RULES FOR THE ISSUE OF CERTIFICATION OF SUSTAINABILITY OF BIOFUELS AND BIOLIQUIDS, FOOD AND FEED, TECHNICAL/CHEMICAL AND BIOENERGY APPLICATIONS

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1. GENERAL

1.1 Aim

These Rules define the procedures applied by RINA Services S.p.A. (RINA) for the issue of:

- the Certificate of Compliance of the sustainability of biofuels and bioliquids to Companies adhering to:
  a) the “National Certification System of the sustainability of biofuels and bioliquids” as set in the Decree dated 23 January 2012 “National certification system for biofuels and bioliquids” issued by the Ministry of the Environment and for Protection of the Land and Sea, in conjunction with the Ministry for Economic Development and the Ministry for Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies (in the following DM23012012) and subsequent amendments and integrations;
  b) the voluntary scheme ISCC EU system “Sustainability International & Carbon Certification” managed by ISCC System GmbH (in the following ISCCEU)
  c) the voluntary scheme “2BSvs Biomass Biofuels Sustainability” (in the following 2BSvs). This scheme covers the whole biofuel industry’s supply chain, from the biomass producer to the final biofuels distributors under custom duty. It has also been designed to be applicable to any type of biomass and biofuels worldwide and to cover all the sustainability requirements included in the European Directive 2009/28/EC.
- the Certificate of Compliance of the sustainability of food and feed products, technical/chemical applications and applications in the bioenergy sector to Companies adhering to:
  d) the ISCC PLUS system, managed by ISCC System GmbH (in the following ISCCPlus).

For each paragraph that follows, the applicable scheme is specified.

These Rules also define how Companies can apply for obtain, maintain and renew certification as well as how it may be suspended, withdrawn or renounced.

For any matters not covered by these Rules, reference is to be made to the “GENERAL CONTRACT CONDITIONS GOVERNING SYSTEM, PRODUCT AND PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION”, available from the RINA web site.

1.2 Certificate of Compliance and reference legislation

DM23012012, ISCCEU, 2BSvs

The Certificate of Compliance guarantees the reliability of the information which Companies belonging to the chain of biofuels and bioliquids are required to provide to demonstrate compliance with the sustainability criteria, according to what is established in the following European regulatory and legislative framework:

legislative decree no. 55 dated 31/3/2011.

**ISCCPlus**
The Certificate of Compliance guarantees the reliability of the information which Companies of the chain of food and feed products, of technical and chemical applications and applications in the bioenergy sector are required to provide to demonstrate compliance with the sustainability criteria, chain of custody, specific sustainability properties of a product such as greenhouse gas emissions and consumption, established in the ISCC PLUS documents available from the www.iscc-system.org site.

**DM23012012**
RINA issues the certificate as per these Rules, in accordance with the requirements of the UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17065 Standard “Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services” and in accordance with the requirements of the ACCREDIA RT31 Technical Rules “Requirements for accreditation of bodies which issue certificates of compliance in relation to the National Certification System of the sustainability of biofuels and bioliquids” available from the ACCREDIA web site.

The Certificate of Compliance is valid for 5 years from the date of issuance and is dependent on the satisfactory outcome of the subsequent periodic maintenance audits.

**ISCCEU, ISCCPlus**
RINA issues the certificate as per these Rules, in accordance with the requirements of the UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17021 Standard “Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems” and in accordance with the ISCC requirements for certification, available from the ISCC GmbH web site (www.iscc-system.org).

The Certificate of Compliance is valid for 1 year from the date of issue.

**2BSvs**
RINA issues the certificate as per these Rules, in accordance with the requirements of the UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17021 Standard “Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems” and in accordance with the 2BSvs requirements for certification, available from the 2BSvs web site (www.2bsvs.org).

The Certificate of Compliance is valid for 5 years from the date of issue.

1.3 Access to certification

**DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs**
Access to certification is open to all Companies and does not depend on whether they belong to any association or group. For the certification activities, RINA applies its current fees, guaranteeing fairness and uniformity of application.

