

Intertek BES6001 Scheme Document Process

1. Introduction

This certification scheme has been designed to promote sustainable production of construction products and materials. Responsible sourcing includes organisational management, supply chain management and the management and mitigation of social and economic impacts. This scheme will encourage responsible sourcing through a provision of a set of requirements by complying with BRE Global's Framework Standard for Responsible Sourcing (BES 6001). This scheme will provide confidence that materials and products are being responsibly sourced. There are three pathways to certification under this scheme which are outline on point 6 of this document.

2. Scope

This scheme provides ongoing independent third party assessment, certification and listing of responsibly sourced construction materials and products. Certification of applicable materials against this scheme provides points within the Materials sections of BREEAM and the Code for Sustainable Homes.

3. Applications to join the Scheme

To apply for certification of this scheme the applicant should complete and return to Intertek the application form for 'BES60001 Framework Standard for Responsible Sourcing'. The application will be reviewed and, if accepted, a proposal will be prepared setting out:

- Material, product or product range included under the scope of certification activities
- Company to which the certification will be assigned
- Facility to which the certification will be assigned (if applicable)
- Certification pathway
- Maintenance of certification
- Travel and subsistence
- Formal quotation

All proposals and contracts are subject to Intertek's Standard Terms and Conditions. If the client wishes to continue the certification processes upon receipt of the proposal they should return the completed application to enable Intertek to continue the certification process.

4. Assessment to this Scheme

In order to achieve certification applicants are required to:

- Submit an application form outlining the type of certification that they require.
- Comply with all of the compulsory elements of BES 6001.





Assessment structure

Pre-assessment

Pre-assessment enables the applicant to complete the majority of the assessment work using a paper-based process before the site assessment takes place. The pre-assessment significantly reduces the amount of time needed at the site assessment. The pre-assessment auditor will identify missing information at the pre-assessment stage and request the applicant to present the missing information during the site assessment process. The applicant can request up to 45 days between receipt of the pre-assessment report and the start of the site assessment stage to ensure that all non-conformances can be closed out.

Note: In the case of multiple site assessments the 45 day period runs to the start of the series of site assessments. For multiple site assessments the client and Intertek will seek to minimise the time between the first and last site assessment.

Site assessment

The number of assessment days required will depend upon a number of factors including:

- The quality of documents sent to the assessor at the pre-assessment.
- The level of assessment sought – Pass, Good, Very Good or Excellent, applications for the higher levels will required more assessment time.
- The number of sites included under the assessment. As a standard rule, the square root of the total number of manufacturing sites will be assessed, along with Head Office(s) and/or Regional Office(s). It is at the discretion of BRE Global to deviate from this standard rule where exceptional circumstances exist.
- The complexity of the assessment, e.g. the amount of evidence that needs to be assessed for a given product and how many suppliers are involved.

All non-conformances must be closed-out within 45 days of the site assessment(s).

Note: In the case of a single site assessment all non-conformities must be closed-out by 45 days after this single assessment. For a series of site assessments all non-conformities must be closed out by 45 days after the final assessment.

5. Management Systems Certification

In order to ensure that products meet, and continue to meet, the requirements of this scheme document, applicants are required to maintain full control of their production processes and the quality of the products that they supply through a structured documented management system. Companies must as a minimum:

- Supply a written policy which includes the principles of responsible sourcing.
- Identify applicable legal requirements and determine how they apply within its written policy which includes the principles of responsible sourcing.



- Hold a documented quality management system which meets and continues to meet the principles of ISO 9001 and addresses requirements of BES 6001.
- Have in place, as appropriate to the purpose and activities of the organisation and its products, a documented management system and purchasing process and approval of its suppliers.
- Monitor material traceability through the supply chain.
- Demonstrate there are documented Environmental Management Systems in the supply chain
- Demonstrate there are documented Health and Safety Management Systems in the supply chain.
- Quantify the emissions and removals of greenhouse gases (GHG) related to its direct operations as well as indirect emissions and removals of GHG related to energy use in its direct operations and establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for the monitoring and reduction of the GHG intensity of its operations.
- Establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for the efficient use of constituent materials addressing key issues such as preferential use of renewable and/or abundant materials, material resource efficiency and re-use of materials, use of recycled materials, production residues or recyclable materials
- Establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for the diversion of waste from landfill or from incineration without energy recovery that is in accordance with the waste hierarchy as well as providing evidence that all controlled waste arising from its operations is stored, transported and treated such that risks to human health and the environment are low and that all local regulatory requirements are fulfilled.
- Establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for the reduction of the intensity of its operations with respect to water abstraction.
- Use life cycle thinking and/or life cycle assessment (LCA) methods to identify significant environmental aspects and impacts throughout the product lifecycle. They shall have in place a documented policy for continual improvement of life cycle environmental performance.
- Establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for continually reducing environmental impacts associated with the transport of materials, goods and people involved in its operations. The policy shall identify appropriate, significant, direct environmental impacts associated with the modes of transport used by the organisation. The methodology used to identify significant environmental impacts shall be documented. The policy shall include mitigation strategies for significant environmental impacts.
- Establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, for the learning and development of its employees. The policy shall include an objective to cover the principles of responsible sourcing as it relates to the organisation's policies.
- Establish a policy, supported by a documented management system, to identify and consult with local community stakeholders directly affected by the activities and operations of the organisation. The company shall have written procedures to record all complaints from local community stakeholders and any subsequent associated actions.

