

# The Blue Angel for low-emission furniture and slatted frames made of wood and wood-based materials (DE-UZ 38)



Information for manufacturers and the retail trade

[www.blauer-engel.de/en/uz38](http://www.blauer-engel.de/en/uz38)

- low emissions
- wood from sustainable forestry
- no adverse impact on health in the living environment

## Reliable guidance for sustainable purchasing

The Blue Angel – the environmental label of the German federal government – has set stringent standards for environmentally friendly, healthy and durable products and services in an independent and credible way since 1978. The Blue Angel is Germany's most well-known environmental label. You can thus benefit from the clear competitive advantages and added level of trust that this environmental label enjoys in the economy and amongst consumers. The label's credibility and competence, its objective criteria, its institutionalised award process and its governmental links increase your corporate and brand value.

## The advantages offered by the Blue Angel

The Blue Angel allows you as a company to present your environmental management practices and product responsibility in a credible way and set yourself apart from your competitors. Furthermore, you can use the Blue Angel for furniture and slatted frames made of wood and wood-based materials to demonstrate to customers that you

- use wood from sustainable forestry,
- use low-emission materials that do not affect indoor air quality,
- minimize environmental and health impacts throughout the entire life cycle of the product.



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## Low-emission furniture throughout the house

The Blue Angel certifies furniture and slatted frames that are used indoors and consist of more than 50 % by volume of wood or wood-based materials. These include, for example:

- Kitchen furniture
  - Office furniture (e.g. desks, cupboards)
  - Children's-/youth furniture
  - Bedroom furniture
  - Saunas
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## Low-emission and environmentally friendly

Products made of wood or wood-based materials, such as furniture or slatted frames, may cause an environmental impact during their production, use and disposal. The Blue Angel environmental label considers the whole life cycle of a product and promotes, above all, the use of wood from sustainably managed forests and of low-emission wood-based materials. In addition, furniture is used in the interior and comes in direct contact with the user every day. The Blue Angel therefore excludes the use of hazardous substances in the coating systems and has strict emission limits for volatile organic compounds which are checked by independent test laboratories.

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## Criteria: What does the Blue Angel look at when it comes to furniture made of wood?

- Use of at least 50 percent by weight wood from sustainable forestry
- Use of wood-based materials with low formaldehyde content
- Strict requirements on emissions into indoor air
- Avoidance of substances, that prevent the environmentally friendly disposal
  - » Exclusion of halogenated organic substances
  - » Strict regulation of flame retardants and biocides
- Exclusion of hazardous substances, e.g. carcinogenic compounds
- Availability of spare parts

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## Compliance verifications

Compliance with all requirements must be verified in accordance with the Basic Award Criteria – e.g. in the form of test reports, approved certificates or legally binding manufacturer declarations.

### Application, use of the environmental label and costs

RAL gGmbH is responsible for handling the applications and concluding the contracts (contact: Dr. Susanne de Boor, E-mail: [susanne.deboor@ral.de](mailto:susanne.deboor@ral.de), Tel.: 0228 - 688 95-150). Use of the environmental label is limited to the period of validity of the Basic Award Criteria. The current Basic Award Criteria are valid until 31/12/2021. RAL gGmbH – the awarding body for the environmental label – will charge a one-off handling fee of 400 Euro for the application. The annual fee is based on the annual sales of the certified product. If the sales figures are, for example, between 1 and 2.5 million Euro, the annual fee will be 1,300 Euro. Further information is available at <https://www.blauer-engel.de/contribution-scheme>.

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More Information: [www.blauer-engel.de/en](http://www.blauer-engel.de/en)

