TÜVRheinland®
DIN CERTCO
Precisely Right.

Certification Scheme

Products made from recycled materials – flustix

according to

DIN EN ISO 14021
DIN EN 15343

(Edition: November 2019)

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Foreword

DIN CERTCO was founded in 1972 by DIN e.V. the German Institute of Standardization for the awarding of DIN marks and offers the certification of products and persons, services and enterprises on the basis of the DIN Standards and similar specifications.

To document our neutrality, independence and competence, we have an accreditation according to DIN EN ISO/IEC 17065. The satisfaction and trust of our customers and their data we ensure by the following certifications:

- Quality management system according to DIN EN ISO 9001
- Environmental management system according to DIN EN ISO 14001
- Information security management system according to DIN EN ISO/IEC 27001
- Occupational health and safety management system according to OHSAS 18001

This certification program offers the possibility either alone or in addition to the self-declaration via the "Mobius loop" symbol in accordance with DIN 6120 of proving through an independent combination mark "flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft" certification mark, that the recyclate content of a product or individual components has been weighed according to the specifications of the standards DIN EN ISO 14021 and DIN EN 15343. Through independent certification and regular monitoring of the certified products, every end customer can be convinced of the labeling and responsible handling of plastic waste.

In conjunction with the General Terms and Conditions of DIN CERTCO, this certification scheme forms the basis for manufacturers of products made from recycled materials to label their products with the “flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft” certification mark. The “flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft” certification mark creates customer confidence in that they can be assured that an independent, neutral and specialist institution has carefully investigated and assessed the audit criteria on the basis of audits and by reviewing the material flows. External surveillance also ensures that a system for identifying the recycled content correctly is also maintained during ongoing production. In this way, the customer receives an added value, which they can take into consideration in deciding on their purchase.

Products made from recycled materials shall receive the certification mark “flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft” on meeting the requirements listed under section 4 according to the procedure described in this certification scheme.

All certificate holders can be viewed on the daily up-dated homepage of DIN CERTCO (www.dincertco.de).

Start of validity

This certification scheme applies from 2019-11.

Modification

Compared to the Certification Scheme “Products made from recycled materials – flustix” (2019-07) the following changes were made:

a) Editorial alterations
b) Definitions post consumer recycled materials (PCR), post industrial recycled materials (PIR), mixture of PCR and PIR (MIX) as well as integration of PCR, PIR and MIX in the certification mark "flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft"
c) Integration of DIN 6120

Prevoius edition:

Certification Scheme “Products made from recycled materials – flustix” (2019-07)
Certification Scheme “Products made from recycled metarials” (2019-02).

Remark

The German version of the Certification Scheme “Products made from recycled materials – flustix” shall be taken as authoritative. No guarantee can be given to the English translation.

CONTENTS

1 Scope

This certification scheme is applicable to products made from recycled materials and contains, in conjunction with the basic documents mentioned below, all of the requirements for awarding the certification mark „flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft“. The certification focuses on the assessment of the system for the traceability and thus of calculating of the recycled content in the plastic product. It does not apply to the quality or functionality of the product.

This certification scheme relates primarily to plastics. If the determination of the recycled content of other materials is to be certified, other/additional material-specific requirements may arise. They are to be defined in individual cases with DIN CERTCO in consultation with the auditor, where necessary.

The certification scheme presented here states the requirements for the product itself as well as for the testing, monitoring and certification.

2 Test and certification specifications

The basis for testing and certification are the documents listed below. For dated references, only the referenced version shall apply. For undated references the latest edition of the referenced document including any amendment applies.

