

Nordic Council of Ministers

Nordic Ecolabelling Board

Swedish Ecolabelling Board

SIS Ecolabelling/
SIS Miljömärkning AB

Who oversees Nordic Swan work?

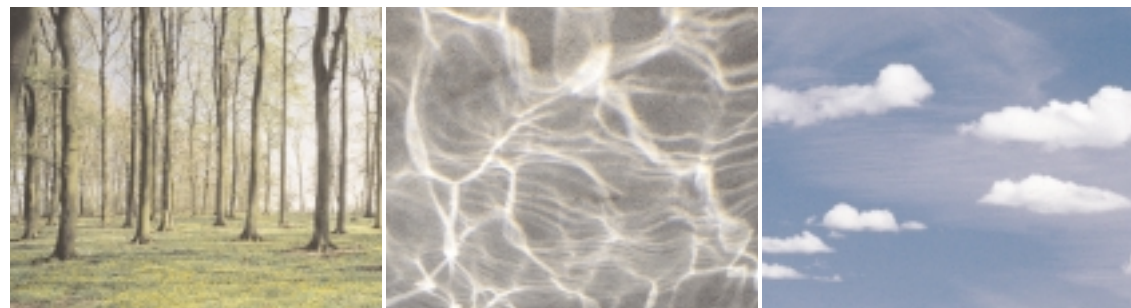
SIS Ecolabelling is a non profit-making company owned by the Swedish Standards Council in Sweden, and the Swedish Government. We take care of the day-to-day work with the Nordic Swan in Sweden, and collaborate with our sister organisations in each Nordic country. Nordic Swan criteria are first approved nationally by a board – which in Sweden is the Swedish Ecolabelling Board with representatives from industry, environmental organisations and government authorities. The criteria are then established at a Nordic level by the Nordic Ecolabelling Board. The highest decision-making body for Nordic Swan is the Nordic Council of Ministers.

If you have any further questions or would like to order material, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Get to know Nordic Swan

– FACTS ABOUT NORDIC ECOLABELLING



Make a simple choice – choose Nordic Swan!

On the whole, all consumption affects the environment. However, there are some products that have a lower impact on the environment than others. These products may carry the Nordic Swan label. Choosing an ecolabelled product is always a step towards a better environment, while guaranteeing quality and function.

Who is behind the Nordic Swan?

In autumn 1989, the Nordic Council of Ministers decided to introduce the Nordic Swan, an official ecolabelling system common to the entire Nordic region. In Sweden, the practical work of drawing up criteria and issuing licences is performed by SIS Eco-labelling (SIS Miljömärkning AB). The criteria are formulated in consultation with experts from industry, environmental organisations and government authorities.

How is Nordic Swan financed?

Nordic Swan is financed through parliamentary subsidies, and fees from companies that have ecolabelled products (0.4% of the product's annual turnover). The operation is run completely without industry or profit interest.



What are the Nordic Swan requirements?

Nordic Swan assesses the product's environmental impact during its entire life cycle, from raw material to waste.

For example, we stipulate requirements on energy and resource consumption, factory emissions into the air, water and land, and the content of environmentally harmful substances in the product. Nordic Swan may also place requirements on quality and function.

Which products can be ecolabelled?

Nordic Swan is currently active in those product areas where we believe ecolabelling is both a necessity and a benefit. We verify that the products fulfil Nordic Swan requirements through tests by independent laboratories, certificates and documentation. We also visit companies for follow-up inspections.

How long is a Nordic Swan ecolabel valid?

The label is usually valid for three years, after which the requirements are gradually raised and companies need to reapply. If the product no longer satisfies the requirements, the licence is withdrawn.

This ensures increasingly environment-friendly products, in line with technological progress and the latest research findings.