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Certification scheme GreenCert – GreenScent – Professional Level

GreenCert – Professional Level – Green building

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1 Scope

This certification scheme specifies the procedure of how the competence of persons in the field of GreenCert – Professional Level, is being certified by ECQA GmbH.

The certification organization ECQA GmbH is an Austrian company, which is 60% owned by the non-profit organization European Certification and Qualification Association (ECQA).

The object of certification is exclusively / solely the competence of natural persons.

The certification is largely based on the principles of the International Standard ISO/IEC 17024:2012-07 Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies certifying persons.

2 Requirements for competence

2.1 Competence Profile

Individuals certified in accordance with this certification scheme are competent to independently plan and deliver GreenCert – Professional Level as a service, using appropriate technical tools and applications.

2.2 Knowledge and skill requirements

The focus on Green Buildings within the European Green Deal underscores a critical shift towards sustainable construction and building management, essential for reducing the environmental footprint of urban and rural developments. This domain demands a multifaceted set of competencies centred around sustainable architecture, energy-efficient design, and eco-friendly materials. Key competencies for professionals in this sector include advanced knowledge in green building standards and certifications. Additionally, skills in the integration of renewable energy systems into building designs are crucial for reducing dependency on non-renewable energy sources. Understanding of modern construction techniques that minimize energy consumption and waste production during the building process is also essential. Expertise in building automation systems and smart technologies plays a pivotal role in enhancing the operational efficiency of green buildings. These systems help in monitoring and managing energy usage, water conservation, and overall environmental impact of buildings. Attitudes of innovation, ecological responsibility, and advocacy for sustainability are vital for professionals driving the green building agenda. These attitudes foster a culture of sustainability and encourage the adoption of green building practices across the construction industry. Ultimately, the move towards Green Buildings aims to create healthier and more sustainable living and working environments, aligning with the broader goals of the Green Deal to combat climate change and promote environmental stewardship.

Individuals performing GreenCert – Professional Level Green building must demonstrate competencies as specified in Sections 2.2.1 through 2.2.4.

2.2.1 Unit 1 (Abbrev.U1)

- E1: Sustainable Thinking (EQF5)
- E2 Critical Thinking (EQF5)

- E3: System Thinking (EQF5)

2.2.2 Unit 2 (Abbrev.U2)

- E1: Natural Resources (EQF5)
- E2: Reused and recycled materials (EQF5)
- E3: Artificial materials (EQF5)

2.2.3 Unit 3 (Abbrev. U3)

- E1: Products used in Green buildings (EQF5)
- E2: Technologies used in GB (EQF5)
- E3: Energy efficiency in Green buildings (EQF4)

2.2.4 Unit 4 (Abbrev. U4)

- E1: Energy saving in Green buildings (EQF5)
- E2: Recycling effect (EQF5)
- E3: Project management (EQF5)

3 Requirements for admission to the examination

Prerequisite for admission to the examination is

- None (although the completion of a recommended training is suggested)

4 Multiple-Choice Exam

The examination is done in writing as a multiple-choice test online. The exam consists of 24 questions, from a pool of more than 64 questions in total, from the four subject areas as per section 2.2.1 to 2.2.4.

The maximum duration of the written exam is set at 60min.

5 Evaluation Criteria

5.1 Multiple-Choice Exam

Each question is scored with a maximum of one point each. There are several answer options per question. For each the complete exam at least 50% of the total score must be achieved.

5.2 Overall assessment and examination repetition

To pass the overall examination, at least 50% must be achieved..

6 Issue and validity of certificates

The successful evaluation of the initial certification examination, according to section 5, is a prerequisite for the issuance of a certificate.

The certificates are valid for 3 years.

7 Recertification

7.1 Criteria for renewal of the certificate

To renew the certificate, the certificate holder must fulfil one of the following criteria:

- 7.1.1 The certificate holder must retake the exam.
- 7.1.2 The certificate holder must hand in a written report stating the use of the skills in a project/work environment proven by the school/university/company.

7.2 Issue of the certificate

After fulfilling all the criteria, according to 7.1, the certificate is renewed for 2 years.

7.3 Deadlines

Recertification must take place before the certificate expires. In exceptional cases, recertification may also take place after expiry of the certificate. In this case, the following conditions apply:

- 7.3.1 If the recertification takes place after the expiration of the validity of a certificate within a period of maximum 6 months, the recertification shall be carried out in accordance with the criteria and process specified in Section 7.1. Otherwise, an audit to the extent of the initial certification shall be performed in accordance with Section 5.
- 7.3.2 The validity of the certificate is always based on the date of initial certification. This means that the date of the initial certification is always taken as the starting point, regardless of the recertification date.