



Lic No.: PRP - 2008

Standard: GECA 21 - 2004 – Printers & Printed Matter

Initial Verification Conformance Date: 08 Feb 2008

Print Point Australia Pty Ltd

Good Environmental Choice - Australia

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION



The verification performed by Good Environmental Choice Australia show that nominated Printpoint Australia Pty Ltd printed matter is environmentally preferable in its designated market, the printed matter subject of this report therefore meet the requirements of the GECA 21-2004 – Printers and Printed Matter standard and is awarded the GECA label.

## **1. Description of Company and Production**

### **Printpoint Australia Pty Ltd**

Products: **All General Printed Matter**

Postal: PO Box 407, Alderley, QLD, 4051.  
Address: 31 Stone St, Brisbane, QLD, 4053.  
Phone: 07 – 3356 6977  
Fax: 07 – 3352 5433  
Web: [www.printpoint.com.au](http://www.printpoint.com.au)  
E-mail: [sales@printpoint.com.au](mailto:sales@printpoint.com.au)

Printpoint Australia is Queensland's only dedicated Waterless printer. Our staff and management take pride in producing high quality work and are passionate about the sustainability of our community's environment.

Printpoint differentiates itself from other printers by using the Waterless Printing Technique and Soya based inks, we are also 99% Alcohol free and have a full recycling program.

Printpoint Australia is currently being audited for ISO accreditation once approved this will makes us one of the select few who are greenest printers in the world today.

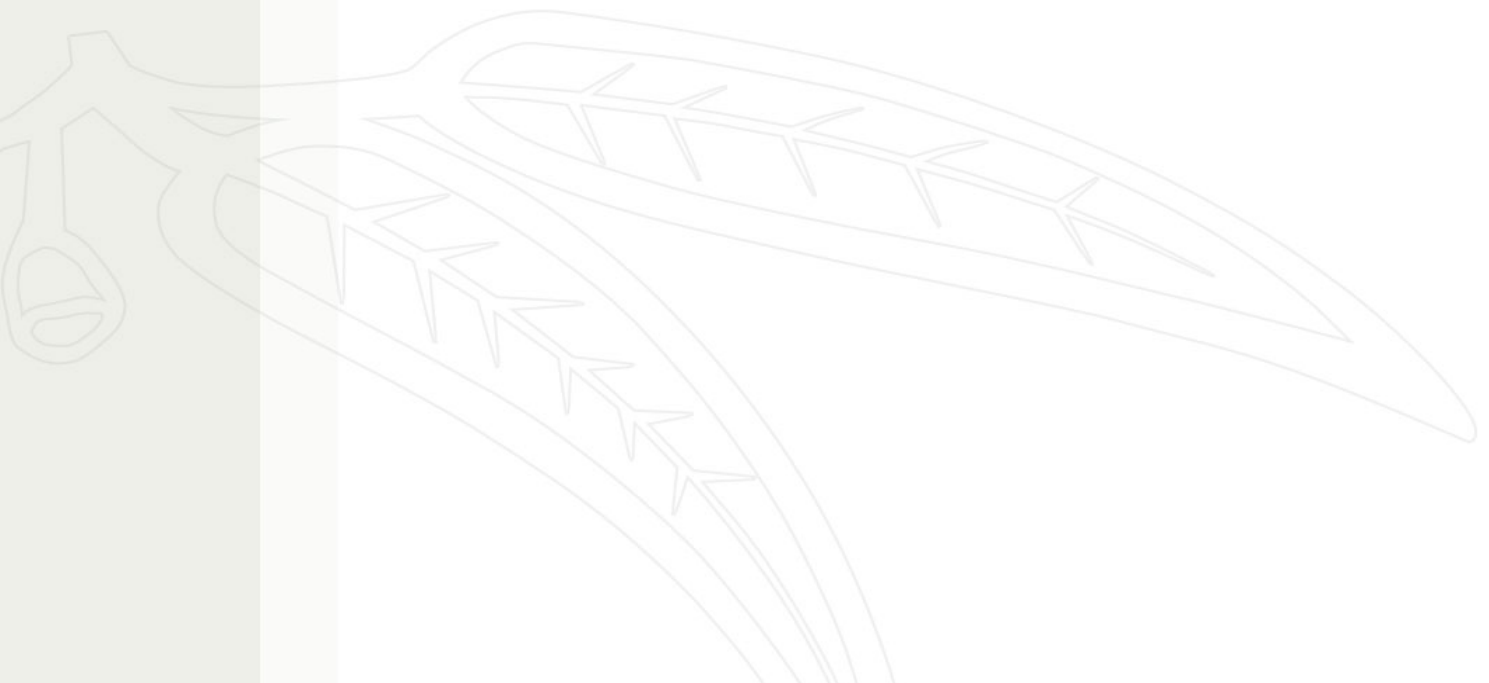
## 2. Description of the Verification.