DIN EN ISO 14021	Environmental labels and declarations - Environmental supplier declarations (Type II environmental labelling)
DIN EN 15343	Plastic - Recycled Plastics - Plastics recycling traceability and assessment of conformity and recycled content
DIN EN 15342	Plastics - Recycled Plastics - Characterization of polystyrene (PS) recyclates
DIN EN 15344	Plastics - Recycled Plastics - Characterization of polyethylene (PE) recyclates
DIN EN 15345	Plastics - Recycled Plastics - Characterization of polypropylene (PP) recyclates
DIN EN 15346	Plastics - Recycled Plastics - Characterization of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) recyclates
DIN EN 15347	Plastics - Recycled Plastics - Characterization of plastics wastes
DIN EN 15348	Plastics - Recycled Plastics - Characterization of polyethylenterephthalate (PET) recyclates
DIN 6120	Marking of packaging and packaging materials – Plastics packaging and packaging materials

– this certification scheme
– the General Terms and Conditions of DIN CERTCO
– the respective DIN CERTCO fee schedule

3 Definition of terms

Waste before use (industrial waste)
Material separated from the waste stream during a manufacturing process. Not included is the reuse of materials from post-processing, regrinding or scrap that are produced in the course of a technical process and can be reused in the same process.

Waste after use
Material generated by households or by commercial, industrial and institutional facilities in their role as end-users of the product, which can no longer be used for its intended purpose. This includes returned material from the distribution chain.

Recycled material
Material that has been reprocessed from recovered (recycled) material using a manufacturing process and made into an end product or into a component of an end product. It can be recovered both from waste before use and from waste after use.

Post Consumer Recyclates (PCR)
Recycled material from waste according to definition "waste after use" according to DIN EN ISO 14021 section 7.8.1.1.

Post Industrial Recyclates (PIR)
Recycled material from industrial waste according to the definition "Waste before use" according to DIN EN ISO 14021 section 7.8.1.1.

Mixture of PCR and PIR (MIX)
The mix of PCR and PIR is referred to as MIX in this certification program.

Recovered (recycled) material
Material that would otherwise have been disposed of as waste or used for energy recovery, but has instead been collected and recovered [reclaimed] as input material, and used in place of new primary material, for a recycling or manufacturing process.

Batch
Quantity of material that is regarded as a unit and is assigned the same identification number.

Process
The complete manufacturing process of the certified product, that is required for traceability in accordance with the criteria specified of DIN EN 15343.

Recycled content
Proportion of the mass of a product or packaging accounted for by the recycled material. Only waste before use and waste after use may be considered as recycled content in compliance with the following use of the terms.

Multisite
Use of the same Management System at various sites in order to conduct the same production steps. Furthermore, there is a legal or a contractual relationship which enables a central facility to conduct corrective measures.

Manufacturer/Fabricator/Production Facility
The enterprises, which constitute the individual steps in the manufacturing process. A manufacturer/fabricator may perform multiple stages in the manufacturing process. The manufacturer/fabricator may be the certificate holder at the same time.

4 Product requirements

4.1 General information

DIN EN ISO 14021 is the standard, which sets out the requirements for supplier declarations for various areas of use. The standard DIN 6120 specifies the marking of packaging and packaging materials made of plastic recyclates with the Mobius loop symbol.

The information about the recycled content must be provided individually for the product and packaging and may not be combined. The recycled content must be calculated in accordance with the criteria contained in DIN EN ISO 14021, Annex A.

Based upon the criteria for self-assessment in accordance with DIN EN ISO 14021 in conjunction with DIN EN 15343 and optional in conjunction with the Mobius loop symbol according to DIN 6120, this certification scheme defines the measures required for showing the recycled content confirmed by an independent body in connection with the certification mark “flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft”.

The documentation of all the manufacturers/processors which are involved in the process must satisfy the requirements of DIN EN 15343 which regard to traceability in plastics recycling in compliance with DIN EN 15343, table 1, as well as DIN EN 15347, table 1. This must be documented in such a way that the review can be performed without having to access confidential business documents.

4.2 Product characteristics

The following substances shall not be used in production:

– Substances that are classified as carcinogenic in categories 1, 2 or 3 pursuant to table 3.2 of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 or named in TRGS 905.

– Substances that are classified as mutagenic in categories 1, 2 or 3 pursuant to table 3.2 of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 or named in TRGS 905.

– Substances that are classified as reproductive toxic in categories 1, 2 or 3 pursuant to table 3.2 of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 or named in TRGS 905.

– Substances that are classified as persistent, bio accumulative and toxic (PBT-substances) according to the criteria of Annex XIII to the REACH Regulation and included into the list (so-called list of candidates) set up in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH), Article 59, Paragraph 1.

