

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

SITE DETAILS

Site: **Tripod (WuXi) Electronic Co., Ltd**

Address: No.6 MID Tuanjie RD, Development Zone, Xishan District, 214101, Wuxi, Jiangsu, P.R.
CHINA

Contact Person: Caihong Wan

AWS Reference Number: AWS-000242, AWS-000243

Site Structure: Multi Site

CERTIFICATION DETAILS

Certification status: Certified Platinum

Date of certification decision: 2024-Feb-29

Validity of certificate: 2027-Feb-28

AUDIT DETAILS

Audited Service(s): AWS Standard v2.0 (2019)

Audit Type(s): Re-Certification Audit

Audit Start Date: 2023-Dec-11

Lead Auditor: Lingyun Yu (TUV Rheinland)

Audit team participants:

Layla Chen (TUV Rheinland)

Eugenia Deng (TUV Rheinland)

Site Participants:

Ma Ping, Resource Management Specialist

Gong Jing, Resource Management Specialist

Peng Hui, Resource Management Specialist

Wan Caihong, Resource Management Specialist

Li Xiaojun, Waste Manager

Ding Xiao, EHS Engineer

Chen Yuwei, Energy Manager

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)



Audit Number: AO-000946

ADDITIONAL INFO

Summary of Audit Findings: A total of 3 findings were raised during the certification audit, 2 minor non-conformities, 1 observations.

The Client is requested to perform a root cause analysis and define corrective actions for each of the non-conformities and to submit these to WSAS within 30 days of receipt of the audit report by 13/01/2024.

Minor non-conformities must be closed out by the time of the next annual audit.

The audit team recommends re-certification of Tripod (WuXi) Electronic Co., Ltd. at Platinum level pending approval of the corrective actions plan.

Scope of Assessment: The scope of services covers the recertification audit for assessing conformity of Tripod (WuXi) Electronic Co., Ltd. against the AWS International Water Stewardship Standard Version 2.

Founded in 1998, Tripod has two plants (Tuanjie Plant and Furong Plant). Tuanjie Plant is located at No.6 MID Tuanjie RD, Development Zone, Xishan District, Wuxi, Jiangsu, Furong Plant is located at No.68 East 3rd Furong RD, Development Zone, Xishan District, Wuxi, Jiangsu. Now the premises has total about 17000 employees and occupied about 214873 square meter in Tuanjie Plant and about 199760 square meter in Furong Plant. Tripod is mainly engaged in the design, research and development, manufacture, and sales of various kinds of printed circuit boards.

The audit was conducted onsite on 2023.12.11 to 2023.12.14. The onsite audit activities included the site visit covered production lines, wastewater treatment plant, chemical warehouse and IWRA, stakeholder interviews and documents review.

SCORE

97.00

FINDINGS

Observation	1
Minor	2

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

FINDING DETAILS

Finding No:	TNR-008689
Checklist Item No:	1.4.1
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site's catchment, shall be identified.
Findings:	Suggest that the site incorporate the screening rules for suppliers included in the investigation scope into the "AWS Sustainable Water Management Control Specification" of the site.
Finding No:	TNR-008690
Checklist Item No:	1.8.4
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2024-Dec-13
Checklist item:	Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified.
Findings:	The site considered the high greening rate within the factory as the best practice for important water related areas within the site. However, the site did not conduct sufficient investigations (such as other catchment practice cases, industry practices, stakeholder expectations, etc.) to identify the best practices for maintaining important water related areas at the catchment level.
Corrective action:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Organize important water related areas within the catchment;2. Collect relevant best practices;3. Incorporate into annual best practices in the future; For example, river patrol activities, environmental day survey questionnaires, etc;
Finding No:	TNR-008709
Checklist Item No:	4.3.1
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Minor
Checklist item:	Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance shall be identified.
Findings:	Tripod conducted a stakeholder satisfaction questionnaire survey in November 2023. From the results of the questionnaire, stakeholders were more than 80% satisfied with Tripod's wastewater treatment, water saving, and environment compliance. However, Tripod's water stewardship performance was not reflected in the satisfaction questionnaire.
Corrective action:	Because water management performance is disclosed annually on the Tripod website, it is not reflected in the questionnaire. Tripod updated questionnaire to include company sustainable water management performance, in the next questionnaire survey, Tripod will use new version of questionnaire.

