

ISCC Sustainability Certification in 2016: What's new?

The year 2016 has so far been an important and successful year for ISCC. First of all, ISCC EU was among the first two voluntary schemes to be re-recognized by the European Commission. Furthermore, ISCC has developed new certification concepts for several materials and processes under ISCC EU and ISCC PLUS. For your convenience, ISCC has set up an overview of the latest developments below.

Re-Recognition of ISCC EU

- On 09 August 2016, the European Commission has adopted the decision to re-recognize ISCC in the framework of the amended Renewable Energy Directive (RED)
- The revised and re-recognized ISCC EU system basic documents are published on the ISCC website
- An overview of the changes in ISCC EU resulting from the re-recognition by the European Commission is provided in the next section of this document

ISCC fulfils SAI/FSA Silver and Gold

- SAI (Sustainable Agriculture Initiative) is a Platform of the food industry to assess and improve agricultural sustainability
- SAI has developed the Farm Sustainability Assessment (FSA), which is used to benchmark existing codes and schemes against the SAI sustainability criteria
- ISCC EU and ISCC PLUS have been determined as equivalent to FSA Silver level on a global basis
- ISCC has developed the voluntary Add-on "SAI Gold", which can be applied on farm level to ensure compliance with the FSA Gold level

Biogas and Biomethane

- ISCC has developed a guidance document for certification in the fast growing market of biogas and biomethane
- Relevant feedstocks include crops, manure and other organic wastes as well as landfill (waste) gas
- Several biogas and biomethane units as well as traders in the EU and US have already been certified

15 September 2016

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Wood-based Supply Chains

- ISCC has developed a Guidance document for a practical certification approach for biofuels from forest-based supply chains
- Certification can be applied to wood, forestry residues and residues from the wood processing industry
- Based on new technologies, biomass from forests can be processed into biofuels and biochemicals
- If biomass from forestry is processed, the forest sector must fulfil RED requirements

Non-GMO Module for Food and Feed

- ISCC has developed a module for the certification of non-genetically modified organisms (Non-GMO), materials and products
- Globally applicable for the labelling of food and feed products in accordance with the EC Genetic Engineering Implementation Act

Shea

- ISCC has developed a guidance document for the certification of shea supply chains
- Shea trees only grow on Africa and the picking and further processing of the wild growing shea fruits is traditionally done by local women for whom shea means an important source of income

Co-Processing

- ISCC has developed a guidance document on the specific requirements for the certification of co-processing plants
- Co-Processing is the simultaneous processing of fossil and biogenic materials
- The correct measurement and distribution of bio-content and -credits are crucial for the certification process

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“Power to X” and “Waste to X”

- ISCC has developed concepts to certify “Power to X” and “Waste to X”
- Examples for Wastes to X concepts include the utilization of used tires or municipal solid waste
- Examples for Power to X include the utilization of electricity for the processing of products for fuel or chemical markets
- The amended RED (Directive 2015/1513/EC) also includes new fuels which are not considered “biofuels”:
 - Renewable liquid and gaseous transport fuels of non-biological origin
 - Carbon capture and utilisation for transport purposes

ISCC Signatory of the UN Global Compact

- In 2016, the ISCC Association (ISCC e.V.) became a signatory of the United Nations Global Compact
- The initiative promotes the integration of UN universal principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption in business activities
- ISCC supports and contributes to the realisation of ten Sustainable Development Goals

ISCC EU Re-Recognition: Overview of Changes

New ISCC EU version (3.0)	Old ISCC EU version (including system updates)
ISCC 102 Governance	ISCC 103 Quality Management ISCC 253 Complaints, Appeals, Arbitration ISCC 207 Risk Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting Requirements and Transparency 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjusted Process for Conflict Resolution 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procedure regarding Non-conformities and Sanctions 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ISCC Integrity Program 	
ISCC 103 Requirements for Certification Bodies and Auditors	ISCC 251 Requirements on Certification Bodies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specification of the accreditation standard (ISO/IEC 17065) and obligation to inform ISCC about changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ISO Guide 65 (EN 45 011)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointment of ISCC System Manager at the CB 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsibility to ensure the competence of auditors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every auditor must conduct at least one ISCC audit annually Auditors must participate in an ISCC Basic Training at least every 5 years especially in case of re-recognition of ISCC 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GHG expert and ISCC PLUS expert must have participated in respective ISCC trainings 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specification of the provisions regarding the issuance, termination and withdrawal of certificates 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentation for at least five years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentation for at least ten years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data transmission 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISCC Integrity Program, Sanctions, Complaints and Appeals included 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure in the event System Users change the Certification Body 	
ISCC 201 System Basics	ISCC 201 System Basics for the certification of sustainable biomass and bioenergy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisation of ISCC, Risk Management and Arbitration procedure now included in ISCC 102 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on acceptance of EC recognised national and voluntary schemes 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision of definitions of elements of supply chains, relevant elements in waste/residues supply chains are now included 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All traders of ISCC material have to be certified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification of paper traders on a voluntary basis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issuing of certificates up to seven days prior to the starting date of the period of validity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Period of certificate validity starts with the date of issuing
ISCC 201-1 Waste and Residues	ISCC 201 System Basics Supplement for the certification of waste and residue based liquid and gaseous biofuels
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions: Waste and Residues 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specification of different point of origin 	

