Quality and test regulations (QTR) for awarding the quality label

of the European Quality Association for Recycling e.V.

EQAR

European Quality Association for Recycling e. V.

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Quality and test regulations (QTR) for awarding the quality label of the European Quality Association for Recycling e.V.

1. Area of applicability

The Quality and Test Regulations hereinafter referred to as QTR regulate the type and scope of tests for obtaining the quality label for the following fields of application:

- recycled mineral construction materials in conformity with EN 13242 for roads and other civil engineering works
- recycled mineral construction materials in conformity with EN 13043 for asphalt and surface treatment of roads, airfields and other trafficked areas
- recycled mineral construction materials in conformity with EN 12620 as aggregates for concrete
- unbound mixtures in conformity with EN 13285 as mixtures of aggregates for road construction and other civil engineering works

The target is to produce a high-quality recycled construction material of construction and demolition wastes. This involves complying with the European and, if necessary, national standards and regulations for unbound and bound aggregates.

In addition pollutant input into environment or the adjacent soils shall be prevented.

2. Definitions

Plan of utilization:

Analysis, planning and documentation of the construction and demolition waste presumably produced when carrying out the construction measure, quantities and possibilities of recycling and utilization.

Supplier (transporter):

The company which supplies the construction and demolition waste produced on the construction site to the construction material recycling company.

Building owner:

Principal of the construction or demolition measure

Incoming control/acceptance certificate:

Testing of the mineral construction and demolition waste supplied for inadmissible impurities. The acceptance certificate documents the construction and demolition wastes supplied according to their composition and volume or mass.

Main components:

Starting construction materials such as e.g. concrete, brickwork, asphalt amounting to nearly half of the total mass of the construction/demolition object.

Impurities:

Non-mineral shares such as wood, plastic or metals in the recycled construction material

Dangerous substances:

Substances contained in the Directive 67/548/EEC (such as e.g. cement bound asbestos or tarcontaining asphalt) or to be classified as dangerous substances in conformity with national regulations.

Responsible person:

Manager of the operating point or other person according to workshop regulations responsible for the construction material recycling factory and production of recycled construction material.

Preselection:

Preliminary inspection of the material to be tested for impurities and dangerous substances.

3. Applicable regulations, ordinances, directives (in their effective versions): As examples there are mentioned:

- Council Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption (EC Drinking Water Directive)
- Council Directive 67/548/EEC on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging und labelling of dangerous substances
- EN 12620 Aggregates for concrete
- EN 13043 Aggregates for bituminous mixtures and surface treatment for roads, airfields and other trafficked areas
- EN 13242 Aggregates for unbound and hydraulically bound mixtures used for roads and other civil engineering works
- EN 13285 Unbound mixtures specifications
- EN ISO/IEC 17025 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories
- National laws and regulations on the protection of soils and drinking water

4. Quality assurance

4.1 Preselection

The material to be tested for dangerous substances (e.g. asbestos) should be preliminarily inspected either in the structure to be demolished (utilization plan) or when accepting the materials. When controlling them in the structure a report should be made up containing at least the following data:

- position/address of the structure,
- type and function of the structure,
- data relating to the main components,
- statement that it is largely free from dangerous substances,
- date of testing,
- name and signature of the person responsible/tester.

In the case of testing at delivery the preliminary inspection in the framework of the incoming control shall be recorded (see below).

Exclusion of material containing inadmissible impurities:

The exclusion or rejection of material shall be recorded in the documentation made up in the framework of the incoming control (see below).

Incoming control:

Recording of the incoming control is made in the form of an operating journal or a delivery book. In this connection the following data shall be indicated for each delivery:

- name and address of the supplier,
- type of the material supplied (e.g. concrete demolition)
- volume/mass supplied,
- producer/site (complete address),
- date of supply,
- name and signature of the responsible person

4.2 Processing

The requirements regarding aggregates have to be complied with depending on the case

- aggregates for concrete in conformity with EN 12620,
- aggregates for unbound and hydraulically bound mixtures used for roads and other civil engineering works in conformity with EN 13242,
- aggregates for bituminous mixtures and surface treatment for roads, airfields and other trafficked areas in conformity with EN 13043,
- EN 13285 unbound mixtures specifications
- aggregates according to relevant regulations.

