World Association of News Publishers

Instructions for Participants

Competition for Membership in the International Color Quality Club 2024-2026

01 Apr 2024

Version 2.0

Table contents

Introduction:

The International Color Quality Club (ICQC) membership will be presented to newspapers and magazines deserving recognition for their excellence in standardised and consistent quality printing. The focus of the club membership is to show the ability of newspaper and magazine printers to print consistently high quality according to international standards.

This competition is open to all newspapers and magazine publishers in the world. Successful participants are awarded a two years' membership in the club.

The quick flow of the contest is as follows.

The above Dates and sample size is only for dailies, for other periodicals (weekly, fort-night and monthlies) are mentioned in section 1.2.

1. General instructions

1.1 Who can participate?

The competition is open to all publications, independent of production process or types of substrates used. Distinct categories were created for this purpose:

Category 1 Cold set offset on newsprint.

Category 2 Heat-set offset or UV-curing offset on newsprint (Semi-commercial)

Category 3 Heat-set offset or UV-curing offset on SC or LWC paper (Semi-commercial)

Category 4 Extra category for printing under own standard conditions or non-standard conditions, like printed on tinted paper or using extraordinary printing condition through offset, flexography or digital printing.

Category 5 Magazines, printed in sheet-fed offset, heat-set offset, gravure or digital inkjet

(Weekly, fort-nightly, and monthly magazines to be registered under this Category)

Publication titles can be registered either by publishing or printing companies. Each title is treated as a separate registration. One company can register several titles. One and the same title, printed at various locations, can participate individually in each case. Participation fees are charged per registration.

The competition is based on the objective evaluation carried out in the "Cuboid" target printed by the participant. Several quality parameters are evaluated from the Cuboid and the results of the evaluation are presented in a structured report. This document provides a detailed description of the quality parameters that will be evaluated and their method of evaluation.

Due to different print process techniques, different target values or evaluation methods are applied for the different technical categories. For this reason, in the following remarks the category is named in each case about the criteria.

1.2 Registration and Dates:

Registration:

- Registration Opens (All category) on **25st Jan 2024**

  Register Now

- Registration Closes by **15th Apr 2024,** for all publication types and categories**.**

CAT	Publication Type	Competition print run (Issue dates)	No. of samples to be submitted	Samples to reach WAN-IFRA by	Report & Membership Results
CAT 1,2,3,4 & 5	**Daily**	06th May 2024 To 10th May 2024 (or) 13th May 2024 To 17th May 2024 *Note: Choose any 1 of 2 weeks above, Mon to Fri*	5 issue days X 4 Samples = 20 samples	**31st May 2024**	**31st Jul 2024**
	Weekly	22nd Apr 2024 to 26th May 2024 *i.e., week 17 through 21*	5 Weekly issues X 4 Samples = 20 samples	**31st May 2024**	
	Fortnightly & Monthly	Feb 2024 – June 2024	5 issues X 4 Samples = 20 samples	**10th July 2024**	

Participant from all the categories should send 4 copies for each of the issues (day, week, month and we pick **2 copies in random out of 4** and evaluate the two for each issue dates.

1.3 Downloads and the print test element – The Cuboid.

1.3.1 Downloads:

Files related to the below topic could be downloaded from Download section of cqc.wan-ifra.org

Downloads

- ✓ ICQC 2024-2026 Contest Instructions/definitions for German and English
- ✓ Cuboid for Self-Check
- ✓ Cuboid for ICQC contest
- ✓ Online Registration guide for ICQC contest
- ✓ How to do self-Check – The guide to self-check
- ✓ Post contest materials of previous ICQC editions

1.3.2 Print test element – The Cuboid

The same test element should be used to print during the contest period as well as the pre-check.

The test element will be available for download from **25th Mar 2024**

Treat the Cuboid like a supplied color advertisement! Position the test element on any page of the publication title you have registered for the competition. The Cuboid is non-scalable. The size of the Cuboid must not be changed to allow correct evaluation.

Print the Cuboid under standardised printing conditions as part of a regular issue of your publication. If you do not wish the Cuboid to appear in the distributed issue, you can exchange plates and produce a part-run including the Cuboid that is not for distribution and submit these copies for evaluation.

Cuboid is common for pre-check and actual contest.

1.4 Pre-Check

Pre-check is not mandatory for every participant, it's only optional.

Pre-check is a trial print run which simulates the actual contest procedures and evaluations, but the results of pre-check are not considered for final membership. WAN-IFRA will offer two pre-check tests before the actual contest. We evaluate the copies with the same instruments and workflow that will be used for the competition. Pre-Check will help participants to know their level of preparedness and study the process deviations to re-work towards the contest.

The Cuboid test target is the same for the Pre-Check and for actual contest. **GPQ will not be evaluated for pre-check.**

Pre-check : Publications who register on or before **31st March 2024** will get a chance to participate in the "Pre-check".

Table 1.4, Pre-check schedule

Publication Type	Eligibility (Registered on or before)	Pre-check Period (Issue dates)	Samples to reach WAN-IFRA by	Report mailed to participants	No of samples to send
All Daily	31st Mar 2024	01-Apr-2024 To 05-Apr-2024	12th Apr 2024	30th Apr 2024	CAT 1,2,3,4,5: 2 copies from each issue date

Exceptions:

- ***Ideal Pre-check condition is to send copies for all 5 days.***
- ***However its optional to send partial and limited days (1,2,3 Days) within the dates of print slot. In such cases will send report for those limited days only.***

Copies for pre-check:

Publications **should send 2 copies for each of the days for the number of days decided to send.** .

For **Cat 4 & 5**, average of measured values of the 5 days will be the target reference and points are calculated for the 5 copies (of 5 days) by measuring the deviation from the target reference.

