

# International Certificate on Sustainable Standards for Engineering Label

ICOSSE is a joint initiative of AIChE American Institute of Chemical Engineers and DECHEMA Gesellschaft für Chemische Technik und Biotechnologie e.V. (Society for Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology).

The key objective of the ICOSSE initiative is to find ways and means of conserving and protecting the environment and our natural resources while sustaining economic growth and promoting social justice across the generations.

To this end, it is imperative to implement sustainable natural resource management, utilizing the natural and engineering sciences to provide the requisite scientific knowledge and technological innovations.

Companies that implement this know-how and integrate it into their production can apply for the ICOSSE Certificate. The ICOSSE seal of certified sustainability and resource conservation will give you the competitive edge in the marketplace.

## ICOSSE Label Questionnaire

The application questionnaire includes products, processes and services. It covers the following eight areas:

* Safety
* Environmental Performance
* Product Stewardship
* Social Responsibility
* Value Chain
* Innovation
* Economics
* Corporate Committment

For each area several questions have to be answered which form the basis for the advisory group to rate the application. The applicant can rate the performance for each category on a scale from 1 (very good), 2 (average), to 3 (poor). This rating is an important part of evaluating the integrity of the applicant in making a self-evaluation.

If the evaluation is positive the applicant will receive a certificate and the right to use the ICOSSE logo for marketing purposes of the evaluated product or process. Otherwise, the advisory group will provide information on where improvements should be made.

**ICOSSE LABEL QUESTIONNAIRE**

Please answer the following questions and provide a score for your performance relative to your peers per category: **1 (very good), 2 (average), or 3 (poor)**. We appreciate your effort at self-assessment. ***The self-assessment scores will not be made public.***

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| QUESTION | RESPONSE | RATING |
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| PRODUCT, PROCESS OR SERVICE INFORMATION |
| 1. Which product, process or service (product et al) are you submitting for consideration? |
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| SAFETY |
| 1. Does the product et al. impact or promote process safety or plant security? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe what specific measures have you taken to assure safety of product et al:* |
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| 2. Are you monitoring safety practices of your suppliers and sub-contractors? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe:* |
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| ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE |
| 1. Have you assessed the key environmental impacts of your product et al along its lifecycle?  | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe the key environmental impacts of your product et al along its lifecycle:* |
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| 2. Does this product et al conserve energy, materials, water? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe the improvements, either from “standard” performance of comparable products et al or previous products at your company, including change in metrics, and where in the lifecycle:* |
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| 3. Does this product et al decrease GHG emissions or other emissions?  | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe the level of improvement, either from “standard” performance of comparable products et al. or previous products at your company, including change in metrics, and where in the lifecycle:* |
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| 4. Are there any known or suspected toxins, carcinogens, mutagens, etc. present in the product/process or workplace exposure? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Describe what you are doing to address these attributes of concern:* |
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| 5. Has your product et al received any environmental labels and/or certifications?  | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe:* |
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| PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1. Do you have systems in place to meet Responsible Care, REACH, or other internal applicable management practices? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Explain:* |
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| 2. Do you address lifecycle issues related to this product? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Explain how:* |
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| 3. Do you have take-back mechanisms that apply to this product? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe:* |
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| SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY |
| 1. Are you currently in compliance with all regulations related to environmental and social performance (both local and international) regarding manufacturing operations?  | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Explain:* |
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| 2. Has the product et al been developed and/or adapted to improve communities (e.g. providing clean water for areas with water issues, etc.)? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|
| *Describe:* |
|
| 3. Do you engage stakeholders (outside of your direct customers) in the process of developing and/or manufacturing the product et al. and/or do you provide outreach to the community in which your manufacturing facility is located to help reduce environmental and social impacts in the community?  | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Describe:* |
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| 4. At the manufacturing facility – whether owned by the company or by a sub-contractor – are you monitoring, meeting, or exceeding acceptable global standards for labor practices and working conditions? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Describe the standard by which you are judging your performance and how you are complying with it:* |
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| 5. Are you monitoring social aspects of your suppliers – labor practices, working conditions – and/or working with suppliers to meet or exceed global standards regarding labor and workplace conditions? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Describe the standard by which you are judging your suppliers’ performance:* |
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| VALUE CHAIN |
| 1. Describe the key elements of your product or process’ supply chain: |
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| 2. Does the product et al. improve the sustainability performance of your customers? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Describe:* |
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| 3. Does your product et al. improve overall human wellbeing beyond the customer?  | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Describe:* |
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| 4. Do you work with other industry members and/or suppliers to improve their sustainability performance? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|
| *Describe:* |
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| 5. Do you screen suppliers/supplies on the basis of environmental and social impacts?  | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Describe:* |
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| INNOVATION |
| 1. Was the new product et al. developed to address sustainability issues? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe:* |
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| 2. Do you use sustainability criteria for product/process development?  | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe:* |
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| 3. Are there other sustainability-related innovations related to your product et al. and/or the facility in which it is produced that you wish to describe? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Describe:* |
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| ECONOMICS |
| 1. Was a total cost assessment performed in the development and/or marketing of the new product et al? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Describe:* |
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| 2. Are future environmental mitigation costs included in your assessment? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe:* |
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| 3. Are the associated social costs included in the price of the product?  | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe:* |
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| CORPORATE COMMITMENT |
| 1. Does your company have sustainability goals? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe your company’s sustainability goals:*  |
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| 2. Does this product et al meet or align with those goals? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe how:* |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3. Do you have commitments to sustainability/CSR voluntary codes, standards and reporting? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Describe which:* |
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| 4. Do the above relate to the products et al and/or the manufacturing facility in which the product is produced? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
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| *Explain:* |
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| 5. Do you have any third party sustainability ratings? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe which ratings:* |
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| 6. Do the above relate to the product et al? | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Explain:* |
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| 7. Has your product et al. received any sustainability-related labels/certifications?  | YES | NO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| *Describe which labels and certifications:* |
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