



Certification Standard for Biodegradability

SCS-104 Biodegradable Standard



Version 7.1 – July 2025



SCS standards
and assurance systems



SCS standards and assurance systems

SCS Standards and Assurance Systems serves as a catalyst to advance private and public sectors in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet.

This document is the property of SCS Standards. All inquiries regarding its use should be directed to:

SCS Standards and Assurance Systems
2000 Powell Street, Ste. 600, Emeryville, CA
94608 USA
510-452-8000 | 510-452-8001 fax
Email: standards@scsstandards.org

Additional information can also be found at SCS Standards: www.scsstandards.org

Disclaimer

SCS Standards does not make any warranty (express or implied) or assume any liability or responsibility to the user, reader, or other third party, for the use of, or reliance on, any information contained within this program, or for any injuries, losses, or damages (including without limitation, equitable relief) arising out of such use or reliance. SCS Standards authorizes the user to view, use, and reference this program. The user agrees that all copyright and other proprietary notices contained in this program remain the exclusive property of SCS Standards. The user also agrees not to sell or modify this standard in any way for any public or commercial purpose. As an additional condition of use, the user covenants not to sue, and agrees to waive and release SCS Standards and its employees from any and all claims, demands, and causes of action for any injuries, losses, or damages (including without limitation, equitable relief) that may now or hereafter have a right to assert against such parties as a result of use of, or reliance on, this standard.



Record of Revisions

Changes from the previous version of the Standard (Version 6.1, February 2003) include:

- New terms and definitions (Section 3) for Acute Aquatic Toxicity, Bioaccumulation, Carcinogen, Mutagen, OCSPP, Persistence, Phosphates, Reproductive Toxicity, and US EPA Safer Choice Program,
- Updated Normative References (Section 4.1),
- Expanded Bill of Materials (BOM) requirements (Section 6),
- New criteria for Carcinogens (Section 10), Mutagens (Section 11), and Reproductive Toxins (Section 12),
- New criteria for Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic (PBT) substances (Section 13), and
- Editorial updates.

Table of Contents

Disclaimer.....	i
Record of Revisions.....	ii
1. Introduction	1
2. Scope and Limitations	2
2.1 Scope.....	2
2.2 Limitations.....	2
3. Terms and Definitions	3
4. References.....	6
4.1 Normative References	6
4.2 Additional References	6
5. Quality Assurance and Traceability	7
6. Product Formulation Disclosure	8
7. Ready Biodegradability	9
8. Eutrophication and Phosphates	10
9. Acute Aquatic Toxicity.....	11
10. Carcinogens	13
11. Mutagens	14
12. Reproductive Toxins.....	15
13. Persistent, Bioaccumulative, Toxic (PBT) Chemicals	16
14. Claims and Labelling.....	17
15. Complaints and Appeals.....	18

List of Tables

Table 1. Toxicity Values and Rates of Degradation for Surfactants.....	12
Table 2. Hazard & Risk Classification Restrictions for Carcinogenicity	13
Table 3. Hazard & Risk Classification Restrictions for Mutagenicity.....	14
Table 4. Hazard & Risk Classification Restrictions for Reproductive Toxicity	15

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of the Certification Standard for Biodegradability (hereinafter SCS-104) is to describe the requirements for a third-party certification of biodegradability claims.
- 1.2 The Standard provides requirements for determining whether a product is ready biodegradable. In addition, the Standard contains restrictions for acute aquatic toxicity, phosphates, and substances that are carcinogens, mutagens, and reproductive toxins (CMRs), and persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic (PBTs).
- 1.3 Third-party certification against SCS-104 allows a manufacturer to:
 - 1.3.1 Demonstrate that the product or products assessed by the certification body meet the quality assurance and traceability (See section 5), and the technical requirements for a biodegradable product (See sections 6 through 13);
 - 1.3.2 Make claims about its product or products that conform to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Guides for the Use of Environmental Claims; and
 - 1.3.3 Make Type I environmental claims (i.e., self-declared environmental claims as defined by ISO 14024:2018).
- 1.4 This Standard is voluntary. It is not intended to replace any legal or regulatory requirements that may be applicable to manufacturer operations.

2. Scope and Limitations

2.1 Scope

Products within scope of certification include liquid and powder products intended to be disposed down the drain. This includes, but is not limited to, cleaners, degreasers, detergents, soaps, personal care products, and cosmetics.

