

Independent Assurance Statement to Stock Spirits Group Plc

ERM Certification and Verification Services (ERM CVS) was engaged by Stock Spirits Group plc (Stock Spirits) to provide limited assurance in relation to the information set out below and presented in the 2020 Stock Spirits' Annual Report.

Engagement Summary	
Scope:	Whether the data for Financial Year (FY)2020 (01/10/2019 – 30/09/2020) for the following indicators are fairly presented, in all material respects, in accordance with the reporting criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions [in CO₂e] as well as an intensity indicator [CO₂e /litre of produced finished product].• Total Energy [GJ] and % of total energy use and GHG emissions from UK operations
Reporting Criteria:	WBCSD/WRI Greenhouse Gas protocol and UK Defra & IEA location-based emission factors.
Assurance Standard:	ERM CVS' assurance methodology based on the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE 3000) Assurance Engagements other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information.
Assurance Level:	Limited assurance.
Respective Responsibilities:	Stock Spirits is responsible for preparing the 2020 GHG emission data and its presentation in its external reporting, including the 2020 Annual Report. ERM CVS's responsibility is to provide a conclusion on the agreed scope based on the assurance activities as described below and exercising our professional judgement.

Our conclusion

Based on our activities, nothing has come to our attention to indicate that the FY2020 data for the selected indicators, as defined above and listed below, are not fairly presented, in all material respects, with the reporting criteria.

- 2020 Total Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions: 40,627 tonnes CO₂e
- 2020 GHG intensity: 332 grams CO₂e per litre of finished goods produced
- 2020 Total Energy: 442,917 GJ
- 0.04% Total energy use from UK operations and 0.03% Total CO₂e emissions from UK operations

Our assurance activities

A team of assurance, GHG and sustainability professionals undertook the following activities:

- An analytical review and trend analysis of the data from all sites and a check on the completeness and accuracy of the corporate data consolidation.
- A virtual visit to the Lublin bottling plant in Poland and the Baltic Distillery in Germany to understand any changes in the business, operations, production levels and data responsibilities that may affect the FY 2020 data, as well as progress regarding ERM CVS' recommendations from our visits last year. We also interviewed staff responsible for the data and reviewed samples of underlying source data for accuracy and completeness.
- A review of the choice and application of emission factors and the reasonableness of estimates and assumptions.
- A review of the presentation of information relevant to the scope of our work in the Report to ensure consistency with our findings.

The limitations of our engagement

The reliability of the assured data is subject to inherent uncertainties, given the available methods for determining, calculating or estimating the underlying information. It is important to understand our assurance conclusion in this context. The procedures performed in obtaining limited assurance (review) are less extensive than those used for reasonable assurance (audit). We believe the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our conclusion.

Force Majeure – COVID-19

During our assurance engagement, travel restrictions were imposed following the outbreak of COVID-19. As a result of these we were unable to carry out our assurance activities as originally planned and agreed with Stock Spirits Plc. We agreed to replace in person head office and site visits with 'virtual' visits via conference and video calls for this year's assurance engagement.



Jennifer Iansen-Rogers
Head of Corporate Assurance
27th November 2020
ERM Certification and Verification Services, London
www.ermcvs.com; email: post@ermcvs.com

ERM CVS
Informed Assured

ERM CVS is a member of the ERM Group. The work that ERM CVS conducts for clients is solely related to independent assurance activities and auditor training. Our processes are designed and implemented to ensure that the work we undertake with clients is free from bias and conflict of interest. ERM CVS and the staff that have undertaken work on this assurance exercise provide no consultancy related services to Stock Spirits Group plc in any respect.