RINA may legitimately refuse certification requests from Companies subject to, or whose production or activities are subject to restriction, suspension or proscription by a public authority. Should RINA refuse a certification request, the reason for the refusal will be communicated to the applicant Company.

The certificate issued by RINA refers exclusively to a single Company, where Company means a group, company, business, body or institution, or their parts or combinations, whether associated or not, public or private, which has its own functional and administrative structure.

For Companies with more than one operational unit, each operational unit can be defined as an Company.
2. ISSUE OF THE CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

2.1 Reference legislation for the Company

DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs

To obtain the Certificate of Compliance, a company must meet the criteria/requirements contained in the agreed system and any additional elements required by the accreditation body or by the supervisory body of the system.

DM23012012

The Company must demonstrate that its products comply with the sustainability criteria defined in Article 17 of Directive 2009/28/EC (paragraphs 2 to 5) and in Article 1, point 6 of Directive 2009/30/EC, using an internal management system set up for the purpose of sustainability (Sustainability management system) which includes a mass balance system and a traceability system. The criteria/requirements of the ISCC are available on the web site of the ISCC GmbH.

ISCCEU

The Company must demonstrate that its products/applications comply with the criteria defined in the ISCC PLUS documents available from the www.iscc-system.org site.

2BSvs

The Company like 1st gathering entities and economic operators along the biofuels supply chain shall demonstrate the sustainability of their products in conformity with the European Union Directive 2009/28/EC.

2.2 Certification request

DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs

Companies which wish to obtain the Certificate of Compliance must provide RINA with the main data of their Company and of the service required, activities carried out, related products and other technical information, by filling in the “Informative Questionnaire” in all its parts, available from the RINA web site, and sending it to RINA.

In the case of group certification, the Company which is the coordinator of the group is to provide all the information of interest relevant to all the members in the group.

In case of certification requested signing framework agreement, the organization that acts as the contact person shall provide all information of interest related to each organization for which certification is requested.
(For DM23012012). If the responsibility for compliance to certification system, as well as the issue of the declaration of compliance of a part or all operators in the supply chain is contractually attributed to a single operator in the chain, last interface is responsible to provide the information of interest related to the signatories of the agreement and will be subject to verification as provided by the certification scheme.

The purpose of the information required in the Informative Questionnaire is to enable RINA to check in advance the implementation of some requirements of the regulatory reference documents and to prepare a suitable quotation. If the Company accepts the quotation, it makes its application for certification official by sending RINA the specific form enclosed with the quotation. For 2BSvs the Company can formalize the request after to have obtained positive decision by 2BS to proceed. On receipt of the application for certification and the relative annexes, and having checked they’re complete, RINA sends the Company written acceptance of its request. The Company’s request, which makes specific mention of these Rules, and its acceptance by RINA, contractually formalise the relationship between RINA and the Company and the applicability of these Rules.

ISCCEU, ISCCPlus
The Company is to fill in the registration form, available from the ISCC web site and send it to registration@iscc-system.org. ISCC will send a confirmation of registration e-mail, informing the Company and RINA of the “registration number” assigned to the Company.

2.3 Documents required to undertake the certification process

DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs
The Company is to make available to RINA, together with the certification request or immediately after, the following documentation:

- Chamber of Commerce registration (or equivalent document) up to date and, in any case, less than six months old;
- Descriptive document of the Sustainability Management System (Manual or Procedure);
- Facsimile of the statement of conformity or of the certificate of sustainability;
- List of internal procedures which are important from the point of view of correct application of the regulatory reference documentation (i.e. warehouse management, procurement, process control, final control, sampling, delivery);
- Calculation methodology of CO2eq emissions;
- Layout of the plant or planimetry (if available);
- Social and environmental information document as per Annex I of DM23012012, when applicable.

RINA may request, for examination, also other documents to support previously received information and considered important for the certification in question.

