

# ***NRMCA GREEN-STAR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM***

**Developed by**

**NRMCA  
Operations, Environmental and Safety Committee  
Environmental Task Group**

**Version 1.1  
Published - 21 April 2010**

**Effective - 1 July 2010**



**In collaboration with the US Environmental Protection Agency**



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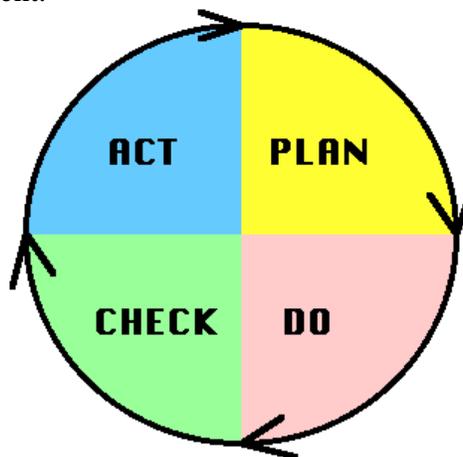
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## 1. Executive Summary

The Green-Star Program has been created to provide the ready mixed concrete industry with an “industry specific” program that focuses on the unique operational characteristics of the industry, and which may serve to fill the gap between industry efforts and other Environmental Management Systems (EMS)-based certification programs (e.g. ISO 14001, etc.). While it is not meant to take the place of such programs, it can serve as an effective alternative to these programs due to its enhanced accessibility to the concrete industry.

The Green-Star Program utilizes a company’s existing EMS based on the Plan-Do-Check-Act model of continual improvement.



The Green-Star Program will recognize those facilities with an Environmental Management System. Some potential Green-Star benefits include:

- Favored Status – Customers favor doing business with organizations that are known to be protective of the environment.
- Increased Profits – Organizations will attain savings through its efforts in pollution prevention and waste reduction.
- Improved Efficiency – Sound, consistent environmental management methods will improve profits.
- Community Goodwill – An Organizations stand on environmental policy and action may be the most important factor in achieving and maintaining the community’s goodwill.
- Reduction of Liability and Risk – An Organization is less apt to have environmental problems by using a pro-active EMS that documents results and has continual improvement.

The NRMCA encourages all companies to take a closer look at the Green-Star Program and its existing Environmental Management System and start the process of becoming Green-Star Certified.

## 2. Definitions

Company Official – A person who has financial and operational responsibility over the management of the concrete plant and for planning and directing the plant environmental personnel and taking corrective action when necessary (i.e., Corporate Officer, Owner, President & Vice-President).

Continual Improvement – Process of enhancing the environmental management system to achieve improvements in overall environmental performance in line with the organization's environmental policy.

EMS – Environmental Management System. Part of the overall management system that includes organizational structure, planning activities, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes and resources for developing, implementing, achieving, reviewing and maintaining the environmental policy.

Environmental Policy – Statement by the organization of its intentions and principles in relation to its overall environmental performance which provides a framework for action and for the setting of its environmental objectives and targets.

Gap Analysis – An establishment of a baseline to identify gaps in the Environmental Management System from which to start the process of continual improvement.

NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Pollution Prevention – The use of processes, practices, materials or products that avoid, reduce or control pollution, which may include recycling, treatment, process changes, control mechanisms, efficient use of resources and material substitution.

Process Water – Any water which comes in direct contact with any raw materials, finished products, byproducts or wastes. This includes any water that is used in the production of concrete.

RCRA – Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976. RCRA established controls for the handling and disposal of solid wastes and hazardous wastes.

SPCC – Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures. A plan required by EPA to manage fuel and liquid chemical stores.

Storm Water – storm water runoff, snow melt runoff and drainage.

Title III of SARA – The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act

### **3. Introduction**

The Green-Star Program of the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association has been designed by the Environmental Task Group of the Operations, Environment and Safety Committee (NRMCA-OES) as a means to support the efforts of the ready mixed concrete industry towards environmental excellence, through the recognition of the use of Environmental Management Systems (EMS) as a tool for environmental benchmarking and continual improvement, and as a means to recognize those who adhere to essential principals of the environmental and sustainability movement of our industry.

