

# RESPONSIBLE SOURCING CERTIFICATION

Intertek supports clients with BES 6001 and Eco-Reinforcement Certification compliance

## Companies



## Region

UK

## Intertek Solutions

Sustainability Certification

With the focus on responsible sourcing gaining momentum in the construction sector, the three largest steel reinforcement fabricators and suppliers of reinforcing steel in the UK wanted to inform their customers that they were sourcing their materials responsibly from social, ethical and environmental perspectives. They opted to demonstrate their commitment through obtaining dual certification for BES 6001 and Eco-Reinforcement and, as a result, gained a distinct differentiator in the marketplace.

**“We take responsible sourcing within the green construction and re-inforcement steel sector extremely seriously. We are constantly seeking ways to further enhance our sustainability credentials”**

**- John Collins, Managing Director, BRC Ltd**



### The Project

Intertek was engaged by BRC Ltd, Express Reinforcements, and ROM Group to provide support in attaining the BES 6001 Framework Standard for Responsible Sourcing, and the sector specific responsible sourcing Eco-Reinforcement certification, which would complement their existing quality systems.

In response, Intertek was hired to collate a wide variety of evidence in order to achieve a 'Very Good' level certification and demonstrate their clients leadership of ethical supply chain performance within the industry. This independent certification will not only be recognised across a variety of industries around the world, it will also provide a robust certification mark to communicate their commitment to the implementation of sustainability strategies to clients and stakeholders.

Intertek, a trusted provider of quality and safety services for leading brands and companies, was responsible for providing independent audits of the client's sourcing operations according to BES 6001 and Eco-Reinforcement standards based on their long standing and proven expertise in this area.

### The Challenge

All three companies required:

- Eco-Reinforcement analysis of current information and actions.
- BES 6001 gap analysis (pre-assessment).
- Site visit audits.
- Final report with findings and rationale for awarding credits for responsible sourcing score.
- Independent and trusted industry experts to provide guidance throughout the whole certification process.



## The Conclusions

As a result BRC Ltd, Express Reinforcements and ROM Group received:

- Certification
- Suggestions for continuous improvement
- Benchmarking opportunities
- Recognition of achieving Environmental Product Declarations

...and most importantly a competitive advantage in the marketplace.



## The Intertek Advantage

Through undergoing the certification process, BRC Ltd, Express Reinforcements, and ROM Group were able to realise recognition of the significant efforts they have made towards reducing their environmental impact and in meeting their sustainability goals. In particular, this was demonstrated in the areas of transport and waste, where the supplementary point was awarded for both criteria.

Within the BES 6001 standard, a supplementary point can be awarded if the organisation reports its performance against its transport policy and objectives to its stakeholders. BRC Ltd, Express Reinforcements and ROM Group have made significant efforts to provide a full and comprehensive section on transport within their Sustainability Statements. In particular, the Sustainability Statements report the significant environmental impacts identified by the organisations associated with the transport activities, the mitigation strategies and the company's performance against targets.

BRC Ltd, Express Reinforcements and ROM Group also include a comprehensive report of their performance in regard to waste production within their Sustainability Statement. This level of communication to stakeholders is recognised within the BES 6001 standard by the awarding of a supplementary point. The organisations are reporting the levels of waste produced relative to output set against targets for reduction over time. The Sustainability Statements also communicate the actions the organisations have taken to promote both staff and stakeholder behavioral change.

Furthermore, through both BES 6001 and Eco-Reinforcement certification scheme, the organisations have been able to achieve recognition for the significant efforts they have made in understanding and communicating the Life Cycle impacts of their products through the verification and publication of EPD. Full credits were awarded under both schemes for the Life Cycle Assessment criterion..

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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