2.4 Compliance verification activities

DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs
Compliance of the Company is checked by RINA by means of an audit programme which includes:

- initial audit and, following its positive outcome and independent review of the file, issue of the certificate;
- periodic maintenance audits (applicable only for DM23012012 and for 2BSvs)
- renewal audit in the fifth year (applicable only for DM23012012 and for 2BSvs).

In the case of group certification, the above audits can be carried out on a representative sample of Companies.
RNA informs the Company of the names of the technical personnel who will perform the initial audit for the purpose of issuing the Certificate of Compliance; the Company may object to the appointment of these auditors, giving its reasons.

In order to perform the audits, the RINA technical personnel are to be given free access, also without notice, during normal working hours, to the premises and archives of the Company’s site(s).

The appointed technical personnel agree with the Company, sufficiently in advance, on a date for the initial audit and send the audit plan to the Company in advance.

The initial audit consists in examining the information provided by the Company, the internal procedures which are important from the point of view of correct implementation of the reference regulatory documentation, the records, the greenhouse gas emission calculations made on the basis of the methodology chosen and correspondence between the documentation and on-site observations.

The above checks are made in accordance with the requirements of the reference regulatory documentation.

The above checks include verification of the truthfulness of the conformity statements, of the sustainability certificate and also, where applicable, of the availability of the social and environmental information. In the case of group certification, the checks cover all the Companies in the group.

At the end of the audit, the Company will receive a report as follows:

**DM23012012**

The Company will receive a RINA report containing, among others, the information required by the ACCREDIA RT 31 Rules, including any non conformities found and/or recommendations.

The Company may indicate any reservations or observations it has concerning the non conformities or findings identified by the RINA auditors.

The contents of this report may subsequently be confirmed by RINA in writing.

If there is no written communication from RINA, the report is considered confirmed three working days after its delivery to the Company.

**ISCCEU, ISCCPlus**

The Company will receive the ISCC signed and filled in audit procedures and the “Non-conformity List”, if necessary.

The “Non-conformity List” must be countersigned by the person responsible in the Company.

**2BSvs**

The Company will receive a RINA report, including any non conformities found and/or recommendations. Report must be countersigned by the Company.

**DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs**

Having analysed the causes of any non conformities indicated in the above report, the Company is to propose to RINA, by the date stated in the report, the necessary treatment of the non conformities, as well as the necessary corrective actions/measures and the time required for their implementation.

In the case of group certification, the corrective actions are to apply (if and to the extent applicable) to all the Companies covered by the certificate.

Acceptance of these proposals and of the time required for their implementation will be communicated to the Company in writing by RINA.

### 2.5 Management of non conformities

**2BSvs**

**Critical non-conformity**

Nonconformity identified against one of the Principle level requirements specified in the relevant 2BSvs documents. A new verification
audit is required before a certificate can be issued. Critical indicators have been identified in the text of 2BS-STD-01 & 02. A nonconformity against a Critical Indicator shall result in a Critical nonconformity.

DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs
If major non conformities are found, or “Major Must” in the case of ISCC, the certification process is suspended.

DM23012012, 2BSvs
Major non conformities are to be resolved – with evidence of resolution – within a maximum of 90 days from the end of the audit. RINA may carry out a supplementary audit to check that the corrective actions proposed have been properly implemented. Following the successful outcome of this audit, the certification process will be resumed. Should the above 90 day deadline be exceeded, the aforementioned checks are to be carried out again within six months of the date of the finding.

In the case of minor non conformities, the maximum time allowed to implement the corrective actions is 60 days.

In the opinion of the audit team, correct and effective implementation of the corrective actions may also be performed on a documental basis, depending on the type of corrective action to be checked.

In the case of minor non conformities, the certificate of compliance will be suspended. In order to check that the corrective actions have been implemented, following suspension, a supplementary audit will be carried out within 30 days. If the supplementary audit is successfully concluded and the non conformities have been resolved, the certificate will be reinstated, otherwise it will be withdrawn.

