bluesign

bluesign Criteria

for processing chemical products

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1 Revision history

Document title	Version no.	Published	Remarks
bluesign Criteria for processing chemical products	v1.0	September 2026	See Changelog [6] for key changes

1.1 Changelog

This changelog lists the key changes made from **the bluesign Criteria documents listed in row 1 of the table below** to the **revision draft of bluesign Criteria Version 1.0 (published 2026-09)**.

Key changes	Location
Consolidation of all requirements and recommendations from the documents	1. bluesign® SYSTEM v3.0 (2020-03) 2. bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites v3.0 (2020-03) a. ANNEX: Exclusion criteria, v1.1 (2020-03) b. ANNEX: Chemical Supplier v3.0 (2020-03) c. ANNEX: VOC Management v1.1 (2022-05) d. ANNEX: Rating of production sites v2.0 (2020-03) e. ANNEX: Rating matrix - Chemical supplier v1.0 (2020-03) 3. and from related guidelines and guidance sheets
Comprehensive structural shift, resulting in restart in version numbering	N/A
Amended requirements and recommendations	In order to provide greater clarity and facilitate evaluation, the wording of requirements and recommendations have been amended within: • Topic: Management system • Quality management system • OHS management system • Topic: Product stewardship • Input stream management • Topic: Environment • Wastewater • Air emissions • Waste, soil and groundwater management • Topic: Occupational health and safety • Occupational health management and training • Safety management • Topic: Emergency preparedness • Fire safety, evacuation and major accident hazards
New requirements and recommendations	In order to align with regulations, industry norms and consumer expectations, requirements and recommendations have been added in the following topics: • Topic: Sustainability management (NEW topic) • General • Ecodesign • Social responsibility • Topic: Product stewardship • Centralized Product Stewardship (NEW topic) • Chemical recycling • Topic: Environment • Wastewater • Air emissions • Topic: Supply chain assurance (NEW topic) • Process: Leather manufacturing

2 Scope and description of requirements

2.1 Scope

The *bluesign Criteria* is a set of requirements for companies which are valid for *bluesign System Partner* companies.

In-scope companies are outlined in Table 1, "In-scope company types for bluesign Criteria" [7]:

Table 1. In-scope company types for bluesign Criteria

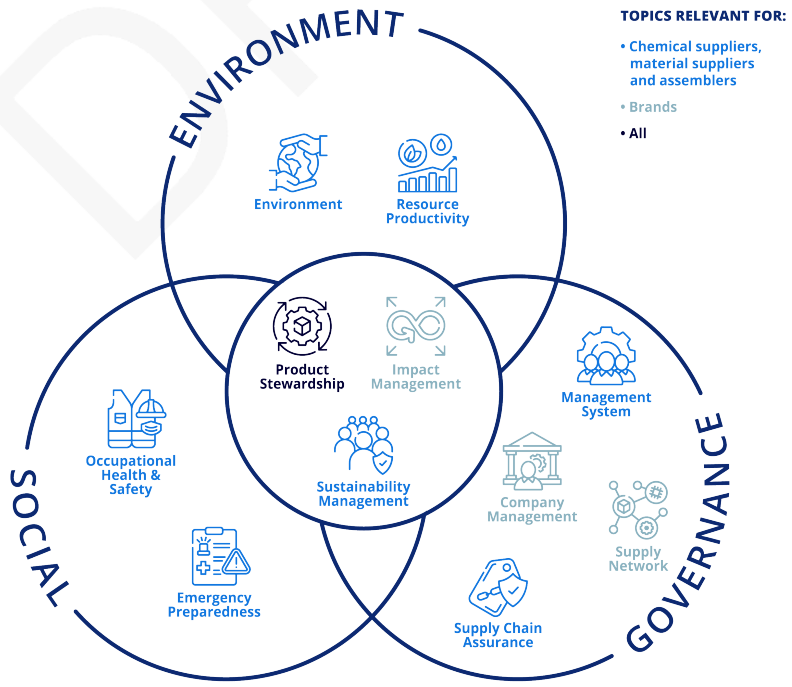
bluesign Criteria document	In-scope company types
bluesign Criteria for processing chemical products	*chemical supplier*s
bluesign Criteria for processing articles and B2B consumer products	*material supplier*s *assembler*s ("cut-and-sew" factories without *wet processing*, facilities manufacturing consumer products with wet processing)
bluesign Criteria for processing B2C consumer products	*brand*s

Out-of-scope companies are:

- *trader*s
- *distributor*s
- *embellisher*s
- *agent*s

The requirements are grouped into topics that holistically cover the scope of Environment, Social and Governance (ESG), as depicted in the infographic below:

Figure 1. bluesign Criteria topics mapped to ESG



Certain sets of requirements and recommendations apply depending on the process(es) a company engages in. These processes are determined during the onboarding process before an initial assessment and documented in order to allow the right set of requirements to be pre-selected for assessment. Based on the specific context of the site and scope of evaluation, the assessor has the authority to determine which requirements and recommendations are applicable or not during the assessment.

An overview of the processes relevant for each company type is provided in the table below:

Table 2. Process to company type matrix

Process type	Process name	Chemical supplier	Material supplier	Assembler	Brand
Business process	*Product stewardship* only	X			
	Rebranding of *registered* chemical products	X			
	Rebranding of non-registered chemical products	X			
	Toll manufacturing	X			
	Converting		X	X	X
	Subcontracting		X	X	X
	Commission manufacturing		X	X	
	Due diligence				X
	Product certification				X
Production process	Chemical manufacturing with product stewardship	X			
	Chemical manufacturing without product stewardship	X			
	Chemical recycling	X			
	Fiber manufacturing		X		
	Yarn manufacturing		X		
	Textile manufacturing		X		
	Consumer product manufacturing (with *wet processing*)		X	X	
	Consumer product assembling (without wet processing)			X	
	Plastic part manufacturing		X		
	Fabricated metal part manufacturing		X		
	Down and feather manufacturing		X		
	Leather manufacturing		X		
	Footwear manufacturing		X		

2.1.1 Transition period

The **bluesign Criteria for processing chemical products (bluesign Criteria)** Version 1.0 is planned to be officially released on 1 December 2026 and is effective for all contractual partners in one year beginning 1 December 2027. The transition period starts on the day of release and lasts one year. All assessments conducted on or after 1 December 2027 shall be conducted according to bluesign Criteria Version 1.0.

An exception to the 1-year transition period is granted to chemical suppliers where not all individual production sites have been assessed so far, and chemical suppliers engaging toll manufacturers. In this case, the transition period is 3 years, meaning bluesign Criteria V1.0 is valid from 1 December 2029, and all listed production sites in the agreement between bluesign and company shall be assessed latest within this period.

2.1.2 Product registration and certification

Upon achieving Criteria conformance, these companies may:

- *register their products*, the conditions for which are available in a separate document titled "bluesign Criteria for bluepass Products"
- *certify* their consumer-facing *registered* products, the certification requirements for which are available in a separate document titled "bluesign Scheme for consumer-facing bluepass Products"

2.1.2.1 Product registration

Products eligible for *product registration* are:

- *chemical product*s
  - for industrial use in the textile, accessories and leather industry
    - for direct use in the textile manufacturing process
    - chemical intermediates
  - for end-consumer use in textile care
- *article*s
  - textile articles for industrial use at all processing levels (e.g. man-made fibres, yarns, woven fabrics)
  - finished leather articles for industrial use
  - accessories for industrial use (e.g. zippers, buttons)
- *B2B* and *B2C consumer product*s in the following categories:
  - *apparel*, including denim apparel
  - *home textile*s
  - *equipment*
  - *footwear*

2.1.2.2 Product certification

Products eligible for product certification are:

- *chemical product*s that will be consumer-facing, e.g. via labelling on consumer product or for end-consumer use
  - for industrial use in the textile, accessories and leather industry
    - for direct use in the textile manufacturing process
  - for end-consumer use in textile care
- *article*s that will be consumer-facing, e.g. via labelling on consumer product or for end-consumer use
  - textile articles for industrial use at all processing levels (e.g. man-made fibres, yarns, woven fabrics)
  - finished leather articles for industrial use
  - accessories for industrial use (e.g. zippers, buttons)
  - textile articles and accessories for end-consumer use (e.g. repair kits)
- *B2B* and *B2C consumer product*s in the following categories:
  - *apparel*, including denim apparel
  - *home textile*s
  - *equipment*
  - *footwear*

Where a product's eligibility is unclear from the categories above, bluesign shall determine scope inclusion based on documented assessment criteria, including the product's material composition, intended end-use, and alignment with bluesign's published certification criteria.

2.2 Description of company requirements

Company requirements and recommendations in bluesign Criteria are categorised as follows:

Table 3. Categories of requirements and recommendations for companies in bluesign Criteria

Level	Description
Requirement	These requirements are to be fulfilled without deviation by a company before they can join the *bluesign System* as a *System Partner* and begin *product registration*.
Recommendation	These leadership best practices are suggested possible courses of action and help the organisation achieve improvement over time. They also serve as testing ground for potential future requirements.

Not all topics have requirements and recommendations.

2.2.1 How to read this document

The following verbal forms are used to indicate requirements, recommendations, permissions, or possibilities in this document.

- "**shall**", "**required**" or "**necessary**" indicates a mandatory requirement
- "**should**", "**recommend**" or "**ought**" indicates a recommendation
- "**may**" indicates a permission
- "**can**" indicates a possibility

IMPORTANT:

Separate *Technical Guidance* documents may contain the verbal forms "shall", "required", "necessary" or other expressions conveying requirements. Such provisions in separate documents are not to be regarded as bluesign Criteria requirements. Only the requirements expressly stated in this bluesign Criteria document apply.

3 Requirements and recommendations for processing chemical products

3.1 Sustainability management

3.1.1 General

3.1.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Company shall have a publicly available sustainability strategy.
PEND ING	Recommendation	A *materiality assessment* aligned with an internationally recognised standard (e.g. ESRS, GRI) should be conducted.
PEND ING	Recommendation	A sustainability report aligned with an internationally recognised standard (e.g. ESRS, GRI) should be published for the last financial year.
PEND ING	Recommendation	The company's sustainability report should be externally assured.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Company shall request environmental footprint data (e.g. product carbon footprint, water footprint) for purchased chemicals and materials. If received, this information shall be recorded.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Company should report to bluesign annually on the following impact figures where applicable: 1. Environmental data points a. Production volume b. Yearly energy types, sources and consumption, including *EAC*s and Power Purchase Agreements c. Freshwater sources and consumption, recycled water consumption, discharged water destination and quantity d. Volume of generated wastewater e. Total solvent consumption f. Fugitive VOC emissions (%) g. Refrigerants h. Total amount of waste generation, types and disposal routes 2. Social metrics a. No. of incidents b. No of fatalities c. No of illness cases d. No of working hours during the reporting period e. No of workers in the facility at year end
PEND ING	Recommendation	Company should have in-house ability to calculate product carbon footprints according to ISO 14067 or the *Tfs* guideline.

3.1.2 Ecodesign

3.1.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Recommendation	Company should have chemical product footprint data (e.g. greenhouse gas, water, etc.) for at least either 5 chemical products or 5 % of their *registered* product portfolio determined according to an *LCA* approach verified by an accredited third party.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Company should use a minimum of 5 % renewable content measured as fraction of biogenic carbon and total carbon (referred to the overall production volume).

No.	Level	Statement
PENDING	Recommendation	Company should be able to disclose the *SoC* content of a chemical product if requested by their clients.
PENDING	Recommendation	Company should have a minimum of 5 % recycled content measured as fraction of the overall production volume.

3.1.3 Social responsibility

3.1.3.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
182	Requirement	The company shall have a human rights policy aligned with internationally recognized standards, with the eight *ILO Core Conventions* as a minimum.
PENDING	Requirement	Where a *bluesign Company Assessment* identifies indications that the ILO Core Conventions may not be fully met, the company shall provide a third-party social audit report based on an internationally recognized standard, including the following elements: • Less than three years old • Source of information includes at the minimum document checks, management and worker interviews, and on-site assessments • Information and conclusions are provided on every topic part of the assessed standard
PENDING	Recommendation	The company should present a third-party social audit report based on internationally recognized standards that includes the following elements: • Less than three years old • Source of information includes at the minimum document checks, management and worker interviews, and on-site assessments • Information and conclusions are provided on every topic part of the assessed standard
PENDING	Recommendation	A corrective action plan from the third-party social audit report should be in process of being implemented

3.2 Management system

3.2.1 Legal compliance management

3.2.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
151	Requirement	All relevant licenses/permits related to EH&S shall be available.
154	Requirement	An overview on licenses/permits shall be available, including the following as applicable: • Overview on licenses/permits with main contents (subject, expiry date, responsibilities) • Overview of applicable limit values based on legal national and local requirements, e.g. for wastewater, off-gas, workplace atmosphere with units
156	Requirement	A process to monitor the validity of relevant licenses/permits shall be in place.
155	Requirement	Relevant information on legal requirements shall be available for the responsible persons.
153	Requirement	The company shall be aware of product safety regulations for the finished products in the related markets.
157	Requirement	A written procedure to track changes in product safety regulations for finished products in the relevant markets shall be in place, including clear responsibilities assignment.
158	Requirement	A process to track changes in local regulations shall be in place.

3.2.2 Quality management system

3.2.2.1 General

3.2.2.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
221	Requirement	A quality management system (QMS) (preferably following ISO 9001) shall be in place and include the following elements: • Quality policy • Quality objectives • Written documentation with the below core elements: 1. Leadership and Commitment: Explains how top management demonstrates leadership and commitment to the QMS 2. Roles and Responsibilities: Clearly defines the roles and authorities of all personnel involved in the QMS 3. Documentation: Lists for all required QMS documents, such as policies, procedures, work instructions, forms and records. • where applicable, *SOP*s for: 1. managing competence and training 2. document and record control 3. production process control 4. purchasing and supplier evaluation 5. traceability 6. inspection and testing of raw materials and finished products 7. nonconforming product control 8. complaints management 9. management review 10. internal audit All documents shall be updated according to the frequency predefined by the company.
222	Requirement	The company's quality policy shall be established and publicly available (e.g. on the website, or a printed copy at the reception).
224	Requirement	The quality management approach shall be visible in company (awareness of *SOP*s and objectives, relevant quality management documents readily available near the relevant workplaces).
225	Requirement	An improvement program shall be implemented based on measurable objectives to continuously improve the quality of products and services.
PEND ING	Requirement	Employees shall receive a general onboarding training for quality management.
PEND ING	Requirement	Employees shall receive general refresher trainings for quality management at regular intervals during their employment.
226	Requirement	Internal and/or external audits regarding quality management shall be conducted and a follow-up procedure for corrective measures of non-conformities shall be in place and well documented. Evidences for closure of corrective actions shall be available.
229	Recommendation	Quality management system should be certified according to ISO 9001 or equivalent by an accredited certification body. Certification should be kept for more than 3 years
PEND ING	Requirement	An annual management review of achieved performance against the defined quality targets shall be conducted and follow-up action shall be defined.

3.2.2.2 Responsible persons

3.2.2.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
203	Requirement	An adequate and complete organization chart shall be available. (See: *Technical Guidance* on Organizational chart)
205	Requirement	A responsible person for quality management shall be defined with documented skills adequate to the position (e.g. academic degree in chemical/textile engineering, several years of experience as a quality manager, ISO 9001 auditor qualification).
206	Requirement	Responsibilities/tasks for quality management shall be clearly defined in writing.

No.	Level	Statement
207	Requirement	The function for quality management shall be directly accountable to senior management.
209	Recommendation	The person responsible for quality management should have extended expert knowledge and skills (e.g. experience in industry 5+ years ; specific education for relevant field; member of external expert group).

3.2.2.3 Process management

3.2.2.3.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
241	Requirement	Basic recipe and *EHS* information shall be available at the relevant production units.
243	Requirement	Route cards and process flowcharts shall be available and basic quality control shall be in place.
244	Requirement	Actual vessel/machine settings and dosings shall be recorded (including corrections) for all production batches
245	Requirement	Scales, measuring and dosing units shall be regularly calibrated.
246	Recommendation	Recipes and and route cards should be regularly reviewed to optimize the process.
248	Recommendation	Automated process control should be available.

No.	Level	Statement
684	Recommendation	Quality-related KPIs should be defined (e.g. rate of customer complaints, failure rate, etc.) and improvements should have been achieved supported by relevant records and statistics.