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

Report Details

Report	Value
Report prepared by	Lingyun Yu
Report approved by	Mia Antoni-Naidoo
Report approved on (Date)	29 February 2024

Surveillance

Proposed date for next audit
2024-Dec-13

Stakeholder Announcements

Date of publication	Location
11/11/2023	https://a4ws.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/231124_AWS-STAKEHOLDER-Announcement-AWS-000242-000243-%E5%81%A5%E9%BC%8E%E6%97%A0%E9%94%A1%E7%94%B5%E5%AD%90.pdf
09/10/2023	https://www.tuv.com/content-media-files/greater-china/about-us/downloads/terms-and-conditions-and-certification-regulations/aws-stakeholder-announcement-%E5%81%A5%E9%BC%8E(%E6%97%A0%E9%94%A1)%E7%94%B5%E5%AD%90-(002).pdf
09/10/2023	https://www.tripod-tech.com/article/%E4%BC%81%E6%A5%AD%E7%A4%BE%E6%9C%83%E8%B2%AC%E4%BB%BB%E5%AF%A6%E8%B9%9F-61710ec7da7c6
24/11/2023	https://watersas.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/AWS-STAKEHOLDER-Announcement-AWS-000243.pdf

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

Catchment Information



catchment map.JPG

Catchment Information

Two plants of Tripod only used two types of water suppliers by municipal water plants and Wuxi Dexi Water Investment Co. LTD, the municipal water and the recycle water. The municipal water is for domestic and production use, and the recycle water is for production used. The municipal water plant has two sources (Taihu Lake and the Yangtze River Diversion Project). The main one is Taihu Lake water reservoir, and the backup water is from Yangtze River Diversion Project. The water of Taihu Lake, which belongs to the Taihu Lake catchment; the water of Yangtze River Diversion Project, which belongs to Yangtze River catchment.

For discharged water, the factory adopts the principle of 'Separation of rainwater and wastewater', and the different discharged water flows into different pipeline. The rainwater is discharged into the municipal rainwater pipeline and then finally flows to Jiuli River. The industrial wastewater of two plants is treated by onsite wastewater treatment plant, after the onsite treatment, all the treated industrial wastewater is discharged into two oxidation ponds that are located outside the plants and then finally flows to Jiuli River. The domestic wastewater after pretreatment is discharged into municipal sewage pipeline and then finally flows to Jiuli River.

Jiuli River is one of the main tributaries of Wangyu River, Wangyu River connects Taihu Lake and Yangtze River. Jiuli River is 25 kilometers long and across the whole Xishan District. It is the main watercourse of Wuxi City, the water direction of most time is from west to east and flows into Wangyu River, then finally flows to Taihu Lake.

Based on the location of water source and final discharge, the Outer Boundary of the facility is Taihu Lake Catchment. The sites of the two plants, the final destination of industrial and domestic wastewater are belong to Xicheng Canal Catchment.

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

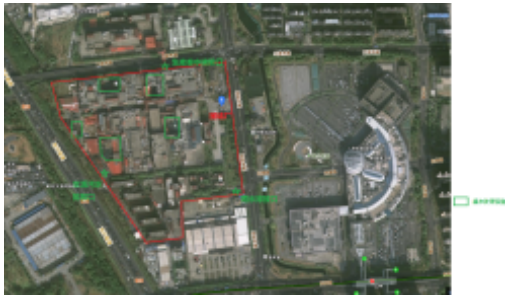
Client Description and Site Details

Client/Site Background

Founded in 1998, Tripod has two plants (Tuanjie Plant and Furong Plant). Tuanjie Plant is located at No.6 MID Tuanjie RD, Development Zone, Xishan District, Wuxi, Jiangsu, Furong Plant is located at No.68 East 3rd Furong RD, Development Zone, Xishan District, Wuxi, Jiangsu. Now the premises has total about 17000 employees and occupied about 214873 square meter in Tuanjie Plant and about 199760 square meter in Furong Plant. Tripod is mainly engaged in the design, research and development, manufacture, and sales of various kinds of printed circuit boards.

The main production process included:

cutting-drilling-exposure-etching-multiband-pressing-electronic plate-pattern transfer-etching-solder mask-surface treatment-molding-testing-packing.



Map_of_Tuanjie_site.PNG



Map_of_Furongsite.PNG

Summary of Shared Water Challenges

Summary of Shared Water Challenges

1. Surface water pollution, groundwater pollution, and overexploitation lead to deterioration of water quality and low per capita water resources in the basin, resulting in restrictions on enterprise operations (low)
2. The water quality of the Taihu Lake Lake is unstable, the threat of seasonal cyanobacteria has not been lifted, and the quality of municipal water supply is unstable (medium)
3. The treatment of polluted water bodies is difficult, affecting the quality of life of urban and rural residents. The requirements for pollutant discharge permits for enterprises are stricter, which increases the cost of pollutant discharge for enterprises (high)
4. Lack of water-saving awareness among enterprises and residents in the catchment, low utilization rate of industrial recycled water resources, and leakage of the water supply network (medium)
5. Climate change causes frequent occurrence of extreme weather events, such as typhoons, urban waterlogging, floods, and other risks. The retention of sewage affects the quality of water bodies in the basin (medium)