2.2 Limitations

2.2.1 Health and Safety

This Standard does not address all safety, health, comfort (e.g., odor) and performance concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this Standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and other performance conditions and to determine the applicability of federal, state, or local environmental and other regulatory requirements. Users shall note that compliance with the requirements of this Standard is no guarantee of regulatory compliance.

It is the responsibility of the user to establish appropriate conditions for such considerations and to determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

2.2.2 Usage

The biodegradability requirements in this Standard consider the rate at which products break down after discharge to aquatic environments. However, it does not consider the way the product is used. No assumption of actual biodegradability of certified products should be made for all potential uses of a product.

2.2.3 Packaging

SCS-104 does not address environmental attributes of the packaging of the product undergoing certification.

2.2.4 Product Lifecycle

SCS-104 does not address all environmental benefits, compromises, or tradeoffs that may be associated with all life-cycle phases of the product.

3. Terms and Definitions

The term “shall” is used throughout the Standard to indicate mandatory requirements. The term “should” is used throughout the Standard to indicate preferred requirements.

Acute Aquatic Toxicity. “The intrinsic property of a substance to be injurious to an organism in a short-term, aquatic exposure to that substance.” (Source: GHS)

Bioaccumulation. “A process in which a chemical substance is absorbed in an organism by all routes of exposure as occurs in the natural environment, e.g., dietary, and ambient environment sources. Bioaccumulation is the net result of competing processes of chemical uptake into the organism at the respiratory surface and from the diet and chemical elimination from the organism including respiratory exchange, fecal egestion, metabolic biotransformation of the parent compound and growth dilution.” (Source: US EPA Safer Choice Master Criteria)

Biodegradation. The breakdown of a substance by biological activity, especially by microorganisms, into smaller compounds. The microbial organisms transform the contaminants through metabolic or enzymatic processes. Biodegradation processes vary greatly, but the final product of *aerobic* degradation usually is carbon dioxide, water, and minerals (salts). Other gases (e.g., N₂ or H₂S) may also result.

Carcinogen. Any substance, organism, or agent that has the potential to cause cancer in living tissue.

CAS number. A number generated by the American Chemical Society, which indexes and compiles abstracts of worldwide chemical literature that uniquely identifies a chemical compound, element, mixture, or alloy.

Certification Audit. An independent evaluation of a product claim using specific predetermined criteria and procedures with assurance of data reliability.

Certification Body. An SCS Standards approved independent, third-party organization providing auditing against this Standard.

Certified Product. A product, including its ingredients, that is in full conformity with the requirements of the standard, and for which the manufacturer is authorized to apply the Certification Label.

Claim. Oral, written, implied, or symbolic representation, statement, or advertising or other form of communication presented to the public or buyers of products that asserts a verified attribute of a product.

Cleaner. A formulated product designed to assist in removing undesirable matter—often from, but not limited to, a surface.

US EPA Safer Choice Program. The US Environmental Protection Agency's Safer Choice program aims to help consumers, businesses, and institutional buyers identify cleaning and other products that perform well, are cost-effective, and are safer for the environment.

Eutrophication. The process by which an increase in chemical compounds containing nitrogen or phosphorous promotes a proliferation of plant life (especially algae) in a lake, pond, or stream. This plant life reduces the dissolved oxygen content and can be harmful or lethal to other organisms.

Ingredient. Any component or additive of a product intentionally added or not, including any impurities. Synonymous with component, constituent, or additive.

LC₅₀. The Median Lethal Concentration, which is the published concentration of a substance required to kill half the members of a sample population of aquatic organisms. This measure is generally used as an indicator of a substance's acute toxicity when exposure to a chemical is through inhalation.

Literature Review. The process of surveying current documents and publications on a particular topic or subject of interest and undertaken for determining a variety of characteristics for each ingredient in a product, or the product itself. Manufacturer statements, MSDS, peer-reviewed scholarly publications, lab reports, test results, and government databases are primary sources of information for this review.

Manufacturer. Organization or individual responsible for the production of a product.

Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). A form containing data on the properties of a particular chemical, substance, or mixture, and may provide information on a variety of topics, including physical data; composition information; chemical properties; hazard information; health effects; toxicity; ecological information; first aid; stability and reactivity; handling, storage, and disposal of chemicals; first aid; protective equipment; spills and leak procedures; and may provide information on biodegradability.

Mutagen. Chemical or physical agent capable of inducing changes in DNA called mutations.

