

OK COMPOST and USING LOGOS – Frequently Asked Questions

BASIC PRINCIPLE:
THE OK COMPOST LOGO
MAY BE FEATURED ONLY
IF THE RELEVANT
PRODUCT HAS BEEN
FORMALLY CERTIFIED
BY VINÇOTTE.

Can my product be OK compost certified if I did not manufacture it myself?

Yes, provided:

- you conclude a model contract with the manufacturer as provided for by Vincotte
- your company appoints a coordinator responsible for all your company's OK compost certificates.

What is the difference between "OK compost" and "OK compost HOME"?

Products that are solely OK compost-certified are those that compost only in industrial composting facilities (at temperatures between 55 to 60°C), so products that are solely OK compost-certified should not go into the garden compost.

Conversely, OK compost Home refers to products that also compost at lower temperatures, so they can go into the compost heap in your garden at home, hence the title "HOME".

I know my products are compostable. What are the advantages of having the OK compost certificate/logo?

- The logo of an independent third party shows the attention you pay to the credibility of your product in the eyes of your customers.
- The use of the word "compostable" will be curbed more and more by legislation. In Belgium recently a law has become effective making it illegal to mention "compostable" unless a product's compostability can be proven. Vincotte's OK compost certificate offers convincing proof that your product may be composted.

What does the logo's S number represent?

The logo's "Sxxx" code refers to the licence holder of the product certificate, who is responsible for ensuring the product complies with the requirements of the certification programme (in the case of OK compost, with the provisions featured in EN 13432).

Does the certificate number have to be featured on the product?

No, the product certificate number is not featured on the product, solely the licence holder's S code, which allows the product to be traced precisely.

May the logo also be used without an S number?

The logo may be used without the S number solely for commercial and information purposes (on flyers, websites, information panels, etc...), unlike a logo featured on a product or promotional material: this must always be formally certified and feature a logo with the S code.

May I show further information about the compostability of my product alongside the logo?

Yes, you may but you have to bear in mind that as an OK compost licence holder you are responsible for the *accuracy* of the information. For example: a product featuring *only* the OK compost logo may not be accompanied by "This may go into the compost heap at home" (see the column on the left for the difference between OK compost and OK compost HOME)

My product is OK compost certified. May the logo be used by those who process my product?

No, because you do not know what the processor may add to your product (ink, glue). Your product being OK compost certified is no guarantee that every product into which it is incorporated complies with the requirements of the OK compost programme.

May an OK compost-certified product go into a normal rubbish bin?

Yes, an OK compost-certified product may be placed in an ordinary rubbish bin without any problem.

