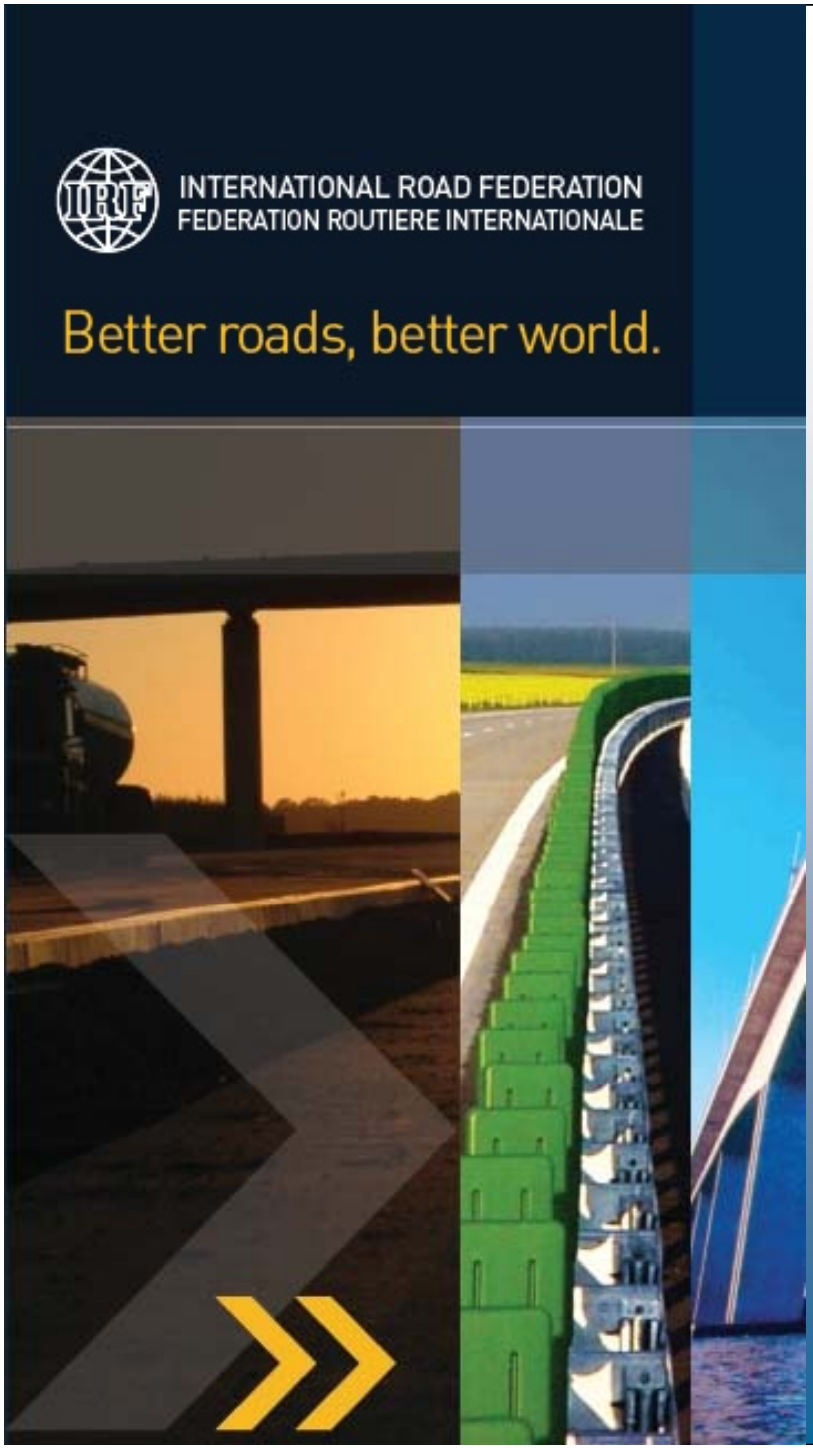


# EU GPP Guidelines for Road Construction and Traffic Signs

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## Background

- Commission engaged AEA to develop draft GPP specifications for 10 product groups.
- Output delivered in June 2010 (2 years and a half)
- Common methodology

# Methodology

## Stage 1 – Writing the guides

The basis: currently available Ecolabels, guides and standards that represented 'best industry practice' from around the world.

Exisitng schemes considered included:

- Milieukeur (the Dutch national Ecolabel)
- The German Blue Angel
- Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA)
- Japanese Eco Mark

# Methodology

**Stage 2 – The sense check (contractors and suppliers)**

Criteria should not be too stringent so as to hinder their use. From theory to practical use.

In 2008 consultation with industry experts, contractors and suppliers (two months for responses)

Where possible, documents were amended to reflect the concerns, complaints, demands of interested stakeholders.

# Methodology

## Stage 3 – The sense check (procurers)

Second round of consultation in 2009
(including stakeholders of 2008 consultation)

Formal inter-service consultation (ISC) to ensure procurers were happy with the guides.

## Deliverables

**A. Technical Specifications**' document which provides background, scope, methodology, drivers (including environmental and legislative) and reasoning behind the selection of the criteria.

**B. Product Sheet** specifies the criteria along with suggestion on how to score tenders according to selection and award criteria and performance clauses that might be considered.

