



Certified Environmental Facts Certification

**Standard Audit Plan
April 2024**



1.0 Background

GreenCircle Certified, LLC's (GreenCircle) Certified Environmental Facts® (CEF) certification demonstrates an organization's holistic commitment to sustainability in their product(s), packaging, and operation(s). The CEF label is a transparent, multi-attribute label, that provides all necessary environmental sustainability information in a straightforward manner. The label can highlight certified product specific, packaging specific and manufacturing specific sustainability attributes.

GreenCircle will conduct the audit for Certified Environmental Facts Certification in accordance with the requirements and methods set forth in this audit plan and in GreenCircle's Certification Scheme; in compliance with ISO17065:2012. GreenCircle will also evaluate the compliance to the following programs:

- LEED v4 rating system for any applicable attributes of building products
- Amazon Climate Pledge Friendly program for any applicable products.
- EPA Ecolabel program., for flooring products

All labels can be adapted to meet a company's need for certification of multiple sustainability attributes in an easy-to-read format. As sustainable purchasing policies and sustainable supply chain requirements continue to become more rigorous, multi-attribute certifications will provide validated sustainability information that highlights the strengths of a product

These attributes can include but are not limited to (as applicable):

1.1 Product Specific

- Carbon Footprint Reduction
- Certified Energy Savings
- Closed Loop Product
- Material Ingredient Disclosure (GreenCircle LEED v4 Compliant, Verified HPD, Verified Declare Label, etc.)
- Completed Life Cycle Assessment or Environmental Product Declaration
- Recycled Content
- Recyclable Material: Metals
- Any applicable or additional product based third-party certifications (i.e. ENERGY STAR, USDA BioPreferred, etc.)

1.2 Packaging Specific

- Closed Loop Product
- Recycled Content



1.3 Manufacturing Specific

- Carbon Emissions Reduction
- Energy Usage Reduction
- Waste Diversion for Landfill
- Waste Reduction
- Water Usage Reduction
- Renewable Energy Usage
- ISO 14001 or other applicable facility wide certifications

Note: Sustainable attributes can be adapted to fit and meet each company's needs. To provide total sustainability in one easy to read label, GreenCircle also recognizes other valid third-party certifications and can add these to the label as applicable.

2.0 Goal

GreenCircle aims to provide a single, trusted source of third-party certified environmental sustainability data for a product, its associated manufacturing operations, and packaging materials. The goal of this certification is to provide transparency on a multi-attribute basis of a company's sustainability performance.

3.0 Company Qualifications

Companies who manufacture products with multiple sustainability attributes will be eligible for Certified Environmental Facts certification. Specific product, packaging, and manufacturing attributes to be audited and certified will be pre-vetted and agreed upon prior to a proposal being issued and signed. GreenCircle will review the documentation requirements and possible sustainability attributes with the potential Client to determine if there is a large probability that certification can be completed prior to issuing a proposal. It is not guaranteed an organization will achieve certification until a thorough audit is completed by GreenCircle. To achieve CEF certification, both product specific and manufacturing specific attributes must be verified.

4.0 Documentation Requirements

To qualify for certification a company must have six months of data, preferably 12 months, for each of the attributes that are being assessed. Documentation requirements will be dictated by the certifications and verifications being conducted; these requirements may include the following but GreenCircle's Standard Audit Plan for individual certifications should be reviewed for more specific requirements.



4.1 Product Specific Information Requirements

- Product family Bill of Materials or Recipes (percent by weight basis). This will include exploded view drawings (if possible and applicable) so GreenCircle can understand all the constituents and types of material within each product being analyzed. The bill of materials or product recipes will be used to analyze and validate product specific sustainable attributes within the product.
- Total production for the specified products (lbs., tons, etc.) for the previous year.
- A list of current suppliers including the type of material provided, the quantity supplied, and any information of supplier variability, including frequency of change in suppliers, changes in source location of raw materials, etc.
- GreenCircle will develop supplier questionnaires to obtain information from the suppliers in order to certify the claims. This questionnaire will be used to confirm sustainable attributes of the raw materials supplied to the client including recycled content, biobased content, etc. As needed, GreenCircle may conduct interviews with the various suppliers to confirm the information provided.
- Supplier names and locations (street address). Once locations are determined, GreenCircle will assess the distance from the manufacturing facility to confirm the regional sourcing of the supplied parts or materials on a percent by weight basis.
- Purchasing documents for the various parts or raw materials which contain data clearly describing existing plant inventory and proof of purchase.
- Purchasing documents and invoices that verify take back programs and/or closed-loop processes are being conducted.
- Access to the client's life cycle assessment (LCA) studies (such as SimaPro or Gabi) as well as copies of either the client's published LCA or EPD reports. GreenCircle will use the LCA database to conduct a Life Cycle Assessment Optimized analysis to verify life cycle reductions of the product based on changes to either the product or facility where the product is made. GreenCircle will use this information to verify the Carbon Footprint Reduction of the product as well, where applicable.



