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WEBINAR

LOW-EMISSION THERMAL INSULATION PRODUCTS AND SUSPENDED CEILINGS FOR INDOOR USE
(DE-UZ 132)





Agenda + Aims

Webinar DE-UZ 132

Agenda:

1. Introduction of the new Criteria
2. Application Documents
3. Application Process
4. Contracts
5. Remarks
6. Time for your Questions

Aims:

- Help you prepare your application
- Outline our expectations so that the process is as easy as possible for you
- Explain the general procedures



Introduction to the Criteria

Webinar DE-UZ 132

<u>Edition</u>	07/2026
<u>Validty Period</u>	01.01.2027 until 31.12.2030
<u>License Holder</u>	Manufacturer (Owner of the „composition“)
<u>Label User</u>	Distributor (e.g. sales organisation)
<u>Application Process</u>	immediately + only digital via the RAL application portal
<u>Contact Persons</u>	Dr. Sebastian Burck (questions regarding the criteria and application documents; application assessment) Mara Scheuermann (application assessment) Nicole Markiton (application assessment)
<u>E-Mail-Address</u>	insulation@ral.de

Introduction to the Criteria – Scope

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Insulation products made of mineral based and renewable* raw materials

*only wood, cork, bamboo, cellulose (paper), straw, hemp fibres and chives, seaweed

- Thermal insulation products for buildings manufactured in the factory or at the point of use according to DIN 4108-10 (fields of application & technical specifications: see criteria)
- Suspended ceiling kits with integrated thermal or sound insulation in accordance with DIN EN 13964 (only sound absorption class A)
- Thermal insulation products for building equipment according
- insulation products according to MED/3.13 and the lamination of the insulation products according to MED/3.18a of 2014/90/EU

In Discussion

After evaluation of the UBA and if applicable decision by the jury

- Plastic based insulation products with a post-consumer-recyclate content of > 75 % by mass (mechanical or solvent based recycling [dissolution])
- Further insulation products made of renewable raw materials
- Thermal insulation products manufactured in the factory or at the point of use in accordance with the relevant general building authority approval using directories “23 Baustoffe und Bauarten für den Wärmeschutz” and “43 Feuerungsanlagen”
- Further types of applications for insulation products or suspended ceilings

Changes compared to the previous edition of the basic award criteria

Introduction to the Criteria – Important Definitions (Chapter 1.4)

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Insulation product	Term for the entire insulation product (including facings, coatings and fixings for suspended ceilings, if present as part of the system) => is used in the basic award criteria for all insulation products
Raw insulation product	Unprocessed insulation product without coatings, facings, fixings or similar elements.
Insulation material	Materials of the insulation products (e.g. mineral wool, wood fibre, etc.)
Constituent	Substances and mixtures contained in a formulation that help to optimise the manufacturing process and/or the properties of the product (raw and auxiliary materials) as well as parts, components or elements of the finished insulation product or suspended ceiling system.
Product group	A product group is a series of products within the limits of variability of the product parameters (set by the manufacturer or a technical specification) and, if applicable, of the use-related parameters with respect to which the specified safety-related properties remain unchanged (i.e. they do not deteriorate in terms of quality). With respect to the Blue Angel, the safety-related properties include the emission behaviour. A product group according to DIN 13172 includes products of identical material composition.
Post-consumer-recycled materials	Post-consumer recycled materials are secondary raw materials from materials and products that are generated after being supplied to end users. This also includes construction waste offcuts) and waste from dismantling and demolition activities. The distinction is made in accordance with DIN EN ISO 14021.

Introduction to the Criteria – Requirements for the Manufacture

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3.1 Manufacture

3.1.1 General substance requirements

- Exclusion of SVHC, certain CLP-classifications, TRGS 905-substances (CMR)
- More CLP-classifications excluded
- For post-consumer-recycled materials: test report for SVHC required

3.1.2.1 Halogens

- Halogenated organic substances shall not be used
- For post-consumer-recycled materials: test report for fluorine, chlorine and bromine required

3.1.2.2 Flame retardants

- Exclusion of SVHC, PBT- and vPvB-substances

3.1.2.3 Plasticisers

- Test reports for constituents that are not mineral based or renewable

Changes compared to the previous edition of the basic award criteria

Introduction to the Criteria – Requirements for the Manufacture

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3.1 Manufacture

3.1.2.4 Biocides

- Biocides are excluded
- Only biocides according to the new “list of approved in-can preservatives” allowed