ISCCEU, ISCCPlus
Corrective actions for “Major Must” are to be implemented within 40 days of the audit date. Otherwise, the certificate cannot be issued.

2.6 Issue of the certificate

DM23012012
Following the satisfactory completion of the audit, examination by an independent technical reviewer as well as approval by the person in charge, the Company is issued a Certificate of Compliance valid for five years and the programme of periodic maintenance audits.

In the case of group certification, the Certificate of Compliance includes the information on the Head of the Chain and on the other Companies belonging to the group. This programme may be modified by RINA on the basis of the results of the previous periodic audits.

The frequency of the maintenance audits will be changed following a justified request, in the opinion of RINA, from the Company.

In the case of minor non conformities, the maximum time allowed to implement the corrective actions is 60 days.

In the opinion of the audit team, correct and effective implementation of the corrective actions may also be performed on a documental basis, depending on the type of corrective action to be checked.

If the non conformities are not resolved within the above period, the certificate of compliance will be suspended.

In order to check that the corrective actions have been implemented, following suspension, a supplementary audit will be carried out within 30 days. If the supplementary audit is successfully concluded and the non conformities have been resolved, the certificate will be reinstated, otherwise it will be withdrawn.

ISCCEU, ISCCPlus
Corrective actions for “Major Must” are to be implemented within 40 days of the audit date. Otherwise, the certificate cannot be issued.

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In the case of group certification, the Certificate of Compliance includes the information on the Head of the Chain and on the other Companies belonging to the group. This programme may be modified by RINA on the basis of the results of the previous periodic audits.

The frequency of the maintenance audits will be changed following a justified request, in the opinion of RINA, from the Company.

In the case of minor non conformities, the maximum time allowed to implement the corrective actions is 60 days.

In the opinion of the audit team, correct and effective implementation of the corrective actions may also be performed on a documental basis, depending on the type of corrective action to be checked.

If the non conformities are not resolved within the above period, the certificate of compliance will be suspended.

In order to check that the corrective actions have been implemented, following suspension, a supplementary audit will be carried out within 30 days. If the supplementary audit is successfully concluded and the non conformities have been resolved, the certificate will be reinstated, otherwise it will be withdrawn.

ISCCEU, ISCCPlus
Corrective actions for “Major Must” are to be implemented within 40 days of the audit date. Otherwise, the certificate cannot be issued.

2.6 Issue of the certificate

DM23012012
Following the satisfactory completion of the audit, examination by an independent technical reviewer as well as approval by the person in charge, the Company is issued a Certificate of Compliance valid for five years and the programme of periodic maintenance audits.

In the case of group certification, the Certificate of Compliance includes the information on the Head of the Chain and on the other Companies belonging to the group. This programme may be modified by RINA on the basis of the results of the previous periodic audits.

The frequency of the maintenance audits will be changed following a justified request, in the opinion of RINA, from the Company.
be established and implemented on the basis of the risk associated with the probability, for the operator, of producing and placing on the market non-compliant products\(^2\).

Prior to expiry, another audit is to be performed in order to guarantee continuity and maintain the same certificate number. For details concerning the management and validity of the certificates of compliance issued by RINA, see chapter 5 below.

**ISCCEU, ISCCPlus**

Following the satisfactory completion of the audit, based on the ISCC System standards and related documents, examination by an independent technical reviewer as well as approval by the person in charge, the Company is issued a Certificate of Compliance valid for 1 year.

On successful audit completion, RINA submits the following documents to ISCC GmbH:
- the signed and filled in procedures;
- the certificate;
- the list of associated warehouses in the case of a first gathering point or logistics network;
- the detailed farm report (for farm or plantation, chosen by the Company).

All certificates are published on the ISCC web site.

A verification certificate is valid for a period of 5 years from the date it is issued. A temporary extension of up to 6 months can be granted during the recertification process at the end of the 5 years.

