



DISCLOSURE MATERIALS

Certified B Corporations must complete a Disclosure Questionnaire to identify potentially sensitive issues related to the company (e.g. historical fines, sanctions, material litigation, or sensitive industry practices).

This component does not affect the company's score on the B Impact Assessment. If the company answers affirmatively to any items in the Disclosure Questionnaire and B Lab deems them to be material, the company must:

- 1) Be transparent about the disclosure issues identified on the company's public B Impact Report
- 2) Describe how the company has addressed this issue.
- 3) Demonstrate that management systems are in place to avoid similar issues from arising in the future.

In all cases, the Standards Advisory council reserves the right to refuse certification if the company is ultimately deemed not to uphold the spirit of the community.

In addition to the voluntary indication of sensitive issues in the Disclosure Questionnaire, companies pursuing Certification also are subject to background checks by B Lab staff. Background checks include a review of public records, news sources, and search engines for company names, brands, executives/founders, and other relevant topics.

Sensitive issues identified through background checks may or may not be within the scope of questions in the Disclosure Questionnaire, but undergo the same review process and are subject to the same possible review by the Standards Advisory Council, including ineligibility for B Corp Certification, required remediation, or disclosure.

This document contains a copy of the company's completed Disclosure Questionnaire and related disclosure documentation provided by the company.

DISCLOSURE QUESTIONNAIRE

PROVIDED BY:

AustroCel Hallein GmbH

UPDATED AS OF:

05/26/2020

Industries & Products	Yes	No
Please indicate if the company is involved in production of or trade in any the following. Select Yes for all options that apply.		
Animal Products or Services		✓
Biodiversity Impacts	✓	
Chemicals	✓	
Company Explanation Of Disclosure Item Flags		✓
Disclosure Alcohol		✓
Disclosure Firearms Weapons		✓
Disclosure Mining		✓
Disclosure Pornography		✓
Disclosure Tobacco		✓
Energy and Emissions Intensive Industries	✓	
Fossil fuels		✓
Gambling		✓
Genetically Modified Organisms		✓
Illegal Products or Subject to Phase Out		✓
Industries at Risk of Human Rights Violations		✓
Monoculture Agriculture		✓
Nuclear Power or Hazardous Materials		✓
Payday, Short Term, or High Interest Lending		✓
Water Intensive Industries	✓	
Other		✓

Supply Chain Disclosures	Yes	No
Please indicate if any of the following statements are true regarding your company's significant suppliers.		
Business in Conflict Zones		✓
Child or Forced Labor		✓
Negative Environmental Impact		✓
Negative Social Impact		✓
Other		✓

Other Disclosures	Yes	No
Hazardous Discharges Into Air/Land/Water	✓	

Outcomes & Penalties	True	False
Please indicate if the company has had any formal complaint to a regulatory agency or been assessed any fine or sanction in the past five years for any of the following practices or policies. Check all that apply.		
Anti-Competitive Behavior		✓
Breaches of Confidential Information		✓
Bribery, Fraud, or Corruption		✓
Company Explanation Of Disclosure Item Flags		✓
Company has filed for bankruptcy		✓
Consumer Protection		✓
Financial Reporting, Taxes, Investments, or Loans		✓
Hazardous Discharges Into Air/Land/Water (Past 5 Yrs)		✓
Labor Issues		✓
Large Scale Land Conversion, Acquisition, or Relocation		✓
Litigation or Arbitration		✓
On-Site Fatality		✓
Penalties Assessed For Environmental Issues		✓
Political Contributions or International Affairs		✓
Recalls		✓
Significant Layoffs		✓
Violation of Indigenous Peoples Rights		✓
Other		✓

