

The BSI guide to standardization

Section 3: British Standards standardization policies

Part 4: Recycling

STANDARDIZATION POLICY STATEMENT

RECYCLING

1. POLICY STATEMENT

No new or amended British Standard publication, with the exception of British Standards of European or international origin, shall be approved if that standard includes a requirement that prevents the use of recycled materials where this is practicable without undermining the performance, safety or other intended outcomes of the standard. All such standards that do not meet these policy requirements shall be subject to special approval by the Technical Committee (or equivalent) that is endorsed by BSI Senior Management and SPSC.

British Standards and the British Electrotechnical Committee shall actively seek adoption of this policy and approach by international and European standards bodies and their Technical Committees and other groups.

2. BACKGROUND AND GUIDANCE

In line with EU Directives and UK Waste Strategies, it is appropriate for BSI and its committees to promote the reduction of waste, its minimization, the maximum use of recycled materials in products and services, in part to stimulate the markets for recycled materials and reduce as far as is practical the use of raw materials, energy, etc.

Although the Waste Strategies are primarily focused on household waste many of the principles they contain can be applied to all types of wastes. This policy is, therefore, broad in its application in support of the UK's wider aims in dealing with the generation, treatment and disposal of wastes, seeing many as raw materials or resources for other activities.

Technical committees and other groups developing standards and similar documents are encouraged, therefore, to apply the policy as broadly as possible for this reason.

3. REFERENCES

Although this policy is specifically intended to address the issue of recycled materials, it should also be recognized that the principal aims of standardization already include improvement in "the quality of life" i.e. health, safety and the environment" and "efficient use of resources". Refer also to Environment Policy when considering wider environment impacts.