**3. MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION (ONLY APPLICABLE TO CERTIFICATION ACCORDING TO DM23012012 AND 2BSvs)**

**3.1 Maintenance audits**

During the period of validity of the Certificate of Compliance, the Company must maintain unchanged the conditions according to which certification was granted.

For this purpose, RINA undertakes periodic maintenance audits, as indicated in the following paragraphs and informs the Company of the audit outcome as stated in chapter 2, as applicable.

During the periodic maintenance audits, in addition to the checks as per paragraph 2.4, also the actions taken following the identification of non conformities during the previous audit will be reviewed and also how the Company communicates its certification.

The appointed technical personnel agree with the Company, sufficiently in advance, on a date for the periodic maintenance audit and send the audit plan to the Company at least one week in advance.

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\(^2\) The criteria to determine the risk associated with the different phases of the production chain are contained in the ACCREDIA RT31 technical rules "Requirements for accreditation of bodies which issue certificates of compliance in relation to the National Certification System of the sustainability of biofuels and bioliquids" available from the ACCREDIA web site.
On the basis of the risk associated with the operator, some audits may be performed unannounced. The outcome of the audit will be communicated according to chapter 2 above. The validity of the certificate is confirmed following the positive outcome of the maintenance activities. The certificate is updated stating the date of the audit carried out.

3.2 Management of non conformities

In case of critical non-conformity (only for 2BSvs): the certificate is suspended. Critical indicators have been identified in the text of 2BS-STD-01 & 02. A nonconformity against a Critical Indicator shall result in a Critical nonconformity.

In the case of major non conformities:

If the scheme is DM23012012: RINA notifies the Company that the certificate has been withdrawn;

If the scheme is 2BSvs: the nonconformity may be upgraded to the next level (to the critical level) if it has not been addressed within a timeframe of up to 3 months. Major indicators have been identified in the text of 2BS-STD-01 & 02. A nonconformity against a Major Indicator shall result in a Major non-conformity.

In the case of minor non conformities:

If the scheme is DM23012012: the maximum time allowed to implement the corrective actions is 60 days. In the opinion of the audit team, correct and effective implementation of the corrective actions may also be performed on a documental basis, depending on the type of corrective action to be checked.

If the non conformities are not made good within the above period, the certificate of compliance will be suspended.

If the scheme is 2BSvs: the nonconformity may be upgraded to the next level (to the major level) if it has not been addressed within a timeframe of up to 12 months.

For DM23012012 and for 2BSvs, in order to check that the corrective actions have been implemented, following suspension, a supplementary audit will be carried out within 30 days. If the supplementary audit is successfully concluded and the non conformities have been resolved, the certificate will be reinstated, otherwise it will be withdrawn. All expenses related to any additional audits will be charged to the Company.

3.3 Supplementary audits

RINA also reserves the right to perform additional checks and/or controls, compared to those established in the five-year programme, whether announced or unannounced, at the Company:

• if it receives complaints or reports, considered to be particularly important, related to compliance of the Company and/or of the product with the requirements of the reference standard and of these Rules;
• in relation to changes which have occurred in the Company;
• concerning Companies whose certificate has been suspended.

If the Company refuses, without a valid reason, RINA may begin the certificate suspension procedure. If RINA considers the complaints and reports to be justified, the cost of performing the additional audit will be charged to the Company. The Company is to keep a record of any complaints related to the products covered.
by certification and of the pertinent corrective actions taken and is to make them available to RINA together with the corrective actions taken during the periodic audits, where and as far as applicable.

4. RECERTIFICATION

This chapter also applies to certification in compliance with the ISCCEU and ISCCPlus schemes only if the Company has stipulated a contract with RINA which also includes the recertification audit. On the occasion of the recertification (renewal) audit, performed every five years (in the case of DM23012012 and 2BSvs), every year (in the case of ISCCEU, ISCCPlus), RINA will contact the Company about three months before the date indicated in the audit programme, in order to be able to plan the audit and agree on the recertification audit date.

