

Certification Evaluation Summary Report

Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials

RSB Global Advanced Products

BSB Nanotechnology Joint Stock Company – 1st Branch

SCS Certificate Code: SCS-RSB/PC-0051

Orchid Building, Lot I-15, D12 Street, Saigon Hi-tech Park, Tang Nhon Phu B Ward, Thu Duc City, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Contact person: Christopher Do

Client Website

CERTIFIED	EXPIRATION
18 May 2022	17 May 2027

DATE(S) OF AUDIT
12-21 January, 2022
DATE OF LAST UPDATE
18 May 2022

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FOREWORD

SCS Global Services (SCS) is a certification body accredited by the Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB) to conduct evaluations of biofuel operators (CB Registration No. 592). Under the RSB/SCS certification system, participating operators meeting international standards of biofuel production can be certified as “sustainable,” thereby permitting the Operator’s use of the RSB endorsement and logo in the marketplace subject to regular RSB/SCS oversight.

SCS deploys interdisciplinary teams of natural resource specialists and other experts all over the world to conduct evaluations of biofuel operations. SCS evaluation teams collect and analyze written materials, conduct interviews with Participating Operator’s staff and key stakeholders, and complete field and office audits of the operation(s) identified in the certification scope. Upon completion of the fact-finding phase of all evaluations, SCS teams determine compliance to the RSB Principles and Criteria.

Please Note: An RSB certificate itself does not constitute evidence that a particular product supplied by the certificate holder is certified to RSB standards. Products offered, shipped or sold by the certificate holder can only be considered covered by the scope of this certificate when the required RSB claim is clearly stated on-product. For more information about the RSB, visit their website at www.rsb.org.

Organization of the Report

This report of the results of our evaluation is divided into two sections. Section A provides the public summary and background information that is required by the Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials. This section is made available to the general public and is intended to provide an overview of the evaluation process, the management programs, and policies applied to the Participating Operator, and the results of the evaluation. Section A will be posted on the RSB Participating Operators Database (<http://rsb.org/certification/participating-operators/>). Section B contains more detailed results and information for use by the Participating Operator.

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SECTION A – PUBLIC SUMMARY

1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Operator Information

1.1.1 Name and Contact Information

Organization name	BSB Nanotechnology Joint Stock Company – 1st Branch		
Operator Number	2213		
Contact person	Christopher Do		
Address	Floor 5, SCS Building, D1 Street, Saigon Hi-Tech Park, Tang Nhon Phu B Ward, Thu Duc City, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam	Telephone	+84 8710 8710 1
		Fax	
		e-mail	chris.do@bsb-nt.com
		Website	

1.2 Scope of Certificate

Please select one:	<input type="checkbox"/> RSB EU RED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RSB Global
Please select boxes that apply:	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-assessment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Re-certification <input type="checkbox"/> Follow-Up to NCs	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st Annual Surveillance <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Annual Surveillance <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Annual Surveillance <input type="checkbox"/> 4th Annual Surveillance
Scope as it appears on certificate:	First collector of rice husk ash Industrial producer of of nanoporous silica from rice husk ash	
The scope assessment agrees with the scope under which the operator applied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

1.2.1 Determination of Extent of Audit

Total number of subsidiaries, branch offices, affiliated entities, external third parties contracted or otherwise engaged, operational structures, sites, facilities, processing and production units, and supply chain structures	1 Industrial Operator 1 Point of Origin
Participating Operator Risk Class	Low

Disputes or prior Non-compliances	None
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1.2.2 Standards Used

Applicable RSB-Accredited Standards

Standard Name and Version
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSB Principles & Criteria (RSB-STD-01-001 V3.0); • RSB Procedure for Traceability (RSB-PRO-20-001 V3.2); • RSB Standard for Participating Operators (RSB-PRO-30-001 V3.2); • RSB Procedure on Communication and Claims (RSB-PRO-50-001 V3.5); • RSB Risk Management (PRO-PRO-60-001 V3.2); • RSB GHG Calculation Methodology (RSB-STD-01-003-01 V2.3); • RSB Standard for Advanced Products RSB-STD-02-001 V 2.0); • RSB Standard for Advanced Fuels (RSB-STD-01-010 V2.3)

All standards employed are available on the websites of the Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (<https://rsb.org/the-rsb-standard/working-with-the-rsb-standard/>). Standards are also available, upon request, from SCS Global Services.