Finally, the Green-Star Program will serve as a useful mechanism to recognize those within the industry who have achieved or are actively working towards environmental excellence and/or a demonstrable reduction of environmental impacts, following the principals of sustainability as well as providing a formal opportunity for the recognition of those companies through a rigorous, structured certification process capable of withstanding third-party oversight. The foundation of the Green-Star program was created in collaboration with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Green Highways Partnership and the 10 Guiding Principles of Environmental Stewardship found in Attachment E.

### **4.0 Green-Star Certification Program**

- 4.1 The Green-Star Program is a Certification Program, in that individual concrete plants will be certified by NRMCA as being in conformance with the requirements and standards of the criteria of the Green-Star Program.
- 4.2 The certification will be made on a two-year basis, and will be valid for two years.
- 4.3 The certification will be required to be renewed bi-annually, with the date of certification effective on the application date.
- 4.4 Certifications will be made on a plant-by-plant basis (i.e., concrete facilities will be Green-Star Certified, not concrete companies, company divisions, corporate personnel, etc).
- 4.5 Certification applications and renewals will be made on forms provided by NRMCA or a facsimile thereof.

### **5.0 Green-Star Requirements / Components**

- 5.1 The Key Components of the Green-Star Program are as follows:
  - A. A concrete plant facility must have implemented an EMS that satisfies the EMS criteria of this document.

- B. The EMS must have been in place and have had completed a minimum of one (1) complete cycle of at least 3 (three) months in cycle duration after the initial environmental baseline (Gap Analysis) has been completed (although longer durations, of at least 6 (six) months, are strongly advised).
- C. The following components must be part of the EMS implemented by an applicant concrete plant facility:
  - 1. An environmental policy statement.
  - 2. A program for continual improvement in key environmental areas of concern to the concrete industry, as described in this document.
  - 3. A self-evaluation program to gauge regulatory compliance level and environmental operational status. Use of a regular documented audit program, either by the facility itself or through a third-party auditing program, is preferential.
  - 4. The development of measurable goals (where appropriate) to be used as performance benchmarks against which the performance of the concrete facility will be evaluated.
  - 5. A comprehensive environmental training program, with an emphasis on appropriate NRMCA training courses or equivalent.
  - 6. A demonstration of adequate staffing and management commitment with which to implement and support the EMS at the concrete plant facility.
  - 7. A public outreach program, with which the facility can interact with the community on issues of environmental relevance to a degree deemed appropriate to the facility in question.
- D. Green-Star certification is available for the entire ready mixed concrete industry. Certified plants may be NRMCA members or non-members.
- E. Initial applications for Green-Star certification must be reviewed and certified by an NRMCA-approved Green-Star Auditor, and can be submitted by either the Green-Star Auditor or the facility itself; however no applications will be approved (and no concrete facility can become certified) without prior Green-Star Auditor certification.
- F. Renewal applications for Green-Star Certification must be reviewed and receive a current certification by an NRMCA-approved Green-Star Auditor, and can be submitted by either the Green-Star Auditor or the facility itself; however no applications will be approved (and no concrete facility can become certified) without prior Green-Star Auditor certification.

- G. Green-Star facilities that are part of an acquisition, merger or divestiture will continue to hold Green-Star status until the 2-year cycle ends, at that time the facility will need to reapply for Green-Star status.

## **6.0 NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor Requirements**

In order to become Green-Star certified, all applications for submittal (and the underlying EMS program) for each individual concrete plant facility must receive prior review and certification by an approved NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor, with a current registration from NRMCA, who meets the following criteria.