– Substances that are classified as very persistent, very accumulative and very toxic (vPvBvT-substances) according to the criteria of Annex XIII to the REACH Regulation and included into the list (so-called list of candidates) set up in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH), Article 59, Paragraph 1.

– Substances that are classified as particularly alarming for other reasons and included into the list (so-called list of candidates) set up in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH), Article 59, Paragraph 1.

– Substances that are according to Table 3.2 of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 labelled with the H-or R-phrases H370 (R39/23/24/25/26/27/28) – causes damages to organs or meet the criteria for such classification.

– Substances that are according to Table 3.2 of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 labelled with the H-or R-phrases H371 (R 68/20/21/22) – may cause damages to organs or meet the criteria for such classification.

– Substances that are according to Table 3.2 of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 labelled with the H-or R-phrases H372 (R 48/25/24/23) – causes damages or organs or meet the criteria for such classification.

– Substances that are according to Table 3.2 of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 labelled with the H-or R-phrases H373 (R 48/20/21/22) – may cause damages to organs or meet the criteria for such classification.

– Substances that are according to Table 3.2 of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 labelled with the H-or R-phrases H410 (R 50/53) – very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects or meet the criteria for such classification.

If the origin of plastic waste (waste before use, waste after use), which is processed into products in the form of regenerated material after the recycling process, can not be fully documented, the migration of certain elements such as aluminum, antimony, arsenic , Barium, boron, cadmium, chromium (III), chromium (VI), cobalt, copper, lead, manganese, mercury, nickel, selenium, strontium, tin, organotin compounds and zinc in accordance with European Standard DIN EN 71-3 "Safety of toys - Part 3: Migration of certain elements, Category III scraped material" to minimize exposure to certain potentially toxic elements. The limit values for the migration of certain elements are given in milligrams per kilogram of toy material (product material) and are shown in Table 1 for category III. This European Standard specifies requirements and test methods for the migration of aluminum, antimony, arsenic, barium, boron, cadmium, chromium (III), chromium (VI), cobalt, copper, lead, manganese, mercury, nickel, selenium, strontium, Tin, organotin compounds and zinc.

When testing in accordance with section 7 and section 8 of DIN EN 71-3, migration of Category III elements shall not exceed the migration limits specified in Table 1.

Table 1 — Migration limit, category III

Element	**Unit [mg/kg]**
Aluminum	70 000
Antimony	560
Arsen	47
Barium	18 750
Boron	15 000
Cadmium	17
Chromium (III)	460
Chromium (VI)	0,2
Cobalt	130
Copper	7 700
Lead	23
Manganese	15 000
Mercury	94
Nickel	930
Selenium	460
Strontium	56 000
Tin	180 000
Organotin compounds	12
Zinc	46 000

5 Testing

5.1 General information

For the performance of the required audits as the basis for the assessment and certification of the products, DIN CERTCO avails itself of the auditors who are recognized by DIN CERTCO.

5.2 Definition of process boundaries

The requirements defined in section 4 are reviewed within the process boundaries specified below. The boundaries of the manufacturing process under consideration are defined below depending on the origin and nature of the waste. There are examples enclosed in Annex A.

5.2.1 Usage of waste after use

In compliance with DIN EN 15343, traceability should commence at the sorting centers for household waste or at the civic amenity centers. Where there are special alternative take-back systems in place, this must be applied accordingly.

This shall be taken into consideration in the documentation of the origin of the recycled material in accordance with table 1 of DIN EN 15343.

For the examination under this certification scheme, the process under consideration is defined differently:

– Commencement of the process under consideration once recycled material has undergone further processing. This certification does not cover the processing of household waste.

– All the companies involved in the manufacturing process are to be taken into consideration.

– Traders who do not make modifications to the intermediate products are not taken into consideration. Nevertheless, this must be indicated accordingly in the supply chain. Traders are obliged to share information within the scope of this certification scheme.

– If the packaging for the product is not part of the certification, the packaging enterprise is not covered by the certification. They are to be indicated accordingly in the supply chain. Nevertheless, information may need to be shared. If fluctuations in recycled content make it necessary to adapt the print design regularly, the competent auditor must be consulted to ascertain whether an audit is required and, if so, what type. This may, for example, entail the delivery of internal documentation or make it necessary to conduct an audit.