OCSP. The Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, which is part of the US EPA and "implements the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), the Pollution Prevention Act, and portions of other statutes." (Source: <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-office-chemical-safety-and-pollution-prevention-ocspp>)

OECD. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, which is an international economic organization of 30 countries based in Paris. It defines itself as "a forum of countries committed to democracy and the market economy, providing a setting to compare policy experiences, seek answers to common problems, identify good practices, and co-ordinate domestic and international policies."

Persistence. "The length of time the chemical can exist in the environment before being destroyed (i.e., transformed) by natural processes." (Source: EPA PBT Final Rule)

Personal Care Product. A consumer product used for personal hygiene or beautification.

Phosphates. “In nature, phosphorus usually exists as part of a phosphate molecule (PO₄). Phosphorus in aquatic systems occurs as organic phosphate and inorganic phosphate.” (Source: US EPA; <https://archive.epa.gov/water/archive/web/html/vms56.html>)

Products of Concern. Byproducts of degradation with high acute aquatic toxicity (L/E/IC₅₀ ≤ 10ppm) and a slow rate of biodegradation (greater than 28 days).

Quality Assurance Plan. A plan that sets out documented procedures that are established, implemented, and periodically audited to assure that production, handling, management, certification, and other quality practices of the manufacturer ensure consistent compliance with the requirements of this Standard.

Ready Biodegradability. A classification of biodegradability made by the OECD describing the degradation of an organic substance under aerobic conditions to carbon dioxide (CO₂), water (H₂O), and minerals by aerobic bacteria as determined by the measured change of Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC), Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), or CO₂ evolution over time. A Ready Biodegradable substance has to reach either a 60% BOD or theoretical CO₂ evolution, or 70% decrease in DOC, depending on test method, all of which use a 10-day window within a maximum 28-day test period.

Records. Any information in written, visual, or electronic form that documents the activities undertaken by a manufacturer to demonstrate conformance with this Standard.

Reproductive Toxicity. "The occurrence of biologically adverse effects on the reproductive systems of females or males that may result from exposure to environmental agents. The toxicity may be expressed as alterations to the female or male reproductive organs, the related endocrine system, or pregnancy outcomes. The manifestation of such toxicity may include, but not be limited to, adverse effects on onset of puberty, gamete production and transport, reproductive cycle normality, sexual behavior, fertility, gestation, parturition, lactation, developmental toxicity, premature reproductive senescence, or modifications in other functions that are dependent on the integrity of the reproductive systems." (Source: US EPA Safer Choice Standard)

Salts. Ionic compounds composed of both positively charged ions (cations) and negative ions (anions) so that the product is electrically neutral.

Standard. When capitalized, refers to this Standard (SCS-104 Biodegradability Standard).

Supplier. Organization that supplies a material, product, or service to the manufacturer. Synonymous with vendor.

Surfactants. Organic compounds that contain both water soluble and non-water-soluble groups (oil soluble) and are used to reduce the surface tension of a liquid. Also known as surface active agents.

Toxicity. The ability of a chemical, substance, or mixture to cause adverse effects resulting in biological harm or death after exposure to, or contamination with, that substance.

4. References

4.1 Normative References

The following normative documents contain provisions that, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Standard.

- ISO 14024:2018, “Environmental labels and declarations – Type I environmental labeling – Principles and procedures.”
- ISO 14020:2022, “Environmental labels and declarations – General principles.”

4.2 Additional References

- Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims.
- ISO 9001:2015, “Quality management systems – Requirements.”
- ISO 14001:2015, “Environmental management systems – Requirements with guidance for use.”
- ISO/IEC 17025:2017, “General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories.”
- US EPA’s Safer Chemicals Ingredient List (SCIL) (<https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/safer-ingredients>)
- EPA’s Safer Choice Program Master Criteria for Safer Ingredients (https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2013-12/documents/dfe_master_criteria_safer_ingredients_v2_1.pdf)
- US EPA Safer Choice Standard (<https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2013-12/documents/standard-for-safer-products.pdf>)

5. Quality Assurance and Traceability

- 5.1 The manufacturer shall develop, implement, and maintain a documented Quality Assurance Plan that contains a product identification and traceability program.
- 5.2 The Quality Assurance Plan shall include documented procedures to ensure that the product is traceable to:
 - 5.2.1 Relevant batch information, including production dates and lot sizes; and
 - 5.2.2 Batch inspection or test reports on those processes and materials that may affect conformity of the product with this Standard.