Accredited Green-Star Auditor status can only be given to individuals, not to facilities or companies. In order to become a registered NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor, each applicant for Auditor accreditation must meet the following criteria:

- 6.1 Application for Green-Star Auditor accreditation must be submitted to NRMCA, and approved. Until NRMCA approves an application for Green-Star Auditor accreditation, no individual can certify any application for certification under the Green-Star program. Renewal applications must be made on a 3 (three) year basis, on forms provided by NRMCA. Approved NRMCA Green-Star auditors will receive an individual number for certification tracking.
- 6.2 Auditors must meet the following criteria:
  - A. Must have completed the NRMCA Environmental Course and passed the certification exam. Equivalent training may be considered by NRMCA on a case-by-case basis but must include the subjects of the NRMCA Environmental Course (Environmental Management Overview, Water Quality Regulations and Permitting, Water Quality Management, SARA/Hazardous Materials, Materials Storage to include SPCC and admixtures, RCRA, Vehicle Repair Shops, Returned Concrete and Solids Management, Total Company Environmental Commitment, Environmental Auditing and EMS Systems, Air Quality Management, Noise and Plant Aesthetics).
  - B. Educational / Work Experience Requirements:
    - 1. Must have a college degree issued by an appropriate degree-granting institute of higher learning in an appropriate field of study (e.g., engineering, construction management, a field of scientific study, etc.). If a potential applicant lacks a college degree, the applicant must have had a minimum of 2 (two) years documented work experience in the field of environmental management in the ready mixed concrete industry to take the place of the college degree. This requirement of 2 (two) years work experience is in addition to the 3 (three) years indicated below (i.e., an applicant

- without a college degree is required to have a total of 5 (five) total years of appropriate work experience in the field of environmental management in the ready mixed concrete industry).
2. Must have a minimum of 3 (three) years direct (and documented) work experience in the field of environmental management in the ready mixed concrete industry. This means that an applicant with a college degree is required to have a total of 3 (three) years work experience, an applicant without a college degree must have a total of 5 (five) years work experience.
- 6.3 Applicants with suitable years of work experience in other concrete manufacturing industries (e.g., the precast industry, concrete block industry), similarly consultants will be considered by NRMCA on a case-by-case basis, and however a majority of their work must be in the construction materials industries.
  - 6.4 Prior to Certification, each applicant for NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor status must participate in an NRMCA Green-Star Auditor Training Session, to be held in a manner, time and location at the discretion of NRMCA staff, during which the basic fundamentals of the Green-Star program will be reviewed, as well as any current developments relevant to the Green-Star program.
  - 6.5 Upon certification, Green-Star Auditors will be required to attend at a least one (1-hour) NRMCA webinar/training course dealing with Green-Star or EMS issues per calendar year and/or participate in the annual Green-Star Auditors Forum to be held at ConcreteWorks starting 1 January 2011. NRMCA Staff will track this annual requirement on a calendar year basis.
    - 6.5.1 Green-Star Auditors failing to meet these criteria will be decertified and will need to re-apply again in the future. A new Green-Star Auditor number will be issued.
  - 6.6 NRMCA reserves the right to reject any applicant for Green-Star Auditor accreditation at its own discretion for failure to possess the necessary qualifications, for engaging in any activity which would be considered to be a contravention of the requirements of an accredited auditor as described herein, or for having provided services in a manner not in accordance with the high professional and ethical standards expected to be possessed by an NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor (as deemed by NRMCA's Environmental Task Group).
  - 6.7 Accredited Green-Star Auditors may be "private" auditors, providing services only to one concrete company in particular, or may be "public" auditors, providing services to whoever may be interested in the retention of said auditor.
  - 6.8 NRMCA does not deny or condone the provision of Accredited Green-Star Auditor services for compensation.

- 6.9 An accurate and complete listing of NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditors, both private and public, will be displayed on NRMCA's website, unless specifically requested otherwise by an Accredited Auditor.
- 6.10 In the event that a person does not meet the criteria of a Green-Star auditor, they will be asked to work on application/experience deficiencies and reapply. A person can formally challenge the NRMCA by taking their case to the NRMCA Environmental Task Group and the NRMCA Executive Committee for Green-Star Auditor certification.

## **7.0 EMS Required Components**

In order to become Green-Star Certified, a concrete facility must have implemented, and utilize a current Environmental Management System (EMS) at the time of certification. While NRMCA has no formal guidelines on what the format of an EMS must be, it must be appropriate to the scale and complexity of the facility in question, and it must address the key EMS components outlined below (at a minimum).