1.5 Shipping instructions

To prevent premature ageing of the print samples, they should be packaged in such a way that they are protected from light and moisture. Print samples not received by the deadline cannot be included in the evaluation.

1. As publications are from different countries and many languages participate in the competition, we may not be able to identify / recognise the title of the publication and the place of. We therefore ask participants to complete Annex 1 or 2 (as appropriate) and Annex 3.
2. **Annexure 1** must be attached (pasted outside the package) by all **international participants shipping the package to India.**
3. **Annexure 2** must be attached (pasted outside the package) by all **European participants (except Germany) shipping to Germany.**
4. **Annexure 3** is to be attached by **all ICQC participants** (to be inserted inside the copies) that helps recognizing your publication details (page, title, city, company, etc) ease, there by managing the competition ease and error-free.
5. Participants from India shipping within India and participants from Germany shipping within Germany **do not need to attach** either **Annex 1 or 2 but** need to insert **Annexure 3** in the copies.
6. The shipping address for the office in Europe and the office in India is given on **page 22** and Annexures 1, 2 and 3 on **pages 23, 24 and 25** of this document.

1.6 Evaluation reports

The final evaluation report will have 5 reports individual report (for the submitted 5 days/ 5 week/ 5-month samples) with overall summary of points and tracks.

For the evaluation of the general printing quality, two sample copies per participating title will be selected at random from the submitted copies from different competition months. The results of this evaluation are included in the final report.

The final report also constitutes the concluding report. This will indicate whether your title has been awarded membership in the Color Quality Club 2024-2026. Your evaluation reports are strictly confidential and intended only for you.

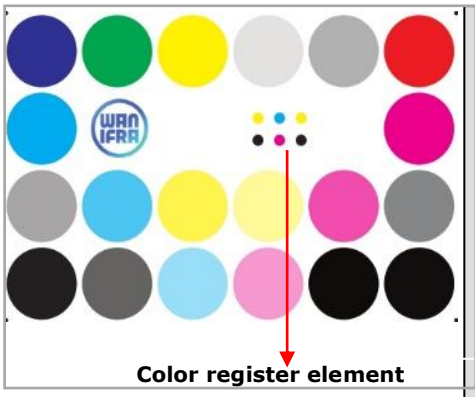
1.7 Club membership

Club membership is achieved by publication titles that are produced in consistently high-quality printing throughout the test period in accordance with the targets defined in the instructions. To be accepted into the International Color Quality Club, it is necessary to obtain the minimum points stated in the instructions.

The new members in the International Color Quality Club 2024-2026 will be announced with the mailing of the final evaluations report. The winners will be honoured at a special ceremony held during the IFRA World Publishing Expo.

For each successful ICQC participation, winner companies will collect one "star". Companies that have been successful repeatedly in at least 5 competition years will become part of WAN-IFRA's prestigious "Star Club". Stars can also be collected by achieving WAN-IFRA's Certification for Standardised Printing. Please let us know if you need more details.

1.8 The Cuboid definition



The Cuboid can be positioned in the same way as a four-color ad on a publication page. The format is 42 x 28 mm; PDF is available in CMYK.

The Cuboid must not be scaled!

The Cuboid can be used in horizontal or vertical format. Avoid positioning in the fold, as otherwise the evaluation can be influenced by set-off and soiling.

The reverse (backside page) of the Cuboid must be printed with publication-type contents (should have texts or editorial content, should not have solid advertisement or images). Points are subtracted for blank reverse side, deviating paper types, and different or missing pinholes.

The figures on the left do not correspond to the original size.

		1	2	3	4	5	6
A	C	100%	100%	0%	10%	30%	0%
	M	100%	0%	0%	8%	24%	100%
	Y	0%	100%	100%	8%	24%	100%
	K	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
B	C	100%					0%
	M	0%					100%
	Y	0%					0%
	K	0%					0%
C	C	0%	70%	0%	0%	0%	50%
	M	0%	0%	0%	0%	70%	42%
	Y	0%	0%	70%	40%	0%	42%
	K	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
D	C	0%	0%	40%	0%	52%	44%
	M	0%	0%	0%	40%	44%	38%
	Y	0%	0%	0%	0%	44%	38%
	K	100%	70%	0%	0%	100%	100%

The Cuboid contains two 4-Color blacks in patches D5 and D6. Patch D5 corresponds to a Total Ink Coverage (TIC) of 240% and Patch D6 corresponds to a TIC of 220%.

ISO 12647-3:2013 standard recommends 220% TIC for coldset on newsprint. So, 8

Patch D6 is used to measure 4-Color Black for category 1.

For Categories 2, 3, 4 and 5, patch D5 (TIC 240%) is used.

1.9 Evaluation criteria for International Color Quality Club 2024-2026

To be included in the International Color Quality Club 2024-2026, a minimum number of points must be reached within each test run. It is also required that each criterion meets the required minimum number of points during the monthly evaluations. Only if all the criteria in the following table have been met both horizontally and vertically membership is reached.

