





## Ecolabel for decorative textile products

PE-125.01

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### 0 Introduction

The ABNT Ecolabelling program was developed to support a continuous effort in order to improve and/or maintain the environmental quality through reduction of energy and material consumption, as well as through the minimization of pollution's impacts generated by production, use and disposal of products and services.

This document was prepared based on a general view about the evaluation of product life cycle, as set on standard ABNT NBR ISO 14024 for Type I Ecolabelling program, and based on information about specifications of similar products from other environmental labeling programs developed by other members of Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN).

### 1 Objective

This procedure sets the requirements of Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use shall comply in order to obtain the license for using the brand ABNT Environmental Quality (ABNT Ecolabel).

The criteria set out in this procedure aims particularly to promote the reduction of water pollution related to key processes in the textile manufacturing chain, including spinning, weaving, knitting and general processing (ennoblement).

The criteria are established in order to promote the labeling of Textile Decoration Products with a less pronounced environmental impact.

### 2 Normative References

The following documents contain criteria which, being referenced in this text, constitute valid requirements for this procedure.

The editions indicated were in effect at the time of this publication. Because documents are subject to revision, it is recommended that those using this procedure check the convenience of using the most recent editions of the documents listed. ABNT keeps a record of the currently valid documents.

- ABNT NBR ISO 14001:2004 - Environmental Management Systems – Requirements with guidance for use.
- ABNT NBR ISO 14024:2004 - Labelling and environmental statements – Environmental labelling type I – Principles and procedures.
- ABNT NBR ISO 14040:2001 - Environmental management – evaluation of life cycle – Principles and structure.
- ABNT NBR 10320:1988 - Materiais têxteis - Determinação das alterações dimensionais de tecidos planos e malhas - Lavagem em máquina doméstica automática - Método de ensaio
- ABNT NBR ISO 105-C06:2010 - Têxteis-Ensaio de solidez da cor - Parte C06: Solidez da cor à lavagem doméstica e comercial
- ABNT NBR ISO 105-E04:2009 - Têxteis - Ensaio de solidez da cor - Solidez da cor ao suor



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- ABNT NBR ISO 105-X12:2007
- ISO 105-D01:2010
- ISO 14184-1:1998
- ISO 14184-2:1998
- OECD 301 A-F
- PG-11:2009
- PG-12:2009
- Têxteis - Ensaio de solidez da cor - Solidez da cor à fricção
- Textiles - Tests for colour fastness - Part D01: Colour fastness to drycleaning using perchloroethylene solvent
- Textiles - Determination of formaldehyde - Part 1: Free and hydrolyzed formaldehyde (water extraction method)
- Textiles -- Determination of formaldehyde-- Part 2: Released formaldehyde (vapour absorption method)
- Guideline for Testing of Chemicals
- General Procedure of ABNT conformity mark – Environmental Quality
- Guideline for elaboration of ABNT conformity Mark – Environmental Quality

### 3 Definições

#### 3.1 Type I Environmental Labelling Programme

Third part voluntary program, based on multiple criteria, which authorizes the use of environmental labels in products, indicating the environmental preference of a product within a specific product category, based on life cycle considerations (ABNT NBR ISO 14024).

#### 3.2 Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA)

LCA considers the environmental impacts during life time (from cradle to grave) from the extraction of raw materials to their production, use and final disposal. The general impact categories to be considered include resources depletion, human health and ecologic consequences.

### 4 Acronyms

The following acronyms are used in this procedure:

- ABNT - Associação Brasileira de Normas Técnicas
- LCA - Life cycle assessment
- CT - Technical Coordination
- GSI - Systems Certification Management
- INMETRO - Instituto Nacional de Metrologia, Normalização e Qualidade Industrial
- ISO - International Organization for Standardization
- GEN - Global Ecolabeling Network
- MSDS - Material Safety Data Sheets
- ABN/CTC - ABNT Technical Certification Committee



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- VOC - Volatile organic compounds
- DQO - Chemical oxygen demand

### 5 Scope of the product's Category

This procedure is included in the category of textile products, covers the following products:

Fabrics for decoration: textile products intended for use in interiors, made up of textile fibers. Are including Rugs, carpets, curtains, blinds, furniture fabrics (armchairs, sofas, etc.), bed linen, as well as environments in which there is human contact, bags, etc.