The EMS of a concrete facility under consideration for Green-Star Certification must have been implemented in its entirety for a minimum of one (1) full cycle, of a minimum time period of 3 (three) months after the initial environmental baseline (Gap Analysis) has been completed (but longer durations, of at least 6 (six) months minimum are strongly advised). A Gap Analysis is used to identify any initial regulatory or operational environmental deficiencies, housekeeping issues, creation of metrics for tracking environmental performance, training deficiencies and creation of a public outreach program, with which the facility can interact with the community on issues of environmental relevance. The concept of a "cycle" is that an EMS is a continual, cyclical process (based on a continual "Plan-Do-Check-Act" model), serving to:

- A. Provide a means for planning facility efforts including an evaluation of environmental aspect (activities or processes) and resultant environmental impacts (including the methodology used in determining which aspects/impacts that will be addressed) and the establishment of measurable performance goals at the beginning of the EMS cycle ("Plan");
- B. Implement measures, practices and activities in an effort to meet these goals through the duration of the EMS cycle ("Do");
- C. Evaluate measurable performance levels specific to these identified goals at the end of the EMS cycle ("Check");
- D. Reassess facility activities in light of performance levels achieved, and the re-evaluation of environmental impacts and the establishment of new measurable performance goals to the beginning of the next EMS cycle ("Act").

The EMS does not “end”, but continues immediately on from one EMS cycle to the next. The EMS must be current at the time of certification, and from initial EMS inception should remain in continual usage. Any lapse in EMS utilization may lead to the loss of Green-Star certification (requiring new application upon certification of a current EMS after completion of one cycle).

In order to receive Green-Star Certification, the EMS of a concrete plant facility must be reviewed and certified by an NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor, as having met the minimum conditions and requirements of the EMS as outlined below.

NRMCA will randomly review 5% of the Green-Star facilities to ensure that EMS systems are in place and operating correctly. NRMCA reserves the right to revoke a facility’s Green-Star certification. The plant will be asked to correct deficiencies and re-apply for Green-Star certification. A facility that has been decertified as a Green-Star plant can take their case (challenge) to the NRMCA Environmental Task Group and challenge the Green-Star decertification decision.

**Key EMS Components:**

1. The EMS must include an environmental policy statement developed and implemented by the concrete facility. The environmental policy should demonstrate the facility’s commitment to:
  - a. Continual improvement;
  - b. Pollution prevention; and,
  - c. Compliance with regulations (Federal, State and Local) and routine review.
2. The EMS must include a program for continual improvement in key environmental areas of concern to the concrete industry, as described in this document. This program for continual improvement must begin and end across one EMS cycle, at which point it must begin again.
  - a. This program for continual improvement must include:
    - i. An identification of key environmental aspects (activities or processes, the “cause”), and resultant environmental impacts (the “effects”) including but not limited to:
      1. Water Quality Management (process water discharges, stormwater discharges, water conservation, reuse and recycling)
      2. Air Quality Management (airborne process emissions, airborne fugitive emissions, vehicular emissions)
      3. Hazardous Materials Management (petroleum and chemical use, fuel consumption, petroleum and chemical spill / leak prevention, SPCC)
      4. Solid Material Management (returned concrete management, concrete fines, stone and sand)