- For material ingredient disclosure GreenCircle will require that the manufacturer provide sufficient recipe or bill of material data for all ingredients and constituents of those ingredients so GreenCircle can validate the material ingredient disclosure documentation (HPD, Declare, Manufacturer Inventories, etc.)
- GreenCircle will need to understand the usual end of life disposal scenario and global location of general disposal of the product. This information will be used to ensure recyclability of any metal products and to ensure 60% of the infrastructure in the US can support recycling this material per the Federal Trade Commission's 2012 Green Guides.
- Any applicable or additional third-party sustainable product certifications (i.e. ENERGY STAR, USDA BioPreferred, etc.). GreenCircle must collect the certificate from our client and the certificate must display the certification is valid for GreenCircle to include within the CEF label.
- Any additional information needed to complete and verify a claim must also be submitted and reviewed by the GreenCircle Certification Analyst. The Certification Analyst will identify and request this additional information on a per certification basis.

4.2 Packaging Specific Information Requirements

- A list of different packaging types and the types of products that can be sold via that packaging type.
- Number of suppliers for each packaging material and contact information for each supplier. GreenCircle will develop Supplier Questionnaires and provide these questionnaires to the client to send to their various packaging suppliers. GreenCircle will then provide supplier follow up support to obtain the needed information from the suppliers in order to certify their claims. This questionnaire will be used to confirm sustainable attributes of the packaging products supplied to the client including recycled content. As needed, GreenCircle will conduct interviews with the various packaging suppliers to confirm the information they provide within the supplier questionnaires.
- For closed loop packaging products, GreenCircle will require documentation for the closed loop program. The documentation must include data on the amount of packaging that is collected and reused annually.



- Relevant testing documentation (ASTM D5526 testing for biodegradability, etc.) GreenCircle will review each laboratory test to verify the product or packaging material meets the attribute claim.

4.3 Specific Manufacturing Information Requirements

GreenCircle will require environmental data for the specified baseline year as well as the most recent year's data to benchmark the facility's operations and validate environmental impact reductions based on implemented conservation measures. The baseline year typically coincides with the baseline year for company sustainability programs and will be determined at the time of proposal development. A baseline year will typically be within five years of the most recent certification year. Energy, carbon footprint, water, and waste reductions will be validated and require either process changes or conservation measure implementation to be valid.

- Minimum two years of electricity, natural gas, and fuel source (oil, propane, etc., if applicable) consumption data must be collected and analyzed to confirm the carbon footprint reduction and energy usage reduction claims of the manufacturing facility. The facility will also be required to submit documentation to verify energy conservation measures have been implemented within the manufacturing facility. This documentation could include purchase orders, paid invoices, profit impact reports, etc.
- Minimum two years of total water consumption data must be collected and analyzed. The facility will also be required to submit documentation to verify water conservation measures were implemented within the manufacturing facility. This documentation could include purchase orders, profit impact reports, etc.
- Minimum two years of total waste data must be collected and analyzed. The facility will also be required to submit documentation to verify waste reduction activities efforts within the manufacturing facility. This documentation could include purchase orders, load tickets, material management organization receipts, and weigh tickets, etc.
- Minimum two years of total production data (all products) at the facility must also be collected to benchmark the operations.
- Data clearly describing the amount and type of materials being recycled internally throughout the facility. A list of any source reduction practices implemented. A list of all outgoing waste materials, their amounts, as well as a list of all downstream material management organizations used to haul these materials from the site to a downstream processor (recycler, landfill, etc.).
- GreenCircle will audit the downstream material management organizations to ensure they are diverting the materials as they say they are as well as understand the residuals coming out of their process as a part of our Waste Diversion from



Landfill percentage validation. As indicated above, GreenCircle will need to coordinate site visits to the local downstream material management organizations as a part of this process. GreenCircle will also submit requests (as necessary) to various downstream material management organizations for the types and amounts of material they process within their operations. Interviews to various material management companies will also be conducted as needed.

