



# SLOVENSKI STANDARD SIST-TS CEN/TS 16822:2016

01-januar-2016

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## Tekstilije in tekstilni izdelki - Okoljsko samodeklariranje - Uporaba izrazov

Textiles and textile products - Self-declared environmental claims - Use of terms

Textilien und textile Erzeugnisse - Umweltbezogene Anbietererklärung - Verwendung von Begriffen

Textiles et produits textiles - Auto-déclarations environnementales - Emploi des termes

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### **ICS:**

13.020.99	Drugi standardi v zvezi z varstvom okolja	Other standards related to environmental protection
59.080.01	Tekstilije na splošno	Textiles in general

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**CEN/TS 16822**

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ICS 13.020.50; 59.080.01

English Version

**Textiles and textile products - Self-declared environmental  
claims - Use of the terms**

Textiles et produits textiles - Autodéclarations  
environnementales - Utilisation des termes

Textilien und textile Erzeugnisse - Umweltbezogene  
Anbietererklärung - Verwendung von Begriffen

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 22 May 2015 for provisional application.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels**

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**CEN/TS 16822:2015 (E)****European foreword**

This document (CEN/TS 16822:2015) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 248 "Textiles and textile products", the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

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## Introduction

This Technical Specification has been written to help companies within the textile supply chain to define self-declared environmental claims for textile products based on accurate and verifiable information and to harmonize the use of self-declared environmental claims and, therefore, to promote to the final consumer the purchase of textile products with less negative environmental impact and to increase environmental consciousness.

It is essential that the self-declared environmental claims for textile products are reliable, based on a clear, transparent, accurate and documented methodology.

The self-declared environmental claims for textile products can be carried out by any entity from the textile chain, including manufacturers, importers, distributors, retailers, etc.

In many sectors, including the textile sector, the offers of "ecological" products are numerous and their number is increasing. The environment is now the spot light on which many companies focus their strategy.

However, this tendency leads to a proliferation of claims about textile products and these claims are sometimes difficult to understand correctly, such as "sustainable", "responsible", "organic", "natural", "biodegradable", or may even be abusive, for example "greenwashing".

The purpose of this Technical Specification is to answer the following questions: What is the meaning of these terms and what can they really guarantee? How can we know exactly the environmental characteristics of the textile products concerned? What are the practical conditions for using these terms?

The environmental claims for textile products may take the form of statements, symbols or graphics on product or package labels, or in product literature such as technical bulletins, company advertising, promotional material, etc.

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## CEN/TS 16822:2015 (E)

## 1 Scope

This Technical Specification establishes guidelines for the development and use of self-declared environmental claims for textiles (e.g. fibres, yarns, fabrics), textile products (e.g. clothing) and textile components of products (e.g. upholstery fabric in furniture), which includes principles, methodology and rules for some terms commonly used in environmental claims.

This Technical Specification does not provide any substitute for any legal requirements applicable to textile products, related to environmental information, environmental claims or labelling, or any other legal requirement.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN ISO 14006, *Environmental management systems - Guidelines for incorporating ecodesign (ISO 14006)*

EN ISO 14021:2001<sup>1)</sup>, *Environmental labels and declarations — Self-declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labelling)*

EN ISO 14040:2006, *Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Principles and framework (ISO 14040:2006)*

EN ISO 14044, *Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Requirements and guidelines (ISO 14044)*

CEN ISO/TS 14067, *Greenhouse gases - Carbon footprint of products - Requirements and guidelines for quantification and communication (ISO/TS 14067)*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

- 3.1**  
**textile product**  
term covering "textiles", textile products and "textile components of products"
- 3.2**  
**environmental claim**  
statement, symbol or graphic that indicates an environmental aspect of a product, a component or packaging

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14021]

Note 1 to entry: An environmental claim may be made on product or packaging labels, through product literature, technical bulletins, advertising, publicity, telemarketing, as well as through digital or electronic media such as the Internet [EN ISO 14021]. Some brand names or visual drawings which call to mind the protection of the environment may be considered as environmental claims.

1) This document is currently impacted by the stand-alone amendment EN ISO 14021:2001/A1:2011.



### 3.3

#### **self-declared environmental claim**

environmental claim that is made, without independent third-party certification, by manufacturers, importers, distributors, retailers or anyone else likely to benefit from such a claim

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14021:2001, 3.1.13<sup>2)</sup>]

### 3.4

#### **life cycle**

consecutive and interlinked stages of a product system, from raw material acquisition or generation of natural resources to the final disposal

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14040:2006, 3.1]

### 3.5

#### **life cycle assessment**

LCA

compilation and evaluation of the inputs, outputs and the potential environmental impacts of a product system throughout its life cycle

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14040:2006, 3.2]

### 3.6

#### **environmental aspect**

element of an organization's activities, products or services, which can interact with the environment

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14020:2001, 2.3]

### 3.7

#### **environmental impact**

any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from an organization's activities or products

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14021:2001, 3.1.5<sup>2)</sup>]

### 3.8

#### **explanatory statement**

any explanation which is needed or given so that an environmental claim can be properly understood by a purchaser, potential purchaser or user of the product

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14021:2001, 3.1.6<sup>2)</sup>]

### 3.9

#### **functional unit**

quantified performance of a product system for use as a reference unit

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14040:2006, 3.20]

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2) The numbering of the original definitions in EN ISO 14021:2001 was impacted by the stand-alone amendment EN ISO 14021:2001/A1:2011.

