The BSI guide to standardization
Section 3: British Standards standardization policies
Part 3: Environment

STANDARDIZATION POLICY STATEMENT

ENVIRONMENT

1. POLICY STATEMENT

In developing standards, committees shall:

- start to discuss the integration of environmental aspects as early as possible in the standardization process;
- seek to reduce the consumption of natural resources;
- avoid specifying specific substances and materials by using generic names for them, where possible;
- avoid specifying the use of environmentally damaging substances and materials;
- specify best available techniques which aim to reduce the consumption of energy and materials;
- promote the reuse and the recycling of products, the use of recycled materials in products, and waste minimization;
- establish requirements for recycling, e.g. the separability of products and for the marking of materials to encourage recycling.

2. BACKGROUND AND GUIDANCE

The following CEN Environmental Checklist should be used to assess the potential environmental aspect/impacts of a standard before it is prepared.

The checklist should be used as follows:

1. Identify each environmental aspect relevant to the product (do not assess its relationship to the standard) and write 'yes' if there is an environmental aspect or 'no' if there is no environment aspect. The identified environmental aspects may be detailed in a box below the matrix.
2. For each box with a 'yes', identify the aspects on which the standard has or may have an influence. Mark these boxes with three asterisks (***).
3. The committee/working group draws up proposals for modifications, if any, of the standard to optimize the environmental aspects. It is essential to avoid shifting the environmental impacts from one life cycle phase to another, or from one medium to another, and to achieve overall improvement. Write the number of the standard clauses where the environmental aspects are addressed, in the appropriate boxes.
4. Provide any clarifying information in a box below the matrix.

Environmental aspects (inputs and outputs)	Product life cycle			
	A. Production and pre-production	B. Distribution (including packaging)	C. Use	D. Disposal
Resource use	YES***	YES	YES***	YES***
Energy consumption	YES***	YES***	YES***	YES***
Emission to air	YES***	YES	YES***	YES***
Emission to water	NO	NO	NO	NO
Waste	NO	NO	NO	YES***
Noise	NO	NO	YES***	NO
Migration of hazardous substances	YES***	NO	YES***	YES***
Impacts on soil	NO	NO	NO	NO
Risks to the environment from accidents and misuse	YES***	YES***	YES***	YES***

3. REFERENCES

ISO Guide 64/ CEN Guide 4, '*Guide to the inclusion of environmental aspects in product standards*' (currently under revision)

IEC Guide 109, '*Environmental Aspects – Inclusion in electrotechnical product standards*'

Environmental Chapter of the CEN/BOSS, '*Consideration of environmental aspects in standards*'

ISO TR 14062, '*Environmental management – Integrating environmental aspects into product design and development*' (currently under revision)