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

0.1 General Requirements for Single Sites, Multi-Sites and Groups	
0.1.1	<i>Eligibility Criteria</i>
0.1.1.1	<i>The site(s) occupy one catchment OR an exception has been granted.</i> ✔ Yes
0.1.1.2	<i>The scope of the proposed certification shall be under the control of a single management system.</i> ✔ Yes
0.1.1.3	<i>The scope of the proposed certification shall be homogeneous with respect to primary production system, water management, product or service range, and the main market structures.</i> ✔ Yes
0.2 Requirements for Multisite Operations	
0.2.1	<i>Multisite Management Requirements</i>
0.2.1.1	<i>The Multisite operation shall nominate an "AWS Group Representative".</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	Tripod has nominated the Resource Management Specialist, Ms. Wan Caihong, as the AWS Group Representative to coordinate and supervise the operation of AWS.
0.2.1.2	<i>The name and location of each site within the proposed scope for certification of the Multisite operation shall be clearly defined.</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	Site 1: Tripod (WuXi) Electronic Co. Ltd.(Tuanjie Plant) Location: No.6 MID Tuanjie RD, Development Zone, Xishan District, Wuxi, Jiangsu Province. Site 2: Tripod (WuXi) Electronic Co. Ltd.(Furong Plant) Location: No.68 East 3rd Furong RD, Development Zone, Xishan District, Wuxi, Jiangsu Province.
0.2.1.3	<i>Where a new site has been added to the multisite certificate, an onsite audit of the site was conducted prior to it being added to the certificate register.</i> ⬇ N/A
0.2.1.4	<i>All AWS claims made by the client are managed through the "AWS Group Representative".</i> ✔ Yes

Audit Number: AO-000946

1 STEP 1: GATHER AND UNDERSTAND

1.1 *Gather information to define the site's physical scope for water stewardship purposes, including: its operational boundaries; the water sources from which the site draws; the locations to which the site returns its discharges; and the catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and upon which it is reliant.*

1.1.1 *The physical scope of the site shall be mapped, considering the regulatory landscape and zone of stakeholder interests, including:*

- Site boundaries;
- Water-related infrastructure, including piping network, owned or managed by the site or its parent organization;
- Any water sources providing water to the site that are owned or managed by the site or its parent organization;
- Water service provider (if applicable) and its ultimate water source;
- Discharge points and waste water service provider (if applicable) and ultimate receiving water body or bodies;
- Catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and is reliant upon for water.


Yes

Comment Tripod draws a site boundary map, which identifies the site boundary information and the layout within the site. Tripod also collects information on the destination of its wastewater discharge, the location of the receiving water body, the location of water service providers and their water sources.
The site has developed a site and catchment background report. In this report, it contains following content:

- Site boundaries
- Water-related infrastructure, including the pipe network, owned or managed by the site or its parent organization.
- Water service provider and its ultimate water source;
- Discharge points and wastewater service provider.
- The catchment(s) that the Site affects and relies on for water.

1.2 *Understand relevant stakeholders, their water related challenges, and the site's ability to influence beyond its boundaries.*

1.2.1 *Stakeholders and their water-related challenges shall be identified. The process used for stakeholder identification shall be identified. This process shall:*

- Inclusively cover all relevant stakeholder groups including vulnerable, women, minority, and Indigenous people;
- Consider the physical scope identified, including stakeholders, representative of the site's ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body or bodies;
- Provide evidence of stakeholder consultation on water-related interests and challenges;
- Note that the ability and/or willingness of stakeholders to participate may vary across the relevant stakeholder groups;
- Identify the degree of stakeholder engagement based on their level of interest and influence.


Yes

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)





Audit Number: AO-000946

Comment	<p>Tripod has established a stakeholder engagement procedure, including establishing internal and external communication channels with stakeholders.</p> <p>Tripod has identified stakeholders such as the government, employees, NGOs, surrounding residents, suppliers, infrastructures, and surrounding companies, and has established diversified communication channels with different stakeholders.</p> <p>For example, Tripod has joined local WeChat groups (members also include local communities, surrounding companies, etc.) that facilitate communication and joint action; organizes employee symposiums every four months / biannually; conducts online satisfaction survey activities, etc.</p> <p>Tripod also consulted different types of stakeholders on the shared water challenge through questionnaires.</p>	
1.2.2	<p><i>Current and potential degree of influence between site and stakeholder shall be identified, within the catchment and considering the site's ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body for wastewater.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Tripod has developed an analysis table of stakeholders, the degree of influence between site and stakeholder has been identified of each stakeholder.</p>	
1.3	<p><i>Gather water-related data for the site, including: water balance; water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, water governance, WASH; water-related costs, revenues, and shared value creation.</i></p>	
1.3.1	<p><i>Existing water-related incident response plans shall be identified.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Tripod has established a set of environmental emergency response plans, covering special emergency plans for chemical leakage, extreme weather, and wastewater accident discharge. Tripod formulates an emergency drill plan for environmental emergencies every year, covering topics such as standard-exceeding of wastewater quality, chemical leakage and waste leakage. Tripod regularly organizes emergency drills for various departments or the entire site according to the plan.</p> <p>Tripod has also developed a business continuity plan to identify water-related emergencies such as floods and incoming water contamination, and formulate response measures.</p>	
1.3.2	<p><i>Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows shall be identified and mapped</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>In November 2020, Tripod commissioned a third-party organization to conduct water balance testing, complied with the "General Principles of Water Balance Test in Enterprises (GB/T12452-2008)", a China national standard.</p> <p>Tripod has established a comprehensive metering system to record the water input and output daily.</p> <p>And Tripod also analyses the water consumption of each workshop every month and conducts performance evaluation on them.</p> <p>Tripod also conducts internal quarterly and annual water balance analysis, and draws a water balance diagram, which identifies water inflow, losses, storage and drainage, including production water, domestic water, reuse water, reuse water, etc.</p>	
1.3.3	<p><i>Site water balance, inflows, losses, storage, and outflows, including indication of annual variance in water usage rates, shall be quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water balance for people or environment, an indication of annual high and low variances shall be quantified.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Tripod has established a comprehensive metering system to record the water input and output daily.</p> <p>And Tripod also analyses the water consumption of each workshop every month and conducts performance evaluation on them.</p> <p>Tripod also conducts internal quarterly and annual water balance analysis, and draws a water balance diagram, which identifies water inflow, drainage, production water, domestic water, reuse water, reuse water, etc. The input, loss, storage and output of water are quantified.</p>	