5. Community Issues (noise and aesthetic conditions)
6. Sustainability (energy conservation, recycling efforts, pervious concrete)
  - ii. Measures to quantitatively (where appropriate) document current performance levels of the facility's environmental aspects present at the start of the EMS cycle;
  - iii. The identification of measurable goals (where appropriate) designed to provide a greater level of performance at the end of the EMS cycle than at the starting point of the current EMS;
  - iv. A description of a program to attempt to meet those goals by the end of the EMS cycle (i.e., an identification of specific practices and activities that will be attempted to meet the stated goals);
  - v. A means to quantitatively measure (where appropriate) and document performance levels present at the end of the EMS cycle. Should a concrete facility have failed to meet the goals stated at the beginning of the EMS cycle, an evaluation of why the goals were not met, and the setting of new goals is required.
3. A self-evaluation program to gauge regulatory compliance level and environmental operational status. Use of a regular documented audit program, either by the facility itself or through a third-party auditing program, is preferential. While any comprehensive, documented, regular self-evaluation or audit procedure, protocol or documentation is acceptable; it must be deemed satisfactory to the Accredited Auditor. Said self-evaluation or auditing procedure must be:
  - a. Comprehensive (i.e., covering all areas of environmental compliance pertinent and specific to the ready mixed concrete industry),
  - b. Objective (i.e., the self-inspection procedure should be performed by someone lacking a clear, direct subjective interest in the results of the procedure);
  - c. Regular (should occur at least once per EMS cycle),
  - d. And documented. (*Note: The results of this audit program does not need to be reviewed with either the Green-Star Accredited Auditor or NRMCA; however the audit protocol or documentation used, and a signed acknowledgement by a company official that the auditing protocol is being followed as described, must be provided to the Accredited Auditor.*)
4. The development of measurable goals to be used as performance benchmarks against which the performance of the concrete facility will be evaluated, as well as the identification of results obtained with which to measure performance against the identified goals. These goals and results must be documented, on a cycle-per-cycle basis, in the EMS.
5. A comprehensive environmental training program for key personnel, with an emphasis on appropriate NRMCA training courses or equivalent for appropriate personnel. This would include, but not be limited to:

- a. NRMCA Environmental Certification Course
- b. NRMCA Plant Manager's Certification Course
- c. Certified Driver Professional (CDP) Course
- d. Company-specific environmental training, to be conducted on a regular basis
- e. Facility-specific environmental training, to be conducted on a regular basis

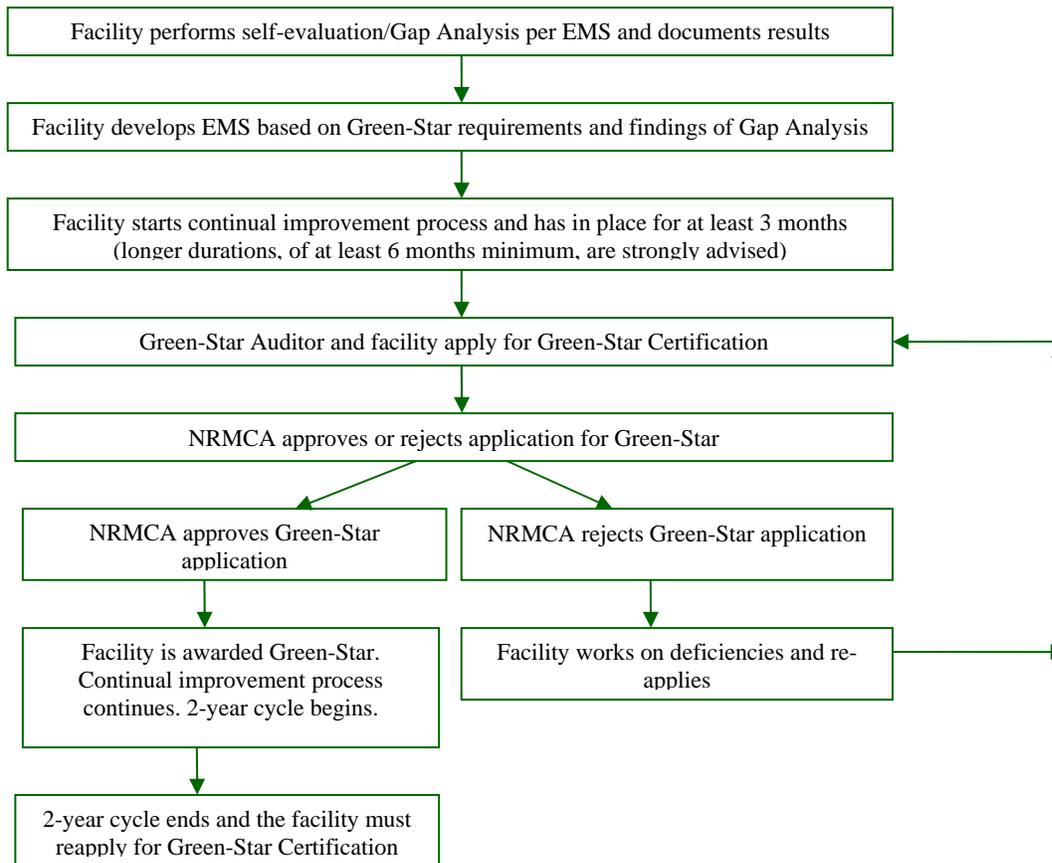
A discussion of measures employed as part of this training to gauge understanding and comprehension should be included (e.g., written testing, oral testing, performance evaluations, etc.).