3.1.3.1 Information on the composition and raw and auxiliary materials

- The complete composition of the product and all its constituents shall be stated
- Mass portions to be achieved: mineral based insulation material $\geq 90\%$; renewable insulation material $\geq 80\%$; combination $\geq 85\%$

3.1.3.2 Mineral wool

- Insulation products shall comply with the RAL-quality mark „products made of mineral wool”

3.1.3.3 Other mineral insulation products

- Compliance with the radiation protection law requested
- New test report for insulation products made of acidic igneous rocks (determination of the specific activity of radium-226, thorium-232 and potassium-40)

Changes compared to the previous edition of the basic award criteria

Introduction to the Criteria – Requirements for the Manufacture

Webinar DE-UZ 132

3.1 Manufacture

3.1.3.4 Insulation products based on wood, cork, bamboo and cellulose (paper)

- Virgin fibres from legally managed forests (>85% with CoC-certificate)
- Waste wood only category I and II allowed
- Manufacturing site shall be CoC-certified or audited accordingly
- Balancing must be submitted every two years

3.1.3.5 Other insulation products made from renewable raw materials

- Allowed are straw, hemp fibers or shives and seaweed; further on request possible
- Origin and cultivation method shall be state, EU plant protection directives must be followed
- Region out of EU: contact RAL for further coordination

3.1.4 Requirements for coatings

- Dyes and pigments containing lead, cadmium or chromium VI compounds shall not be used
- APEO excluded

Changes compared to the previous edition of the basic award criteria

Introduction to the Criteria – Requirements for the Use

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3.2 Use

- Number and choice of test objects determined after coordination with RAL

3.2.1 Indoor air quality

- Compliance with limits for VOC, TVOC, TSVOC, acetic acid, formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, carcinogenic substances, R-value.
- TVOC lifted from $\leq 0.1 \text{ mg/m}^3$ to $\leq 0.4 \text{ mg/m}^3$!
- Sampling of the insulation products according to Chapter 5 of DIN EN 16516
- Emission testing according to DIN EN 16516 (28 days); evaluation according to current AgBB scheme
- Qualified laboratories: BE-round robin test; notified body (NANDO database); accredited for method according to ISO/IEC 17025
- For untreated mineral based insulation products (e.g. perlite) testing can be stopped after 3 days
- Periodic test after 2 years

3.2.2 Odour (optional)

- Testing according to DIN ISO 16000-28
- Description as low odour possible after successful test

Changes compared to the previous edition of the basic award criteria

Introduction to the Criteria – Requirements for the Environmental Lifecycle Indicators

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3.3 Environmental lifecycle indicators

3.3.1 Product-specific Environmental Product Declaration | EPD

- A manufacturer-specific EPD in accordance with DIN EN 15804 shall be submitted or ordered
- Note: if the EPD is not present, then the following calculations shall be submitted later

3.3.2 Use of renewable energies in the manufacture of insulation products

- Declaration of the proportion of renewable energies in the process energy in the production stage
- Description of the energy transition pathway

3.3.3 Contribution to the greenhouse effect | Global Warming Potential (GWP)

- Compliance with limits for the GWP-total for the production and disposal phase

Introduction to the Criteria – Further Requirements

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3.4 Circular economy concept

- Return of residual materials generated in the production process are returned to the production process
- A circular economy plan must be developed for the reuse or recycling of used products
- for Germany and any other country of distribution
- Guarantee that used products will be accepted for return for up to 50 years, provided they are disassembled according to the disassembly instructions

3.5 Information for consumers and product declaration

- Required information on the label
- Required information in the product information with required note on the packaging

3.6 Advertising claims

- No unverified or misleading information allowed
- Comply with EmpCo

Changes compared to the previous edition of the basic award criteria

Application Documents

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Forms for the application:

- Annex 1 = Manufacturer's declaration
- Annex 1b = Declaration for products of identical construction
- Annex 1-P = Product list
- Annex 2a = Supplier's declaration (to be filled out by the supplier)
- Annex 3 = Composition of the insulation product
- Annex 6a = Wood balance
- No forms exist for the other Annexes listed in the **Checklist**

Note:

- Please use a meaningful name for the documents, this ensures an easy identification, e.g.:
 - Annex 2a_“supplier's name”_“name of the constituent”
 - Annex 8_“name of the tested product”
- Please submit Annex 2a (supplier's declaration) to the suppliers of the insulation product's constituents well in advance. Experience has shown that it may take some time to receive responses to these requests.



