

# How to get the CRC Early Action Metric with CEMARS certification



## What is the CEMARS standard?

CEMARS (Certified Emissions Measurement And Reduction Scheme) requires an organisation to achieve a reduction in emissions within 5 years of the base year.

The reduction in emissions must be either:

- An absolute reduction over Scope 1 and 2; or
- A relative reduction over Scope 1, 2 and 3

For example, if an organisation registers to achieve CEMARS for the period January 2008 to December 2008, this sets the base year as 2008. By 2013, the organisation must have demonstrated either an absolute or relative reduction in emissions.

An organisation must renew annually to CEMARS.

The certification is valid for 16 months from the end of the inventory period that was certified.

Organisations that successfully achieve CEMARS are certified to ISO14064 Part 1.

## What do I have to measure?

To achieve CEMARS an organisation must measure all Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions as well as four mandatory Scope 3 emissions sources (Business travel, Freight, Waste to landfill and Water and wastewater use).

## How do I get the Early Action Metric?

CEMARS has been approved by the Environment Agency as a Carbon Trust Standard Equivalent in the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme.

To use CEMARS as an Early Action Metric in the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme an organisation must have three years worth of emissions inventory certified.

An organisation must demonstrate either:

- An absolute reduction over Scope 1 and 2; or
- A relative carbon reduction over Scope 1 and 2 of at least 2.5% per year

## What metric can be used to demonstrate intensity reduction?

CEMARS standard requires an organisation to measure, report and demonstrate a reduction relative to turnover, and adjusted for inflation, within five years.

For organisations affected by the CRC, the DECC rules apply:

*If the reduction is judged relative to turnover, the turnover should be normalised for inflation. Other output benchmarks can be used, such as revenue expenditure. The use of output benchmarks must be consistent with the CTS rules.*

Examples of other alternate metrics to measure a relative reduction include:

- Industrial and manufacturing: tonne, kilogram, cubic metres, litre of product, unit numbers of product
- Basic materials: tonne product
- Services, Public Sector: FTE
- Property company: square metres of property let
- Transport: Passenger kilometres or journeys

An organisation must specify in their CEMARS application whether they are affected by the CRC and the appropriate relative metric for their business.

## What level of data estimation is possible?

A degree of estimation within the emissions inventory data may be acceptable, provided the overall inventory data quality is ranked at least "good", as defined by the CEMARS data quality tool.

If an organisation has an incomplete data set, this needs to be raised during application.