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setups	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option to recognise existing collection systems operated by governmental authorities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sampling of points of origin is only possible if the contractual basis, avoids incentives to make false claims about the nature of the raw material, and if the risk of fraudulent behaviour is low 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste and Residue Process and further Guidance 	
ISCC 202 Sustainability Requirements	ISCC 202 Sustainability Requirements for the Production of Biomass
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-ordering of criteria 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous improvement to reach compliance with principles 2-6 in a specified time frame 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full compliance from 1st audit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certification of grassland is possible if it can be demonstrated that the grassland is or was not highly biodiverse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certification of grassland generally not possible
ISCC 203 Traceability and Chain of Custody	ISCC 203 Requirements for Traceability ISCC 204 Mass Balance Calculation Methodology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least five years retention period for relevant records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ten years retention period for relevant records
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FGP/CP acceptance of material prior to certification 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aggregation of sustainability declarations for deliveries under one contract 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptance of materials three months prior to certification for FGPs and CPs 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statement on Sustainability Declaration of Producers and trader of final biofuels if final processing unit was in operation on or before 5 October 2015 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural gas and electric power grid are considered as transport entities for Biomethane and renewable energy 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spatial boundaries for certified operations 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Credit transfer between certification periods 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-processing 	
ISCC 204 Audit Requirements and Risk Management	ISCC 252 Regulations to Carry Out Audits ISCC 207 Risk Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-site audits, desk audits may be possible if specific criteria are met 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only on-site audit, no desk audit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous improvement to reach compliance with principles 2-6 in a specified time frame 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full compliance from 1st audit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory certification of all operators trading with sustainable material and obligation to demonstrate compliance with traceability requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voluntary certification of “paper traders”
ISCC 205 Greenhouse Gas Emissions:	ISCC 205 GHG Emissions Calculation Methodology and GHG Audit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GHG savings requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35 % for existing installations until Dec 2017 50 % from 01 Jan 2018 60% for new installations directly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GHG savings requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35% for existing installations until Dec 2016 50% from 1 Jan 2017 60% for new installations from 1 Jan 2017

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NUTS2-requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Default Values and Disaggregated Default Values for cultivation can always be applied • NUTS2 value in kg CO₂eq/dry-ton raw material (must be treated as actual GHG values) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NUTS2-requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In EU Total Default Values and Disaggregated Default Values for cultivation only to be used if NUTS2 requirements were fulfilled • NUTS2 value was given in g CO₂e/MJ biofuel
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information transfer of individual elements of the GHG calculation formula along the supply chain (e.g. cultivation emissions e_{ec}, processing emissions e_p and emissions from transport & distribution e_{td}) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One summarized GHG value in kg CO₂eq/ton product on SD taking into account all upstream emissions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculate and forward GHG values per dry-ton matter (0% water content applicable for all materials including crude and refined oils and ethanol) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GHG values were transferred in kgCO₂eq per ton reflecting actual moisture content
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedstock factor based on mass (for feedstocks and intermediates) and based on energy content of input and main output for final biofuels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversion factor calculated by dividing output by input (ton output/ton input)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N₂O field emissions must be calculated applying IPCC methodology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of N₂O field emission factor from ISCC emission factor list
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance on allocation of GHG emissions 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further specification on CCR, CCS, and methane capture 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further requirements on competences of auditors and audit reporting 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third country reports with typical emissions from cultivation 	
ISCC 206 Group Certification	ISCC 256 Group Certification ISCC 256-01 Guidance: Identification of Farm/Plantation and Smallholder Certification

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ISCC 252 Regulations to carry out Audits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group certification applicable to farms, points of origin and storage facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group certification applicable to farms and warehouses

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