1.3 Sites in Scope

1.3.1 Industrial Operator/ Mechanical Processor

Name of Facility	
Name of Facility	BSB Nanotechnology Joint Stock Company – 1st Branch
Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Milling and/or Fermentation <input type="checkbox"/> Biofuel Production and/or Distribution <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable oil Extraction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other, please explain here: Nanoporous silica producer
Location/City	Ho Chi Minh City , Vietnam
Geographic location (<i>Latitude & Longitude</i>)	10.849366, 106.800046
Start date of operations (initial start date)	June 2021
Number of processing steps	4 steps
Description of the product or the product component that the certification covers, including, if applicable, the specification of the mass of the certified component related to the total product.	Nanoporous silica
Annual throughput of previous 12 months <i>(Can be moved to appendix if certain information is confidential)</i>	
Feedstock Input (Metric Ton)	N/A Initial audit

Final/Primary Product Output (Metric Ton)	N/A Initial audit
Intermediate/by-product Output (Metric Ton)	N/A Initial audit
% output yield compared to input material (total output/total input)	N/A Initial audit
Amount sold as RSB certified (tons)	N/A Initial audit

1.3.2 Points of Origin

Number of Points of Origin in Scope	1
Number of Points of Origin providing more than ten metric tons per months	1
Number of Points of Origin Assessed on a Sample Basis during This Audit	1
List of Points of Origin Assessed on a Sample Basis during This Audit	
1. Name	Ricegrowers Vietnam Company Limited
Location/City	Tan An Hamlet, Binh Thanh Trung commune, Lap Vo district, Dong Thap province, Vietnam
Geographic location (<i>Latitude & Longitude</i>)	10.357990, 105.565458
Material provided:	Rice husk ash

1.4 GHG Intensity

Advanced products from bio-based feedstocks (Category I)			
Advanced Product:	Nanoporous Silica	GHG:	20.425 kg Co2 eq/ dry ton raw material
For advanced products from bio-based feedstocks: if and how the CO2 uptake was accounted for (see RSB-STD-02-001)			Not accounted for

1.5 Advanced Product Information

(Can be moved to appendix if certain information is confidential)

If the feedstock for a batch of RSB certified Advanced Product is not wholly but only partly RSB-certified: state the amount of certified feedstock in relation to the total mass of the feedstock for the appropriate category:	100% wholly RSB certified
For Category I products:	
State the bio-based carbon or bio-based mass content that can be ensured at any time of the production process	100% bio-based mass at all times
State the standard used for measuring or calculating the biobased carbon or bio-based mass content	Material balance analysis