5.2.2 Usage of waste before use

In accordance with DIN EN 15343, traceability should begin with the manufacturer of the plastic or with the processing firm from whom the waste originates.

This must be taken into consideration in the documentation of the origin of the recycled material in accordance with Table 1 of DIN EN 15343.

In the case of testing within the scope of this certification scheme, the process under consideration is defined differently:

– Commencement of the process under consideration once recycled material has undergone further processing. This certification does not cover the processing of the waste.

– All the companies involved in the manufacturing process are to be taken into consideration.

– Dealers who do not make modifications to the intermediate products are not taken into consideration. Nevertheless, this must be indicated accordingly in the supply chain. Dealers are obliged to share information within the scope of this certification scheme.

– If the packaging for the product is not part of the certification, the packaging enterprise is not covered by the certification. They are to be indicated accordingly in the supply chain. Nevertheless, information may need to be shared. If fluctuations in recycled content make it necessary to make adjustments on regular basis, the competent auditor must be consulted to ascertain whether and what type of tests are required. This may, for example, entail the delivery of internal documentation or make it necessary to conduct an audit.

5.3 Types of testing

5.3.1 Initial test

The initial test serves to determine whether the recycled content has been calculated in accordance with the criteria set down in DIN EN ISO 14021 and whether the requirements for traceability in accordance with DIN EN 15343 are met.

For initial audit, on-site audits are conducted at the premises of all manufacturers/processors within the process boundaries in accordance with section 5.2.

If a company has multiple sites incorporated within a shared management system, a sampling plan may be drawn up in consultation with the competent auditor by DIN CERTCO. The precondition for this is that a common quality management system be in use and that there be a legal or a contractual relationship which enables a central facility to conduct corrective measures. The scope of sampling is determined under these conditions as $\sqrt{n}$ where *n* is the number of manufacturers or production sites with common quality management system, rounded to the upper whole number.

The audit is conducted in accordance with the criteria of section 8.

5.3.2 Surveillance audit

The surveillance audit is conducted repeatedly annually and serves to ascertain whether the procedures are still correct and whether the determination of the recycled content and the labelling of the product continue to conform with the requirements of the certification scheme.

The annual surveillance audit takes place in the form of on-site audits performed on a sample to be defined by DIN CERTCO, possibly in consultation with the auditor. The scope of sampling is determined under these conditions as $0{,}6\sqrt{n}$ where *n* is the number of manufacturers or production sites with common Management System, rounded to the upper whole number.

The audit is conducted in accordance with the criteria of section 8.

5.3.3 Supplementary test

A supplementary audit takes place if additions, extensions or changes (see section 6.9) are made to the process, affecting the process for determining the recycled content; for example, changes to the manufacturers involved in accordance with section 5.2, changes to the raw materials used.

The type and scope of the supplementary test shall be determined in each individual case by DIN CERTCO in consultation with the responsible auditor.

5.3.4 Special test

A Special Test is conducted when

– Deficiencies are identified
– the production has been suspended for a period of more than 12 months
– required by DIN CERTCO - reasons to be specified
– requested in writing by a third party if a particular interest in the maintenance of proper conduct of market procedures in relation to competition or quality is involved

The type and scope of the special test shall be laid down in accordance with the specific, respective purpose on a case by case basis by DIN CERTCO, if applicable, in conjunction with the auditor.

Should defects be detected in the course of the special test or because of the suspended production, the certificate holder shall bear the costs of the examination procedure.

Should the special test at the request of a third party reveal no defects, the costs shall be paid by the third party.

5.4 Audit report

The Auditor commmunicates to the applicant the result of the on-site audits by the audit report.

The Audit report must contain at least the following information:

– Name and address of the manufacturer and the responsible contact person
– Type of audit (initial, verification, renewal audit)
– The audit objectives e. g. products to be certified
– The audit scope, particularly identification of the orgnaisation and functional units or prcesses audited
– Identification of audit client
– The dates and locations where the audit activities were conducted
– Name of auditor as well as participants from audited company
– Audit criteria
– Audit results as well as seen documents
– The audit findings and related evidence
– The audit conclusions
– A statement on the degree of which the audit criteria have been fulfilled
– All unresolved issues, if any, that have been identified

6 Certification

Certification in the sense of the certification scheme relates to the assessment of conformity by DIN CERTCO to determine the conformity of the system on the basis of audit reports from auditors who are recognized by it. This involves confirming that the processes for determining the recycled content conform to the requirements listed in section 4, as well as subsequent surveillance.

