



Licence No.: ECD - 2007

Standard: GECA 29-2005 – Nappies and Nappy Wipes

Initial Verification Conformance Date: 12 July 2007

Ecodirect Pty Ltd

Good Environmental Choice -
Australia

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION

The Moltex Eco Nappies (distributed in Western Australia by The Nappy Tree PTY LTD) have been assessed against the GECA 29-2005 – Nappies and Nappy Wipes Standard, and awarded with the Australian Good Environmental Choice Eco-Label.

1. Description of Company and Product

Company: Ecodirect Pty Ltd (Australia).

Products: Moltex Eco Nappies.

2. Description of the Verification. The Good Environmental Choice Label is the national product life cycle independent environmental declaration in Australia (www.geca.org.au). The organisation is an independent non-profit environmental research and certification organisation recognised as the Australian member of an international network of ecolabelling schemes under the Global Ecolabelling Network. Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA) Ltd. manages the Good Environmental Choice – Mark of Conformity in conformance to ISO 14 024 – International Standard for Third Party Environmental Labelling and Declaration. Following an independent audit against the recognition requirements of the Australian Ecolabel Program the EcoDirect range of products has been awarded the "Good Environmental Choice" label for the Australian market. The Ecolabel is awarded to those products that meet or exceed voluntary standards of environmental performance. The verification procedure is managed via a Documented Quality Management System and Certification Program Manual which have made significant use of the ISO 14 000 series.

The objectives of the program are to:

a) Provide incentives for suppliers to reduce the environmental impacts of products sold in Australia; b) Provide a clear, credible and independent guide to consumers wishing to take account of environmental factors in their purchasing decisions; c) Encourage consumers to purchase products which have lower environmental impacts; d) Recognize genuine moves by companies to reduce the adverse environmental impacts of their products; e) Aim ultimately to improve the quality of the environment and to encourage the sustainable management of resources.

3. The Products

The following EcoDirect products have been awarded the Good Environmental Choice Declaration:

Moltex Eco Nappies - Disposable Nappies



Mini Nappies (3-6kgs)
- 144 nappies per box



Midi Nappies (4-9kgs) -
132 nappies per box



Maxi Nappies (7-18kgs)
- 126 nappies per box

Junior Nappies (11-25kg) – 108 nappies per box



4. Key Environmental Performance Findings by GECA

The key environmental performance criterion against which the EcoDirect products were assessed, and the findings by GECA, is provided below.

Environmental Requirements	Core Environmental Performance Characteristics
<p>Fitness for Purpose</p> <p><i>Certified products should be good performers in their intended application. It is implied that certain standards of product performance are implicit in the label. Certified product must ensure that the product is fit for its intended purpose</i></p>	<p>The manufacturer of the products is certified to ISO 9001:2000. The company warrants the product to be free from manufacturing defects, and guarantees a full refund will be offered to clients returning defective products.</p>
<p>Packaging</p> <p><i>Plastic packaging must be labelled in accordance with ISO 11469:2000 identifying the type of plastics packaging used. The plastic packaging must not be impregnated, labelled, coated or otherwise treated in a manner which would prevent post consumer recycling.</i></p>	<p>The Moltex Eco Nappies are packaged in a fully biodegradable bag, the need for recycling is therefore not applicable to this assessment. Nappy bags are packaged in 100% recycled cardboard.</p>
<p>Material Content</p> <p><i>Pulp and Viscose (regenerated cellulose): The requirements apply to the individual pulp used in the production of the sanitary products.</i></p>	<p>The Pulp used in the Moltex eco Nappies is sourced from plantation grown virgin fibre, this is apparent to GECA by a Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard Certification.</p>

