



ECONYL® Qualified

Guidelines for partners

Version 1.1, valid from 1st November 2018

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ECONYL® Qualified

The “**ECONYL® Qualified (EQ)**” scheme recognizes Aquafil suppliers’ efforts made to enhance environmental performance of products and services, stimulating a dynamic behaviour for continuous improvement.

All our partners already play an **active role** in ECONYL®’s supply chain and the EQ scheme aims at increasing the final product value as well as at strengthening a strict cooperation.

ECONYL® Qualified suppliers will be actively involved to start a sustainability path together with Aquafil, aimed at increasing environmental performances of all parties.

At present the scheme is voluntary but, in the next future, all companies intending to supply goods and services within the ECONYL® production chain **may be asked to apply**.

These Guidelines, drafted with a **Life Cycle Thinking approach**, establish **criteria** and **application rules** to become an ECONYL® Qualified Supplier.

ECONYL® Qualification is a **step forward a continuous relationship**

The scheme is organized per **business sectors**, rewarding specific action areas by means of a set of qualification requirements (targets) that can be updated every year to take into account technology improvements.

Scientifically based criteria for partner’s environmental performances evaluation are determined by means of selected pilot projects. At **present**, these criteria are determined for **two sectors** - “paper tubes manufacturing” and “logistic and distribution services”.

Paper tubes manufacturing

Paper tubes are cylindrical yarn-carriers, classified as primary packaging. They are the first essential component of the ECONYL® yarn package.



Logistic and distribution services

The transport of ECONYL® yarn to following manufacturing sites plays an important role in the supply chain. Logistic companies are the subjects in charge of it.



All **European** partners belonging to these sectors can apply for the **ECONYL® Qualification**.

For the paper tubes manufacturing sector, the evaluation criteria are organized via the following **hotspot** areas.

ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Paper tubes manufacturing process is energy intensive, usually from electricity and fuel oil use.

WATER MANAGEMENT

Water consumption for cooling or other technological applications is an issue in this manufacturing process.

PACKAGING MANAGEMENT

Companies give a high importance to packaging used for paper tubes, since its management leads to effects on two aspects: a good packaging optimization can generate raw material saving, product transport efficiency and safer material handling.

PAPER WASTE MANAGEMENT

Technology involved in this process cannot avoid paper scrap. Their amount and final fate plays an important role.

RAW MATERIALS

Paper is the most used raw material, with other ancillary materials added (i.e. glue, water, pigments, etc.). The choice of materials with high/low performances affects the overall process performances.

TRAINING

Environmental and production performances of the company are strongly dependent on employees knowledge and awareness on their activities. For this reason, the company should put considerable efforts on their training.

COMPLIANCE

Other than legal compliance, application to other voluntary certification systems represents an added value for a company's profile.

PAPER TUBES MANUFACTURING

Environmental performances per each hotspot area shall be evaluated by using selected Key Performance Indicators (**KPIs**). A specific **target** is identified per each KPI, as reported in the following table.

Hotspot	KPI	Target
Energy management	1 Energy consumption per unit of product	≤ 300 kWh/ton
	2 Amount of electricity from renewable energy source	≥ 30%
Water management	3 Water consumption per unit of product	≤ 0.200 m ³ /ton
Packaging management	4 Packaging optimization	Implementation of at least 1 approved initiative for packaging optimization in the last 3 years
Paper waste management	5 Amount of paper waste per unit of product	≤ 10%
Raw materials	6 Recycled paper content	≥ 80%
Training	7 Training hours per employee	At least 1 h per employee
Compliance	8 Voluntary certifications	At least 1 approved certification

ECONYL® Qualification requires the achievement of **at least 7 targets**.

The achievement of targets will be assessed by a third-party **audit**, ahead of the qualification status to become effective.

The evaluation stage can have **three results**:

SUPPLIER ECONYL® Qualified



Qualification requirements are achieved.
The partner can be an ECONYL® Qualified supplier until the qualification expiring date.

SUPPLIER QUALIFIED WITH RESERVE



Some of the requirements (max 3) are not completely achieved.
The evaluation team releases observation to the supplier requiring improvement actions, whose efficiency will be checked after a two months period.
During this period, the partner is Qualified with reserve.
If improvement actions are **effective** and qualification criteria are satisfied, the supplier is approved as ECONYL® Qualified.
If improvement actions are **not effective**, the supplier cannot be ECONYL® qualified at the moment. He can apply again in the next period to reach the qualification.