In the case of DM23012012 and 2BSvs, the Company is to send an updated copy of the Informative Questionnaire, completed in all its parts.

In the case of ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, the Company is to inform RINA of any changes made since the previous audit.

If the previous contract is no longer valid, the contract between RINA and the applicant will be managed as described in paragraph 2.2.

The recertification audit date, agreed with the Company sufficiently in advance, is officially confirmed to the Company in writing.

4.1 Recertification audit

The purpose of the recertification audit is to confirm maintenance of compliance and is essentially based on an on-site audit, to be performed, generally, using the same criteria as for the initial audit.

The names of the qualified auditors appointed to perform the audit will be notified in advance by RINA to the Company, which may object to the appointments, giving its reasons.

4.2 Management of non conformities

DM23012012

In the case of major non conformities, RINA notifies the Company that the certificate has been withdrawn.

In the case of minor non conformities, the maximum time allowed to implement the corrective actions is 60 days. The Company must effectively carry out the pertinent treatment and corrective action prior to the certificate’s expiry date.

2BSvs

In case of critical non-conformity, the certificate is suspended.

In case of Major non-conformity the nonconformity may be upgraded to the next level (to the critical level) if it has not been addressed within a timeframe of up to 3 months.

In case of Minor non-conformity the nonconformity may be upgraded to the next level (to the major level) if it has not been addressed within a timeframe of up to 12 months.

For DM23012012 and 2BSvs in case In the opinion of the audit team, correct and effective implementation of the corrective actions may also be performed on a documental basis, depending on the type of corrective action to be checked.

All expenses related to any supplementary audit will be charged to the Company.

ISCCEU, ISCCPlus

The corrective actions for the “Major Must” are to be implemented within 40 days of the audit date. Otherwise, the certificate cannot be issued.
DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus

Following the satisfactory completion of the audit, examination by an independent technical reviewer and approval by the person in charge, the Certificate of Compliance is reissued for a further five years (in the case of DM23012012 and 2BSvs), for a further year (in the case of ISCCEU, ISCCPlus) together with the programme of periodic audits.

RINA will confirm approval of recertification and consequent issue of the certificate to the Company in writing.

For details concerning management and validity of certificates of compliance issued by RINA, reference is to be made to chapter 5 below.

The recertification process must necessarily be positively concluded prior to the expiry date on the certificate, which cannot be extended by RINA.

Consequently, the recertification audit must be positively concluded sufficiently in advance to allow RINA to approve recertification and reissue the certificate by the above date (at least one month before the certificate’s expiry date).

For 2BSvs a temporary extension of up to 6 months can be granted during the certification process at the end of the 5 years.

If the Company does not meet the above deadlines and does not obtain reissue of the certificate prior to the certificate’s expiry, the certificate will be considered as having expired the day after the expiry date established on the certificate.

If the Company wishes to re-obtain certification, after its certificate has expired, it is to submit another request, following in general the initial certification process.

5.
MANAGEMENT OF CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE

5.1 Issue of the certificate

DM23012012

The Certificate of Compliance issued by RINA is valid for five years starting from the date of issue and contains at least the following information:

- the unique certificate number;
- the business name and address of the certificate holder;
- the field of application of the certificate;
- the certification system;
- the date of issue;
- the validity and expiry date;
- the date of the last audit;
- the signature of the authorised person.

2BSvs

The Certificate of Compliance issued by RINA is valid for five years starting from the date of issue and contains at least the following information:

- the unique certificate number;
- name and address of the legal entity that has been verified for conformity;
- the applicable standard used for the verification (STD 01/STD02/STD01, STD02);
- the activity(ies) covered by the scope of the verification,
- the covered product(s) with the address of the legal entity
- date of the last day of verification follow-up audit

The annex to the Certificate of Conformity shall specify:

- the verification scope, site(s) with location and/or address(es).

When RINA issues the certificate, both the certificate and the pertinent five-year audit programme will be made available to the Company in the Member Area of the RINA.
The Company can access and download these documents from the above RINA site. If the Company is unable to access the internet, it may request a paper copy from the pertinent RINA office.

In case of 2BSvs, within 2 working days, RINA will send a formal notification, together with the original copy of the Certificate of Conformity, addressed to the Technical Advisor.

### ISCCEU, ISCCPlus

The Certificate of Compliance issued by RINA is valid for one year starting from the date of issue and contains at least the following information:

- a) the unique certificate number;
- b) the business name and address of the certificate holder;
- c) the field of application of the certificate;
- d) the certification system;
- e) the date of issue;
- f) the validity and expiry date;
- g) the signature of the authorised person.

Depending on the type of activity, that is the field of application, the certificate is also to include the following annexes:

- Annex containing the sustainable products managed on entering/leaving the certified site;
- Annex containing the warehouses/first gathering point the certified site makes use of.

### 5.2 Certificate suspension, withdrawal and renunciation

**DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus**

The certificate may be suspended, withdrawn or surrendered in accordance with the requirements established in Chapters 9 and 10 below.

### 5.3 Publication of certification

**DM23012012**

RINA publishes and keeps updated on its web site www.rina.org:

- the list of certified Companies;
- the validity status of the certificates issued, indicating the status of each one: valid, suspended or invalid.

On request, RINA can provide information on the causes leading to invalidity of the certificate.

### 6. CHANGES TO THE CERTIFICATE

#### 6.1 Request to amend the certificate

**DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs**

A Company can ask to have its Certificate of Compliance amended or extended by submitting a new “Informative Questionnaire”, filled in as appropriate.

RINA reserves the right to examine the request, on a case by case basis, and to decide the audit method for the purpose of issuing a new Certificate of Compliance.

The Company is to promptly inform RINA of any changes related to aspects which may influence compliance of the product and of the Company.

This requirement concerns, for example, changes relevant to:

- the legal, commercial, Company or ownership status;
- the Company and management, (for example key managers or technical personnel; decision-making process);
- the sites;
- the origin of the raw materials, intermediate products or finished products;
- the field of application of the activities covered by certification;
- significant modifications to the traceability system and to the processes.

RINA reserves the right to make additional checks at the Company if the changes communicated are considered particularly
important in relation to maintaining compliance with the requirements of the reference regulatory documentation and of these Rules or to review the economic terms and conditions due to possible amendment of the contract.

7. **PRODUCT CHANGES**

7.1 Certification following product changes

DM23012012, ISCC and 2BSvs

The Company is to promptly inform RINA of all significant changes it intends to make to the products for which it has obtained the Certificate of Compliance, to the production and control processes or to the applicable traceability system adopted. Following an assessment of the influence the proposed changes have on compliance of the product with the reference regulatory documentation, RINA may require all the initial checks, as per Chapter 2, to be repeated in full or in part. After the above checks have been carried out, RINA may extend the validity of the pertinent certification to the modified products. The Company is not allowed to use certificates of compliance for modified products until it has received written approval from RINA. RINA undertakes to inform the Company in writing of its decisions within 30 days of notification of the proposed changes.

8. **CHANGES TO REFERENCE STANDARDS AND/OR TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

8.1 Management following amendments to reference standards

RINA will inform the Company of any changes made to the reference regulatory documentation. Having considered the implications of the changes and bearing in mind the need to avoid inadvertently favouring, from a commercial point of view, a particular Company or product, RINA will establish the date by which the Company is to meet the new requirements. The changes considered necessary by RINA will be audited by the established date to check the Company meets the new requirements, as applicable. Following the positive outcome of the checks, RINA will issue a new Certificate of Compliance, amended as appropriate to make reference to the new regulatory document. If the Company does not comply with the new regulatory requirements by the established date, the Certificate of Compliance will be withdrawn.

9. **SUSPENSION, REINSTATEMENT AND WITHDRAWAL OF CERTIFICATES**

9.1 Suspension of the certificate

DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs

The validity of the certificate issued may be suspended according to what is stated in the “GENERAL CONTRACT CONDITIONS GOVERNING SYSTEM, PRODUCT AND PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION” and in the following specific cases:

- If the Company does not allow the periodic maintenance or recertification audits to be carried out at the required times;
- If minor non-conformities are found which have not been resolved by the dates stipulated by RINA;
- (only for 2BSvs) if a critical non-conformity is identified during a surveillance audit;
- If the Company has not complied with the deadlines established to communicate the corrective actions, following non-conformities contained in the audit report;
- If the Company has undertaken major internal site restructuring, moves to another
site(s) without informing RINA of such changes;

- In the case of significant changes to the certified products and/or to the production and control methods and/or to the applicable Sustainability management system, which have not been communicated to and accepted by RINA;
- If the Company refuses or hinders participation in the audits of observers from accreditation bodies and/or of reference for the certification scheme;
- Any serious complaints received by RINA;
- Any other circumstance which, in the opinion of RINA, has a negative influence on compliance of the Company and the products certified.

Suspension will be communicated to the Company in writing, establishing the conditions for reinstatement of certification and the date by which these conditions are to be met.

During the period of suspension of the Certificate of Compliance, no statements of conformity or sustainability certificates may be issued for the products sold. The statements of conformity and the sustainability certificates issued by the operator prior to certificate suspension remain valid.

9.2 Reinstatement of the certificate

DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs

If suspension is due to the negative outcome of the audit, reinstatement of the certificate is subject to verification that the deficiencies which led to suspension have been made good through a supplementary audit, carried out within 30 days maximum of the suspension and with a positive outcome.

If the reasons for the suspension are not eliminated within the above period, the certificate will be withdrawn.

9.3 Withdrawal of the certificate

DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs

Withdrawal of the certificate of compliance leads to immediate prohibition, for the operator, to use the certificate as well as prohibition to issue the statements of conformity and sustainability certificates. The statements of conformity and sustainability certificates issued by the operator prior to suspension and withdrawal of the certificate remain valid.

DM23012012, 2BSvs

The validity of the certificate issued may be withdrawn according to what is stated in the “GENERAL CONTRACT CONDITIONS GOVERNING SYSTEM, PRODUCT AND PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION” and in the following specific cases:

- When situations arise, such as those mentioned in 9.1 for suspension, which are considered particularly serious;
- If major non conformities are found during the periodic maintenance audits;
- If the economic operator improperly or misleadingly uses or advertises the certificate obtained;
- If the outcome of the supplementary audit to reinstate the certificate is negative and the non conformities have not been resolved;
- In any other circumstance established by ACCREDIA and/or indicated by them.

ISCCEU, ISCCPlus

RINA may withdraw the certificate in the case of serious violation of ISCC requirements.

9.4 Communication of certificate status

DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs

The decision to suspend, reinstate and withdraw certificates and the pertinent reasons are communicated to the Company, to the accreditation or supervisory body and, in the case of DM 23012012, to the Competent National Authorities.
10. SURRENDERING THE CERTIFICATE

DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs

An Company may submit a request to RINA to surrender its certificate(s) for some or all of the products for which it had obtained certification if the product(s) is/are no longer produced or for other reasons. On receipt of this request, RINA initiates the procedure to render the certificate invalid. In the case of partial surrender, RINA will update the certificate issued, eliminating the products for which the certificate is being surrendered and, if pertinent, establish any actions which the Company is to take. In the case of surrender for all products covered by the certificate, what is stated in the previous paragraph applies. In general, RINA updates the validity status of the certificate within one month of the date of receipt of the above request.

11. CONTRACTUAL CONDITIONS

DM23012012, ISCCEU, ISCCPlus, 2BSvs

With regard to the contractual conditions, reference is to be made to the edition in force of the RINA Rules "GENERAL CONTRACT CONDITIONS GOVERNING SYSTEM, PRODUCT AND PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION".