

What do you need to bear in mind as a retailer with a sub-license of DINplus wood pellets class A1?

Fuel retailers and wood pellet suppliers often bring products to the market under their own name, without referring to the original pellet manufacturers. It does without saying that these wood pellets can also be awarded a DINplus mark. However, there are certain prerequisites that must first be fulfilled.

All suppliers of DINplus wood pellets who are not the original manufacturer must hold a valid certificate granting use of the protected DINplus quality mark. This certificate is issued in the form of “sub-certificates” and must be applied for in writing from DIN CERTCO. DIN CERTCO will take legal measures to remedy the misuse of this quality mark.

The prerequisites for awarding sub-certificates are tailored to the individual case:

Individuals, companies, and company representatives may apply for certification and the ensuing right to use quality mark DINplus (hereinafter referred to as the “certificate”) for products for which requirements have been set out in the DIN CERTCO certification programs.

If certification is desired for wood pellets for which the manufacturer already holds a certificate, an application for a certificate (sub-certificate) in the name of the supplier/retailer can be submitted via this manufacturer. The sites at which the wood pellets are manufactured must be specified. The certificate is dependent upon the certificate awarded to the manufacturer in all regards.

If a supplier/retailer applies for a certificate for wood pellets manufactured in a factory that is not already certified, it must append a declaration from the manufacturer stating that it agrees to the application for certification. The declaration must also grant DIN CERTCO or its authorized representatives the right to access the manufacturing site and warehouse.

The following conditions apply to the awarding of a sub-certificate:

1. If the prerequisites for awarding a sub-certificate are met, an individual or company may apply for certification upon production of a declaration of consent from the main certificate holder.
2. The same product from one manufacturer can be certified with two different type designations, although one of the certificates must be issued as a sub-certificate.
3. All sub-certificates receive the same registration number as the main certificate and therefore also confer the right to use the DINplus mark.

The following details must be included on the sub-certificates:

- Validity date for the main certificate upon which the sub-certificate is based
- Type description and brand (which may differ from the main certificate)
- Technical information

The costs of certification are based on the currently valid fee scale of DIN CERTCO. The certificate does not become legally valid until the cost contributions have been paid.