

CERTIFICATION: ISCC and ISCC PLU Product sustainability



TARGET ORGANISATIONS

Product sustainability certification in accordance with the ISCC PLUS scheme applies to all actors in the sustainable product supply chain, in particular: recycled product supply chains, food and feed product supply chains, chemical product supply chains, biomass supply chain for energy use, bio-based products.

The products that can be certified are defined by ISCC and published in the 'List of Materials' document, where they are constantly updated.

THE CONTEXT

The increasing pressure on organisations to commit to sustainable development requires a rethink of the business model, the integration of social responsibility into strategies and policies, and the expansion of the product range to include sustainable products.

Organisations are increasingly being asked to demonstrate a proactive commitment to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals defined by the United Nations.

ISCC (an acronym for International Sustainability & Carbon Certification) was created to enable organisations to meet the sustainability

requirements for biofuels and bio-propellants under the RED Directive. As it is mandatory, this scheme has had a significant impact around the world.

Based on the experience gained and the brand recognition achieved, ISCC has developed the voluntary certification scheme ISCC PLUS, which guarantees public and private bodies the sustainable content of the product through the principles of traceability throughout the supply chain with a so-called 'mass balance' approach.

THE SERVICE

Certification activities focus on the assessment of precise technical aspects, including:

- the correct definition of the boundaries of the traceability system;
- the identification of the sustainability lot;
- the calculation of process yields;
- the mass balance;
- the risk analysis;
- the traceability system;
- the sustainability statement.

Auditing activities are carried out by qualified auditors as required by ISCC.

BENEFITS

Possession of ISCC PLUS certification of products/raw materials/semi-finished products enables you to:

- respond to the sustainability challenges that the market places on companies;
- have the option of certifying multiple sustainable supply chains (Circular, Bio, Bio Circular);
- achieve product certification that protects organisations from the risks of green washing;
- pursue the reduction of impacts on biodiversity and the ecosystem;
- have immediate competitive advantages in the marketplace;
- possibility to include voluntary 'add-ons' to enhance other elements of product sustainability.

The report 'Linking Voluntary Standards to Sustainable Development Goals' shows that ISCC PLUS is one of the product certification schemes that meets more of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.

CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Organisations can apply to Certiquality, the co-operating certification body for the ISCC scheme, for sustainability certification of their products in accordance with the ISCC PLUS scheme.

The process involves:

- Acceptance of the certification offer
- The applicant organisation's registration on the ISCC portal
- An initial audit to issue the certificate (valid for one year)
- Managing any defects that are found
- The certification decision by Certiquality
- Publication of the certificate on the ISCC website
- Annual renewal audits

ADDITIONAL AND TRAINING DOCUMENTATION

To explore this topic in more detail, we suggest consulting the following documents available on the ISCC website:

- 'ISCC PLUS'
- 'ISCC EU 203 – Traceability and Chain of Custody'
- 'ISCC EU 204 – Risk Management'
- Any other relevant documents published on the ISCC website under the 'ISCC Documents' section