The Good Environmental Choice Label is the national product life cycle independent environmental declaration in Australia ([www.geca.org.au](http://www.geca.org.au)). The organisation is an independent non-profit environmental research and certification organisation recognised as the Australian member of an international network of ecolabelling schemes under the Global Ecolabelling Network. Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA) Ltd. manages the Good Environmental Choice – Mark of Conformity in conformance to ISO 14 024 – International Standard for Third Party Environmental Labelling and Declaration.

Following an independent audit against the recognition requirements of the Australian Ecolabel Program the range of Printpoint products have been awarded the "Good Environmental Choice" label for the Australian market. The Ecolabel is awarded to those products that meet or exceed voluntary standards of environmental performance. The verification procedure is managed via a Documented Quality Management System and Certification Program Manual which have made significant use of the ISO 14 000 series.

The objectives of the program are to:

- a) Provide incentives for suppliers to reduce the environmental impacts of products sold in Australia;
- b) Provide a clear, credible and independent guide to consumers wishing to take account of environmental factors in their purchasing decisions;
- c) Encourage consumers to purchase products which have lower environmental impacts;
- d) Recognize genuine moves by companies to reduce the adverse environmental impacts of their products;
- e) Aim ultimately to improve the quality of the environment and to encourage the sustainable management of resources.



### 3. The Products

The following **Printpoint Australia Pty Ltd products** have been awarded the Good Environmental Choice Declaration:

PRODUCT	PRODUCT INFORMATION
All General Printed Matter	Waterless Printing Technique and Soya based inks, that are also 99% Alcohol free and have a full recycling program.



Eliminate the vagaries of the dampening system and you get more consistent color throughout the press run.

The inherent low dot gain of waterless lets you run higher screen rulings for much better detail.

Waterless works well, regardless of the screen rulings. Even if you run 175 line screens, you'll print a better product.



#### 4. Key Environmental Performance Findings by GECA

The key environmental performance criterion against which the **Printpoint Australia Pty Ltd** were assessed, and the findings by GECA, is provided below.

