

# Green Card® Supplier Audit / Assessing Capability to deliver

*Green Card® Audit proves capabilities of a supplier in issues defined jointly by largest customers.*

Kiwa performs professional supplier audits using the Green Card® criteria defined by large Buyers. Green Card® is an evaluation method that defines a maturity level against each interesting criteria that enable operational capabilities and describe their application and results. The Green Card® method is authorized by a large number of Buyers and registered to Kiwa Inspecta.

Buyers can order Green Card® as a second party assessment. Suppliers can apply for a Green Card® Certificate from Kiwa as an authorized independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party audit.

## Purpose of the Green Card® Audit

Green Card® assures that suppliers meet generic customer needs and expectations. Also, the audit is designed to encourage suppliers to continuously improve their operations. Even if all requirements would not be fulfilled during the initial audit, suppliers will immediately kick off relevant improvement initiatives. Buyers will eventually note general improvement in their entire supply field.

Non conformities and opportunities for improvement will be identified and detailed recommendations are given to suppliers as applicable. Above all, Green Card® aims to assure delivery and continuous improvement. While Green Card® concentrates on Quality, capabilities can also be assessed with a more comprehensive [HSEQ®- assessment](#). This focuses more on environment, sustainability, occupational health and safety, but somewhat less on Quality. An extended HSEQ® is an option, where both methods are integrated into a 1½ day effective package.

The aim of Green Card® is to ensure that minimum requirements set by more than 50 large Buyers are met. In tendering, Buyers benefit of the Green Card® (or HSEQ®) assessment, as they can set their own minimum requirements for different criteria, compare and select suppliers that are most fit for purpose.

## Key Criteria in the Green Card® method

Green Card® verifies e.g.

- how the Supplier organizes its operations to assure enablers of success
- the Supplier assures conformity to requirements
- how work is planned, organized and managed
- how the Supplier communicates with it's customers and what quality assurance practices they have
- what are the available resources and competences. How are they being improved
- will customer grievances and feed back lead into continuous improvement
- what is the organizational readiness to analyze root causes and take preventive action.

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## Implementing Green Card®

The Green Card® audit starts with a self-assessment carried out by the organization. A one-day audit is then done by a professional lead auditor at supplier's premises. In multi-site organizations, a required amount of audits (based on international guidelines (IAF)) are performed, in different locations, to ensure reliable results.

Audits are reported by rating the maturity of each criteria and writing a verbal description of the evidence seen on site. This identifies the strengths and improvement opportunities in relation to generic customer expectations. Detailed corrective action requests and recommendations are written of each finding, as necessary. The audited organization has the opportunity to proofread the report and correct any misunderstandings before finalizing.

Green Card® provides competitive advantage to organizations as it addresses the most important and tangible needs of customers. If the minimum requirements are met, Kiwa Inspecta grants a Green Card® certificate to the supplier as proof of fulfillment of requirements. Validity requires annual re-certification.

## Costs

The cost of an audit to a single-site supplier organization consists of a fixed price (2500 €) plus travel expenses according to Kiwa Inspecta's price list. Multi-site organizations will be audited according to the implementation scheme described above. Audit costs of additional locations are lower, depending on the complexity and reporting needs. Some industries (as cleansing and construction) require also short field visits, which are invoiced separately according to Kiwa's price list. [Organizations that use Green Card® assessments in their procurement.](#)

## Background

Kiwa has more than 17 years of experience in third-party supplier audits. Kiwa has founded three Clusters for Large Buyers (Technology Industries 2006, Cleansing Sector 2008 and Construction Businesses 2009) and currently moderating and chairing the HSEQ® Cluster.

Approximately 70 Buyers have agreed of the most important criteria thru the years. These criteria have been standardized as PSK 8404 standard. Green Card® and HSEQ® were used as sources for this standard and has both methods were upgraded based on the outcome of the standardization work.

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