

CoolisT Knowledge Center

What Is ISCC PLUS — and Why Do Bedding Brands Need to Know It?

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When procurement teams evaluate sustainable foam suppliers, they increasingly encounter a certification called ****ISCC PLUS****. It appears alongside USDA Bio Preferred and Certi PUR-US, but it does something different — and arguably more important for brand risk management. Here's what it is, what it covers, and why it matters to your sourcing decisions.

► ISCC: The Organization Behind the Standard

ISCC stands for the ****International Sustainability and Carbon Certification**** system. Originally developed for the biofuels industry, it has expanded significantly into bio-based materials, chemicals, and plastics — including foam used in consumer products.

****ISCC PLUS**** is the variant designed for bio-based and circular material supply chains outside of energy. It's recognized by regulatory bodies in the EU, US, and other major markets as a credible, third-party verified standard.

► What ISCC PLUS Actually Certifies

ISCC PLUS certification covers three interconnected areas:

****1. Sustainable Feedstock Sourcing****

It verifies that the bio-based raw materials — in CoolisT's case, soybean oil — come from

sustainably managed sources. This means tracing the feedstock back through the supply chain to confirm it doesn't contribute to deforestation, land-use conflict, or unethical agricultural practices.

****2. Mass Balance Chain of Custody****

ISCC PLUS uses a "mass balance" accounting system to track bio-based content through multi-step supply chains. Even when bio-based and conventional materials move through shared infrastructure, the certification ensures that the claimed bio-based volume is accurately accounted for and not double-counted.

****3. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Accounting****

Certified suppliers must calculate and report the GHG emissions associated with their bio-based products. This gives downstream brands the data they need for their own carbon reporting — increasingly required by investors, retailers, and regulatory frameworks.

► Why This Matters for Brand Teams

For sourcing managers and CSR leads, ISCC PLUS solves a specific problem: ****how do you verify a supplier's sustainability claim without auditing the supply chain yourself?****

The answer is third-party certification with a recognized standard. When a supplier holds ISCC PLUS, you can reference that certification in your own sustainability reporting — to retailers, to investors, to internal ESG teams — without taking on the liability of the underlying claim yourself.

It also provides a layer of protection against greenwashing risk. "We use bio-based foam" is a marketing statement. "We use ISCC PLUS-certified bio-based foam from a certified supplier" is a documented, auditable fact.

► Who Recognizes ISCC PLUS?

ISCC PLUS is recognized across a wide range of industries and regulatory contexts:

- European Union — aligned with the Renewable Energy Directive (RED II) and upcoming CSRD reporting requirements
- Major retailers with science-based sustainability targets

- Brand procurement standards in personal care, packaging, textiles, and bedding
- ESG rating frameworks and third-party auditors

► CoolisT's ISCC PLUS Status

CoolisT has held ISCC PLUS certification as part of its core compliance stack since achieving commercial bio-based production. It is one of four certifications we maintain — alongside USDA BioPreferred, CertiPUR-US Bio, and biodegradable certification — specifically to ensure that brand partners can use our materials in their own sustainability disclosures with confidence.

This matters particularly for brands entering the North American and European markets, where sustainability claims are increasingly subject to scrutiny from regulators, retailers, and consumers alike.

► The Practical Takeaway

If you're evaluating foam suppliers on sustainability grounds, ISCC PLUS is a meaningful differentiator — not because the logo looks good on packaging, but because the underlying audit process gives your compliance team something real to work with.

It's the difference between a supplier telling you they're sustainable and being able to prove it.

CoolisT holds ISCC PLUS certification for its soy-based bio-based polyurethane foam. Certified documentation available on request. Learn more at [\[www.coolist.cc\]](http://www.coolist.cc)(<https://www.coolist.cc>)