



Advanced Recycling Content Certification – Key Principles

FINAL 3.1.2020

Background

Advanced recycling and recovery of plastics is growing rapidly and with that growth comes the stakeholder need for certification of (chemically) recycled material. The members of the American Chemistry Council (ACC) Plastics Division recommend the following principles to guide the development of certification systems.

Core Principles

1. Standard utilizes a mass balance approach and chain of custody traceability for credit accounting and product claims
2. Standard accommodates the attribution of claimable credits to one or more end products within both integrated processing facilities and globally integrated value chains
3. Standard utilizes a certification process with third party audits to produce verifiable claims that will be credible to stakeholders

Other enabling principles

- Broad global adoption of a small number of harmonized standards preferred
- Certification process and standards are compatible with applicable regulatory and compliance requirements utilizing clear global definitions
- Transparent public certification standard and certification methodology
- Standard developers who are independent from certifying organizations preferred
- Inclusive approach to standard development; balance engagement of stakeholders and internal standard consistency for standards organization
- Standard can be linked to other certification elements that are verifiable if claimed including: GHG emissions, sustainable supply chain, LCA, labor, and human rights
- Standard does not accommodate the creation of a separate market for the sale and transfer of credit certificates outside of their direct use within product value chain
- Flexibility to adopt future technology innovations in standard