Environmental Requirements	Core Environmental Performance Characteristics
<p><b>Fitness for Purpose:</b>  <i>Certified products should be good performers in their intended application. Certain standards of product performance are implicit in the label.</i></p>	<p>GECS have reviewed policy documents and inspected the printing facility of Printpoint Australia and are satisfied that the printed matter produced by the company is of a high standard and meets the consumer expectations for printed matter of this type. The company utilizes suitable proof materials and processes to ensure that printed matter meets customer's requirements and has been signed off prior to final production. Printpoint has an establishing printing industry reputation and its inherent production machinery delivery a superior printed product above the industry standard in Australia.</p>
<p><b>Packaging Requirements:</b>  <i>Chlorinated or halogenated plastics must not be used in product packaging.            Used packaging shall be able to be recycled by local recycling systems.</i></p>	<p>Printpoint Australia make use of cardboard packaging for finished jobs and dispatches final product strapped to pallets. GECS have inspected the packaging used during production and has confirmed that no plastics are used. GECS have reviewed recent copies of receipts from Service Containers for stationery cartons confirming ongoing purchase of this material for packaging purposes.</p>
<p><b>Requirements as to Paper and Raw Materials.</b>  <i>The eco-labeled printed matter must consist of at least 90% by weight of paper that fulfils the Good Environmental Choice Australia Ltd. requirements for Publishing Paper GECA 4-2003 or Recycled Paper Products GECA 11-2002, with the exception of books, catalogs, binders, folders, pads, booklets and forms which must consist of at least 80% by weight of paper which fulfils the standard for Publishing Paper GECA 4-2003. Printed packaging must consist at least 90% by weight of paper.</i></p>	<p>GECS have reviewed policy documents on "Environmentally Preferable Paper Purchasing". Printpoint has committed to using paper sourced in accordance with GECA Quality Assurance Guidelines which explicitly limit the publishing paper range that can be used by the printer. Periodic audits will be conducted to ensure only compliant paper is used in production.</p>

<p><b>Production Methods Requirements</b></p> <p><i>In this section the ecolabelling requirements for the various printing methods are presented. The requirements are divided up into requirements relating to the following four stages in the production of printed matter:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Page production (the same requirements for all printing methods except digital printing)</i></li> <li>• <i>Form production</i></li> <li>• <i>Printing</i></li> <li>• <i>Finishing (the same requirements for all printing methods).</i></li> </ul>	<p>PrintPoint utilizes an offset waterless printing press to deliver quality printed material to the Australian market. A wide range of evidence was gathered on site in order to establish compliance and properly attribute points to the requirements of the each production criteria. The nature of Waterless Printing technology means a wide range of environmental impacts associated with conventional printing are abated including the nature of the chemicals used in production and the limited water and chemical emissions from the process. Notably, Printpoint uses Computer to plate (CtP) technology and silicon plates. PrintPoint also uses Direct Ink (DI) technology and vegetable-based inks exclusively to further reduce resource use, pollution and VOCs emissions. Printpoint does not use dampening solutions, which contain alcohols or petroleum-based solvents.</p>
<p><b>Paper cutting waste – requirements for all printing methods</b></p> <p><i>The paper cutting waste can at most be 20% for every single eco-labelled printed item (in weight or in area).</i></p>	<p>Printpoint has implemented an automated cutting waste assessment solution as part of its computerized job production process. It is expected that only exceptional jobs will be exempt under this criteria and suitable production systems and checks are in place to ensure compliance to this criteria. Non conforming product will not be able to display the Good Environmental Choice Label. The process for identification of non conforming product has been agreed to and implemented by PrintPoint.</p>
<p><b>Chemical Requirements</b></p> <p><i>The requirements as to chemicals apply to production chemicals used in page production, printing form production, printing and finishing. The chemical requirements are including the general requirements of production chemicals and the specific requirements of auxiliary chemicals and additive chemicals.</i></p>	<p>GECS have received and inspected the full Chemicals Register, and MSDS for all chemicals used in the printing process, and are satisfied that this criterion is met.</p>

