

The Recycled Material Standard

Paper Material Classifications

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A Project of



Foreword

This document serves as an addendum to the [Recycled Material Standard Paper Module](#) for the purpose of classifying Recycled Material Standard (RMS) product groups. Certified organizations' product groups covered by RMS chain of custody will be publicly listed in the RMS Certificate Database at rmscertified.com. This document will be updated as needed to reflect additions to certified products included in the RMS certification program.

Requests for New Classifications

Requests for new material classifications should be submitted to GreenBlue by email at rms@greenblue.org.

Level One Descriptions

The first four classifications (F0-F3) are listed (roughly) in the order of the recycled material supply chain. The remaining classifications (F4-F10) represent different sectors where paper is used in various converted forms.

F0 Reclaimed Paper

This category includes paper material that would have otherwise been disposed of as waste or used for energy recovery but has instead been collected and recovered [reclaimed] as a material input, in lieu of new primary material, for a recycling process. Reclaimed paper may be derived from either post-consumer or post-industrial sources (also referred to as scrap materials or scrap) as defined in the RMS Paper Module.

F1 Pulp

This classification represents pulp produced from recovered paper or other sources.

F2 Paper

This classification represents paper products in an unconverted form – sometimes referred to as paper substrates or paper produced on paper machines without further converting. Paper is generally classified as those products less than 200 grams per square meter (gsm) in basis weight and less than 300 microns thick. Companies may choose to place heavy weight papers in the paperboard category.

F3 Paperboard

This classification represents paperboard products in an unconverted form – sometimes referred to as paperboard substrates or paperboard produced on paper machines without further converting. Paper is generally classified as products more than 200 gsm in basis weight and more than 300 microns thick. Companies may choose to place lighter weight paperboard in the paper category.

F4 Rigid Packaging

This category represents rigid packaging materials in various forms, both semi-fabricated and fully formed. For example, a converter may make corrugated sheets that are then sold to a separate party for further transformation (e.g., printing, scoring, cutting) and/or assembly and filling.

F5 Flexible Packaging

This category represents flexible packaging materials in various forms, both semi-fabricated and fully formed. For example, a converter may make a barrier-coated base paper that is then sold to a separate party for further transformation (e.g., printing) and/or filling.

F6 Hygiene Products

This category represents products used for personal hygiene including tissue, towel, diapers, and feminine care products.

F7 Food Service Ware

This category represents paper-based products used in the food service industry such as cups, plates, or bowls.

F8 Printing and Writing

This category represents paper used for signage and labels, printed materials (books, magazines, and direct mail) as well as office paper and stationery used for printing and writing.

F9 Specialty Products

This category includes a broad range of products that serve many different markets such as saturating kraft for laminated countertops, filter papers, or wall coverings.

F10 Other Products, Not Elsewhere Classified (NEC)

If companies are unable to find a category in F0 through F9 designations, they may opt for a general "other" classification. Participants may also request new classifications to be added to this material list.

RMS Paper Material Classifications

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
F0 Recovered Paper	F0.1 Post-Consumer	F0.1.1 Aseptic packaging and gable top cartons
		F0.1.2 Mixed Paper
		F0.1.3 Old Corrugated Containers (OCC)
		F0.1.4 Old Newsprint (ONP)
		F0.1.5 Sorted Office Paper (SOP)
		F0.1.6 Other post-consumer papers, NEC
	F0.2 Post-Industrial	F0.2.1 Clay coated papers – printed
		F0.2.2 Clay coated papers – unprinted
		F0.2.3 Polycoated papers – printed
		F0.2.4 Polycoated papers – unprinted
		F0.2.5 Uncoated papers – printed
		F0.2.6 Uncoated papers – unprinted
		F0.2.7 Other post-industrial papers, NEC
F1 Pulp	F1.1 Pulp from recovered paper	F1.1.1 Deinked pulp
		F1.1.2 Not-deinked pulp
	F1.2 Pulp from other recovered sources	F1.2.1 Recovered fluff pulp
		F1.2.2 Textile fibers
		F1.2.3 Other pulp, NEC
F2 Paper	F2.1 Printing and Converting Papers	F2.1.1 Coated printing papers
		F2.2.1 Uncoated printing papers
		F2.1.3 Other printing or base papers, NEC
	F2.2 Tissue and Towel	F2.2.1 Tissue
		F2.2.2 Towel, napkins
	F2.3 Specialty Papers	F2.3.1 Coated specialty papers
		F2.3.2 Uncoated specialty papers
F3 Paperboard	F3.1 Bleached Board	F3.1.1 Coated bleached board
		F3.1.2 Uncoated bleached board
	F3.2 Unbleached Board	F3.2.1 Linerboard
		F3.2.2 Fluting medium
		F3.2.3 Coated unbleached kraft (CUK)
	F3.3 100% Recycled Paperboard	F3.3.1 Uncoated recycled paperboard
		F3.3.2 Coated recycled paperboard (CRB)

