Outline

• Control Union background and services

• The Alberta Crops Sustainability Certification Pilot Project

• Findings: Strengths and Weakness – ISCC related criteria

• Opportunities.
Who are we.....

- Control Union is a global network of inspection and certification operations.
- Privately held and based in the Netherlands
- Established in 1920 in Rotterdam
- +50 countries with more than 3,000 employees
Geographic presence with +100 offices
Some highlighted certification programs per area

- **Agriculture & Food**
  - RSPO
  - USDA Organic
  - JAS
  - Naturland
  - AB
  - UTZ Certified
  - Bonsucro
  - GlobalG.A.P.
  - Ethical Trading Initiative

- **Food safety**
  - BRC
  - FS
  - GMP+
  - Food Safety System
    - Conformity 2000

- **Energy + Environment**
  - ISCC
  - Green Gold Label
  - Carbon Neutral
  - Carbon Offset
  - WWF
  - LCMP
  - Water Efficiency
  - Biomeurrents
The Alberta Sustainability Certification Pilot Project

- Assess level of readiness for Alberta growers to meet today’s sustainability demands.
- Volunteers from four commissions
The Alberta Sustainability Certification Pilot Project

- Province of Alberta = 255,541 square miles (661,848 square km)
What were we looking for?

- Levels of readiness
- Agricultural practices leaning towards sustainable practices
- Direct evidence or clear understanding of information / documentation needed. Do you keep such documents? Are they readily available? Do you understand the principles behind the questions?
- Resources whether regional, provincial and or industry = tools
Findings:

• Strengths
  – Soil management
    • Precision farming and high rate of technology employed.
    • Newer equipment with guidance systems
  – Quad tractors – reduction in soil compaction
  – Very little custom applications needed - own applications
Findings:
• Strengths
  – Precision farming and high rate of technology employed.
  – Planting – larger crop rotation with more crops, flax, pulse, canola, barley, oats, rye, wheat ...
  – Periodic soil testing – every 2-3 years
• Strong interest in sustainable agricultural
• Agro-chemicals – majority of major musts in compliance
Findings:

• Strengths - others
  – Legal compliance - land ownership and land-delineation
  – Financial stability and GHG – farmers are recording information related to each unit of production.
Findings:

• Weaknesses
  – Health and safety – documentation of safety training, emergency procedures. Signage and posting needed. Although all had some first aid kits others have PPEs lying around.
Findings:

• Weaknesses
  – Bio-diversity – land-use change, no clear rules on conversion
  – Waste management -
Findings:

- Weaknesses – others that require more assistance
  - Waste management – planning and disposal need to be improved.
  - Record keeping – a lot of information is simply not documented.
  - Labor conditions – agreements with labor and implied agreements with no documented arrangements.
  - Water management – planning and regulations
Opportunities:

– Multi-crop – same farmers supply into numerous supply chains.

– Only standard that has a level of integrity via 3rd party audits

– Commissions have strong interest in engaging their growers and looking for resources and tools to enable them to further improve their sustainable practices via documentation and local/regional/provincial code.
Thank you for your attention.