

Independent Assurance Statement

bremenports GmbH & Co. KG

Objective of the Engagement

bremenports GmbH & Co. KG (bremenports) has engaged TÜV NORD to provide independent assurance over bremenports’s Sustainability Report 2017 & 2018 (herein referred to as “the report”). The objective of the engagement was to provide assurance regarding the report’s adherence to the requirements of the Global Reporting Initiative’s Sustainability Reporting Standards (GRI SRS), AccountAbility Principles as well as reliability and objectivity of the reported information. The report has been declared to comply with the “in accordance” Core Option of the GRI SRS and covers all of bremenport’s business activities and locations.

Scope of Work

Independent assurance within the reporting period comprised of:

- Reliability of reported information
- Adherence to the GRI SRS Reporting Principles
- Adherence to the requirements according to GRI SRS “in accordance” – Core Option (for those indicators deemed material)
- Adherence to the AccountAbility Principles

The engagement has been performed using a Type-2 Engagement with a moderate level of assurance in accordance with the AA1000AS:2008 audit standard and covered the entire report.

Besides all relevant General Disclosures, the verification covered the following material topic-specific disclosures as per GRI SRS:

201-2	203-1	203-2	205-1	205-2	205-3
304-1	304-2	304-3	305-1	305-2	305-3
305-5	305-7	306-2			
401-1	401-2	401-3	403-1	403-2	403-4
404-1	405-1	406-1	413-1	413-2	419-1

Limitations and exclusions

Excluded from the scope of work are the following:

- Statements regarding the company positioning
- Information not related to the defined reporting period
- Specific information of the suppliers
- Financial data

An engagement with a moderate level of assurance relies on risk-based sampling for assurance of the reported information. It also relies on bremenport’s internal data collection processes. Hence, based on the mentioned limitations and exclusions, this statement should not be relied upon to detect all misstatements or errors that may exist.

Responsibilities

The sole responsibility for the content and presentation of the report lies with bremenports.

TÜV NORD did not, in any way, contribute to the preparation of the report and its responsibilities are limited to:

- Assurance of the report content using a Type-2 Engagement with a moderate level of assurance according to Assurance Standard AA1000AS:2008
- Forming of an independent assurance opinion
- Reporting the conclusions and recommendations to management

Methodology and summary of work performed

The assurance engagement included, but was not limited to:

- Assessment of bremenports's internal systems for data collection and aggregation of report content regarding functionality, accuracy, appropriateness, sources of error and limitations
- Interviews of relevant personnel from various levels throughout the organisation in Bremerhaven
- Identification of relevant samples for the assurance of report content
- Performance of various verification procedures appropriate to the identified samples
- Assessment of the methodology and results of stakeholder- and materiality-analysis to identify report content
- Evaluation of the reported information against the requirements of the GRI SRS

Conclusion

Based on our independent assurance engagement, nothing came to our attention to suggest that:

- The reported information within the report for the financial years 2017 & 2018, in all material aspects, has not been prepared in accordance with the requirements of GRI SRS
- the reported information is not fairly stated
- AccountAbility principles have not been adhered to

Recommendations

Based on our work performed, several recommendations for improving the report could be identified. These recommendations are presented in a separate report to the management of bremenports.

Statement of Independence, Impartiality and Competence

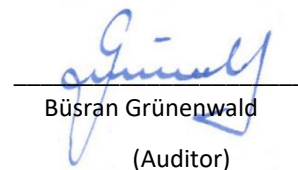
TÜV NORD is an independent assurance provider, whose employees have extensive experience in the assessment and assurance of sustainability information and associated processes and systems for data collection. TÜV NORD operates a certified Quality Management System according to ISO 9001:2008, ensuring and actively managing the quality of all processes related to appointment of auditors and compilation of assurance teams.

Members of the assurance team are not involved in any other projects or activities that would cause a conflict of interest with regard to the assurance engagement.

Essen, 25.03.2020



Andreas Backs
(Lead Auditor)



Büsran Grünenwald
(Auditor)