

GREEN CHOICE PHILIPPINES

NELP-GCP - 2008015 PEN

1. ENVIRONMENTAL SCENARIO

Pens in all its types and kinds are present in all households, offices and schools on a global scale. The environmental impacts of pens are related to the content of heavy metals and organic solvents found in the product as well as the consumption of resources. The release of heavy metals from pens may have toxic effects on human and the environment. Organic solvents in ink may be harmful to the health of users. In addition to the solid waste generated by discarding the used product and the packaging, it also presents a burden on the consumption of resources during the manufacturing stage.

The focus of the following criteria is to reduce the health impacts due to hazardous components, product recyclability to minimize solid waste and energy minimization without sacrificing the quality of the product.

2. DEFINITION OF TERMS

2.1. CHEMICAL CONTROL ORDER

Prohibits, limits, and regulates the use, manufacture, import, export, transport, processing, storage, possession and wholesale of priority chemicals.

2.2. DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2005-05 (DENR AO 2005-05)

Toxic Chemical Substances for Issuance of Chemical Control Orders

2.3. DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2005-27 (DENR AO 2005-27)

Revised Priority Chemical List

2.4. IMPORTATION

Means the entry of a product or substance into the Philippines (through the seaports or airports of entry) after having been properly cleared through or still remaining under customs control, the product or substance of which is intended for direct consumption, merchandising, warehousing, for further processing.

2.5. INK

An ink is a liquid containing various pigments and/or dyes used for coloring a surface to produce an image or text. It is a complex medium, comprising solvents, pigments, dyes, resins, lubricants, solubilizers, particulate matter, fluorescers, and other materials. The components of inks serve many purposes; the ink's carrier, colorants, and other additives are used to control flow, thickness, and appearance of the ink when dry.

2.6. MARKING PENS

Writing instruments with textile or plastic nib at the end of the ink cartridge as an expendable part.

2.7. PENS

A pen is a writing instrument that applies ink to a surface, usually paper. Pens may be categorized by the kind of tip on them. The main types are ballpoint pens, rollerball pens, fountain pens, felt-tip pens and gel pens. The general design of a pen consists of a barrel containing the writing mechanism, the ink reservoir and a cap. Most pens have grips, some made of rubber and some of plastic.

2.8. PRIORITY CHEMICALS LIST (PCL)

A list of existing and new chemicals that the DENR has determined to potentially pose unreasonable risk to public health, workplace, and the environment

2.9. PROCESS

Means the preparation of a chemical substance or mixture after its manufacture for commercial distribution:

1. In the same form or physical state or in a different form or physical state from that which it was received by the person so preparing such substance or mixture; or
2. As part of an article containing a chemical substance or mixture.

2.10. TOXIC WASTE

Toxic wastes are poisonous and have carcinogenic, mutagenic, or teratogenic effects on human or other life forms.

2.11. TRANSPORT

Includes conveyance by air, water and land

2.10. UNREASONABLE RISK

Means expected high frequency of undesirable effects or adverse responses arising from a given exposure to a substance.

2.12. VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUND (VOC)

Organic chemical compounds that under normal conditions are gaseous or can vaporize and enter the atmosphere. VOCs contribute significantly to photochemical smog production and certain health problems.

3. SCOPE

These criteria are applicable to ballpoint pens, roller pens, fountain pens, fineliners, markers, overhead markers, text markers, and highlighting markers. These criteria cover the product, refills and packaging.

4. GREEN CHOICE REQUIREMENTS

4.1. PRODUCT QUALITY PERFORMANCE

4.1.1. Product Quality Standard

The product shall comply with the performance requirements of the relevant Philippine Product Standards for its intended application.

Table 1 – Applicable Philippine Product Standards for Pen

Standard No.	Title
PNS 1227:1994*	White board markers – Specification
PNS 2049:2006	Marking Pens – Specification
PNS ISO 12757-1:2001*	Ball point pens and refills – Part 1 General use
PNS ISO 12757-2:2008	Ball point pens and refills – Part 2: Documentary use
PNS ISO 14145-1:2007	Roller ball pens and refills – Part 1: General use
PNS ISO 14145-2:2007	Roller ball pens and refills – Part 2: Documentary use

* Under revision

4.2. PRODUCT ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

4.2.1. Compliance to Environmental Regulations

The applicant is required to comply with relevant environmental legislations. This includes production process, transport and disposal features of the product.

4.2.2. Heavy Metals

The product shall not contain antimony, arsenic, barium, cadmium, mercury, lead and hexavalent chromium or as listed in DENR AO 2005-05

4.2.3. Inks

- The ink shall not contain VOC and aromatic content except alcohols used in marker pen.
- Shall not contain aromatic and halogenated solvents or as listed in DENR AO 2005-27.
- The product shall use refillable inks or refills.

4.3 OTHER CRITERIA

4.3.2. Packaging

- The packaging material of the product shall not contain chlorine-based plastics.
- Halogenated plastic such as PVC shall not be used as packaging material for the product.
- The paper material of the packaging must consist of recycled pulp, not less than 80% by weight.

4.3.3. Body of the writing instruments

- No special tool shall be required to conduct disassembly of the product.
- Small parts of the pen shall not be easily disassembled for safety purposes such as tips and end-plugs.

5. EVALUATION AND VALIDATION

PRODUCT CRITERIA	EVALUATION AND VALIDATION
4.1 PRODUCT QUALITY PERFORMANCE	
4.1.1 Product Quality Standard	The applicant shall submit a certification from duly recognized/ accredited laboratories and/or certifying bodies.*
4.2 PRODUCT ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS	
4.2.1 Compliance to Environmental Regulations	The applicant shall submit applicable licenses and permits indicating the manufacturer's compliance with agreements on environmental regulations, applicable to the area where the plant is located
4.2.2 Heavy Metals	The applicant shall submit a certification from duly recognized/ accredited laboratories and/or certifying bodies.*
4.2.3 Inks	
4.3 OTHER CRITERIA	
4.3.1 Packaging	The applicant shall submit a portfolio and statement in writing signed by the Chief Executive Officer or counterpart of the company complete with relevant documentations, including samples.**
4.3.1 Body of the writing instrument	

* Laboratories accepted by national or international accreditation bodies such as the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC) or International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC)

** Notarized documents

6. PERIOD OF VALIDITY

The product criteria shall take effect for three (3) years from the date of its approval, and subject to change or withdrawal by the *Green Choice Philippines-ELP Board*, if necessary at any period of time.

7. REFERENCES

DENR Administrative Order 2005-05: Toxic Chemical Substances for Issuance of Chemical Control Orders

DENR Administrative Order 2005-27: Revised Priority Chemical List

Green Council: Hong Kong Green Label Scheme: Product Environmental Criteria for Pen (GL-004-001)

Korea Eco-Label: EL105. Product Criteria for Writing Instruments [EL105-2005/1/2005-107]

Marketing Guide for ASEAN Exporters to Japan: B-9: Writing Instruments; 2004

Nordic Ecolabelling; Swan Labelling of Writing Instruments.

PNS 1227:1994* White board markers – Specification

PNS 2049:2006 Marking Pens – Specification

PNS ISO 12757-1:2001* Ball point pens and refills –Part 1 General use

PNS ISO 12757-2:2008 Ball point pens and refills – Part 2: Documentary use

PNS ISO 14145-1:2007 Roller ball pens and refills – Part 1: General use

PNS ISO 14145-2:2007 Roller ball pens and refills – Part 2: Documentary use

Thai Green Label Scheme: Thai Green Label Products: TGL-24-00: Writing Instruments

GREEN CHOICE PHILIPPINES
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