- Contact information for each material management organization and any information of materials management organization variability, including frequency of change in organizations, any organizations that may be acquired in the near future, etc.
- Copies of purchasing slips, load tickets, and waste bills verifying the transactions between the company and the materials management organizations as well as the amount of material being handled by each.
- Any applicable or additional third-party sustainability certifications for the facility (i.e., ISO 14001, etc.). GreenCircle must collect the certificate from our client and the certificate must display the certification is valid for GreenCircle to include within the CEF label.
- A company must also provide GreenCircle access for a site visit to the processing or manufacturing facility. GreenCircle will determine if this requirement will be met through an on-site visit or a virtual visit for visual verification of the products and manufacturing process.

4.4 Flooring Requirements for EPA Ecolabel Program

- Demonstrate a sustainability program or provide a documented roadmap to establish a sustainability program. The roadmap should include company-specific sustainability goals based on an established benchmark with a goal that includes a target year.
- Published LCA (or EPD) for first generation and new products. The LCA (and EPD) must be critically reviewed to satisfy the most current versions of ISO 14040/44, ISO 14025, ISO 21930 and other applicable standards; and must have been completed within 5 years of the certification evaluation period.
- Evidence of carbon emissions reduction in manufacturing phase via renewable energy usage, carbon free electricity or reduced energy usage normalized to production data (energy intensity).
- Take back program for products that integrates recycled and recovered materials into the product. At minimum, the company must have an established program for customers or other interested entities to avoid landfill or incinerations at the end of product life.
- Minimum of 10% recycled content for carpet products.



- Publicly available material ingredient reports or chemical/hazard assessment and disclosures, down to a minimum of 1000ppm. This could include third-party verified Health Product Declaration, Declare Label, Manufacturers Inventory, or other approved LEED v4 compliant disclosure
- Completed certification for low emitting materials per CDPH Standard Method v1.1 – 2010

5.0 Audit and Certification Process

5.1 Data Collection

Once the proposal and certification agreement are signed GreenCircle will conduct an initial project meeting, via video or conference call, with contact(s) at each manufacturing facility to discuss the required data, GreenCircle’s audit process and project schedule. GreenCircle will gain an understanding of the material flows and tracking systems utilized at the facility for the products/packaging/facility to be certified.

GreenCircle will provide an initial data request to be completed by the facility contact(s). See the Documentation Requirements for information that will be requested in the data collection stage.

5.2 Site Audit

GreenCircle will conduct a site visit at the facility to audit and verify the details of the operations or manufacturing processes and visually inspect the product, packaging and manufacturing attributes pertinent to the specific certification. GreenCircle will conduct a facility walk down of all applicable processes in order to understand the material flows, raw material usage and manufacturing/operations processes for the facility as they pertain to each attribute.

5.3 Multi-Attribute Calculations

GreenCircle will conduct a thorough review of the data required for each attribute being assessed and perform calculations based on the documentation provided to ensure compliance with applicable internationally recognized standards and the 2012 FTC Green Guides. Additional information on GreenCircle’s calculation methods is documented in GreenCircle’s Standard Audit Plan for each certification type.

5.4 Certification Audit Deliverables

Upon verification of the product, packaging, and manufacturing operations claims, GreenCircle will issue GreenCircle Certified, LLC Certificates and Mark for the specified product manufactured at a specific facility. The certificate will document that



an independent evaluation of the products and manufacturing operation claims has been conducted on behalf of the client for the specified product(s).

All certificate holders must notify GreenCircle Certified, LLC of any significant changes in products or operations that could alter any of the claims detailed in certification.

GreenCircle will prepare a written report on the audit process and findings and provide this report to the Client. GreenCircle will also list the final certificates on the GreenCircle Certified Product Database and provide GreenCircle Marks for use in marketing.

6.0 Annual Recertification Process

The Certified Environmental Facts certification is valid for three-years, with data verification through an annual check in. All certified claims are verified annually to confirm any changes that may impact the attributes certified and will include a collection of sample documentation. If any product attribute or the waste diversion from landfill attribute deviates by greater than five percent, GreenCircle will outline the necessary documentation requirements for recertifying the impacted attributes. A full analysis of an attribute during a check in, or adding new attributes, may result in additional fees required for the review of the additional documentation.

It is important for GreenCircle to evaluate any changes within the operations or manufacturing processes to ensure the accuracy of all sustainability claims. After the three-year, a full recertification of all attributes is required. Completion of recertification ensures continued transparency and further use of the GreenCircle mark.