3.2.2.4 Traceability

3.2.2.4.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
262	Requirement	Traceability of manufactured and/or converted finished product(s) to all inputs on a lot and/or purchase order basis with exception of bulk chemicals shall be possible.
274	Recommendation	Traceability of all inputs to manufactured and/or converted finished product(s) should be supported by data management systems (e.g. bar code and *ERP* system)

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	The company shall maintain a list of authorised traders and/or distributors, and a process to manage the list.
PEND ING	Requirement	The company shall keep retain samples with product names, lot numbers and GHS pictogram (if needed for chemicals) for raw materials, intermediates and finished products. The necessary retention time depends on the product (shelf life, legal aspects, requirements of downstream supply chain), but shall not be less than 2 years.

3.2.3 Environmental management system

3.2.3.1 General

3.2.3.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
301	Requirement	An environmental management system (preferably following ISO 14001) shall be in place and include the following elements: • environmental management policy • environmental objectives • written documentation with the following elements: 1. Leadership and Commitment: Explains how top management demonstrates leadership and commitment to the EMS 2. Roles and Responsibilities: Clearly defines the roles and authorities of all personnel involved in the EMS 3. Documentation: Lists for all required EMS documents, such as policies, procedures, work instructions, and forms • where applicable, *SOP*s for 1. environmental aspects and impact assessment 2. operational control (e.g. wastewater, waste management, air emissions, chemical management) 3. competence and training All documents shall be updated according to the frequency predefined by the company.
302	Requirement	The company's environmental management policy shall be established and publicly available (e.g. on the website, or a printed copy at the reception). The policy shall include a commitment to the following elements: 1. reduced emissions to water and air, reduced waste generation; 2. responsible resource consumption (freshwater, energy, chemicals); 3. reduction of the company's *GHG footprint*
304	Requirement	The environmental management approach shall be visible in company (awareness of SOPs and objectives, relevant environmental management documents readily available near the relevant workplaces).
305	Requirement	Measurable environmental objectives and an adequate improvement program (incl. measures, resources, responsibilities) shall be defined.
306	Requirement	Internal and/or external audits regarding environmental aspects shall be conducted. The audits shall be documented including implemented corrections and/or corrective actions and a follow-up of remaining nonconformities.
309	Recommendation	A valid third-party environmental management system certification awarded by an accredited certification body should be available.
311	Recommendation	A valid third-party energy management system certification awarded by an accredited certification body should be available.
PENDING	Requirement	An annual management review of achieved performance against the defined environmental management targets shall be conducted and follow-up action shall be defined.

No.	Level	Statement
PENDING	Requirement	Employees shall receive a general onboarding training for environmental management.
PENDING	Requirement	Employees shall receive general refresher trainings for environmental management annually.

3.2.3.2 Responsible persons

3.2.3.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
292	Requirement	A responsible person for environmental management shall be defined with documented skills adequate to the position (e.g. academic degree in chemical/textile engineering, several years of experience as a environmental manager, ISO 14001 auditor qualification).
293	Requirement	Responsibilities/tasks for environmental management shall be clearly defined in writing.
294	Requirement	The function for environmental management shall be directly accountable to senior management with adequate authority.
296	Recommendation	The person responsible for environmental management should have extended expert knowledge and skills (e.g. experience in industry 5+ years ; specific education for relevant field; member of external expert group).

3.2.3.3 Risk assessments

3.2.3.3.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Environmental risk assessments shall be available for all areas and operations of the production site considering impact areas such as water pollution, air pollution and soil contamination.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Employees should be involved during environmental risk assessments.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Environmental risk assessments should be part of yearly management review.

3.2.4 Occupational health and safety management system

3.2.4.1 General

3.2.4.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
331	Requirement	An *OHS* management system (preferably following ISO 45001) shall be in place and included the following elements: • OHS management policy • OHS management objectives • Written documentation with the following elements: 1. Leadership and Commitment: Explains how top management demonstrates leadership and commitment to the OHS 2. Roles and Responsibilities: Clearly defines the roles and authorities of all personnel involved in the OHS 3. Documentation: Lists for all required OHS documents, such as policies, procedures, work instructions, and forms • where applicable, SOPs for 1. emergency preparedness 2. handling of hazardous materials 3. OHS risk assessment 4. OHS training All documents shall be updated according to the frequency predefined by the company.
334	Requirement	The OHS approach shall be visible in company (awareness of SOPs and objectives, relevant OHS management documents readily available near the relevant workplaces).
335	Requirement	Measurable OHS objectives and an adequate improvement program (incl. measures, resources, responsibilities) shall be defined.
336	Requirement	Internal and/or external audits regarding OHS aspects shall be conducted with a documented follow-up of non-conformities.

No.	Level	Statement
339	Recommendation	A valid third-party OHS management system certification awarded by an accredited certification body should be available.
PEND ING	Requirement	An annual management review of achieved performance against the defined OHS targets shall be conducted and follow-up action shall be defined.

No.	Level	Statement
342	Requirement	Employees shall receive a general onboarding training for OHS management.
343	Requirement	Employees shall receive general refresher trainings for OHS management at regular intervals during their employment.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	The company shall establish and maintain confidential incident reporting and speak-up mechanisms that enable all workers and relevant external parties to raise health, safety, and labour-related concerns (including near misses) without fear of retaliation.
PEND ING	Requirement	Reported cases from incident reporting and speak-up mechanisms shall be documented, assessed, and followed up with appropriate corrective and preventive actions as part of the OHS management system
PEND ING	Requirement	The incident reporting and speak-up mechanisms shall be: 1. provided in the language(s) that workers speak fluently, and 2. accessible through channels that workers can reasonably use in their daily work context. Purely digital or online tools are not sufficient where workers have limited or no access to the internet, and alternative options (such as onsite forms, hotlines, or in-person reporting) shall be made available.

3.2.4.2 Responsible persons

3.2.4.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
322	Requirement	A responsible person for occupational health and safety management shall be defined with documented skills adequate to the position (e.g. academic degree in chemical/ textile engineering, several years of experience as an OHS manager, ISO 45001 auditor qualification).
323	Requirement	Responsibilities/tasks for occupational health and safety management shall be clearly defined in writing.
324	Requirement	The function for occupational health and safety management shall be directly accountable to senior management with adequate authority.
326	Recommendation	The person responsible for occupational health and safety management should have extended expert knowledge and skills (e.g. experience in industry 5+ years ; specific education for relevant field; member of external expert group).

3.2.4.3 Risk assessments

3.2.4.3.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
1107	Requirement	*OHS* risk assessments shall be available for all areas and operations of the production site, considering natural, technical/mechanical and chemical hazards.
1111	Recommendation	OHS risk assessments should be part of yearly management review.
1112	Recommendation	Employees should be involved during OHS risk assessments

3.2.5 Housekeeping and maintenance

3.2.5.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
371	Requirement	The level of housekeeping of facilities concerning tidiness and cleanliness shall assure a safe work environment.
372	Requirement	Responsibilities for tidiness and cleanliness for all facilities shall be defined.
373	Requirement	Responsibilities for maintenance for all facilities shall be defined.
375	Requirement	Good housekeeping practice shall be part of employees' onboarding and refresher training.
376	Requirement	Tidiness and cleanliness (housekeeping) shall be subject to regular checks.
377	Requirement	The level of maintenance of facilities and equipment shall allow for a safe work environment.
378	Requirement	Maintenance plans for facilities and equipment shall include routine checks and be defined in accordance with relevant machine safety standards.
379	Recommendation	The level of housekeeping should be at an exceptional level and all housekeeping activities should be systematically recorded.
380	Recommendation	The level of maintenance should be at an exceptional level and all maintenance activities should be systematically recorded.
381	Recommendation	Maintenance and inspection plans should be subject to internal reviews at least annually.
382	Recommendation	Special maintenance techniques and equipment should be used to detect decreasing efficiency and wear and tear.

No.	Level	Statement
1119	Requirement	Checks of buildings and structures shall be regularly conducted.
1120	Requirement	Buildings and structures shall be free of structural damage.
1169	Requirement	The risk of Legionella growth in aqueous cooling systems shall be under control (if relevant).

3.3 Product stewardship

3.3.1 Team and resources

3.3.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
601	Requirement	All important tasks and responsibilities for product stewardship shall be clearly defined in writing, covering all necessary elements such as input stream management, finished product control, legal requirement monitoring and SDS authoring.
603	Recommendation	The in-house lab should be accredited according to ISO 17025 or equivalent.

No.	Level	Statement
604	Requirement	External laboratories used for testing shall be accredited according to ISO 17025 or equivalent. (See *Technical Guidance* on Lab selection)
607	Requirement	Company shall assure that sufficient resources, capacities and skills for hazard communication are available (especially for classification, labelling and SDS authoring according to GHS requirements). Third party services can be used if sufficient competence can be proven and if all necessary information is provided to the third party.

No.	Level	Statement
625	Recommendation	Employees in product stewardship team should be highly qualified and experienced with expert know-how (master or PhD in chemistry/biology or similarly relevant field AND more than 5 years of experience in a product stewardship relevant function).
627	Recommendation	Key employees in product stewardship team should be members of national/ international associations related to the safety of produced chemical products.

No.	Level	Statement
671	Requirement	Company shall have enough staff with appropriate skills (e.g. knowledge about restricted substances in finished products) to implement a functioning compliance monitoring.
PEND ING	Requirement	The in-house lab for restricted substance testing, if not ISO 17025 accredited, shall participate in regular proficiency tests to verify robustness of applied testing methods.
PEND ING	Requirement	The in-house lab for restricted substances testing shall have documented procedures for applied testing methods.
PEND ING	Recommendation	The company should be a signatory of the *Responsible Care* initiative.

3.3.2 Centralized product stewardship (CPS)

3.3.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	An organization chart with all persons bearing responsibilities in the Centralized Product Stewardship (*CPS*) at the site where the CPS team is located and at all other relevant sites shall be available and up to date.
PEND ING	Requirement	Job descriptions of all persons involved in the CPS (at the site where CPS is located and at all other relevant sites) shall be available and up to date.
PEND ING	Requirement	Relevant procedures (e.g. for monitoring of purchased chemicals, SDS authoring, monitoring of finished chemical products) for well-functioning CPS shall be established and maintained and distributed to the affiliates for implementation.
PEND ING	Requirement	A procedure to ensure and check correct implementation of the CPS at all affiliates shall be in place.
PEND ING	Requirement	All changes regarding *product stewardship* aspects must be approved, controlled and implemented under guidance of the CPS.
PEND ING	Recommendation	The CPS team should carry out internal audits at the affiliates.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Specifications for all purchased chemicals shall be defined/supervised by the *CPS* and shall be adopted by all affiliates. Any changes in specifications shall be approved by CPS.
PEND ING	Requirement	Raw materials can be sourced locally, but they must meet the specifications agreed with the CPS. This means that technical purchasing specifications (e.g. regarding bluesign restricted substances) shall be harmonized.
PEND ING	Requirement	The procedure for monitoring of purchased chemicals according to specifications shall defined (or approved) by the CPS.
PEND ING	Requirement	Monitoring of purchased chemicals according to specifications (e.g. by testing) can be done locally, but shall be overseen by the CPS.
PEND ING	Requirement	Checking for correctness, completeness and validity of *SDS*s for purchased chemicals shall be the responsibility of the CPS but can be performed by the affiliates when supervised.
PEND ING	Requirement	Recipes and production processes shall be defined centrally and shall be applied by all affiliates (deviations due to different production facilities shall be approved by CPS).
PEND ING	Requirement	Specifications for finished products shall be centrally defined and adopted by all affiliates.
PEND ING	Requirement	The procedure for monitoring of finished products according to specifications shall be defined (or approved) by the CPS.
PEND ING	Requirement	Monitoring of finished products according to specifications can be done locally but shall be overseen by the CPS .
PEND ING	Requirement	The legal requirements for finished products/registrations shall be available and managed centrally (with the support of the local sites).
PEND ING	Requirement	For a finished product (registered in the *bluesign Finder*) which is sold under a specific trade name in the market, only one globally valid specification shall exist (independent of the location/affiliate where the finished product is manufactured or marketed).
PEND ING	Requirement	Classification, labelling, and the generation/revision of SDS shall be overseen by the CPS for all affiliates for all relevant countries/markets. Affiliates may author SDS locally but shall follow the procedures defined by the CPS. The CPS shall always verify SDS correctness at product registration stage.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	All SDS updates of registered chemical products shall be generated or approved by the CPS.
PEND ING	Requirement	The CPS shall be responsible for proper distribution of SDSs, although this may be performed locally.
PEND ING	Requirement	Data for the *bluesign Tool* shall be collected, entered and updated by the CPS.

3.3.3 Input stream management

3.3.3.1 Purchase specifications

3.3.3.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
422	Requirement	The company shall have a written procedure for purchasing of chemicals in place with responsibilities clearly defined.
424	Requirement	Purchase specifications for chemical inputs shall be defined to ensure that • finished chemical products meet the legal and *BSBL* requirement • consumer products manufactured with finished chemical products keep the legal and *BSSL* limits.
425	Requirement	Purchasing specifications shall be reviewed yearly and revised if necessary based on updated knowledge of typical impurities, legal requirements and bluesign requirements (BSSL and BSBL).
426	Recommendation	Success of reducing restricted substances by annual revision of purchasing specifications can be demonstrated.

3.3.3.2 Supplier evaluation

3.3.3.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
442	Requirement	An annual supplier evaluation program shall be in place and include the following: • Product quality (e.g. verified by sampling or trials) • Well-documented shipments and products by lot, batch, article numbers, properly labelled products, etc. (e.g. *CoA*) • Customer service, cooperation regarding information exchange (e.g. testing data on restricted substances) • Supplier's management system certifications (e.g. ISO 9001, 14001, 45001, 50001, etc.) • Social commitment of the supplier, e.g. Code of Conduct, Social Responsibility Policy • Delivery reliability • Complete, correct and current *SDS*s according to *GHS* • For chemicals: Correct hazard labelling of package/container based on *SDS* data
443	Requirement	The supplier evaluation program shall have consequences for supplier selection and purchasing.
444	Recommendation	Supplier evaluation should be part of the management system and subject to management review.
445	Recommendation	Regular assessments at main suppliers should be conducted and well documented. The on-site assessment should at least cover management system and product stewardship.

3.3.3.3 Performance supply chain

3.3.3.3.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
452	Requirement	*SDS* for all purchased hazardous chemicals shall be available and correct.

No.	Level	Statement
453	Requirement	For bluesign relevant chemical inputs: Suppliers shall be selected according to their ability: • to fulfill the purchase specifications (in terms of quality and restricted substances - legal and *BSSL*/*BSBL*) • to provide information on bluesign restricted substances (e.g. through *CoA*, testing data, intentional use)
457	Recommendation	*Key supplier*s should be able to provide appropriate CoAs covering most important impurities.
458	Recommendation	Key suppliers should inform proactively on quality and product stewardship issues in a proactive way.
459	Recommendation	At least half of the suppliers should be ISO 9001 (or equivalent) certified.
460	Recommendation	Company should cooperate with its main suppliers on quality improvements of purchased chemicals.
461	Recommendation	At least half of the suppliers should be ISO 9001 (or equivalent) and ISO 14001 certified (or equivalent).

3.3.3.4 Monitoring/testing of raw materials

3.3.3.4.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
491	Requirement	The company shall have sufficient resources and skills to implement and maintain an appropriate input stream management. This includes know-how on relevant restricted substances in purchased chemicals and sufficient resources for testing according purchase specifications.
493	Requirement	Supplier documentation of all purchased chemical lots shall be checked (e.g. type, quantity, *SDS*, *CoA*).
495	Requirement	Systematic testing of purchased chemicals regarding restricted substances according to purchase specifications shall be conducted. The testing frequency shall depend on the risk and on the testing history. Written procedure shall be available. (See: *Technical Guidance* "Product stewardship guideline")
496	Requirement	Specifications and testing data of purchased chemicals shall be systematically recorded in a database.
497	Recommendation	Systematic testing of purchased chemicals regarding restricted substance candidates should be conducted.
499	Recommendation	The first deliveries of purchased chemicals should be checked in more detail regarding relevant bluesign restricted substances.
501	Recommendation	Testing procedure and strategy according to quality and restricted substance specifications should be part of the management system and should be subject to yearly management review for continuous improvement.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Company shall have a process to collect the chemical composition of purchased chemicals.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Company should have a First-In, First-Out (FIFO) system to reduce the risk of expired stock.

