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## **CSC-responsible sourcing certification system: Producer's perspective – first experiences at Heidelberg Beton**

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### **Abstract**

Heidelberg Beton Kurpfalz GmbH & Co. KG was the first ready mixed concrete producer in Germany receiving the Concrete Sustainability Council's so-called CSC certification for responsibly sourced concrete. Certification in "silver" was obtained. The certification rewards Heidelberg Beton Kurpfalz GmbH & Co. KG for producing concrete in an ecological, social and economically responsible manner.

The CSC certification process was rather straightforward and started with an internal kick-off meeting where individual responsibilities were clarified. Collecting evidence was the core part of the certification process and provided an excellent opportunity to learn more about the own sustainability performance and to identify levers for further improving sustainability practices. Thanks to the well-arranged CSC Toolbox it was possible to display the collected evidence in an efficient manner and to discuss it with the auditor during the certification audit which also included plant visits.

CSC-certification is an excellent opportunity to enter into a more in-depth dialogue on sustainability with customers and a broad range of stakeholders. Also in the light of the recent CSC recognition in BREEAM and the expected recognition in further Green Building Labels, Heidelberg Beton, a daughter company of HeidelbergCement AG, aims at receiving CSC certification for further daughter companies in Germany in the near future.

**Keywords:** CSC certification, responsible sourcing, construction materials, concrete, green buildings.