Categories 1, 2 and 3

Criterion	Max. points Test 1	Max. points Test 2	Max. points Test 3	Max. points Test 4	Max. points Test 5	Max. points per criterion total	Min. Horizontal Points require achieving member-ship (MHP)	Suc-cess-ful
2.1 Newsshade	30	30	30	30	30	**150**	**100**	**Yes?**
2.2 Mid-tone spread	10	10	10	10	10	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**
2.3.1 Dot gain 40%	10	10	10	10	10	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**
2.3.2 Dot gain 70%	10	10	10	10	10	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**
2.4 Gray balance	30	30	30	30	30	**150**	**115**	**Yes?**
2.5 Color space in %	11	11	11	11	11	**55**	**35**	**Yes?**
2.6 Color conformity Delta E	49	49	49	49	49	**245**	**180**	**Yes?**
2.7 Color register	30	30	30	30	30	**150**	**150**	**Yes?**
2.8 General printing quality	–	–	–	–	–	**576**	**500**	**Yes?**
Total points applicable	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**1476**	**1170**	
Minimum Vertical Points to be achieved per test for successful membership (MVP)	**150**	**150**	**150**	**150**	**150**			
Successful:	**Yes?**	**Yes?**	**Yes?**	**Yes?**	**Yes?**			
Precondition for ICQC 2024-2026 membership:						**14 x "Yes"**		

Categories 4 and 5

Criterion	Max. points Test 1	Max. points Test 2	Max. points Test 3	Max. points Test 4	Max. points Test 5	Max. points per crite-rion total	Min. Horizontal Points require achieving membership (MHP)	Success-ful
2.1 Newsshade	30	30	30	30	30	**150**	**100**	**Yes?**
2.2 Mid-tone spread	10	10	10	10	10	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**
2.3.1 Dot gain 40%	10	10	10	10	10	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**
2.3.2 Dot gain 70%	10	10	10	10	10	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**
2.4 Gray balance	30	30	30	30	30	**150**	**115**	**Yes?**
2.5 Color space in %	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
2.6 Color conformity Delta E	60	60	60	60	60	**300**	**215**	**Yes?**
2.7 Color register	30	30	30	30	30	**150**	**150**	**Yes?**
2.8 General printing quality	–	–	–	–	–	**576**	**500**	**Yes?**
Total points applicable	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**1476**	**1170**	
Minimum Vertical Points to be achieved per test for successful membership (MVP)	**150**	**150**	**150**	**150**	**150**			
Successful:	**Yes?**	**Yes?**	**Yes?**	**Yes?**	**Yes?**			
Precondition for ICQC 2024-2026 membership:						**13 x "Yes"**		

Conditions for successful membership:

	Successful condition for CAT 1,2 & 3			Successful condition for CAT 4 & 5		
Criterion	**Max. points per criterion total**	**Min. Criteria pts to achieve**	**Successful?**	**Max. points per criterion total**	**Min. Criteria pts to achieve**	**Successful?**
2.1 Newsshade	**150**	**100**	**Yes?**	**150**	**100**	**Yes?**
2.2 Mid-tone spread	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**
2.3.1 Dot gain 40%	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**
2.3.2 Dot gain 70%	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**	**50**	**30**	**Yes?**
2.4 Gray balance	**150**	**115**	**Yes?**	**150**	**115**	**Yes?**
2.5 Color space in %	**55**	**35**	**Yes?**	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**
2.6 Color conformity Delta E	**245**	**180**	**Yes?**	**300**	**215**	**Yes?**
2.7 Color register	**150**	**150**	**Yes?**	**150**	**150**	**Yes?**
2.8 General printing quality	**576**	**500**	**Yes?**	**576**	**500**	**Yes?**
Total Points per test run/Day	**180**	**150**	**5 Days X "YES"**	**180**	**150**	**5 Days X "YES"**
Precondition for successful membership	**1476**	**1250**	**14 X YES?**	**1476**	**1250**	**13 X YES?**

- ✓ A participant will be successful of membership only if meets all the "Yes" horizontally for each parameter and vertically for each test days. That means, after the final evaluation the participant **should achieve a horizontal total of least minimum points specified** (MHP) **for each of the parameters** (newsprint, Mid-tone, Dot gain, etc
- ✓ At the same time, it's equally important to **secure a minimum of 150 points every month and satisfy vertical "Yes" condition (MVP)**. This minimum point require for each contest doesn't have any logic with the horizontal point condition, i.e., these excess points can be met by from any of the criterion.
- ✓ Its mandatory to meet Min. Horizontal Points (MHP) condition as well as Min. Vertical Points condition that satisfy "Yes" condition for each of horizontal and vertical criteria.
- ✓ Altogether **14 x "YES"** (For Category 1,2 & 3) must be met, to be awarded for a successful club membership. In case of Cat 4 & 5 ,**13 x "Yes"** to be satisfied.

1.10 Evaluation set up and process:

The objective evaluation is divided into the evaluation of the colorimetric data of the printed Cuboid and of the register measurement element. We measure all test copies under standardised conditions using a calibrated measuring instrument, so that the result can be assessed in a way that is as objective and comparative as possible. The evaluation of the Cuboid permits qualified statements in relation to the conformity of the criteria news-shade, mid-tone spread, dot gain at 40% and 70%, grey balance, color space, color conformity and color register precision.

Evaluation points are awarded in accordance with the degree to which the target values are satisfied. The closer the measured values are to the targets of the ISO and WAN-IFRA standards, the more points can be achieved. If the values are within the tolerance range, the points will be awarded in a linear fashion to the calculated deviations. No points are awarded if the tolerance values are exceeded.

The color and density measurement of the Cuboid is carried out with the aid of "Techkon" SpectroDens device. The color measurements are done in accordance with ISO 13655 with angle of observation 2°, light source D50, measuring geometry 45°/0° or 0°/45° and black backing. The density values are measured with status E, polarisation filter ON and relative to paper. Aperture size of the instrument is 3 mm. Dot gain is calculated by the Murray-Davies formula. We use the Techkon "RMS 910" to measure color register.

***"Techkon spectrodens** color measuring instrument (left) and Techkon "RMS 910" register measuring instrument (right)*

To evaluate the general printing quality, two randomly selected copies from two different competition months are taken from the submitted sample copies. The first 16 four-color pages of each newspaper copy are assessed. The first 32 four-color pages tabloid newspaper or quarter fold magazine are assessed. The results of this evaluation are published in the final report.

