



## **B Lab Statement on Thalus' B Corp Certification**

B Lab's independent Standards Advisory Council has rendered the following decision and guidance regarding eligibility for B Corp Certification for bottled water companies:

*"Bottled water companies are eligible for B Corp Certification with additional review by the Standards Advisory Council and, at minimum, incremental disclosure on their public B Corp profile regarding material sensitive issues in the industry."*

Thalus is required to disclose a summary of its practices in the areas of Water Access, Sustainable Usage, and Waste Management as a part of its B Corp Certification. For more information on the review process, please refer to B Lab's statement on the bottled water industry and B Corp Certification [here](#).

### **Summary of Company**

Thalus is a Luxembourg company that specializes in quality spring and mineral water. The company outsources its water extraction and product packaging, which are done by suppliers based in Germany and Spain. The company is responsible for the sale of the water. In its last fiscal year, Thalus earned 100% of its annual revenue from the sale of water, 57% was sourced by its German supplier, and 43% from its Spanish supplier.

### **Thalus' Industry Practices**

#### Water Access

The company outsources two different supplies all of the water extraction and bottling processes. In Germany, Thalus sources water from a regional German family business called [STIFTSQUELLE](#), which is located in Dorsten. In Spain, the company's supplier is called [LY COMPANY](#) receives water from the public water supply agency [Aqualauro](#), through a direct pipeline coming from the Sierra Mijas Aquifer.

The following agencies play a role in regulating Thalus' suppliers access to water and their water extraction practices:

- Germany - Mineral- und Tafelwasser Verordnung, Lebensmittelüberwachung Kreis Recklinghausen
- Spain - Aqualauro

Thalus has reported they are not engaged in any lobbying or policy advocacy for cheaper water prices nor easier water access. The company also reported there are no stakeholder concerns regarding its water access that remain unresolved.



### Sustainable Usage

In order to ensure the company's water extraction rates will not significantly affect the water table or water access for others, Thalus has a supplier screening process to make sure their suppliers follow all local and national legislation and regulations related to groundwater extraction in their jurisdictions.

The German water supplier has ISO 14001 certification, which includes all supplier processes, from the water extraction to the bottling stage, indicating that the supplier is required to monitor and comply with legal requirements applicable to their operations. STIFTSQUELLE extracts water within the limit established by the local authorities.

Regarding the Spanish water supplier, since it receives water from the public water supply agency, the extraction flow control is regulated by [Aqualauro](#). It is this public organization that regulates and guarantees our supply while maintaining a balance with the environment and other consumer demands. The supplier is implementing an [Environmental Management System](#) based on the ISO 14001 but is not certified yet.

### Waste Management

The company does not use plastic bottles, since it packages water in a Tetra Pak box made from 60% of paperboard, 5% of aluminum foil, 15% of plastics, and 20% of bio-based "plastics". The paperboard is recyclable, efficient to transport, and certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). The cap made from sugarcane is certified Bonsucro. Thalus mentioned that Luxembourg has a door-to-door collection system for recyclable items, therefore, the company is able to promote the recycling of its Tetra Pak Brik packaging. Moreover, Thalus (whose legal name is ROM ERSA sàrl) is a [member](#) and contributes financially to Valorlux, a non-profit organization that collects the "blue bags" from households and restaurants. Companies responsible for placing packaged products on the Luxembourgish market must individually fulfill legal obligations relating to packaging or may transfer their legal obligations to an approved body such as Valorlux. If a company joins Valorlux as a member, it will be signing up to the global system for the collection, sorting, and recycling of packaging waste in Luxembourg. [Here is more information about the relationship between Thalus and Valorlux](#).