



**Environmental labels and declarations—
Type III environmental declarations—
Principles and procedures
(ISO 14025:2006, MOD)**



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee EV-003, Environmental Labelling. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 6 August 2017. This Standard was published on 31 August 2017.

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 - Association of Accredited Certification Bodies
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 - Australian Industry Group
 - Australian Life Cycle Assessment Society
 - Australian Window Association
 - Cement Concrete and Aggregates Australia
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 - Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand
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-

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS 14025:2016.

Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

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Australian Standard®

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First published as AS 14025:2017.

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Published by SAI Global Limited under licence from Standards Australia Limited, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 978 1 76035 871 6

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee EV-003, Environmental Labelling. The objective of this Standard is to encourage demand for, and supply of, those products that cause less stress on the environment, through communication of verifiable and accurate information that is not misleading, thereby stimulating the potential for market-driven continuous environmental improvement.

This Standard is an adoption with national modifications and has been reproduced from ISO 14025:2006, *Environmental labels and declarations—Type III environmental declarations—Principles and procedures*, and has been varied as indicated to take account of Australian conditions. The modifications are specified in Appendix ZZ.

In the application of this Standard, specific care is needed to ensure that local considerations are addressed to deliver accurate and relevant information.

As this Standard is reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies:

- (a) In the source text ‘this International Standard’ should read ‘this Australian Standard’.
- (b) A full point substitutes for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standards that are identical adoptions of international normative references may be used interchangeably. Refer to the online catalogue for information on specific Standards.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ are used to define the application of the annex or appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ annex or appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an ‘informative’ annex or appendix is only for information and guidance.

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FOREWORD

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 14025 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Environmental labelling*.

This first edition of ISO 14025 cancels and replaces ISO/TR 14025:2000, which has been technically revised.

INTRODUCTION

Type III environmental declarations present quantified environmental information on the life cycle of a product to enable comparisons between products fulfilling the same function. Such declarations

- are provided by one or more organizations,
- are based on independently verified life cycle assessment (LCA) data, life cycle inventory analysis (LCI) data or information modules in accordance with the ISO 14040 series of standards and, where relevant, additional environmental information,
- are developed using predetermined parameters, and
- are subject to the administration of a programme operator, such as a company or a group of companies, industrial sector or trade association, public authorities or agencies, or an independent scientific body or other organization.

Type III environmental declarations as described in this International Standard are primarily intended for use in business-to-business communication, but their use in business-to-consumer communication is not precluded. It is recognized that a developer of a Type III environmental declaration cannot precisely determine the audience. However, it is important to consider the information needs of different purchaser or user groups, for instance large businesses, small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), public procurement agencies and consumers. Those responsible for developing Type III environmental declarations and programmes based on this International Standard will need to pay due attention to the level of awareness of the target audience.

In programmes based on this International Standard, the organization making the declaration will be required to ensure that data are independently verified either internally or externally. This could, but does not necessarily, mean third-party verification except in the case of business-to-consumer declarations. ISO provides a general definition for “certification” (procedure by which a third party gives written assurance that a product or process conforms to specified requirements). Nevertheless, “certification” is understood and conducted differently in different regions. To avoid confusion, this International Standard uses the term “third-party verification” instead of “certification”.

Harmonization of general programme instructions and particularly product category rules (PCR) are encouraged between programmes to meet the principle of comparability. This includes mutual recognition of rules with respect to PCR development, PCR review and verification procedures, administrative procedures and declaration format. To ensure comparability, programme operators are encouraged to work cooperatively to achieve harmonization of the programmes and to develop mutual recognition agreements.

NOTE In the practice of developing Type III environmental declarations, programmes or their declarations are referred to by various names such as Eco-Leaf, eco-profile, environmental declaration of product, environmental product declaration (EPD) and environmental profile.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

Environmental labels and declarations—Type III environmental declarations—Principles and procedures (ISO 14025:2006, MOD)**1 Scope**

This International Standard establishes the principles and specifies the procedures for developing Type III environmental declaration programmes and Type III environmental declarations. It specifically establishes the use of the ISO 14040 series of standards in the development of Type III environmental declaration programmes and Type III environmental declarations.

This International Standard establishes principles for the use of environmental information, in addition to those given in ISO 14020.

Type III environmental declarations as described in this International Standard are primarily intended for use in business-to-business communication, but their use in business-to-consumer communication under certain conditions is not precluded.

This International Standard does not override, or in any way change, legally required environmental information, claims or labelling, or any other applicable legal requirements.

This International Standard does not include sector-specific provisions, which may be dealt with in other ISO documents. It is intended that sector-specific provisions in other ISO documents related to Type III environmental declarations be based on and use the principles and procedures of this International Standard.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 14020:2000, *Environmental labels and declarations — General principles*

ISO 14021:1999, *Environmental labels and declarations — Self-declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labelling)*

ISO 14024:1999, *Environmental labels and declarations — Type I environmental labelling — Principles and procedures*

ISO 14040:2006¹⁾, *Environmental management — Life cycle assessment — Principles and framework*

ISO 14044:2006¹⁾, *Environmental management — Life cycle assessment — Requirements and guidelines*

ISO 14050, *Environmental management — Vocabulary*

1) ISO 14040:2006 and ISO 14044:2006 cancel and replace ISO 14040:1997, ISO 14041:1998, ISO 14042:2000 and ISO 14043:2000.