1.11 Inter-instrument agreement

In an international competition such as the ICQC, it is crucial to know how accurately the values measured by the WAN-IFRA spectrophotometer are and how instruments used by WAN-IFRA agree with those of the participants.

All participants will receive a sample Cuboid from WAN-IFRA and corresponding values measured from WAN-IFRA's spectrophotometer (Instrument, which will be used to evaluate the Cuboid during the contest period). Participants can compare the results of WAN-IFRA with their own measurement instruments. It's advisable to calibrate the instruments before beginning of the contest.

Participants who register the contest until **31st March 2024** will get the reference.

2. Evaluation and scoring system for different criteria

2.1 News-shade

Newsprint or paper shade (or color of the paper) is measured in accordance with light source D50, measuring geometry 45°/0° or 0°/45° and black backing. The news-shade is measured on non-printed areas of the Cuboid in patch B5.

Points are allocated based on the following criteria:

For competition categories 1 and 2:

Color values	*Points per evaluation*
L* = 78 or more	10
L* = less than 78	0
a* = between -2 and 2	10
a* = less than -2 or more than 2	0
b* = between -2 and 5	10
b* = less than -2 or more than 5	0
Total:	30

For competition category 3:

Color values	*Points per evaluation*
L = 83 or more*	*10*
L = less than 83*	*0*
a = between -2 and 0*	*10*
a = less than -2 or more than 0*	*0*
b = between -2 and 3*	*10*
b = less than -2 or more than 3*	*0*
Total	*30*

For competition categories 4 and 5 the following process applies:

The reference is in each case the mean value of L*, a* and b* of all five test runs measured on the printed Cuboid. The color of the paper that is used should be within the tolerances listed in the table throughout the competition period. Delta L*, a* & b* represent the maximum permissible deviation from mean value.

Deviation from the mean value of the test runs	*Points per evaluation*
Delta L less than or equal to 2*	*10*
Delta L more than 2*	*0*
Delta a less than or equal to 1*	*10*
Delta a more than 1*	*0*
Delta b less than or equal to 1*	*0*
Delta b more than 1*	*0*
Total	*30*

2.2 Mid-tone spread.

The patches D3, D4, C4 and C1 of the Cuboid are used to measure the CMYK mid-tone spread. Difference in dot percentage between the color with highest dot gain and the color with lowest dot gain is called mid-tone spread. Points are awarded based on the deviation from the 6% production tolerance in the 40% measuring patch specified by the standard. It is not considered whether the dot gain is within the tolerances of the target Tone Value Increase (TVI) curve for all the categories.

For categories 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5:

Mid-tone spread	*Points per evaluation*
Less than or equal to 3%	*10*
Corresponds to 6%	*2*
Greater than 6%	*0*

Points are awarded in a linear process between 3% and 6%. The minimum no. of points is 2.

2.3 Dot gain

2.3.1 Dot gain at nominal 40%

The patches D3, D4, C4 and C1 of the Cuboid are used for measuring the CMYK dot gain in the 40% area. Each color is evaluated individually.

For category 1, 2 and 3, deviation from the reference value of 2% or less brings 2.5 points per color (4 x 2.5 = 10). In the case of a deviation between 2% to 5%, points are awarded in a linear process per color up to the minimum number of 1 point. With a deviation, more than 5% no points are awarded.

For competition category 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5:

Dot gain in the 40% patch per color (C, M, Y, K)	*Points per evaluation*
Deviation less than or equal to 2%	*2.5*
Deviation corresponds to 5%	*1*
Deviation greater than 5%	*0*

Points are awarded in a linear process between 2% and 5%. The minimum no. of point is 1.

For competition category 1 the reference value is 26.2% dot gain in the 40% patch.

For competition categories 2 and 3 the reference value is 22% dot gain in the 40% patch.

For competition categories 4 and 5, the reference value is the average of the dot gain measurements in the 40% patch of all five test run measurements.

2.3.2 Dot gain at nominal 70%

Patches C2, C5, C3 and D2 of the Cuboid are used for measuring the CMYK dot gain in the 70% range. Each color is evaluated individually.

For category 1, 2 and 3, a deviation from the reference value of 2% or less brings 2.5 points per color (4 x 2.5 = 10). In the case of a deviation between 2% and 5%, points are awarded in a linear process per color up to the minimum number of 1 point. With a deviation more than 5% no points are awarded.

For competition category 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5:

Dot gain in the 70% patch per color (C, M, Y, K)	*Points per evaluation*
Deviation less than or equal to 2%	*2.5*
Deviation corresponds to 5%	*1*
Deviation greater than 5%	*0*

Points are awarded in a linear process between 2% and 5%. The minimum no. of points is 1.

For competition category 1 the reference value is 19.8% dot gain in the 70% patch.

For competition categories 2 and 3 the reference value is 17.6% dot gain in the 70% patch.

For competition categories 4 and 5 the reference value is as follows:
76% of the average gain from CMYK measurements in the 40% patch from all test runs.

> *Example: The average dot gain from CMYK at nominal 40% is 25%. In such a case, the reference value for dot gain at nominal 70% is 19%, as 25 x 0.76 = 19.*

2.4 Grey balance in print

The patches A4, A5, C6 and D5 or D6 of the Cuboid are used for the measurement.

The reference grey (a* and b*) is calculated as follows: The lightest and darkest measured values (color of the paper, patch B4, and CMYK [4c black], patch D5 or D6) are connected via a straight line. This produces a reference grey axis in the color space that is used as an individual scale for the evaluation.

