

# Certification process according to REDcert

<u>REDCert</u> is a German certification system for the sustainability certification of biomass, biofuels and bioliquids that ensures compliance with the binding legal requirements of the Renewable Energy Directive (2018/2001/EG – RED II). REDcert EU certification secures your access to the European biofuel market.

GUTcert has been certifying according to the REDcert standard since 2009 and therefore has extensive experience in this area. Certification is mandatory for the following interfaces: land traders, collectors of waste and residual materials, conversion plants and suppliers. Farmers, sources of waste and residues and warehouses are audited on a random basis as part of the certification of their affiliated interface.

## How does the REDcert certification process work?

#### 1. Registration at REDcert

- ▶ Before the actual certification process can begin, you as a company must register with REDcert. Please note that each system to be certified must be registered individually.
- After your registered data has been checked, a system contract is concluded with REDcert.
- ▶ When the order is placed, we send a legally binding declaration to REDcert.
- ▶ REDcert will send you a 'confirmation of participation'.

### 2. Audit preparation

- ▶ With the order confirmation, we will send you the current REDcert 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 prior to the audit.
- ▶ The auditor commissioned by us will contact you personally to arrange an appointment and send you the audit plan.









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#### 3. Conduction of the audit

- ▶ During the audit, both general questions about the management system and processes (e.g. operational structure, documentation, mass balance system) and stage-specific requirements are checked. The scope of the level-specific requirements also differs depending on the registered scope.
- ▶ If your interface receives deliveries from farmers or sources of waste with a self-declaration or uses external warehouses or other operating sites, these must be audited as part of a random sample. We will inform you of the selected locations before the audit.

### 4. Review of audit documents and issuance of certificate

- ▶ After closing all open measures, the auditor submits all relevant documents to GUTcert.
- The GUTcert team reviews the audit documents in a formal review.
- ▶ All documents are reviewed by a verified REDcert auditor as part of a technical review.
- ▶ Once all checks have been successfully completed, we send the certificate to REDcert (maximum 42 days after the audit). You will then receive the checklist from the audit and the certificate in pdf format.
- ▶ The REDcert 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.

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