2.0 EVALUATION PLANNING & PROCESS

2.1 Audit Team

Auditor Name:	Robert Earley	Auditor role:	Lead Auditor
Qualifications: Robert Earley has been a lead auditor of RSB, Bonsucro and ISCC certifications since 2017, and is a certified lead verifier of the California Low Carbon Fuel Standard, and has been trained in ISO 9001:2015 auditing. He is also the RSB Certification Program Manager at SCS Global Services. Mr. Earley, who has lived in China since 2004 and is fluent in Mandarin Chinese, studied environmental science at the University of Calgary and Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Waterloo in Canada. His coursework at the University of Calgary included industrial chemistry.			
Auditor Name:	Tran Thi Kim Trang	Auditor role:	Translator
Qualifications: Ms Tran Thi Kim Trang holds a Bachelor of Arts in English Linguistics and Literature from the College of Social Science and Humanities, Ho Chi Min City, Vietnam. She is a social compliance auditor with 17 years of experience, having conducted compliance audits for well-known global brands, the Fair Labor Association, and others. Ms Trang holds certificates in ISO14001 OHSAS 18001 Auditor Training.			
Auditor Name:	Otavio Cavalett	Auditor role:	GHG Verifier
Qualifications: Otavio Cavalett is a Researcher in the Industrial Ecology Programme (IndEcol), Department of Energy and Process Engineering, NTNU (Norway) and an Auditor in SCS Global Services (USA). Prior to this, he was Leader of the Sustainability Analysis Team at the Brazilian National Biorenovables Laboratory (LNBR/CNPEM) in Brazil. He has more than 15 years of experience with Life Cycle Assessment of biofuel and biorefinery systems, with emphasis on climate metrics and other environmental areas of interest in relation to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. He has contributed to recent IPCC reports and published more than 60 scientific papers.			

2.2 Evaluation Schedule and Extent of Audit

2.2.1 Methodology and Strategies Employed

SCS deploys interdisciplinary teams with expertise in agriculture, ecology, forestry, social sciences, natural resource economics, and other relevant fields to assess an Operator's compliance to RSB standards and policies. Evaluation methods include document and record review, implementing sampling strategies to visit a broad number of site and facility types, observation of implementation of management plans and policies, and stakeholder analysis. When there is more than one team member, team members may review parts of the standards based on their background and expertise. On the final day of an evaluation, team members convene to deliberate the findings of the assessment jointly. This involves an analysis of all relevant site observations, stakeholder comments, and reviewed documents and records. Where consensus between team members cannot be achieved due to lack of evidence, conflicting evidence or differences of interpretation of the standards, the team is instructed to report these in the certification decision section.

2.2.2 Evaluation Itinerary and Activities

Time	Element/Activity	Personnel Involved
Auditor(s) names: Robert Earley		
Day 1 12 Jan, 2022	BSB Nanotechnology Joint Stock Company - 1st Branch Lead auditor and Translator by remote meeting (Teams/Zoom)	
9:00 a.m.	<p>Opening Meeting and General Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to certification program and assessment process to on-site staff; confidentiality; safety procedures; method of reporting and NC grading, etc. - Review of scheduled activities - Identify workers to be interviewed according to staff scheduling during the audit - Review of RSB procedures; confirm roles, responsibilities and processes - Confirmation of scope of products to be certified - Client to outline production process and overall process flow with a general introduction (Please prepare a presentation) - Review of site map(s) / engineering site maps - Review of Risk Assessment Tool - Review of Screening Tool - Review training records – including RSB specific training 	Management
	<p>Document Review: Participating Operator/Standards Checklist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review risk management plan – including RSB specific risks - Review of grievance mechanism and records - Review of traceability method and implementation (including acquiring, handling and forwarding of sustainable material); meter calibration records - Analysis of material balances and records if applicable - Review of records and record templates - Review of GHG inputs - Communications and claims - Requirements for Advanced Fuels/Advanced Products 	Management
12:00 p.m.	Lunch Break	
1:00 p.m.	<p>Document Review: Compliance with Principles and Criteria</p> <p>Principle 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of all relevant business licenses - Review of land and water use permits - Review of index of relevant laws and regulations and their compliance <p>Principle 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review Rural and Social Development Plan, Social and economic development plans and monitoring 	Management and relevant operator staff
5:15 p.m.	<p>Report writing</p> <p>Auditor(s) take time to consolidate notes and confirm audit findings and prepare the closing meeting record</p>	
5:30 p.m.	Review of day's findings	
End of day 1		

