

Independent Assurance Statement to Stock Spirits Group plc

ERM Certification and Verification Services (ERM CVS) was engaged by Stock Spirits Group plc (Stock Spirits) to provide limited assurance in relation to the information set out below and presented in the 2018 Stock Spirits' Annual Report.

Engagement Summary	
Scope:	Whether the data for Financial Year (FY) 2018 (01/01/2018 – 30/09/2018) for the following indicators are fairly presented, in all material respects, in accordance with the reporting criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total GHG emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) in tonnes CO₂e• GHG intensity (for Scope 1 and Scope 2 combined) in kg CO₂e per litre of finished goods produced
Reporting Criteria:	WBCSD/WRI Greenhouse Gas protocol and UK Defra & IEA location-based emission factors.
Assurance Standard:	ERM CVS' assurance methodology based on the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE 3000) Assurance Engagements other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information.
Assurance Level:	Limited assurance.
Respective Responsibilities:	Stock Spirits is responsible for preparing the 2018 GHG emission data and its presentation in its external reporting, including the 2018 Annual Report. ERM CVS's responsibility is to provide a conclusion on the agreed scope based on the assurance activities as described below and exercising our professional judgement.

Our conclusion

Based on our activities, nothing has come to our attention to indicate that the FY2018 data for the selected indicators, as defined above and listed below, are not fairly presented, in all material respects, with the reporting criteria.

- 2018 Total Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions: 33,154 tonnes CO₂e
- 2018 GHG intensity: 403 grams CO₂e per litre of finished goods produced

Our assurance activities

A team of assurance, GHG and sustainability professionals undertook the following activities:

- An analytical review of the data from all sites and a check on the completeness and accuracy of the corporate data consolidation.
- A site visit to the Baltic Distillery to understand any changes in the business, operations, production levels or data responsibilities that may affect the FY 2018 data, as well as progress regarding ERM CVS' recommendations from our virtual visit last year. We also interviewed staff responsible for the data and reviewed samples of underlying source data for accuracy and completeness.
- A conference call and subsequent email follow ups with staff responsible for collecting and reporting the data, during which we reviewed:
 - Stock Spirits' updates on internal reporting process and responsibilities;
 - The results from the trend analysis based on data provided for Q1 and Q2 2018;
 - The appropriateness and exclusion of sources and facilities based on predefined 'cut off point' for consolidation in relation to Stock Spirits' operations;
 - The choice and application of emission factors and the reasonableness of estimates and assumptions; and
 - The underlying data for FY 2018 for each of the sites included in the consolidated data;
- A subsequent desk-based review of the full year data for FY 2018 (01/01/2018 – 30/09/2018).

The limitations of our engagement

The reliability of the assured data is subject to inherent uncertainties, given the available methods for determining, calculating or estimating the underlying information. It is important to understand our assurance conclusion in this context. The procedures performed in obtaining limited assurance are less extensive than those used for an audit (reasonable assurance). We believe the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our conclusion.



Jennifer Iansen-Rogers
Head of Corporate Assurance
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ERM CVS is a member of the ERM Group. The work that ERM CVS conducts for clients is solely related to independent assurance activities and auditor training. Our processes are designed and implemented to ensure that the work we undertake with clients is free from bias and conflict of interest. ERM CVS and the staff that have undertaken work on this assurance exercise provide no consultancy related services to Stock Spirits Group plc in any respect.