

Press release

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Bekaert achieves ISCC PLUS certification for steel tire reinforcement, pioneering certified materials in the tire industry

Bekaert has received ISCC PLUS certification for its steel tire reinforcement products. This milestone underscores Bekaert's commitment to sustainability, innovation, and collaboration with tire manufacturers to accelerate the adoption of high recycled content tire reinforcement materials.

From Bekaert standard to global recognition

The Bekaert Recycled Content Standard previously served as an important industry benchmark, enabling suppliers and customers to implement traceability systems and more sustainable practices in steel tire reinforcement. This foundational work contributed to ISCC's decision to expand its certification framework to steel products. While the Bekaert standard will continue to be recognized during the transition period, ISCC PLUS now provides a globally recognized certification ensuring consistency, transparency, and traceability across the entire supply chain.

Structured certification pathway

Until recently, steel for tire reinforcement was outside the scope of ISCC PLUS. Through close collaboration among Bekaert, ISCC and TÜV NORD (serving as the certification body), a structured certification pathway for high recycled content for tire cord and bead wire has now been established.

The certification process was conducted in close cooperation with TÜV NORD, which audited Bekaert's Burgos plant as part of the pilot phase. TÜV NORD's technical validation ensures that the ISCC PLUS framework can be reliably applied to steel-based products, paving the way for broader adoption across the tire industry.

Setting a new standard for certified steel tire reinforcement

The certification milestone positions Bekaert at the forefront of shaping the future of certified tire reinforcement, driving industry-wide adoption, and creating joint value with tire manufacturers. For tire manufacturers, the use of ISCC PLUS-certified materials enables credible sustainability claims, reduces the complexity associated with multiple certifications, and supports compliance with evolving regulatory and market requirements. At the same time, customers continue to benefit from Bekaert's reliable and robust supply chain, now strengthened by certified sourcing.

"Achieving ISCC PLUS certification demonstrates our leadership in certified steel with high recycled content for tire reinforcement," said Annie Xu, President Rubber Reinforcement at Bekaert. "We are proud to have worked closely with ISCC and TÜV NORD to shape this framework, which will help our customers stay ahead of sustainability and regulatory expectations."

An ISCC representative added, *"We welcome the successful completion of the certification process for steel tire reinforcement under ISCC PLUS. This demonstrates that the ISCC framework can be applied to additional material categories while maintaining our established requirements for traceability and verification."*

"Working with Bekaert and ISCC on this pilot certification was an important step toward applying ISCC PLUS principles to new material categories like steel. We are delighted that we were able to contribute our expertise to this process and help ensure that certified traceability and sustainability assurance can also be effectively extended to industrial materials now," says Samir Beqqal, Head of Carbon Traceability Business Entity Sustainability TÜV NORD CERT."

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About Bekaert

Bekaert's ambition is to be the leading partner for shaping the way we live and move, and to always do this in a way that is safe, smart, and sustainable. As a global market and technology leader in material science of steel wire transformation and coating technologies, Bekaert ([bekaert.com](https://www.bekaert.com)) also applies its expertise beyond steel to create new solutions with innovative materials and services for markets including mobility, energy and construction. Founded in 1880, with its headquarters in Belgium, Bekaert (Euronext Brussels, BEKB) is a global technology company whose 19 000 employees worldwide together generated €3.7 billion in consolidated sales in 2025.

Rubber Reinforcement is the largest division of Bekaert and a global market leader in advanced steel reinforcement solutions for tires, with a portfolio of tire cord and bead wire. Powered by a unique global manufacturing network, it delivers solutions that contribute to creating lighter, stronger, and more efficient tires, without compromising on quality or safety. Its flagship Elyta® range sets the benchmark for next-generation tire reinforcement, driving higher tensile strength in combination with superior performance.

About ISCC

Founded in 2010 through a multi-stakeholder initiative, the International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC) is a globally applicable and leading certification system designed to enhance traceable, sustainable, deforestation-free, and climate-friendly supply chains. ISCC certifications are widely recognized and cover sustainable agricultural biomass, biogenic wastes and residues, non-biological renewable materials and recycled carbon-based materials. The development and implementation of different certification standards is ISCC's tool to promote its mission to mitigate climate change and bring more traceability into global markets and supply chains. The ISCC PLUS standard, in particular, supports the transition to a circular economy and bioeconomy. This voluntary certification standard validates the sustainability characteristics of alternative feedstocks throughout the entire supply chain, from origin to end consumer.

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