7.0 Complaints, Appeals and Disputes

GreenCircle must be contacted immediately if there is a complaint, appeal and or dispute brought against a certification that GreenCircle has verified. GreenCircle will follow the Appeals, Complaints and Disputes procedure to review and resolve the issue.

8.0 Guidelines for Private Label User

The Certified Environmental Facts Multi-Attribute certification is for the exclusive use of the Client. Companies that produce private label products will require any private label Customers, or downstream re-sellers of the certified product(s) who desire to utilize the GreenCircle Multi-Attribute certification to enter into a separate Licensing Agreement with GreenCircle regarding the use of the GreenCircle Mark and/or Label on



private label product and promotional materials. Please contact GreenCircle directly for more information.

9.0 Labeling Requirements

The Client agrees to promptly cease display and use of the GreenCircle Certified, LLC mark: (1) Upon expiration of the certification period; (2) If Client is no longer in compliance with the certification requirements in this audit plan of the GreenCircle terms and conditions. Please reference the **GreenCircle Certified Mark Usage Guidelines** for further details and more information on using the mark. The Client shall take caution to ensure that the GreenCircle Certification mark is not associated with products and/or operations which do not comply with the GreenCircle Certification System (GCCS). The Client will be asked to remove the GreenCircle mark immediately if it is found that they have applied the mark on a non-conforming GCCS product and/or operation. If the Client fails to remove the misused mark, an investigation will be conducted pertaining to the misuse, in which the full cost of the investigation shall be borne by the Client. The Client shall not allow the GCCS Certification mark to remain on non-conforming products offered for sale. Such action could invite prosecution under U.S. Trademark statutes or attract other penalty provisions in other U.S. or State law.

10.0 Key Terminology

Alternative Daily Cover: Material other than earthen material placed on the surface of the active face of a municipal solid waste landfill at the end of each operating day to control vectors, fires, odors, blowing litter, and scavenging. GreenCircle will analyze the types of materials used for ADC and determine if this is an appropriate form of diversion.

Audit Plan: Specifies how GreenCircle intends to conduct a particular audit. Our audit plan describes the activities we intended to carry out in order to achieve our audit objectives.

Beneficial Reuse: Any materials that would be waste that is turned into a commodity. Beneficial reuse could also be defined as the reuse of byproducts from one manufacturing process in another process.

Carbon Footprint: The level of carbon dioxide generated by a process, facility, or in the production of a product.

Chain-of-Custody (CoC): Refers to the chronological documentation or paper trail of materials or product flows to and from different entities. This documentation is utilized to track materials through the closed loop product system.



Closed-Loop Product: Products that are designed for recycling, recovery or reuse are collected and recycled in whole or part. The original product, materials or components are integrated back into the manufacturing process or processes in which they were generated, and manufactured into new similar or equal value products.

Commercial and Industrial Waste: The solid component of the waste stream arising from commercial, industrial, government, public or domestic premises (not collected as Municipal Solid Waste), but does not contain Listed Waste, Hazardous Waste, or Radioactive Waste.

Component: A constituent part of something (such as a system or mixture).

Construction and Demolition Waste (C&D): Waste generated from the construction, renovation, repair, and demolition of structures such as residential, commercial, and industrial buildings. The composition of C&D waste varies; however, it is composed mainly of wood products, asphalt, drywall, masonry, metals, shingles, insulation, paper, and cardboard.

Disposal: Any materials being sent to incineration without energy recovery and landfilled materials will be considered disposal.

End-of-Life: A phase in the life cycle of a product in which the product can no longer be used and will need to be either disposed of or recycled. Within the closed loop product certification GreenCircle will be analyzing those products/materials that have been designed to be recyclable at the end of life.

Energy Recovery (Waste-to-Energy): The conversion of non-recoverable materials from waste into heat, electricity or fuel through a variety of processes, including combustion, gasification, pyrolyzation, anaerobic digestion, and landfill gas recovery (LFG). This process is often called waste-to-energy. This can be defined as beneficial reuse and GreenCircle will analyze the management of bi-products of the Waste to Energy process to understand the effects on a company's landfill diversion rates. Bottom ash material being generated in the Waste to Energy process will be analyzed and assessed per applicable state and local regulations. Bottom ash materials that are beneficially reused and or have regulatory approval as an alternate daily cover will be included as materials diverted from landfill.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR): Is an environmental protection strategy to reach an environmental objective of a decreased total environmental impact from a product, by making the manufacturer of the product responsible for the entire



life-cycle of the product and especially for the take-back, recycling and final disposal of the product.

