

INFORMATIVE CIRCULAR Ref. DC2024OC007

DATE Milan, 31-01-2024

To all accredited/applicant Certification Bodies
To the associations of Conformity Assessment Bodies
To the assessors/INSP experts of the Dept. of Certification & Inspection

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SUBJECT **Certification and Inspection Department**
Informative Circular DC N° 35/2023 – Circular Product Certification Program rev. 1.0 dated 10.07.2023.

Introduction

The Circular Certification™ Product scheme constitutes a tool for the evaluation and verification of product circularity throughout the entire life cycle and aims to enhance the commitment of companies oriented towards reducing the consumption of virgin raw materials in favor of materials coming from the reuse and recycling supply chains and the supply of energy from renewable sources.

The scheme is applicable to products for which a function is identifiable throughout their life, with the exception of agricultural products and fuels.

The scheme focuses on the determination of four circularity indices referring to materials, energy, water and waste, through the application of a calculation tool made available to the requesting Organization and the verification of the reliability of the data input in it.

The input data must be specific to the product and related to its functional unit and its reference useful life, in a life cycle-based approach, which enables the following aspects to be taken into consideration:

- materials, such as raw materials and components, packaging materials, auxiliary materials for production, consumables during use, maintenance materials and their packaging, regeneration materials and their packaging;
- power, such as electricity and thermal energy consumed in production, installation, use, maintenance, dismantling, regeneration and transportation in all phases of life;
- water, such as water consumed in production and use;
- waste, such as waste generated during manufacturing, maintenance, end-of-life and remanufacturing.

The four indices are returned with a scale from 0 to 100.

This scheme is part of a broader program to measure the adoption of circular economy models: the Circular Certification™ program.

The program includes, in addition to the present one, a scheme for measuring the level of circularity of an organization and one for measuring the level of circularity of an energy or tertiary site.

Every organization can use these schemes to measure its product and/or itself and adopt virtuous behaviors that are easily measurable through the metrics used by the scheme.

Similarly, the metric can be used to evaluate one's suppliers, in the knowledge that the adoption of circularity is strengthened when expressed by the entire value chain and constitutes a criterion for choosing long-term economic partnerships.

The brand that is granted to all the organizations subjected to verification therefore becomes an effective tool in providing tools for immediate visibility and valorization of how much the organizations themselves and their supply chains measure their circularity.

For further information you can consult the website www.circularevolution.org or send an email to amministr@circularevolution.org

CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT RULES

Accreditation standards	UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17029:2020 UNI EN ISO 14065:2022
Program	Circular Certification Product Scheme rev. 1.0 dated 10.07.2023

ACCREDITATION PROCESS

Different cases may be presented, based on the ACCREDIA accreditations already held by the CB making the application for accreditation or extension.

The requirements set out in RG-01 and RG-01-05 for granting accreditation and extension remain unchanged.

The accreditation certificate does not report the relevant accreditation sectors.

If the CB already holds accreditations issued by other bodies, a case-by-case assessment shall be carried out, based on the applicable EA/IAF MLA agreements.

A	CB already accredited for V/V of environmental claims according to: <u>UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17029:2020</u> <u>UNI EN ISO 14065:2022</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document review of 1 day (to be done, at least in part, remotely). • 1 witnessed assessment.
B	CB already accredited for V/V of environmental claims according to: <u>UNI EN ISO 14065:2022</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document review of 1 day (to be done, at least in part, remotely). • Assessment of 1 day at the CB's head office. • 1 witnessed assessment.

C	CB not yet accredited for V/V of environmental claims but accredited for other accreditation schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document review of 1 day (to be done, at least in part, remotely). • Assessment of 2 days at the CB's head office. • 1 witnessed assessment.
D	CB not yet accredited for any schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document review of 1 day (to be done, at least in part, remotely). • Assessment of 4 days at the CB's head office. • 1 witnessed assessment.

For the documentation to be presented to ACCREDIA for document review, it is necessary to refer to the current revision of the following documentation:

- DA-00 – Application for accreditation;
- DA-11 rev. 01 – Application for accreditation for Validation and Verification bodies.

MAINTENANCE OF ACCREDITATION

To maintain accreditation, during the entire accreditation cycle, except in particular situations (e.g. management of complaints and reports, changes to the certification scheme, changes in the structure of the body, involvement in judicial cases...), the following assessments shall be conducted:

- if the CB has issued fewer than 50 verification declarations in accordance with the program, 1 witnessed assessment and 1 on-site assessment specific to this scheme must be carried out. However, in the case of a small number of declarations (<10), it is possible to carry out only one assessment in the cycle (on-site or witnessed);
- if the CB has issued between 51 and 200 verification declarations in accordance with the program, 2 witnessed assessments and 1 on-site assessment specific to this scheme must be carried out;
- if the CB has issued more than 200 verification declarations in accordance with the program, 2 witnessed assessments and 2 on-site assessments specific to this scheme must be carried out.

It is confirmed that ACCREDIA shall conduct an assessment every year at the CB's head office in order to assess compliance with the standards ISO/IEC 17029 and ISO/IEC 14065.

With kind regards

Dott. Emanuele Riva

Director Department
Certification and Inspection