Here the tests envisaged in the respective standards or the respective national regulations shall be carried out and documented. The following minimum data are required for the description of the construction material:

- grain size distribution: the maximum grain shall be indicated,
- classification of the components,
- foreign shares (other mineral components),
- impurities: data in percent by volume,

The impurities shall be restricted to maximally 2 percent by volume.

4.3 Securing of the environmental compatibility

Actual **national requirements** of the EU member countries where the recycled product shall be marketed and used regarding the proof of the environmental compatibility shall be complied with. The tests to adherence of the environment relevant parameters connected with them are to be carried out and documented in accordance with the relevant standards or provisions.

In the case of national requirements regardiing environmental compatibility not being defined the following **ecological parameters** in the eluate

- ► **pH value:** has to be in the scope of 7 12.5 in the eluate
- ► electrical conductivity: may be max. 320 mS/m in the eluate
- **PAK:** $PAK_{16} \leq 70 \text{ mg/kg in the solid.}$

shall be checked periodically for each recycled construction material product, yet **at least** (the shortest period is relevant):

- once in a production month,
- ▶ per 20,000 t of production volume,
- however at least once a year:

If future uniform **European requirements** will be published by the EU Commission they shall be considered apart from possibly higher national requirements.

4.4 Quality management

The continuous testing in accordance with the above-mentioned methods shall be ensured by an operating quality management. The regulations for the operating quality management have to contain notably rules for the own and external control including responsibility and documentation. The quality management has to be documented.

The documentation on the own and external control has to be transmitted to EQAR every 6 months differentiated by EQAR member companies and EQAR member associations as follows:

- EQAR member companies have to present individual proofs according to section 6,
- EQAR member organizations have to document their quality requirements or quality and test regulations and to transmit the documentation on the continuous quality assurance of their members periodically to EQAR.

4.5 Personal and operating requirements

The user of the quality label has to make available appropriate skilled personnel (qualified labour) in a sufficient number and to nominate a responsible person and to inform EQAR on it.

A regular further training in courses of the member association or EQAR is required. Equal courses are recognized by EQAR (or the Technical Committee of EQAR).

The operational equipment of the holder of the quality label shall meet the requirements regarding a proper processing of mineral construction and demolition wastes.

The enterprise shall be equipped with the facilities required for the incoming control, workshop production control and documentation.

5. Transparency of quality assurance

The EQAR quality label ensures for the client to dispose of the respective documents and to meet the above-mentioned requirements.

The user of the quality label shall present to the EQAR office all documents not older than 6 months in German and English.

6. Quality control

The recycled construction materials meeting the requirements of the present quality and test regulations are subject to a quality control by the **European Quality Association for Recycling e. V.** for securing the requirements to be met by them.

In this section the test procedures and the frequency of control relating to the tests to be carried out are fixed. Thus the proof of the requirements and properties fixed is complied with.

6.1 First test (aptitude test)

The prerequisite to awarding the quality label "High Quality of Recycled and Controlled Construction Materials" is the first test, the so-called aptitude test.

6.1.1 Target and object of the first test

The first test assesses:

- the technical prerequisites,
- the work flow and
- the special knowledge of the responsible person.

Thus it serves to assess the problem whether the prerequisites to control (a. o. the possibility of the workshop production control in the company or by third persons, the laboratory and equipment technical prerequisites) and to the quality-controlled construction material recycling in conformity with the requirements prescribed by the present quality and test regulations may be complied with. In the case of the result of the first test/aptitude test being negative a repeated test has to be carried out without delay.

If the repeated test will not be passed there shall be proceeded on the fact that the requirements of the quality and test regulations may not be complied with. EQAR will hold off the application and the applicant will be given a respective information.

6.1.2 Responsibility of the first test

The proof that a first test has been carried out forms part of the awarding procedure for granting the quality label. Thus it is the task of the applicant to assume responsibility for complying with the quality and test regulations.

In conformity with the requirements of the quality and test regulations the company authorizes an accredited test institute according to EN 17025. The **European Quality Association for Recycling e. V.** has a list of recognized testing centers which cooperate with the users of the quality label. A change of the testing center in the course of a calendar year is excluded.

