

# POSITION STATEMENT

September 2nd, 2026

## CSC Certification and the EU EmpCo Directive: Supporting Credible Environmental Claims

The EU Empowering Consumers for the Green Transition Directive (EU) 2024/825, commonly referred to as the “EmpCo Directive”, introduces new requirements intended to protect consumers from misleading environmental claims and sustainability labels. From 27 September 2026, voluntary sustainability labels used in commercial communications must be based on a certification scheme or established by a public authority.

The Directive defines a certification scheme as a third-party verification scheme with publicly available requirements that is transparent, fair and non-discriminatory, involves relevant experts and stakeholders in the development of its requirements, and includes objective monitoring and procedures for dealing with non-compliance.

**CSC’s position: CSC considers that its certification system is designed to meet the key characteristics of a certification scheme under the EmpCo Directive.**

CSC is providing clarification to certified companies and other stakeholders that its certification system qualifies as a certification scheme under the EmpCo requirements. See in the table below how CSC addresses the EmpCo requirements.

| EmpCo requirement                                                                                 | How CSC addresses the requirement                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| Voluntary sustainability label                                                                    | CSC certification is a voluntary system, and is not a mandatory label under Union or national law. CSC certification is open for all concrete, cement and aggregates producers who are willing and able to comply with the applicable requirements.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Independent third-party verification<br>Competent and impartial certification bodies and auditors | CSC certification is based on defined sustainability criteria and evidence requirements. Compliance is assessed through independent third-party certification bodies (CBs) operating under the CSC certification framework. CSC does not issue certificates itself. Assessments leading to CSC certification are carried out by independent CSC-approved CBs. CBs must demonstrate accreditation according to ISO 17021 and/or ISO 17065 through an accreditation body recognised by the IAF MLA. CSC also defines qualification requirements for auditors, including relevant knowledge of concrete, cement and aggregates production and the CSC methodology. CSC accredited-CBs are publicly available: Certification Bodies – ( <a href="#">CSC Certification Bodies</a> ), as well as CBs annual audit reports ( <a href="#">Audit Report 2025</a> ) |
| Transparent, fair and non-discriminatory access                                                   | The certification is available to all concrete, aggregates and cement producers that meet the applicable certification requirements. CSC requirements and the certification system are publicly available, including:<br>Standards and technical requirements – ( <a href="#">CSC Technical Manual</a> )<br>Certification process and requirements – ( <a href="#">CSC Certification</a> )<br>Certified companies and certificates – ( <a href="#">CSC Toolbox</a> )<br>Fees – ( <a href="#">CSC Fees</a> )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Stakeholder involvement                                                                           | CSC develops and reviews its certification system involving relevant industry, green                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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|                                       | <p>building certification and infrastructure rating systems and multiple stakeholders. This includes stakeholder input into the development and review of CSC requirements. CSC is recognized by several leading green building certification systems and infrastructure rating systems globally such as: BREEAM, DGNB, LEED, ÖGNI, ENVISION, CASA, B.E.S.T., SGNI, Mostadam. CSC is also a community member of the ISEAL alliance. This not only supports transparency but also stakeholders involvement across the value chain.</p>                                                                                                                                            |
| Defined procedures for non-compliance | <p>CSC has procedures in place to address inappropriate or non-compliant use of CSC certification and related claims. These procedures can include the suspension or withdrawal of a certificate. Further information is available in the (<a href="#">CSC Claims Management Policy</a>).</p> <p>Withdrawal also ends the rights associated with certification, including logo use. Public complaint mechanisms are available to the public and stakeholders, including:</p> <p>Complaints and grievances – (<a href="#">CSC Grievance and Complaint Management Process</a>)</p> <p>Suspensions or withdrawals of certificates - (<a href="#">CSC Summary of Grievances</a>)</p> |

## What this means for CSC-certified producers

For concrete, cement and aggregates producers, CSC certification provides a credible, independently verified basis for communicating verified sustainability performance and for supporting sustainability-related procurement requirements.

A CSC certificate can therefore be referenced in relevant business-to-business communications and procurement processes. However, the certificate does not automatically substantiate every environmental claim that a company may wish to make. Any environmental claim must accurately reflect the scope of the certification and the performance demonstrated through the certification process.

CSC certificates are issued at defined certification levels based on the fulfilment of specific criteria. The certified performance and achieved certification level provide the appropriate basis for communicating the result of the certification.

## **Supporting credible procurement and market communication**

The EmpCo Directive reinforces the importance of transparent, substantiated and independently verified sustainability information. The CSC endorses the EmpCo Directive, aligning itself with all initiatives aimed at promoting genuine transparency and combating greenwashing targeting consumers and other stakeholders.

For producers and their customers, this makes credible certification increasingly relevant when sustainability performance is considered in procurement and supply-chain decisions. CSC-certified companies should ensure that any claims referring to their certification are consistent with the certificate issued.

***“CSC certification provides a transparent, independently verified and traceable framework for demonstrating responsible sourcing in the concrete, cement and aggregates sector. Companies using CSC certification should ensure that any sustainability claims referring to their certification accurately reflect the certificate, its scope and the performance achieved.”*** Tobias Laurens, CSC Managing Director.

For further information on CSC certification requirements, certification levels and claims, please visit [//www.csc.eco](http://www.csc.eco).