The right to use the certification mark “flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft” will be granted by the issuing of the respective certificate.

6.1 Application for certication

Both manufacturers according to § 4 of the Product Liability Act (ProdHaftG) and distributors who, with the written consent of the certificate holder, bring the products onto the market under their own responsibility in the sense of the Product Liability Act, may apply.

The applicant must submit the following documents to DIN CERTCO:

– Application for certification in the original complete with legally binding signature
– Information on the type of recycled material
– Description of the process chain with information about the activities of all manufacturers involved
– Declaration by the individual companies that they have not used additives in accordance with section 4.2 or a test report according DIN EN 71-3, category III

The applicant shall receive from DIN CERTCO, following receipt of the application, a confirmation of order with a process number and notes regarding the further course of the procedure like on-site audit, as applicable, queries concerning any missing documents.

6.2 Definition of types and sub-types

The certificates refers to the individual products. Products that are distinguishable on the basis of certification-relevant characteristics shall be defined as type or model. Certification-relevant characteristics are, for example, those that refer to the manufacturing process, the materials used as well as the manufacturer.

In the case of products consisting of a mixture of recycled and virgin material, differences in recycled content of more than 10% in absolute terms with otherwise identical product features are defined as separate types.

6.3 Conformity assessment

On the basis of the documents submitted, DIN CERTCO conducts the conformity examination. To this end an assessment is made with the aid of the audit report as to whether the product meets the requirements of the Certification scheme and of the Standards DIN EN ISO 14021.

The applicant shall receive written notification from DIN CERTCO in the event of any possible deviations.

6.4 The certificate and the right to use the mark

After successful testing and conformity assessment of the submitted documents, DIN CERTCO issues a certificate to the applicant and awards the right to use “flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft” in conjunction with a corresponding registration number as well as the optional specification of PCR, PIC or MIX. The certification mark will be applied with a percentage of the recycled content according DIN EN ISO 14021, section 7.8.

Format of the registration number **8YF0000**

Optional indication of the type of recyclate: **PCR, PIR or MIX**

Products made from recycled materias, for which the right to use the certification mark “flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft” has been awarded, must be marked with the respective certification mark "flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft" and the respective registration number as well as the optional specification of PCR, PIC or MIX. The mark and the registration number as well as the optional specification of PCR, PIC or MIX may only be used for the type for which the certificate has been issued and which corresponds to the type-tested product.

For each respective type, a registration number shall be issued. For design types (sub-types) of a type, the same registration number shall be issued (see section 6.2).

In addition to this, the General Terms and Conditions of DIN CERTCO shall apply.

The certification mark can be used together with the Mobius loop symbol with a percentage indication of the recycled content according to DIN 6120, section 4.3.3. The Mobius loop symbol must be applied by the manufacturer or by the person placing the packaging on the market himself.

6.5 Publications

All certificate holders can be viewed on the daily up-dated homepage of DIN CERTCO (www.dincertco.de) under <certificate holders or registration number>. Manufacturers, users and consumers use this research possibility for obtaining information on certified products.

Besides the contact details of the certificate holders (telephone, telefax, e-mail, homepage), it is also possible to view the technical data of the registered product.

6.6 Validity of the certificate

The certificate is valid for 5 years. The period of validity is shown on the certificate. On expiry of the certificate, the right to use the mark also expires acording section 6.4.

6.7 Renewal of the certificate

If the certification shall continue to apply beyond the date shown on the certificate, an up-to-date, positive audit report and an application for renewal must be submitted in good time to DIN CERTCO. The scope of sampling is determined by $0{,}8\sqrt{n}$, where *n* is the total number of manufacturers or production sites with common quality management system, rounded to the upper whole number. On the basis of the documents submitted, DIN CERTCO conducts the conformity assessment.

Proof of conformity with the requirements of section 4 of the certification scheme is provided by an on-site audit. The on-site audit is conducted to determine whether the procedures and processes are correctly applied and whether the determination of the recycled content and the labelling of the product comply with the requirements of the certification scheme.

