



TÜVRheinland®

DIN CERTCO

Genau. Richtig.

Certification Scheme

Sustainable Biomass

according to

REDcert certification system

(Edition: October 2020)

Foreword

DIN CERTCO was founded in 1972 by DIN the German Institute of Standardization e.g. for the awarding of DIN marks and offers the certification of products and persons, services and enterprises on the basis of the DIN Standards and similar specifications.

In order to prove our impartiality, independency and competence, we are voluntary accredited according to DIN EN ISO/IEC 17065. For the satisfaction and trust of our clients and their data, we maintain furthermore a certified

- Quality Management System according to DIN EN ISO 9001
- Environmental Management System according to DIN ISO 14001
- Occupational Health and Safety Management System according to OHSAS 18001

Our certification work is made possible by recognition by Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung (BLE) and certification agreements with certification system owner REDcert.

In conjunction with the General Terms and Conditions of DIN CERTCO, this certification scheme provides the basis for the certification of products which come under EU Directive 2009/28/EC.

All certificate holders can be viewed on the daily up-dated homepage of DIN CERTCO (www.dincertco.tuv.com).

Start of validity

This certification scheme comes into effect on 2020-10-01.

Amendments

This certification scheme differs from the certification scheme “Sustainable Biomass REDcert” (2020-01) as follows:

- a) Description of the process of sampling
- b) Adjustment to the REDcert wording
- c) Adjustment of Test and Certification Specification documents
- d) Editorial changes

Previous Editions

Certification scheme “Sustainable Biomass REDcert” (2020-01)
Certification scheme “Sustainable Biomass REDcert” (2019-04)
Certification scheme “Sustainable Biomass REDcert” (2019-02)
Certification scheme “Sustainable Biomass REDcert” (2018-03)
Certification scheme “Sustainable Biomass REDcert” (2016-02)
Certification scheme “Sustainable Biomass REDcert” (2015-03)
Certification scheme “Sustainable Biomass REDcert” (2015-01)

Remark

The German version of this certification scheme shall be taken as authoritative. No guarantee can be given to the English translation.

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1 Scope

This certification scheme applies to companies which would like to receive certification under the specifications of EU Directive 2009/28/EC and the REDcert certification system and, in addition to the documents set out below, contains all the requirements for completing certification procedures.

This certification scheme sets out requirements for the raw materials used and for the quality assurance systems of the processing, collecting or trading companies and for their inspection, monitoring and certification.

2 Test and Certification Specifications

The following referenced documents form the basis for auditing and certification. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

General:

Directive 2009/28/EC	DIRECTIVE 2009/28/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 23 April 2009 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources and amending and subsequently repealing Directives 2001/77/EC and 2003/30/EC (Renewable Energy Directive (RED))
Commission Decision C(2010/3751) (2010/335/EU)	COMMISSION DECISION of 10 June 2010 on guidelines for the calculation of land carbon stocks for the purpose of Annex V to Directive 2009/28/EC (notified under document C(2010) 3751) (2010/335/EU)
Communication 2010/C 160/01	Communication from the Commission on voluntary schemes and default values in the EU biofuels and bio liquids sustainability scheme (2010/C 160/01)
Communication 2010/C 160/02	Communication from the Commission on the practical implementation of the EU biofuels and bio liquids sustainability scheme and on counting rules for biofuels (2010/C 160/02)
Regulation (EG) 73/2009	
Bio Fuels Sustainability Regulation	Ordinance on requirements pertaining to sustainable production of biofuels
Biomass Electricity Sustainability Regulation	Ordinance on requirements pertaining to sustainable production of bio liquids for electricity production

for REDcert-DE:

- REDcert System principles
- Sanction system
- Fee Schedule for scheme participants
- Country Overview REDcert Systems

- System principles for the process step Agriculture for implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)
- System principles for the process step First gathering point for implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)
- System principles for the process step Supplier for implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)
- System principles for the process step (last) interface for the implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)
- System principles for GHG calculation under the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)
- System principles for mass balancing under the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)
- Supplementary system principles for waste and residual materials for the implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)
- Supplementary system principles for biomethane for implementation of the BioKraft-NachV
- Checklist for the inspection of the process step Agriculture
- Checklist for the inspection of interfaces, warehouses and suppliers
- Checklist for inspection of the operations that supply waste and residual materials (waste producers)
- Checklist for the inspection of interfaces and suppliers pursuant to the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances
- System principles for neutral inspections under the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)
- REDcert Self-declarations

for REDcert-EU:

