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## A year of the Concrete Sustainability Council

The Concrete Sustainability Council (CSC) has concluded its first year successfully. More than 60 certifications and 175 licences have been issued since the system went live one year ago. And there is more encouraging news for the organisation...

The Concrete Sustainability Council (CSC) system went live on 1 January 2017. The organisation was created with the mission to promote, improve and demonstrate sustainability in concrete production and its supply chain, thus enabling the construction industry to make informed decisions.

In fact, creating a responsible sourcing certification system for concrete was imagined by some member companies of the Cement Sustainability Initiative (CSI), a sector project of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), striving to demonstrate the sustainability of concrete and its value chain in a transparent way.

Today the CSC encompasses 22 committed members, including trade associations in Europe, the US and Latin America, as well as concrete producers and certification companies that share the same vision: to build a sustainable, safe, durable and comfortable future.

In only one year, more than 60 plants on two continents (Europe & North America) were certified and more than 175 licenses were issued. Getting a license is the first step for companies aiming to achieve the CSC certification. In the end, the CSC label can be awarded not only to concrete plants, but – in form of a dedicated CSC supply chain label – also to other producers along the supply chain, such as producers of cement, cementitious products and aggregates. This is a significant success for such a young organisation!

Obtaining recognition from the various rating systems for sustainable construction as well as by green public procurement is key to providing value for the certifications. The CSC certifications have recently been

formally accepted by the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM), which is the leading green building label in Europe renowned for its robust process. Discussions are also taking place with other leading green building labels, such as LEED, DGNB and Envision.

In parallel, the CSC certification system is expanding fast in terms of geographies covered. Mostly implemented in Europe and North America as of today, the organisation has recently been granted with funding from the 10 Years Framework Program of UN Environment Programme (UNEP) for a roll out of the certification system in Latin America. This is another testament to the incredible progress of the organisation.

Concrete is by far the most widely used building material in the world. The CSC created an easy tool which allows companies to measure and reduce their impacts, saving costs and overall increasing sustainability awareness in the whole concrete value chain.

Leveraging on the success of 2017, the CSC will continue expanding in 2018 all over the world. The organisation will also continue to attract new members and to promote the CSC amongst the main green building labels and other sustainable construction initiatives. "Progress in 2017 has been better than expected; now we have to keep the momentum and particularly certify more plants to make sure that the CSC certification delivers on its promise – become a widely recognised brand that will deliver benefits for the whole sector," says Dr Alexander Röder, Chair of the CSC. Contact us today at [info@concretesustainabilitycouncil.org](mailto:info@concretesustainabilitycouncil.org) to see how you can be part of this movement for change. 