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)





Audit Number: AO-000946

1.3.4	<i>Water quality of the site's water source(s), provided waters, effluent and receiving water bodies shall be quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water quality status for people or environment, an indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, high and low variances shall be quantified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Tripod pays attention to the municipal water quality by checking the official website of the water supplier every week.</p> <p>Tripod has developed a water-related quality monitoring plan, including rainwater, Industrial and domestic wastewater and drinking water, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rainwater is tested by an external qualified laboratory every month. The site internally monitors the water quality of the rainwater well every time it rains, and conducts internal routine monitoring of the rainwater well every week. The site also installed online pH monitoring instruments at its rainwater discharge outlets to monitor the pH value of rainwater in real-time. • Tripod supplies drinking water to employees through its own pure water preparation facilities, and commissions external agencies to test the water quality every month. The sampling points are drinking points of workshops, dormitory drinking points and canteen water points. The tests reference standard " National Food Safety Standard for Packaged Drinking Water" GB 19298-2014, Table 1 and Table 2; "Sanitary Standards for Drinking Water" GB 5749-2006, Table 1 and Table 2. • Secondary water supply is tested by three parties every month. • Domestic wastewater is tested by an external qualified laboratory every month. The site also conducts daily internal testing of domestic wastewater; • Tripod has installed the online monitoring system to monitor the discharged industrial water, and conduct routine internal and external testing to control the quality of discharged water. For critical pollutants, such as silver and nickel, Tripod also has installed the online monitoring system and conducts daily sampling and testing at the workshop wastewater outlet. <p>Tripod has installed an online monitoring system for wastewater at the main discharge outlet to monitor the COD, ammonia nitrogen, silver, pH, total nickel, and total copper content in the discharged wastewater in real-time.</p> <p>Tripod regularly monitors the soil and groundwater in the site (entrust a third-party laboratory). Tripod conducts monthly internal tests on the water quality at 1,000 meters upstream and downstream of the receiving water body of its discharged industrial wastewater.</p>	
1.3.5	<i>Potential sources of pollution shall be identified and if applicable, mapped, including chemicals used or stored on site.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Tripod has identified potential sources of pollution such as chemical storage and usage, sludge storage at wastewater treatment station and storage of hazardous waste, and relevant measures to prevent and control contamination have been taken including strengthening management, establishment of secondary containment and emergency response, installation of liquid odometer and online monitoring system at rainwater and industrial wastewater discharge outlet. The site entrusts a third-party organization to conduct integrity testing on underground diesel storage tanks every two years, commissioned a third party to inspect the rain and water underground pipeline network (the most recent inspection was in December 2021) In addition, Tripod has mapped the identified potential sources of pollution.</p>	
1.3.6	<i>On-site Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified and mapped, including a description of their status including Indigenous cultural values.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>There is no Important Water-Related Area on the site.</p>	
1.3.7	<i>Annual water-related costs, revenues, and a description or quantification of the social, cultural, environmental, or economic water-related value generated by the site shall be identified and used to inform the evaluation of the plan in 4.1.2.</i>	 Yes

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)



