



# DNV

WHEN TRUST MATTERS

## Independent Limited Assurance Report

to the Directors of DSM Nutritional Products B.V.

DNV Business Assurance Services B.V. (“DNV”, “us” or “we”) were engaged by DSM Nutritional Products AG (“DSM”) to provide limited assurance on the robustness of the methodology within DSM’s Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) system “Sustell”, for Selected Information, in accordance with the requirements of the International Life Cycle Assessment Standards ISO 14040:2006 and ISO 14044:2006.



**Our Conclusion:** Based on the procedures we have performed and the evidence we have obtained, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the LCA methodology for Selected Information within Sustell has not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of ISO 14040:2006 and ISO 14044:2006.

This conclusion relates only to the Selected Information, and is to be read in the context of this Independent Limited Assurance Report, in particular the inherent limitations explained overleaf.

Our observations and areas for improvement will be raised in a separate report to DSM’s Management. Selected observations are provided below. These observations do not affect our conclusion set out above.

- We recommend that DSM considers developing a Data Quality Rating (DQR) system and uncertainty module, in line with ISO 14044 requirements. This would offer DSM’s clients a clear and fair representation of the limits (in terms of data quality) of specific LCA studies, and identify opportunities to further improve the quality of input data provided by DSM’s clients for Sustell.
- We recommend including the impacts of slaughtering of animals within the LCA for completeness.

### Selected information

The scope and boundary of our work is restricted to a review of the methodology within DSM’s LCA system Sustell for the Key Performance Indicators (the “Selected Information”), listed below:

- Climate change
- Climate Change – Land use and transformation
- Climate Change – Biogenic
- Resource use – Minerals and Metals
- Resource use – Energy carriers
- Water scarcity
- Land use
- Ecotoxicity
- Eutrophication (Terrestrial, marine and freshwater)
- Acidification (terrestrial and freshwater)
- Cancer – human health effect
- Non-cancer human health effect
- Respiratory inorganics/ Particulate matter formation
- Photochemical ozone formation
- Ionising radiation
- Ozone depletion

To assess the robustness of the methodology within Sustell for the Selected Information, we reviewed DSM’s Sustell system against the requirements of ISO 14040:2006 and ISO 14044:2006. We have not performed any work, and do not express any conclusion, on any other information that may be published or available on DSM’s website.

### Our competence, independence and quality control

DNV established policies and procedures are designed to ensure that DNV, its personnel and, where applicable, others are subject to independence requirements (including personnel of other entities of DNV) and maintain independence where required by relevant ethical requirements. This engagement work was carried out by an independent team of sustainability assurance professionals. DNV holds other audit and assurance contracts with DSM, none of which conflict with the scope of this work. Our multi-disciplinary team consisted of professionals with a combination of environmental, LCA and sustainability assurance experience.

## Standard and level of assurance

We performed a **limited** assurance engagement in accordance with the requirements of the International Life Cycle Assessment Standards ISO 14040:2006 and ISO 14044:2006. These standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the assurance engagement to obtain limited assurance.

DNV applies its own management standards and compliance policies for quality control, in accordance with ISO/IEC 17021:2015 - Conformity Assessment Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems, and accordingly maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

The procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for, a reasonable assurance engagement; and the level of assurance obtained is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed. We planned and performed our work to obtain the evidence we considered sufficient to provide a basis for our opinion, so that the risk of this conclusion being in error is reduced but not reduced to very low.

## Basis of our conclusion

We are required to plan and perform our work in order to consider the risk of material misstatement of the Selected Information; our work included, but was not restricted to:

- Reviewing that the methods used to carry out the LCA studies were consistent with ISO 14044 and ISO 14040 requirements;
- Reviewing that the methods used to carry out the LCA studies were scientifically and technically valid;
- Ascertaining that the database(s) used were appropriate and reasonable in relation to the overall goal of the studies;
- Confirming that the limitations of the model and the methodology were identified and assessed;
- Assessing that the LCA methodology documentation was transparent and consistent.
- Reviewing the methodological structure in terms of general LCA methods and relation with the specific animal production systems-related methodological documents;
- Reviewing the LCA system, including the review of a case-study with application of the methodology to model the effects of feed additives on the environmental footprint of animal production;
- Reviewing the data management processes;
- Reviewing a fully implemented client project, from background processes for data gathering and modelling to final outcomes; and
- Performing limited substantive testing on a selective basis of the Selected Information to check that methodology was appropriately robust.

## DNV Business Assurance B.V.

Wassenaar, Netherlands  
1st November 2021

## Inherent limitations

All assurance engagements are subject to inherent limitations as selective testing (sampling) may not detect errors, fraud or other irregularities. Non-financial data may be subject to greater inherent uncertainty than financial data, given the nature and methods used for calculating, estimating and determining such data. The selection of different, but acceptable, measurement techniques may result in different quantifications between different entities. Our assurance relies on the premise that the data and information provided to us by DSM have been provided in good faith. DNV expressly disclaims any liability or co-responsibility for any decision a person or an entity may make based on this Independent Limited Assurance Report.

## Responsibilities of the Directors of DSM and DNV

The Directors of DSM have sole responsibility for:

- Preparing and presenting the Selected information in accordance with the ISO 14040 and ISO 14044 requirements;
- Designing, implementing and maintaining effective internal controls over the information and data, resulting in the preparation of the Selected Information that is free from material misstatements;
- Contents and statements contained within the Sustell system.

Our responsibility is to plan and perform our work to obtain limited assurance on whether the methodology that sits behind the Selected Information in Sustell has been prepared in accordance with the ISO 14040:2006 and ISO 14044:2006 requirements and to report to DSM in the form of an independent limited assurance conclusion, based on the work performed and the evidence obtained. We have not been responsible for preparing any information that may be found within Sustell.

## DNV Business Assurance

DNV Business Assurance B.V. is part of DNV – Business Assurance, a global provider of certification, verification, assessment and training services, helping customers to build sustainable business performance.