<p><i>The pulp must fulfil the requirement as stated in the criteria document "Standard for Sanitary Paper".</i></p>	
<p>COD Discharges 3.3.1.2 COD discharges from cellulose pulp and fibre production must not exceed a total of 80 kg per tonne of regenerated cellulose. Chemical oxygen demand may also be stated as the equivalent quantity of TOC.</p>	<p>The water effluent generated during production is not released to waterways, but is collected by a licensed hazardous waste processor. GECA has examined the process of waste collection and treatment as well as the relevant company policy related to the processing of waste.</p>
<p>Chlorine Gas 3.3.1.3 Chlorine gas (Cl₂) must not be used in the production of bleached cellulose pulp or fibre.</p>	<p>Chlorine gas is not used in the production of the Moltex Eco Nappies. GECA has examined all ingredients used in the manufacturing process.</p>
<p>Optical Brighteners 3.3.1.4 Optical brighteners must not be present in the paper pulps used in the product or in any part of the paper raw materials used in the product.</p>	<p>GECA has examined all production ingredients. Optical brighteners are not used in the production of the nominated nappy product.</p>
<p>Zinc 3.3.1.4.1 Discharges of zinc must not exceed 0.5 kg zinc per tonne of regenerated cellulose.</p>	<p>Ecodirect are compliant with the requirements of this criterion.</p>
<p>Sulphur 3.3.1.5 Emissions of sulphur from the production of dissolving pulp and fibre must not exceed 20 kg S/per tonne of viscose.</p>	<p>Ecodirect are compliant with the requirements of this criterion.</p>
<p>NOx, SO₂ The emissions of NOx and SO₂ from the production of (monomerisation, polymerisation and granulating) of plastic (PE/PP) must not exceed the levels stated in table 1.</p>	<p>Polyester is not used in the manufacturing of the nominated nappy products.</p>
<p>Plastics 3.3.2.3 Nappy and Nappy Wipe products and their packaging must not contain chlorine-based plastics or</p>	<p>There are no chlorine based ingredients in the nominated nappies, the packaging is produced using a degradable polyester.</p>

<i>phthalates.</i>	
<p>Super Absorbents</p> <p><i>Content of SAP in Nappy products may not exceed 400 ppm residual monomers and 5% w/w water soluble extracts.</i></p>	<p>A mixture of Actyfill and SAP is used. Due to the fact that Actyfill is not a synthetic polymer there are no residual monomers. The BASF-SAP is declared with <500 ppm residual monomers but because a mixture of Actyfill and SAP is used, the outcome is lower than 400 ppm. The nappies are compliant with this criterion.</p>
<p>Cotton</p> <p><i>Raw cotton fibres must be cultivated organically or without the use of pesticides. Chlorine gas (Cl2) must not be used in the bleaching of the cotton.</i></p>	<p>Cotton is not used in the manufacturing of the nominated nappies.</p>
<p>Other Materials</p> <p><i>Organic solvents must not be used if silicon is applied during production of backing paper. Adhesives must not contain phthalates.</i></p>	<p>GECA has inspected MSDS for production ingredients to determine that silicon is not used, and the adhesive does not contain phthalates.</p>
<p>Constituent Substances</p> <p><i>3.4.1 Perfumes and lotions/moisturising creams must not be present in the product.</i></p> <p><i>3.4.2 Deodorising substances are permitted only in incontinence care products.</i></p> <p><i>3.4.3 The pigment in pigment inks must not be based on heavy metals.</i></p>	<p>The Moltex eco Nappies do not contain any perfumes, deodorising substances or any pigments.</p>
<p>Allergens, Carcinogens</p> <p><i>Chemicals classified as harmful, irritant, allergenic, sensitising, carcinogenic, mutagenic, teratogenic, or environmentally harmful must not be used as raw materials in the end production of nappy and nappy wipe products.</i></p>	<p>A review of MSDS for all production ingredients has provided evidence for compliance with the requirements of this criteria.</p>

5. Environmental and Social Regulatory Obligations:

The applicant is required to comply with relevant environmental legislation and government orders at the Local, State and Commonwealth level, if these have been issued. An applicants compliance with this criteria may be established by undertaking a series of random checks and gathering samples of applicant operational procedures and documents by approved assessors as evidence to support compliance during the verification and /or a statement of self declaration by an executive officer of the applicant organisation. Where an applicant is from an overseas jurisdiction, that jurisdictions environmental regulations apply.

The manufacturing process of the nominated nappy product does not involve gas emissions. Water effluent is collected for safe treatment and disposal. Moltex has not been the subject of prosecution in a court of law with regards to Environmental, Labour, Anti-discrimination or Safety Regulations in the past two years.

6. Additional Information

A detailed Verification report is supplied to verified manufacturers regarding the environmental characteristics of their products and evidence of compliance. The verification report can be made available at the sole discretion of the manufacturer. The Australian Ecolabel Program is the national environmental product life cycle labelling program for Australia. Further details of the Australian Ecolabel Program are available from www.geca.org.au

Good Environmental Choice Australia recommends these products to green purchasing officers, specifiers, and every day Australians seeking to purchase products and services on the basis of functional and overall environmental and human health performance.

Good Environmental Choice – Australia Ltd

P.O. Box 4140, Weston Creek (Canberra) ACT, 2606
Phone: (02) 6287 3100
Fax: (02) 6287 3800
Web Site: www.geca.org.au
E-Mail: management@geca.org.au