SUPPLIER NOT QUALIFIED



The supplier has not reached qualification targets, thus cannot be ECONYL® qualified at the moment.
He can apply again in the next period to reach the qualification.

The following slides introduce **KPIs evaluation method**.
Data shall be **averaged on a year basis**.

KPI 1	Energy consumption per unit product
Evaluation method	$\frac{\text{Energy consumption [kWh]}}{\text{Total paper tubes production [ton]}}$
<p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy consumption includes both thermal and electric energy for the production of paper tubes. Energy consumption for utilities (e.g. heat and energy for lightening for offices) shall be included. • Total paper tubes production: whole amount of produced paper tubes in the reference period. <p>Both terms shall be referred to the same period.</p>	

KPI 2	Amount of electricity from renewable energy source
Evaluation method	$\frac{\text{Electricity consumption from renewable sources [kWh]}}{\text{Total electricity consumption [kWh]}}$
<p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity consumption from renewable sources includes the amount of electricity, used for the production process, certified as renewable, coming from dedicated plants implemented within the company or from purchased Green Certificates (RECs, GOs, etc) • Total electricity consumption includes the total amount of electricity used for the production process <p>Both terms shall be referred to the same period. Documents supporting the certification of renewable energy source shall be provided.</p>	

KPI 3

Water consumption per unit product

Evaluation method

$$\frac{\text{Water consumption [m}^3\text{]}}{\text{Total paper tubes production [ton]}}$$

Where:

- **Water consumption** is the water used in paper tubes production process. Water consumption for utilities (e.g. for sanitary use) shall be considered as well.
- **Total paper tubes production:** the whole amount of produced paper tubes in the reference period. Both terms shall be referred to the same period.

KPI 4

Packaging optimization

Evaluation method

List of initiatives aimed at optimizing the use of packaging

Packaging optimization shall be evaluated by Aquafil experts in order to evaluate any advantage generated by the initiative.

Packaging optimization may be related to:

- Reducing the ratio packaging/product, in terms of weight;
- Improving transport efficiency;
- Using reusable packaging materials;
- Increasing recyclability of packaging materials.

All initiatives carried on during the last 3 years can be taken into account for evaluation.

Initiatives must be approved by Aquafil to be valid for qualification purposes.

KPI 5

Amount of paper waste per unit of product

Evaluation method

$$\frac{\text{Paper waste [ton]}}{\text{Total paper tubes production [ton]}} [\%]$$

Where:

- **Paper waste** represents the amount of all paper scraps produced over the production process.
- **Total paper tubes production:** whole amount of produced paper tubes in the reference period

Both terms shall be referred to the same period.

KPI 6

Recycled paper content

Evaluation method

$$\frac{\text{Input recycled paper [ton]}}{\text{Total input paper [ton]}} [\%]$$

The recycled paper content is the proportion (by mass) of recycled material in the paper tubes.

It is calculated by the ratio of the following two terms:

- **Input recycled paper** is the whole amount of recycled paper used for the paper tubes production. (Recycled paper is paper that has been reprocessed from recovered paper by means of a manufacturing process and made into a final product).
- **Total input paper** is the whole amount of recycled and virgin paper used for paper tubes production.

Both terms shall be referred to the same period.

Only paper tubes provided to Aquafil will be considered.

KPI 7

Training hours per employee

Evaluation method

$$\frac{\text{Total number of training hours [h]}}{\text{Average number of employee of the company}}$$

Where:

- **Total number of training hours:** sum of all training hours (related to environmental issues, production efficiency, health and safety) attended by employees over the reference year. Only training hours that can be documented shall be considered.
- **Number of employees:** average number during the reference year.

Both terms shall be referred to the same period.

KPI 8

Voluntary certifications

Evaluation method

List of voluntary certifications owned

Relevant certifications considered for the specific sector are the following:

- ISO 14001 – Environmental management system
- EMAS - Eco-Management and Audit Scheme
- ISO 9001 – Quality management system
- ISO 50001 – Energy management system
- ISO 11011 - Compressed air-energy efficiency
- ISO 14064 – Greenhouse gases
- ISO/TS 14067 – Greenhouse gases -- Carbon footprint of products
- OHSAS 18001 - Occupational health and safety
- EPD - Environmental product declaration (of one or more product supplied for ECONYL®)

Any other voluntary certification owned could be valid for qualification purpose only after Aquafil approval.