6.2 Workshop production control (own control)

To furnish proof that the quality properties required by the present quality and test regulations are met a continuous own control of the production based on the present quality and test regulations is necessary. Frequency, type and scope of the tests regarding

- ► preselection,
- incoming control,
- processing

are regulated by the standards mentioned in section 3 or national legal provisions. The test results of the workshop production control determined during the last calendar year shall be presented to the external controller without being asked.

If checking of the results of the workshop production control shows that specific quality requirements contained in the present quality and test regulations are not met the user of the quality label shall immediately take all operational measures to remedy this fault. In addition EQAR may take measures according to section 5 of the implementing regulations.

The user of the quality label is obliged to inform the Technical Committee of EQAR on essential operational and all changes of the responsible person – notably the change of the testing center – if they are essential for carrying out the workshop production control of quality-assured recycled construction materials.

6.3 External control

An external control will be carried out at least once a year and shall be arranged for by the user of the quality label with external control tests being required in conformity with the national provisions of the EU member state where the recycled product will be marketed or used. In the framework of the external control the test results and the records of the workshop production control shall be presented.

Apart from checking these documents for completeness and plausibility the external controller shall check on a random basis whether the requirements regarding the quality-assured construction material recycling within the meaning of section 6.1.1 have been met.

The controller shall take records of each control which shall be sent to EQAR by the user of the quality label.

The controller shall use a list made up by EQAR for carrying out the control. The costs of the external control shall be fully covered by the user of the quality label.

6.4 Repeated test

If in the framework of external control deficiencies in the quality assurance of the quality label user are detected the Technical Committee of EQAR may prescribe a repeated test. The content, scope and time for carrying out the repeated test shall be determined by the Technical Committee If the repeated test will not be passed the external control will be altogether considered as not passed.

Everything else is regulated by the implementing regulations for granting and holding the quality label of the **European Quality Association for Recycling e.V.** The costs of the repeated test shall be fully covered by the user of the quality label.

7. Marking

Recycled construction materials corresponding to the present quality and test regulations as has been proved may be marked by the quality label of the **European Quality Association for Recycling e.V.** represented hereinafter as soon as the applicant has been granted the right to hold the quality label by the Quality Association.

Below the EQAR quality label the European product standard and a respective designation of the recycled construction material shall be indicated.

Furthermore by indicating the respective state flag or the nationality mark there shall be indicated which national provisions have been considered in the environmental compatibility test carried out in the framework of quality assurance

or

the recycled products shall be marked additionally by "XXX" indicating the test values of the environmental parameters to be tested according to section 4.3.



The product standard shall be always indicated (e. g. EN 13242) The maximum grain shall be indicated ($Rc_{qn} 0/63$)

Data required for the environmental test:

Nationality mark (e. g. A, CH, CZ, D, NL,SK...) or Marking: XXX, additionally indication of the test values according to section 4.3: pH value (e. g. pH 8,5), indication of the electrical conductivity (e. g. 150 mS/m), indication of the PAK content (e. g. PAK < 5 mg/kg) **Example** of the EQAR quality label with testing of the environmental parameters **according to national requirements**:



Example of the EQAR quality label without testing of the environmental parameters **according to national requirements**, **i.e. testing according to section 4.3**:



8. Alterations:

Alterations of the present quality and test regulations, also editorial alterations, are subject to the consent of the executive board of the **European Quality Association for Recycling e.V.** to become effective.

They will be put into effect at an appropriate time after the **European Quality Association for Recycling e.V.** passed them on to the users of the quality label.

Implementing Regulations for awarding and holding the quality label of the European Quality Association for Recycling e.V.

1. Basis of quality

The quality basis for the quality label consists of the quality and test regulations for processing the recovered construction materials (recycled construction materials) for use in road construction and other trafficked areas, building construction and civil engineering and earthworks and landscaping. The quality and test regulations shall be supplemented and perfected in adaptation to the technical progress.

2. Awarding

2.1

On application the European Quality Association for Recycling e.V. shall grant the producer the right to hold the quality label "High Quality of recycled and controlled construction materials" supplemented by a product specific inscription for the respective quality assurance.

2.2

The application shall be sent to the European Quality Association for Recycling e.V., Kronenstraße 55 - 58, 10117 Berlin in writing in German or English. A legally binding certificate of obligation signed (sample 1) shall be enclosed.

