

PRESS RELEASE

CERA4IN1 AND ICL IBERIA ANNOUNCE MAJOR BREAK-THROUGH IN CROSS RECOGNITION OF SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION

BARCELONA, 12TH OF MAY 2021: The CERA4in1 initiative and ICL Iberia – with the support of CONFEDEM – can announce a major breakthrough in the cross-recognition of raw materials sustainability certification. The announcement follows pilot project results at ICL Iberia’s Súría & Sallent potash mine and its Súría processing plant near Barcelona, Spain. It is a development that will provide smaller domestic producers with a clear route to meeting the sustainability requirements of international markets.

Since 2020, the CERA4in1 initiative has been working with a range of pilot projects to actualise its mission to standardise the evaluation of sustainability for every raw material, in every country, under a single scheme. Within this mission, a framework has been developed to recognize sustainability schemes that are already been in place at operational sites.

To-date, sustainability at the ICL Iberia’s Súría & Sallent mine and processing plant – which produces 4,000 kilotonnes of potash ore annually – have been evaluated using the UNE 22470/22480 Standard, Spain’s national technical standard, which is not known in a broader international context, but has now been recognised through the CERA4in1 framework. Súría & Sallent were selected as one of the CERA4in1 pilot projects to test the “CERA4in1 Performance Standard” which evaluates the responsible performance of mine activity and subsequent processes.

As part of the recertification process of Súría & Sallent under the UNE 22470/22480 standard, the UNE Standard requirements were evaluated and successfully transferred to meet the majority of the performance criteria within CERA4in1’s internationally recognised standard.

Commenting on the significance of this achievement, Dr Andreas Hucke, Project Director, CERA4in1, said: “From the outset, CERA4in1 set out to harmonise the way the raw materials value chain ensures the sustainability of its processes, products and linkages – a constant headache for the industry. CERA4in1 has made a major step in cross recognition, opening the door for other individual standards to receive international accreditation.”

Commenting on the pilot project, Carles Aleman, President of ICL Iberia, said: "Reaching a sustainable mining has been one of ICL Iberia's top priorities in recent years. We are certain that working with the CERA4in1 Standard will not only help us meet our sustainability goals, but also lead the entire industry toward a more sustainable future".

The CERA4in1 Performance Standard criteria was first published as a working model in April 2019, before being presented and initially discussed during the CERA4in1 stakeholder workshop at the EIT Raw Materials Summit in Berlin in May 2019. Following this audit, the Súría & Sallent mine and processing plant will now aim to achieve full CERA4in1 certification as soon as practicable.

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About CERA 4in1

The CERA 4in1 certification scheme is the first holistic, worldwide applicable scheme of its kind to universalize and standardize the evaluation of social, environmental and ethical practices across the raw materials value chain. By using blockchain as a traceability mechanism, CERA 4in1 intends to prove the origin of a product from the sustainably producing source to the finished product.

CERA 4in1 divides the value-chain into four separate certificates. CERA 4in1's Readiness Standard assesses exploration and evaluation; Performance Standard assesses mining, processing and refining; Chain of Custody standard covers run-of-mine and traded commodities; and Final Product Standard evaluates the end product and its components.

Under CERA 4in1, applicant value chain actors apply for candidacy and in pursuit of certification for their exploration, extraction, processing or handling and final labelling of raw materials. Applicants' existing set-ups and the comprehensible adequate implementation of CERA 4in1 requirements are audited and compared to the relevant CERA 4in1 criteria with a finding report identifying areas in which protocols do not meet the CERA 4in1 standard, a CERA 4in1 certificate is only issued when these findings are closed.

CERA 4in1 project has been in development since 2015, initially within DMT GROUP, an international independent engineering and consulting company headquartered in Germany, before a formal project consortium, funded by EIT RawMaterials, was formed in 2017. This consortium has been drawn from some of Europe's leading raw materials research institutions and technical service providers, including: Leiden University in Netherlands, University of Leoben in Austria, Luleå University / LTU Business, Research Institutes of Sweden, TÜV NORD CERT GmbH and DMT GROUP.

To see the latest video series for CERA4in1, please visit:

<https://www.cera4in1.org/news-pr/tutorials>

About ICL Iberia

ICL Iberia is the holding company of the ICL group in Spain. They own several companies, including Fuentes Fertilizantes - Grupo Empresarial Agromediterráneo and Everris Iberica Fertilizers, now called ICL Specialty Fertilizers; ICL Iberia Barcelona Port (also called Tramer), and ICL Iberia Súría & Sallent (also known as Iberpotash), which is the only company dedicated to the extraction, processing and marketing of sodium and potassium salts in Spain.

About CONFEDEM

The National Confederation of Mining and Metallurgy Entrepreneurs (CONFEDEM) is a non-profit, confederated, autonomous and independent institution for the coordination of the socio-economic activities of mining, metallurgy and transformation companies and entrepreneurs. mining products in

Spain. It was established in 1978 within the legal framework of Spanish Business Organizations, based on the provisions of Law 19/1977, of April 1, on the regulation of the right of trade union association. CONFEDEM's main purpose is to represent the interests of its members towards the European Union, central and regional governments, local authorities and other bodies. It represents mining-related companies, from raw material extraction to metallurgy, including engineering and consultancy.