



THE ORIGINAL GREEN
SEAL OF APPROVAL
SINCE 1989

GS-41 Green Seal Environmental Standard for Industrial & Institutional Hand Cleaners

Scope of Standard

This standard establishes environmental requirements for industrial heavy-duty hand cleaners and institutional hand cleaners. Hand cleaners remove both organic and inorganic soil from skin. Industrial products are found in garages, print shops, and other industrial settings. Institutional products are found in public washrooms of restaurants, retail, schools and other public buildings. The standard does not cover hand cleaners in households, food preparation operations, or medical facilities.

Performance Requirements

Product must meet or exceed all applicable governmental and industrial safety and performance standards.

Environmental and Health Requirements

Criteria include limits on toxicity, volatile organic compounds, dyes, phosphates, NTA, EDTA, APEOs, halogenated organic solvents, butoxyethanol, and carcinogens. The product must not be a skin sensitizer or irritant and any fragrances used must be produced following the code of practice of the IFA. Product must be readily biodegradable.

Packaging Requirements:

Packaging must include detailed instructions for proper use to maximize product performance and minimize waste. Packaging must be recyclable unless lightweight flexible packaging that represents



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at least 20% reduction in material is used and product may not be packaged in bag-in-box packaging. Efforts must be made to use post-consumer recycled content in packaging.

Labeling Requirements

The label cannot make any antibacterial, disinfecting, antiseptic or sanitizing product claims and all fragrances must be declared on the product label.

The Green Seal Certification Mark must appear visibly on the product with a clear written description of the basis for its certification, provided by Green Seal. Any language used that varies from the description provided, may be used with written approval from Green Seal. All labeling of the product must comply with government labeling requirements, in addition to Green Seal requirements.

***This is only a summary of the standard. The full standard is available at:
www.greenseal.org***

For more information call 202.872.6400, email greenseal@greenseal.org or visit: www.greenseal.org