Equal Value Product: A product that uses closed-loop materials that are not down cycled or integrated into a lower value product but would be incorporated into a product of similar function or economic value.

Hazardous Waste: Waste that includes any unwanted or discarded material (excluding radioactive material), which because of its physical, chemical or infectious characteristics can cause significant hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of or otherwise managed.

Incineration: The total mass of solid waste sent to an incinerator that does not recover energy for beneficial reuse. From an environmental/life cycle perspective incineration without energy recovery has minimal benefits over landfill and much less benefit than Waste-to-Energy. Sending waste to incineration without energy recovery is considered disposal.

Life Cycle Thinking: A method used in sustainable product development that includes considering the environmental impacts of each stage of a product/material's life cycle. These life cycle stages include: raw material extraction, manufacturing, use, and end-of-life disposal. Organizations that use life-cycle thinking and design products that are recyclable, recoverable, or reusable at the end of life will be considered for closed loop product certification.

Material Inputs: All incoming materials including: original products collected, materials or components reclaimed or recycled, virgin or purchased materials.

Material Management Organization (MMO): Any organization that hauls, processes, treats, or otherwise manages outgoing material (other than finished product) from the facility.

Material Outputs: All outgoing materials, waste or products from a manufacturing or processing facility.

Municipal Solid Waste: More commonly known as trash or garbage—consists of everyday items used and then thrown away, such as product packaging, grass clippings, furniture, clothing, bottles, food scraps, newspapers, appliances, paint, and batteries.

Non-Recoverable Materials: A material generated from a facility that is non-recyclable or not feasibly recyclable due to the availability of recycling facility



infrastructure within the local and regional area. Given the current recycling infrastructure of the United States, there are still areas in the US that have limited to no recycling available for various materials. The costs to recover and transport these materials long distances may not be economically feasible and create more environmental impact compared to managing the materials in a waste- to-energy facility. GreenCircle acknowledges this issue and will require documentation from the facility that all reasonable means of diversion have been evaluated; as well as, the economic and environmental impact analysis demonstrating recycling or other acceptable means of waste diversion are not feasible for the materials. Based on GreenCircle’s review of this documentation materials may be deemed non- recoverable and will be acceptable to be diverted to a waste-to-energy facility as long as the waste-to-energy facility is within 100 miles of the facility generating the waste.

Original Equipment Manufacturer: A company that acquires a product or component and reuses or incorporates it into a new product with its own brand name.

Post-Consumer Recycled Content: Material generated by households or by commercial, industrial and institutional facilities in their role as end-users of the product which can no longer be used for its intended purpose. This includes returns of material from the distribution chain.

Pre-Consumer Recycled Content: Material diverted from the waste stream during a manufacturing process. Excluded is reutilization of materials such as rework, regrind or scrap generated in a process and capable of being reclaimed with the same process that generated it.

Radioactive Waste: Any radioactive substance in the form of a solid, liquid or gas that is left over, surplus or an unwanted byproduct of any business or domestic activity.

Redesign to Eliminate Waste: A practice of source reduction specifically targeting the reduction or elimination of waste. Per ISO 14021 all source reduction claims will be made as a comparison. In the GreenCircle Waste Diversion from Landfill Certification process, redesign to eliminate waste claims will be compared to the year immediately preceding the certification period. In order to certify source reduction claims, the amount of material reduced must be measured and verifiable.

Regional Material: A material that is supplied and obtained within 500 miles of the facility.

Residual Waste: Non-Hazardous industrial waste. It includes waste material (solid, liquid or gas) produced by industrial, mining and agricultural operations.



Reusable: Products that are designed to be, and can be, used more than once.

Recyclable: “Recyclable” is a characteristic of a product, packaging or associated component that can be diverted from the waste stream through available processes and programs and can be collected, processed and returned to use in the form of raw materials or products. The Federal Trade Commission’s Green Guides require that a product be able to be recycled within 60% of the current US infrastructure in order to be considered “recyclable”. During the audit process GreenCircle will analyze and verify the availability of a recycling infrastructure in the local and regional area to determine if materials can be diverted. If the infrastructure for specific materials is not available to the facility and the facility can provide documentation that all reasonable means of diversion have been evaluated; as well as, the economic and environmental impact analysis demonstrating recycling or other acceptable means of waste diversion are not feasible for the materials then GreenCircle will consider this material non-recoverable.

Recycler: An organization that performs collection and processing of materials and makes it into another usable raw material or product so the recycled materials can be reutilized in the production of new products or materials.

