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Handbook for the BIOMASUD Solid Biofuels Certification v15 - Bodies

<http://biomasud.eu>

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1 BACKGROUND AND SCOPE

Biomass certification system was developed in a project inside the frame of the program Interreg IV B, financed with funds FEDER. This last version of the Handbook v15 was made within the project Biomass Plus which is funded in the H2020 program (Grant Agreement no. 691763).

The Mediterranean countries have a biomass market with production of solid biomass fuels such as olive stones, almond shells and pine nut shells that aren't used in other European regions. As a result, there are already some national or European quality labels for wood pellets but there is nothing for other kind of solid biofuels. Biomass chases the ultimate goal of contributing to the sustainability of the solid biomass-based energy model and consequently the conservation of the natural environment of the Mediterranean region, promoting efficiency and sustainability in the processes. To achieve this goal within the project was developed the certification system Biomass which cover many of the solid biofuels traded in the Mediterranean region.

The present handbook establishes the procedures of a quality and sustainability certification system. This scheme has **quality requirements** but also it will have **minimal sustainability criteria** along the whole chain of value, and a **traceability system** that allows managing the resources from a global perspective.

The main scope of the label is the solid biofuels for non-industrial purposes that will be used in small-medium boilers, stoves, or bigger installations but with a need of quality guaranties because of its location (i.e. district heatings located inside the towns). During the creation of the Biomass quality label knowledge of other quality systems in Europe was made (i.e. ENplus for wood pellets, managed by the European Pellet Council). It's not the intention of Biomass consortium to compete with other quality systems already on the market so it was decided to focus in other Mediterranean biomass solid fuels and recognise other certification systems if producers report the complementary information not included in its other certification. Every case will be studied and decided what extra information is needed for conceding the Biomass seal.

This part of the BIOmasud® Handbook, contains the requirements for organisations responsible for conformity assessment, these are:

- Certification Bodies
- Inspection Bodies
- Testing Bodies

2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES

CEN/TC 15370-1: Solid biofuels - Method for the determination of ash melting behaviour - Part 1: Characteristic temperatures method

ISO 14780: Solid Biofuels – Sample preparation

EN-ISO 18135: Solid biofuels - Sampling

EN 15234-2: Solid biofuels - Fuel quality assurance - Part 2: Wood pellets for non-industrial use

ISO 3166: Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions

ISO 16948: Solid biofuels - Determination of total content of carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen contents

ISO 16968: Solid biofuels - Determination of minor elements

ISO 16994: Solid biofuels - Determination of total content of sulphur and chlorine

ISO 17225-1: Solid biofuels - Fuel specifications and classes - Part 1: General requirements

ISO 17225-2: Solid biofuels - Fuel specifications and classes - Part 2: Graded wood pellets

ISO 17225-4: Solid biofuels - Fuel specifications and classes - Part 4: Graded wood chips

ISO 17225-5: Solid biofuels - Fuel specifications and classes - Part 5: Graded firewood

UNE 164003: Solid biofuels – Fuel Specifications and classes. Graded olive stones

UNE 164004: Solid biofuels – Fuel Specifications and classes. Graded fruit shells

ISO 17828: Solid biofuels - Determination of bulk density

ISO 17829: Solid Biofuels - Determination of length and diameter of pellets

ISO 17831-1: Solid biofuels - Determination of mechanical durability of pellets and briquettes - Part 1: Pellets

ISO 18122: Solid biofuels - Determination of ash content

ISO 18125: Solid biofuels - Determination of calorific value

ISO 18134: Solid biofuels - Determination of moisture content -

ISO 18846: Solid biofuels - Determination of fines content in quantities of pellets

ISO 9001: Quality Management Systems – Requirements

ISO/IEC 17020: Conformity assessment - Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection

ISO/IEC 17025: General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories

ISO/IEC 17065: Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services

EN 45011, General requirements for organisations that operate product certification systems

3 CERTIFICATION BODIES

3.1 TASKS

Certification Bodies accepted by BIOMasud Steering Committee must be listed on the certification's WEB system <http://biomasud.eu>

Listed Certification Bodies assess the conformity of a company with the requirements of the BIOMasud certification system. The assessment is done based on the following reports:

- An audit report performed by a listed Inspection Body
- An analysis report of the sample taken during the audit tested by a listed Testing Body (only for producers' certifications)

3.2 LISTING REQUIREMENTS

A listed Certification Body shall be accredited according to ISO/IEC 17065 with a member of the European Co-Operation for Accreditation (EA). It is recommended that the scope of accreditation should include ISO 17225-2 and EN 15234-2. The Biomassud Steering Committee may allow reasonable exceptions.

3.3 APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Certification Bodies can apply for listing with the Biomassud Steering Committee on the requirements stated in Chapter 3.2 of this part of the Handbook. Written applications have to be submitted to the Biomassud Steering Committee in the template established.

National Licensers can choose to collaborate with one or more listed Certification Bodies in their country or area. The agreement shall be completed with a written contract between both parties.

4 INSPECTION BODIES

4.1 TASKS

Audits are performed by Inspection Bodies. An Inspection Report including a laboratory report shall be provided to the Certification Body as well as to the National Licenser.

4.2 LISTING REQUIREMENTS

A listed Inspection Body shall be accredited according to ISO 17020. The scope of accreditation should include ISO 17225-2 and EN 15234-2. The Biomassud Steering Committee may allow reasonable exceptions.

4.3 APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Inspections Bodies can apply for listing with the Biomassud Steering Committee on the requirements stated in Chapter 4.2 of this part of the Handbook. Written applications have to be submitted to the Biomassud Steering Committee in the template established.

Listed Inspections bodies can perform audits in any country.

5 INSPECTION BODIES

5.1 TASKS

Listed Testing Bodies analyse the quality of solid biofuels samples collected by Listed Inspections Bodies. The analyses are carried out according to the testing standards specified in the BIOMasud Handbook Annex 1.

The laboratory report shall be provided to the Inspection Body.

5.2 LISTING REQUIREMENTS

Testing Bodies shall be accredited according to EN ISO 17025 for the testing standards specified in the BIOMasud Handbook Annex 1. The Biomassud Steering Committee may allow reasonable exceptions. Testing Bodies may collaborate to complete all the tests required by the standard.

5.3 APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Testing Bodies can apply for listing with the Biomassud Steering Committee on the requirements stated in Chapter 5.2 of this part of the Handbook. Written applications have to be submitted to the Biomassud Steering Committee in the template established.

Listed Testing bodies can perform analyses to the coming from producers located in any country.