
	VINCOTTE – CERTEST PRODUCTS	
	OK Compost: Initial acceptance tests	
	Doc Ref : OK1-e Edition : D Application Date : 2007-12-01 Page : 1 / 2 Replace : Edition C	
<u>Program OK 1</u> Compostability of products		

I. Applicable specifications:

European standard EN 13432 (September 2000).

II. Documents to be supplied :

General information to be provided

- Description of the product and all its variations
- Colours
- Reports available and/or existing certificates

For the basic materials, colourings, inks, masterbatches, ...

- Composition (%), identification of the constituents and characteristics

For finished and/or semi-finished products

- Sizes and thicknesses where appropriate
- Composition (%), identification of the components and constituents, manufacturers and characteristics

III. Classification:

None

IV. Examinations and tests: specific procedures:

A) Preliminary examinations

Study of the file and preliminary inspection of the status of the material presented.

B) General test programme

The test programme meets the European standard with reference EN 13432:2000



An assessment of the negative effects (ecotoxicity¹) of constituents accounting for less than 0.1% of the dry weight of a material or product does not have to be checked provided the total percentage of these constituents does not exceed 0.5% of the dry weight of this material or product.

An IR analysis (finger print) is carried out (for each component if appropriate) so as to identify the product.

V. Marking :

See General Product Certification Rules : § 5 " Affixing and using the mark "

¹ Editorial change – July 2009

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VI. Possible extensions of the certification

- A product or a basic material having previously obtained the **OK Compost HOME** or **Biodegradable SOIL** mark is regarded as qualifying for the **OK Compost** mark, provided there is a satisfactory outcome to the disintegration test carried out according to the requirements specified in § IV.
- An **OK Compost**, granted to a well-known basic material, is valid for a variant of this same material on condition that this variant contains the same and no more constituents as the certified basic material and the ratio between the different constituents does not vary more than 20 % relatively speaking (i.e. the certification of a basic material with a composition of 70% - 20% - 9% - 1% is also valid for a variant with a composition of $70 \pm 14\%$ - $20 \pm 4\%$ - $9 \pm 1.8\%$ - $1 \pm 0.2\%$ for the same components, taking into account that the total is still 100%).
- If the constituents are the same, but the relative ratio between the different components is more than 20%, supplementary tests and examinations have to be carried out to verify the biodegradation and disintegration of this new variant.

If components are used that are different from those used for the certified basic material, an extension of the certified basic material is not possible without additional tests or/and examinations.
- The products are certified up to a certain thickness. For higher thicknesses, supplementary tests or/and examinations have to be carried out.

Comment:

Any change to a certified basic material or product has to be notified to the Vincotte services.

No-one is authorised to feature the **OK Compost** conformity marks on a product unless this is formally certified by Vincotte.