Practices	True	False
Please indicate if the following statements are true regarding whether or not the company engages in the following practices. Check all that apply. If the statement is true, select "Yes." If false, select "No."		
Animal Testing		✓
Company/Suppliers Employ Under Age 15 (Or Other ILO Minimum Age)		✓
Company Explanation Of Disclosure Item Flags		✓
Company prohibits freedom of association/collective bargaining		✓
Company workers are prisoners		✓
Conduct Business in Conflict Zones		✓
Confirmation of Right to Work		✓
Does not transparently report corporate financials to government		✓
Employs Individuals on Zero-Hour Contracts		✓
Facilities located in sensitive ecosystems		✓
ID Cards Withheld or Penalties for Resignation		✓
No formal Registration Under Domestic Regulations		✓
No signed employment contracts for all workers		✓
Overtime For Hourly Workers Is Compulsory		✓
Payslips not provided to show wage calculation and deductions		✓
Sale of Data		✓
Tax Reduction Through Corporate Shells		✓
Workers cannot leave site during non-working hours		✓
Workers not Provided Clean Drinking Water or Toilets		✓
Workers paid below minimum wage		✓
Workers Under Bond		✓
Other		✓



B Corp Certification - Disclosure Questionnaire Documentation

PROVIDED BY:

AustroCel Hallein GmbH

UPDATED AS OF:

05/26/2020

DISCLOSURE QUESTIONNAIRE CATEGORY	Hazardous Discharges Into Air/Land/Water
ISSUE DATE	June 2019
TOPIC	Accidental discharge of SO2 from production facilities
SUMMARY OF ISSUE	AustroCel Hallein experienced an accidental discharge of SO2 from its production facilities due to a mechanical failure.
SIZE/SCOPE OF ISSUE (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	A small amount was paid for the negative impact on the environment at local communities, equivalent to 0.01% of annual revenue
IMPACT ON STAKEHOLDER(S)	SO2 poses a potential harm to human beings, animals and plants. In this instance, some trees nearby the company's facilities experience a loss of leaves. There was no harm to human beings in this case.
RESOLUTION	<p>To immediately respond to the discharge, the company implemented pressure reduction at the digester, a general alarm was started, neighbours & local fire brigade & local police station & red cross were contacted by the operational fire service.</p> <p>In the long term, the company checked the environmental effects in its neighbours garden and money was paid to replace the destroyed plants (plants were also bought by AustroCel). Neighbours were invited to a meeting & the incident was described, the emergency response plan was adjusted, and several mechanical protections were created to prevent the escape of SO2. The mayor of the local city was invited to the company and the incident was discussed.</p> <p>An investigation report was written. The root cause was identified as the digester, which was then repaired and checked by TÜV for safety. The company's other digester was also checked.</p>
IMPLEMENTED MGT PRACTICES	The company's emergency plan was re-worked, including adaptation of the SO2 gas warning system, and adaption of the management of change process to ensure safe execution release. The fire service started new trainings focused on such incidents, and got new equipment (a new water gun and mobile SO2 snooper).
RELATED INCIDENTS	No

DISCLOSURE QUESTIONNAIRE CATEGORY	Environmentally Intensive Industries
TOPIC	Biodiversity Impact
SUMMARY OF ISSUE	As a company that produces pulp from wood input materials, AustroCel Hallein operates in an industry in which biodiversity impact is a material environmental issue.
SIZE/SCOPE OF ISSUE (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	In the previous fiscal year, 87.07% of the company's revenue was earned from the sale of its pulp products.

IMPACT ON STAKEHOLDER(S)	Paper and pulp products utilize wood as the primary input material, which poses a threat to ecosystems and may contribute to deforestation if the materials are not sourced responsibly. In the case of AustroCel Hallein, 97% of the raw materials sourced are discarded materials from sawmills. The remaining 3% of raw materials are from PEFC certified suppliers.
IMPLEMENTED MGT PRACTICES	AustroCel Hallein has an annual PEFC Audit by DinCERTCO/Berlin, and a formal target that at least 70% of its raw materials come from PEFC certified suppliers. This target is monitored monthly by the company's environmental manager. In 2019, they achieved 88% PEFC certification.