Audit Number: AO-000946

Comment	<p>Tripod has identified water-related costs, including water consumption costs, operating costs and depreciation of industrial pure water facilities, industrial and domestic drainage costs, and wastewater treatment facility operating costs.</p> <p>Tripod also has identified water-related revenues, including the factory's preparation of pure water for employees to drink, and has quantified the annual cost savings of the factory's self-made pure water, and quantified the benefits of copper recovered during the harmless treatment of water treatment sludge.</p> <p>The site also provided description and quantification of the social, cultural, environmental, or economic water-related value generated by the site. Such as, Ensuring employees have access to safe and healthy drinking water, implementing water-saving projects to reduce operating costs, recovering copper from wastewater treatment sludge to bring economic benefits and reduce environmental impact, and carrying out activities to protect surrounding rivers to improve the water environment.</p>	
1.3.8	<i>Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Tripod provides dormitories and canteen for employees. Sanitation and hygiene installations and drinking water supply points are also installed at offices, dormitory areas and all workshops. The WASH installations fully comply with the national "Hygienic Standards for the Design of Industrial Enterprises" (GBZ 1-2010).</p> <p>The site also conducts WBCSD self-assessment to evaluate the level of onsite WASH. The result is satisfied.</p>	
1.4	<i>Gather data on the site's indirect water use, including: its primary inputs; the water use embedded in the production of those primary inputs the status of the waters at the origin of the inputs (where they can be identified); and water used in out-sourced water-related services.</i>	
1.4.1	<i>The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site's catchment, shall be identified.</i>	 Obs.
Comment	<p>Tripod has screened and identified the suppliers accounted for 5 percent of the weight of the product, and then sent the questionnaires to investigate their indirect water consumption. Moreover, by using WWF's map of water risk filter, Tripod also evaluated the water related risk level in the catchment where its suppliers are located.</p> <p>Tripod evaluates the water-related risks of suppliers based on suppliers' incoming water sources, water consumption, wastewater discharge and IPE violation records, and requires high-risk suppliers to provide discharge water test reports.</p> <p>Tripod also collects the water consumption of its outsourced services such as hazardous waste and general solid waste disposal units through questionnaires.</p>	
1.4.2	<i>The embedded water use of outsourced services shall be identified, and where those services originate within the site's catchment, quantified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Tripod also collects the water consumption of its outsourced services such as hazardous waste and general solid waste disposal units through questionnaires.</p>	
1.4.3	<i>Advanced Indicator The embedded water use of primary inputs in catchment(s) of origin shall be quantified.</i>	 Yes

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

Comment	<p>Tripod has screened and identified the suppliers accounted for 5 percent of the weight of the product, and then sent the questionnaires to investigate their indirect water consumption. Moreover, by using WWF's map of water risk filter, Tripod also evaluated the water related risk level in the catchment where its suppliers are located.</p> <p>Tripod evaluates the water-related risks of suppliers based on suppliers' incoming water sources, water consumption, wastewater discharge and IPE violation records, and requires high-risk suppliers to provide discharge water test reports.</p> <p>Tripod also collects the water consumption of its outsourced services such as hazardous waste and general solid waste disposal units through questionnaires.</p> <p>According to the collected information, the embedded water use of primary inputs in catchment(s) of origin could be quantified.</p>	
Score	7	
1.5	<i>Gather water-related data for the catchment, including water governance, water balance, water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, infrastructure, and WASH</i>	
1.5.1	<i>Water governance initiatives shall be identified, including catchment plan(s), water-related public policies, major publicly-led initiatives under way, and relevant goals to help inform site of possible opportunities for water stewardship collective action.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Tripod has established a legislation and regulatory requirement collection procedure. The legislation and regulatory is reviewed and updated once per season. Tripod can identify the catchment plan(s), water-related public policies, major publicly-led initiatives, and legal requirements.</p>	
1.5.2	<i>Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be identified, including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The site presents a matrix recording all legal actions, this document is used by the site to monitor the status of each of the site's legal obligations.</p>	
1.5.3	<i>The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be quantified, including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Tripod collected the water resource public report of China and water quality public report of Taihu Lake catchment via the related authority website, which contained the water-balance and water quality information of the catchment.</p> <p>The Catchment Background Survey Report provides a detailed analysis of water balance for the catchment.</p> <p>The water balance in the catchment is analysed based on the rainfall (mm), precipitation (m3), surface water resources (m3), groundwater resources(m3), water diversion (m3), displacement(m3), storage(m3), consumption(m3), total water supply (m3) and total water consumption(m3). All the data is collected from government website and publishing report.</p>	
1.5.4	<i>Water quality, including physical, chemical, and biological status, of the catchment shall be identified, and where possible, quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water quality status for people or environment, an indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, high and low variances shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Tripod collected the water resource public report of China and water quality public report of Taihu Lake catchment via the related authority website, which contained the water-balance and water quality information of the catchment.</p> <p>The Catchment Background Survey Report provides a detailed analysis of water quality for the catchment. The site obtained the relate information from the government website (Mainly from the Environmental and Ecological Bureau).</p> <p>The data includes the water quality of the water source, the final discharged water body, the water from municipal water plant.</p> <p>The data will be published monthly, therefore, the annual variances could be identified.</p>	

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)






