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**Assured Steel Certification**

## CARES Policy Statement

The policy of CARES is to operate in complete accordance with the principles and criteria of the Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS), the Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand (JAS-ANZ), the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS), the Singapore Accreditation Council (SAC)\* and the requirements of the relevant conformity assessment standard, ISO/IEC 17065 and ISO/IEC 17021-1. CARES set objectives for all key functions and reviews performance at regular intervals to identify areas for continual improvement.

CARES support the principles of co-operation and co-ordination with organisations involved with International Certification. This includes participation in those groups established by the European Commission for that purpose, e.g. advisory and sector groups of notified bodies and the European Organisation for Technical Approvals (EOTA). CARES contribute to the activities of professional bodies, trade associations and standards making bodies, both national and international. These active involvements are undertaken to ensure the provision of maximum added value to both the users of the products with which CARES is associated and its direct clients.

CARES are committed to the principles of sustainable development, including inclusivity, integrity and transparency, and shall actively promote those principles through the effective implementation of the CARES sustainable constructional steel scheme which is operated in accordance with BS 8902. Through proactive and frequent stakeholder engagement the Scheme has been specifically developed for the reinforcing steel supply chain using the most relevant performance indicators which shall be publicly reported at least annually. There shall be a full re-appraisal at least every two years in consultation with stakeholders to assess the level of performance by the Scheme against the sustainable development principles. CARES shall ensure that the Scheme steadily improves this level of performance through periodic review of the sustainability principles, responsible sourcing issues, objectives, targets and operational assessment schedules. The overall intent of this is that accredited certification of the reinforcing steel supply chain will deliver an improvement in sustainable development. CARES will endeavour to promote the fulfilment of this intent nationally and internationally.

CARES fully apply the stringent requirements necessary for organisations carrying out third party certification and accept the value of them to the operation of this organisation. This Management system has been established to ensure CARES meets those requirements.

**Lee Brankley | CEO**

\*SAC Criteria includes: SAC 01, SAC 02, SAC CT 01, SAC CT22 and SAC CT24.

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UK Certification Authority for Reinforcing Steels, company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No. 1762448, registered office as above. The use of the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) accreditation mark indicates accreditation in respect of those activities covered by the accreditation certificate number 0002.