The audit is conducted in accordance with the requirements in section 8.

6.8 Expiry of the certificate

In the event that the new standard conformity examination according to section 6.7 has not been completed before expiry of the validity period, the right to use the certification mark "flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft" and the registration number expires without the necessity for explicit notification from DIN CERTCO.

Furthermore, the certificate can also expire if:

– The surveillance according to section 8 is not performed punctually or completely,

– the certification mark "flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft" is misused by the certificate holder,

– the requirements laid down in the certification scheme or its accompanying documents are not fulfilled,

– the certification fees are not paid on the due date

– the prerequisites for the issuing of the certificate are no longer fulfilled

6.9 Modifications/Extensions

6.9.1 Modifications/Extensions to the product

The certificate holder is obliged to notify DIN CERTCO of all alterations to the product without delay. DIN CERTCO shall decide, if necessary in coordination with the responsible auditor, on the scope of an examination that shall be conducted according to section 5.3.3 and whether it is a matter of a substantial alteration.

Should DIN CERTCO determine a substantial alteration, the certificate with the corresponding registration number shall expire. For the modified product, a new application for initial certification authorising the use of the certification mark "flustix RECYCLED – DIN-Geprüft" may be submitted.

The certificate holder remains obliged to notify of any changes in the formal details (e.g. certificate holder or his address).

The certificate holder may apply to DIN CERTCO for an extension of the existing certificate for further design-types (sub-types) of the same type. It is for DIN CERTCO to decide whether these amendments require a complementary examination. The design-types shall

be entered in the certificate for the already certified product and, provided that the conditions are fulfilled, shall be regarded as an integral part of same.

6.9.2 Alterations to the basic test specifications

If the basic test specifications for the certification is modified, an application for the alteration of the certification shall be submitted within 6 months of receiving notification from DIN CERTCO and, as a rule, after 12 months, proof of conformity with the modified examination specifications shall be submitted in the form of a positive audit report (see section 5.3.3).

6.10 Product defects

In the event that deviations from the processes or in the case of certified products are detected, the certificate holder shall be summoned in writing by DIN CERTCO to rectify the defects.

In the case of defects having a direct or indirect effect on the tracability of the recycled material or determinaton of the recycled content, the manufacturer/certificate holder must ensure that the products are no longer marked with the certification mark until the defects have been rectified. The defects must also be remedied immediately on products installed or in stock. The manufacturer/owner of the certificate must prove to DIN CERTCO within 3 months and in a suitable manner that the defects in the products complained of have been remedied.
If the manufacturer/certificate holder fails to comply with these deadlines, the certificate and thus the right to use the certification mark shall be revoked.

Should grounds for complaint continue to exist, DIN CERTCO shall initially suspend the certificate and at the same time issue a final deadline for the rectification of the defects. Should the certificate holder fail to meet this demand, or fail to meet it within the period of grace, or if it is again not possible to prove that the defects have been rectified, the certificate shall be annulled.

7 Surveillance by manufacturer

The manufacturer must ensure, by suitable quality management measures, that the product characteristics confirmed by the certification are maintained. This can be accomplished by means of an in-house factory production control (FPC) focussed on the product itself or on the production and, in addition, can be guaranteed within the framework of a quality management system (QM-System) acording to the standard series DIN EN ISO 9000 ff.

7.1 Factory Production Control (FPC)

Factory production control comprises the continual monitoring of the production process by the manufacturer, which guarantees the conformity of the products manufactured with the specified requirements.

Appropriate records shall be submitted to DIN CERTCO or its authorised representative on request. These records must contain at least the following information:

- Designation of the product/recycled material and if one manufacturer performs several production steps, information on the process in question
- Result of the examination and, if envisaged, comparison with the stipulated requirements
- Signature of the person responsible for the examination

– Date of the report

Depending on processes performed some of the following documentations and testing will be necessary. If materials other than plastics are used, the requirements may vary. This needs to be defined on a case by case basis in cooperation with DIN CERTCO.

7.1.1 Scope of incoming goods check

Corresponding records shall be submitted to DIN CERTCO or its authorized representatives upon request. They shall contain at least the following information:

– A list of approved suppliers must be kept. Changes in suppliers must be reported to DIN CERTCO and may necessitate supplementary audits in accordance with 5.3.3.

