

Over past few weeks HRCarbon has been contacted by professionals in the Sustainability, Carbon Management, and Environmental arena asking us for an opinion on the recently announced Eco Canada Environmental Professional (GHG) Quantifier (EP-GHG), comparing it to the CSA GHG Inventory Quantifier (CSA GHG-IQ) Certification.

For full disclosure HRCarbon provides a Prep-Course to undertake the CSA GHG IQ Certification Examination. HRCarbon does not have a formal partner relationship with CSA Standards and provides other Corporate Sustainability and Carbon Management education and training in conjunction with corporations, universities and colleges globally.

In our opinion:

- Eco Canada EP-GHG seems to be an opportunity for Environmental Professionals who want to add a credential to their existing environmental experience
- CSA GHG-IQ is an opportunity for Environmental and Non-Environmental professionals to obtain a carbon quantification credential
- Eco Canada EP-GHG is new and untested (2 Certified as of July 20, 2011)
- CSA GHG-IQ has been around for 2 years and has developed a following (118 Certified as of July 20, 2011)
- Cost for both certifications is comparative
- Eco Canada EP-GHG with their relationship with GHG Management Institute is attempting to develop a global audience
- CSA has an existing global audience through standards development in many other areas including climate change and environment.
- Eco Canada EP-GHG examination process may be open to manipulation since applicant is responsible for securing a proctor to monitor the testing environment
- CSA GHG IQ examination process is administered and proctored by independent testing vendor
- CSA GHG IQ examination process does not allow any external material to be brought into the examination room
- The process by which Eco Canada has followed to develop the EP-GHG examination was not found to be available for review during this process
- The process by which the examination questions have been developed by the CSA Standards has followed a very formal and proven path used by CSA Standards for many other certifications, for decades

We at HRCarbon believe that Carbon Quantification has to become a corporate mainstream activity, as such professionals from other non-environmental vocations should be able to obtain a Carbon Quantification credential without having to be an Environmental Professional.

A credentialed Accountant or a Business Process Management Consultant should be able to obtain a Carbon Quantification certification to help organizations better understand the concept of Climate-Risk. An Environmental Professional may not have the corporate, business or organizational structure knowledge to effectively relate carbon quantification and management in the context required by the business community.

The barrier to entry in becoming a credentialed carbon quantifier seems to be greater under the Eco Canada EP-GHG program than under the CSA GHG IQ program. Carbon quantification does not require an environmental background and should not be restricted to those in the Environmental arena.

Potential employers in the mainstream business sector are seeking multi-disciplined employees who can relate their traditional vocations to skills and knowledge that will enable them to incorporate climate risk and sustainability into existing organizational processes and structures.

Employees choose to continually differentiate themselves from their peers. Carbon management knowledge and skills will be a differentiator for those who can relate their accounting, legal, marketing, etc backgrounds to climate-risk management further enhancing their career prospects.

Contact HRCarbon with any question or comments at [info@hrcarbon.com](mailto:info@hrcarbon.com)