PFAS

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	If PFAS are still used at the facility, the company shall maintain a register of equipment where PFAS chemicals are processed.
PEND ING	Requirement	If PFAS chemicals are still in use at the site, strict segregation shall be implemented to prevent cross-contamination. Equipment shall be dedicated for non-PFAS products. PFAS testing shall be done after any incident or change that may compromise segregation.
638	Recommendation	If PFAS substances are still in use on site, company should have a documented and management-approved *PFAS* strategy with the aim of PFAS phase-out.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Recommendation	Company should have completed the PFAS phase-out i.e. no PFAS-containing chemicals and materials are stored and handled on-site.

3.3.4 Hazard communication

3.3.4.1 Classification, SDS and product labels

3.3.4.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
609	Requirement	A written procedure/instruction for *SDS* authoring and correct classification of substances and mixtures according to the GHS shall be available and implemented. It shall ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
610	Requirement	The issued SDSs shall fulfill the legal minimum requirements concerning data content and correctness. (See: *Technical Guidance* on SDS evaluation)
613	Requirement	SDSs shall be updated when: • new hazard information is available • new substances classification data is available • legal changes require it (e.g. updated CLP requirements)
614	Requirement	SDSs shall be distributed to customers: • with first delivery • in legally required intervals • when updates have been made
615	Recommendation	Company should work with a professional software for classification & labelling, and SDS authoring.
616	Recommendation	Issued SDSs should be of exceptional quality and contain additional information which exceeds legal requirements. (See: Technical Guidance on SDS evaluation)

3.3.4.2 Information management

3.3.4.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
631	Requirement	Product recipes shall be kept on file at the production site and shall be available for all relevant departments.
632	Requirement	Data from input stream management and production control including product composition, specifications and specification monitoring (also relevant restricted substances) shall be available to the person in charge for *SDS* authoring and the Product Stewardship team.
634	Requirement	Specification changes for raw materials, intermediates and finished products shall be documented and communicated with the product stewardship team.
635	Recommendation	A systematic approach for information management should be applied (e.g. IT supported data base for systematic collection of raw material and product data such as specifications, testing data, classifications etc.).

No.	Level	Statement
637	Requirement	All relevant data for input in the bluesign Tool and for chemical assessment shall be systematically collected, reviewed for correctness and kept updated (full review and update at least every 3 years). This includes for example: • Composition of the finished product (all substances with relevant *CAS No.* and/or other identifier such as EC number and color index) • Finished product specification including relevant *BSBL*/*BSSL* substances and substances with an *OEL* • Finished product SDS and related raw material SDS • Test reports/*COAs* to confirm BSBL/BSSL substance content in finished products • *TDS* • all other data that are requested in the document "bluesign Criteria for bluepass Products"

3.3.5 Toll manufacturing

3.3.5.1 For the process: Toll manufacturing

No.	Level	Statement
641	Requirement	Written agreement(s) with *toll manufacturer*(s) shall be available when they are involved in the manufacturing of registered chemical products. The agreement(s) shall: • describe in detail the roles and responsibilities (e.g. product stewardship) of the toll manufacturer and the contracting party • request the toll manufacturer to conform with the *bluesign Criteria* • request the toll manufacturer to inform about any changes that may impact the compliance of the site and/or the chemical product
642	Requirement	All chemicals (e.g. raw materials, intermediates) used for toll manufacturing are known and approved by the company (important documents to be approved: *SDS*, *CoA*, specifications).
643	Requirement	The toll manufacturers shall inform on test results and other data from raw materials suppliers (e.g. composition, SDS, impurities).
644	Requirement	Raw materials shall be nominated/selected by the company (with defined specifications), OR the toll manufacturer selects the raw materials and shall prove compliance with the specifications defined by the company.
645	Requirement	A testing program for toll-manufactured products and used raw materials according to specifications that include relevant restricted substances shall be in place.

No.	Level	Statement
655	Requirement	A procedure for selection of toll manufacturer(s) shall be available and documented.
657	Requirement	Toll manufacturer(s) shall be subject to regular on-site assessments by bluesign. The requirements applicable to chemical suppliers shall be met.

3.3.6 Rebranding

3.3.6.1 For the process: Rebranding of registered chemical products

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	The company shall keep an updated overview which links the original product name/ identity with the *rebranded* product name/identity including supplier information.
PEND ING	Requirement	For all rebranded products records shall be available that link incoming product lots and quantities with sold product lots and quantities. Ideally this is managed with an *ERP* system.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	All relevant data for input in the *bluesign Tool* and for chemical assessment shall be systematically collected, reviewed for correctness and kept updated. This includes: • Original product name and ID • Original chemical supplier name and address • SDS and TDS of original registered product • SDS and TDS of rebranded product • Permission letter (template available) signed by the person responsible for product stewardship at the original chemical supplier to allow bluesign to use the data of the original product (to be sent by the original supplier)

3.3.6.2 For the process: Rebranding of non-registered chemical products

No.	Level	Statement
659	Requirement	*External supplier*s of finished products shall have sufficient *GHS* and chemistry knowledge and shall be able and willing to disclose the product composition.
662	Requirement	External suppliers of finished products shall provide information on product specifications and test results (regarding quality and restricted substances).
663	Requirement	Company shall have a risk-based testing program regarding restricted substances for finished products from external suppliers (e.g. more frequent testing for critical impurities).
668	Requirement	Written agreement(s) with external supplier(s) shall be available. The agreement shall: • request the external supplier to share the product composition with the company • request the external supplier to conform with the *bluesign Criteria* • request the external supplier to inform about any changes that may impact the compliance of the site and/or the chemical product

No.	Level	Statement
670	Requirement	External supplier(s) shall be subject to regular assessments by the company to verify whether the external supplier(s) meet(s) the requirements of the bluesign Criteria.
PEND ING	Requirement	The company shall keep an updated overview which links the original product name/ identity with the *rebranded* product name/identity including supplier information.
PEND ING	Requirement	For all rebranded products records shall be available that link incoming product lots and quantities with sold product lots and quantities. Ideally this is managed with an *ERP* system.

3.3.7 Finished product

3.3.7.1 Product development

3.3.7.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
675	Requirement	Measures shall be installed to assure legal and *BSBL* compliance of manufactured chemical products during product development. Legal and BSBL compliance shall be reviewed with changing regulations and when the BSBL is updated.
676	Recommendation	Company should seek to substitute 'conventional products' with 'more sustainable alternatives' (with attributes such as biodegradable, renewable content, recycled content, improved hazard profile etc.). Evidences should be shown.
677	Recommendation	Products with sustainablility attributes (e.g. recycled content, biobased/renewable feedstock content, preferred hazard profile) should be part of the product portfolio and evidences should be shown.
679	Recommendation	Success regarding developing, manufacturing and selling of products with sustainability attributes should be communicated.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Product packaging shall adhere to the substance limits from 1. EU Packaging Regulation (EU) 2025/40 (PPWR), and 2. *REACH* (Regulation EC 1907/2006) with respect to *SVHC* and Annex XVII (Restricted Substances).
PEND ING	Recommendation	If product packaging is made from polymer, it should 1. contain at least 20% recycled content, or 2. be fully recyclable.

3.3.7.2 Quality assurance

3.3.7.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
682	Requirement	Testing of finished products according to quality and restricted substance specifications shall be conducted systematically following a written procedure. The testing approach shall be risk-based, all relevant parameters shall be covered and all results shall be collected in a database. Testing frequency shall depend on the testing history.
683	Recommendation	Systematic testing beyond a risk-based approach (e.g. testing every or every second/third lot) should be implemented.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	*BSSL* compliance of articles cannot always be derived (e.g. via calculation or chemical product testing) directly from chemical product data e.g. when using solvents, metal complex dyes or reactive components such as formaldehyde and isocyanates. In those cases the company shall have a program to check compliance of finished articles with BSSL limits after applying the chemical products according to the *TDS* issued by the chemical supplier.
7	Requirement	When producing *registered* products, the company shall keep records of the registered products with the following information: 1. annual production volumes 2. product name 3. bluesign Tool ID

3.3.7.3 Customer support

3.3.7.3.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
692	Requirement	Well-documented technical support including recommendations on application shall be offered (e.g. detailed and specific *TDS* or technical brochures, *SDS*).
693	Requirement	On-request customer visits by application experts shall be offered. Visit reports shall be available.
694	Recommendation	Extensive technical assistance (including lab trials in own lab) should be provided.
695	Recommendation	Application engineers should give proactive support at production sites.

3.3.8 Chemical recycling

3.3.8.1 For the process: Chemical recycling

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Chemical companies that apply chemical recycling of polymers (such as Polyester and Polyamide) from post-consumer or pre-consumer waste feedstock shall have solid evidence that the process is designed to remove contaminants such as: • other polymers/fibers (e.g. polyurethane, cotton), *dyestuff*, finishes • restricted substances that may be contained in post-consumer/pre-consumer waste such as *PFAS*, *bisphenols*, heavy metals etc
PEND ING	Requirement	The company shall assure that the inputs to be recycled are reclaimed materials that would otherwise have been disposed as waste. Confirmation letters from all reclaimed material suppliers stating the reclaimed material status and the kind of reclaimed material (post-consumer or pre-consumer) shall be available.
PEND ING	Requirement	All reclaimed material inputs shall be documented by type, supplier, source and quantity indicating the date of delivery.
PEND ING	Requirement	A calculation - based on a mass balance approach - shall be provided that reveals the actual recycled content of the recycled chemical product.
PEND ING	Requirement	Quality specifications for the post-consumer/pre-consumer waste feedstock shall be defined
PEND ING	Requirement	Post-consumer/pre-consumer waste feedstock shall be regularly checked according to defined quality specifications

3.4 Resource productivity, climate and water stewardship

3.4.1 Resource management and objectives

3.4.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
724	Requirement	Resource management practices shall be implemented and overseen by a designated person or team. Monitoring results for water and energy shall be reviewed at least monthly to identify significant or unexplained changes, operational inefficiencies and necessary follow-up actions.
725	Requirement	Facilities shall define and document measurable resource-saving objectives for significant resource uses, including water, and energy. Each objective shall include a baseline value and year, and a target value and year.
726	Requirement	A program with measures, schedule, responsibilities, and budget shall be in place that supports achieving the resource saving objectives.
730	Recommendation	Progress against resource-saving objectives, including achievements and shortfalls, should be externally communicated.

3.4.2 Climate and energy transition

3.4.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	The facility shall establish a baseline for energy use and Scope 1 and Scope 2 *GHG* emissions using relevant activity data, including fuel, purchased electricity and other purchased energy consumption, set measurable reduction targets, and implement energy-saving and emission-reduction measures appropriate to its operations.
PEND ING	Recommendation	The facility should set a target to reduce absolute Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions by at least 50% by 2035 from a 2025 baseline, based on the *SBTi* Corporate Near-Term Criteria V5.3.1 cross-sector absolute reduction approach. Emissions should be calculated in accordance with the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard or ISO 14064-1. External energy audits should be considered where additional technical support is needed.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Recommendation	A climate transition plan looking towards 2050 should form part of the company strategy and include long-term climate targets, key actions and timelines aligned with recognised international frameworks where applicable (such as SBTi).
PEND ING	Recommendation	Facilities should increase the use of *renewable energy* to support decarbonisation and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. For electricity, facilities should work towards 100% renewable sourcing by 2030 through on-site generation, green electricity tariffs, PPAs or credible EACs.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Sites should assess relevant physical climate risks as part of climate change adaptation, such as flooding, extreme heat, drought and water scarcity, and integrate appropriate adaptation measures into site planning, emergency preparedness and resource management.

3.4.3 Water stewardship

3.4.3.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Facilities shall conduct a catchment-level water risk screening using a recognized tool (e.g., WRI Aqueduct or WWF Water Risk Filter) to identify physical, regulatory, and shared water risks associated with their basin.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Facilities located in medium- or high-risk basins should set one or more measurable water stewardship targets using a defined baseline. The targets should address the main risks identified in the basin assessment and be suitable for the facility's operations. They may address water-use intensity, withdrawal limits, alternative water sources, critical-season water use, groundwater protection, water quality or local water replenishment.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Facilities located in medium- or high-risk basins should develop and implement measures to achieve these targets and address the priority water risks identified through the assessment.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Facilities located in medium- to high-risk water basins should strengthen water stewardship beyond their own operations. This may include participating in local water-management initiatives, supporting water replenishment or restoration activities, and working with other water users, authorities or community stakeholders where appropriate.

3.4.4 Process monitoring and performance data

3.4.4.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
741	Requirement	Resource consumption data shall be available at facility level and supported by adequate evidence, such as meter readings, consumption bills or validated records. Relevant absolute figures and *KPI*s shall be documented for a defined reference period and checked for plausibility.
742	Requirement	Resource consumption data for water, energy, chemicals and other raw materials shall be recorded at facility level at least monthly. Major consuming equipment or departments shall be monitored separately.
744	Recommendation	Monthly evaluations of resource consumption should be conducted at the departmental, process, equipment, or product-group level where relevant. Applicable KPIs should cover water, energy, chemical, raw material usage, and greenhouse gas emissions to isolate hotspots and support continuous improvement.
748	Recommendation	Resource efficiency should form part of the performance evaluation of production processes and products, including product-specific resource consumption. Where relevant, internal or external benchmarking should be conducted for water, energy and chemical consumption and GHG emissions at machine, process, department or product-group level.

No.	Level	Statement
749	Requirement	At least annually, management shall review resource consumption and related KPIs against the previous year, the defined reference period and progress towards established objectives. Where performance has deteriorated or progress is insufficient, the causes shall be analysed and appropriate follow-up actions documented.

No.	Level	Statement
PENDING	Requirement	The facility shall maintain up-to-date energy and water balance diagrams showing all major inputs, process uses, recycling loops, losses, and outputs. These diagrams shall support accurate resource tracking and help identify inefficiencies and opportunities for reduction.
PENDING	Recommendation	The facility should have an online resource consumption monitoring system in place that allows recording real-time energy and water consumption.

3.4.5 Resource savings and circular resource use

3.4.5.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
761	Requirement	Resource-saving technologies and operational practices appropriate to the site's processes shall be implemented and maintained to reduce water, energy and material consumption. Where applicable, examples include: • Thermal insulation • Leak detection and repair • Efficient lighting • Condensate recovery and reuse • Dewatering before drying • Closed loop water cooling • Optimization of rinsing water volume • Retention and reuse of process liquors
765	Recommendation	Facilities should evaluate and, where technically, legally and economically feasible, implement advanced resource-saving and circular technologies to further reduce water, energy and material consumption and increase resource reuse or recycling. Measures may include advanced heat recovery, high-efficiency and low-resource production technologies, water or solvent recovery, beneficial use of excess heat. Applicable *Best Available Techniques* (BAT) conclusions and *BREF* documents should be considered when selecting measures.

3.5 Environment

3.5.1 Wastewater

3.5.1.1 Management

3.5.1.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
806	Requirement	An appropriate wastewater treatment plant (*WWTP*) shall be installed and operated for facilities with direct discharge. The WWTP shall include all necessary treatment steps, such as biological treatment, to ensure proper wastewater quality before discharge.
807	Requirement	Unused or leftover chemicals shall not be discharged into the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) and shall be properly collected and disposed of through approved third-party contractors.

No.	Level	Statement
809	Recommendation	At least one measurable action should be taken to reduce the environmental impact of wastewater. Examples include: • installing pre-treatment WWTP on-site for indirect discharge • installing recycling systems such as reverse osmosis or multi-effect evaporators • optimizing rinsing cascades • maintaining baths through filtration • applying electrodialysis for metal solutions • reusing spinning baths in wet spinning processes
810	Recommendation	Systematic actions should be taken to reduce the environmental impact of wastewater, including load, volume, and toxicity. These may include: • reducing discharged COD or other relevant parameters • ensuring that discharged wastewater has no aquatic toxicity proven by testing of multiple trophic level assays
811	Recommendation	Plans and measurable objectives for reduced wastewater impact should be defined. These may include: - evaluation of the top COD-contributing chemicals, and - consideration of machinery, processes, and chemical changes (e.g., improved biodegradability).
812	Recommendation	The facility should establish separate treatment for highly polluted partial wastewater streams, with methods adapted to the specific contaminants.
813	Recommendation	Wastewater management should be part of the company strategy, including long-term reduction targets, related processes, and timelines.
814	Recommendation	The company should demonstrate reductions in wastewater-related impacts and communicate the results transparently to relevant stakeholders.