Based on the individually measured lightness value L* of light, medium and dark grey on the Cuboid concerned in each case, the color values a* and b* are mathematically calculated on the reference grey axis. These serve as targets for the measured a* and b* values of the grey patches A4, A5 and C6. We refer to the thus-calculated color difference as "Delta C* absolute".

For Category 1, patch D6 is measured for the L*a*b* values of 4-color-black. Patch D6 corresponds to a TIC of 220%.

For category 2, 3, 4 and 5, patch D5 is measured for L*a*b* values of 4-Color black. Patch D5 corresponds to a TIC of 240%.

Points are awarded based on the below table.

For competition categories 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5:

Deviation per grey patch (A4, A5, C6)	*Points per Grey patch and evaluation*
Less than or equal to 1.5 "Delta C absolute"*	*10*
Corresponds to 3 "Delta C absolute"*	*2*
Greater than 3 "Delta C absolute"*	*0*

Points are awarded in a linear process for deviation between 1.5 and 3 Delta C*.
Minimum no. of points is 2.

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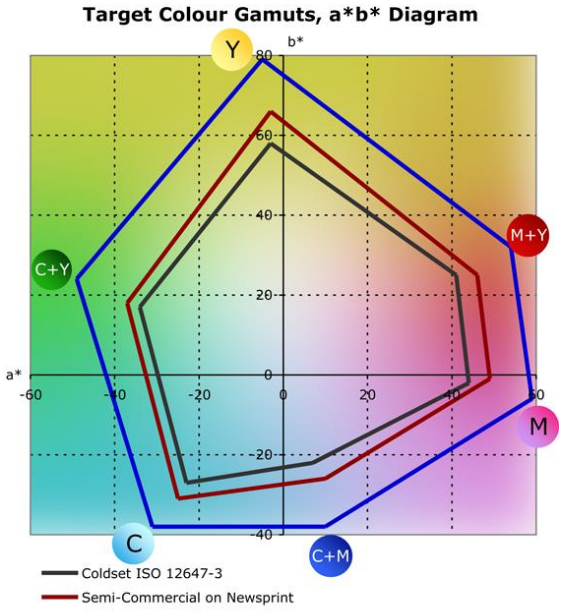
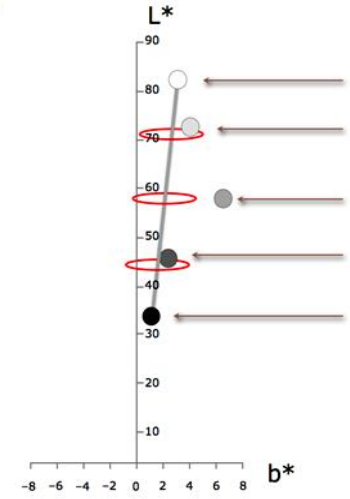
2.5 Color space



The L*a*b* values of the patches A6, A2, A1, B1, B6, A3, B5 and D5 or D6 of the Cuboid are used for the calculation. The size of the color space range, which results from the combination of the colors CMY and RGB as well as the paper white and 4C black, can be shown as a three-dimensional entity within the L*a*b* color space.

The a*/b* diagram shows the different target color spaces. The black color space corresponds to the standard cold-set newspaper offset process in accordance with ISO 12647-3:2013. With the aid of heat-set drying or UV curing it is possible to print a larger color space range (red) on the same paper. If in addition a higher-quality paper grade (SC or LWC) is used, this will further enlarge the color space (blue).

For category 1, patch D6 (TIC 220%) is measured for the



Paper

Light grey, here within the tolerance

Medium grey, here outside the tolerance

Dark grey, here within the tolerance

4-Color Black

The individual reference grey axis is the connection between the color of the paper and CMY K(4C black)

The grey axis is in most cases not parallel to the lightness axis L, but instead at an angle to it because the typical yellow hue of newsprint is reduced in the shadows.*

The printed CMY grey tones are compared to the reference grey axis. The deviation is referred to as "Delta C absolute".*

L*a*b* values of 4-C Black.

For category 2 and 3 patch D5 (TIC 240%) is measured for the L*a*b* values of 4-C Black. For categories 4 and 5 this color space evaluation is not used.

The following color references apply for calculation of color space and color conformity (see section 2.6):

*Color reference values for competition **category 1***

Colors	*L**	*a**	*b**
Cyan	*57*	*-23*	*-27*
Magenta	*54*	*44*	*-1*
Yellow	*78*	*-3*	*58*
Black (K)	*36*	*1*	*4*
Green, Y + C	*53*	*-34*	*17*
Blue, C + M	*41*	*7*	*-22*
Red, M + Y	*52*	*41*	*25*
4c-Black, CMYK	*34*	*1*	*2*
White, news-shade	*82*	*0*	*3*

*Color reference values for competition **category 2***

Colors	*L**	*a**	*b**
Cyan	*55*	*-25*	*-31*
Magenta	*51*	*49*	*-1*
Yellow	*78*	*-3*	*66*
Black (K)	*35*	*1*	*2*
Green, Y + C	*50*	*-37*	*18*
Blue, C + M	*35*	*10*	*-26*
Red, M + Y	*49*	*46*	*25*
4c-Black, CMYK	*30*	*1*	*2*
White, news-shade	*82*	*0*	*3*

*Color reference values for competition **category 3***

Colors	*L**	*a**	*b**
Cyan	*56*	*-31*	*-38*
Magenta	*50*	*59*	*-6*
Yellow	*83*	*-5*	*79*
Black (K)	*27*	*0*	*1*
Green, Y + C	*50*	*-49*	*24*
Blue, C + M	*33*	*10*	*-38*
Red, M + Y	*48*	*54*	*32*
4c-Black, CMYK	*26*	*0*	*1*
White, news-shade	*86*	*-1*	*2*

For competition categories 1, 2 and 3, the following applies:

Measured color space	*Points per evaluation*
At least 90% of the reference color space	*11*
Corresponds to 75% of the reference color space	*2*
Less than 75% of the reference color space	*0*

If the color gamut is between 75% and 90% of the reference color gamut points will be deducted in the range from 11 to 2 points. If the color gamut is smaller than 75% no points will be applied.