### 6 Criteria

#### 6.1 Fitness for purpose

The manufacturer must demonstrate sufficient product quality through a self-monitoring program which includes test reports from laboratories accredited by Inmetro, preferably third-party laboratories.

Tests should preferably be performed based on Brazilian technical standards and the results must demonstrate the fitness for purpose of the product. The self-control process should demonstrate that the product maintains the expected level of quality over time. In cases where there is no standardization in Brazil, recognized international or foreign standards may be used, indicating the source and description of the test. If the product is intended for export, it must comply with the requirements of the standards and / or regulations applicable and required in its target market.

The following criteria apply to the final fabric. The tests will be carried out according to each case.

#### 6.1.1 Dimensional changes in wet washing and drying must be in the range of 3 to 4% according to ABNT NBR 10320: 1988.

This criterion does not apply to:

- a) Products with clearly labeled "dry cleaning only" or equivalent (insofar as the labeling of such products is standard practice);
- b) Furnishing fabrics which are neither removable nor washable.

6.1.2 Color fastness to the wash should be at least level 3-4 for color change and spotting measured using ABNT NBR ISO 105-C06 (single wash at the indicated temperature on the product with powdered perborate).

This criterion does not apply to products with a clearly labeled "dry-cleaning only" or equivalent (to the extent that the labeling of such products is a common practice), to white whether or not dyed or printed, or to non-washable furniture fabrics.

6.1.3 Color fastness to sweat (acid and alkaline) should be at least level 3-4 (color change and staining) according to ABNT NBR ISO 105-E04: 2008 (acid and alkaline, comparison with multifiber tissue).

However, a level 3 is permitted where the fabrics are dark (color intensity > 1/1) and made of recovered wool or contain more than 20% silk.



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This criterion does not apply to white goods, products not dyed or printed, furniture fabrics, curtains or similar textiles intended for interior decoration.

**6.1.4** Color fastness respecting to wet friction must be at least 3 according to ISO 105-X12: 2007. However, a level 2 shall be permitted for fabrics dyed with indigo.

This criterion does not apply to white goods or to products which are neither dyed nor printed.

**6.1.5** Color fastness to dry friction shall be at least at level 4 in accordance with ISO 105-D01: 2010. However, a level 3-4 is allowed for denim fabrics dyed with indigo.

This criterion does not apply to white goods, products not dyed or printed, curtains or similar textiles intended for interior decoration.

**6.1.6** Color fastness to light for fabrics intended for furniture, curtains, must be at least level 5 on the blue scale. For all other products, the color fastness to light shall be at least level 4 according to ISO-105-B02: 1994.

However, a level 4 is permitted for fabrics intended for furniture, curtains or curtains if they are light colored (color intensity  $<1/12$ ) and contain more than 20% wool or other keratin fibers, or more than 20% of silk, or more than 20% of flax or other Liberian fibers. This requirement does not apply to mattress fabric or mattress protections.

**6.1.7** Color fastness to perspiration under basic and acidic conditions should be at least level 3-4, according to ISO 105-E04 ABNT. This requirement does not apply to curtains.

## 6.2 Criteria for raw material

### 6.2.1 The coloring agents listed below should not be used:

Dyes	Structure number C.I.	CAS N°
C.I. Disperse Blue 3	C.I. 61 505	2475-45-8
C.I. Disperse Blue 7	C.I. 62 500	3179-46-9
C.I. Disperse Blue 26	C.I. 63 305	
C.I. Disperse Blue 35		12222-75-2
C.I. Disperse Blue 102		12222-97-8
Dyes	Structure number C.I.	CAS N°
C.I. Disperse Blue 106		12223-01-7
C.I. Disperse Blue 124		61951-51-7
C.I. Disperse Brown 1		23355-64-8
C.I. Disperse Orange 1	C.I. 11 080	2581-69-3
C.I. Disperse Orange 3	C.I. 11 005	730-40-5
C.I. Disperse Orange 37		