6. Product Formulation Disclosure

- 6.1 The manufacturer shall maintain the complete detailed description of the product formulation which includes the following:
 - 6.1.1 Common name and/or brand name of 100% of ingredients in the product formulation;
 - 6.1.2 Supplier name of each ingredient;
 - 6.1.3 Weight percent of the ingredient in the product formulation;
 - 6.1.4 Function of the ingredient (e.g., surfactant, colorant, solvent);
 - 6.1.5 Chemical name and CAS number of each chemical at or above 1000 ppm (0.01%) in the ingredient; and
 - 6.1.6 Weight percent of the chemical in the ingredient.

7. Ready Biodegradability

- 7.1 The manufacturer shall maintain documentation for each ingredient in the product that definitively indicates that all ingredients demonstrate Ready Biodegradability using any of the following OCSPP or OECD acceptable test methods:¹
- OCSPP (formerly OPPTS) Harmonized Guideline 835.3110 - Ready Biodegradability
 - OCSPP (formerly OPPTS) Harmonized Guideline 835.3140 - Ready Biodegradability - CO₂ in Sealed Vessels (Headspace Test)
 - OECD Test Guideline 301 A: DOC Die-Away
 - OECD Test Guideline 301 B: CO₂ Evolution (Modified Sturm Test)
 - OECD Test Guideline 301 C: Modified MITI (I) (Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Japan)
 - OECD Test Guideline 301 D: Closed Bottle
 - OECD Test Guideline 301 E: Modified OECD Screening
 - OECD Test Guideline 301 F: Manometric Respirometry
 - OECD Test Guideline 310: CO₂ in sealed vessels (Headspace Test)
- 7.2 Acceptable documentation demonstrating Ready Biodegradability that is collected during a literature review may include MSDS, laboratory test reports, government databases, and peer reviewed scientific articles.
- 7.3 If no data on biodegradability are available for the product ingredient, the manufacturer shall test the whole product and demonstrate Ready Biodegradability using any of the OCSPP or OECD acceptable test methods listed above.
- 7.4 Testing shall be performed by a laboratory that is accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 and shall have the test methods identified within this Standard listed in the scope of their accreditation. Testing from a non-accredited laboratory may be accepted if the laboratory is approved by the certification body.

¹ SCS Standards may approve alternative methods. Users can submit requests to the scheme via the website at www.scsstandards.org/interpretation-variation-request

8. Eutrophication and Phosphates

Organic and inorganic phosphate compounds are known to contribute to eutrophication of fresh water and estuarial ecosystems. To align with US EPA Safer Choice Master Criteria, this Standard includes a restriction for these compounds due to the potential for direct disposal of products down the drain that can make their way into aquatic ecosystems.²

- 8.1 The product shall not contain phosphate compounds (measured as elemental phosphorous) that total at or above 5000 ppm (0.5%) in the product.
- 8.2 The product shall not contain inorganic phosphate compounds at any level.

² Source: https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2013-12/documents/dfe_master_criteria_safer_ingredients_v2_1.pdf

9. Acute Aquatic Toxicity

- 9.1 The manufacturer shall demonstrate, to a high degree of certainty based on current knowledge established through submittal of documentation or the literature review, that the product components and their degradation products do not demonstrate acute aquatic toxicity.
- 9.2 A product ingredient is considered not toxic to aquatic life if it meets the criteria of acute LC₅₀ for algae, daphnia, or fish greater than or equal to 100 mg/L through a literature review or acute aquatic toxicity testing of the whole product.
- 9.3 If a product ingredient demonstrates acute aquatic toxicity of less than 100 mg/L for algae, daphnia, or fish, the product may be eligible for certification if:
- 9.3.1 The product ingredient is included on the US EPA's Safer Chemical Ingredient List (SCIL)³ with a status of a green full-circle, green half-circle, or yellow triangle;⁴ and,
- 9.3.2 The product ingredient represents no greater than 1% of the dry weight or volume of the finished product formula.
- 9.4 If no data on acute aquatic toxicity are available for a product ingredient, the manufacturer shall test the whole product and demonstrate acute aquatic toxicity of greater than or equal to 100 mg/L for algae, daphnia, or fish using one of the following acceptable test methods:⁵
- OECD Test Guidelines 203: Fish, Acute Toxicity Test
 - OECD Test Guidelines 201: Freshwater Alga and Cyanobacteria, Growth Inhibition Test
 - OECD Test Guidelines 202: Daphnia sp. Acute Immobilisation Test
- 9.5 Testing shall be performed by a laboratory that is accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 and shall have the test methods identified within this Standard listed in the scope of their accreditation. Testing from a non-accredited laboratory may be accepted if the laboratory is approved by the certification body.
- 9.6 Surfactant components that demonstrate an acute aquatic toxicity less than 100 mg/L and are not on the US EPA's SCIL may still be eligible for certification in exceptional circumstances, i.e., when the following criteria are met:
- 9.6.1 The manufacturer can reasonably demonstrate that no suitable substitute exists for the surfactant used;

³ <https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/safer-ingredients>

⁴ See EPA website for definitions: <https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/safer-ingredients#greencircle>

⁵ Other test methods may be considered acceptable if the test conditions match the OECD method(s).

- 9.6.2 The surfactant component represents no greater than 1% of the dry weight or volume of the finished product mixture; and
- 9.6.3 The acute aquatic toxicity of the surfactant component(s) meets the following criteria in Table 1, which are modified from the US EPA Safer Choice Criteria for Surfactants.⁶

Table 1. Toxicity Values and Rates of Degradation for Surfactants

Acute Aquatic Toxicity (L/E/IC ₅₀ Value)	Rate of Biodegradation	Acceptable Component?
≤1 ppm	n/a	No
>1 ppm and ≤10 ppm	Ready Biodegradability without Products of Concern	Yes
>10 ppm	Ready Biodegradability	Yes

⁶ Source: <https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/safer-choice-criteria-surfactants>

10. Carcinogens

- 10.1 The product shall not contain chemicals at or above 1000 ppm (0.1%) in the product formulation that are classified as a carcinogen according to the hazard or risk classifications listed in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Hazard & Risk Classification Restrictions for Carcinogenicity⁷

Authoritative Body	Restricted Classifications
National Toxicology Program (NTP) ⁸	Known to be Human Carcinogen; Reasonably Anticipated to be Human Carcinogen
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) IRIS Carcinogens ⁹	(2005/1999) Carcinogenic to humans, Likely to be carcinogenic to humans, or Suggestive evidence of carcinogenic potential (1996) Known/Likely (1986) Group A – Human Carcinogen, Group B – Probable human carcinogen, or Group C – Possible human carcinogen
International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) ¹⁰	Group 1 – Carcinogenic to humans Group 2A – Probably carcinogenic to humans Group 2B – Possibly carcinogenic to humans
EU - REACH Annex XVII CMRs ¹¹	Category 1 – Known to be carcinogenic to humans Category 2 – Should be regarded as if carcinogenic to humans Category 3 – Cause for concern for humans owing to possible carcinogenic effects
EU Risk Phrases ¹²	R45: May cause cancer R49: May cause cancer by inhalation R40: Limited evidence of a carcinogenic effect <i>And all combination risk phrases containing one or more of the above.</i>
EU Classification, Labeling, and Packaging (CLP)	H350: May cause cancer H350i: May cause cancer by inhalation H351: Suspected of causing cancer
NIOSH Occupational Carcinogen List	http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/cancer/npotocca.html
Globally Harmonized System (GHS)	Category 1A – Known to have carcinogenic potential for humans Category 1B – Presumed to have carcinogenic potential for humans Category 2 – Suspected human carcinogens

⁷ Source: EPA's Safer Choice Program Master Criteria for Safer Ingredients (https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2013-12/documents/dfe_master_criteria_safer_ingredients_v2_1.pdf)

⁸ Source: <https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/whatwestudy/assessments/cancer/roc>

⁹ Source: <https://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/iris/search/>

¹⁰ Source: <https://monographs.iarc.who.int/list-of-classifications/>

¹¹ Source: <https://echa.europa.eu/substances-restricted-under-reach>

¹² Source: <https://echa.europa.eu/advanced-search-for-chemicals>

11. Mutagens

11.1 The product shall not contain chemicals at or above 1000 ppm (0.1%) in the product formulation that are classified as a mutagen according to the hazard or risk classifications listed in Table 3 below.

Table 3. Hazard & Risk Classification Restrictions for Mutagenicity¹³

Authoritative Body	Restricted Classifications
EU - REACH Annex XVII CMRs ¹⁴	Category 1 – Substances known to be mutagenic to humans Category 2 – Substances which should be regarded as if they are mutagenic to humans Category 3 – Substances which cause concern for human owing to possible mutagenic effects
EU Risk Phrases ¹⁵	R46: May cause heritable genetic damage R68: Possible risk of irreversible effects <i>And all combination risk phrases containing one or more of the above.</i>
EU Classification, Labeling, and Packaging (CLP) ¹⁴	H340: May cause genetic defects H341: Suspected of causing genetic defects
Globally Harmonized System (GHS) ¹⁴	Category 1A – Chemicals known to induce heritable mutations in germ cells of humans Category 1B – Chemicals which should be regarded as if they induce heritable mutations in the germ cells of humans Category 2 – Chemicals which cause concern for humans owing to the possibility that they may induce heritable mutations in the germ cells of humans

¹³ Source: EPA's Safer Choice Program Master Criteria for Safer Ingredients (https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2013-12/documents/dfe_master_criteria_safer_ingredients_v2_1.pdf)

¹⁴ Source: <https://echa.europa.eu/substances-restricted-under-reach>

¹⁵ Source: <https://echa.europa.eu/advanced-search-for-chemicals>

12. Reproductive Toxins

12.1 The product shall not contain chemicals at or above 1000 ppm (0.1%) in the product formulation that are classified as a reproductive toxin according to the hazard or risk classifications listed in Table 4 below.

Table 4. Hazard & Risk Classification Restrictions for Reproductive Toxicity¹⁶

Authoritative Body	Restricted Classifications
EU - REACH Annex XVII CMRs ¹⁷	<p>Category 1 – Known to impair fertility in humans or known to cause developmental toxicity in humans</p> <p>Category 2 – Should be regarded as if they impair fertility in humans or cause developmental toxicity to humans</p> <p>Category 3 – Cause concern for human fertility or possible developmental toxic effects</p>
EU Risk Phrases ¹⁸	<p>R60: May impair fertility</p> <p>R61: May cause harm to the unborn child</p> <p>R62: Possible risk of impaired fertility</p> <p>R63: Possible risk of harm to the unborn child</p> <p>R64: May cause harm to breastfed babies</p> <p>And all combination risk phrases containing one or more of the above.</p>
EU Classification, Labeling, and Packaging (CLP) ¹⁷	<p>H360: May damage fertility or the unborn child</p> <p>H361: Suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child</p> <p>H362: May cause harm to breast-fed children</p>

¹⁶ Source: US EPA, “Criteria for Biodegradability Claims on Products Registered under FIFRA”

¹⁷ Source: <https://echa.europa.eu/substances-restricted-under-reach>

¹⁸ Source: <https://echa.europa.eu/advanced-search-for-chemicals>

13. Persistent, Bioaccumulative, Toxic (PBT) Chemicals

13.1 The product shall not contain any PBT chemical(s) at or above 1000 ppm (0.1%) that are listed on the following authoritative hazard lists:

- EU REACH Substances of very High Concern (SVHCs) (Authorisation and Candidate lists)¹⁹
- US EPA – Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) PBTs²⁰
- UNEP Stockholm Convention – Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)²¹

¹⁹ Annex XIV of REACH ("Authorisation List") (<https://echa.europa.eu/authorisation-list>); and Candidate List of substances of very high concern for Authorisation (<https://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table>)

²⁰ <https://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/persistent-bioaccumulative-toxic-pbt-chemicals-covered-tri>

²¹ <https://www.pops.int/TheConvention/ThePOPs/AllPOPs/tabid/2509/Default.aspx>

14. Claims and Labelling

14.1 The biodegradability claim is allowed on products that have met all requirements in the SCS-104 Standard.

Example claim: “Certified Biodegradable. Breaks down into CO₂, minerals, and water.”

14.2 All uses of the Certification Label or references to the certification either on-product or in product advertising shall be conducted in conformance with U.S. Federal Trade Commission guidelines or other national guidelines if outside of the U.S.

14.3 The manufacturer shall comply with the requirements of the Labeling and Language requirements of the certification body at all times.

14.4 A certified and non-certified product cannot have the same trade name or trademarked designation.

15. Complaints and Appeals

- 15.1 A manufacturer has the right to appeal a certification decision within 30 days of receiving the final report. Appeals shall be submitted to the certification body for evaluation and resolution.
- 15.2 Complaints shall be handled directly by the certification body. If a satisfactory resolution is not found, a complaint may be elevated to SCS Standards.