

# PROTERRA FOUNDATION HISTORY AND PROGRAM STRUCTURE

## Creation of ProTerra Foundation

Back in 2004, sustainability was emerging as a core element of business strategies and practices across the world. Companies were seeking to find solutions, especially the agricultural commodity industrial processors. The scale for agricultural commodity processors is very large as are the challenges and problems in the area. ProTerra started with the aim of finding a practical solution for these markets. The ProTerra Standard was created in 2005 by the certification body Cert ID, based on the Basel Criteria for Responsible Production of Soy, although the standard is applicable to any agricultural crop.

Cert ID, now known as FoodChain ID (FCID), has remained the certification body since the very beginning of ProTerra certification. FCID has been a strategic partner for ProTerra since the standard was introduced in 2006. Since then, ProTerra has grown into the largest and most well-respected certification scheme globally for certifying sustainable, non-GMO crop production. Today, over 4 million metric tons of products are annually certified under the ProTerra Standard and global projections indicate continuing growth.

In 2012, FCID began the process of moving ProTerra into a non-profit foundation. This process was undertaken to broaden the appeal and acceptance of the ProTerra program, and to demonstrate the credibility of the ProTerra Standard among a wider group of market participants through transparency, impartiality, and participation.

## Transparency

The Foundation continues to increase its overall transparency by adding additional oversight and inviting wider participation in the standard setting process. The ProTerra documents, such as the Standard, Terms of Reference, Certification Protocol and By-Laws are all available for download on the PTF web site.

## Contact us

The regular audits carried out will help you to maintain your position in the ProTerra supply chain and demonstrate your unwavering commitment to sustainable business practices to your customers and the wider public.

If you'd like to learn more about the requirements of the Standard or find out which areas you still need to improve before an audit, you can take part in our Training opportunities or book a Gap Audit.

ProTerra Training helps you build knowledge on the Standard's newest version and explains the intention behind them.

The Gap Analysis is for you if you want to know how compliant you are with the current version of the ProTerra Standard right now. For a Gap Analysis we carry out an audit, and, while the results do



not have an impact on your certification status, they show you where your gaps are and what you should work on before the actual audit takes place.

If you have any questions regarding ProTerra certification for your business, please don't hesitate to contact us: [info@proterrafoundation.org](mailto:info@proterrafoundation.org)

Your journey towards a sustainable supply chain starts now, get in touch with us to receive all the support you need to get started.