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C.I. Disperse Orange 76	C.I. 11 132	
C.I. Disperse Red 1	C.I. 11 110	2872-52-8
C.I. Disperse Red 11	C.I. 62 015	2872-48-2
C.I. Disperse Red 17	C.I. 11 210	3179-89-3
C.I. Disperse Yellow 1	C.I. 10 345	119-15-3
C.I. Disperse Yellow 9	C.I. 10 375	6373-73-5
C.I. Disperse Yellow 39		
C.I. Disperse Yellow 49		

Azo dyes which may decompose into any of the following aromatic amines must not be used:

AMINE	CODE	AMINA	CÓD
4-aminodiphenyl	(92-67-1)	3,3'-dimethyl-4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane	(838-88-0)
Benzidine	(92-87-5)	p-cresidine	(120-71-8)
4-chloro-o-toluidine	(95-69-2)	4,4'-oxyaniline	(101-80-4)
2-naphthylamine	(91-59-8)	4,4'-thiadipane	(139-65-1)
o-aminoazotoluene	(97-56-3)	o-toluidine	(95-53-4)
2-amino-4-nitrotoluene	(99-55-8)	2,4-diaminotoluene	(95-80-7)
p-chloroaniline	(106-47-8)	2,4,5-trimethylaniline	(137-17-7)
2,4-diaminoanisole	(615-05-4)	4-aminoazobenzene	(60-09-3)
4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane	(101-77-9)	o-anisidine	(90-04-0)
3,3'-dichlorobenzidine	(91-94-1)	2,4-xylydine	
3,3'-dimethoxybenzidine	(119-90-4)	2,6-xylydine	
3,3'-dimethylbenzidine	(119-93-7)		

The manufacturer must show compliance with this requirement by declaring that the listed colorants are not used.

### 6.3 Criteria for the production process

**6.3.1** The manufacturer must not use the following substances for the treatment of textile fibers:

Alkylphenolethoxylates (APEO), linear alkylbenzene sulfonates (LAS), bis (hydrogenated tallow alkyl groups) dimethylammonium chloride (DTDMAC), distearyldimethylammonium chloride (DSDMAC), di (hardened tallow) dimethylammonium chloride (DHTDMAC), ethylenediaminetetraacetates (EDTA) and diethylenetriaminepentaacetates (DTPA), must not be used or included in the preparations or formulations used.

Compliance with this requirement must be demonstrated by a declaration signed by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorized representative of the applicant company.

#### 6.3.2 Effluents

- a) The manufacturer must meet the following parameters for effluent discharge:



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Parameters	Maximum Value
Antimony (Sb)	0,05mg/L
Total Arsenic (As)	0,1 mg/L
Total Cadmium (Cd)	0,01 mg/L
Total lead (Pb)	0,1mg/L
Total Cobalt (Co)	0,1 mg/L
Copper dissolved (Cu)	0,5 mg/L

Parameters	Maximum Value
Total chromium (Cr)	0,05 mg/L
Total Mercury (Hg)	0,01 mg/L
Total nickel (Ni)	1,0 mg/L
Zinc (Zn)	5,0mg/l
BOD 5.20	5mg/l
OD (Dissolved Oxygen)	5mg/l

Floating materials, including unnatural foams, should not be present.

The manufacturer shall provide test reports and, at ABNT's discretion, during the audits samples of the effluents may be collected for testing.

**6.3.3** The gum should be recycled or biodegradable. Recyclability shall be characterized by an efficiency of at least 75%.

The manufacturer shall provide the appropriate documentation, safety data sheets, test reports and / or statements, referring to the OECD 301 A-F easy biodegradability test method. At ABNT's discretion, during the audits, samples may be collected for testing.

**6.3.4** The manufacturer must not use chlorinated agents for the bleaching process of the products. The manufacturer shall provide a declaration of non-use of the substance in question. ABNT will verify the production process during the audits.

**6.3.5** In the plastisol process, PVC and phthalates should not be used. The manufacturer shall provide a declaration of non-use of the substance in question. ABNT will verify the production process during the audits.