In categories 4 and 5 the criteria and points of this section (2.5) are combined with those of section 2.6. You will find the detailed instructions in section 2.6.

2.6 Color conformity

See 2.5 (color space) for the target color values.

*Calculation method (**categories 1, 2 and 3**):*

If the measured values of the primary and secondary colours lie within a defined color distance from the reference value (Delta $E_{LAB\ 76}$), 7 points per color are awarded. Therefore, a total of 49 points per evaluation can be achieved.

Color difference Delta E LAB 76		*Points per evaluation*
Cyan	*Less than or equal to 5*	*7*
	Greater than 5	*0*
Magenta	*Less than or equal to 5*	*7*
	Greater than 5	*0*
Yellow	*Less than or equal to 5*	*7*
	Greater than 5	*0*
Black (K)	*Less than or equal to 5*	*7*
	Greater than 5	*0*
Red (M + Y)	*Less than or equal to 8*	*7*
	Greater than 8	*0*
Green (M + Y)	*Less than or equal to 8*	*7*
	Greater than 8	*0*
Blue (M + C)	*Less than or equal to 8*	*7*
	Greater than 8	*0*
Total		*49*

If the measured color difference is greater than required, it is calculated in a second step whether the measured chroma (C^*_{ab}) is greater or smaller than the chroma of the reference color.

If the measured chroma is smaller than required, no points are awarded. If the measured chroma is greater than that of the reference color, a final check is carried out to establish whether the measured color lies within an acceptable color angle difference (Delta h_{ab}) from the target as well as whether the lightness is sufficiently close to that of the target color value (Delta L).

If color difference Delta E LAB 76 is exceeded, but the reference chroma achieved (in case of Black [K] unachieved), then:		*Point per evaluation*
Cyan	*Delta L less than 5*	*7*
	Delta h less than 2.5	
	One of the requirements not satisfied	*0*
Magenta	*Delta L less than 5*	*7*
	Delta h less than 2.5	
	One of the requirements not satisfied	*0*
Yellow	*Delta L less than 5*	*7*
	Delta h less than 2.5	
	One of the requirements not satisfied	*0*
Black (K)	*Delta L less than 5*	*7*
	Delta h less than 2.5	
	One of the requirements not satisfied	*0*
Red (M + Y)	*Delta L less than 8*	*7*
	Delta h less than 5	
	One of the requirements not satisfied	*0*
Green (M + Y)	*Delta L less than 8*	*7*
	Delta h less than 5	
	One of the requirements not satisfied	*0*
Blue (M + C)	*Delta L less than 8*	*7*
	Delta h less than 5	
	One of the requirements not satisfied	*0*
Total		*49*

*Calculation method for **categories 4 and 5***

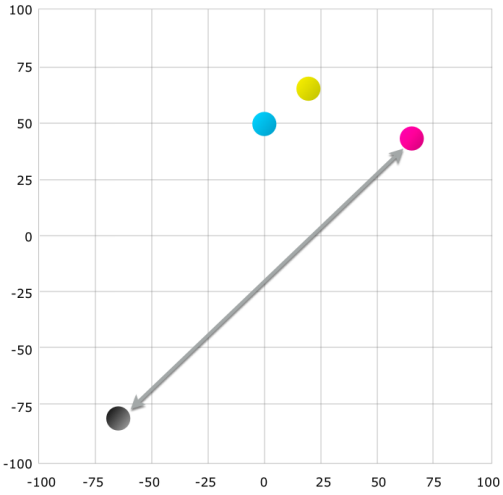
For Categories 4 and 5 the average of the L* a*b* color values of all five test runs constitutes the reference per color (C, M, Y, K, R, G, B). In this case, the color difference (Delta $E_{LAB\ 76}$) therefore represents the distance to the average of all five measurements.

Points are awarded in accordance with the following system:

Color difference Delta E LAB 76		*Points per evaluation*
Cyan	*Less than or equal to 2*	*8*
	Greater than 2	*0*
Magenta	*Less than or equal to 2*	*8*
	Greater than 2	*0*
Yellow	*Less than or equal to 2*	*8*
	Greater than 2	*0*
Black (K)	*Less than or equal to 2*	*8*
	Greater than 2	*0*
Red (M + Y)	*Less than or equal to 4*	*8*
	Greater than 4	*0*
Green (M + Y)	*Less than or equal to 4*	*8*
	Greater than 4	*0*
Blue (M + C)	*Less than or equal to 4*	*8*
	Greater than 4	*0*
4c-Black, CMYK	*Less than or equal to 4*	*4*
	Greater than 4	*0*
Total		*60*

2.7 Color register

The Cuboid contains six small color points (patch B4) for automatic color register measurement.



In order to measure the color register error, the largest distance between two colors of the color set is calculated.

In the accompanying example (left), the greatest distance is between magenta and black.

