

RSB – ROUNDTABLE ON SUSTAINABLE BIOMATERIALS

**RSB Guidance on
Requirements to certify CORSIA eligible fuel**

RSB STANDARD FOR ICAO CORSIA

RSB-STD-12-001

18 February 2021

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1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this guidance is to clarify the options for the certification of ICAO CORSIA eligible sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) in the RSB system. The guidance includes the clarification of obligatory certification requirements and the specification of claims for the certified material.

2. BACKGROUND

The Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation, or CORSIA, is an emission mitigation approach for the global airline industry, developed by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). CORSIA has been adopted as complementary to a broader package of measures to help ICAO achieve its goal of carbon-neutral growth from 2020 onwards.

CORSIA will be implemented in three phases, starting with participation of States in CORSIA offsetting on a voluntary basis (pilot phase and first phase), followed by participation of all States except the States exempted from offsetting requirements.

From 2021 onwards, operators can reduce their CORSIA offsetting requirements by claiming emissions reductions from CORSIA eligible fuels.

The RSB has developed the RSB Standard for ICAO CORSIA [RSB-STD-12-001] to define requirements for operators along the SAF supply chain to produce SAF considered as eligible under ICAO CORSIA. The RSB has been approved by the ICAO Council for the certification of CORSIA eligible fuel producers as one of only two sustainability certification systems worldwide.

3. GUIDANCE

3.1 Options for certification

In the RSB certification system developed for ICAO CORSIA, operators along the SAF supply chain have two options for certification. These options are different in the scope of the sustainability criteria that are covered. Other requirements (e.g. traceability, calculating actual life cycle emission values, auditing procedures) are the same for both options. The two options are specified as follows:

- **Certification of CORSIA eligible SAF:** This certification comprises the sustainability criteria as approved by the ICAO Council. Currently, two themes are addressed by these sustainability criteria (1. Greenhouses Gases, 2. Carbon Stock)¹.
- **Certification of RSB compliant CORSIA eligible SAF:** This certification comprises the sustainability criteria as approved by the ICAO Council plus the RSB Principles and Criteria.

¹ The ICAO Council underscored that Sustainability Certification Schemes (SCS) would apply only ICAO-approved sustainability criteria for the certification of fuels for use during the CORSIA pilot phase (<https://www.icao.int/about-icao/Council/Council%20Documentation/221/C-DEC/C.221.DEC.10.EN.pdf>)

3.2 Requirements

- **Certification of CORSIA eligible SAF:** Operators aiming for this option, have to comply with the requirements as specified in the RSB Standard for ICAO CORSIA, except clause G.1.1 (compliance with RSB Principles and Criteria). To operators choosing this option also the note in G.2.1 does not apply (GHG emission reduction threshold) so that only the emission reduction threshold as approved by the ICAO Council applies, which is 10% compared to the baseline life cycle emissions for aviation fuels.
- **Certification of RSB compliant CORSIA eligible SAF:** Operators who choose this option have to comply with the full RSB Standard for ICAO CORSIA, including the full set of RSB Principles and Criteria applicable to the scope and the RSB GHG emission reduction threshold of 50% and 60% for new installations.

3.3 Claims

- **Certification of CORSIA eligible SAF:**

Operators certified under this option may use the claim *CORSIA eligible [product] certified by [insert name of certification body] accredited to RSB – Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials Association* on delivery documentation. This includes the use in the table for SAF producers as required through A5-2 Supplementary information to aeroplane operator’s Emission Report if emission reductions from the use of CORSIA eligible fuel being claimed in ICAO International Standards and recommended Practices Environmental Protection, Annex 16, Volume IV.

For the product information as required in the RSB Chain of Custody Procedure [RSB-PRO-20-001], operators shall use *CORSIA eligible* on their delivery documentation for certification scheme.

Any use of the RSB trademark (e.g. name, logo, strapline, on-product label) beyond this is not allowed.

- **Certification of RSB compliant CORSIA eligible SAF:**

Operators certified under this option may use the claim *RSB compliant CORSIA eligible [product]* and the RSB trademark as specified in RSB Procedure on Communication and Claims [RSB-PRO-50-001].

For the product information as required in the RSB Chain of Custody Procedure [RSB-PRO-20-001], operators shall use *RSB ICAO CORSIA* on their delivery documentation for the certification scheme.

4. Note to Certification Bodies

The RSB Procedure for Certification Bodies and Auditors [RSB-PRO-70-001] includes requirements for the content of certificates (section H.3.2.) and the Public Audit Summary (section H.3.3). For the certification scheme the following shall be included

- **Certification of CORSIA eligible SAF:** CORSIA eligible
The use of the RSB logo is not allowed for this type of certification.
- **Certification of RSB compliant CORSIA eligible SAF:** RSB ICAO CORSIA