Application Documents – Checklist

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- All Annexes are listed in the **Checklist** that are required for the application.
- Please submit only the relevant Annexes.
- The naming of the Annexes in the **Checklist** and the **RAL application portal** is identical.

Application via the RAL Application Portal		
Submit the application via: https://portal.ral-umwelt.de/		
Annex 1	Form	Manufacture's declaration.
Annex 1b	Form	Manufacture's declaration for new products or an extension. <u>Only</u> required for existing contracts.
Annex 1-P	Form	A table with all applied for products.
Annex 2a	Form	Supplier's declaration for all used constituents, filled out and signed .
Annex 2b	-	MSDS for all used constituents.
Annex 2c	-	Test report according to DIN 51012:2025-03 (Screening of substances of very high concern (SVHC) - General principles). Please check 3.1.1, if this compliance verification applies.
Annex 2d	-	Test report according to DIN EN 14582 (Content of halogens). Please check 3.1.2.1, if this compliance verification applies.
Annex 2e	-	Test report according to EN ISO 16181-1:2021 (Phthalates). Please check 3.1.2.3, if this compliance verification applies.
Annex 3	Form	Composition of the product applied for according to 3.1.3.1.
Annex 4a	-	Proof of the compliance with the requirements of the RAL-Quality Mark for „products made of mineral wool “ of the Gütegemeinschaft Mineralwolle e.V according to 3.1.3.2. Please check 3.1.3.2, if this compliance verification applies.
Annex 4b	-	Information on the packaging or instruction leaflet for mineral wool-based



Application Documents – Annex 1 (Manufacturer's Declaration)

Webinar DE-UZ 132

- Please create one **Annex 1** for every product list **Annex 1-P**.
- Please state all manufacturing sites and distributors.
- Please fill out **Annex 1** completely, a choice must be made for every criterium.
- A signature is not required, the upload of the document in the **RAL application portal** is sufficient.
- Please consider the notes in the document.

Application Documents – Annex 1b (Declaration for products of identical construction)

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- Just required if a valid contract exists.
- For submitting an **application** for the **extension of the right to use** of the certification for a product of **another sales organisation**.
- Informing about the distribution of a certified product in another country by an **own sales organisation**. (Remark: Product information and the circular economy concept must be published on the website of the new sales organisation.)

Application Documents – Annex 1-P (Product List)

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One **Annex 1-P** must be created for every **type of application** of the scope.

If several products belonging to one **type of application** are grouped in different **product groups** (see Definitions in Chapter 1.4), then an own **Annex 1-P** must be created for any **product group** for the application.

- Please choose a random number or a name for **Annex 1-P** and state this in **Annex 1**.
- Please state all products belonging to the **product group**.
- Currently, there are lines for 200 products. If more lines are required, please contact RAL.



Application Documents – Annex 2a (Supplier's Declaration)

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- Please submit for any constituent a filled out and signed **Annex 2a**.
- Please pay attention that **Annex 2a** is completely filled out. Any questions must be answered.
- Please pay attention to that the name of the constituent and the supplier matches the names in further documents (e.g. MSDS).
- Please take over the name of the constituent from **Annex 2a** to **Annex 3**.
- Please use a uniform naming of the documents e.g. “declaration”_”supplier”_”name of the constituent”.
- If a supplier does not want to disclose information, then **Annex 2a** can be directly submitted to RAL. A standardised NDA can be signed with RAL. Please contact us in this case or pass on our contact details to your supplier.

Application Documents – Annex 3 (Information on the Composition of the Insulation Product)

Webinar DE-UZ 132

- The composition of the insulation product shall be described in **Annex 3**.
- Several insulation products can be summarized in one **Annex 3**, if the composition is comparable.
- For any insulation product listed in **Annex 1-P**, a reference shall be set to an Annex 3, this means that different **Annexes 3** can be stated in one **Annex 1-P**.
- Please use a number or name to identify every **Annex 3**.
- **Annex 3** is a kind of draft, as the composition is request for the first time.
 - In case of problems with filling out **Annex 3**, please contact RAL.
 - If you have suggestions to improve **Annex 3**, please share your ideas with RAL.