DISCLOSURE QUESTIONNAIRE CATEGORY	Environmentally Intensive Industries
TOPIC	Energy and Emissions Intensive Industries
SUMMARY OF ISSUE	As a company that produces pulp from wood input materials, AustroCel Hallein operates in an industry in which energy use and emissions are material environmental issues.
SIZE/SCOPE OF ISSUE (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	In the previous fiscal year, 87.07% of the company's revenue was earned from the sale of its pulp products.
IMPACT ON STAKEHOLDER(S)	The process of pulp production is energy intensive, which in turn contributes to global carbon emissions. The process also releases other emissions such as NOx and SO2 which can affect air quality near the company's operations.
IMPLEMENTED MGT PRACTICES	<p>AustroCel Hallein has been tracking key performance indicators (KPIs) regarding its energy use and emissions since 1990, which includes measuring its annual energy use, carbon footprint, NOx emissions, and SO2 emissions. In order to maximize the efficiency of its pulp production process, the company has established energy recovery that utilizes the outputs of pulp production to produce bioenergy, which is used by the company and provided to the local grid. As such, over 99% of the company's energy use comes from renewable energy produced onsite. The company also has a formal target to reduce its energy use 0.6% each year.</p> <p>From 1996 to 2019 the company has reduced the % of its CO2 emissions from fossil fuels from 42.24% to 0.47%, while its overall CO2 emissions have also seen an absolute reduction of 0.4%. By 2030, the company has a target to have no emissions derived from fossil fuels.</p>

DISCLOSURE QUESTIONNAIRE CATEGORY	Environmentally Intensive Industries
TOPIC	Water Intensive Industries
SUMMARY OF ISSUE	As a company that produces pulp from wood input materials, AustroCel Hallein operates in an industry in which water use is a material environmental issue.
SIZE/SCOPE OF ISSUE (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	In the previous fiscal year, 87.07% of the company's revenue was earned from the sale of its pulp products.
IMPACT ON STAKEHOLDER(S)	As a water intensive industry, pulp production poses risks such as water stress or depletion of local water sources if water use is not appropriately managed. All of the water used by AustroCel Hallein is sourced from three onsite wells owned by the company, which do not affect the water use of other stakeholders.

IMPLEMENTED MGT PRACTICES	<p>AustroCel Hallein has been tracking key performance indicators (KPIs) regarding its water use since 1990, including overall water consumption and several wastewater indicators including pH and the levels of various solids and metals in its wastewater.</p> <p>The company does not have specific reduction targets regarding water volume. However, any new machine which is built has to comply with the best-available-technology (BAT) documents, so water is reduced step by step by using the best technology.</p>
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DISCLOSURE QUESTIONNAIRE CATEGORY	Environmentally Intensive Industries
TOPIC	Chemical Intensive Industries
SUMMARY OF ISSUE	<p>As a company that produces pulp from wood input materials, AustroCel Hallein operates in an industry in which chemical use is a material environmental issue.</p> <p>The aspects of the production process that are chemically intensive are the digestion of the woodchips, which are digested chemically in a pressure vessel using a digestion liquor at high temperature over a period of approximately eight hours, and the chemical bleaching and washing stages.</p> <p>The main chemicals used by the company are: NaOH, H₂O₂; MgO; O₂; sulfur; H₂SO₄.</p>
SIZE/SCOPE OF ISSUE (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	In the previous fiscal year, 87.07% of the company's revenue was earned from the sale of its pulp products.
IMPACT ON STAKEHOLDER(S)	As a chemical intensive industry, pulp production poses risks to the environment such as pollution of air, land, and water, as well as potential human health risks to those exposed to harmful chemicals.
IMPLEMENTED MGT PRACTICES	<p>Daily key performance indicators regarding chemical use have been established since 1990 that tracks volume of all chemicals used. The company installed a new pressure diffuser in the bleaching plant to reduce the amount of the main chemical, NaOH. The company also installed a new wood chip screening process that reduces the proportion of oversized chips (crushing by crushing) on the one hand and the proportion of fine material on the other. All in all, this reduces the use of cooking acid and increases the digester fill level.</p> <p>The company monitors the contents of all of its wastewater on a regular basis and has several wastewater treatment plants within its production processes as well as a separate one at the end of the process.</p> <p>Hallein's bleaching process is entirely chlorine free, and various side streams of the bleaching plant are collected and used for the generation of biogas in a biogas plant.</p>