No.	Level	Statement
816	Requirement	If domestic wastewater is treated in an on-site septic tank system with direct discharge, it shall be further treated using suitable biological methods or equivalent measures to ensure compliance with local discharge legal requirements. Fecal sludge shall be collected and disposed of by an authorized third-party service provider.
PEND ING	Requirement	In case a *nonconformity* is detected in the wastewater test report or internal testing against discharge limits, the company shall conduct a root cause analysis (RCA) and implement a corrective action plan (CAP)
PEND ING	Requirement	Wastewater resulting from sludge drying operations shall be returned to the WWTP.

3.5.1.2 Monitoring

3.5.1.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
820	Requirement	Critical chemicals (e.g., *PFAS*-containing chemicals, flame retardants, antimicrobial agents, organic solvents) shall not be discharged into the process wastewater stream. Where discharge cannot be fully avoided, separate collection and adequate disposal shall be implemented.
826	Requirement	As an exception, limited discharge of critical chemicals (e.g. organic solvents from machine cleaning) may be permitted. To qualify for this exception, a documented, site-specific assessment shall be provided that demonstrates the wastewater treatment system is capable of effectively removing or degrading the substances without negative impacts on treatment performance, sludge quality, the receiving environment, or regulatory compliance.

No.	Level	Statement
831	Requirement	Monitoring shall cover all legal requirements concerning parameters, sampling methods, and frequency, ensuring that the content and amount of pollutants are properly assessed and documented.

No.	Level	Statement
832	Recommendation	Wastewater monitoring should exceed legal requirements in terms of testing frequency and/or the number of relevant parameters. For processes involving substances such as tetrachloroethene, permethrin, permanganate, chromium VI, and APEO, relevant parameters should be measured in untreated wastewater, and results should be used to identify and control potential risks prior to discharge. In the case of indirect discharge without on-site pretreatment, monitoring should focus on raw wastewater to ensure that pollutant loads are adequately controlled before being sent to external treatment.
833	Requirement	The monitoring program shall support the proper operation of the *WWTP*. At a minimum, *COD* and pH shall be monitored, and additional parameters shall be included as necessary depending on the specific wastewater chemistry.
834	Requirement	A basic emissions register for wastewater shall be available and shall include: • all wastewater discharge points, • annual and monthly discharge volumes, • identification of direct or indirect discharge (including name and location of third-party WWTP where applicable), and • applicable discharge licenses or permits. Documentation such as annual discharge monitoring records and photos of discharge points shall be maintained.
835	Recommendation	A detailed emissions register for wastewater should be available, including information on machines and processes, main wastewater streams, and related typical emissions and loads (e.g., kg COD/a).
836	Recommendation	Monitoring of partial wastewater streams should be applied.
837	Recommendation	Systematic statistics should be kept for monitoring data. Systematic means that internal measurements (parameters and testing frequencies) are selected based on the detailed emission register, so that, for example, the total COD load can be allocated to the main sources.
838	Recommendation	Wastewater monitoring should be part of the companies continual improvement program. Monitoring data and statistics should be used to improve wastewater quality through technical and organizational measures and should be regularly reviewed internally (e.g., as part of environmental performance reviews).
839	Recommendation	Successful optimization of wastewater treatment should be demonstrated based on monitoring data. Documented statistics indicating reduction of pollution load should be available.

No.	Level	Statement
851	Requirement	If there is an on-site *WWTP*, it shall be appropriate in terms of capacity, design, and adequate treatment steps for the relevant pollutants, and it shall be properly operated.
852	Requirement	Sludge shall be stored and disposed of properly. This includes specifically: • Hazardous sludge shall be properly classified and collected separately in suitable collection areas that prevent sludge to leach into the environment • Sludge shall be disposed of by an accredited disposal company • Full information on the disposal of every sludge type shall be available • Sludge from industrial wastewater treatment shall not be used in agriculture or disposed of in uncontrolled landfills
853	Requirement	A general understanding of wastewater emission loads (quantity and type) shall be available, and treatment steps shall be adequate and well documented (e.g., flow chart with treatment steps, tank/basin capacities).
854	Requirement	The *WWTP* shall be maintained in good condition and its effectiveness shall be monitored and recorded through regular inspections, well-kept measurement devices, proper housekeeping of the WWTP lab, and availability of monitoring data.
855	Requirement	WWTP records shall demonstrate no incidents - such as operational failures or discharge limit exceedances - within the past three years. Where incidents have occurred, appropriate corrective actions shall be implemented.
856	Requirement	Emergency procedures shall be available, and preventive measures and equipment shall be established to manage incidents and irregularities effectively. This shall include, as applicable, systems such as monitoring and alarm devices (e.g. level sensors), automatic shutdown or bypass mechanisms, containment measures (e.g. retention basins or holding tanks), and backup provisions to prevent uncontrolled discharges.
857	Requirement	WWTP staff shall be trained in the operation and control of the site-specific wastewater treatment process, including key treatment steps, critical control parameters, chemical handling, and emergency response. Training records shall be available.

No.	Level	Statement
858	Requirement	In case of indirect discharge, the company shall establish a close communication channel with the external WWTP to be informed about abnormalities and exceeded discharge limits.
859	Recommendation	WWTP system should be optimized with adequate measures; for example, SOPs for operation should be available, a sophisticated WWTP laboratory should be in place, automatic monitoring should be installed, and WWTP engineers should be well trained.
860	Recommendation	Resource aspects should be considered for the WWTP, such as reducing electricity consumption through intelligent and automated aeration/oxygen blowers with appropriate monitoring, or saving chemicals by controlled dosing for processes like pH adjustment, disinfection, and flocculation/coagulation.
861	Recommendation	The WWTP should set a standard for the industry and *Best Available Techniques* (BAT) should be implemented, for example by using forward-looking technologies such as membrane processes or ozone treatment, or by using tailor-made process steps such as anaerobic or partial stream treatments.
862	Requirement	Wastewater that may contain oil or grease shall be collected and treated using an appropriate oil separation or removal system. This includes, where applicable, compressor condensate, canteen wastewater, runoff from fuel storage and parking areas, and process water containing mineral or silicone oils. Such process water may result from removing spinning, knitting or weaving lubricants, or from silicone softening and finishing processes. Separated oil, grease and oily condensate shall be collected separately and stored in a dry, contained area. It shall be disposed of by a qualified third-party contractor. Disposal records shall be retained for at least three years
PEND ING	Requirement	Sampling shall be conducted aligned with ISO 5667:2023 Part 1 “Guidance on the design of sampling programmes and sampling techniques” by qualified personnel or accredited third-party laboratories under representative conditions.
PEND ING	Requirement	Wastewater shall not be diluted with the intention of complying with wastewater limit values.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Facilities should implement real-time pollution monitoring systems to continuously track key wastewater parameters such as pH, temperature, chemical oxygen demand, and other relevant pollutants. These systems should enable early detection of abnormalities, support timely corrective actions, and help ensure ongoing compliance with discharge requirements.

3.5.1.3 Direct wastewater discharge

3.5.1.3.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
871	Requirement	Legal industry specific and wastewater limits and legal limits for domestic wastewater shall be kept.
872	Requirement	The bluesign limits for direct discharge shall be kept. Testing shall be conducted at the frequency specified in the applicable limit value tables (See: Direct wastewater discharge [45]) and shall provide representative results.
873	Recommendation	The main discharge figures should be publicly available.

No.	Level	Statement
875	Requirement	For direct discharge to an aquatic body, the overall wastewater treatment system shall achieve a *COD* mass-load removal efficiency of at least 85%. The COD removal efficiency shall be calculated on a monthly basis using representative measurements of COD concentration and wastewater flow at the untreated influent and final treated-effluent sampling points, as follows: $$Removal\ efficiency = \frac{((C_{in} \cdot Q_{in}) - (C_{out} \cdot Q_{out})) \cdot 100}{(C_{in} \cdot Q_{in})} \quad (1)$$ C = COD concentration Q = wastewater flow Influent and final-effluent samples shall be representative of normal operation and comparable with each other. For continuous treatment systems, the sampling time shall consider the time needed for wastewater to pass through the treatment system (hydraulic retention time).
PEND ING	Requirement	When treated wastewater is directly discharged to an aquatic body from production sites with chemical use, aquatic ecotoxicity shall be assessed annually according to the highest trophic level for which testing is available through an accredited laboratory. Testing shall be performed in the following order of preference: 1. Fish egg toxicity 2. Daphnia toxicity 3. Algae toxicity 4. Bacterial toxicity Use of a lower trophic level test shall only be permitted where testing at a higher trophic level is not reasonably available. Compliance shall be demonstrated in accordance with the requirements specified by bluesign (See: Aquatic ecotoxicity requirements for direct discharge [46]).

3.5.1.4 Indirect wastewater discharge

3.5.1.4.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
881	Requirement	A known third-party *WWTP* shall be used for indirect discharge and the contractual limits for discharge to this WWTP shall be kept. Documentation on the external WWTP shall be available (address, process description, contract including limits for incoming wastewater). In case a contaminant cannot be treated by the receiving WWTP, sufficient on-site pretreatment shall be performed.
886	Recommendation	Voluntarily lower and/or additional limit values for discharge to third-party WWTP should be defined.

3.5.2 Air emissions

3.5.2.1 Management of process air emissions

3.5.2.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
931	Requirement	*VOC* relevance shall be assumed when the annual solvent consumption exceeds the threshold of >100 t/year. Compliance with the applicable emission requirements shall be demonstrated by meeting at least one of the requirements specified in the corresponding tables (See: ???, ???, ???).

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Key 931 shall be eligible for an adaptation period[a.] of up to three years to achieve compliance with CMR solvent management requirements, if the company joining the bluesign System fulfils the following requirements: 1. The company shall have made significant investments in environmental footprint reduction technologies within the previous two years (e.g. installation of a biomass boiler). 2. During the adaptation period, the company shall comply with at least one of the following conditions: • Achieve a minimum 80% off-gas treatment efficiency for CMR solvents or <50 mg/m^3 outlet TOC concentration; or • Achieve a minimum 80% recycling efficiency for CMR solvents; or • Phase out CMR solvents

[a.]The adaptation period is intended to provide sufficient time for the company to plan, budget, and implement the additional investments necessary to meet the CMR solvent management requirements.

No.	Level	Statement
904	Requirement	Valid permits for process emissions shall be available and their requirements shall be known.
905	Requirement	Appropriate measures shall be implemented to reduce the environmental impact of process emissions. These shall include, as applicable, the installation and proper operation of emission control systems; substitution of *VOC*-containing or other high-emission materials with lower-emission alternatives; use or optimization of lower-emission processes; and systematic monitoring and maintenance of off-gas abatement equipment.
906	Recommendation	Systematic actions should be implemented to reduce the environmental impact of process emissions. Such actions can include identifying the emission potential of chemicals, applying appropriate emission-factor concepts, and assessing how product recipes influence resulting emissions.
907	Requirement	Measurable objectives and plans to reduce the impact of air emissions shall be defined.
908	Recommendation	Impact on air emissions should be considered before installation of new machines and related chemicals and chemical products.
909	Recommendation	Off-gas management should be part of the company strategy, with long-term objectives for all process emissions and details about planned reduction potentials, related processes, and timelines included in documents such as the environmental policy or sustainability report.
910	Recommendation	Success on lowering impact of process emissions should be publicly communicated (e.g. via sustainability report and/or company website).

3.5.2.2 Air emission monitoring

3.5.2.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
916	Requirement	Monitoring shall cover the legal requirements concerning parameters and frequency.
917	Recommendation	It is recommended that monitoring exceeds legal requirements with respect to frequency and/or parameters.

No.	Level	Statement
918	Requirement	In case of VOC relevance, fugitive VOC emissions shall remain below 5% of total solvent input, with a reduction goal of below 3%, and calculated with a *VOC* mass balance annually.
919	Requirement	An air emissions inventory/registry shall be available and maintained. The inventory shall include: • Overview map of emission point sources (including buildings and main equipment) • List of point sources with connected treatment systems, processes and related emissions • Identification code for each emission source - Description of the relevant process

No.	Level	Statement
920	Recommendation	An air emissions inventory/registry should include in addition to the basic inventory: • Off-gas duct connection plan • Statistics on measurement results and applicable limits • Equipment name • Volumetric off-gas flow • Nominal capacity (e.g., boiler 6 MW) • Stack or final discharge port with unique code/name • Defined maintenance intervals
921	Recommendation	Systematic statistics should be kept for monitoring process air emissions to demonstrate performance and compliance, including well-documented mass balance, key figures, and online measurement data.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Off-gas streams shall not be diluted with the intention of complying with off-gas limit values.

3.5.2.3 Off-gas treatment systems

3.5.2.3.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
932	Requirement	Off-gas treatment system or other air management systems for process emissions shall be available and appropriate. The system shall effectively capture and treat exhaust air from relevant processes through suitable technologies such as scrubbers, condensers, or activated carbon filters.
933	Requirement	On-site off-gas treatment systems shall be installed and operated according to *SOP*s. Their operation and efficiency shall be monitored through regular inspections and recorded data. Maintenance measures, such as scrubbing media replacement, pH checks, or filter control, shall be implemented and documented.
934	Requirement	A flow chart for the off-gas systems shall be available, showing all relevant emission ports with connected pipes and off-gas systems.
935	Requirement	Off-gas treatment systems shall be maintained in good condition and appropriately controlled. Daily visual checks and preventive maintenance, such as filter replacement and inspection for corrosion or leakages, shall be carried out. Malfunctions shall be prevented through regular monitoring and timely corrective action.
936	Requirement	The efficiency of off-gas treatment systems shall be monitored and recorded, either internally or by an external third party. For thermal oxidizers (TO), regenerative thermal oxidizers (*RTO*), or regenerative catalytic oxidizers (RCO), *TOC* abatement efficiency monitoring may be exempted if outlet TOC, carbon monoxide (CO) concentrations, and flame temperature are continuously monitored, and the monitoring equipment is regularly maintained and calibrated.
937	Requirement	Operator for off-gas treatment systems shall be well trained and possess the necessary technical background, relevant trainings, and required licenses.
938	Recommendation	Off-gas treatment system should be optimized (*SOP* for operation well documented, high efficiency for the most important loads, automatic monitoring installed and well trained and educated engineer available).

No.	Level	Statement
939	Requirement	Procedures and equipment shall be in place to effectively manage incidents and irregularities in off-gas treatment systems. This shall include documented standard operating procedures (SOPs) for incidents (e.g. system malfunction, shutdown or bypass), and appropriate equipment such as monitoring and alarm systems (e.g. sensors), as well as automatic shutdown or interlock mechanisms to prevent uncontrolled emissions.
940	Recommendation	Off-gas treatment systems should represent the best available techniques (*BAT*) for the industry. Systems should incorporate advanced and energy efficient technologies such as optimized air management, condensation and scrubber units, electrostatic precipitators, or *RTO*s to achieve high abatement efficiency. Preventive and forward looking measures, including insulation, heat recovery, and regular maintenance, should also be applied. Evidence or documentation of BAT implementation should be available.

No.	Level	Statement
941	Recommendation	For *VOC*-relevant sites with high emission loads, and *RTO* should be installed.

No.	Level	Statement
956	Requirement	For on-site power or steam generation units operated with fuels containing sulfur content >1% or with coal, appropriate off-gas treatment systems shall be installed, operated and maintained to ensure compliance with applicable permit requirements or legally binding emission limits. The installed off-gas treatment systems shall comply with the applicable emission limits for dust, SO2, NOx (See: Emissions from power generation and boiler house (supply units) [47]). Where coal is used as a fuel, mercury emissions shall be controlled to comply with a limit of 0.25 kg/h or 0.05 mg/Nm^3. The off-gas treatment systems shall be operated, monitored, and documented according to the facility's established air-management procedures. The operation, inspection, training and incident preparedness requirements defined for general off-gas systems also apply to these units..
964	Recommendation	Low-emission fuels should be used for on-site energy generation.
PEND ING	Requirement	Off-gas measurements for the determination of total organic carbon (*TOC*) or total volatile organic compounds (TVOC) at *VOC*-relevant facilities shall be conducted by a qualified third party using standardized and recognized methods. *Flame ionization detector* (FID) based measurement shall be used as the preferred reference method (e.g. EN 12619 or ISO 25140). Where FID measurement is not locally available, alternative standardized methods such as US EPA Method 18 or equivalent EN or ISO standards shall be applied. Measurements shall be performed at relevant emission points after off-gas treatment under representative operating conditions and documented accordingly.

