be taken orally."
6. Regarding product criterion V.4, the applicant shall submit a certified true copy of EMB/LLDA certification on its compliance on wastewater discharge in their crayon production process.