Audit Number: AO-000946

1.5.5	<i>Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified, and where appropriate, mapped, and their status assessed including any threats to people or the natural environment, using scientific information and through stakeholder engagement.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod collected the Yangtze River and the Taihu Lake Ecological, Environmental Protection Plan and related documents, and those contained the IWRAs in the catchment. The site investigates the status of IWRAs by searching the government's official website and conducting interviews with stakeholders such as water related infrastructure and environmental authorities.	
1.5.6	<i>Existing and planned water-related infrastructure shall be identified, including condition and potential exposure to extreme events.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The Catchment Background Survey Report lists the existing and planned water-related infrastructure including water supply, flood control and drainage, wastewater treatment, emergency response at provincial, catchment and city levels and water-related objectives. Based on the available information, the water-related infrastructure in the catchment is relatively good.	
1.5.7	<i>The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The Wuxi City has 6 municipal water plants, 3 water sources, 4 large booster stations, the daily water supply capacity is 2.45 million tons and wastewater treatment plants, the direct users are 1.75 million households, the water supply population is nearly 4 million, and the urban water supply penetration is 100%. According to Jiangsu province's 13th Five-Year Plan for ecological and environmental protection, the rural water supply rate reaches 100%. It indicates that the WASH services in the Wuxi are adequate.	
1.5.8	<i>Advanced Indicator Efforts by the site to support and undertake catchment level water-related data collection shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod conducts monthly internal tests on the water quality at 1,000 meters upstream and downstream of the receiving water body of its discharged wastewater. The test parameters include pH, Cu, Ni, Ag, Mn, COD, T-P, T-N, NH3-N, etc. Tripod conducts daily internal tests on the water quality of the oxidation pond that undertakes the wastewater discharged by Tripod. The test parameters are	
Score	5	
1.5.9	<i>Advanced Indicator The adequacy of WASH provision within the catchments of origin of primary inputs shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	By searching on the Statistic Yearbook of different provinces, Tripod has identified adequacy of WASH provision within the catchments of origin of primary inputs including the coverage of safe drinking water supply, the coverage of wastewater treatment, the rate of security disposal of municipal solid waste, and public facilities and environmental sanitation in urban districts.	
Score	4	
1.6	<i>Understand current and future shared water challenges in the catchment, by linking the water challenges identified by stakeholders with the site's water challenges.</i>	
1.6.1	<i>Shared water challenges shall be identified and prioritized from the information gathered.</i>	 Yes

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

Comment	<p>The Catchment Background Report identifies the shared challenges within the catchment, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Surface water pollution, groundwater pollution, and overexploitation lead to deterioration of water quality and low per capita water resources in the basin, resulting in restrictions on enterprise operations (low) 2. The water quality of the Taihu Lake Lake is unstable, the threat of seasonal cyanobacteria has not been lifted, and the quality of municipal water supply is unstable (medium) 3. The treatment of polluted water bodies is difficult, affecting the quality of life of urban and rural residents. The requirements for pollutant discharge permits for enterprises are stricter, which increases the cost of pollutant discharge for enterprises (high) 4. Lack of water-saving awareness among enterprises and residents in the catchment, low utilization rate of industrial recycled water resources, and leakage of the water supply network (medium) 5. Climate change causes frequent occurrence of extreme weather events, such as typhoons, urban waterlogging, floods, and other risks. The retention of sewage affects the quality of water bodies in the basin (medium) <p>Meanwhile, based on the analysis of relevance/rationale for stakeholders and relevance/rational for the site, the site has prioritized the shared challenges risk level from low to high. The level of risk is determined by attention, impact, and outcome.</p>	
1.6.2	<i>Initiatives to address shared water challenges shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Initiatives to address shared water challenges are included in the Catchment Background Report identifies the shared challenges within the catchment.	
1.6.3	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Future water issues shall be identified, including anticipated impacts and trends</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has collected the information of future water issues, anticipated impacts and trends in the Special Emergency Response. The challenge is that a medium dry year may be encountered, but the future water diversion project and technology improvement may counteract the impact.	
Score	3	
1.6.4	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Potential water-related social impacts from the site shall be identified, resulting in a social impact assessment with a particular focus on water.</i></p>	 N/A
Comment	The facility does not perform this indicator.	
1.7	<i>Understand the site's water risks and opportunities: Assess and prioritize the water risks and opportunities affecting the site based upon the status of the site, existing risk management plans and/or the issues and future risk trends identified in 1.6.</i>	
1.7.1	<i>Water risks faced by the site shall be identified, and prioritized, including likelihood and severity of impact within a given timeframe, potential costs and business impact.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has identified its water risks covering water governance, sustainable water balance and water quality. Based on risk analysis, Tripod has prioritized its water risks according to potential impact, likelihood within a given time and difficulty of detection. Meanwhile, corresponding response strategies to mitigate water risks are developed. Water opportunities including government support, customer encouragement and self-improvement are also identified.	
1.7.2	<i>Water-related opportunities shall be identified, including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities.</i>	 Yes