**6.3.6** The printing pastes used must not contain more than 5% volatile organic compounds (such as kerosene).

The manufacturer shall provide a statement that no printing has been carried out on pastes containing more than 5% of VOCs or through the MSDS of the product.

### 6.4 Criteria for final product

**6.4.1** The amount of free and partially hydrolysable formaldehyde in the final fabric should not exceed 75 ppm in the products.

The manufacturer can demonstrate compliance with this requirement by submitting a statement certifying that products containing formaldehyde have not been applied. The manufacturer shall use the ISO 14184-1: 1998 and / or ISO 14184-2: 1998 reference standards. The ABNT criteria, during the audits, samples may be collected for testing.

**6.4.2** The manufacturer must have used tissue collection processes and inform its customers. The manufacturer may reuse it in its production process, resell it with an alternative use (or donation), or route the fabric to a suitably appropriate destination.

### 6.5 Critérios para distribuição

The manufacturer must implement a product logistics and transportation optimization program.



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This program should establish a reduction in the consumption of fossil fuels, with targets established and monitored periodically. The program should, as far as possible, consider the use of less polluting means of transport or with less environmental impacts (electric motorization, hybrid vehicles, multi-fuel vehicles, ethanol, NGV, biodiesel, etc.).

Distribution programs shall ensure that vehicles are maintained with their engines regulated in order to reduce fuel consumption as well as emissions.

In the case of transportation of hazardous chemicals, the manufacturer must have the registration with IBAMA.

### 6.5.1 Own transport

In case the manufacturer has in his own facility gas stations for own consumption, the company shall have contention/prevention measures and emergency procedures in case of leakage, fire and explosion.

### 6.5.2 Outsourced transportation

In case the manufacturing company uses outsourced transportation, those companies must be qualified based on criteria that include environmental aspects that consider, at least, the following:

Emissions control, periodic maintenance program, legal documentation for chemicals transportation (if necessary), environmental license (if necessary), certificate of regularity, Periodic training for employees and conformity with CONTRAN (ANTT);

## 6.6 Environmental criteria applicable to the process

- a) The manufacturer must establish a Program for the optimization of energy and water consumption with reduction targets where appropriate. The Program shall consider the reuse of water used in the cooling, steam generation, and cleaning and sanitation procedures of machinery, equipment, transfer pipes and hoses, among others, when possible;
- b) The manufacturer must establish a waste management program which considers the reduction, reuse or recycling, ensuring its optimization and the appropriate disposal of the waste generated, including recyclables. All waste should be classified in accordance with ABNT NBR 10004. If the process has hazardous by-products as a result, they must be segregated and appropriate measures should be taken to recycle / reuse (where applicable) or disposal;
- c) In the case of the manufacturer storing dangerous or harmful products to the environment, it must follow norms and legislation applicable to health, safety and environment. The MSDS (Chemical Product Fact Sheet) must be close to the chemical that may be stored.

## 7 Meeting legal requirements

### 7.1 Complying with environmental legislation

The manufacturing company shall comply with (or exceed) the legislation and applicable environmental regulations, at federal, state and municipal scope, considering, but not limiting to, aspects related to emissions, effluents and residue. Whenever the manufacturing company is from abroad, the environmental regulations from that country are applicable.

### 7.2 Conformity with labor, anti-discrimination and safety regulations

The manufacturer shall show that all the employees are hired according to Brazilian legislation, by CLT or any other type of labor contract legally accepted. The general conformity with federal, state and municipal



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legislation related to employee's Safety and Occupational Health shall be proved. Whenever the manufacturer is from abroad, the regulations on non-discrimination, occupational safety and health and labor legislation from that country, is applicable.

At ABNT's discretion, the conformity with this requirement shall be proved with a statement signed by the Senior Executive.

### **8 Use of Test laboratories**

**8.1** It is the responsibility of ABNT select the laboratory for performing the tests used in the processes of grant and maintenance of ABNT Environmental Quality Label (ABNT – Ecolabel).

**8.2** If the used laboratories is accredited by Inmetro or by international accreditation bodies with mutual recognition agreement with Inmetro, laboratories do not need to be evaluated.