2.3

The application shall be reviewed by the Technical Committee. The Technical Committee shall test unannounced the products of the applicant in accordance with the quality and test regulations. It may inspect the company of the applicant and take samples of products and ask for and view the documents mentioned in the quality and test regulations. It shall issue a certificate of the test result which it shall send to the applicant and the Executive Board. The Technical Committee may entrust sworn experts or an officially recognized testing center with fulfilling these tasks at the costs of the quality label user. The person entrusted with carrying out the test shall prove his identity before starting to carry out the test.

2.4

If the test will be positive the Executive Board shall award the quality label to the applicant at the proposal of the Technical Committee (Sample 2). It the test will be negative the Technical Committee shall defer the application. It shall substantiate the deferment.

3. Use

3.1

Label users may use the quality label including a product specific inscription only for products meeting the quality and test regulations.

3.2

The European Quality Association for Recycling e.V. alone is authorized to have produced the marking means of the quality label (metal coinage, coining die, printing plate, seals, adhesive seal marks, rubber stamps etc.) and to deliver or have delivered them to the label users and to specify their use.

3.3

The Executive Board may issue special provisions for using the quality label in advertising and community advertising to ensure the integrity of competition and to prevent misuse of the label. The same maxim of integrity of competition applies to them.

3.4

If the right to use the label is withdrawn legally binding the awarding certificate and all marking means of the quality label shall be returned; a claim for restitution does not exist. The same shall be applicable if the right to use the quality label has become extinct in a different way.

4. Control

4.1

The European Quality Association for Recycling e.V. shall be authorized and obliged to control the use of the quality label and the observance of the quality and test regulations. Proof of the continuity of control shall be furnished to the Technical Committee of EQAR by a control contract with an accredited test institute.

4.2

Each user of the label shall himself take care that the quality and test regulations will be met. He is obliged to carry out quality control for statistical purposes. He shall carefully record own tests. Upon request the records shall be always transmitted to the Technical Committee or its authorized representative and be viewed. The label user shall submit its quality-assured products control tests by the Technical Committee or its authorized representative . He shall cover the costs of testing.

4.3

At any time inspectors may demand or take samples in the company of the label user. They may also take samples on the market or at the buyer. Requested samples shall be transferred without delay. Inspectors may at any time visit the company during hours of operation.

4.4

If a test will be negative or goods delivered will be deferred the label user shall have the test repeated informing the Technical Committee on it. The label user may also request a repeated test.

4.5

A certificate shall be issued for each test result. The European Quality Association for Recycling e.V. and the label user shall always receive a copy.

4.6

If it will be not be justified that the supplied goods will be rejected the rejecting applicant shall cover the testing costs; if it will be justified the respective label user shall cover them.

5. Punishing the offences

5.1

If the Technical Committee detects defects in quality assurance it shall propose punishing measures to the Executive Board – graded according to the seriousness of the offences. These are, as a rule:

5.1.1

Additional requirements to be met in the framework of own control

5.1.2

Increase of external control

5.1.3

Warning

5.1.4

Contractual penalty up to the amount of Euros 1,500.00

5.1.5

Withdrawal of the label for a limited period or permanently

5.2

Label users offending against Sections 3 and 4 may be warned.

5.3

A contractual fine up to Euros 1,500.00 may be imposed for each individual case. The contractual fine shall be paid to the Quality Association for Recycling e.V. within two weeks after the decision has come into force.

5.4

The measures mentioned in Section 5.1 may be combined with each other.

5.5

Label users repeatedly or seriously offending against Sections 3 or 4 will loose the label for a limited period or permanently. The same applies to label users delaying or preventing the tests.

5.6

The person concerned shall be consulted before carrying out all measures.

5.7

The punishing measures shall become effective when coming into force.

5.8

In urgent cases the president of the European Quality Association for Recycling e.V. may preliminarily withdraw the label with immediate effect. This shall be confirmed by the Executive Board within 2 weeks.

6. Complaints

6.1

Label users may lodge a complaint with the Executive Board within 4 weeks after receiving the decisions. The complaint shall be dealt with by the Executive Board at its next meeting (within 8 weeks). The refusal of a complaint shall be substantiated.

7. Reawarding

If the right to use the label has been withdrawn, it may be reawarded not earlier than after three months. The Executive Board may, however, impose additional conditions.

8. Alterations

Alterations, also editorial alterations, shall enter into force at an appropriate time after they have been made known by the Executive Board.