For competition categories 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5:

The largest color register deviation between two color	*Points per evaluation*
Less than or equal to 200 µm (0.20 mm)	*30*
More than 200 µm (0.20 mm)	*0*

2.8 General Print Quality (GPQ)

Each participating title will be evaluated as below,

- Two random publication days out of 5 are chosen for GPQ evaluation .
- Each day is evaluated on first 16 color pages or 16 spreads (for magazine & tabloids). If, any day's publication fails to meet 16-page color, other random day will be considered to meet 16 color pages
- Only the first 16 full color pages are considered for GPQ, any B/W pages are not evaluated.
- In case of short fall of 16 page in the randomly chosen copy, First copy (Chosen random) will be evaluated for all the pages and for the short fall of "N" pages (to meet 16 pages) are evaluated from next or previous day.
- Any innovations like Full page innovations like flaps and bookmarks, centre spreads, seamless, tickets, UV or GNP covers/pages are considered for evaluation. Only the half flaps and innovation less than the size of the publication's page size is not considered for evaluation.
- Each participant starts with 576 points (2 Days X 288 points) and points are deducted for each of the print quality defects (up to 18 as defined in table 2.8) observed in a page. Each defect criterion is applied only once in a page. For example, even though "printed plate edges" defect is visible many times in a page, only once deducted per page.

***Broadsheet Newspapers*:**
The first 16 four-color pages of the main product. One point will be deducted for each print defect (up to 18 defects possible) on every single page, leading to a maximum loss of all points (2 edition X 16 pages x 18 points = 576).

***Magazines & Tabloids*:**
As the size of quarter fold magazines and tabloid newspaper are small, spread (pairing page) will be considered equal to one page. The first 32 pages (16 spreads) of the main product will be evaluated for GPQ. So, will detect 0.5 points for each print defect per page (1 point per spread page) of magazine and tabloid products. So, a total of 64 pages (2 editions x 32 pages) are evaluated. A maximum of 18 points can be subtracted in every spread, leading to a maximum loss of all points (32 spreads x 18 points = 576).

The jury responsible for evaluating the general printing quality will do so from an **"expert's point of view"** and the decision of jury is final.

Table 2.8, GPQ Quality defects list

Evaluation criteria			**Points de-ducted**
Defect Cate-gory	**S.No**	**Defect parameter**	**Per page**
Print process	1	Poor lateral register, poor ribbon register	1
	2	Over or under inking, density variation	1
Print Quality	3	Disturbing Show-through, Strike-through, Print-through	1
	4	Disturbing set-off	1
	5	Impressions from draw rollers, path rollers	1
	6	Dirt stains, finger print marks	1
	7	Printing plate edges	1
	8	Printing plate scratches	1
	9	Disturbing mis-register	1
	10	Disturbing toning and Summing	1
	11	Paper wrinkles / Creasing	1
	12	Hickeys / Picking (Fluff accumulation)	1
	13	Pin holes in image area	1
	14	Slur / Doubling	1
Image and graphic quality	15	Deficient sharpness, low resolution, moiré	1
	16	Color cast	1
	17	Deficient contrast, brightness	1
	18	Deficient tonal reproduction (Flat, missing highlight / shadow)	1
Maximum points deduction			18.0

Despite every effort to ensure correct calculations, errors or faults cannot be excluded.

Please note the date of the instructions at the bottom of each page, as up to the start of the competition minor changes are possible. We remain at your disposal for

Yours sincerely,

Prabhu Natrajan
W A N – I F R A
Mob : +91.8792178292
E-Mail : prabhu.n@wan-ifra.org

N.B.

3. Contest procedure, workflow and annexures

3.1 Address for communication

Shipment address to India: (Attach annexure 1 & 3):

Please send your publication copies to the below address (**exactly as written below with email id).**

Need to attach **Annexure 1** if any international participants ship to india.

Prabhu Natrajan
WAN-IFRA South Asia Pvt Ltd
#54, 3rd floor,
SIET Admin building (Bank of Baroda),
KB Dasan Road, Teynampet
Chennai -600018

Mobile: +91.8792178292
Email : prabhu.n@wan-ifra.org

Name / Person: Prabhu Natrajan
Company Name: WAN-IFRA South Asia Pvt ltd.
Door #: #54, 3rd floor
Building Name: SIET Admin building (Bank of Baroda)
Street Name / Area: KB Dasan Road
Area/Locality: Teynampet
City: Chennai
Postal /Zip code: 600113
State: Tamil Nadu
Country: India

Shipping address to Germany: (Attach annexure 2 & 3):

European publications need to send their copies to our office at **Germany** to the below address. Need to attach **Annexure 2** (if shipped from other than Germany.

Robert Heitzer

Süddeutscher Verlag Zeitungsdruck GmbH
Zamdorfer Str. 40
81677 München
Email: robert.heitzer@sueddeutsche.de
Tel: +498921838060

Its Mandatory to mention exact & clear address and contact (Email & mobile) details of WAN-IFRA to proceed the shipment tracking, following and on time delivery.

Which all annexures you should attach?