- REDcert System scope and basic requirements
- Fee Schedule for scheme participants
- REDcert Sanction system
- REDcert Complaint management system
- Country Overview REDcert Systems
- Acceptance of certification systems for waste and residual material
- Scheme principles for the production of biomass, biofuels and bioliquids
- REDcert Scheme principles for GHG calculation
- REDcert Scheme principles for mass balancing
- Checklist for the inspection of farms (REDcert-EU/REDcert²)
- Checklist for the inspection of interfaces, storage facilities and suppliers (REDcert-EU/REDcert²)
- Checklist for inspection of operations that supply waste and residual materials (waste producers)
- System principles for neutral inspections under the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances
- REDcert Self-declarations

for REDcert²:

- REDcert² System principles for biomass production in the food industry
- Fee Schedule for scheme participants
- Fee schedule for REDcert² scheme participants (in the chemical industry)
- Guidelines governing the use of the REDcert² logo and the representation of claims for products made from sustainable material flows
- REDcert² Scheme principles for the certification of sustainable material flows for the chemical industry
- Checklist for the inspection of farms (REDcert-EU/REDcert²)

- Checklist for the inspection of interfaces, storage facilities and suppliers (REDcert-EU/REDcert²)
- Checklist for waste producers/collection points that supply waste and residual materials in the chemical industry (REDcert²)
- Checklist for the inspection of interfaces, operating sites and suppliers of sustainable material flows in the chemical industry (REDcert²)
- Checklist for the inspection of interfaces, operating sites and suppliers of sustainable material flows in the chemical industry (REDcert²) (desk audit)
- REDcert Self-declarations

For REDcert DE, REDcert EU and REDcert² the following documents are applicable additionally:

- This certification scheme
- The General Terms and Conditions of TÜV Rheinland DIN CERTCO
- The Testing, Registration and Certification Regulation of DIN CERTCO
- The respective schedule of fees of DIN CERTCO

3 Requirements

The requirements for companies apply along the entire biomass chain. They include all the companies involved in the processing, collection and trade of sustainable biomass from the producer (agricultural raw materials) or the place of creation (initial distributor).

Sustainable biomass in this sense is liquid biomass which is used to generate electricity under the Renewable Energies Law in keeping with the requirements of the Biomass Electricity Sustainability Regulation, and liquid or gaseous fuels for transport which are made from biomass in keeping with the requirements of the Bio Fuels Sustainability Regulation or bio fuels and liquid bio fuels made of various types of biomass in keeping with the definition in Annex V of the Renewable Energy Directive. Biomass produced from agricultural raw materials and from waste and residues is also classified as sustainable biomass as long as it satisfies the requirements of Article 17 RED.

Verification of compliance with these requirements is provided by on site inspections.

In addition all current documents relating to peculiarities for waste and residues in the REDcert-DE, REDcert-EU and REDcert² system are applicable.

3.1 Requirements for Agricultural Businesses

Agricultural businesses which aim to distribute sustainable biomass, must verify that it is produced using sustainable processes and in compliance with the statutory requirements. For this purpose, the self-declaration form provided by REDcert under www.redcert.org must be used according to section 3.2.1 REDcert *System principles for the process step Agriculture* for REDcert-DE-Certification or section 4.7.1 of REDcert *Requirements for the production of biomass bioliquids and biofuels* for REDcert-EU-Certification must be used.

The requirements for documentation from section REDcert *System principles for the process step Agriculture for implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)* for REDcert-DE-Certification and section 4.6 REDcert *Requirements for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels* for REDcert-EU-Certification apply.

For the REDcert² System the Requirements described in REDcert² *Supplementary system principles for the production of biomass in the area of food production* apply or REDcert² *Scheme principles for the certification of sustainable material flows for the chemical industry*.

3.2 Requirements for First gathering points

First gathering points are responsible for determining the origin, quality and volume of biomass which they have received from the agricultural businesses and wish to distribute as sustainable biomass. A verifiable mass balance system is indispensable for this purpose.

The requirements for documentation from REDcert *System principles for the process step first gathering point for implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)* section 2 for REDcert-DE-Certification and section 6.2 REDcert *Requirements for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels* for REDcert-EU-Certification and the REDcert²-Certification apply.

3.3 Requirements for Suppliers

Suppliers may be conversion systems or transport contractors. A verifiable document management system is indispensable for this purpose.