Application Documents – Annex 6a (Wood Balance)

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- Please fill out **Annex 6a** in case insulation materials out of wood, cork, bamboo or cellulose (paper) are used.
- Please create for every manufacturing site a separate **Annex 6a**.
- **Annex 6a** for a manufacturing site can be used for the initial application and all subsequent periodic test every two years.

Application Documents – Emission and Odour Tests

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- The choice of the products for emission and odour test will be determined with RAL.
- In order to do so, the filled-out **Annex 1-P** and **Annex(es) 3** are required. (Submission will be explained later)
- RAL will contact you and arrange an appointment with you and, if required, your test institute to determine products for the initial application and the periodic test two years later.
- The total number of test will be determined by the number of products listed in **Annex 1-P** using the square root and eventually distributed between initial application and periodic test. If require, more test may be asked vor:

Products	Tests
1-6	2
7-12	3
13-20	4
21-30	5
31-42	6
43-56	7
57-72	8
73-90	9
90-110	10
...	...

- The number of tests and the products will be documented in a form.

Application Documents – Leaflet and Notes

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Please note the **leaflet** for the circular economy concept and the **notes** enclosed to the application package.

- The **leaflet** contains the minimum requirement for the circular economy concept according to 3.4.
- The **notes** contain information for the following steps:
 - Application process
 - Periodic tests
 - Contract updates
 - If steps are missing, please contact RAL.



Submission of the Application – RAL Application Portal

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The application must be submitted by the RAL application portal <https://portal.ral-umwelt.de/>

The screenshot shows the RAL Application Portal (formerly Web Portal) interface. The header includes the RAL UMWELT logo, the title "RAL Application Portal (formerly Web Portal)", and a language selector "DE" with a user icon. The navigation bar has "Home" and "Documents" links. The main content area features a welcome message and a login/register section. Two orange callouts with arrows point to specific elements: "User Manual" points to the "Documents" link, and "Registration as a new user" points to the "Register" button.

RAL UMWELT

RAL Application Portal (formerly Web Portal) DE [User Icon]

Home Documents

Welcome to the RAL application portal of RAL ENVIRONMENT

The web portal is now called RAL application portal - otherwise, nothing changes!

You can submit your applications for the Blue Angel ecolabel and EU Ecolabel or change your contract data here.

Please note the following information:

The RAL application portal is designed for the electronic submission of applications and associated documentation to RAL gGmbH for certification with the Blue Angel ecolabel or EU Ecolabel.

Login

Username

Password

Register Forgot Password Login

User Manual

Registration as a new user

Application Process – Initial Application

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1. Please submit **Annex 1-P** and all relevant **Annex(es) 3** to clarify the following point with RAL:
 - Scope of the emission tests according to 3.2.1
 - Scope of the odour tests according to 3.2.2
 - Tests for plasticisers according to 3.1.2.3

➤ After successful submission, you will receive an e-mail from info@ral-umwelt.de with a **[RAL-Zeichen Exxxxx]** in the subject. The number **Exxxxx** is the post entry number of your application.
2. Submission of the remaining documentation (ideally >95%). Please collect the missing documents and submit all together by the **RAL application portal** in the post entry **Exxxxx**.
3. If the application is completely submitted (>95%), then RAL will assess the application.

Application Process – Responses

Webinar DE-UZ 132

- You will receive an assessment with all open points regarding the application.
- The assessment will refer to the numbers of the **Annexes**. The numbers and references to the relevant chapters of the basic award criteria can be found in the **checklist**.
- Please collect the request documentation and submit all together by the **RAL application portal** by the corresponding post entry number. The post entry number is stated in the subject of the E-mail as **[RAL-Zeichen Exxxxx]**.
- Please comment any point of the response e-mail. If e.g. a document was request, please comment e.g. “uploaded”.

Completion of the application (use of the Blue Angel):

- Successful technical assessment. You will receive an e-mail when the assessment is closed.
 - Payment of the invoice with the application fee. Payment of the invoice is displayed in the RAL application portal.
 - Acceptance of the draft contract.
 - Completing the product information area (separate web site: produktinfo.blauer-engel.de/login)
- When the certificate and the contract are available in the RAL application portal, you will receive an e-mail.



