

Statement of Independence

Kiwa is an independent, highly qualified firm that is specialised in certification. This core activity is supported by inspections, test activities, technological development, and training. Based on the three foundations of quality, safety and sustainability, Kiwa puts its expertise to use in a wide range of sectors, with an emphasis on water, energy, the construction industry, infrastructure, automotive & transport, agro business, feed & food, and healthcare. Our clients can be found in the production and process industry but also include public and private utilities and local governments. Having offices in 7 countries, Kiwa is globally active in more than 450 countries.

Kiwa is strictly independent and does not engage in any production, trading, or other activities that might jeopardise its independence. Our decisions in the field of certification, audits and inspections are not influenced by any external actions.

This is an essential principle for Kiwa. The Kiwa management as well as its staff fully realise the importance of maintaining impartiality in order to be able to take the proper decisions regarding certification; as a result, both the client's efforts and the significance of the certificate itself are highly valued. For this reason there are not only internal control procedures in place that allow taking independent decisions as regards awarding the certificates, but do we also periodically analyse our own activities, evaluate the risk of impartiality, and where necessary take preventive measures to avoid conflicts of interests. Furthermore, Kiwa is regularly assessed by various accreditation institutions and audited by external organisations as well as appraised by various government institutions. All of this allows us to be sure that we act impartially in all our actions.

Done in Berchem on 1 May 2008.

Janneck Peersman
Director of Kiwa Belgium

