

## Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label

### **Thermal Processes (Hot-air Technique) to Control Ligniperdous Insects**

**RAL-UZ 57**



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RAL gGmbH

Siegburger Straße 39, 53757 Sankt Augustin, Germany, Telephone +49 (0) 22 41-2 55 16-0

Fax: +49 (0) 22 41-2 55 16-11

Internet: [www.blauer-engel.de](http://www.blauer-engel.de), e-mail: [umweltzeichen@RAL-gGmbH.de](mailto:umweltzeichen@RAL-gGmbH.de)

**Prolongation for 4 years without any change**

**Prolongation for 2 years without any change, until 31.12.2017**

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## **1 Preliminary Remarks**

- 1.1** In cooperation with the Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, the Federal Environmental Agency and considering the results of the expert hearings conducted by RAL gGmbH, the Environmental Label Jury has set up these Basic Criteria for the Award of the Environmental Label. RAL gGmbH, has been entrusted with the award of the Environmental Label. Upon application to RAL gGmbH and on the basis of a Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label to be concluded with RAL gGmbH the permission to use the Environmental Label may be granted for all products, provided that they comply with the requirements as specified hereinafter.
- 1.2** Insects causing destruction of wood can be killed by the effect of heat. That is why hot-air techniques are effective alternatives to chemical pest control methods. They help to reduce the environmental load resulting from the use of insecticides.

## **2 Scope**

These Basic Criteria shall apply to hot-air techniques as specified in DIN (German Industrial Standard) 68800, Part 4, as amended, to control insect infestation of fitted timber in buildings, e.g. in attics.

Also included is the treatment of non-fitted timber (e.g.furniture) in rooms or facilities suited for this purpose.

## **3 Requirements**

The above-shown Environmental Label may be used for the marking of the hot-air technique mentioned in paragraph 2 provided that it complies with the following requirements:

- 3.1** Unless otherwise specified below insect control by means of hot air shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of DIN 68800, Part 4.
- 3.2** All parts of the timber to be treated must be exposed to a temperature of 55° C over a period of at least 60 minutes.
- Continuous measurements of the temperature shall be taken at the cross-sectional center of the least accessible parts at least at two points. The measuring points shall be lastingly marked. The readings shall be recorded and kept for at least five years.
- 3.3** For fire-protection reasons the hot-air temperature at the outlet of the feeding pipe shall not exceed 120° C. The outlet shall be kept at a distance of at least 1 m from

easily inflammable material (Design category B 3 according to DIN 4102, Part 1) e.g. paper, paperboard and the like.

- 3.3.1** It must be checked beforehand whether or not heat-sensitive material might be impaired by being exposed to hot air. The customer shall be notified in writing of the results of such checks.
- 3.3.2** For a successful control of ligniperdous insects in fitted timber chemical pesticides will have to be used on those parts of the timberwork which cannot be reached by hot-air treatment and which require on-the-spot treatment which cannot be achieved by other measures (e.g. exchange of the infested timber). For this purpose, especially for shot-hole impregnation measures, products marked with the RAL quality label shall be used.  
Labelling as specified in DIN 68800, Part 3, para.10.2, shall be carried out.
- 3.4** Further details on the execution of the hot-air treatment can be obtained from the Instruction Leaflet 1-87 "Das Heißluftverfahren zur Bekämpfung tierischer Holzzerstörer in Bauwerken" (Hot-Air Technique for the Control of Ligniperdous Animals in Buildings) by the Scientific-technological Working Group for Preservation of Monuments and Reconstruction of Buildings, reg. Assoc.. The provisions of this Instruction Leaflet shall be observed.
- 3.5** Application of the hot-air technique shall be with due observance of occupational safety and accident prevention rules as well as safety, industrial medicine and industrial hygiene regulations.
- 3.6** For reasons of species protection advance checks shall be made to verify whether there are animals to be protected, such as bats and kestrels, which might be endangered. Pest control measures shall only be taken during seasonal periods of non-occupation.
- 3.7** No heating appliances other than those covered by an oil-burner design certificate according to DIN 4787, Parts 1 and 2 shall be used.
- 3.8** Chemical wood preservation measures won't be required if
  - 3.8.1** coloured heartwoods with a sapwood content of less than 10% are used, or
  - 3.8.2** timber is fitted into rooms with normal air conditions or comparable rooms and
    - 3.8.2.1** is protected against insect infestation by means of a closed covering, or
    - 3.8.2.2** is arranged in such a way as to leave it open and thus checkable.
  - 3.8.3** The following shall apply additionally:
    - 3.8.3.1** If the timber to be treated is infested with house longhorn beetles (*hylotrupes bajulus*) only and was fitted in more than 60 years ago one can do without subsequent

preventive chemical wood preservation since fitted-in timber of this age is scarcely liable to infestation with house longhorn beetles following hot-air treatment.

- 3.8.3.2** Subsequent chemical protection measures can also be dispensed with if special hygiene and food-safety concerns speak against such treatment, e.g. in living spaces and work-rooms as well as in places used for the storage of food and fodder. In this case, customer shall be notified that the safety of the construction and its parts must be checked regularly.

If the afore-mentioned conditions do not apply, preventive chemical wood-preservation measures as specified in DIN 68800 T.3 should be taken by means of wood preservatives marked with the quality label on load-bearing and/or reinforcing wooden parts. Customer shall be informed accordingly. Timber which underwent preventive chemical treatment is to be marked according to DIN 68 800, Part 3, para.10.2. Apart from that, chemical wood preservation of non-bearing timber not true to size shall be subject to separate agreement in each particular case.

