

For our Environment

Umwelt 
Bundesamt

Certification and Approval of Non-Chemical Alternatives in Germany

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Section IV 1.4
Health Pests and their Control

Certification of Alternatives

Certification as substitute for authorisation

- Certification should require test and evaluation of efficacy, humaneness, safety for users and non-target organisms
- Voluntary process: more easy to implement, more readily accepted
- Competition on the market gives incentive for companies to apply for certification
- Certification allows fact-oriented comparison of biocides with non-chemical alternatives

Approval according to Infectious Diseases Protection Act (IDPA)

Article 17 Infectious Diseases Protection Act:

- Competent authorities may order measures to control health pests

Article 18 Infectious Diseases Protection Act:

- For these pest control measures, only products are allowed to be used which have been tested for efficacy by the German Environment Agency
- Products include biocide as well as non-chemical alternatives
- Target organisms are only health pests (i.e. vectors such as mosquitoes or cockroaches, and rodents)

Approval according to Infectious Diseases Protection Act

- All products to be included in the list are tested for **efficacy** by the German Environment Agency
- The Environment Agency has developed methods and criteria for testing **efficacy** and **humaneness** of rodent traps
- Some details will be provided in Part B of the workshop
- Application for listing is voluntary
- Products must be available on the German market
- Companies receive test reports for further use

Certification of Alternatives

Certification systems for non-chemical alternatives in Germany

The Blue Angel (Blauer Engel)

- World's first ecolabel (since 1978)
- 120 product groups
- 12.000 Products/processes
- 1.400 Companies
- 22% of label users are located outside of Germany
- The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety is owner of the label
- Independent Environmental Label Jury as decision-making body (includes representatives from environmental and consumer associations, trade unions, industry, the trade, crafts, local authorities, academia...)



Certification of Alternatives

Certification systems for non-chemical alternatives in Germany

The Blue Angel (Blauer Engel) – relevant product/process categories:

- RAL-UZ 34 Non-Toxic Pest Control and Prevention
Includes rodent traps, traps for insects, window screens against insects
- RAL-UZ 57a Thermal Processes to Control Ligniperdous Insects
Includes control of wood-boring insects
- RAL-UZ 57b Thermal Processes for Indoor Pest Control
Includes thermal control of bed bugs and others



Certification of Alternatives

Certification systems for non-chemical alternatives in Germany

The Blue Angel (Blauer Engel) - requirements:

- No biocides in the product or process
- Proof of efficacy: Use value of the products must comply with the requirements of the Infectious Diseases Protection Act and be effective for control and prevention
- Rodent traps must also be in accordance with German Animal Welfare Act. Criterion for humane killing effect is the time from the triggering of the trap until the onset of the irreversible unconsciousness (same as for IDPA-listing)



Thanks a lot for your attention!

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