Conversion systems must show all incoming and outgoing biomass flows in a mass balance system. In addition, the specific GHG emissions must be calculated.

The requirements for documentation from REDcert *System principles for the process step Supplier for implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (Bio Fuels Sustainability Regulation and Biomass Electricity Sustainability Regulation)* for REDcert-DE-Certification and section 7.2 REDcert *Requirements for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels* for REDcert-EU-Certification and the REDcert²- Certification apply.

3.4 Requirements for (last) Interfaces

(Last) interfaces must have a verifiable document management system. The documentation must cover the receiving procedure, internal processes and the dispatch procedure.

The requirements for documentation set out in REDcert *System principles for the process step (Last) Interface for implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)* for REDcert-DE-Certification and section 8.1 REDcert *Requirements for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels* for REDcert-EU-Certification and the REDcert²-Certification apply.

Last interfaces are responsible for issuing sustainability certificates.

3.4.1 Issuing of Sustainability Certificates with Sustainability requirements

Sustainability certificates are documents which prove compliance with the sustainability requirements for a volume of biomass or bio fuel at the time of their issue by a party involved in the system after which there are no further processing stages (apart from transport and storage).

The requirements for the issue and use of sustainability certificates set out in REDcert *System principles for the process step (Last) Interface for implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)* section 5 for REDcert-DE-Certification and section 8.2 REDcert *Requirements for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels* for REDcert-EU-Certifications apply.

The proofs of compliance with sustainability requirements issued by the system participant must be transferred to the BLE within 48 hours as part of a mandatory transfer. A copy of the proofs of compliance with sustainability requirements must also be sent to the certification body that issued the certificate.

3.4.2 Issuing of Partial Sustainability Certificates with Sustainability requirements

At the request of the owner of the sustainability verification, Partial Proofs of Compliance with Sustainability Requirements may be issued for part volumes of liquid biomass or bio fuels for which sustainability verification has already been issued.

For issuing and use of proofs of compliance with sustainability requirements REDcert *System principles for the process step Last Interface for implementation of the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (BioSt-NachV and Biokraft-NachV)* for REDcert-DE-Certification and section 8.3 REDcert *Requirements for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels* for REDcert-EU-Certification apply.

The partial sustainability certificates with sustainability requirements must also be sent to the BLE as well as to the certification body within 48 hours.

3.5 Requirements for Biogas plants (only REDcert-DE)

For all biogas plants and system participants in connection with production of bio methane the requirements of REDcert *System principles Biomethan for implementation of the Bio Fuels Sustainability Regulation* apply.

4 Inspections

4.1 General

For the performance of the inspections required as the basis for the assessment and certification of the products, DIN CERTCO avails itself of the auditors to which it has awarded recognition.

The requirements of REDcert *System principles for GHG calculation under the Biomass Sustainability Ordinances (Bio Fuels Sustainability Regulation and Biomass Electricity Sustainability Regulation)* and REDcert *System principles for Mass Balancing under the Biomass Sustainability Ordinance (Bio Fuels Sustainability Regulation and Biomass Electricity Sustainability Regulation)* for REDcert-DE-Certification and REDcert *Requirements for GHG calculation* and REDcert *Requirements for mass balancing* for REDcert-EU-Certification and the REDcert²- Certification apply.

As part of the certification of groups or companies with multiple sites (multi-site certification), the special requirements for selecting random samples and inter-company/site regulations set out in document ISCC EU 256 Group Certification and section 2 REDcert *Requirements for neutral inspections* for REDcert-EU-Certification must be considered separately

4.2 Types of Inspections

4.2.1 Initial Inspection

The initial inspection is used to establish whether the company is compliant with the requirements of section 3 of this certification scheme.

The auditor must be commissioned to carry out the re-certification inspection. If, beside the applicant further sites (e.g. group members, agricultural businesses, storage facilities) need to be inspected, the certification body chooses a sample selection based on the requirements of the REDcert policies (e.g. investigation of risk criteria) and schedules the inspection.

At the end of the completed on-site inspection the findings must be recorded into the corresponding REDcert checklist. The causes of any non-conformities from the standard requirements must be analysed by the company's representative and corrected by means of action so that the requirements of the applicable standards are satisfied. Compliance with the requirements of the REDcert certification system must be verified promptly by a positive inspection report.

4.2.2 Recertification Inspection

The recertification inspection will be conducted before expiry of the certificate and will be used to establish whether the certificate holder continues to comply with the requirements and any non-conformities have been rectified on time.

