

1 INTRODUCTION

The goal of the EuCertPlast certification system is to recognize plastic recyclers operating to high standards and to give confidence to suppliers that any input waste plastic they deliver to a certified recycler will be recycled according to highest standards with respect to environment protection and national legislation.

One of the main components of the certification, according to the EuCertPlast certification scheme, is to evaluate the system in terms of suitability for processing of the specific material.

2 REQUIREMENTS FOR AUDITORS

To ensure a uniformly high standard of the EuCertPlast certification scheme, the auditors have to meet relevant personal and professional requirements. It is therefore indispensable that an auditor has the technical knowledge to assess the suitability of the plant regarding the specific input material. Specifically, the auditor must have above average knowledge on the below topics.

2.1 TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Waste management basics:

Knowledge about different possibilities of collecting waste (knowledge of all European collecting systems as well as the common specifications with which the different types of plastic are traded). Such as recycling and disposal operations, recycling and sorting methods, recycling processes for different materials, waste logistics and materials science, treatment procedures.

2. Basic knowledge of polymer chemistry:

Chemical and physical properties of the most important polymers (PE, PP, PET, PVC...).

3. Above-average knowledge of treatment technologies:

- a) Processing technique (including all finishing stages up to polycondensation) based on the processed polymer.
- b) Standard equipment configurations regarding the different types of plastic.
- c) Evaluation of the recycling process for different materials.
- d) Problems occurring when processing contaminated or mixed material.
- e) Evaluation of the capacity calculated by the system data with regard to the plausibility and with respect to units used.
- f) Evaluation whether the plant is a final recipient or merely a conditioner.
- g) Definition of the specific input for the recycling process.
- h) Dealing with the discharge of specification components – calculation of the portion.

2.2 PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS

According to the EuCertPlast audit scheme the auditors must meet the following personal requirements:

1. Successful completion of studies at a recognized university in the field of engineering, science, law or economics.
2. or successfully completed vocational training in the field of waste management or technicians specializing in environmental, waste and mechanical engineering or supply and waste disposal and at least three years (with higher education qualification) or a minimum of 5 years of self-employed activity (with training education) in the waste industry.
3. Demonstrated competence by submitting proper documentation (e.g. CV, copies of certificates of all relevant academic and professional qualifications, work experience and experience as an expert, references, reports, training).
4. The applicant must be more than 30 years old at the time of the application for first time accreditation.
5. No reservations regarding the qualification of the applicant should exist. This includes sufficient practical experience in his field of activity and in his scope of expertise.
6. The applicant shows above average theoretical knowledge practical skills and the ability to carry out an expert opinion / study.
7. The applicant must have access to the facilities necessary to fulfil his duties as an accredited auditor.
8. The applicant must be in good financial standing.
9. The applicant has to offer guarantee that he will remain impartial, independent and that he will fulfil his duties and obligations as a publicly sworn expert.
10. An expert with a current work or service obligation can only be accredited, if he fulfils these requirements and additionally can prove that:
 - a. His work contract does not collide with the requirements and that he can fulfil his duties as an expert personally.
 - b. His work as an expert is not bound by any instructions and that he can identify his services as individual, independent work.
 - c. His employer is willing to grant sufficient time to perform his expert duties.
11. The applicant must provide a list of all certifications acquired in the past three years and the three latest certificates he issued.
12. The applicant has to have passed the training on the EuCertPlast certification scheme.