Contracts – New Approach required

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Due to the increased complexity of the basic award criteria and the scope of the assessment, the current contract with several products are discontinued.

Restructuration:

- One contract for every product including a single entry in the product information area.
- For the application, all products belonging to one **type of application** and **product group** are bundled in one **Annex 1-P**.
- Please submit just one application for every **Annex 1-P** and add all products listed in **Annex 1-P** to this application. (Please obey Chapter 4.3 of the User Manual for the RAL application portal!)
- Every application will receive a **[RAL-Zeichen Exxxxx]**. All documents shall be submitted in this post entry during the application process.

Contracts – Licence Holders and Label Users

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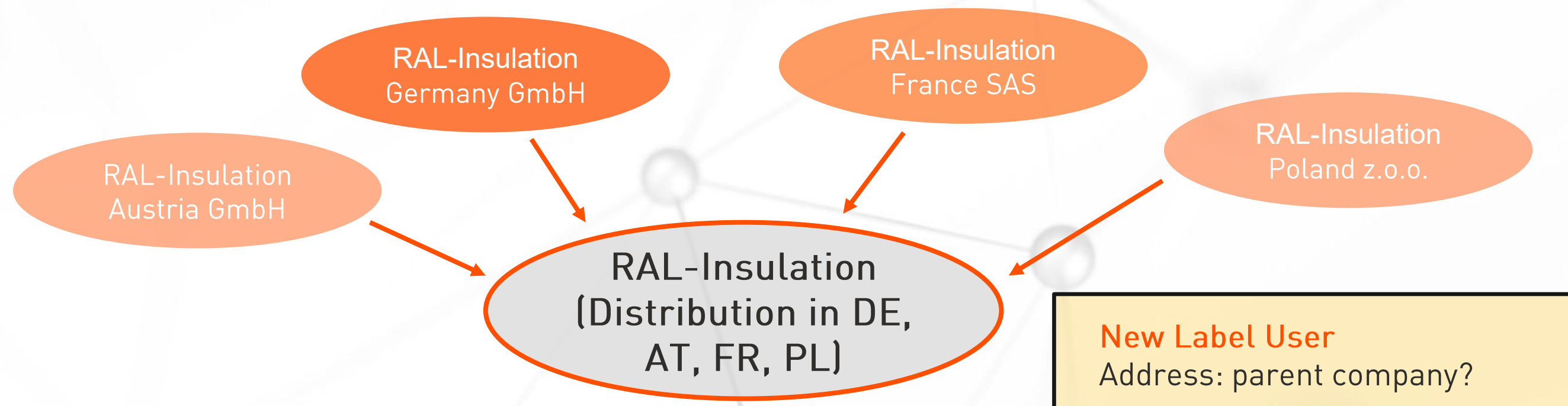
Licence holder: Manufacturer

Label users: Distributor (= sales organisation)

- In theory, a single contract can be created for any product sold under the same name but in by different countries of distribution.
- Since individual contracts are already being created for the products, creating additional individual contracts for each sales organization would result in more contracts without providing any added value.

Proposed structure:

- One **label user** will be used for all sales organisations of a company





Logo Use / Advertising Claims / EmpCo

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Information related to the use of the logo and logo guidelines:

www.blauer-engel.de/en/certification/certification-your-products/use-of-the-logo

Information related to advertising claims / EmpCo:

www.blauer-engel.de/en/certification-your-products-and-services/empco-preventing-greenwashing-blue-angel

Please consider the following points:

- Use the Blue Angel logo only product related.
- Display the Blue Angel logo always with the short link.
- The logo and the short link shall not be modified; permitted is the use of black and white after agreement by RAL.
- Please obey the notes from the logo guidelines.

⇒ Please check the use of the Blue Angel logo and the advertising claims on your websites!



Final Remarks + Time for Questions

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- Please complete the feedback form once your contract has been finalised. Please give us your honest opinion; this is the only way we can improve.
- If you have any suggestions, ideas for improvement or criticism regarding the application process, the documentation, etc., please feel free to speak to me personally.
- Our aim is to design a simple, practical and easy-to-understand application process; we can only achieve this by working together.

Do you have any questions?



Simply Excellent.



Thank you very much for your attention!



umweltzeichen@ral.de



+49 (0)228 68895-190 (9am-5pm)