3.5.2.4 Discharge

3.5.2.4.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
946	Requirement	Air emission limits from permit or legal industry specific limits shall be kept.
948	Recommendation	The main off-gas figures should be publicly available.
949	Recommendation	Voluntary lower and/or additional off-gas limits should be internally defined.
PEND ING	Requirement	The odor intensity levels set by the local authorities shall be kept and valid neighborhood complaints shall be evaluated and adequately followed up.

3.5.2.5 Ozone-depleting substances

3.5.2.5.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
972	Requirement	Company shall evaluate equipment for the possibility that it contains ozone-depleting substances (ODS). Class I ODS as indicated in the BSBL shall not be used.
975	Requirement	Equipment containing ODS shall be regularly checked for leaks using appropriate methods and maintained according to a documented SOP. Detected leaks shall be repaired promptly, and records of inspections, repairs and servicing shall be maintained.
977	Recommendation	Objectives for substitution of ODS should be defined.
978	Recommendation	Achievements in ODS reduction should be demonstrated.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Servicing, repair and decommissioning of equipment containing ODS refrigerants shall be carried out by qualified personnel. The refrigerants shall be recovered and shall not be released into the atmosphere.

3.5.3 Waste, soil & groundwater management

3.5.3.1 Waste management

3.5.3.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
991	Requirement	Disposal documents for *hazardous waste* shall be available, and disposal practices shall be controlled and appropriate. All hazardous waste shall be managed according to local regulations and the bluesign System requirements, with disposal routes and service providers properly documented and verified.
992	Requirement	Valid permits for waste disposal shall be available.
993	Requirement	Contracts with disposal companies shall be available and valid. Disposal companies shall be officially qualified, accredited, or certified, and evidence of such status shall be available.
995	Requirement	Hazardous waste shall be separated from non-hazardous waste and stored appropriately to prevent cross-contamination or environmental impact. Procedures for collection, segregation, storage, and transport shall be documented accordingly.
996	Requirement	Various waste types shall be collected and stored separately, including hazardous waste, recyclables (such as paper, cardboard, metal, plastic, and wood), and general waste, to ensure proper handling and recycling.
998	Requirement	Specific measures for waste reduction shall be implemented, such as the use of returnable containers, recycling of solvents, reuse or recycling of textile or metal waste, or other measures that minimize waste generation.
999	Recommendation	Waste management should be integrated into the company's strategy and include systematic waste-reduction measures based on a documented waste balance. The site should define plans, objectives and measurable targets following the waste hierarchy: avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle and recover, with disposal used only as a last resort. Landfill should be avoided where possible and, if unavoidable, limited to officially controlled landfills.

No.	Level	Statement
1000	Requirement	A detailed waste balance shall be available for all relevant waste types. The detailed balance shall indicate monthly waste quantities and types, annual quantities of hazardous and non hazardous waste, disposal companies, and disposal routes (e.g., composting, recycling, waste-to-energy, or landfill). For hazardous waste, the waste origin and hazard classification (e.g., flammable, toxic) shall also be specified.

No.	Level	Statement
1002	Requirement	Training on waste reduction and separation shall be provided to employees whose roles involve waste generation, handling, segregation, or supervision of waste-related activities. The training shall cover proper handling, storage and disposal procedures, waste minimization practices, and the use of personal protective equipment. Training frequency and participation records shall be documented.
1005	Recommendation	Achievements in waste reduction should be demonstrated with evidence and communicated externally. Improvements should be based on measurable data such as baseline year, quantity, percentage change, and applied reduction strategies, and may be reported through environmental reports, company websites, or public platforms.

No.	Level	Statement
1007	Requirement	On-site incineration for non-hazardous and/or hazardous waste shall be carried out with an official permit. Measurement report for dioxin and furans shall be available.
1008	Requirement	On-site incineration for non-hazardous and/or hazardous waste shall be carried out only under official permit and controlled conditions to minimize emissions of dioxins and furans. The process shall maintain a minimum combustion temperature of 850°C with a residence time of at least two seconds, or 1100°C if the chlorine content of the waste exceeds 1%. Where direct emission measurements are not feasible, compliance shall be ensured through equivalent process controls, such as the use of a scrubber, achieving emission levels not exceeding 0.1 ng TEF/m^3 or 0.3 ng TEF/l.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Where waste is incinerated on site, the resulting ash shall be assessed and classified as hazardous or non-hazardous waste in accordance with applicable legal requirements. Laboratory testing shall be conducted where necessary. The ash shall be disposed of according to its classification, and relevant records shall be retained.

3.5.3.2 Soil and groundwater management

3.5.3.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
1012	Requirement	Risks of soil and groundwater contamination shall be adequately controlled. Hazardous chemicals and wastes shall be stored to prevent releases; dosing units, tanks, and pipelines shall be leak-tight; wastewater ponds shall have intact liners; irrigation with untreated wastewater and uncontrolled discharges from sludge drying shall be prevented. Irrigation with treated wastewater shall only be considered as an exception when (i) the discharge limits corresponding to direct discharge are fully met, and (ii) a site-specific assessment and approval from local authorities is available. Any leakage or incident shall be assessed and corrected without delay.
1013	Requirement	Measures to prevent contamination of soil and groundwater by hazardous materials shall be installed and maintained. A spill-prevention and emergency-response plan shall be implemented, and relevant personnel shall be trained. Spill kits or absorbents shall be available; storage areas shall have suitable secondary containment or berms; large tank farms shall use double-walled tanks with leak detection; and tanks, piping and WWTP installations shall undergo regular inspection and leak testing. Any spill or release shall be documented, investigated and appropriately contained and remediated, with necessary corrective actions implemented.
1014	Requirement	Pipes, tanks, floors, and storage areas shall be properly maintained to prevent leaks and spills. Maintenance and inspection protocols shall be available and implemented for all relevant installations, including leak control and preventive actions. Floors in storage areas shall be solid, non-porous, and free of drains or cracks that could allow liquid infiltration, and there shall be no evidence of spilled liquids.
1015	Requirement	Maintenance schedules shall be available and reviewed regularly. Internal inspections shall be conducted at defined intervals, at least monthly, and external maintenance activities shall follow documented schedules for tanks, vessels, floors, and pipelines.
1016	Requirement	Third-party inspection certificates for storage tanks shall be available and up to date. Tanks containing solvents, flammable or toxic substances, or gases or liquids under pressure shall be inspected and certified by accredited external bodies. Inspection records shall confirm that tanks are free from corrosion, leaks, or structural defects.
1017	Requirement	Protocols and documentation for the checking of floorings and pipes shall be available.
1018	Recommendation	Systematic and proactive measures should be implemented to minimize the risk of soil and groundwater contamination. A comprehensive storage and maintenance concept should integrate risk assessment, maintenance plans for pipes, tanks, and floors, and stormwater management, firefighting water retention. Stormwater systems should be kept separate from wastewater systems.
1020	Recommendation	Approach to reduce risk of soil and/or groundwater contamination should be part of management system.

No.	Level	Statement
1031	Requirement	If there are brownfields (polluted soil or groundwater), the company shall have a distinct plan for remediation.
1036	Recommendation	If there are no apparent brownfields, spot checks should be made to confirm there is no contamination.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Where runoff (e.g. rainwater, other water flowing over or draining) from process areas has the potential to become contaminated, it shall be prevented as far as possible. Any runoff that cannot be prevented shall be collected and treated appropriately.

3.5.4 Environmental noise

3.5.4.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
981	Requirement	No obvious violations of legal or bluesign requirements with regard to noise shall be observed. (See: ???)
983	Requirement	Neighborhood complaints shall be followed by appropriate improvements.
984	Requirement	Single on-site measures shall be applied to reduce environmental noise. Examples include: • closing exterior doors • switching off ventilators at night • restricting truck deliveries at night • using stack silencers or mufflers (e.g., foam or rockwool) in ductwork with high airflow
985	Recommendation	Active engineering controls should be deployed with a focus on covering complete areas rather than individual machines. Examples include: • acoustic enclosures • inhousing and/or installing partitions • vibration isolation in zoned areas

3.5.5 Nature and biodiversity

3.5.5.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	The facility shall establish and maintain a biodiversity and ecosystems policy or include relevant commitments within its existing environmental policy. The policy shall be approved by management and include commitments to comply with applicable legal requirements, prevent or minimize adverse impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems arising from the facility's operations.
PEND ING	Recommendation	The site should conduct a documented, location-specific screening of potential impacts on biodiversity and sensitive ecosystems. The screening should be informed by the *TNFD LEAP* approach or an equivalent recognised methodology.
PEND ING	Recommendation	The screening should identify relevant environmental receptors, including protected areas, Key Biodiversity Areas, *Ramsar Site*s, legally protected habitats, wetlands and receiving water bodies. It should assess whether the site's operations, including water withdrawal, wastewater discharge and other relevant activities, may affect these receptors.
PEND ING	Recommendation	The screening should consider relevant site pressures, including water withdrawal, wastewater discharge, chemical storage and handling, waste management, stormwater, accidental releases, air emissions and site expansion, where applicable.
PEND ING	Recommendation	The site should assess and classify identified biodiversity risks as low, medium or high, considering the sensitivity of relevant ecosystems and the nature, scale and likelihood of potential impacts.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Where a high biodiversity risk is identified, the site should implement and periodically review a site-specific action plan. The plan should prioritise avoidance and reduction of impacts and define control measures, responsibilities, timelines and review arrangements.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Where a medium biodiversity risk is identified, the site should implement and periodically review a site-specific action plan. The screening and any related action plan should be updated following significant changes to site operations, water withdrawal, wastewater discharge, chemical use, land use or surrounding environmental conditions.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Where appropriate, the site should implement measures that support local ecosystems and engage relevant authorities, water managers or other stakeholders. Restoration or regenerative measures should be applied after prioritising the avoidance and reduction of impacts, in line with the *SBTN AR3T* action framework.

3.6 Occupational health and safety

3.6.1 Occupational health management and training

3.6.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
1104	Requirement	Legal requirements shall be met.
1105	Requirement	All severe incidents and accidents related to occupational health and safety in the last 3 years shall be followed-up by effective corrective actions. Records and statistics of all near misses, incidents and accidents shall be kept.
1106	Requirement	Occupational health responsibilities shall be clearly defined.
1108	Requirement	Operation and safety instructions (including safety pictograms) shall be available at the workplaces.
1109	Requirement	Necessary *PPE* for protection against technical and chemical hazards shall be available, in good condition, and used in actual operations.
1113	Recommendation	A zero-incidents objective should be defined.
1114	Recommendation	A regular management review of occupational health statistics should be conducted at least annually.

No.	Level	Statement
1115	Requirement	Investments in occupational health equipment shall be made as needed to protect worker health.
1116	Recommendation	There should be a proactive approach to occupational health by following the 'STOP principle' (Substitution, Technical measures, Organisational measures, *PPE*) in a systematic and documented manner.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Employer should ensure that pre-employment health assessments are carried out to evaluate workers' fitness for their specific roles.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Employer should implement routine health monitoring for workers who are exposed to specific occupational health risks, such as chemicals, excessive noise, or physically demanding tasks.
PEND ING	Recommendation	Manual lifting of heavy loads should be avoided wherever possible by utilizing appropriate mechanical handling equipment or team lifting techniques to prevent musculoskeletal injuries.

No.	Level	Statement
1127	Requirement	Occupational health trainings shall be conducted as onboarding for new employees and refresher trainings shall be provided on a regular basis.
1128	Requirement	Trainings regarding the handling of hazardous materials shall be conducted as onboarding for new employees, and refresher trainings shall be provided on a regular basis.
1129	Requirement	Required competence and training needs for different workplaces shall be clearly defined.
1130	Requirement	On-site contractors shall be trained for basic occupational health and safety rules.
1134	Requirement	Employees shall demonstrate the required knowledge regarding workplace hazards and risks.
1135	Recommendation	In addition to general occupational health and safety training, critical and relevant safety topics should be addressed through specific trainings or workshops.
1138	Recommendation	Training program and training success should be subject to regular management review to ensure it is up-to-date and effective. Training success should be verified (e.g. via a test).
PEND ING	Requirement	Where ionizing radiation sources or radiation-generating equipment (e.g. beta gauges or XRF analyzers) are used in production or quality control, a competent person responsible for radiation safety shall be appointed. Documented evidence of training appropriate to the equipment and radiation risks shall be available, together with any certification or regulatory approval required by national legislation.

3.6.2 Workplace atmosphere, noise and protection

3.6.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
1103	Requirement	Generally accepted occupational health rules shall be followed. Unnecessary worker exposure to hazardous chemicals and process emissions shall be avoided. Where needed, suitable engineering controls, such as closed systems or local exhaust ventilation (LEV), shall be used.
1121	Requirement	There shall be sufficient lighting in work areas to ensure the safe performance of production activities.
1122	Requirement	Safety equipment and installations shall be regularly checked and well maintained.
1123	Requirement	Appropriate ventilation systems shall be installed in production areas where high exposure potential exists.

No.	Level	Statement
1142	Requirement	Applicable workplace atmosphere measurements shall be available, and compliance with local occupational exposure limits shall be maintained.
1143	Requirement	Conformance with the bluesign occupational exposure limits shall be maintained. (See: Occupational exposure limits (OELs) [47]).
1144	Recommendation	A systematic monitoring program should be in place.

No.	Level	Statement
1152	Requirement	Personal hearing protection shall be • made available for areas exceeding a noise level of 80 dB(A), and • mandatory to wear in areas exceeding a noise level of 85 db(A).
1153	Requirement	The company shall create and maintain a documented plant noise mapping register. Noise areas shall be marked in the plan and at the actual locations. Worker exposure tracking shall be maintained.
1154	Requirement	Personal hearing protection shall be used properly.

No.	Level	Statement
1165	Requirement	Workers shall not be exposed to heat/cold stress.
PEND ING	Requirement	Access to drinking water and sanitary facilities shall be ensured.
1170	Requirement	The quality of drinking water shall comply with national, local, or WHO standards.
1172	Requirement	Working places in production and offices shall show appropriate ergonomics.

3.6.3 Safety management

3.6.3.1 Management of handling and storage hazardous materials

3.6.3.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
511	Requirement	Company shall have an up-to-date complete inventory that includes at least the following: • Chemical name • Supplier name and address • Stored quantity • Storage location • *GHS* classification, H statements and pictograms • UN dangerous goods classification and pictograms • *PPE* instruction

No.	Level	Statement
513	Requirement	Information about hazardous properties and safe handling of chemicals shall be available to all relevant departments, and shall be used for risk assessments where relevant (e.g. in *product stewardship*, emergency preparedness, environment, *OHS*).
514	Recommendation	A central database (not only in Excel) for information regarding hazardous properties and handling precautions of chemicals should be available to relevant personnel.

No.	Level	Statement

No.	Level	Statement
1202	Requirement	Hazardous materials shall be handled and stored correctly.
1203	Requirement	SDS/Safety instruction especially for all hazardous materials shall be available.
1204	Requirement	Legal requirements for handling and storage of hazardous materials shall be met.
1205	Requirement	All severe incidents related to handling and storage of hazardous materials in the last 3 years shall be followed up by effective corrective actions, or there shall have been no severe incidents during this period. Records and statistics on all incidents shall be kept.
1206	Requirement	Hazard information for materials and chemicals shall be systematically collected and used for risk assessments (e.g., worker safety and environmental risk assessments).
1209	Requirement	Access to fatal, toxic, and *CMR* chemicals shall be restricted to authorized persons only.
1213	Recommendation	Handling and storage of hazardous materials should be part of the management system, subject to continual improvement process and to regular management reviews.

No.	Level	Statement
1215	Requirement	A consistent system for labelling (GHS labelling or equivalent local labelling) of chemical hazards shall be applied.
1216	Requirement	Rules for the storage of incompatible chemicals shall be documented, communicated to relevant personnel, and consistently implemented.

3.6.3.2 Operations and equipment safety

3.6.3.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
1162	Requirement	Electrical installations shall be adequately protected and free from readily obvious safety hazards.
1163	Requirement	There shall be no obvious hazards of electrostatic discharge from processes.
1164	Requirement	There shall be no obvious hazards from unprotected rotating machine parts, sharp edges or hot surfaces.
1166	Requirement	There shall be no obvious fall hazards.
1167	Requirement	Forklift trucks shall be operated safely and the forklift drivers shall have appropriate training and driving licence.
1168	Requirement	There shall be no hazards resulting from improper stacking or unsecured loads.
PEND ING	Requirement	Equipment at forklift battery charging stations shall be well maintained, and charging areas shall be equipped with acid containments and readily available spill kit.

