



## **BUREAU VERITAS NORTH AMERICA INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE STATEMENT**

### **Introduction and objectives of work**

Bureau Veritas North America, Inc. (BVNA) was engaged by Colgate Palmolive (Colgate) to conduct an independent assurance of select environmental data reported in its corporate social responsibility report (the Report). This Assurance Statement applies to the related information included within the scope of work described below. The intended users of the assurance statement are the stakeholders of Colgate. The overall aim of this process is to provide assurance to Colgate stakeholders on the accuracy, reliability and objectivity of select information included in the Report.

This information and its presentation in the Report are the sole responsibility of the management of Colgate. BVNA was not involved in the collection of the information or the drafting of the Report.

### **Boundaries of the reporting company's environmental data covered by the verification:**

- Financial Control
- Worldwide

### **Scope of work**

Colgate requested BVNA to include in its independent review the following:

- Assurance of the environmental data and information included in the Report for the calendar year 2014 reporting period, specifically:
  - Direct Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions (Scope 1) associated with Manufacturing & Warehouse Operations,
  - Indirect GHG emissions (Scope 2) associated with Manufacturing & Warehouse Operations,
  - GHG emissions from upstream transportation and distribution of Colgate owned finished goods in vehicles not owned or controlled by Colgate (Scope 3),
  - Total Energy Consumption associated with Manufacturing & Warehouse Operations,
  - Water Consumption associated with Manufacturing & Warehouse Operations, and
  - Solid and Liquid Waste Generation associated with Manufacturing & Warehouse Operations.
- Appropriateness and robustness of underlying reporting systems and processes, used to collect, analyze, and review the environmental information reported; and
- Evaluation of the reported data against Colgate Palmolive's Environmental Performance Manual, Version 7, June 2012

Excluded from the scope of our work is any assurance of information relating to:

- Text or other written statements associated with the Report
- Activities outside the defined assurance period



## Methodology

BVNA undertook the following activities:

1. Interviews with relevant personnel of Colgate (including employees and external contractors at the corporate level);
2. Review of internal and external documentary evidence produced by Colgate;
3. Review of Colgate information systems for collection, aggregation, analysis, and internal verification and review of environmental data; and
4. Audit of environmental performance data presented in the Report, including a detailed review of a sample of data. Facilities from which data was reviewed included Huangpu, China; Cali, Colombia; Canelands, South Africa; and Topeka, Kansas, USA.

Our work was conducted against Bureau Veritas Group's standard procedures and guidelines for external verification of sustainability reports, based on the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000.

The work was planned and carried out to provide limited, rather than absolute, assurance and we believe it provides an appropriate basis for our conclusions.

## Our findings

On the basis of our methodology and the activities described above, it is BVNA's opinion that:

- Nothing has come to our attention to indicate that the reviewed information within the scope of our verification is not materially correct.
- Nothing has come to our attention to indicate that the reviewed information is not a fair representation of the actual environmental data for calendar year 2014.
- It is our opinion that Colgate has established appropriate systems for the collection, aggregation and analysis of relevant environmental information.

## Statement of independence, impartiality and competence

The Bureau Veritas Group is an independent professional services company that specializes in Quality, Health, Safety, Social and Environmental management with over 185 years history in providing independent assurance services, and an annual 2014 revenue of 4.1 billion Euros.

No member of the assurance team has a business relationship with Colgate Palmolive, its Directors or Managers beyond that of verification and assurance of sustainability data and reporting. We have conducted this verification independently and we believe there to have been no conflict of interest.

BVNA has implemented a Code of Ethics across the business to maintain high ethical standards among staff in their day-to-day business activities.

The assurance team has extensive experience in conducting assurance over environmental, social, ethical and health and safety information, systems and processes, has over 20 years combined experience in this field and an excellent understanding of BVNA's standard methodology for the Assurance of Sustainability Reports.



**Bureau Veritas North America, Inc.**  
**Edison, New Jersey**  
**May 20, 2014**