



REGULATION FOR THE USE OF THE TRADEMARK



PLASTIC FREE CERTIFICATION - MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PFS-S-6
PLASTIC FREE CERTIFICATION - PRODUCT FOURTH ISSUE
PLASTIC FREE CERTIFICATION - EVENT

REGULATION
FOR THE USE OF THE TRADEMARK
PLASTIC FREE CERTIFICATION





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SUBJECT OF THE REGULATION

This Regulation establishes the rules for the use of the Plastic Free Certification Trademark (hereinafter referred to as the trademark) by organizations that have obtained certification according to one of the certification schemes managed by Eco Sphere Academy APS, namely:

- Plastic Free Certification - Management System
- Plastic Free Certification - Product
- Plastic Free Certification - Event



IMAGE OF THE TRADEMARK

The Plastic Free Certification trademark is shown below:



Certified organizations are in no case authorized to use the trademark in its standalone and independent form; they are instead authorized to use it exclusively in the composite versions as shown in the following table, depending on the certification schemes they apply to and the related requirements they meet.

Plastic Free Certification - Management System		Grade E	Grade D	Grade C	Grade B	Grade A
	“Grade” logos					
Seals						
Plastic Free Certification - Product		Material			Packaging	Product
	Plastic Free					
Conventional Plastic Free						
Plastic Free Event						



CRITERIA FOR THE USE OF THE TRADEMARK

The assignment of the use of the trademark is issued by the Certification Bodies accredited by Eco Sphere Academy APS to organizations certified according to the relevant Standards.

These organizations may use the assigned trademark only in reference to activities, products, and/or events that fall within the scope of the certification and meet the requirements described in the relevant standards. The trademark cannot be used for anything that does not pertain (wholly or partially) to the object of the reference certification.

There must be no possibility of misunderstanding regarding the sites, activities, products, or events that enjoy the certification; therefore, in the event that a certified organization has only some activities, products, or events that meet the criteria, the trademark may refer exclusively to them. In the case of using a document common to all activities, sites, products, or events (for example, a catalog), the assigned trademark may appear on it, but only next to the activities, products, or events that fall within the scope of the certification without the possibility of misunderstanding.

The assigned trademark can be reproduced on materials that the certified organization may use for advertising purposes, provided that upon third-party request, the standard according to which the certification was issued is shown. Additionally, a copy of such material must be kept available for the relevant Certification Body.

The Trademark cannot be reproduced on documents and products necessary for obtaining the certification itself.

The certified organization is authorized to reproduce the Plastic Free Certification Trademark in its original colors or in black and white. If it wishes to reproduce it in a monochromatic version (provided that the minimum dimensions and the established proportions are not altered) in a color of its choice, prior approval must be obtained from Eco Sphere Academy APS.

The Trademark may appear alongside other marks, according to the terms agreed upon with their issuing bodies, provided that this does not cause confusion.

The certificate issued to organizations can be displayed, advertised, and reproduced in other formats and sizes, always and exclusively on the condition that its integrity and legibility are preserved.

The certified organization may advertise the certification in any way it deems appropriate, while respecting the legal rules of advertising. Any limitations and conditions set at the time of certificate issuance must be clearly stated.

The certification is non-transferable, and consequently, neither is the use of the trademark, except in the event that the organization itself is sold or transformed. In such a case, timely communication must be made to the relevant Certification Body, which will note the change and update the certificate after verifying compliance with the requirements for achieving the certification, where possible.



IMPROPER USE OF THE TRADEMARK AND SANCTIONS

The use of the Plastic Free Certification Trademark is considered fraudulent when it misleads the end beneficiary of the certified organization's products and services regarding compliance with the requirements described in the relevant Certification Standards, or when it does not comply with this Regulation. Plastic Free Certification, either directly or through a third party, monitors the correct use of the trademark. In such cases, both the Certification Bodies and Eco Sphere Academy APS, as the owner of the trademark and manager of the Certification Schemes, have specific responsibilities and procedures to follow.

Improper use after certification expiration

If an organization continues to use the assigned trademark even after the certification has expired, it constitutes fraudulent use of the trademark. In such cases:

1. The Certification Body will send a formal notification requesting the immediate cessation of the trademark's use.
2. The organization will have a period of 10 days to remove the trademark from all marketing materials, products, and official communications.
3. The Certification Body will verify the cessation of the trademarks use within the established period.
4. In the case of persistent non-compliance, the Certification Body will notify Eco Sphere Academy APS, which may take legal action for trademark rights infringement.
5. Eco Sphere Academy APS will publicly announce through the appropriate communication channels that the organization is no longer certified and will update the records accordingly.

Control and Sanction Procedures

The Certification Bodies are responsible for monitoring and verifying the correct use of the trademark by the organizations they have certified. Any improper use must be reported to Eco Sphere Academy APS.

1. Classification of Non-Conformities with the trademark Use Regulation:
 - **Minor Non-Conformity:** When the improper use does not harm the public image of the trademark. In such cases, the Certification Body will issue a written warning to the organization.



- Major Non-Conformity: When the improper use is such that it harms the public image of the trademark. In these cases, suspension or revocation of the certification may be applied.
2. Reporting: When a major non-conformity with this regulation is detected, the Certification Body must immediately inform Eco Sphere Academy APS and notify the certified organization, requesting the immediate cessation of the trademark's use.
 3. At this point, Eco Sphere Academy has the authority to:
 - Decree the suspension, in the case of non-conformities deemed serious but resolvable. During the suspension, the organization cannot use the trademark for a specified period, not exceeding one year. This measure is temporary, and the organization may be reinstated if it resolves the identified non-conformities. Suspensions are published through the appropriate communication channels of Eco Sphere Academy APS and possibly the Certification Body.
 - Decree the revocation, in the case of severe and persistent non-compliances that irreparably damage the trademarks image or significantly violate the certification conditions. The revocation is permanent and entails the immediate and definitive cessation of the trademark's use by the organization. Revocations are published through the appropriate communication channels of Eco Sphere Academy APS and possibly the Certification Body.
 - Take all necessary legal measures to protect its interests and those of the consumer. This includes the possibility of taking legal action against the organization for intellectual property rights infringement.



APPEALS AND DISPUTES

Any complaint should be addressed to Eco Sphere Academy APS via email or registered mail, complete with an explanation and reasoning, to the following address:

Eco Sphere Academy APS

CF: 91062840672 - via F. Turati 147 - 149, 64021, Giulianova (TE), Italy.

info@esasphere.com

In the event of a dispute with Eco Sphere Academy APS, the competent court will be the Court of Teramo, Italy.



via F. Turati, 147-149
Giulianova (TE),
64021
Italy
info@esasphere.org