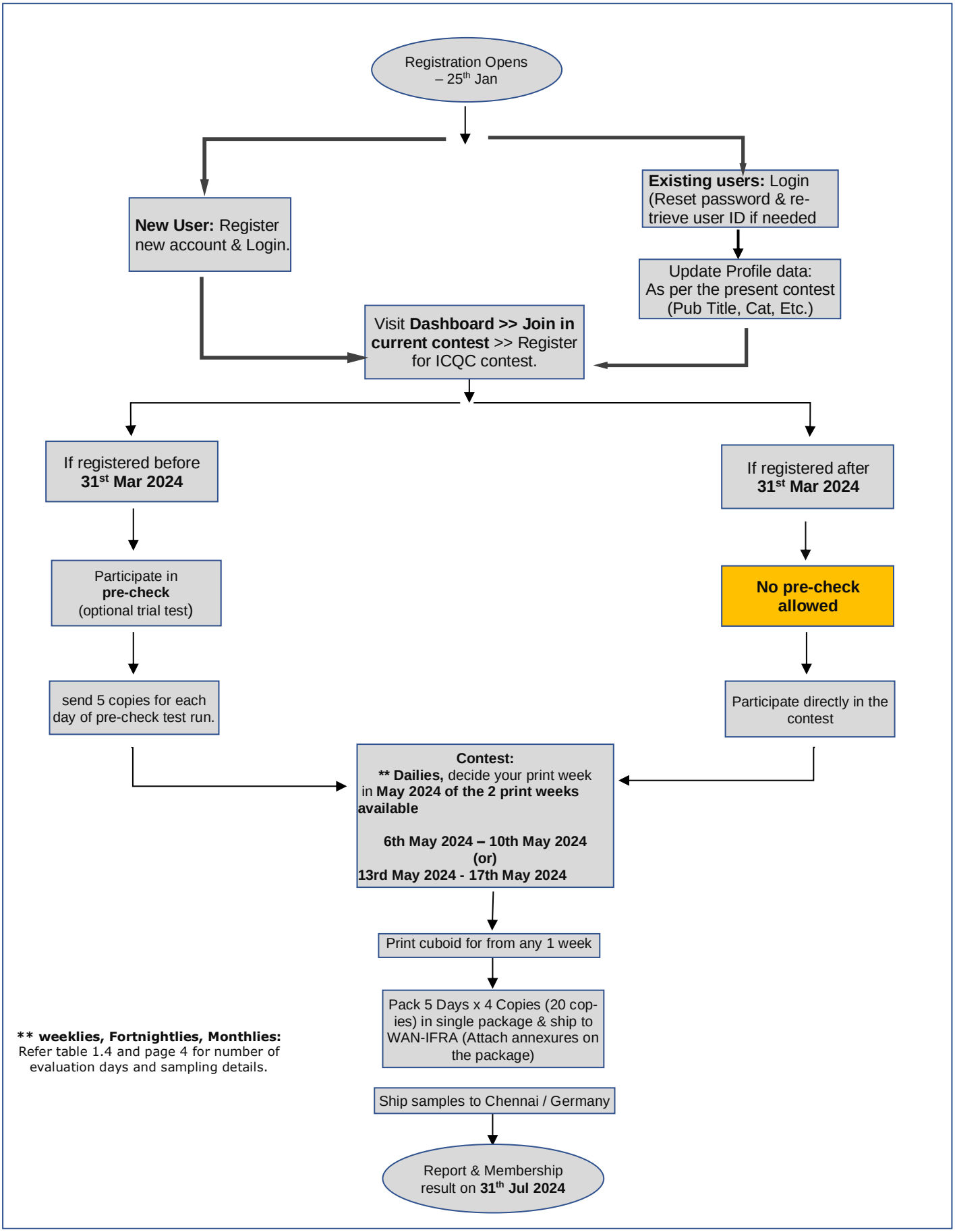
ANNEXURE 1 & 2 (PAGE 23 & 24) :

- **Annexure 1** is only For Participants of international publications & who ship samples to India
- **Annexure 2** is for participants from Europe (non Germany) & ship samples to Germany
- **Participant must paste the appropriate ANNEXURE 1 or 2 (any 1 as applicable outside** the package (don't keep **inside)**, failing annexes may cost delayed/denied customs clearance, this lead to dis qualify from contest.
- Participants from India who ships within India and from Germany who ships within Germany, don't have to attach either of annex 1 & 2, but to include annex 3 inside copies.

ANNEXURE 3: (PAGE 25)

- Annexure 3 is for all Participants of ICQC.
- This must be submitted (kept inside) for each issue dates separately for all samples. This helps us managing the contest ease and error free.

3.2 Contest procedure and Workflow



**** weeklies, Fortnightlies, Monthlies:** Refer table 1.4 and page 4 for number of evaluation days and sampling details.

Annex 1: Declaration letter for INDIAN Customs

Date: _____

Declaration

To Whomsoever It May Concern:

In this package, we are sending __20__ number of copies of our Newspaper / magazine publication _____ of issue dated _____. Worth of the material is less than or equals **€ _____** This package **doesn't attract any high commercial value** and shipping it to the following address **for evaluation and study purpose only**.

WAN-IFRA South Asia Pvt Ltd
#54, 3rd floor,
SIET Admin building (Bank of Baroda),
KB Dasan Road, Teynampet
Chennai -600018, TN, India

Kind Attn: Prabhu Natrajan
Mobile: +91.8792178292
Email : prabhu.n@wan-ifra.org

Kindly clear the customs at the earliest.

Yours truly,

_____

Name / Signature of the person responsible

_____

Designation

_____

Company Seal

Annex 2: Declaration letter for EUROPEAN Customs

Date: _____

Declaration

To Whomsoever It May Concern:

In this package, we are sending ____ number of copies of our Newspaper / magazine publication _____ of issue dated _____. Worth of the material is less than or equals **€ _____** This package **doesn't attract any high commercial value** and shipping it to the following address **for evaluation and study purpose only**:

Robert Heitzer

Süddeutscher Verlag Zeitungsdruck GmbH
Zamdorfer Str. 40
81677 München
Email: robert.heitzer@sueddeutsche.de
Tel: +498921838060

Kindly clear the customs at the earliest.

Yours truly,

_____

Name / Signature of the person responsible

_____

Designation

_____

Company Seal

Annex 3: Leaflet for Cuboid identification

Please insert the completed leaflet inside the package

Competition month	
Publication title (registered)	
Technical category (Tick)	☐ **Cat 1** ☐ **Cat 2** ☐ **Cat 3** ☐ **Cat 4** ☐ **Cat 5**
Company Name	
Printing site / City	
Country	
Cuboid printed on page No.	