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European Level - developed by experts from the industry, for the industry

The Industrieverband Büro und Arbeitswelt e.V. (IBA) is legal owner of the standard “Sustainability requirements for office and non-domestic furniture for indoor use”, which is published by the European Office Furniture Association (FEMB). The standard serves as the basis for the “Level Certification”, also known as the “European Level Certificate” or “FEMB Level Certificate”.

This standard for office and non-domestic furniture comprehensively defines product and company-related criteria for sustainability and the circular economy. It focuses on the specific criteria that are relevant for furniture. This makes a significant difference to standards that extend their scope to a broader product range and therefore cannot make such specific demands on sustainable furniture.

The following areas of impact are covered: materials, energy and atmosphere, management of chemicals and social responsibility.

The most important feature of the standard is its accreditation in accordance with DIN EN ISO/IEC 17065. This ISO standard guarantees the strictest neutrality in certification worldwide, which sets it apart from many other sustainability certification systems. The certificates are issued by independent and neutral certification bodies that have received their accreditation from state authorities in a complex process.

A central core element of FEMB certification is the performance of regular on-site audits to ensure that the standard requirements are implemented in the company.

The IBA confirms that the standard is therefore the best basis for procurement tenders that aim for a high level and neutrally documented performance in the area of sustainability and circular economy for office and non-domestic furniture.

For all interested, the IBA will also provide a detailed legal opinion that substantiates the suitability of the Level certificate for procurement tenders in accordance with German law Section 34 (2) VgV and Section 24 (2) UvGO.

Further information on the background to the standard, the full text, a declaration of classification in accordance with DIN EN ISO 14024 as a type 1 ecolabel and a comparison of the scope of application with other standards in the sector can be found on the website www.levelcertified.eu or by emailing info@levelcertified.eu.