Recycling: A process that turns materials that would otherwise be waste into valuable resources.

Renewable/Bio-based Material: A commercial or industrial product (other than food or feed) that is composed of biological products, including renewable domestic agricultural materials and forestry materials.

Rapidly Renewable Material: Agricultural products, derived from both plant and animal sources, which take ten years or less to harvest.

Scope 1 Emissions: All direct GHG emissions generated by a facility.

Scope 2 Emissions: All indirect emissions used by a facility, such as the extraction and production of purchased electricity, heat or steam.

Scope 3 Emissions: Other indirect emissions, such as the extraction and production of purchased materials and fuels, transport-related activities in vehicles not owned or controlled by the reporting entity, electricity-related activities not covered in Scope 2, outsourced activities, waste disposal, etc.



Source Reduction: A practice that eliminates waste at the source by not creating it in the first place. It can include redesign of products and packaging, process efficiency improvements, material substitution, inventory control, improved housekeeping, and/or preventative maintenance.

Waste Diversion: The prevention and reduction of generated waste through source reduction, recycling, reuse, composting, and other means as defined by GreenCircle's acceptable means of diversion as listed above.

Universal Waste: Specific hazardous waste streams that a generator can choose to manage in an alternative manner in place of the more complex hazardous waste requirements. Types of hazardous waste can include: lamps, pesticides, batteries, mercury containing equipment, ballasts, etc.

Zero Waste to Landfill (Landfill-Free): Zero waste is disposed directly to landfill or to incineration without energy recovery by the particular facility, except where legal requirements specify that regulated wastes must be disposed of in a landfill or incinerator without energy recovery. In order to be certified zero waste to landfill, an organization must send 100% of the waste streams to a downstream material management organization with the intent to divert this material. GreenCircle acknowledges the potential for contaminants to be co-mingled with diverted materials and has an allowance of up to 2% by weight of total residuals off of the downstream material processors for a facility to still be considered zero waste to landfill. If there is more than 2% by weight residuals generated from the downstream processors, an organization cannot claim zero waste to landfill and will be issued a landfill diversion rate percentage.

11.0 Reference Documents

GreenCircle Certification Scheme, GCC-OPS-03-1, Revision 6 – Outlines the certification process and GreenCircle's Management System

40 CFR 261.1: 2009, Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste – The Environmental Protection Agency

ASTM 1991-05, Standard Guide for Environmental Life Cycle Assessment of Building Materials/Products – American Society for Testing and Materials



ASTM D6866:22, Standard Test Methods for Determining the Biobased Content of Solid, Liquid, and Gaseous Samples Using Radiocarbon Analysis – American Society for Testing and Materials

EPA Ecolabel program: [GreenCircle | Ecolabel Index](#) and <https://www.epa.gov/greenerproducts/introduction-ecolabels-and-standards-greener-products>

The Greenhouse Gas Protocol: 2004 – A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard, World Resource Institute

ISO 14021:2016, Environmental labels and declarations: Self-Declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labeling) – The International Standards Organization

IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: 2022 – The International Panel on Climate Change

ISO 14040:2006, Environmental Management Life Cycle Assessment Principles and Framework – The International Standards Organization

ISO 14044:2006, Environmental Management of Life Cycle Assessment Requirements and Guidelines – The International Standards Organization

ISO 14064:2018, International Standard for GHG Emissions Inventories and Verification – The International Standards Organization

The Federal Trade Commission’s Green Guides (2012) – Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims

ISO17020: 2012 Conformity assessment -- Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection, The International Standards Organization. This International Standard defines the requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection. GreenCircle adheres to these requirements in the development of the certification process and audit plans.

ISO 14021:2016 Environmental labels and declarations -- Self-Declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labeling), The International Standards Organization



ISO 17065:2012 Conformity assessment -- Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes, and services, The International Standards Organization. This International Standard defines the requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services. GreenCircle adheres to these requirements in the development of the certification process and audit plans.

Amendment History

Date	Issue	Summary of Amendments
1/16/2014	Rev. 0	Official issue date of document.
7/15/2014	Rev.1	Update certification boundary for waste diversion and recycled content claims.
6/30/2015	Rev. 2	Update basic language and definitions.
5/20/2022	Rev. 3	Update applicable attributes and definitions
11/20/2022	Rev. 4	Editorial Updates
12/1/2023	Rev. 5	Editorial Updates
4/1/2024	Rev.6	Update for compliance to Certification Scheme

Certification Officer: Michelle Gorenne