No.	Level	Statement
1222	Requirement	Equipment shall be well maintained.
1223	Requirement	Control devices and instruments shall be in good order.
1224	Requirement	There shall be appropriate containments for stored liquid chemicals.
1225	Requirement	Appropriate spill kits shall be available.
1226	Requirement	Storage areas shall be properly marked and maintained.
1227	Requirement	Pipes shall be clearly marked with content (color code possible) and flow direction.
1228	Requirement	Containers/tanks for hazardous chemicals shall be correctly labelled according to GHS rules or local equivalent requirements.
1231	Recommendation	Filling /dosing should be at least partly automated and/or other measures to reduce operational risk should be installed.

No.	Level	Statement
1234	Requirement	For *VOC* relevant sites, vapor recovery systems for tanks and reactors shall be installed.

3.7 Emergency preparedness

3.7.1 Management of emergency preparedness

3.7.1.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
1303	Requirement	Sufficient emergency facilities shall be available for significant risks (technical, chemical, natural), based on the conducted risk assessments.
1304	Requirement	Valid documentation demonstrating compliance with applicable legal requirements for building permits, as well as records confirming the availability and adequacy of emergency equipment.
1305	Requirement	Responsibilities for emergency preparedness shall be clearly defined and a written procedure shall be available.
1307	Requirement	Systematic approach for emergency preparedness based on evaluation of risks shall be in place. Risk assessments shall be available.
1308	Requirement	Persons responsible for emergency preparedness shall be named, well educated and trained.
1309	Requirement	Emergency preparedness plan (including alarm plan with phone numbers of internal and external responsible persons) shall be available.
1310	Requirement	Regular trainings and/or drills on emergency preparedness shall be conducted and well documented.
1311	Requirement	Emergency instructions shall include sufficient and consistent pictograms (See: *Technical Guidance* on Workplace safety signs).
1312	Requirement	Emergency devices shall be installed in appropriate locations and maintained in good working condition. Examples include the following placed in close proximity to work or storage areas: suitable fire extinguishers, exit signs, emergency lights, and spill kits and eye showers where applicable. If necessary, additional devices for preventing spills from entering the rainwater system shall be made available (e.g. covers for storm drain hatches and sewers).
1314	Recommendation	Employees and workers should be actively involved in planning emergency preparedness and response. This can be achieved through mechanisms such as safety committees, interviews, regular meetings, and feedback protocols.
1315	Recommendation	A zero-incident objective should be defined as a long-term target (e.g., annual), including measures such as monthly rewarding programs.

No.	Level	Statement
1317	Recommendation	Emergency preparedness should be subject to an annual management review that includes issues and improvements.
1318	Recommendation	A high standard of emergency preparedness should be ensured through a comprehensive approach, including periodic risk assessments, internal or external audits, and the development of emergency and evacuation procedures, in coordination with relevant external experts and local authorities where appropriate.
1319	Recommendation	Emergency preparedness should be part of a certified *OHS* management system and should be visible within the company.

3.7.2 Fire safety, evacuation and major accident hazards

3.7.2.1 For chemical suppliers

No.	Level	Statement
1313	Requirement	Company shall have emergency preparedness plans in place for severe accidents which is in agreement with the local authorities and neighborhood.

No.	Level	Statement
1320	Requirement	Buildings, staircases, work areas and floors shall be clearly referenced and marked.
1326	Requirement	Fire extinguishers shall be installed throughout the site and be distributed so that the time necessary to reach them and walk back to the fire does not allow the fire to get out of control (e.g. the distance for class A and class D extinguishers shall not exceed around 20 meters).
1327	Requirement	Regular maintenance of firefighting equipment shall take place in accordance with local regulations. This includes maintenance of portable extinguishers, sprinkler systems, hydrant systems, hoses, CO_2 extinguishing systems, and fire alarm systems.
1328	Requirement	Regular trainings on the use of firefighting equipment shall be conducted, as needed based on legal requirements and performed risk assessment.
1329	Requirement	Smoke detectors shall be installed in office, production and storage areas.
1330	Recommendation	Fire hoses should be available.

No.	Level	Statement
1331	Requirement	Zones with potentially explosive atmospheres shall be identified according to *ATEX* zoning. Precautions include using only suitable certified equipment and machinery (e.g. identified by suitable labels, pictograms and codes), as well as measures such as ventilation, separation, use of explosion-protected installations, and control of static discharge with grounding.
1332	Recommendation	Additional sensors (e.g. heat sensors, *VOC* concentration sensors) should be installed.
1333	Recommendation	Automatic extinguishing devices (e.g. sprinkler systems) should be installed.
1334	Recommendation	Specially trained and equipped firefighting teams should be available.
1335	Recommendation	A detailed assessment of fire loads fire sections and corresponding specific precautions should be available.

No.	Level	Statement
1341	Requirement	Appropriate evacuation plans shall be prepared in accordance with recognized standards, such as ISO 23601, and applicable national requirements. The plans shall use safety signs that comply with ISO 7010 or applicable national standards. They shall clearly indicate the viewer's location, emergency routes and exits, emergency equipment and assembly points. The plans shall also include a site overview showing the relevant buildings, surrounding area and location of the assembly point.
1342	Requirement	Evacuation routes and exits shall be clearly marked with signal markings (e.g., arrows and routes), remain unlocked, and be free of obstacles. Emergency exits shall be equipped with push bars to allow quick and safe evacuation.
1343	Requirement	An emergency light system shall be installed to enable safe evacuation under low light conditions. Emergency exit signs shall be illuminated, and emergency routes and exits shall be clearly visible in every corner of the production site.
1345	Requirement	A procedure for counting people in case of evacuation shall be established.
1346	Recommendation	Panic-proof emergency exits should be installed where necessary.

No.	Level	Statement
1351	Requirement	A sufficient number of employees shall be trained as first aiders in accordance with applicable local legal requirements. Where no specific legal requirement exists, a minimum of 5% of employees shall be trained.
1352	Requirement	First aid kits shall be available in sufficient number, accessible in each relevant department, and maintained in usable condition. Each kit shall contain essential first aid supplies, including at minimum: wound dressings (e.g. bandages, sterile gauze), adhesive plasters, antiseptic materials, absorbent dressings, protective gloves, scissors, tweezers, triangular bandages, safety pins, and a first aid instruction guide or emergency contact information. Each first aid kit shall be clearly marked as "FIRST AID", indicate the responsible person, be of adequate size to hold all contents, and ensure proper storage conditions (clean, dry, and dustproof), and be readily available to all workers.
1353	Requirement	Organizational measures shall be applied to ensure that first aiders are always present and that different shifts are covered.
1354	Requirement	Functioning eye-/emergency showers shall be available in areas where hazardous chemicals are handled.
1355	Recommendation	Availability of medical equipment should exceed necessary requirements based on regulations and risk assessment.

No.	Level	Statement
1356	Recommendation	Medical staff should be available (internal or external).
1357	Recommendation	A dedicated medical room should be available.

No.	Level	Statement
1363	Requirement	Measures shall be installed to eliminate or minimize the risk of major-accident hazards. Regarding the classification of sites: Threshold values from the EU directive 2012/18/EU or local related regulations for the maximum allowable amounts of hazardous substances present on site shall be observed.
1364	Requirement	Risk assessment for major-accident hazards shall be conducted and reviewed regularly including the impact on the surrounding environment and the local community. The following risks shall be covered: • Operation related hazards (e.g. fires, explosions, spills) • Natural hazards which can trigger or intensify major accidents (e.g. flooding, landslides, droughts) • Intentional hazards caused by unauthorized persons (e.g. sabotage)
1365	Requirement	Emergency preparedness plan shall reflect major-accident hazards and targeted at minimizing the impact on the surrounding environment and the local community.
1366	Recommendation	Emergency preparedness plan should be agreed with the local community and fire department.
1367	Recommendation	Special alarm routines should be established together with the local fire department.
1368	Recommendation	Trainings for major-accidents hazards should be conducted which include the local community.

No.	Level	Statement
PEND ING	Requirement	Halon in fire extinguishers shall be phased out (unless specifically required by local legislation in special applications).
PEND ING	Recommendation	Information on stored chemicals and amounts should be made available to the local fire brigade.

3.8 Supply chain assurance

3.8.1 Transaction management

3.8.1.1 For the process: Rebranding of registered chemical products

No.	Level	Requirement
PEND ING	Requirement	Procedure on bluesign order management shall be defined to ensure consistent documentation trail for entire transaction flow from purchase to sales of registered chemical products is maintained on lot basis.
PEND ING	Requirement	Unique identifier (e.g. product name on *bluesign Finder* / *bluesign Tool* ID) shall be available and traceable on necessary transaction documentations.
PEND ING	Requirement	The System Partner shall manage all sourcing activities of bluesign orders to ensure full traceability to the original chemical suppliers. All transactions shall be traceable by the System Partner.
PEND ING	Requirement	In transaction flow where an affiliate/subsidiary entity is involved in sourcing and/or distribution activities of bluesign orders, its role shall be clearly defined and documented, and all bluesign transactions shall be centrally traceable by the System Partner.
PEND ING	Requirement	In transaction flow where an intermediary trader is involved in distribution activities of bluesign orders, its role shall be clearly defined and documented. A service agreement between the System Partner and intermediary trader shall be available.

3.8.2 Data integrity

3.8.2.1 For the process: Rebranding of registered chemical products

No.	Level	Requirement
PENDING	Requirement	Rebranding authorization from the source chemical supplier shall be available and maintained by System Partner for *registered* chemical products.
PENDING	Requirement	The System Partner shall ensure the integrity and authenticity of all purchasing sources and demonstrate that registered chemical products are sourced exclusively from the source chemical suppliers or their authorized distributors.
PENDING	Requirement	The System Partner shall have chemical product registered in bluesign Finder prior to purchase of registered chemical products.
PENDING	Requirement	Volume reconciliation of registered chemical products: The System Partner shall demonstrate that the purchased amounts of registered chemical products at the source chemical supplier conform to the volume of registered chemical products sold by the rebranding System Partner.

3.9 Annex: Tables

3.9.1 For chemical suppliers

3.9.1.1 Environment

3.9.1.1.1 Wastewater

3.9.1.1.1.1 Direct wastewater discharge

To control efficiency of the wastewater treatment plant, it is recommended that the relevant parameters are measured not only in the treated (clean) stream but also in the untreated (raw) wastewater.

Table 4. bluesign limit values for direct discharge to aquatic body (chemical suppliers)

Parameter	Method	Unit	Requirement - Limit values	Measuring/ Sampling interval treated WW
Nitrogen (total)	DIN EN 12260 (TNb)	mg/L	50	weekly
Phosphorous (total)	ISO 11885, ISO 6878 USEPA 365.4 APHA 4500 P-J GB/T 11893	mg/L	2	6 months
Cadmium	ISO 11885 USEPA 200.7, USEPA 200.8 USEPA 6010c, USEPA 6020a GB 7475, HJ 700	mg/L	0.2	6 months
Chromium (total)	ISO 11885 USEPA 200.7, USEPA 200.8 USEPA 6010c, USEPA 6020a GB 7475, HJ 700	mg/L	0.5	6 months

Parameter	Method	Unit	Requirement - Limit values	Measuring/ Sampling interval treated WW
Chromium (VI)	DIN 38405-D24 ISO 18412 USEPA 218.6 GB 7467	mg/L	0.1	6 months
Copper	ISO 11885 USEPA 200.7, USEPA 200.8 USEPA 6010c, USEPA 6020a GB 7475, HJ 700	mg/L	0.5	6 months
Lead	ISO 11885 USEPA 200.7, USEPA 200.8 USEPA 6010c, USEPA 6020a GB 7475, HJ 700	mg/L	0.5	6 months
Mercury	ISO 12846, ISO 17852 EN ISO 18412 USEPA 200.7, USEPA 200.8 USEPA 6010c, USEPA 6020a	mg/L	0.05	6 months
Nickel	ISO 11885 USEPA 200.7, USEPA 200.8 USEPA 6010c, USEPA 6020a GB 11907, HJ 700	mg/L	0.5	6 months
Tin	ISO 11885	mg/L	2.0	6 months
Zinc	ISO 11885 USEPA 200.7, USEPA 200.8 USEPA 6010c, USEPA 6020a	mg/L	2.0	6 months

National or local requirements that are more stringent or more specific than the bluesign Criteria shall supersede the limit values specified in Table 4, “bluesign limit values for direct discharge to aquatic body (chemical suppliers)” [45].

3.9.1.1.1.2 Aquatic ecotoxicity requirements for direct discharge

Table 5. Aquatic ecotoxicity requirements for direct discharge

Test	Standard method(s)	Requirement - Limit
Fish egg toxicity	OECD Test Guideline No. 236 ISO 15088:2007 HJ1069-2019	No observed toxicity at a dilution factor of 6
Daphnia toxicity	OECD Test Guideline 202 ISO 6341:2012 EPA Method 2002.0 / 2021	No observed toxicity at a dilution factor of 8
Algae toxicity	OECD Test Guideline 202 ISO 8692:2012 EPA OCSPP 850.5400	No observed toxicity at a dilution factor of 16

Test	Standard method(s)	Requirement - Limit
Bacterial toxicity	ISO 11348	No observed toxicity at a dilution factor of 32

3.9.1.1.2 Air emissions

3.9.1.1.2.1 Emissions from power generation and boiler house (supply units)

Table 6. Emission limits for generation of thermal energy[a.]

Fuel type	Capacity	Dust [mg/Nm³]	NO_x [mg/Nm³]	SO_2 [mg/Nm³]	CO [mg/Nm³]
Solid fuel	1 - 5 MW	50	650	1100 (200 for solid biomass)	160 (220 for solid biomass)
	>5 - 50 MW	30 (50 if ≤20 MW)	650	400 (200 for solid biomass)	160 (220 for solid biomass)
	>50 MW	30	300	400 (200 for solid biomass)	150 (250 for solid biomass)
Liquid fuel	1 - 5 MW	50	650	350	80
	>5 - 50 MW	30	650	350	80
	>50 MW	30	450	350	80
Gaseous fuel	1 - 5 MW	10	250	200	80
	>5 - 50 MW	10	200	35 (170 for biogas)	80
	>50 MW	5	200	35	100

[a.] Installations <1 MW shall follow national/local law.
The emission limits are based on EU Directive 2015/2193 for existing plants, the EU Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) for installations according to Article 30(2) (50–100 MW), and the requirements of the German 44. BImSchV and 13. BImSchV.

All emission limit values are under standard reference conditions of temperature 273.15 K (0 °C), pressure 101.3 kPa, dry flue gas, after correction for water vapor.

Oxygen (O_2) reference values differ by fuel type and equipment and are not directly comparable across categories without normalization:

- Solid fuel boilers: 6% O_2 (coal/coke 7%, biomass/peat 11% where applicable)
- Liquid and gaseous fuel boilers: 3% O_2

3.9.1.1.3 Environmental noise

Table 7. Limits for environmental noise[a.]

