Guidelines on responsible sourcing and quality control

Successful paper recycling depends on receiving sufficient and good quality recovered paper. The increased collection - especially from households - of recovered paper (62.6% in 2005) has, however, resulted in higher levels of impurities, which brings down its quality. In order to safeguard the quality levels of recovered paper, all actors in the chain must recognise that they are dealing with a secondary raw material and not with waste, and this involves certain responsibilities.

The aim of the enclosed set of documents is to give guidelines on the proper and responsible management of recovered paper as a raw material in terms of responsible sourcing and quality control.

The contents of this folder will be updated regularly, with new guidelines added and existing ones revised in the context of ongoing developments in the field of paper recycling and the framework in which it operates.

Readers should bear in mind that some of the documents are a result of an agreement between the suppliers and buyers of recovered paper. Some contain guidelines for only one type of actor and are consequently prepared and adopted only by them. In each case the industries that have approved a particular guideline are clearly indicated on the document.

The folder currently includes the following documents:

1. EN 643 (European list of standard grades of recovered paper and board)

Jointly agreed by CEPI and ERPA:
2. Recovered Paper Quality Control Guidelines

Agreed among CEPI members:
4. Guidelines for Responsible Sourcing and Supply of Recovered Paper
5. Best Practices for the Global Inspection of Recovered Paper*
6. Guidelines for paper mills for the control of moisture content in recovered paper
7. Guidelines for paper mills for the control of the content of unusable materials in recovered paper

*only available electronically on www.cepi.org

This set of documents will be added to as necessary.
Some of these documents exist in hard copy, they are all available for download from www.cepi.org.
How are these documents linked to each other?