

GREEN CHOICE PHILIPPINES

NELP-GCP 20080029 BATH SOAP

1. ENVIRONMENTAL SCENARIO

Soap consist of various surfactants and other chemical compounds. Some of these are non-biodegradable or cannot be biodegraded under natural conditions. When discharged, these chemical substances accumulate in the receiving water bodies, changing the ecological balance with impact on the living organisms in the food chain.

Since these products are discharged to water after use, properties such as biodegradability, bioaccumulation and toxicity in aquatic environments are key considerations with regards all constituent components. Soap also comes into direct contact with the skin. Accordingly, their content of skin irritants, allergens or other harmful components and pollutants should be as low as possible.

2. DEFINITION OF TERMS

2.1. BATH SOAP / TOILET SOAP

Soap used as toiletry.

2.2. BUILDER

Any substance intended to maintain alkalinity, and/or bind calcium and magnesium ions (soften the water), and/or keep the soil in suspension, increasing the effectiveness of the detergent. It includes substances such as phosphates, NTA, EDTA, zeolites, sodium citrate, sodium silicate and sodium carbonate.

2.3. CARCINOGEN

A chemical listed as a known, probable, or possible human cancer-causing agent by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) (Groups 1, 2A, and 2B), the National Toxicology Program (NTP) (Groups 1 and 2), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) (weight-of-evidence classifications A, B1, B2, and C), or the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

2.4. CHEMICAL CONTROL ORDER

Prohibits, limits, and regulates the use, manufacture, import, export, transport, processing, storage, possession and wholesale of priority chemicals.

2.5. DENR Administrative Order 2005-05 (DENR AO 2005-05)

Toxic Chemical Substances for Issuance of Chemical Control Orders

2.6. DENR Administrative Order 2005-27 (DENR AO 2005-27)

Revised Priority Chemical List

2.7. FRAGRANCE AND COLORING

Organic substances added primarily for aesthetic reasons, usually to give color and smell.

2.8. IMPORTATION

Means the entry of a product or substance into the Philippines (through the seaports or airports of entry) after having been properly cleared through or still remaining under customs control, the product or substance of which is intended for direct consumption, merchandising, warehousing, for further processing.

2.9. LIQUID SOAPS

Denotes cleaning agents used for body cleaning that consists mostly of surface active agents, including liquid soaps in lotion form used as bath lotion/gel, liquid facial cleaners and liquid hand soaps.

2.10. pH

Refer to the acidity or alkalinity level of a solution. Aqueous solutions at 25°C with a pH less than seven are considered acidic, while those with a pH greater than seven are considered basic (alkaline).

2.11. PNS 39:1999 ICS 71.100.400

Toilet Soap - Specification

2.12. PRESERVATIVES

Substances added to prevent the growth of microorganisms.

2.13. PROCESS

Refers to the preparation of a chemical substance or mixture after its manufacture for commercial distribution:

1. In the same form or physical state or in a different form or physical state from that which it was received by the person so preparing such substance or mixture; or
2. As part of an article containing a chemical substance or mixture.

2.14. Republic Act 6969 (RA 6969)

Toxic Substances, Hazardous and Nuclear Waste Control Act

2.15. SOAP

A cleansing agent, manufactured in bars, granules, flakes, or liquid form, made from a mixture of the sodium salts of various fatty acids of natural oils and fats.

2.16. SOLVENT

A general term for a chemically diverse range of liquid substances which dissolve other materials

2.17. SURFACTANT or SURFACE ACTIVE AGENT

A substance intended to reduce surface tension thereby helping water to surround soils from surfaces.

2.18. TOILETRIES

A product used in washing or caring for the appearance (e.g. shampoo, soap).

2.19. TRANSPORT

Includes conveyance used in air, water and land.

2.20. UNREASONABLE RISK

Refers to expected high frequency of undesirable effects or adverse responses arising from a given exposure to a substance.

3. SCOPE

These criteria are applicable to liquid and solid toilet soaps.

4. GREEN CHOICE REQUIREMENTS

4.1. Product Quality Performance

Products shall be of high quality and perform well in their intended application. The products must ensure its suitability for its intended use and where relevance.

The product shall comply with the performance requirements of the relevant international standards and Philippine National Standard for its intended application as indicated in Table 1.

Table 1 – Applicable Standards for Toilet Soap

Standard No.	Title
PNS 39:2003	Toilet Soap – Specification
N/A	Asian Cosmetic Directive

4.1.1. pH Level

The pH shall be between 5.0 and 8.0.

4.2. Product Environmental Performance

4.2.1. Compliance to Environmental Regulations

The applicant is required to comply with relevant environmental regulations and legislations. This includes production process, transport and disposal features of the product.