Time	Point(s) of Origin of Wastes and Residues	Personnel Involved
Auditor(s) names: Robert Earley		
Day 2 18 January, 2022	Ricegrowers Vietnam Company Limited Lead auditor: Remote via video conference Translator: On-site 852B Road, Bình Thạnh Trung, Lấp Vò, Đồng Tháp, Vietnam	
10:00 a.m.	Opening meeting and general requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of assessment process to on-site staff, list of applicable standards, confidentiality, safety procedures if relevant - Confirm roles, responsibilities and processes - Confirmation of scope of products to be certified - Review of site map(s) 	Point of Origin Management
	Document Review: Participating Operator / Standards Checklist (Point of Origin Checklist) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review eligibility of rice husk ash as RSB feedstock - Review process flows and feasibility of production volumes (including mass balance) - Review of declarations of outgoing material - Review of feedstock-specific requirements, if applicable 	Point of Origin Management
	Site walk-through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Observe storage area - Meters and other measurement equipment, data gathering and processing tool adequacy 	Point of Origin staff
11:45 a.m.	Report Writing Auditor(s) take time to consolidate notes and confirm audit findings	
12:00 p.m.	Findings Presentation of all non-compliances and opportunities for improvement	
	End of Point of Origin Audit Set off to Ho Chi Minh City	

Time	Main Operator audit day 2	Personnel Involved
Auditor(s) names: Lead auditor: Robert Earley		
Day 3 19 Dec, 2021	BSB Nanotechnology Joint Stock Company - 1st Branch Lead auditor by remote meeting (Teams/Zoom) Translator joining on-site	
9:00 a.m.	Lead auditor and translator to call a sample of stakeholders identified and obtain feedback about the operator.	
10:30 a.m.	Virtual Site walk-through using remote meeting software on mobile phone, translator on-site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Observe operations at processing facility - Observe control room - Observe ponds/tanks/reservoir(s) 	Production, Warehouseman, and Post-Production Personnel

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Observe feedstock and product storage area - Observe chemical storage and disposal - Observe sludge repository or disposal - Observe Key Meters and Measurement locations 	
11:30 a.m.	<p>Staff Interviews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interview a small sample of workers to check Principle 4 criteria. <i>(Interviews must be arranged in a room without management present. For online interviews, request that management leave the room while workers or other stakeholders are being interviewed.)</i> <p><i>3 workers to be interviewed, 10 minutes each with only Ms Tran in the room with them, along with a computer for me to access by Zoom</i></p>	
12:00 p.m.	Lunch	
1:00 p.m.	<p>Document Review – any remaining documentation that has not been reviewed in previous audit parts.</p> <p>Principle 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) - Review impact assessments (if applicable or identified in screening tool) - Review operator’s stakeholder engagement records. Review grievance mechanism for external parties and stakeholders <p>Principle 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work conditions, piece work and living wage, equality issues, etc. - Review of employee and third-party worker contracts, policies, training records and employee grievances - Training and occupational health and safety records - Records for freedom of association (union) mechanism <p>Principle 7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation values, ecosystems, buffers, water rights <p>Principle 9:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water permits, water management plans and monitoring in ESMP <p>Principle 10:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Air permits, air management plans and monitoring in ESMP <p>Principle 11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated waste management - Resource and energy use, energy efficiency <p>Principle 12:</p> <p>Review documentation of historic land use/land tenure, legal tenure. Land lease agreements</p>	
5:00 p.m.	Review of day’s audit	
Time	Closing Meeting	Personnel Involved
Auditor(s) names: Lead auditor: Robert Earley		
Day 4 21 Dec, 2021	BSB Nanotechnology Joint Stock Company - 1st Branch Lead auditor by remote meeting (Teams/Zoom) Translator joining on-site	
4:30 p.m.	<p>Closing meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of general audit findings 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of all non-compliances and opportunities for improvement - Review of closing meeting record - Establish timetables for signed closing meeting record, corrective action and submission of Correction Action Plan - Overview of timetable for audit report completion - Reiterate SCS appeal and grievance policy - Questions 	
End of Audit		

2.3 Evaluation of RSB compliance claims and use of RSB trademarks

Are all claims used in line with scope and allowed claims per RSB-PRO-50-001 or Advanced Product Standard, as applicable?	One claim proposed on Product Transfer Documentation. Used in line with scope according to the Advanced Product Standard.
Does Operator use RSB trademarks on off-product or on-product claims?	RSB Trademarks are used on the Product Transfer Documentation ("Proof of Sustainability" document) in line with the relevant standards.