**8.3** When non-accredited labs are used, they will be evaluated in accordance with the requirements stated on Item 7.5 of PG-11.0A – General Procedure for ABNT Environmental Quality Label

**8.4** In case of use a first part laboratory (from manufacturer), ABNT shall monitor the implementation of all tests In order to grant or maintenance of certification, regardless If laboratory is accredited or not.

### **9 Description of the certification process**

#### **9.1 Documentation**

The manufacturer must send the documentation listed below to analyze:

- a) Specification of each product to be certified;
- b) Copy of Social contract registered at the Commercial Register;
- b) Facility lay out;
- c) Updated geographical location (specifying the surrounding areas of the site – Rivers, preservation areas, communities, industries, among others);
- d) List of the main raw material used in the production process;
- e) List of main inputs that are necessary to realize the production process;
- f) Environmental licenses;
- g) Schematic flow chart of the production process, from raw material input to the final product ;
- h) Internal flow of water, energy, residue, effluents and emissions, related to the manufacturing of the product object of the concession.

#### **9.2 Preliminary Analysis**

The documentation shall be analyzed by ABNT concerning its content and fitness for purpose, solving punctual pending matters with the manufacturer.



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### 9.3 Pre-audit (optional)

After approval of presented documentation, ABNT will pre-audit manufacturer's factory with the following objectives:

- a) Evaluate the manufacturer's location and specific conditions of the place;
- b) Verify the manufacturer's preparation level for the certification audit;
- c) Evaluate the manufacturer's understanding about the criteria to be met in order to obtain the certification;
- d) Collect necessary information concerning the processes and location of the company, legal and regulatory aspects;
- e) Evaluate the resources allocation for the certification audit, as well as facilitate its planning.

### 9.4 Fitness for purpose Audit

ABNT will perform a fitness for purpose audit at manufacture's factory, with the following objectives:

- a) Assess the manufacturer location and its specific site conditions;
- b) Resolve any questions about the certification process of ABNT Ecolabel program;
- c) Verify the Organization activities and processes and its framework to the selected criteria;
- d) Check the possible need for adaptation / modification of the criteria to which the company fits.

### 9.5 Certification Audit

Once any doubts are cleared out or any documentation pending matters are solved, as well as any other observations made in the pre-audit, the certification audit will be preform and it shall include the following aspects:

#### 9.5.1 Products Evaluation

ABNT shall analyzed within the manufacturer if the products to be certified are being produced according to the specifications presented, as well as the way the manufacturer controls its production process in order to assure the conformity with requirements.

#### 9.5.2 Conformity assessment of technical criteria and legal requirements

ABNT will evaluate whether the product and/or the manufacturer's processes, object of the certification, meet the established criteria in items 6 and 7 of this procedure, through documents, interviews, production process monitoring, records, etc.

For the criteria that cannot be evaluated during audit, for example those needing laboratory tests for approval, manufacturer shall show how the production process is controlled, as well as their relationship with suppliers, distributors and/or clients, in order to meet criteria. For these cases, at ABNT's discretion, during audits, samples for lab tests can be collected according to item 8 of this procedure.

#### 9.5.3 Samples and Test collection

The samples collected by ABNT for tests shall include the first sample, the counters-sample and the control sample. The samples will be sealed by ABNT. The identification seal shall be registered in the



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sample collection form. The first sample shall be sent to the lab nominated by ABNT, with a copy of the sample collection form. The counters-sample and the control, sample shall be stored by the manufacturer in case of contestation.

The manufacturer shall take necessary care to preserve the samples seals sent to the laboratory, as well as the ones stored in case of contestation.

The tests shall be performed for the production unit.

### 9.6 Initial evaluation of quality

For the concession approval of ABNT Environmental Quality Mark, the samples tested shall be approved in the tests referred in item 6 of this procedure, as well as the evaluation of the requirements established in items 6 and 7 shall show conformity throughout the process.

In case of failure in any of the tests performed during this phase, the product certification shall not be granted until the resolution of the problem.

