



Self Declaration:

CSA Standards Annual Conferences 2006-2009

November 11, 2009

CSA Standards
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Submitted to:

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1. Summary

CSA Standards holds one annual conference for its members located at various venues throughout Canada. Over the past four years CSA has committed to offsetting the emissions resulting from the travel to and from these annual gatherings. 2006 marked the first year at implementing this clean initiative and each successive year calculations have been completed to determine the approximate volume of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from travel to this event.

As with any program, data collection of travel patterns, methods of calculation and subsequent greenhouse gas emission factors have improved through the preceding years. The natural progression of this initiative has led to the implementation of significant data collection procedures regarding member travel of those in attendance. This information is now collected from all participants during registration. A data base and custom built calculation tool is then used to compile the data and conduct emissions estimations. All resulting emission estimates are then fully offset using verified emission offsets publically listed on the CSA GHG CleanProjects registry.

Due to the small size of this carbon footprint, and the voluntary nature of this initiative, CSA has decided to take the self-declaration route under the GHG CleanStart Registry, in lieu of third party verification. The ability to self-declare accuracy of calculations and validity of the carbon footprint, instead of third party verification, is a common method taken with small voluntary initiatives as to reduce overall cost of the process while still ensuring rigorous data collection and calculation procedures.

This self declaration has been made by the CSA climate change division and further information may be requested from any member of the following team:

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2. Objectives, criteria and scope of the self declaration

Objectives

The objective of this self declaration is to support the findings of the emission reduction calculations conducted for the four previous Annual Conferences.

To self declare the assertions of emissions from CSA Group's annual conference and committee meetings travel inventory, covering all attendee travel to the four events from 2006-2009. The emissions from these four event's travel were internally verified to be 734 tonnes CO₂e collectively; as calculated for each of the four years shown below.

Year	Location	Total Travel Emissions (t CO ₂ e)
2006	Huntsville, Ont.	130.97
2007	Halifax, NS	235.45
2008	Calgary, Ab.	246.10
2009	Gatineau, Que.	120.67

Note that this is a self declaration and there is no level of assurance provided. Although a level of assurance is not generated during a self declaration; CSA has taken all necessary steps to ensure the highest level of review be conducted in accordance with standard verification procedures including following the general principles of ISO 14064-3. This declaration will result in the issuance of a Letter of Participation as opposed to a full Certificate of Carbon Neutrality from the Registry.

Although a Carbon Neutral certificate will not be obtained as a result of this self declaration route, CSA believes that the letter of Participation, along with the open and transparent documentation publically available on GHG CleanStart™, is sufficient to support our open and transparent quantification methods. It is our overall goal to ensure GHG calculations, assertions and findings are presented fairly, publically, and in conformance with good practise. These critical transparency components of GHG quantification facilitate public review and instil confidence in the assertions made within this document regarding the offsetting of emissions from CSA's Annual Conferences.

Criteria

This self declaration is consistent with the reporting elements and principles of the ISO 14064-3 standard entitled: *Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions (2006)*.

Further, this self declaration is consistent with the reporting elements and principles of the ISO 14021-00 standard entitled: *Environmental labels and declarations- Self-declared environmental claims (2000)*.

Scope

The scope of this self declaration includes a through review of the GHG quantification for the annual conferences held in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009.

As stated in the GHG report, the parameters of this event are as follows:

- Operational boundaries include the emissions resulting from travel to and from the events (no organizational boundary required as this was not an organizational inventory).
- The GHG report was constructed following the principles of relevance, transparency, consistency, completeness and accuracy, using updated emission factors and electronic data to calculate resulting emissions.
- The only GHG sources were scope 3 travel emissions (automobile, train and plane).
- The quantification and reports cover the period of each 3 day event over 4 years from 2006-2009.

All quantification procedures were conducted the year following the dated conference. Emission factors, calculation tools and data collection have all been updated throughout the years to ensure the most accurate methods of quantification and data collection are conducted. Further information on quantification can be found with the GHG Report, available on GHG CleanStart™ Registry (http://www.ghgregistries.ca/cleanstart/listings_e.cfm).

Materiality

CSA's internal quality assurance and verification procedures have been applied to ensure the GHG report is free of material misstatements and it is an appropriate representation of the data and GHG information available at the time of quantification. Our own internal procedures have determined the GHG assertion is presented fairly in conformance with relevant requirements of the ISO 14064-1 GHG standard.

3. Verification Plan

General

As this is a self declaration, no sampling plan under ISO 14064-3 was developed.

The verification plan included internal peer reviews of data collection and GHG calculation. All of the calculations have been reviewed by several members of the CSA Climate Change office at the time of calculation including environmental engineers and chemists.

CSA Climate Change staff have reviewed the transparency and accuracy of the calculation methods used in this GHG inventory based on the data and factors available at time of quantification. All updates and amendments to the calculation tools have been made to increase transparency and base findings on the revised data collection measures. Amendments to the calculation procedures were completed to reflect increased reliability on travel records and emission factors becoming available after 2006. All changes have been approved by the Climate Change Division as improvements to the quantification process over that of 2006 methods.

4. Assessment of the GHG information system and its controls

GHG Information System and Its Controls

The assessment of the GHG information system and its controls has been declared acceptable for a self declaration with regards to:

- Selection and management of the GHG data and information
- Processes for collecting, processing, consolidating and reporting GHG data and information
- Systems and processes that ensure the accuracy and protection of the GHG data and information

GHG Data and Information Assessment

The following GHG assertions have been internally verified:

2006: **130.97 tonnes CO₂e** – 131 offsets have been purchased and retired

2007: **235.45 tonnes CO₂e** – 218 offsets have been purchased and retired

2008: **246.10 tonnes CO₂e** – 247 offsets will be purchased and retired

2009: **120.67 tonnes CO₂e** – 121 offsets will be purchased and retired

Total: 733.19 tonnes CO₂ e - 734 offsets will be purchased and retired in total

These were calculated based on updated and relevant emission factors in combination with calculated distances traveled to attend each event, for each attendee. Further information regarding the purchase and retirement of offsets can be found within the GHG Carbon Neutral Reports available on the GHG CleanStart™ Registry. These documents specifically outline which verified emission offsets were purchased for the CSA Annual Conference for the years of 2006-2009. These documents are available at the following link:

http://www.ghgregistries.ca/cleanstart/listings_e.cfm

GHG Assertion Evaluation

CSA has determined that the evidence collected in the assessments of controls, GHG data and information, and applicable GHG programme criteria is sufficient and supports the GHG assertion.

5. Self Declaration

In our opinion; based on internal peer review, the GHG emissions assertions presented in the annual conferences and committee meetings travel for the four events held from 2006-2009 are fairly presented and in accordance with relevant criteria. Therefore, the four CSA GHG quantification reports, as available on GHG CleanStart™ Registry, covering the period from 2006 – 2009:

- Are free of Material misstatements and are an appropriate representation of the data and GHG information
- Have been prepared in conformance with the ISO 14064-1 standard: Specification with Guidance at the Organization Level for Quantification and Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Removals
- Are considered to have a low degree of uncertainty

6. Signatures

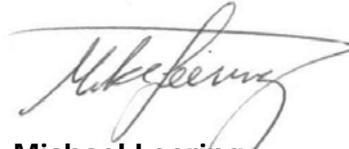


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