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
F4 Rigid Packaging	F4.1 Single paper substrate	F4.1.1 Molded fiber
		F4.1.2 Cartons, paperboard trays
		F4.1.3 Tubes and cores
		F4.1.4 Other paper based rigid package
	F4.2 Multiple substrates (paper only)	F4.2.1 Molded fiber + other paper
		F4.2.2 Corrugated containers (any flute size)
		F4.2.3 Laminated structures (e.g., set up boxes, spiral wound tubes)
		F4.2.4 Other paper-based rigid packages with multiple paper types
	F4.3 Multiple substrates (in addition to paper)	F4.3.1 Molded fiber + other materials
		F4.3.2 Polycoated cartons (including gable top and aseptic)
		F4.3.3 Other rigid packages
F5 Flexible Packaging	F5.1 Single paper substrate	F5.1.1 Bags
		F5.1.2 Wraps and banding materials
		F5.1.3 Envelopes
		F5.1.4 Other paper based flexible packaging
	F5.2 Multiple substrates (paper only)	F5.2.1 Multi-layer sacks
		F5.2.2 Padded envelopes
		F5.2.3 Laminated structures
		F5.2.4 Other multi-material laminate
	F5.3 Multiple substrates (in addition to paper)	F5.3.1 Multi-layer sacks (with poly and/or foil layers)
		F5.3.2 Multi-material wraps (with poly and/or foil layers)
		F5.3.3 Other multi-material laminate
F6 Hygiene Products	F6.1 Tissue and towel	F6.1.1 Toilet paper/bathroom tissue
		F6.1.2 Paper towels and napkins
		F6.1.3 Other tissue and towel products
	F6.2 Other personal hygiene	F6.2.1 Diapers, incontinence products
		F6.2.2 Feminine care
		F6.2.3 Other hygiene products

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
F7 Food Service Ware	F7.1 Single paper substrate	F7.1.1 Molded fiber (e.g. drink carriers)
		F7.1.2 Cups, bowls, plates, straws
		F7.1.3 Other service ware
	F7.2 Multiple substrates (paper only)	F7.2.1 Cup sleeves
		F7.2.2 Other service ware (paper only)
	F7.3 Multiple substrates (in addition to paper)	F7.3.1 Polycoated service ware (e.g., cups, bowls)
		F7.3.2 Foil laminated materials (e.g., sandwich wraps)
		F7.3.3 Other multi-material products
F8 Printing and Writing	F8.1 Printed reading materials	F8.1.1 Books, magazines, catalogs, direct mail, brochures, newspapers
	F8.2 Writing materials (unprinted)	F8.2.1 Notebooks, office paper, stationery
	F8.3 Signage	F8.3.1 Posters, pop up displays
	F8.4 Labels	F8.4.1 Labels, tags
	F8.5 Other printing and writing	F8.5.1 Other printing and writing, NEC
F9 Specialty Products	F9.1 Single paper substrate	F9.1.1 Filter papers
		F9.1.2 Glassine
		F9.1.3 Other single paper specialties
	F9.2 Multiple substrates (paper only)	TBD
		TBD
	F9.3 Multiple substrates (in addition to paper)	F9.3.1 Decorative laminates
		F9.3.2 Wallpaper
		F9.3.3 Other multi-material specialties
F10 Other Products, NEC	F10.1 Single paper substrate	F10.1.1 Single paper substrate
	F10.2 Multiple substrates (paper only)	F10.2.1 Multiple substrates (paper only)
	F10.3 Multiple substrates (in addition to paper)	F10.3.1 Multiple substrates (in addition to paper)