After the implementation of corrective actions, ABNT shall schedule a new sampling and new tests. In this case, the number of samples should be twice the original sampling. If the test samples are approved, the certification will then be granted for the product.

### 9.7 Certification Award

To approve the concession of the ABNT Environmental Quality Label, the tested samples shall be approved in referred test in item 6 of this procedure, as well as the requirement of items 6 and 7, and it shall demonstrate conformity throughout the process.

In the event of failure in any of the tests Performed During this phase, the product certification shall Not Be Granted until the resolution of the problem. After the implementation of corrective actions, ABNT Shall schedule a new sampling and new tests. In this case, the number of samples should not be twice the original sampling. If the test samples are approved, the certification will then be Granted for the product.

### 9.6 Certification concession

Complied with the above steps, the TC issues a conclusive opinion and send the process for GSI review. If the certification process is approved by the GSI, ABNT will issue the Environmental Quality label (ABNT Ecolabel), which is the license to use the label in the product. In case of rejection, the reasons will be communicated to the manufacturer in order to take the necessary corrective actions and take again the certification process. Corrective actions and the actions to be taken for the certification process should be agreed with ABNT.

## 10 Description of the process for certification maintenance

After the certification concession, ABNT shall realize the control to verify, if the manufacturer keeps the technical and organizational conditions that allowed the certification. This verification will be held through maintenance audits, at ABNT's discretion, sample collections for tests shall be performed.

### 10.1 Maintenance Audits

The auditors will be realized on agreed periods with the manufacturer and its frequency will be annual. In These audits The Following aspects will be covered:



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### 10.1.1 Products evaluation

ABNT will evaluate in the facility if the certified products keep being produced according to the specifications presented.

### 10.1.2 Conformity assessment with performance criteria and legal requirements

ABNT will evaluate whether the product and/or the manufacturer's processes, are meeting, the established criteria in items 6 and 7 of this procedure. For the criteria that cannot be evaluated during audit, for example those needing laboratory tests for approval, manufacturer shall show how controls its production process, as well as their relationship with suppliers, distributors and clients, in order to meet criteria.

### 10.1.3 Samples and tests collection

The tests will be performed annually, samples collected at factory. Tests shall be performed in each production unit. In market sample collection, the manufacturer (or their representative) shall be informed by ABNT and shall follow the collection.

The samples collected by ABNT shall have first sample, counters-sample and control sample. The samples will be sealed by ABNT. The seals identification will be registered in samples collection form. The first sample shall be sent to the laboratory nominated by ABNT, with a copy of the sample collection form. The counters-sample and the control sample shall be stored by the manufacturer in case of contestation. The manufacturer shall take the necessary care to preserve the samples seals sent to the laboratory, as well as the ones stored in case of contestation.

The tests results will be sent to the manufacturer by ABNT. In case of non-conformity occurrence during tests (non compliance with any of the requirements), the manufacturer shall present an action plan within 15 days for ABNT's evaluation.

## 10.2 Conformity Evaluation

For the maintenance of the certification, the performed samples shall be approved in the tests referred in item 6 of this procedure, as well as the requirements evaluation in items 6 and 7 and shall show conformity throughout the process.

In case of failure of any performed tests during this phase, the product's certification will be suspended until the problem solving. After the implementation of the corrective actions, ABNT will schedule a new audit and sample collection.

In case the manufacturer does not have non-conformities and the samples are approved, the manufacturer will be permitted to use the ABNT environmental Label on the product again.

After this audit, the period for sampling shall be six-month term until the initial conditions of conformity are achieved, when then the period shall be annual again.

After the implementation of corrective actions, ABNT shall schedule a new audit and collection of samples for testing. If the manufacturer does not present nonconformities and the test samples are approved, the manufacturer may use the ABNT environmental quality label again the product.

## 10.3 Mutual Recognition Agreements

As established in item 15 of PG-11, the certification maintenance process can be modified according to the content of possible agreements of cooperation or mutual acknowledgement.

## 11. Criteria Changes



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After the concession of ABNT environmental quality label, or during the concession process, changes occur in the criteria for the product's certification, ABNT shall grant a period to the manufactures in order to adapt to the new requirements.

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