The certifications shall be demonstrated (by providing certificates) and approved by Aquafil to be valid for qualification purposes.

For the logistic and distribution services sector, the evaluation criteria are organized via the following **hotspot** areas.

ROAD FLEET EFFICIENCY

Road trips are unavoidable for logistic services. Fleet's polluting class is used as indicator of the efficiency of this part of service.

INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT MODE

Transport can be organized by water, air, road and rail: the choice of the mode generates strong effects on the overall environmental performance.

Requirements are different based on the presence of infrastructures in involved delivery countries.

ROAD FLEET SAFETY SYSTEMS

Transport could lead to important safety risks connected to accidents and consequent material losses. In last years, the European Regulation started introducing new obligations related to active safety systems.

COMPLIANCE

Other than legal compliance, application to other voluntary certification system represents an added value for company's profile.

LOGISTIC AND DISTRIBUTION SERVICES

Environmental performances per each hotspot area shall be evaluated by using selected Key Performance Indicators (**KPIs**). A specific **target** is identified per each KPI, as reported in the following table.

Hotspot		KPI	Target
Road fleet efficiency	1	Road trips for Aquafil by Euro 5 or Euro 6 trucks	> 95 %
International transport mode	2	Countries with infrastructures: Percentage of intermodal transport for Aquafil delivery	≥ 20%
	3	Countries without infrastructures: Percentage of Euro 6 transport for Aquafil Delivery	≥ 50%
Road Fleet Safety System	4	Percentage of Trucks with active safety systems, within the fleets	> 30 %
	5	Percentage of trailers with XL characteristics, within the fleet	> 20 %
Compliance	6	Voluntary certifications	At least 1 approved certification

Econyl® Qualification requires the achievement of **at least 4 targets**.

The achievement of targets will be assessed by a third-party **audit**, ahead of the qualification status to become effective.

The evaluation stage can have **three results**:

SUPPLIER ECONYL® Qualified



Qualification requirements are achieved.
The partner can be an ECONYL® Qualified supplier until the qualification expiring date.

SUPPLIER QUALIFIED WITH RESERVE



Some of the requirements (max 3) are not completely achieved.
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If improvement actions are **effective** and qualification criteria are satisfied, the supplier is approved as ECONYL® Qualified.
If improvement actions are **not effective**, the supplier cannot be ECONYL® qualified at the moment. He can apply again in the next period to reach the qualification.

SUPPLIER NOT QUALIFIED



The supplier has not reached qualification targets, thus cannot be ECONYL® qualified at the moment.
He can apply again in the next period to reach the qualification.

The following slides introduce **KPIs evaluation method**.
Data shall be **averaged on a year basis**.

KPI 1	Road trips for Aquafil by Euro 5 or Euro 6 trucks
Evaluation method	$\frac{\text{Road trips for Aquafil with Euro 5,5eev or 6 trucks}}{\text{Total road trips for Aquafil}} \quad [\%]$
<p>Every trip conducted for Aquafil by means of truck shall be considered. Data on the polluting class shall be approved by Aquafil.</p> <p>Only trips carried for Aquafil shall be considered.</p>	

KPI 2	Countries with infrastructures: Percentage of intermodal transport for Aquafil delivery
Evaluation method	$\frac{\text{Intermodal trips for Aquafil}}{\text{Total trips for Aquafil}} \quad [\%]$
<p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermodal trips: number of trips for Aquafil that can be classified as intermodal in the reference period. • Total trips: total number of trips for Aquafil, considering all the ways of transport, in the reference period. <p>In case of utilization of “groupage”, partners can substitute the number of trips with the amount of transported Aquafil material (ton) for indicator calculation.</p> <p>All terms shall be referred to the same period.</p> <p>Intermodal trips with substitution of part of road transport with rail mode shall be considered.</p> <p>The countries considered within this calculation shall be approved by Aquafil as concerning the availability of infrastructures for intermodal transport infrastructures.</p> <p>In case of absence of trips covered by the partner within countries with infrastructures, this indicator shall not be accounted for in the final evaluation (Not Applicable).</p>	

KPI 3

Countries with infrastructures: Percentage of Euro 6 transport for Aquafil Delivery

Evaluation method

$$\frac{\text{International trips for Aquafil with Euro 6}}{\text{Total international trips for Aquafil}} [\%]$$

Where:

- Trips with Euro 6: number of trips for Aquafil that can were carried by road with Euro 6 trucks in the reference period.
- Total trips: total number of international trips for Aquafil, considering all the ways of transport, in the reference period.