Area	LAeq[b.] (dBA)	
	day	night[c.]
Mixed industrial area	65	55
Industrial area	70	70

[a.] If no legal limits are available, bluesign limits are applicable.
[b.] Level A-weighted equivalent
[c.] 10 pm to 6 am; measurement at the factory fence in all four directions

3.9.1.2 Occupational health and safety

3.9.1.2.1 Occupational exposure limits (OELs)

The OELs for the most common chemical substances within the scope of the bluesign System are listed in the following table:

Substance	CAS No.	Requirement - OELs		Recommendation - Goal OELs	Source of limit
		[ppm][a.]	[mg/m³]		
Acetic acid	64-19-7	10	25		1 [50]
Acetone	67-64-1	500	1200		1 [50]
Acrylamide[b.]	79-06-1		0.15	0.07 mg/m³	2 [50]
Acrylonitrile[b.]	107-13-1	1.2	2.6	0.12 ppm 0.26 mg/m³	2 [50]
Ammonia	7664-41-7	20	14		1 [50]
Aniline[c.]	62-53-3	2	7.7		1 [50]
Antimony trioxide (as Sb)	1309-64-4		0.5		3 [50]
Benzene[b.]	71-43-2	0.6	1.9	0.06 ppm 0.2 mg/m³	2 [50]
Benzyl alcohol[b.,c.]	100-51-6	5	22		1 [50]
1,3-Butadiene	106-99-0	2	5	0.2 ppm 0.5 mg/m³	2 [50]
1-Butanol (Butyl alcohol)	71-36-3	100	310		1 [50]
2-Butoxyethanol[b.]	111-76-2	10	49		1 [50]
n-Butyl acetate	123-86-4	62	300		1 [50]
Carbon disulfide[b.]	75-15-0	10	30		1 [50]
ε-Caprolactam[b.,c.]	105-60-2		5 (I)[d.]		1 [50]
Chlorine	7782-50-5	0.5	1.5		1 [50]
Chromium(VI) compounds (as Cr)	1333-82-0[e.]		0.001 (I)[d.]		5 [50]
Cyclohexane	110-82-7	200	700		1 [50]
Cyclohexanone[b.]	108-94-1	20	80		1 [50]
4,4'-Diaminodiphenylmethane[b.]	101-77-9		0.7	0.07 mg/m³	2 [50]
Dichloromethane[b.]	75-09-2	50	180		1 [50]
Diethylenetriamine[b.]	111-40-0	1	4		4 [50]
Diethylene glycol[c.]	111-46-6	10	44		1 [50]
3,3'-Dimethyl-4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane[b.]	838-88-0		0.05		4 [50]
N,N-Dimethylacetamide[b.]	127-19-5	5	18		1 [50]
N,N-Dimethylformamide (DMF)[b.]	68-12-2	5	15		1 [50]
Dimethyl sulfate[b.]	77-78-1	1	5		3 [50]
1,4-Dioxane[b.]	123-91-1	20	73		1 [50]
Diisocyanates (expressed as NCO)	[e.]		0.010	0.006 mg/m³ by 2029	6 [50]
Dust particles:					
Inhalable fraction (I)[d.]	---	---	10 (I)		7 [50]
Respirable fraction (R)[f.]	---	---	1.25 (R)		
Epichlorohydrin[b.]	106-89-8	2	8	0.5 ppm 1.9 mg/m³	2 [50]
Ethyl acetate	141-78-6	200	730		1 [50]
Ethyl alcohol	64-17-5	200	380		1 [50]
Ethylbenzene[b.]	100-41-4	20	88		1 [50]
Ethylene oxide[b.]	75-21-8	1	2	0.1 ppm 0.2 mg/m³	2 [50]
Formaldehyde	50-00-0	0.3	0.37		1 [50]
Formic acid	64-18-6	5	9.5		1 [50]
n-Hexane	110-54-3	50	180		1 [50]
Hydrogen bromide	10035-10-6		6.7		8 [50]

Substance	CAS No.	Requirement - OELs		Recommendation - Goal OELs	Source of limit
Hydrochloric acid	7647-01-0	2	3		1 [50]
Hydrogen cyanide (as CN)[b.]	74-90-8	0.9	1		1 [50]
Hydrogen sulfide	7783-06-4	5	7.1		1 [50]
iso-Butanol	78-83-1	100	310		1 [50]
Isopropyl alcohol	67-63-0	200	500		1 [50]
Isopropyl benzene (Cumene)[b.]	98-82-8	10	50		1 [50]
Methanol[b.]	67-56-1	100	130		1 [50]
1-Methoxy-2-propanol acetate (PGMEA)	108-65-6	50	270		1 [50]
2-Methylaziridine (Propyleneimine)[b.]	75-55-8	2	5		3 [50]
Methyl acetate	79-20-9	200	620		1 [50]
Methylethylketone (MEK)[b.]	78-93-3	200	600		1 [50]
Methyl isobutyl ketone (MIBK)[b.]	108-10-1	20	83		1 [50]
Methyl methacrylate	80-62-6	50	210		1 [50]
N-Methylpyrrolidone (NMP)[b.,c.]	872-50-4	10	40		1 [50]
Naphthalene[b.,c.]	91-20-3	0.4	2		1 [50]
Nitric acid	7697-37-2	1	2.6		9 [50]
Nitrogen dioxide	10102-44-0	0.5	0.95		1 [50]
Ozone	10028-15-6	0.1	0.2		3 [50]
Phenol[b.,c.]	108-95-2	2	8		1 [50]
Potassium permanganate (as Mn)					
Inhalable fraction (I)[d.]	7722-64-7	---	0.2 (I)		10 [50]
Respirable fraction (R)[f.]		---	0.02 (R)		
Propylene oxide	75-56-9	1	2.4		1 [50]
Selenium	7782-49-2		0.05 (I)[d.]		1 [50]
Selenium dioxide (as Se)	7446-08-4		0.05 (I)[d.]		11 [50]
Crystalline silica (quartz)	14808-60-7	---	0.1 (R)[f.]		12 [50]
Styrene	100-42-5	20	86		1 [50]
Sulfur dioxide	7446-09-5	0.5	1.3		1 [50]
Sulfuric acid	7664-93-9		0.1 (I)[d.]		1 [50]
Tetrachloroethylene (Perchloroethylene)[b.]	127-18-4	10	69		1 [50]
Tetrafluoroethylene	116-14-3	2	8.2		13 [50]
Trichloromethane[b.]	67-66-3	0.5	2.5		1 [50]
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	95-63-6	20	100		1 [50]
Toluene[b.]	108-88-3	50	190		1 [50]
Xylene[b.]	1330-20-7[e.]	50	220		1 [50]

[a.] parts per million by volume (ml/m^3)

[b.] potential for significant absorption through the skin
Compliance with an airborne limit alone is insufficient; prevent skin contact through appropriate technical, organizational and occupational hygiene measures. This marker is distinct from skin sensitization, and its absence does not mean that skin contact is safe.

[c.] assess the sum of vapor and aerosol, in accordance with TRGS 900 remark 11.
For caprolactam, the particulate component is inhalable. Consult the cited source for all additional substance-specific notations

[d.] I = inhalable fraction, corresponding to E (einatembare Fraktion) in German TRGS notation

[e.] group or mixture with several CAS numbers
A displayed CAS number may identify a representative substance rather than the complete group.

[f.] R = respirable fraction, corresponding to A (alveolengängige Fraktion)

The English and German letters refer to the same respective size fractions; this document uses I and R. EN 481:1993, Workplace atmospheres — Size fraction definitions for measurement of airborne particles, defines these fractions and does not establish exposure limits.

Sources for the limit values are:

1. TRGS 900, Arbeitsplatzgrenzwerte, January 2006 edition, last amended and supplemented by GMBl 2026, pp. 353–354, No. 16, 5 June 2026.
2. TRGS 910, Risikobezogenes Maßnahmenkonzept für Tätigkeiten mit krebserzeugenden Gefahrstoffen, February 2014 edition, last amended by GMBl 2026, pp. 354–355, No. 16, 5 June 2026, Annex 1.
   Requirement columns reproduce tolerance concentrations, recommendation column reproduces acceptance concentrations. These are cancer-risk concentrations, not safe thresholds. AGS substance-specific exposure–risk justifications provide the derivation; current Annex 1 supplies the numerical values.
3. OSHA, Occupational Safety and Health Standards, 29 CFR 1910.1000, Table Z-1, Limits for Air Contaminants, current text accessed 14 September 2026.
   Antimony trioxide is expressed as Sb. These entries are explicit exceptions to the TRGS 900 basis.
4. Austria, Grenzwerteverordnung 2025 (GKV), BGBl. II No. 253/2001, as amended by BGBl. II No. 339/2025, Annex I/2025, effective 31 December 2025.
5. Chromium(VI) compounds: TRGS 910, Annex 1, risk-based assessment benchmark of 0.001 mg/m³ (1 µg/m³), inhalable fraction, expressed as Cr.
   It is not a conventional tolerance or acceptance concentration. CAS 1333-82-0 identifies chromium trioxide; the entry covers chromium(VI) compounds (See: 2 [50]).
6. Diisocyanates: TRGS 900, group entry measured as NCO, remarks 11, 12 and 37, implementing Directive (EU) 2024/869.
   Apply the limit to the total NCO mass from all diisocyanates present, combining vapor and aerosol. The transitional eight-hour limit is 0.010 mg NCO/m^3 through 31 December 2028. Do not apply the mass limit separately to each diisocyanate or convert it into a single ppm value. The group includes the six formerly listed substances and other diisocyanates. Respiratory and skin sensitization precautions and TRGS 430 also apply.
7. General dust: TRGS 900, section 2.4.
   The respirable value uses a reference density of 2.5 g/cm^3; apply the source's density and scope provisions. The general dust limits do not replace substance-specific limits for toxic, sensitizing or carcinogenic dusts (See: 1 [50]).
8. Hydrogen bromide: TRGS 900 specifies 6.7 mg/m^3 without a ppm value, with peak factor 1(I) and remark 13 (a health-based value could not be derived). No calculated ppm value is added here (See: 1 [50]).
9. Nitric acid: TRGS 900 remark 16 specifies a 15-minute short-term limit only: 1 ppm / 2.6 mg/m^3. These values must not be interpreted as an eight-hour TWA (See: 1 [50]).
10. Potassium permanganate: TRGS 900 entry for manganese and its inorganic compounds. Both inhalable and respirable limits apply, expressed as Mn. The permanganate-specific peak factor is 1(II) (See: 1 [50]).
11. Selenium dioxide: TRGS 900 entry for inorganic selenium compounds, remark 10. The inhalable mass concentration is expressed as Se, not as selenium dioxide (See: 1 [50]).
12. Crystalline silica: Directive 2004/37/EC, Annex III, as amended by Directive (EU) 2017/2398, specifies 0.1 mg/m^3 for respirable crystalline silica dust. The CAS number shown identifies quartz. The German TRGS 559 assessment benchmark of 0.05 mg/m^3 respirable must be observed where applicable.
13. Tetrafluoroethylene: Safe Work Australia, Workplace exposure limits for airborne contaminants, November 2025 edition, Appendix A, p. 44: eight-hour TWA 2 ppm / 8.2 mg/m^3.

4 bluesign glossary

4.1 Terms, definitions and abbreviations

A

agent

A company that either sells *consumer product*s to a brand or develops consumer products on behalf of a brand, usually a non-*System Partner*

Synonym: agency

apparel

A category of textile *consumer product*s with which people cover their bodies except for footwear. An individual item within this category is called a *garment*.

Examples: Trousers, shorts, skirts, dresses, men's suits, shirts, jackets, coats, outdoor and sports clothing, socks, lingerie, underpants, workwear, protective wear, and apparel accessories such as scarves, gloves, hats, ties

article

A product placed on the market by manufacturers and converters, which is composed of one or more *material*s given a specific shape, surface or design.

Examples: Fabrics, zippers, thread, membrane, buttons

assembler

A company that cuts, sews and assembles components to manufacture *consumer product*s

Related processes:

1. Business processes
   a. *converting*
   b. *subcontracting*
   c. *commission manufacturing*
2. Production processes
   a. consumer product manufacturing
   b. consumer product assembling

Synonym: garment manufacturer

See Also material supplier.

ATEX

The ATEX directives are two of the EU directives describing the minimum safety requirements for workplaces and equipment used in explosive atmospheres

B

B2B

Short for: business-to-business

Describes commercial transactions and relationships between one company and another, rather than with individual consumers

	Compare with: *B2C*
B2C	Short for: business-to-consumer Describes commercial transactions and relationships between one company and individual consumers, rather than with another company Compare with: *B2B*
BAT Reference Documents (BREF)	*BAT* Reference Documents (known as BREFs) are drafted for each sector with the aim of establishing best available techniques for all relevant industrial processes, as well as the associated emissions levels, operating conditions and monitoring requirements for minimising industrial waste and pollution to air, water and land. All BAT reference documents can be found on the European Commission's website. A chapter of these BREFs (the so-called BAT conclusions) is legally binding within four years of their adoption. (Source: European Environment Agency) See Also Best Available Techniques.
Best Available Techniques (BAT)	The most environmentally effective and economically viable proven techniques within each industrial sector covered by the European Industrial Emission Directive (IED 2010/75/EU), agreed in a procedure known as the 'Sevilla process' led by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre in Seville, Spain. (Source: European Environment Agency) The *bluesign System* supports the implementation of BAT at all levels of the supply chain See Also BAT Reference Documents.
bisphenols	A group of chemicals mostly used in the industrial manufacturing of polymers such as polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins. These materials are used across a range of consumer products, making them common in many everyday products. The most widely used and known is bisphenol A (BPA), although following the restrictions on the BPA leads to the increasing volumes of bisphenol S (BPS) and bisphenol F (BPF) that may be equally harmful.
bluepass Product	A product that has been created using certified processes, that has met the requirements of the bluesign Criteria for product registration, and that carries the bluesign trademark. They can be: 1. **bluepass Chemical Product** Certification mark for chemical products produced through processes that meet *bluesign Criteria for processing chemical products* and have fulfilled the *bluesign Criteria for bluepass Products*. Listed on the *bluesign Finder*. 2. **bluepass Article**

Certification mark for intermediate articles (fabrics, accessories, trims) produced through processes that meet *bluesign Criteria for processing articles and B2B consumer products* and have fulfilled the *bluesign Criteria for bluepass Products*. Listed on the *bluesign Guide*.

3. **bluepass Consumer Product**
   Certification mark for finished consumer goods (apparel, denim, home textile, equipment, footwear) produced through processes that meet *bluesign Criteria for processing B2C consumer products* and have fulfilled the *bluesign Criteria for bluepass Products*. Listed on the *bluesign Guide*.

Formerly known as: *bluesign Approved*, *bluesign Product*

See Also ???TITLE???.

bluesign Company Assessment

An evaluation of business and/or production processes for their conformity with *bluesign Criteria*. It is valid for one year. Measures for continuous improvement are evaluated.

If applicable, it includes *on-site assessments* of production sites.

Types of Company Assessments include:

1. Initial assessment: The first company assessment conducted upon joining the bluesign System
2. Follow-up assessment: An annual company assessment to monitor the progress since the previous company assessment (only for companies that have reached the status "Criteria conformance")
3. Re-assessment: A regular comprehensive company assessment after the initial assessment in defined time intervals (i.e. three years) to renew the certificate
4. Additional assessment - An ad-hoc assessment necessary due to a change in scope of assessment, e.g. new processes, new facilities, expired company assessment

Formerly known as: Screening and Audit

bluesign Criteria

A set of evaluation requirements for

1. the assessment of companies and their processes ("company assessments):
   a. bluesign Criteria for processing chemical products: valid for *bluesign System Partner* chemical suppliers and their processes
   b. bluesign Criteria for processing articles and B2B consumer products: valid for *bluesign System Partner* material suppliers and assemblers; and their processes
   c. bluesign Criteria for processing B2C consumer products: valid for *bluesign System Partner* brands and their processes
2. the assessment of a product:
   a. bluesign Criteria for bluepass Products: valid for *product registration*, i.e. of bluepass Chemical Products, bluepass Articles and/or bluepass Consumer Products

bluesign Finder	Online database containing blue- and grey-rated chemical products (e.g. dyestuffs, auxiliaries). It serves as a search engine designed to help companies in finding registered chemical products Compare with: *bluesign Guide*
bluesign Product	Former bluesign mark for labelling of consumer products which are registered in bluesign Guide See Also bluepass Product.
bluesign System	The bluesign System is a comprehensive solution for businesses at all levels of the textile supply chain seeking to certify, report, and improve their impact on people and the planet. It does so by providing brands, assemblers, material suppliers and chemical suppliers a structured approach to sustainability, chemical management, and impact reduction across their value chain. The bluesign System encompasses the evaluation of a company to enter the bluesign System as a System Partner and access the option for *product registration* upon Criteria conformance, and the continual improvement through a trusted partnership with bluesign.
bluesign System Black Limits (BSBL)	The BSBL specify threshold limits for chemical substances in finished chemical products, such as auxiliaries or dyes. The BSBL substances with rating "Usage Ban" shall be not intentionally used in the manufacturing of chemical products, articles. It is designed to cover the ZDHC Manufacturing Restricted Substance List (MRSL). The BSBL is revised annually. Downloads available on bluesign.com: Downloads
bluesign System Partner	A legal entity with a valid bluesign Certificate, which includes holding a valid System Partner agreement and attaining the *bluesign Status* of Criteria conformance
bluesign System Substances List (BSSL)	The BSSL specifies consumer safety limits for chemical substances in articles. It is designed to cover the AFIRM RSL and the AAFA RSL. The BSSL is revised annually. Downloads available on bluesign.com: Downloads
bluesign Tool	Web-based application for *bluesign Chemical Assessment* and rating of chemical products
brand	A company that is the originator of the product delivered to the end-consumer (e.g. apparel, equipment) and owner of any associated label/trademark In the case of promotional wear, the licensee (i.e. promotional wear company) is considered the brand and not the licensor Related process: 1. Business processes

a. *converting*
b. *subcontracting*
c. due diligence
d. product certification

See Also licensee.

business process

Structured sequence of related activities essential for business operations and management. A business process does not transform inputs into outputs (i.e. products). At bluesign, the following business processes are in scope:

1. *product stewardship* only
2. *rebranding*
3. *toll manufacturing*
4. *converting*
5. *subcontracting*
6. *commission manufacturing*
7. due diligence
8. product certification

Compare with: *production process*

C

CAS Registry Number

A unique numeric identifier of the Chemical Abstracts Service which designates only one chemical substance

Synonym: CASRN, CAS number, CAS No.

