

# Independent Limited Assurance Statement to Stock Spirits Group Limited

ERM Certification and Verification Services Limited (“ERM CVS”) was engaged by Stock Spirits Group Limited (“Stock Spirits”) to provide limited assurance in relation to the selected information set out below and presented in the [GHG Performance data 2022 publication](#) (the “Report”).

Engagement summary	
<b>Scope of our assurance engagement</b>	<p>Whether the 2022 data for the following selected disclosures, as indicated in the Report are fairly presented, in all material respects, in accordance with the reporting criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Total Scope 1 GHG emissions [tCO<sub>2</sub>e]</li> <li>▪ Total Scope 2 GHG emissions – location based [tCO<sub>2</sub>e]</li> <li>▪ Total Scope 2 GHG emissions – market based [tCO<sub>2</sub>e]</li> <li>▪ GHG intensity: gram per litre of produced finished product [CO<sub>2</sub>e]</li> </ul> <p>Our assurance engagement does not extend to information in respect of earlier periods or to any other information included in the Report.</p>
<b>Reporting period</b>	2022 (1 October 2021 – 31 September 2022)
<b>Reporting criteria</b>	WBCSD/WRI GHG Protocol (2004, as updated January 2015) for the Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions and Stock Spirits’ internal reporting criteria and definitions
<b>Assurance standard and level of assurance</b>	<p>We performed a limited assurance engagement, in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements ISAE 3000 (Revised) ‘Assurance Engagements other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial issued by the International Auditing and Standards Board.</p> <p>The procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing from and are less in extent than for a reasonable assurance engagement and consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed.</p>
<b>Respective responsibilities</b>	<p>Stock Spirits is responsible for preparing the Report and for the collection and presentation of the information within it.</p> <p>ERM CVS’ responsibility is to provide conclusions to Stock Spirits on the agreed scope based on our engagement terms with Stock Spirits, the assurance activities performed and exercising our professional judgement. We accept no responsibility, and deny any liability, to any party other than Stock Spirits for the conclusions we have reached.</p>

## Our conclusion

Based on our activities, as described below, nothing has come to our attention to indicate that the 2022 data and information for the disclosures listed under ‘Scope’ above are not fairly presented, in all material respects, in accordance with the reporting criteria.

## Our assurance activities

Considering the level of assurance and our assessment of the risk of material misstatement of the selected information a multi-disciplinary team of sustainability and assurance specialists performed a range of procedures that included, but was not restricted to, the following:

- Assessing the appropriateness of the reporting criteria for the selected disclosures;
- Interviews with management representatives responsible for managing the selected issues;
- Interviews with relevant staff to understand and evaluate the relevant management systems and processes (including internal review and control processes) used for collecting and reporting the selected disclosures;
- A review at corporate level of a sample of qualitative and quantitative evidence supporting the reported information;
- An analytical review of the year-end data submitted by all locations included in the consolidated 2022 group data for the selected disclosures which included testing the completeness and mathematical accuracy of conversions and calculations, and consolidation in line with the stated reporting boundary;
- Visits to two Stock Spirits production sites in Italy (in-person) and Poland (virtual) to review source data and local reporting systems and controls;
- Reviewing conversion and emission factors and assumptions used; and
- Reviewing the presentation of information relevant to the scope of our work in the Report to ensure consistency with our findings.

## The limitations of our engagement

The reliability of the assured information is subject to inherent uncertainties, given the available methods for determining, calculating, or estimating the underlying information. It is important to understand our assurance conclusions in this context.

## Our independence, integrity and quality control

ERM CVS is an independent certification and verification body accredited by UKAS to ISO 17021:2015. Accordingly, we maintain a comprehensive system of quality control, including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards, and applicable legal and regulatory requirements. Our quality management system is at least as demanding as the relevant sections of ISQM-1 and ISQM-2 (2022).

ERM CVS applies a Code of Conduct and related policies to ensure that its employees maintain integrity, objectivity, professional competence and high ethical standards in their work. Our processes are designed and implemented to ensure that the work we undertake is objective, impartial and free from bias and conflict of interest. Our certified management system covers independence and ethical requirements that are at least as demanding as the relevant sections of Parts A & B of the IESBA Code relating to assurance engagements.

The team that has undertaken this assurance engagement has extensive experience in conducting assurance on environmental, social, ethical and health and safety information, systems and processes, and provides no consultancy related services to Stock Spirits in any respect.



Gareth Manning  
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London, UK

17 January 2023