In case of utilization of “groupage”, partners can substitute the number of trips with the amount of transported Aquafil material (ton) for indicator calculation.

All terms shall be referred to the same period.

The countries considered within this calculation shall be approved by Aquafil as concerning the availability of infrastructures for intermodal transport infrastructures.

In case of absence of trips covered by the partner within countries without infrastructures, this indicator shall not be accounted for in the final evaluation (Not Applicable).

KPI 4

Percentage of Trucks with active safety systems, within the fleet

Evaluation method

$$\frac{\text{Number of trucks with active safety systems}}{\text{Total number of trucks within the fleet}} [\%]$$

Where:

- Trucks with active safety systems: all systems compliant with CE Regulation n. 661/2009 shall be taken into account. Any further systems shall be evaluated by Aquafil for approval.
- Total number of trucks within the fleet: all partner road fleet shall be taken into account.

All terms shall be related to the same period.

KPI 5	Percentage of trailers with XL characteristics, within the fleet
Evaluation method	$\frac{\text{Number of XL trailers}}{\text{Total number of trailers within the fleet}} [\%]$
<p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • XL trailers: all systems compliant with EN 12642 regulation shall be taken into account. Any further systems for charge protection shall be evaluated by Aquafil for approval. • Total number of trailers within the fleet: all partner road fleet shall be taken into account. <p>All terms shall be related to the same period.</p>	

KPI 6	Voluntary certifications
Evaluation method	<i>List of voluntary certifications owned</i>
<p>Relevant certifications considered for the specific sector are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO 14001 – Environmental management system • EMAS - Eco-Management and Audit Scheme • ISO 9001 – Quality management system • ISO 50001 – Energy management system • OHSAS 18001 - Occupational health and safety • ISO 14064 – Greenhouse gases • ISO/TS 14067 – Greenhouse gases -- Carbon footprint of products • EPD - Environmental product declaration (of one or more service supplied for ECONYL®) • PEF - Product Environmental Footprint (of one or more service supplied for ECONYL®) <p>Any other voluntary certification owned could be valid for qualification purpose only after Aquafil approval.</p> <p>The certifications shall be demonstrated (by providing certificates) and approved by Aquafil to be valid for qualification purposes.</p>	

Necessary conditions for application

- Compliance with all European Union and country-specific **legal requirements**
 - Belonging to the **paper tubes manufacturing** sector or to the **logistic and distribution services** sector
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HOW TO APPLY

STEP 1: REQUEST FOR APPLICATION

Partners send a **request for application** by email to Aquafil reference contacts (see paragraph 6).

The latest version of the present Guidelines is published on Aquafil website at the following link:

<http://www.aquafil.com/sustainability/econyl>.

STEP 2: SIGN OF AN INFORMATION AND DATA HANDLING AGREEMENT

A mandatory **Information and data handling agreement (AGREEMENT)** will be delivered by Aquafil and signed by parties.

Aquafil guarantees all data to remain confidential, as regulated by the agreement.

The agreement allows Aquafil to verify background documents by **on-site audits** with a 30-day written notice.

HOW TO APPLY

STEP 3: SUPPLIER SYNTHETIC DOCUMENT DELIVERY

Partners are invited to submit to **Aquafil** a **synthetic document** including the following key points:

- A **brief description** of the company profile with a concise technical overview of processes
- **KPIs evaluation** according to the “evaluation method” reported in paragraph 3 (paper tubes manufacturing) or 4 (logistic and distribution services). Excel files, explanation notes and other additional documents are welcome if useful to understand the KPIs evaluation.

TIMING

Partners can request the application in every moment of the year.

The **ECONYL® Qualification** will be effective after the conclusion of Aquafil evaluation phase, which will last around 2 months, and has a **validity of 1 year**.

The qualification will be communicated to the supplier by means of an **ECONYL® Qualified Certificate**.

At the **qualification expiration**, partners shall apply again to obtain the renewal, using the latest version of the guidelines (partners will be notified individually).



For applications or further information, please contact:

Mr. LUI Massimiliano (Aquafil)	massimiliano.lui@aquafil.com
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Guidelines revisions and validity

Version	Emission date	Main news
1.0	1 st July 2016	First emission
1.1	1 st November 2018	Revision of qualification requirements for sectors “paper tubes manufacturing” and “logistics”. Introduction of the “qualification with reserve” condition.