



ISCC PLUS certification process

[ISCC \(International Sustainability & Carbon Certification\)](#) is a global certification system for sustainable supply chains of agricultural and forestry raw materials, waste and residues, non-biological renewable raw materials and recycled carbon materials and fuels. Derived from the [ISCC EU](#) system in the biofuel sector, the [ISCC PLUS](#) system covers the certification of food and feed and technical, chemical and bioenergy applications. By applying the [mass balance approach](#), supply chains of bio-based, biocircular (e.g. bioplastics, agricultural raw materials) or fossil-circular (e.g. mixed plastic waste, used tires) products can be documented under ISCC PLUS.

GUTcert has been certifying according to the approved ISCC systems since 2009 and therefore has extensive experience in this field. ISCC PLUS certification allows you to track your company's contribution to the circular economy, bioeconomy and reduction of fossil raw material use along the entire supply chain.

How does the ISCC PLUS certification process work?

1. Registration at ISCC

- ▶ Before the actual certification process can begin, you need to [register](#) as a company with the ISCC system. Please note that the registration has to be done separately for every facility/plant you wish to certify.
- ▶ After your registered data has been checked, a system contract is made with ISCC.
- ▶ ISCC will send a registration e-mail to you and GUTcert as the certification body.

2. Audit preparation

- ▶ With the order confirmation, we will send you the current ISCC PLUS checklist and a list of all required documents.
- ▶ You will provide us with a list of all external operating sites, warehouses and suppliers. Please note that audit planning is **not possible** without this information.
- ▶ If necessary, we will validate your individual GHG calculation in advance of the audit (if you select the voluntary GHG Emissions add-on)
- ▶ The commissioned auditor will contact you personally to arrange an appointment and will send you the audit plan in due course.



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3. Audit procedure

- ▶ During the audit, there are both general questions about the management system and processes (e.g. operational structure, documentation, mass balance system) and scope-specific requirements. The scale of the scope-specific requirements varies depending on the registered scope.
- ▶ If your interface receives deliveries from farmers or points of origin with a self-declaration or uses external warehouses or other operating sites, they have to be audited as part of a sample audit. We will inform you which locations have been selected before the audit.

4. Review of audit documents and issuance of certificate

- ▶ Once all open non-conformities have been completed, the auditor submits all relevant documents to GUTcert.
- ▶ Next, we examine the audit documents in a formal review.
- ▶ As part of a subsequent technical review, all documents are checked by an authorized, independent ISCC PLUS auditor.
- ▶ If all checks have been successfully completed, you will receive the audit checklist and the certificate in pdf format, maximum 60 days after audit completion.
- ▶ The ISCC PLUS certificate is valid for 12 months. To extend the validity, an annual recertification audit is required. Please note that the certificate is only valid from the date of issue and is not valid retroactively.

Further information and system basics

Further information on sustainability certification in accordance with ISCC PLUS and the possible industry-specific add-ons can be found [here](#) and on our [website](#). We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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