6. A demonstration of adequate staffing and management commitment with which to implement and support the EMS at the concrete plant facility. This must include an identification of the key personnel directly involved with the EMS program at the concrete plant facility, as well as their specific duties and responsibilities, as well as a statement confirming the commitment (including personnel and funding as appropriate) on the part of corporate management to the implementation and maintenance of the EMS program.
  7. A public outreach program, with which the facility can interact with the community on issues of environmental relevance to a degree deemed appropriate to the facility in question. Examples include newsletters, websites and community day events.
  - 8.\* List your Ready Mixed Concrete Environmental Best Industry Practices not included under section 2 above.
  - 9.\* List any other carbon footprint voluntary reductions (i.e., using biodiesel, using low-sulfur diesel in plant boilers, buying wind and solar power, tree planting, etc.)
- \* = Items 8 and 9 are benchmarking items only and will not factor into Green-Star Certification at this time.

## 8 Document Revision

Revision	Summary of changes made	Issued by
1	Initial issue	Ayers – Feb. 1, 2008
1.1	Add document revision page, formalize plant audit strategy, add language for GS Auditor annual professional development/GS Auditors Forum	Ayers – April 21, 2010

## Attachment A: NRMCA Green-Star Application Flowchart



**Attachment B:**

***NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor Application***

- Initial Application
- Renewal Application. NRMCA Green-Star Auditor Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicants MUST have completed the following requirements:

- NRMCA Training Courses:** Must have completed the NRMCA Environmental Course and passed the certification exam. Equivalent training may be considered by NRMCA on a case-by-case basis.
  - Date & Location of NRMCA Environmental Course:
  - List Date of Green-Star Auditor Webinar:
  - Equivalent Training (Describe in Detail & Include a Copy of Course Syllabus):

- College Degree**—Must have a four-year college degree issued by an appropriate degree-granting institute of higher learning in an appropriate field of study (e.g., engineering, construction management, a field of scientific study, etc.). If a potential applicant lacks a college degree, the applicant must have had a minimum of 2 (two) years documented work experience in the field of environmental management in the ready mixed concrete industry to take the place of the college degree. This requirement of 2 years work experience is in addition to the 3 (three) years indicated below (i.e., an applicant without a college degree is required to have a total of 5 (five) total years of appropriate work experience in the field of environmental management in the ready mixed concrete industry). This means that an applicant with a college degree is required to have a total of 3 years work experience, an applicant without a college degree must have a total of 5 years work experience).

College Degree: College/ University: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_



*A copy of your transcript, diploma, or graduation certificate indicating receipt of a 4-year degree in an appropriate field must accompany this application.*

**☐ Work Experience:** Either 3 (three) years work experience in the field of environmental management in the ready mixed concrete industry (for those with an appropriate college degree as indicated above), or a 5 (five) years work experience in the field of environmental management in the ready mixed concrete industry (for those lacking an appropriate college degree) is required.

