

Laboratory Approval Process – European Biochar Certificate (EBC)

Laboratories wanting to gain approval to carry out analyses used for certification purposes will need to undergo a quality control process. The quality and reliability of the analyses realized by a laboratory are verified through participation in a **laboratory ring trial** organized by an external and independent quality assurance organization. DCC Delta Coal Control GmbH, Herten/Germany, is our partner for laboratory approval procedures.

Approval Process

- The laboratory has to sign up for the ring trial with the document 36_307EN.
- Afterwards they will be sent a standardized sample and will be asked to perform the suite of analyses required for certification, see 36_308EN, using the testing methods specified in the EBC guidelines.
- The participating laboratory will then perform the analyses on the samples received as specified in the ring trial.
- The results are then communicated to the ring trial organization body who compares them with baseline results.
- If the results communicated fit with the baseline one within a margin of error, the laboratory will receive approval to realize analyses for EBC certification purposes.
- CSI checks the external accreditation e.g. ISO 17025 and accredits the laboratory to the respective guidelines.
- Costs of the ring trial is charged to the laboratory by DCC Delta Coal Control GmbH
- CSI will charge prices according to the price list.
- If a laboratory cannot carry out all analyses required by the EBC guidelines, they can subcontract analyses for specific parameters, provided the subcontractor has also passed the ring trial. But at least 50% of the analysis must be carried out inhouse.
- An approved laboratory is published on the CSI website as recommended laboratory for biochar analysis according to EBC guidelines.
- The laboratory approval process is repeated yearly.