2.4 Stakeholder Consultation Process (for Main audits)

In accordance with SCS and RSB protocols, consultation with key stakeholders is an integral component of the evaluation process. Stakeholder consultation takes place prior to, concurrent with, and following field evaluations. The primary purpose of such consultation is to solicit input from affected parties as to the strengths and weaknesses of the Participating Operator’s management system and operations, relative to the standard, and the nature of the interaction between the company and the surrounding communities.

Principal stakeholder groups are identified based upon the certification scope of the participating operator.

Stakeholder consultation activities are organized according to the requirements of the RSB. The table below summarizes the major comments received from stakeholders and the assessment team’s response. Where a stakeholder comment has triggered a subsequent investigation during the evaluation, the corresponding follow-up action and conclusions from SCS are noted below.

2.4.1 Summary of Stakeholder Comments and Responses (for Main audits)

Stakeholder Comments	SCS Response
Economic Concerns	
No negative economic concerns expressed. Positive reviews were received.	
Social Concerns	

No negative social concerns were expressed. Positive reviews were received.
Environmental Concerns
No negative environmental concerns were expressed.

3.0 RISK ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Highest Risk Class will Apply for the Participating Operator

Site	Based on the most recent self-risk assessment the PO’s risk assessment results are (The number):	Corresponding risk class (low, medium, high):	Date of risk assessment (must be no older than 3 months from the audit date)	Auditor’s assessment of Operator’s risk
BSB Nanotechnology Joint Stock Company – 1st Branch	8	Low	12 January, 2022	Agrees with assessment
Overall Risk				Low

3.1 RSB Audit types Matrix

	Low risk class	Medium risk class	High risk class
Certificate validity	5 years	3 years	2 years
Main audit	Every 5 years	Every 3 years	Every 2 years
Surveillance audit	Annual	Annual	Annual

4.0 RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION

4.1 Process of Determining Compliance

4.1.1 Structure of Standard and Degrees of Non-Compliance

RSB-accredited biofuel standards consist of a three-level hierarchy: the principle, the criteria that correspond to that principle, and then the performance indicators that elaborate upon each criterion. Consistent with SCS Sustainable Biofuels Program evaluation protocols, the team collectively determines whether or not the subject operation is in compliance with every applicable indicator of the relevant sustainable biofuel standard. Each non-compliance must be evaluated to determine whether it constitutes a major or minor non-compliance at the level of the associated criterion or sub-criterion. Not all indicators are equally important, and there is no simple numerical formula to determine whether an operation is in non-compliance. The team therefore must use their collective judgment to assess each criterion and determine if the Operator is in compliance. If the Operator is determined to be in

non-compliance at the criterion level, then at least one of the applicable indicators must be in major non-compliance.

4.1.2 Interpretations of Findings

Major Non-compliances, either alone or in combination with non-compliances of other applicable indicators, result (or are likely to result) in a fundamental failure to achieve the objectives of the relevant RSB Criterion. These non-compliances must be resolved or closed out before a certificate can be awarded. If Major NCs arise after an operation is certified, the timeframe for correcting these non-compliances is typically no more than three months. Certification is contingent on the operator’s response to the NCs within the stipulated time frame.

Minor Non-compliances are typically limited in scale or can be characterized as an unusual lapse in the system. Most minor NCs are the result of a non-conformance at the indicator-level. Non-compliances must be closed out within a specified time period of award of the certificate.