The auditor must be commissioned to carry out the re-certification inspection. If, beside the applicant further sites (e.g. group members, agricultural businesses, storage facilities) need to be inspected, the certification body chooses a sample selection based on the requirements of the REDcert policies (e.g. investigation of risk criteria) and schedules the inspection.

The sampling follows Section 1 *System principles for neutral inspections* for REDcert-EU-Certification and the REDcert²- Certification.

At the end of the completed on-site inspection the findings must be recorded in a checklist. The causes of any non-conformities from the standard requirements must be analysed by the company's representative and corrected by means of action so that the requirements of the applicable standards are satisfied or at least that an improvement can be verified. Compliance with the standard requirements from the monitoring inspection must be verified promptly by a positive inspection report.

If a re-certification is carried out for a company that has demonstrably committed a serious breach of the mandatory sustainability criteria or of the requirement to disclose the systems in which it participates, REDcert must be informed within 24 hours.

4.2.3 Follow-up Inspection

If major non-conformities come to light during the initial or follow-up inspection, a follow-up inspection of the company must be conducted within a period of 3 months.

Between the failed inspection and the follow-up inspection, it is prohibited to supply sustainably certified products.

If this the follow-up inspection is not conducted within three months, a complete initial inspection will be required.

4.2.4 Special Inspection

A special inspection is conducted if

- defects are detected
- required by DIN CERTCO - reasons to be specified
- required by REDcert or BLE – reasons to be specified
- requested in writing by a third party if a particular interest in the maintenance of proper conduct of market procedures in relation to competition or quality is involved.

The type and scope of the special inspection shall be laid down in accordance with the specific, respective purpose on a case by case basis by DIN CERTCO in conjunction with the auditor. If the special inspection was requested by REDcert they shall be included in the coordination.

Should non-conformities be detected in the course of the special inspection the certificate holder shall bear the costs of the examination procedure.

Should the special inspection at the request of a third party reveal no non-conformities, the costs shall be borne by the third party.

4.3 Inspection Procedure

The inspection must be conducted in accordance with the specifications of the REDcert certification system using the REDcert checklists relating to duration and contents of the inspection.

4.4 Inspection Checklists

The auditor must inform the client of the result of the audits by issuing an inspection report. The checklist must be sent as original version to DIN CERTCO.

The audit report (control report) must be prepared using the REDcert checklists.

In the event that major non-conformities are identified or the auditor comes to the result that the audited company does not satisfy the requirements of the REDcert certification system, REDcert and the certification body must be notified within 24 hours.

5 Certification

Certification in the sense of this certification scheme relates to the assessment of conformity of a product by DIN CERTCO on the basis of inspection reports submitted by auditors recognized by DIN CERTCO. To this end, the products to be certified are examined and subsequently monitored in respect of conformity with the requirements laid down in section 3.

5.1 Application for certification

The applicants are the various companies within the biomass chain.

The following documents must be submitted by the applicant to DIN CERTCO:

- The original application for certification with a legally binding signature as well as company stamp
- Signed contract with REDcert

The applicant shall receive from DIN CERTCO, following receipt of the application, a confirmation of order with a process number and notes regarding the further course of the procedure and, as applicable, queries concerning any missing documents.

The contract is concluded for the validity of the certificate. It is extended automatically for another certification period without the necessity of an application for renewal/re-certification, if the certification requirements remain fulfilled.

5.2 Conformity Assessment

On the basis of the documents submitted and the findings of the inspection report, DIN CERTCO conducts the conformity assessment. The assessment is carried out by a person who was not involved in the evaluation process. The assessment is carried out using in particular the submitted documents and information to determine whether the requirements of the certification scheme and the relevant REDcert certification system are fulfilled.

The applicant shall receive written notification from DIN CERTCO in the event of any possible non-conformities.

5.3 Certificate and Inspection Certificate

Once the inspection and the conformity assessment of the application documents have been completed successfully, DIN CERTCO issues a certificate or inspection certificate to the applicant with the associated registration number.

This must be carried out at the latest 6 weeks after the completion of the inspection in the REDcert EU and REDcert² system and at the latest 4 weeks after the completion of the inspection in the REDcert DE system.

In the REDcert DE system interfaces will receive a certificate. Suppliers after the last interface will receive an inspection certificate. In the REDcert EU system and REDcert² system Interfaces will receive a certificate.