# Type of Criteria

The **core criteria** are those suitable for use by any contracting authority and address the **key environmental impacts**.
They are designed to be used with minimum additional verification effort or cost increases.

The **comprehensive criteria** are for those who wish to purchase the **best environmental products** available on the market.
They may require additional verification effort or a slight increase in cost compared to other products with the same functionality.

# Road Construction and Traffic Signs

- Criteria in the forms of guidelines rather than quantitative criteria
- Framework for environmental impacts
- Used as award criteria

# Road Construction and Traffic Signs

**Road construction** is defined as:
"the preparation and building of a road using materials, including aggregate, bituminous binders and additives that are used for the sub-base, road-base and surfacing layers of the road.

**Traffic signs** have three elements: **sign facings** (containing the sign's message), **substrates** (the backing material onto which the facing is attached) and **the fixing** (the posts or frame onto which the sign is mounted).

# Road Construction and Traffic Signs

| Key Environmental Impacts | GPP Approach |
|---|---|
| • Extraction and use of raw materials.<br>• Energy required to produce raw materials and subsequent products.<br>• Energy consumption during the construction of the road.<br>• Pollution of air, land and water due to the use of fossil fuels to power machinery.<br>• Generation of waste material, including hazardous wastes.<br>• Noise and visual impacts. | • Reuse of road building material where possible.<br>• Use secondary aggregate where possible.<br>• Reduce energy use during production.<br>• Reduce energy intensity of construction through the purchase of energy efficient machinery.<br>• Use road surfacing materials that do not contain, or have low concentrations of, hazardous materials such as heavy metals.<br>• Waste reduction through using recycled materials, recycling wastes where possible and extending product lifetimes.<br>• Promoting materials and construction approaches that reduce noise and visual impacts.<br>• Promoting design and materials facilitating the end-of-life recycling processes. |

# Road Construction
## Main areas for potential in reducing impact

- Energy consumption
- Recycled content
- Hazardous substances - volatile organic chemicals and heavy metals.

**Comprehensive criteria**

- Drainage requirements
- Noise pollution
- Air pollutants

# Traffic Signs
## Main areas for potential in reducing impact

- Reduced raw material use
- Energy efficiency in manufacture
- Maximising product lifetime, durability and recyclability.

# Stages of public procurement process

- Subject Matter
- Technical Specifications
- Selection Criteria
- Award Criteria
- Contract Performance Clauses

# Selection Criteria

**Core criteria**:

"The bidder must demonstrate its technical capacity to put into place certain **environmental management measures** that meet the following requirements:

- Ensuring effective protection of fauna and flora in the building area and its surroundings .
- Measures to prevent any harmful waste and hazardous substances
- EMM aimed at minimising waste production on the site, respecting noise regulations, avoiding traffic congestion

**Verification**: EMAS, ISO 14001, …

# Award Criteria

**Core criteria**

Energy consumption throughout the lifecycle (from raw material production to paving) should be evaluated and reduced.

**Verification:** The bidder must provide appropriate proof that this criterion is met. The contracting authority should state in the tender document what format the information should be presented in.

# Award Criteria

**Comprehensive criteria**

The use of materials that reduce the noise impact of vehicles travelling on the road should be considered over poorer performing materials where the environmentally preferable solution does not negatively impact on the safety of the road.

**Verification:** The bidder must provide appropriate proof that this criterion is met.

## Contract Performance Clauses

**Core criteria**

During both construction and maintenance phases, materials and design of roads and surrounding infrastructure should adhere to the principles of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) to reduce the impact of rainwater run-off on surrounding surface and ground waters.

**Verification:** Bidders must provide a signed declaration indicating that their product satisfies this criterion.

# Traffic Signs: Core criteria

**Award Criteria**

Recycled materials should be used when manufacturing the traffic sign, provided they comply with the relevant national standards for traffic signs. The bidder shall provide data on the content of the materials used.

**Verification:** The bidder must provide information and data as necessary on the type and amount of recycled material used.

# Traffic Signs: Comprehensive criteria

## Award Criteria

The use of materials that reduce the visual impact of the road construction should be considered over visually intrusive materials; for example, the material used may negate the need for additional street lighting thus reducing the night-time visual impact.

Energy consumption and CO2 emissions should be evaluated and reduced, particularly in the manufacture phase.

**Verification:** The bidder must provide information on the energy consumption of manufacturing and installing their product and a written guarantee that this criterion will be met.

## Some things to keep in mind:

- **Verification of compliance with criteria**
  When formulating technical specification or award criteria you can specify the test methods and conformity assessment procedures. → **IRF CHANGER!**

- **Verification of the capacity to execute** a contract with environmental considerations (ISO certification)

## Some things to keep in mind:

1. In order to be effective the environmental award criteria needs to be given sufficient weighting in the award criteria.

**Around 10-15% of total points**

2. Environmental award criteria even in the absence of specific GPP criteria!

3. Comparative life cycle analyses of the environmental effects and concomitant cost-benefit analysis of the whole life costs to understand which option is the most suitable for the intended purpose.

# Questions to you

1. Criteria: too general or too intrusive?

2. Verification of compliance with criteria?

3. Revision of criteria: how to keep pace with technology developments?

4. How to better communicate on GPP?

# Thank you

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