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

Comment	Tripod has established a risk and opportunity identification sheet, and water opportunities including government support, customer encouragement and self-improvement are also identified.	
1.8	<i>Understand best practice towards achieving AWS outcomes: Determining sectoral best practices having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.</i>	
1.8.1	<i>Relevant catchment best practice for water governance shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has identified relevant catchment best practice for water governance, water balance, water quality, IWRAS and WASH. Best practice for water governance identified by Tripod: - Implement AWS management on the site and carry out AWS certification; - Implement ISO 14001:2015 management system on site and carry out certification; - Prepare environmental emergency response plans, and conduct regular drills (2 comprehensive drills and 8 special drills).	
1.8.2	<i>Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water balance (either through water efficiency or less total water use) shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has identified relevant catchment best practice for water governance, water balance, water quality, IWRAS and WASH. Best practice for water balance identified by Tripod: - Refer to the first-level (most stringent) standard for water consumption in the cleaner production audit conducted at the site in 2021, and Tripod's internal standard is equivalent to the first-level standard. - The first level (internationally leading) indicator for the PCB industry in Jiangsu Province's forestry, animal husbandry, fishery, industry, service industry, and domestic water quota (revised in 2019)	
1.8.3	<i>Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water quality shall be identified, including rationale for data source.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has identified relevant catchment best practice for water governance, water balance, water quality, IWRAS and WASH. Best practice for water quality identified by Tripod: - Tripod has developed a management procedure for pollutant concentration in wastewater discharge and established internal control indicators that are stricter than the discharge permit. The specific details are as follows: Internal control index of discharged wastewater: COD 45mg/L; T-Cu 0.25mg/L; TP 0.4mg/L; Ni 0.08mg/L; Ag 0.08mg/L; Mn 1.5mg/L; NH3-N 4mg/L; TN 12mg/L (Permit requirements: COD 50mg/L; T-Cu 0.3mg/L; TP 0.5mg/L; Ni 0.1mg/L; Ag 0.1mg/L; Mn 2.0mg/L; NH3-N 5mg/L; TN 15mg/L)	
1.8.4	<i>Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified.</i>	 No
Comment	Best practice for IWRAS identified by Tripod: - Benchmarking standard: "Evaluation of Green Factory", the proportion of outdoor permeable ground to the total outdoor area is not less than 30%. However, the site does not identify best practice for IWRA within the catchment.	Finding No: TNR-008690
1.8.5	<i>Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services shall be identified.</i>	 Yes

CERTIFICATION REPORT





Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)



Audit Number: AO-000946

Comment Tripod has identified relevant catchment best practice for water governance, water balance, water quality, IWRAS and WASH.
Best practice for WASH identified by Tripod:
- The WASH installations fully comply with the national “Hygienic Standards for the Design of Industrial Enterprises” (GBZ 1-2010).
- Overall score result corresponds to meeting at least 90% of Pledge requirements by using WBSCD self-assessment tool.







Audit Number: AO-000946

2	STEP 2: COMMIT & PLAN - Commit to be a responsible water steward and develop a Water Stewardship Plan	
2.1	<i>Commit to water stewardship by having the senior-most manager in charge of water at the site, or if necessary, a suitable individual within the organization head office, sign and publicly disclose a commitment to water stewardship, the implementation of the AWS Standard and achieving its five outcomes, and the allocation of required resources.</i>	
2.1.1	<p><i>A signed and publicly disclosed site statement OR organizational document shall be identified. The statement or document shall include the following commitments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>That the site will implement and disclose progress on water stewardship program(s) to achieve improvements in AWS water stewardship outcomes</i> - <i>That the site implementation will be aligned to and in support of existing catchment sustainability plans</i> - <i>That the site's stakeholders will be engaged in an open and transparent way</i> - <i>That the site will allocate resources to implement the Standard.</i> 	 Yes
Comment	A water stewardship commitment to follow all the AWS core criteria has been signed by the general manager of Tripod. The commitment has been displayed on Tripod's website: https://www.tripod-tech.com/article/%E4%BC%81%E6%A5%AD%E7%A4%BE%E6%9C%83%E8%B2%AC%E4%BB%BB%E5%AF%A6%E8%B9%9F-61710ec7da7c6	
2.1.2	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i></p> <p><i>A statement that explicitly covers all requirements set out in Indicator 2.1.1 and is signed by the organization's senior-most executive or governance body and publicly disclosed shall be identified.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	A water stewardship commitment to follow all the AWS core criteria has been signed by the general manager of Tripod. The commitment has been displayed on Tripod's website: https://www.tripod-tech.com/article/%E4%BC%81%E6%A5%AD%E7%A4%BE%E6%9C%83%E8%B2%AC%E4%BB%BB%E5%AF%A6%E8%B9%9F-61710ec7da7c6	
Score	1	
2.2	<i>Develop and document a process to achieve and maintain legal and regulatory compliance.</i>	
2.2.1	<p><i>The system to maintain compliance obligations for water and wastewater management shall be identified, including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility organizational structure</i> - <i>Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.</i> 	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has established a procedure to ensure the operation of Tripod to meet the provisions of relevant laws, regulations and other requirements. EHS department is responsible for laws and regulations and other requirement collection quarterly, the compliance evaluation is conducted quarterly.	
2.3	<i>Create a water stewardship strategy and plan including addressing risks (to and from the site), shared catchment water challenges, and opportunities.</i>	
2.3.1	<p><i>A water stewardship strategy shall be identified that defines the overarching mission, vision, and goals of the organization towards good water stewardship in line with this AWS Standard.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has developed a water stewardship strategy, such as Good water management system, sustainable water balance, good water quality, important water-related areas, etc. to ensure the organization towards good water stewardship in line with this AWS standard.	