5.4 Publications (interface directory)

Certificate and inspection certificate holders can be viewed on the daily up-dated homepage of DIN CERTCO www.dincertco.de under certificate holders and under www.redcert.org. Manufacturers, users and consumers use this research possibility for obtaining information on certified products.

Besides the contact details (telephone, telefax, e-mail, homepage), this page also contains further information about the specific scope.

5.5 Validity of the Certificate/ Inspection certificate

The certificate/inspection certificate is valid for 1 year. The period of validity is shown on the certificate.

The period of validity for small and very small businesses is 3 or 5 years.

5.6 Renewal of the Certification

If the certification shall continue to apply beyond the date shown on the certificate/inspection certificate, an up-to-date, positive inspection report on a follow-up inspection must be submitted in good time to DIN CERTCO. On the basis of the documents submitted, DIN CERTCO conducts the conformity assessment.

5.7 Expiry of the Certificate/Inspection Certificate

At the end of the validity period, the certificate or the inspection certificate in connection with the registration number expires. Furthermore, the certificate can also expire if:

- The certificate is misused by the certificate holder,
- The requirements laid down in the certification scheme or its accompanying documents are not fulfilled,
- The certification fees are not paid on the due date,
- The prerequisites for the issuing of the certificate are no longer fulfilled.

5.8 Alterations/Amendments

5.8.1 Alterations to the Basic Test Specifications

If the basic test specifications for the certification is modified and no other transitional regulation has been defined, an application for the alteration of the certification shall be submitted within 6 months of receiving notification from DIN CERTCO and, as a rule, after 12 months, proof of conformity with the modified examination specifications shall be submitted in the form of a positive inspection report.

5.9 Defects

Defects mean non-conformities from the requirements by the participating companies. If non-conformities from the system requirements for the product chain certification are found, the holder of the certificate will be requested by DIN CERTCO to take corrective action.

In consultation with the auditor, DIN CERTCO shall decide whether the non-conformity is major or minor.

Non-conformities have to be rectified by corrective actions by the company within a time limit determined by DIN CERTCO in consultation with the auditor.

If DIN CERTCO finds major non-conformities at a participating company against the requirements of the REDcert certification system or if they are found by the certificate holder and if they cannot be corrected or if possible corrective action cannot be completed, this will

result in the suspension of the certificate or in its withdrawal after a reasonable period of time.

The requirements and actions set out in REDcert *Sanction system* (for REDcert-DE-Certification and for REDcert-EU-Certifications and REDcert² *System principles for biomass production in the food industry* section 7 for the REDcert²- Certification apply.

6 Surveillance by the Manufacturer

The manufacturer must ensure, by suitable quality management measures, that the product characteristics confirmed by the certification are maintained. This can be accomplished by means of an in-house factory production control (FPC) focussed on the product itself or on the production and, in addition, can be guaranteed within the framework of a quality management system (QM-System) in accordance with the standard series DIN EN ISO 9000 ff.

This also relates to the documentation and structure of the complaints system. This must, among other things, regulate how complaints, non-conformities from the requirements of the certification scheme and the standards set out above are handled.

Appropriate records shall be submitted to DIN CERTCO or its authorised representative on request.

7 Other

7.1 Requirements for small and very small businesses (only REDcert-DE)

The regulations set out in REDcert *Supplementary system principles for waste and residues* also apply to the certification of small and very small businesses.

7.2 Interfaces and suppliers that supply waste and residual materials

The specifications from REDcert *Supplementary system principles for waste and residues for the implementation of the biomass sustainability regulations (Bio Fuels Sustainability Regulation and Bio Fuels Sustainability Regulation)* and the 36th Federal Emissions Protection Law for REDcert-DE-Certifications and the specifications from REDcert *Scheme principles for the production of biomass, biofuels and bioliquids* section 5 materials for REDcert-EU-Certifications apply.

7.3 Cross Compliance

If agricultural businesses receive direct payments for cross compliance, they automatically satisfy the requirements for agricultural management (Art.17 (6) of Directive 2009/28/EC). The application for direct payments under Regulation (EC) No. 73/2009 or area-related measures or notification that such payments are to be granted can be used as evidence for this. In case of REDcert² the *Supplementary system principles for the production of biomass in the area of food production* or *REDcert² Scheme principles for the certification of sustainable material flows for the chemical industry* need to be applied.

For REDcert-DE: However, the agricultural businesses may nevertheless also be subjected to on site inspections with a random sample size of 3%.