Opportunity for Improvement is an observation made which does not fully impact compliance but could potentially affect the PO’s ability to comply with RSB requirements in the future.

4.1.3 Major Non-compliances

<input type="checkbox"/>	No major NCs were issued to the Operator during the evaluation. Any minor CARs from previous surveillance audits have been reviewed and closed prior to the issuance of a certificate.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Major NCs were issued to the Operator during the evaluation, which have all been closed to the satisfaction of the audit team and meet the requirements of the standards. Any minor CARs from previous surveillance audits have been reviewed and closed prior to the issuance of a certificate.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Major NCs were issued to the Operator during the evaluation and the Operator has not yet satisfactorily closed all major NCs.

4.1.4 Non-compliances and Current Status

Summary of Non-compliances and Current Status				
Non-compliance Number	Type of Non-compliance	Relevant RSB Standard & Indicator No.	Summary of Finding and Evidence Collected	Status of Non-Compliance (Open/closed)
2022-1	Major	Checklist 5.3	Person/position not identified for production of Proof of Sustainability documentation RCA submitted Evidence Submitted: Training record submitted for staff involved in PoS	Closed

			preparation, course occurred 26 January, 2022. Closed 17 March, 2022	
2022-2	Major	Checklist 6.3.3	<p>Template documentation for outgoing material not prepared (Proof of Sustainability)</p> <p>RCA Submitted</p> <p>Evidence Submitted: Template document submitted, using RSB template. Closed 17 March, 2022</p>	Closed
2022-3	Major	Checklist 3.2	<p>Risk management plan does not include the aspects of risk identified in the risk management tool, e.g. national risks, supply chain risks.</p> <p>RCA Submitted</p> <p>Evidence Submitted: List and plan of risks that need to be controlled” and “BSB NT QMD QT09 V02 Risk management procedure” submitted including acceptable risk management approach for supply chain risk and national governance risks. Close 16 February, 2022</p>	Closed
2022-4	Minor	Principle 9.b.3	<p>Water management plan is not easily accessible by public</p> <p>RCA Submitted</p>	Open
2022-5	OFI	Principle 2.a.6	<p>Consolidation of water, air and waste management plans from overall EIA into separate document or ESMP would assist in auditing and monitoring</p>	Open
2022-6	Observation	Section 9 of Global Checklist	<p>Data was verified for GHG emissions, clarification needed in GHG report</p> <p>Evidence Submitted: Data clarified and report re-verified April 12, 2022</p>	Closed
2022-7	Observation	Section 11 of Global Checklist	<p>For any additional claims and public claims, operator is reminded to obtain clearance from RSB and SCS Global Services – to be checked next audit</p>	N/A

5.0 CERTIFICATION DECISION

Certification Recommendation		
For Initial and Re-certifications: Operator to be awarded RSB certification subject to the minor non-compliances stated in Section 4.2.5.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
The SCS evaluation team makes the above recommendation for certification based on the full and proper execution of the SCS Responsible Biofuels Program evaluation protocols. If certification is recommended, the Operator has satisfactorily demonstrated the following without exception:		
Operator has addressed any Major NC(s) assigned during the evaluation.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No Major NCs issued <input type="checkbox"/>	
Operator has demonstrated that their system of management is capable of ensuring that all of the requirements of the applicable standards are met over the sites and facilities covered by the scope of the evaluation.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Operator has demonstrated that the described system of management is being implemented consistently over the sites and facilities covered by the scope of the certificate.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Comments and/or details of any issue which was difficult and/or impossible to evaluate:		
To be completed by Certification Decision-Making Entity	Technical Review by: If different to decision-maker	Inna Kitaychik
	Certification decision:	Participating Operator is awarded certification to the standards listed in section 1.2.2.
	Certification decision by:	Inna Kitaychik
	Date of decision: For initial or continued certification (scope expansion decisions list separately)	18 May 2022
	Surveillance schedule:	1 st Surveillance by 18 May 2023 Notes: