VALIDATION of the COMPACT by DESIGN CERTIFICATION FRAMEWORK, METHODOLOGY AND CRITERIA

SCS Global Services was retained by Amazon to conduct an independent validation of the Compact by Design Certification program. The Compact by Design certification was created by Amazon to identify products that have best-in-class "unit efficiency" which takes into consideration the packaging volume, weight and number of uses associated with the product. As products become Compact by Design by removing excess air, water, and packaging, shipping becomes more efficient. This in turn will lead to reductions in carbon emissions. The goal of the certification process is to identify and recognize products which are best-in-class.

The validation consisted of an assessment of the overall framework, methodology and criteria used behind the program as well as review and validation of data provided by suppliers. SCS was responsible for validating the integrity and functionality of the Compact by Design certification program. SCS was not responsible for validated GHG reductions nor to perform 3rd party certification of products.

Validation Objectives:

The objective of the Validation Program was to evaluate the framework, methodologies and criteria behind the Compact by Design certification platform. This included the four pillars of the program, Unit Efficiencies and Threshold calculations, Qualification determination and Support Team audit process. Additionally, the objective included the validation of product categories to support the program launch.

Validation Documents Reviewed:

The Validation assessed conformance with the Amazon Compact by Design Program using program associated process documents, data exports on product categories and internal auditing.

Validation Methodology:

Evidence gathering methods to formulate the Validation opinion included but were not limited to:

- Discovery meetings and discussions with relevant Amazon personnel;
- Review of process documents and associated program procedures;
- Review of information detailed on supplier web sites;
- Review of Amazon data, information systems and methodology for collection, aggregation, calculation, and analysis of data used to determine unit efficiencies and category thresholds;
- Audit of data from the automated qualification engine process; and
- Analysis of audit support team case data.

Validation Opinion:

Following a very detailed review of the program architecture, workflow and methodology, SCS found Amazon's Compact by Design program to be credible and sound. The overall program objectives were met with integrity and provides an effective framework to reduce carbon emissions by removing excess air, water and packaging. SCS did not identify systemic issues or significant findings that would impact the reliability of the program. Therefore, we stand behind Compact by Design being referred to as a certification because of the robust framework, methodology and criteria.

Statement of independence, impartiality and competence:

SCS Global Services is a global leader in third-party environmental and sustainability verification, certification, auditing, testing, corporate governance, social equity and standards development. Its programs span a cross-section of industries, recognizing achievements in climate mitigation, green buildings, product manufacturing, food and agriculture, forestry, retailing and more. SCS has a broad network of auditors who are experts in their fields, and the company is a trusted partner to companies, agencies and advocacy organizations due to its dedication to quality and professionalism.

No member of the validation team has a business relationship with Amazon, its Directors or Managers beyond that required of this assignment. We conducted this validation independently and to our knowledge there has been no conflict of interest.

SCS has implemented a Code of Conduct across the business to maintain a high level of professional and ethical standards among auditor and staff in all areas of business engagement activities.

The SCS team has extensive experience in conducting validation assessments covering environmental and sustainability, corporate governance, social equity and standards development.

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