<p><b>General requirements for production chemicals</b></p> <p><i>The requirements concern all the chemicals for which the requirements are set in the criteria document. The requirement is concerning film developer, fixing agent, plate developer, printing inks, toners, inks, overprinting varnishes, varnishes, adhesives and laminations which are used with production of ecolabelled printed matter.</i></p>	<p>GECS have received and inspected the full Chemicals Register, and MSDS for all chemicals used in the printing process, and are satisfied that this criterion is met.</p>
<p><b>Requirement of auxiliary chemicals</b></p> <p><i>The requirements concern the chemicals for which the requirements are set in the criteria document and which are used as auxiliary chemicals with production of ecolabelled printed matter. The requirement is valid for all the washing agents (washing solutions), damping solution concentrate and damping solution additives and algaecides which are used in the process included in the ecolabelling licence.</i></p>	<p>According to the chemicals register, Printpoint Australia previously used the washing agent: Bottcher Bottcherin 6003 blanket wash. This product contains up to 99% ethoxylated isononylphenol, which does not comply with the requirements of this criterion. However, this product has now been successfully substituted and is no longer used by Print Point. This substitution has been verified via documentation review of replacement products and a signed document by Alan Rhodes. Pre-treatment CP-Y and PA-FCTP After-treatment contain an ethylene glycol ether solution or derivative. However, as there is currently no alternative in the market for waterless printers, the use of these washing agents are deemed acceptable by GECS and an exemption has been made with the authority of GECA - Standards.</p>
<p><b>Requirements of additive chemicals</b></p> <p><i>The requirements concern the chemicals for which the requirements are set in the criteria document and which are used as additive chemicals within ecolabelled printed matter.</i></p>	<p>GECS have reviewed MSDS for all chemicals and inks used during production and has found them to be compliant with the requirements of this criterion.</p>

<p><b>Waste management requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The printing company and its subcontractors for page production, printing form production, printing and finishing processes must sort and handle the various types of waste generated in the production of printed matter at source and submit it for processing. A waste management plan must be submitted detailing the sorting and processing of all types of waste, e.g. hazardous waste, metal, plastic, paper waste. Various types of paper including printing paper (waste paper) board/corrugated board must be sorted and submitted these for processing.</i></li> <li>• <i>The licence-holder is required to sort and handle for processing of electronic waste (at source).</i></li> <li>• <i>Aluminium printing plates and waste paper from production (from all stages of the process) must be submitted for recycling.</i></li> </ul>	<p>GECS have reviewed receipts for disposal of cleaning rags, which is undertaken by Mckay Services QLD. Printpoint's environmental policy clearly instructs for appropriate disposal of waste from the facility.</p>
<p><b>The operation and service of purification equipment</b></p> <p><i>Equipment for purification equipment with process waste with production of ecolabelled printed matter must be operated and maintained in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer or supplier of the equipment (in such a way that the requirements are fulfilled throughout the period of validity of the licence).</i></p>	<p>Printpoint maintains an ongoing maintenance regime for all production equipment as part of ordinary production.</p>

## **5. Environmental and Social Regulatory Obligations:**

The operation is not required to be licensed by the QLD authorities and there have been no environmental incident on site or related to the product. No breaches of local environmental regulations have been submitted by the manufacturer. GECS have received a statement from Alan G Rhodes of Printpoint, confirming that the company has not been involved in any legal proceedings/prosecution and as a result been found guilty of breaching any environmental laws.

GECS have received a statement from Alan G Rhodes of Printpoint, confirming that the company has not been involved in any legal proceedings/prosecution and as a result been found guilty of breaching any Occupational Health and Safety laws.

The company has provided relevant workers compensation documentation related to workers rates of pay and conditions and certificates of currency for workers compensation insurance demonstrating compliance to this criterion.

## **7. Additional Information**

A detailed Verification report is supplied to verified manufacturers regarding the environmental characteristics of their products and evidence of compliance. The verification report can be made available at the sole discretion of the manufacturer. The Australian Ecolabel Program is the national environmental product life cycle labelling program for Australia. Further details of the Australian Ecolabel Program are available from [www.geca.org.au](http://www.geca.org.au)

Good Environmental Choice Australia recommends these products to green purchasing officers, specifiers, and every day Australians seeking to purchase products and services on the basis of functional and overall environmental and human health performance.

### **Good Environmental Choice – Australia Ltd**

P.O. Box 4140, Weston Creek (Canberra) ACT, 2606

Phone: (02) 6287 3100

Fax: (02) 6287 3800

Web Site: [www.geca.org.au](http://www.geca.org.au)

E-Mail: [info@geca.org.au](mailto:info@geca.org.au)