**Applicants with suitable years of work experience in other concrete manufacturing industries (e.g., the precast industry, concrete block industry), similarly consultants will be considered by NRMCA on a case-by-case basis, and however a majority of their work must be in the construction materials industries.**

Describe in detail – 3 years for those with a college degree, and 5 years for those lacking a college degree - including companies worked for, job title, dates, duties and responsibilities:

*I hereby certify that I understand the requirements for the NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor and that I meet said requirements. I understand that I will carry out the duties and responsibilities of an NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor in a manner consistent with high professional and ethical standards. I further understand that any actions related to the NRMCA Green-Star program that are deemed by NRMCA to be contrary to the high professional and ethical standards expected of a Accredited Green-Star Auditor may result in the automatic revocation of my NRMCA Green-Star Auditor accreditation.*

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attachment C:**

***NRMCA Green-Star Certification Application***

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

- Initial Application
- Renewal Application

***THIS APPLICATION HAS BEEN SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE FOLLOWING NRMCA MEMBER FACILITY:***

Applicant Facility: \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Facility Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Website: \_\_\_\_\_

***THIS APPLICATION HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE FOLLOWING NRMCA ACCREDITED GREEN-STAR AUDITOR:***

NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor: \_\_\_\_\_  
NRMCA Green Star Auditor Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**I, as an NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor, have visited this facility and confirm it meets all of the following Green-Star requirements:**

- This facility is an NRMCA member facility in good standing, as proven by inspection of current year membership confirmation. **(do not check for non-NRMCA members)**
- This facility has an EMS that contains all of the following components (provide description where indicated):
  - The EMS must include an environmental policy statement that includes a documented policy regarding continual improvement, pollution prevention, and compliance with all applicable environmental regulations and rules.
  - The EMS must include a program for continual improvement in key environmental areas of concern to the concrete industry, as described in this document. This program for continual improvement must begin and end across one EMS cycle, at which point it must

begin again. This program for continual improvement must include an identification of key environmental aspects and impacts, including, but not limited to:

- Water Quality Management (process water discharges, stormwater discharges, water conservation, reuse and recycling)
  - Air Quality Management (airborne process emissions, airborne fugitive emissions, vehicular emissions)
  - Hazardous Materials Management (petroleum and chemical use, fuel consumption, petroleum and chemical spill / leak prevention, SPCC)
  - Solid Material Management (returned concrete management, concrete fines, stone and sand)
  - Community Issues (noise and aesthetic conditions)
  - Sustainability (energy conservation, recycling efforts, pervious concrete).
- Describe the program for continual improvement as presented in the EMS, including length of each cycle, and dates of cycles completed as of the date of the application (MUST be a minimum of one cycle of 3 months after the initial environmental baseline (Gap Analysis) has been completed (although longer durations, of at least 6 months, are strongly advised).:
- Measures to document current performance levels present at the start of the EMS cycle (quantitatively where appropriate). Describe:
- The identification of measurable goals (where appropriate) designed to provide a greater level of performance at the end of the EMS cycle than at present; Describe:
- A description of a program to meet those goals by the end of the EMS cycle (i.e., an identification of specific practices and activities that will be attempted to meet the stated goals); Describe:
- A means to measure and document performance levels present at the end of the EMS cycle, and a process to identify the results obtained and whether the stated goals have or have not been met (and if not, an attempt to explain why the goals were not met). Describe:
- A self-evaluation program to gauge regulatory compliance level and environmental operational status. Use of a regular documented audit program, either by the facility itself or through a third-party auditing program, is preferential. While any comprehensive, documented, regular self-evaluation or audit procedure, protocol or documentation is acceptable; it must be deemed satisfactory to the Accredited Auditor. Said self-evaluation or auditing procedure must be comprehensive, regular, and documented.  
Describe Self-Evaluation Program:
- A comprehensive environmental training program for key personnel, with an emphasis on appropriate NRMCA training courses or equivalent for appropriate personnel. This would include, but not be limited to:
- NRMCA Environmental Certification Course
  - NRMCA Plant Manager's Certification Course
  - Certified Driver Professional (CDP) Course
  - Company-specific environmental training, to be conducted on a regular basis
  - Facility-specific environmental training, to be conducted on a regular basis

- A discussion of measures employed as part of this training to gauge understanding and comprehension should be included (e.g., written testing, oral testing, performance evaluations, etc.).

