Standard Products Catalogue ICRC/IFRC

Sustainable information sheet

Product: Shelter Tool Kit

The below table is based on the Sustainable Criteria list available at:
https://itemscatalogue.redcross.int/green--2/sustainable-procurement--25/sustainable-criteria--112/information-sheet-sustainable-procurement--SUSTAINABLE.aspx

Environmental aspects	Achievements
Use long lasting products and materials, to minimize the replacement and allow the second life.	The tool kit is designed for a long service life. It can serve for many years, including post disaster and reconstruction periods. All tools are made of steel, with high longevity. All handles are made of wood and are repairable. Plastic ropes are very durable with high UV resistance.
Recycling the raw material of the product	Well worn, the steel can be collected and recycled, and the wood handles can be reused, be burned or will degrade naturally. The bag is made from the standard IFRC/ICRC polyethylene tarpaulin material. It is very durable, reusable, and recyclable (see tarpaulin product datasheet). The ropes are made of high UV proof polypropylene, they last many years and are recyclable.
Using recycled or re-used materials to make the product	All steel includes an average of 40% recycled steel in every steel factory (source: Science direct.com)
Reduced weight and volume compared to equivalent preceding products	This kit contains the minimum tools to fulfill the requirements. Cannot be more reduced.
Seek equipment that is energy efficient	Only composed of hand tools, using this kit does not consume any energy.
Use materials with reduced effect on environment due to their intrinsic nature	There are two billion of tons of steel produced every year in the world with a high impact on environment, nevertheless there are no other available materials to make tools with a lesser impact. The hardwood that makes the handles is from standard wood production. Requires more investigation to obtain a label such as PEFC.

	The plastic bag is very long lasting (UV resistant) and can be 100% recycled. The plastic ropes are very long lasting (UV resistant) and can be 100% recycled.
No (or reduced) polluting with minimum use of toxic chemicals, CFCs ozone and other pollutants	Requires more investigation on paint to ensure the absence of insecticides, lead, etc.
100% biodegradable material when biodegradability in the environment is foreseen	If not recycled, the steel will degrade with no harm to the environment, in the form of rust, that is iron oxide, a very common basic element in the natural environment. Furthermore, due to its potential commercial value, it will be collected and recycled much before its complete degradation. The wood is biodegradable. The PE and PP are not biodegradable. Due to their very long life span, there can be collected and recycled even after many years.
Use of materials and products that can have a second life in a different usage	The tools can have a very long usage. The ropes are long lasting with high UV resistance. All the nails are galvanized and can be used and reused for many years. The bag is made of very durable Polyethylene (made of standard tarpaulin). Can be used for many years for different purposes.
Use equipment that have a high rate of reparability when applicable	The tools can all be re-sharpened. Handles can be repaired or changed. At household level or in a local shop.
When products are made up of several types of material, particularly plastics and metals, the ease of disassembly is taken into consideration. Particularly relevant for electronic and electrical products.	Very easy to separate all different raw materials: steel, wood, plastic. No composite material.
Minimum packaging. Reducing the packaging to the minimum although enabling the product to survive poor handling. Optimize palletization and TC loading.	The tools are not individually packed anymore. Sub-packing plastic bags have all been withdrawn. The protections for the sharp edges are made from cardboard or strong kraft paper. There is no single use plastic in the kit apart for the nails (zip bag).
Manage sourcing in a way that reduces the environmental impact and facilitates the application of social standards.	The raw material (steel) is produced by large industrial plants where international regulations on pollution should apply. We rely on our suppliers to keep control of their tools producers.

Favor manufacturing processes that facilitate pollution control. Proper waste management in the production site	

Social aspects	
Ethical standards	
The ICRC/IFRC code of conduct for purchasing strives to ensure the ICRC highest ethical standards and ethical standards from our suppliers too. Each person undertaking any purchasing activity in the ICRC signs this document.	The lead buyers are applying the Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics ensuring the ethical standards are respected along the supply chain. Audited by internal services.
The ICRC/IFRC Ethical Purchasing policy is being implemented. Criteria on working conditions, hygiene and security, safety, child labour, and environmental concerns are assessed in the manufacturing units. Position on Ethical Policy for Purchasing (icrc.org)	The suppliers have been validated, ensuring the ethical standards are respected. Suppliers are encouraged to implemented progress actions, following recommended international standards.
Social impact: labour and deontological practices, Health and safety, hardship working conditions, etc.	

Economic impact, value for money	
Maximum durability, reparability, reusability, recyclability and upgradeability:	Material is reusable and recyclable.
Use long lasting products and materials, to minimize the replacement and allow the second life.	Replacement is not foreseen, as it is a very long lasting item.
Reparability is also considered during the design of the product.	High rate of repairability.
Seek products that enable updated and improve performance.	All tools can be re-sharpened.
Anti-fraud policy: ICRC/IFRC policy to prevent fraud and corruption for all staff members and external partners	The anti-fraud policy guaranties the proper application of the product specification through a well-controlled purchasing process, a transparent and reliable quality control, and tight supervision of the inspection companies in particular during factory visits.