## 4 Guidance on the use of terms in relation to self-declared environmental claims

### 4.1 Objective

This Technical Specification has been written to help companies within the textile supply chain to define self-declared environmental claims for textile products based on accurate and verifiable information and to harmonize the use of those self-declared environmental claims and therefore, to promote to the final consumer the purchase of textile products with less negative environmental impact and to increase environmental consciousness.

### 4.2 Fundamental principles

#### 4.2.1 General

The self-declared environmental claims for textile products (including processes) shall be accurate (4.2.2), verifiable (4.2.3) and relevant (4.2.4), which means that they shall be based on measurable information, substantiated in data that can be checked and is relevant to that particular product.

No environmental claim shall be based on a mere restatement of fact, e.g. natural cotton.

#### 4.2.2 Principle of accurate information

The self-declared environmental claims shall not be ambiguous, misleading or result, in any way, in a misinterpretation. It shall not, directly or by implication, suggest an environmental improvement that does not exist, or enlarge the environmental aspect.

The self-declared environmental claims shall be accompanied by an explanatory statement, which should clearly indicate the environmental benefit, especially if the claim alone is likely to result in misunderstanding.

The self-declared environmental claims shall be defined and presented in a manner that clearly indicates its range of application (complete product, part of the product, packaging, service, etc.).

The self-declared environmental claims shall be updated, when necessary, to reflect any circumstances that can affect the accuracy of the claim.

#### 4.2.3 Principle of verifiable methods

The self-declared environmental claims shall be based on scientifically verifiable methods, which are accepted and information on them shall be provided upon request to all interested parties.

NOTE Tracking of the production, known as product traceability, is an integral part of these verifiable methods.

The claim shall be justified by practical, measurable, relevant, meaningful and verifiable elements (e.g. in terms of eco-design, of limitation of the use of polluting substances or emissions of greenhouse gas, of management control of the natural resources, energy and waste, etc.), in order to demonstrate that negative environmental impacts related to the concerned activities have been significantly reduced or that positive environmental impacts exist.

Justification may be provided by an independent body.

The informative Annex C lists the most frequent verifiable methods related to the terms mentioned in Clause 5.

#### 4.2.4 Principle of significant impact

Whatever the environmental claims, they shall address significant environmental impacts of the textile product. The claimed advantage shall not create or exacerbate other environmental impacts of the product, at any stage of its life cycle.

The development of self-declared environmental claims for textile products shall take into consideration the life cycle of the textile product, in order to identify all relevant aspects and study the potential for increasing one environmental impact in the process of decreasing another (this does not mean that a life cycle assessment shall be carried out according to EN ISO 14040).

### 4.3 Methodology for developing self-declared environmental claims

#### 4.3.1 Methodology

##### 4.3.1.1 General

The methodology for developing the self-declared environmental claims for textile products shall be based on an accurate study that shall be documented and shall consider the following steps:

NOTE Further information can be found in EN ISO 14044 and, related to the general framework, in Annex D.

##### 4.3.1.2 Objective (goal) and scope

The specific objective (goal) of the study, the target group (consumer, industrial customers, etc.) and the scope shall be defined.

In the scope, some of the following shall be considered: the functional unit, the supply chain of the product (including the material sources, production processes, transport and end use), the complete process flow with inputs and outputs of each unit process (e.g. raw material, accessories, chemicals, water, energy, textile product, wastewater, atmospheric emissions and wastes) and the existing difficulties (e.g. in quantitative values, lack of information).

As a result, the study system boundary (see EN ISO 14044 for definition) and assumptions shall be defined. The system boundary shall consider all unit processes, inputs or outputs that are relevant to the study objective (goal). Whenever unit processes, inputs or outputs are not considered in the system boundary this shall be clearly stated, and the reasons and implications for their omission shall be given.

##### 4.3.1.3 Inventory analysis

After the system boundary and assumptions have been defined, all necessary data to quantify the inputs and outputs of each unit process shall be collected. The data collected shall be measured, calculated or estimated and, for each case, the source of the data and other relevant information related to the data quality shall be referenced.

The necessary calculations shall be carried out in order to relate the collected data to each functional unit.

As a result, the quantified inputs and outputs relating to each functional unit shall be defined.

##### 4.3.1.4 Impact assessment

Based on the inventory analysis, the significance of potential environmental impacts associated with the inputs and outputs shall be evaluated. For that, the environmental impact evaluation process (environmental impact categories, indicators and decision about significance), including the positive and negative impacts shall be defined. All information relevant to the impact assessment shall be referenced.

As a result, the significance of all environmental impacts shall be defined.