- 3.9** Given the special features of pest control for non-fitted timber (e.g. furniture) in rooms or facilities suited for the purpose, applicants shall only be liable to meet the requirements of paras. 3.1, 3.2, 3.3.1 and 3.5 for this field of application. In addition, they shall declare that they will do without chemical wood-preservation measures.

## **4 Compliance Verifications**

- 4.1** Applicant shall declare compliance with the requirements pursuant to paragraph 3.
- 4.2** Applicant shall specify the hot-air apparatuses to be used and submit the test certificate on the design certification test of the atomizing oil burner according to DIN 4787, Part 1, as well as the test certificate on the type test of the flame control device according to DIN 4787, Part 2.

## **5 Applicants and the Parties Involved**

- 5.1** Applications may be filed by suppliers of services using the hot-air technique.

### **5.2 Applicants and Parties Involved**

Parties involved in the award process

- RAL gGmbH to award the Blue Angel Eco-Label,
- the federal state where applicant's production site is located,

- Umweltbundesamt (Federal Environmental Agency) which, after signing of the contract, receives all data and documents submitted in application for the Blue Angel in order to be able to proceed with the development of the Basic Award Criteria.

## **6 Use of the Environmental Label**

**6.1** The terms governing applicant's use of the Environmental Label shown on page 1 are stipulated by a Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label to be concluded with RAL gGmbH.

**6.2** Within the scope of such contract the applicant undertakes to comply with the requirements as specified in para. 3 as long as he/she makes use of the Environmental Label.

**6.3** For the marking of the hot-air technique according to para.2 hereof Contracts on the Use of the Environmental Label are concluded. These contracts run until December 31, 2017.

They shall be extended by periods of one year each, unless the contract is terminated in writing by March 31, 2017 or by March 31 of the respective year of extension.

After the expiry of the contract the Environmental Label may neither be used for labelling nor for advertising purposes. This regulation shall not affect the products being still in the market.

**6.4** The Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label shall give the following particulars:

**6.4.1** Applicant (supplier)

**6.4.2** Brand/trade name

# C O N T R A C T

No.  
on the Award of the Environmental Label

RAL gGmbH as label awarding agency, and the firm of  
(Distributor/Manufacturer)

as applicant, conclude the following Contract on the Use  
of the Environmental Label:

## S P E C I M E N

- Under the following conditions the applicant shall be entitled to use the Environmental Label for the labelling of the product/product group/project:  
Thermal Processes (Hot-air Technique) to control Ligniperdous Insects  
"( Brand/Trade Name - Product Designation)"  
This shall not include the right to use the Environmental Label as part of a brand. Unless otherwise agreed, the Environmental Label shall only be used in the above given shape and colour. The entire inner surrounding text shall always be identical as regards size, form, thickness and colour of the letters and it shall be easy to read.
- The Environmental Label according to para. 1 shall only be used for the above-mentioned product/product group/project.
- If the Environmental Label is used for advertising purposes the applicant shall make sure that it is exclusively used in connection with the above-named product/product group/ project for which the use of the Environmental Label has been granted and settled under this contract. The applicant shall be solely responsible for the way the label is used, above all, in advertising.
- During the entire period of label use the product/product group/project to be labelled shall comply with all requirements and conditions for the use of the label as specified in the "Vergabegrundlage für Umweltzeichen RAL-UZ 57" (Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label RAL-UZ 57), as amended. This shall also apply to the reproduction of the Environmental Label (including the surrounding text). Claims for damages against RAL, especially on the grounds of third party objections to the applicant's use of the label and the accompanying advertising shall be ruled out.
- If the "Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label" provide for checks by third parties the applicant shall bear the costs accruing in connection therewith.
- Should the applicant himself or third parties find out that the applicant does not comply with the conditions as stipulated in paras. 2-5 he shall be liable to inform RAL gGmbH and stop the use of the Environmental Label until the conditions are complied with again. Should the applicant be incapable of restoring the state required for the use of the label immediately or should the applicant seriously offend against this contract RAL may, if necessary, withdraw the Environmental Label and prohibit the applicant from using the label any longer. Claims for damages against RAL because of the withdrawal of the label shall be ruled out.
- The Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label may be terminated for good reason.  
Examples of good reasons are:  
- unpaid contributions  
- substantiated risk of injury and death.  
In such case, applicant's continued use of the Environmental Label shall be prohibited.  
The applicant shall not be entitled to bring a claim for damages against RAL (see above: paragraph 6, sentence 3).
- The applicant undertakes to pay RAL gGmbH an amount according to the "Entgeltordnung für das Umweltzeichen" (Schedule of Contributions for the Environmental Label), as amended, for the period of use.
- According to the Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label RAL-UZ 57 this contract will run until December 31, **2017**. It shall be extended by periods of one year each, unless terminated in writing by March 31, **2017** or by March 31 of the respective year of extension. After the expiry of the contract the Environmental Label may neither be used for labelling nor for advertising purposes. This regulation shall not affect the products being still in the market.
- Products/projects marked with the Environmental Label and the advertising for these products/projects may reach the consumer only when naming the firm of the  
(Applicant/Distributor)

Sankt Augustin, this day of

Date, Place

RAL gGmbH  
Management

(Signature of authorized representative  
and corporate seal)