– Documentation of the origin, logistics and of audits conducted prior to processing in accordance with Table 1 of DIN EN 15343 and section 4.4, where applicable. This information can be passed on within the process chain.

– Characterization of the plastic in accordance with DIN EN 15347, where applicable.

– Information about the quantity of material and about the amount of recycled material contained in the individual batches

7.1.2 Scope of surveillance of recycling process

Where applicable, the surveillance of the recycling process is to be conducted and documented in accordance with section 4.2 of DIN EN 15343.

7.1.3 Characterization of plastics

Where applicable, the characterization of the recycled plastic must be conducted in accordance with DIN EN 15342, DIN EN 15344, DIN EN 15345, DIN EN 15346 or DIN EN 15348. Where the final application requires compliance with other requirements, this is possible although each case must be documented.

7.1.4 Documentation and records

For the quality-related processes the manufacturer must have instructions in written form, which have been approved by the responsible person relating to the process-related instructions:

– Incoming goods check
– Surveillance of the recycling process (see DIN EN 15343)
– Characterization of the plastic waste (see DIN EN 15347)
– Characterization of the plastic recycled material (see DIN EN 15342, DIN EN 15344, DIN EN 15345, DIN EN 15346 oder DIN EN 15348)
– Competences, responsibilities, in particular with regard to decisions on further procedures when deviations are identified, in the case of production interruptions, etc.
– Complaints management
– Personal training

In accordance with section 6.2.2 of DIN EN ISO 14021, the results are to be retained for as long as the product is on the market or is likely to be in use.

If the outcome of an audit is negative, the manufacturer must take all steps immediately to rectify the defect. Products marked as defective must be labelled accordingly and removed from the process. The audit must be repeated at regular intervals to establish whether the defect has been rectified.

7.2 Quality Management System (QM-System)

DIN CERTCO recommends the installation and certification of the quality management system in conformity with the standard series DIN EN ISO 9000 ff.

8 Surveillance by DIN CERTCO

External surveillance takes place in the form of on-site audits in accordance with section 5.3.1 of the initial test, section 5.3.2 of the verification test and section 6.7 of the renewal of the certificate.

If the need to inspect other sites is identified in the course of the surveillance audits, documents may also be requested by the other manufacturers/processors as verification of the recycled content in accordance with DIN EN 15343.

8.1 General information

An essential component of certification is the constant monitoring of the system during the vadility of the certificate. The monitoring has to take place at yearly intervals.

DIN CERTCO proofs and examines the conformity of the product with the requirements laid down in the certification scheme by surveillance audits.

8.2 Audits

During an audit, DIN CERTCO or a third party commissioned by it verifies internal operating workflows to determine whether they meet the requirements of the standard and are suitable for ensuring that the recycled proportion shown is correct.

A special report is issued about the audits.

If the results of the audit are inadequate, the applicant is to be advised accordingly forthwith. The scope of additional measures for meeting all requirements is then to be defined between the certification body and the applicant. If the certificate holder and/or manufacturer/processor is unable to implement the measures required within the agreed time,

- The certification process will be interrupted during an initial audit,
- the certificate may be suspended and deleted after a further time limit has elapsed in the case of surveillance audits,
- in the case of renewal audits, the renewal will not take place.

An interruption in the manufacturing of the product, which makes contractual surveillance of the overall process impossible, must be reported to the certification body immediately indicating the likely duration; the same applies for the resumption of production.

The manufacturer/processor must deploy a specialist to manage the project, and his name must be put forward to the certification body. The same applies to any person deputizing for him or her. Any change must be reported to the certification body in writing immediately.
The representatives of the certification body will be entitled to gain access to the manufacturers' operating and storage facilities, including their distribution warehouses, unannounced at any time during operating hours, as well as to undertake any actions required in connection with surveillance. In addition, all documentary records pertaining to production will be made available to the representatives of the certification body for audit, where necessary. This must be ensured by the applicant.

Annex A Schematic presentation of a production process

Enterprises, which carry out the mentioned in gray-marked field process steps will be examined as part of the certification process according to section 8.