

Recycled Down & Feathers – Global Labeling Requirements

data compiled and provided by IDFL Laboratory and Institute



Australia/New Zealand

Allowed in both bedding and garments. "Second Hand Filling" or "Recycled Fibre Filling" must be displayed to accurately convey the filling is not all new filling.

Canada

The term "recycled" is not recommended for use even though the province of Quebec repealed the Act Respecting Stuffing and Upholstered and Stuffed Articles. According to the TLAR the acceptable terms to show on labeling is: "Reclaimed", "Reused" or "Reprocessed".

China

Currently the Chinese government doesn't have a "Recycled Down & Feather" standard. The CFDA is considering creating this standard in the future. In the meantime, recycled down & feather products can be sold in China as long as they meet the current down product standards. Labeling down & feathers as recycled is allowed on marketing inserts and packaging. However, if labeled it could draw unwanted attention since it can't necessarily be verified through testing. We suggest not labeling using the term "recycled" in China at this time.

Europe

The EN system has NO requirement to label material differently if it is used. They assume that "other elements" account for used material and if there is greater than 15 % other elements -- you must label that amounts of other elements.

Therefore, if a 100% Recycled/Used down and feather material has 15% or less of other elements it would just be labeled the same as any other down label.

The term recycled or reprocessed material can be placed on inserts, packaging, and other sewn in labels.

Japan

In Japan, they have started to promote using more recycled down products including both garments and bedding. There is not a specific law for recycled down at this moment but plans are scheduled for the future. In the meantime labeling falls under Household Goods Quality Labeling Act and Act against Unjustifiable Premiums and Misleading Representations.

- Recycled down/used down must be labeled as Used or Recycled down.
- It should not be mixed with original (new down), but if it is, needs to be labeled as such.
- JDFA Bedding products do not allow recycled or used down at this time.

Korea

Used/Recycled down & feathers may NOT be used under the KS K 2620 Labeling Standard for Down & Feathers. Recycled down products can be sold in Korea but they cannot be KS certified and are considered as textile products, instead of as down products.

Taiwan

No rules against selling "Recycled" down products in both bedding and/or garments.

USA

The term "Recycled" can not be used in conjunction with bedding products using the "ALL NEW MATERIAL" law label sold in the State of PA. Other State's will most likely allow it if the filling is reprocessed the same way as new down & feathers: cleaned, sterilized, and sorted. The term "Recycled" can be used on Garments and should also be included as part of the filling label. The term "Recycled" can be used on packaging and advertising if supply chain certificates or test reports exist to ensure it. Other types of repurposed materials include "SECONDHAND" or "USED" materials. These products require other law labels. Please refer to each individual State law for labeling requirements and details for these goods.

Summary:

If recycled down & feather filling will NOT be declared, labeled or advertised as "Recycled" and has been processed the same way as new material (cleaned, sterilized & sorted) labeling rules would remain the same as new material as this material is virtually identical to new down & feather material. Labeling rules may change when "Recycled" is claimed as per above.