Additional points are available under the following clauses:

- Energy use
- Ecotoxicity, and
- Business ethics



BES 6001 performance levels are assessed by different levels of:

- Commitment
- Compliance, and
- Exceeding scheme requirements

6. Certification and Listing

Certificates are awarded to companies when all assessment activities have been satisfactorily completed, the Technical Verification Officer has confirmed the Project Officers technical evaluation and the Certification Scheme Manager has made the certification decision based on the assessment report and check form. Certificates will state the BES 6001 performance level of the named material, product or product range.

Certificates will also state the company name or company name and site that have been responsibly sourced. Details of the products will also be listed on www.greenbooklive.com.

Certification pathways include:

- Certification to BES 6001 Framework Standard.
- Certification to BES 6001 Framework Standard and approved sector guidance document.
- Certification to BES 6001 Framework Standard and approved sector standard.

Certification options include:

- Whole organisation with multiple sites and products.
- Multiple products within a single organisation.
- Single product within a single organisation.

Where multiple products from a whole organisation with multiple sites are certified against BES 6001, the certificate will include a statement that all sites reach a minimum level of 'Pass', 'Good', 'Very Good' or 'Excellent'. An annex will also be included, stating the average score for each product and the site names included under the assessment.

Certificates and listing are maintained subject to:

- Successful annual surveillance assessments to BES 6001.
- Compliance with sector specific or bespoke requirements.
- Approval by Intertek of any proposed modifications to the scheme which may affect performance, production or specification. Requests to assess proposed modifications must be made in writing to Intertek. The applicant will be advised of the further Intertek requirements necessary to retain certification.



BES6001 certification has duration of 1 year. The maintenance of full certification will require an Annual Verification to the version of BES 6001 on which the original certification was based. The Annual Verification will be based on documentary evidence provided by the client, the evidence shall comprise:

- Copies of all relevant 3rd-party certification (eg BS EN ISO 9001, BS EN ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001 etc) to demonstrate continuing compliance
- Evidence of the composition of supply chains to ensure original claimed performance is maintained
- Other evidence relating to a minimum of 3 clauses from Section 3.4 to confirm continued adherence to the Standard
- Evidence relating to the response to any observations from the original Certification and from any subsequent Annual Verifications.

Where the annual verification shows a reduction overall in the certificate score, then the certificate will be withdrawn and re-issued at the lower level. If the annual verification indicates a higher certificate score then the client will be invited to have their products reassessed. This reassessment is not compulsory and the client may continue with the certificate at the original level.

To ensure continuous certification, the re-certification process must be completed prior to the certificate expiry date. Following the successful completion of the second year annual review, the certified company will be sent an application form to begin the recertification process.

It is not the policy of Intertek to extend certification validity beyond the expiry date and the existing certificate will be withdrawn, regardless of whether re-certification is being undertaken.

If the manufacturing site(s), production inputs (either type and/or source) and/or production processes change then the certificated company must inform Intertek of the change, in writing, within 20 days of the change taking place. A reassessment of the BES 6001 certification may be required, at an additional cost. If a change in management or ownership occurs, the certificated company must notify Intertek of the change, within 7 days of the change taking place. Failure to do so may result in the withdrawal of the certification.

As part of the continual improvement, a certificated company may request a data re-evaluation at any time. After the third year a full re-certification will be required (ie after the second Annual Verification).



7. Updates to BES 6001

The BES 6001 Standard and certification scheme will be updated to take account of evolving responsible sourcing principles and practices. Upon application, the most recent version of BES 6001 published at the point of pre-assessment will be used. Approved sector standards shall be updated within 6 months of BES 6001 updates.



Appendix 1 – The certification process