4.2.2. Preservatives

- The use of preservatives for purposes other than preservation is not allowed.
- Preservatives shall not be bioaccumulative. The requirement is imposed in order to reduce the environmental impact associated with the use of preservatives since they are often highly toxic to water-borne organisms. The product shall not be formulated with the following preservatives:
 - 1,2-benzisothiazolin-3-one such as proxel
 - 2,4-dichlorobenzyl alcohol
 - chloracetamide
 - 5-chloro-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one such as kathon CG
 - orthophenylphenol
 - orthononylphenol
 - trichlorohydroxydiphenyl ether such as irgasan, triclosan

4.2.3. Builders

- The product shall not contain nitrilotriacetic acid (NTA) and diethylene triamine pentaacetic acid (DTPA).
- Ethylene diamine tetraacetic acid (EDTA) and phosphonates shall not exceed 0.1%.

4.2.4. Fragrance

- The product shall not contain any substances listed in ASEAN Cosmetic Harmonization or its equivalent.
- The essence containing the following nitro-musk compounds shall not be used because of their carcinogenicity, the following substances are:
 - Musk xylene
 - Musk ambrette
 - Moskene
 - Musk tibetine
 - Musk ketone

4.2.5. Coloring Agent

All organic colorants in the product introduced either as ingredient or as raw material shall be food grade or as listed in ASEAN Cosmetic Harmonization.

4.2.6. UV absorbers

- Concentration of butylhydroxytoluene (BHT) and butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) must not exceed 0.01%.
- The UV absorbers shall not be formulated with benzophenone.

4.2.7. pH Regulators

The pH regulator shall not be formulated with boric acid, borates and perborates.

4.2.8. Formaldehyde

The product shall not contain more than 0.1% by weight of the product

4.2.9. Other Harmful Substances

The product shall not be formulated or manufactured with the following ingredients and its derivatives:

- Chlorine and chlorine compounds
- Methyl Dibromoglutaronitrile
- Opacifiers
- Quaternary ammonium salts that are not readily degradable
- Trichloroethane
- Xylene sulfonates
- 2-Butoxyethanol
- Phthalates
- Substances listed in DENR AO 2005-05 and DENR AO 2005-27
- Substances listed in ASEAN Harmonized Cosmetic Regulatory Scheme or its equivalent

4.3. Other Criteria

4.3.1. Label

- The product shall display on the container a list of all product ingredients in compliance with the PNS 39:2003 and/or in ACD.
- The labelling of chemical ingredients shall be done by using chemical names, and shall not be substituted with trivial names, abbreviations or commercial names.

4.3.2. Packaging

In case of plastic packaging, this shall have a sign indicating the kind of plastic used for producing the package.

5. EVALUATION AND VALIDATION

PRODUCT CRITERIA	EVALUATION AND VALIDATION
4.1 PRODUCT QUALITY PERFORMANCE	
4.1.1 Product Quality Standard	The applicant shall submit a certification from duly recognized/ accredited laboratories and/or certification bodies*.
4.1.1. pH Level	
4.1.2. pH Regulators	
4.2. PRODUCT ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS	
4.2.1. Compliance to Environmental Regulations	The applicant shall submit applicable licenses and permits indicating the manufacturer's compliance with agreements on environmental regulations applicable to the area where the plant is located**
4.2.2. Preservatives	The applicant shall submit a certification from duly recognized/ accredited laboratories and/or certification bodies*.
4.2.3. Complexing Agents	
4.2.4. Fragrance	
4.2.5. Coloring Agent	
4.2.6. UV Absorbers	
4.2.7. Formaldehyde	
4.2.8. Other Harmful Substances	
4.3. OTHER CRITERIA	
4.3.1. Label	The applicant shall submit a portfolio and statement in writing signed by the Chief Executive Officer or its equivalent position of the company and shall be accompanied by the relevant documentations and samples**.
4.3.2. Packaging	

* Laboratories accepted by national or international accreditation bodies such as the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC) or International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC)
 ** Notarized documents

6. PERIOD OF VALIDITY

The 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-ELP Board*, if necessary at any period of time.

Reference:

ASEAN Harmonized Cosmetic Regulatory Scheme

DENR Administrative Order 2005-05: Toxic Chemical Substances for Issuance of Chemical Control Orders

DENR Administrative Order 2005-27: Revised Priority Chemical List
Republic Act 6969: Toxic Substances, Hazardous and Nuclear Waste Control Act

Good Environmental Choice Australia Ltd: The Australian Ecolabel Program- Australian Voluntary Environmental Labelling Standard: Shampoo, Body Shampoo, Liquid and Solid Soap Products; GECA 22-2004.

International Agency for Research on Cancer. (2007, November 29). IARC Monographs - Classifications - Group2B. Retrieved February 7, 2008, from International Agency for Research on Cancer Web Site: <http://monographs.iarc.fr/ENG/Classification/crthgr02blist.php>

International Fragrance Association - Code of Practice (2006)

Japan Environment Association; Eco Mark Product Category No. 64: Liquid Soap Certification Criteria.

Nordic Ecolabelling; Swan Labelling of Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Shampoo, Liquid and Solid Soap.

PNS 39:1999 ICS 71.100.400: Toilet Soap - Specification

Thai Green Label Scheme: Thai Green Label Products: TGL-24-99: Soap

GREEN CHOICE PHILIPPINES
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