

Statement of Independence/ Confidentiality Agreement

Statement of Independence

Kiwa Nederland BV, Kiwa GmbH as well as Kiwa International Cert GmbH and Kiwa BCS Öko-Garantie GmbH (hereinafter Kiwa-GmbHs) are independent of the parties affected by audits, inspections and certification services.

The Kiwa GmbHs and their staff are professionally independent and are free of any commercial, financial and other influences that can affect their technical judgment. Any influence by internal or external persons or organizations on audit, inspection and certification procedure results is excluded.

The Kiwa GmbHs' employees do not engage in any activities that endanger the confidence in the independence of the assessment or in the integrity of their performance as an auditing, inspection and certification body.

In particular, they are not involved in the design, manufacture, distribution, establishment, use and maintenance of objects that they examine, inspect or certify. The same applies to shareholders of the Kiwa GmbHs.

The employed personnel's remuneration is not dependent on the number of audits and inspections performed or certificates issued, nor on their results.

All principals/applicants (clients) can avail themselves of the Kiwa GmbHs' services without preconditions. The procedures are performed according to the principle of equal treatment and without discrimination. Inquiries and requests are always processed according to the same procedure, without preference or impediment, and do not depend on the number of certificates already issued. The size of the company or the organization it belongs to is immaterial.

The same applies to the management of the individual GmbHs with regard to possible influence by Kiwa Deutschland GmbH.

Confidentiality Agreement

The employees at the Kiwa GmbHs' locations perform all work impartially and with integrity, strictly observing confidentiality, in accordance with good professional practice and to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Safeguarding the submitted property and related information is paramount. Data will only be passed on to third parties if this is absolutely necessary to execute the commission or if this has been agreed with the client.

All employees have been informed about the confidentiality of client information and have submitted a written declaration, which also obligates them to maintain confidentiality after they leave employment with the Kiwa GmbHs.

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