Describe the facilities environmental training program. Describe:

- A demonstration of adequate staffing and management commitment with which to implement and support the EMS at the concrete plant facility. This must include an identification of the key personnel directly involved with the EMS program at the concrete plant facility, as well as their specific duties and responsibilities, as well as a statement confirming the commitment (including personnel and funding as appropriate) on the part of corporate management to the implementation and maintenance of the EMS program.

Describe the facilities program for staffing and management commitment:

- A public outreach program, with which the facility can interact with the community on issues of environmental relevance to a degree deemed appropriate to the facility in question.
- \*List of Ready Mixed Concrete Environmental Best Industry Practices that have not been described elsewhere.
- \*List of any other carbon footprint voluntary reductions (i.e., using biodiesel, using low-sulfur diesel in plant boilers, buying wind and solar power, tree planting, etc.)

\* = **Benchmarking items only and will not factor into Green-Star Certification at this time.**

**Certifications:**

***Company Official***

On behalf of the applicant facility, and as a company representative of the applicant facility company, I hereby certify that the statements made in this application are true, accurate and complete, and that this facility meets the requirements for NRMCA Green-Star Certification. This facility will be maintained in conformance to the requirements of the NRMCA Green-Star Certification for the duration that it is valid.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

***NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor***

As the NRMCA Accredited Green-Star Auditor who has reviewed the requirements of the Green-Star program and the EMS program of the applicant facility, I hereby certify that the statements made in this application are true, accurate and complete, and that this facility meets the requirements for NRMCA Green-Star Certification.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NRMCA Green-Star Auditor Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_





***Certificate of Conformance for Ready Mixed Concrete  
Facilities***

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

***South Avenue Plant, Anywhere, CO***

***ABC Ready Mixed Concrete Company, Inc.***

Has been audited and the Environmental Management System has been reviewed by the undersigned accredited Green-Star auditor for conformance with the requirements of the *NRMCA Green-Star* program.



*William C. Norman*

Signature of Accredited NRMCA Green-Star Auditor

***January 05, 2009***

Certification Date

***January 05, 2011***

Certification Expiration

This company will maintain these facilities in compliance with the *NRMCA Green-Star* requirements and will correct promptly any deficiencies which develop.

***R.M. Producer***

Signature of Company Official

***President***

Title of Company Official

**NOTICE:** The NRMCA Green-Star certification indicates that an Environmental Management System for the concrete facility is in place and that it satisfactorily meets the criteria for a means for continual improvement of environmental best management practices. This certificate is issued by the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association on verification that the production facility conforms to the requirements of the NRMCA Green-Star program. The reproduction or misuse of this certificate may result in legal action.



## Attachment E: 10 Guiding Principles of Environmental Stewardship<sup>1</sup>

1. Top Management Commitment: Make top management commitments to improve environmental performance through policies and programs.
2. Compliance Assurance: Implement environmental auditing, assessment and improvement programs to identify and correct current and potential compliance problems and work to improve overall environmental performance.
3. Enabling Systems: Develop and foster implementation of environmental management systems (EMS) which provide a framework for ensuring day-to-day environmental compliance.
4. Measurement and Continual Improvement: Develop measures of environmental performance to demonstrate adherence to these Principles. Periodically assess the programs toward meeting the organizations environmental goals and tie results to actions in improving environmental performance.
5. Public Communications: Voluntarily make available to the public, information on the organizations environmental performance relative to these Principles (i.e., website).
6. Industry Leadership: Work with other companies to improve industry wide environmental compliance and overall environmental performance.
7. Community Environmental Stewardship: Promote and give support to environmental stewardship and sustainable development in the community in which the facility resides.
8. Awareness & Outreach: Work cooperatively to ensure that increased awareness is achieved through proactive outreach and community initiatives (i.e., website).
9. Training and Development: Key environmental training requirements are identified and programs developed and supported by top management.
10. Research and Demonstration: Conduct development initiatives and solutions that drive environmental performance excellence and share lessons learned. The Ready Mixed Concrete Research and Education Foundation will support environmental initiatives.

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<sup>1</sup> 10 Guiding Principles above are summarized only