



PaperMake has completed integrating Sugar-Cane (Ecocane) Paper products throughout over 80 percent of all our products SKU's including: hand towels, bath tissues, facial tissues; and, yet to come, copy paper. Our clients are able to order the same products as always by code; and, with no price changes per foot. Experience the change:

What is Ecocane Paper?

Ecocane paper is paper products made from Sugarcane. Sugarcane waste (Bagasse) is one of the most eco-friendly, sustainable, renewable resources suitable for high quality paper making.

What are the main features and advantages of Ecocane Paper:

Ecocane manufactured paper products are: whiter, softer, stronger, more absorbent, it is compostable, 100% sustainable; and, it is the new environmental alternative to Eco-Logo recycled wood fiber products

What percentage of Sugarcane is in our paper?

Our Ecocane paper products contain 100% Eco-fibers. 80% sugarcane is blended with certified sustainable Eucalyptus or Acacia fibres. This provides a remarkably soft and strong paper.

Sugarcane sustainability and harvesting methods vs. forestry logging:

Sugarcane has an extremely low environmental impact compared to the harvesting of soft wood forests. Sugarcane is the world's largest crop; and is harvested 2-3 times per year. Its estimated growth is 1.5 billion tons worldwide per year. During harvesting, only the growth part of the plant is removed which leaves the lower stalk for next year's growth!

What type of bleaching is used with our Ecocane paper products?

The plant composition of sugarcane requires minimal processing stages of pulping and less bleaching than timber requires. Typically all white paper is bleached; including recycled paper which is bleached to remove ink and colours. The manufacturing method does not use Chlorine based bleaches which release toxic chemicals such as dioxins and furans. This Sugarcane paper is manufactured using a chlorine free process and because of that the facility meets the ISO14001 environmental quality standard. Ecocane products are whitened using Hydrogen Peroxide which is a completely natural process; and, no dyes or fragrances are involved in its manufacturing.

Do Sugarcane Paper Products help with LEED Certification?

Products that qualify are made from 80% Tree Free pulp, which are from Sugarcane and/or Bamboo that are a Rapidly Renewable Resource with growth cycles less than 10 years (LEED v4); and, meets one of the criteria of LEED's MR2.1-2.5 Optimize the Use of Alternative Raw Materials are worth 1-5 LEED points. No Chlorine is to be used in the bleaching process

By using Ecocane products, you are supporting a paradigm shift away from the destruction of our natural forests

Eco Logo Certified Recycled Paper Products

We buy Eco Logo Recycled products because we want to use products that are ecologically sound for our environment; however, there is much information that is not generally known about recycled products no matter who produces them. Should these products truly be considered the better ecological choice:

- When paper had been manufactured 20 to 30 years ago, chlorine bleaching produced specific pollutants consisting of primarily Dioxins and Furans. The method was not environmentally sound; however, one could say that the pollutants were specific; or, effectively 'pure pollutants'
- Now we have newer technologies with over 60% of paper products being recycled; and, this comes with entirely new challenges...
- Recycled waste paper comes from hundreds of thousands of sources into massive collection facilities; and, what comes into these facilities could have been anything: newspaper, magazines, restaurant take out containers, printing paper, tissue, thermal paper such as retail purchase receipts; and, thousands of other paper or paper related products
- Then this mixture of waste paper gets processed. It gets re-mulched into a pulp which shortens fibres; and, it has to be: de-inked, colourants removed, dyes, glues, bonders, oils, fats, food based organics; wax compounds, and, many-many other substances have to be removed. This re-pulped substance then has to be disinfected and deodourized (particularly because of food organics) before it can be bleached white. Hydrogen Peroxide bleaching of recycled waste paper has limited success leaving the recycled paper looking too grey; consequently, most North American plants still use chlorine based methods of whitening like chloral Oxides which still produce some of the pollutants that were present over the past 50 years.
- This mixture of hundreds of byproducts (some listed above) have to be extracted from waste paper in the remanufacturing of recycled paper products has punningly been dubbed 'sledge'; and, effectively we now have entirely new pollutants that are 'not pure' which, world-wide, no one knows what to do with.
- Some countries have advanced far enough so that some bonders, inks; and, oils have been successfully been separated; and, are even reused in the remanufacturing process; however, they still have 'sledge'.
- The scariest component of recycled paper products is thermal printing paper which represents as much as 15% of what ends up at recycling facilities; and, it is virtually impossible to prevent this waste paper from getting into the mixture. Thermal paper contains BPA and BPB which has now been proven to be a carcinogenic. In its' originally manufactured form as a receipt you get at a store, these dangerous components are effectively sealed in by a coating on the thermal paper; however, when this is re-pulped along with everything else being recycled, those BPA's and BPB's are exposed; and, infect all else that is involved in the process. This now becomes part of what you may dry your face with.
- Since recycled wood pulp paper has significantly shortened fibres caused by the re-pulping process, more bonders have to be used in its remanufacturing; and, generally it requires at minimum about 20% virgin fibre pulp mixed in in order to add a longer fiber between shortened fibers, otherwise the paper would not hold together. Recycled paper is therefore significantly denser, the high proportion of bonders further degrades the capability of the paper; and, absorption is greatly affected by between 30 to 40% per weight of product. Recycled paper absorbs about 3 ½ times its weight while virgin sugarcane paper absorbs over 5 ½ times its weight.
- Eco Logo Certified Recycled products are worth 2 LEEDS points; however, although Sugarcane paper is still relatively new and not widely known in North America, it is already worth 5 LEED points because of its proven superior sustainability and environmental benefits. It falls under LEED v4 Rapidly Renewable Resources with growth cycles less than 10 years.

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