Centralized product stewardship (CPS)

A centralized product stewardship organization ensures a consistent approach for all product stewardship activities at all relevant affiliates (companies, production sites, subsidiaries) for which the relevant CPS team assumes responsibility.

Synonym: Global product stewardship

certificate of analysis (CoA)

A document which a chemical supplier generates for each run or batch of shipped products. It provides business customers with information related to product quality, purity, and conformance to product requirements

certified

The term "certified" refers to either

- processes assessed to conform to the bluesign Criteria, the output of which are *B2B* products that are eligible for *product registration*
- consumer-facing *registered* products assessed to conform to the *bluesign Criteria* by an approved third-party *conformity assessment body*
  Products eligible for product certification are:
  - *chemical product*s that will be consumer-facing, e.g. via labelling on consumer product or for end-consumer use
    - for industrial use in the textile, accessories and leather industry
      - for direct use in the textile manufacturing process

- chemical intermediates
- for end-consumer use in textile care

- *article*s that will be consumer-facing, e.g. via labelling on consumer product or for end-consumer use
  - textile articles for industrial use at all processing levels (e.g. man-made fibres, yarns, woven fabrics)
  - finished leather articles for industrial use
  - accessories for industrial use (e.g. zippers, buttons)
  - textile articles and accessories for end-consumer use (e.g. repair kits)
- *B2B* and *B2C consumer product*s in the following categories:
  - *apparel*, including denim apparel
  - *home textile*s
  - *equipment*
  - *footwear*

Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	A critical water quality parameter that measures the total amount of oxygen required to chemically oxidize organic and inorganic pollutants in wastewater.
chemical product	A commercial product placed on the market by chemical suppliers, which can be a chemical substance or a mixture of chemical substances, and can be for industrial use of end-consumer use Synonym: chemical
chemical supplier	A company that under its own trade name markets chemical products, such as auxiliaries, dyestuffs and other chemical products, for the production of textiles, leather and/or accessories. A chemical supplier may be a manufacturer, a formulator or a rebrander of chemical products. A producer of chemical products that directly uses the produced chemicals for downstream processing of articles is also considered to be a chemical supplier. Related processes: 1. Business processes a. *product stewardship* only b. *rebranding* c. *toll manufacturing* 2. Production processes a. chemical manufacturing with product stewardship b. chemical manufacturing without product stewardship c. chemical recycling
CMR	Carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction
commission manufacturing	Performing specific manufacturing processes and/or services, such as coating, lamination, cutting, sewing, laundering, finishing, or embroidery on behalf of another company without taking ownership of the goods Commission manufacturing requirements and recommendations are covered by the relevant production *process* for material suppliers. Compare with: *subcontracting*, *toll manufacturing*

consumer product	A product placed on the market by brands for consumer use Categories: *apparel*, denim, *home textile*, *equipment*, *footwear* Example: A jacket, a pair of jeans, a pair of sneakers
converting	Buying and selling products which are registered in the Guide under own brand name and own responsibility. The properties of the original products are not modified. Changes to lot sizes or packaging are common. These products may be textile articles (at all processing levels), finished leather articles and/or accessories as well as consumer products. The process converting includes the requirements and recommendations for *subcontracting* for material suppliers. Compare with: *rebranding*

D

distributor	An independent company or person that buys products from a manufacturer or supplier and resells them to businesses, such as retailers or other businesses, rather than directly to end consumers
down and feather manufacturing	Processing already pre-washed and sterilized down and feather for final products. Processing steps may include amongst others washing, drying, sorting, blending and packaging of down and feather. Poultry processing and slaughterhouses are out of scope.
dyestuff	A colorant applied to various substrates from a liquid in which it is completely or at least partly soluble. In contrast to a pigment, dyestuff must possess a specific affinity to the substrates for which it is used Synonym: dye

E

EHS	Environment, Health & Safety
embellisher	A company adding print, embroidery or other decoration to a garment Synonym: decorator
equipment	Examples: tents, backpacks, luggage, climbing ropes, hammocks, umbrellas, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, handbags, camping chairs, rooftop tents, strollers, car seats for kids, bicycle trailers, personal flotation devices, yoga mats, and similar articles

F

fiber manufacturing	The process of creating and developing fibers from chemicals and raw materials, e.g. spinning. This may include upstream processes, e.g. polymer manufacturing and pulp production, or even monomer manufacturing and

	downstream fiber processing to filament or staple fiber yarns and other mechanical processes such as texturizing.
flame ionization detector (FID)	A scientific instrument that measures analytes in a gas stream. It is frequently used as a detector in gas chromatography.
footwear	Examples: street shoes, sport shoes, boots, and similar articles

G

Global Harmonized System (GHS)	Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals is an internationally agreed-upon system created by the United Nations. It is designed to replace the various classification and labeling standards used in different countries by using consistent criteria for classification and labelling on a global level

greenhouse gas (GHG)	Greenhouse gases are a group of gases contributing to global warming and climate change. The Kyoto Protocol covers the following seven:
	• the non-fluorinated gases:
	  • carbon dioxide (CO_2)
	  • methane (CH_4)
	  • nitrous oxide (N_2O)
	• the fluorinated gases:
	  • hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
	  • perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
	  • sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6)
	  • nitrogen trifluoride (NF_3)
	Converting them to carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e) makes it possible to compare them and to determine their individual and total contributions to global warming.
	(Source: Eurostat)

H

hazardous waste	Waste with one or more of the following properties: • flammable • reactive • corrosive • toxic or other physical, chemical, or biological characteristics that may pose a potential risk to human health or the environment. For hazardous waste, specific local definitions may apply.
home textile	A category of textile *consumer products* which people use at home Examples: • Bath linen such as bath towels, beach towels, wash towels, face towels/cloths, hand towels, washing mitts, bath sheets, bathrobes, bath-mats and toilet pedestal mats • Bed linen such as bed sheets, pillowcases, valance sheets, cot sheets, blankets, bed scarves/partial coverlets

- Kitchen textiles such as tea towels, oven gloves/mitts, potholders, aprons, and tea cozies
- Table linen such as tablecloths, non-disposable table napkins, fabric place mats/settings, non-disposable table runners, as well as cushion covers used for kitchen chairs
- Household textile items typically used in the living room, such as cushions (including floor cushions), throw pillows, cushion covers and sofa throws, rugs, moveable floor coverings, curtains

I

ILO Core Conventions

The eight ILO Core Conventions are:

1. the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29),
2. the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105),
3. the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87),
4. the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98),
5. the Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100),
6. the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111),
7. the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and
8. the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).

(Source: International Labour Organisation)

K

key supplier

A vendor that provides essential products critical to a company's operations, strategic goals, or supply chain stability. Key suppliers are often difficult to replace, have high spend activity, or provide unique components, meaning their disruption would cause significant risk, financial loss, or operational failure.

KPI

Key Performance Indicator

L

LCA

Life cycle assessment

licensee

A company that has been granted permission to use a brand name or IP to produce and/or market products in exchange for a royalty fee

See Also promo distributor.

M

materiality assessment

A structured process used to identify, evaluate, and prioritize the environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues that are most significant ("material") to an organization and its stakeholders

material supplier

A company that supplies textile articles (at all processing levels), leather and/or accessories. Not all material suppliers have *production site*s.

Related processes:

1. Business processes
   a. *converting*
   b. *subcontracting*
   c. *commission manufacturing*
2. Production processes
   a. *fiber manufacturing*
   b. yarn manufacturing
   c. textile manufacturing
   d. consumer product manufacturing
   e. consumer product assembling
   f. plastic part manufacturing
   g. fabricated metal part manufacturing
   h. *down and feather manufacturing*
   i. footwear manufacturing
   j. leather manufacturing

See Also assembler.

N

nonconformity (NC)

A deviation from bluesign Criteria requirements. Nonconformities can be identified during initial assessments, re-assessments or quality assurance activities.

O

OEL

Occupational Exposure Limit

OHS

Occupational Health and Safety

Synonym: OH&S

P

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

Bluesign references the PFAS definition as stated in the general restriction proposal for PFAS in the European Union, which in turn follows the definition of the OECD.

Common types include:

- PFOA: Perfluorooctanoic acid (CAS 335-67-1)
- PFOS: Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (CAS 1763-23-1)

Sometimes inaccurately referred to as: PFC (Perfluorocarbons)

PPE

Personal protective equipment

production process

A specific type of operational process focused strictly on transforming inputs into outputs (i.e. products). At bluesign, the following production processes are in scope:

1. chemical manufacturing with product stewardship
2. chemical manufacturing without product stewardship
3. chemical recycling
4. *fiber manufacturing*
5. yarn manufacturing

6. textile manufacturing
7. consumer product manufacturing
8. consumer product assembling
9. plastic part manufacturing
10. fabricated metal part manufacturing
11. *down and feather manufacturing*
12. footwear manufacturing
13. leather manufacturing

Compare with: *businesss process*

product registration — products made with certified processes and assessed to conform with the *bluesign Criteria* may be registered in the bluesign Finder (chemical products) or bluesign Guide (articles, consumer products)

product stewardship — Responsible and ethical management of products and their packaging at all stages of the lifecycle with a view to minimize their health, environmental and safety impacts. One of the main pillars that supports product stewardship is *input stream management*.

promo distributor — A company that sources, customizes, and sells promotional products to businesses for marketing purposes. They act as an intermediary between manufacturers and clients.

Q

R

Ramsar Site — A wetland of international importance designated under the Convention on Wetlands

REACH — Registration, Evaluation and Authorization and Restrictions of Chemicals (EU regulation 1907/2006)

rebranding — There are two types of rebranding process:

- Rebranding of *registered* products: Purchasing chemical products which are registered in the Finder from a chemical supplier for registering in the *bluesign Finder* and distributing them under own brand name and on own responsibility. The properties of the original products are not modified. Changes to lot sizes or packaging are common.
- Rebranding of non-registered products: Purchasing products from a non-bluesign supplier for registering in the *bluesign Finder* and distributing them under own brand name and on own responsibility. The properties of the original products are not modified. Changes to lot sizes or packaging are common.

Compare with: *converting*

registered — The term "registered" refers to products created using certified processes and assessed to be conformant with the *bluesign Criteria*

See Also bluesign Product.

renewable energy — Energy derived from non-fossil sources that are naturally replenished on a human timescale

	Examples include: • renewable electricity (e.g. solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal energy) • other renewable energy sources that avoid significant adverse environmental or social impacts, such as deforestation, harmful land-use change, or competition with food production Energy Attribute Certificates (EACs) are certificates that track the attributes of renewable energy. One EAC represents one megawatt-hour (MWh) of renewable electricity.
Responsible Care	A voluntary initiative to drive continuous improvement in safe chemicals management and achieve excellence in environmental, health, safety and security performance Through ICCA, national chemical associations and their members commit to safe chemicals management, stakeholder engagement, and product stewardship under Responsible Care, contributing to sustainable development and global chemical safety frameworks. (Source: International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA))
RTO	Regenerative Thermal Oxidizer

S

Safety Data Sheet (SDS)	A standardised document for hazard communication of chemical products. It provides comprehensive information on the hazards of a substance or mixture, and gives guidance on safe handling, storage, transport, use and disposal. Synonym: Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)
SBTN AR3T	SBTN action hierarchy: Avoid, Reduce, Regenerate, Restore and Transform See Also ???TITLE???.
Science Based Target Network (SBTN)	SBTN is a group of organizations guiding organization to set science-based targets for nature, including biodiversity, water, land, and oceans. SBTN is designed to complement *SBTi*; companies are expected to set climate targets via SBTi as part of their science-based targets for nature, allowing them to address climate and nature goals holistically.
Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)	A corporate climate action organization that enables companies and financial institutions worldwide to play their part in combating the climate crisis. SBTi develops standards, tools and guidance which allow companies to set *GHG* emissions reductions targets in line with what is needed to keep global heating below catastrophic levels and reach net-zero by 2050 at latest. (Source: SBTi)
SOP	Standard operating procedure
subcontracting	Placing orders to other companies for performing specific manufacturing processes and/or services, such as coating,

	lamination, printing, cutting, sewing, laundering, finishing, or embroidery Requirements and recommendations for subcontracting are covered by the process *converting* for material suppliers, and the process *due diligence* for brands. Compare with: *commission manufacturing*, *toll manufacturing*
Substance of Concern (SoC)	A substance that meets the properties described in the Ecodesign for Sustainable Product Regulation (ESPR) paragraph Article 2, (27) (a), (b), (c) or (d)
Substance of Very High Concern (SVHC)	A substance may be proposed as an SVHC if it meets one or more of the following criteria: · it is carcinogenic; · it is mutagenic; · it is toxic for reproduction; · it is persistent, bio accumulative and toxic according to the criteria set out in Annex XIII to the REACH Regulation (PBT substances) · there is "scientific evidence of probable serious effects to human health or the environment which give rise to an equivalent level of concern"; such substances are identified on a case-by-case basis

T

Technical Data Sheet (TDS)	A document summarizing the performance and other technical characteristics of a product or a material. It includes information on proper application and handling
Technical Guidance	Technical Guidance refers to documents that provide explanation and guidance on how to comply to the bluesign Criteria. These include documents that were previously categorised as such: 1. Guidelines 2. Guidance sheets 3. Fact sheets 4. Best practice sheets **IMPORTANT:** Separate *Technical Guidance* documents may contain the verbal forms "shall", "required", "necessary" or other expressions conveying requirements. Such provisions in separate documents are not to be regarded as bluesign Criteria requirements. Only the requirements expressly stated in this bluesign Criteria document apply. You can find a list of all Technical Guidance documents online on bluesign Cube.
TNFD	Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures

TNFD LEAP	A structured framework to • Locate, • Evaluate, • Assess and • Prepare for nature-related issues, developed by TNFD See Also ???TITLE???.
TOC (off-gas)	A sum parameter for organic load measured by *FID*
Together for Sustainability (TfS)	A member-led initiative working to accelerate the development of sustainable and resilient chemical supply chains The TfS PCF Guideline offers a standardised methodology for calculating cradle-to-gate carbon footprints of chemical products. (Source: TfS initative)
toll manufacturing	Placing orders to other companies for producing chemical products while specifications regarding purchase of raw materials and/or formulation recipes are made by the chemical supplier Compare with: *subcontracting*, *commission manufacturing*
trader	A company that (amongst other activities) buys and sells products without modifying them and without changing the original trade name. These products can be chemicals or materials. A trading company cannot join *bluesign System* as a System Partner. It is the obligation and responsibility of the buying company to check and ensure that a traded product conforms with the original product. Also: trading

U

V

volatile organic compound (VOC)	Any organic compound having at 293.15 K a vapor pressure of 0.01 kPa or more, or having a corresponding volatility under particular conditions of use

W

wet processing	A series of chemical and mechanical treatments applied to raw, unfinished "grey" fabrics to enhance their appearance, performance, and durability. This stage is the most water-intensive and chemically complex part of textile manufacturing, generating significant wastewater that requires careful treatment to mitigate environmental impact. A non-exhaustive list of examples:

- pretreatment (e.g. singeing, desizing, scouring, and bleaching)
- coloration (e.g. dyeing, printing)
- finishing (e.g. application of anti-creasing or water repellency finishing)
- other processes (e.g. mercerizing, laundry)

WWTP — Wastewater Treatment Plant

Synonym: Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP)

Z