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

2.3.2	<p><i>A water stewardship plan shall be identified, including for each target:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How it will be measured and monitored - Actions to achieve and maintain (or exceed) it - Planned timeframes to achieve it - Financial budgets allocated for actions - Positions of persons responsible for actions and achieving targets - Where available, note the link between each target and the achievement of best practice to help address shared water challenges and the AWS outcomes. 	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has developed a Water Stewardship Plan (Year 2023), which specifies targets, required actions, measurement, status, effectiveness evaluation, accountable and deadline, etc. Total 10 plans are set, such as 100% of the waste water discharge is controlled within 90% of the legal discharge limit, carries out 12 river patrol activities each year, meet Level I water consumption targets (leading indicators)	
2.3.3	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i></p> <p><i>The site's partnership/water stewardship activities with other sites within the same catchment (which may or may not be under the same organisational ownership) shall be identified and described.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	The site has performed the AWS knowledge training to supplier within the same catchment once per year, the last one is conducted on November 2023. The attendance form and photos were provided for review.	
Score	4	
2.3.4	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i></p> <p><i>The site's partnership/water stewardship activities with other sites in another catchment(s) (either under same corporate structure or with another corporate site) shall be identified.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	The site has performed the AWS knowledge training to supplier within the another catchment and Hubei Branch once per year, the last one is conducted on November 2023. The attendance form and photos were provided for review.	
Score	4	
2.3.5	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i></p> <p><i>Stakeholder consensus shall be sought on the site's water stewardship plan. Consensus should be achieved on at least one target. A list of targets that have consensus and in which stakeholders are involved shall be identified.</i></p>	 N/A
Comment	The facility does not perform this indicator.	
2.4	<p><i>Demonstrate the site's responsiveness and resilience to respond to water risks</i></p>	
2.4.1	<p><i>A plan to mitigate or adapt to identified water risks developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has established a water emergency plan, it covers the content of water quality, water quantity, interruption of water supply, etc. The site also has established Emergency environmental emergency plan, it states the emergency environmental emergency process and business continuity strategy, the content covers chemical leakage, wastewater, solid waste, emergency shutdown, water shutdown, power outage, gas shutdown, storm weather emergency environment, etc..	
2.4.2	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i></p> <p><i>A plan to mitigate or adapt to water risks associated with climate change projections developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.</i></p>	 N/A

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)



Audit Number: AO-000946

Comment The facility does not perform this indicator.

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

3	STEP 3: IMPLEMENT - Implement the site's stewardship plan and improve impacts	
3.1	<i>Implement plan to participate positively in catchment governance.</i>	
3.1.1	<i>Evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod provided a record form of communication and exchange between external stakeholders visiting the plants. According to the record, the local Environmental Protection Bureau visits Tripod plants from time to time to check the calibration of online monitoring instruments and the operation of wastewater treatment facilities. Tripod also regularly patrols the surrounding water body (JiuLi River) and uses the WeChat app "River Patrol Bao" to keep records.	
3.1.2	<i>Measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, that are not part of 3.2 shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod collects local law and regulation requirements, industry norms, customer requirements and other compliance requirements, from which it identifies applicable provisions and compiles them into an environmental compliance obligation checklist. Tripod evaluates itself based on the compliance requirements it collects, and from the results of the evaluation, Tripod meets the compliance requirements.	
3.1.3	<i>Advanced Indicator Evidence of improvements in water governance capacity from a site-selected baseline date shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has formulated the AWS International Sustainable Water Management Control Specification and a series of implementation documents according to AWS standards, and manages with reference to this management specification.	
Score	2	
3.1.4	<i>Advanced Indicator Evidence from a representative range of stakeholders showing consensus that the site is seen as positively contributing to the good water governance of the catchment shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has made positive contributions to its own water management and the water management of the watersheds in which it operates, and has received many awards. For example, Tripod won the 2022 Environmental Protection Demonstration Enterprise and Utility - Furong Plant, the 2021 Environmental Protection Demonstration Enterprise and Utility - Tuanjie Plant, the 2021 Wuxi City Third Water Efficiency Leader, and the 2020 Ecological Environmental Protection Work Advanced Enterprise.	
Score	2	
3.2	<i>Implement system to comply with water-related legal and regulatory requirements and respect water rights.</i>	
3.2.1	<i>A process to verify full legal and regulatory compliance shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod collects local law and regulation requirements, industry norms, customer requirements and other compliance requirements, from which it identifies the applicable provisions and compiles them into an Environmental Compliance Obligation Checklist. Tripod has established a Compliance Obligation Management Program, which provides for the evaluation of compliance on a quarterly basis, and provides updated assessment forms and assessment reports.	

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

3.2.2	<i>Where water rights are part of legal and regulatory requirements, measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has established a Compliance Obligation Management Program, which provides for the evaluation of compliance on a quarterly basis, and provides updated assessment forms and assessment reports. According to the assessment result, Tripod meets requirements.	
3.3	<i>Implement plan to achieve site water balance targets.</i>	
3.3.1	<i>Status of progress towards meeting water balance targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod's water balance target in the Water Stewardship Plan is to meet the government's water abstraction limits of 15.14 million tons/year for 2023 and to achieve the Cleaner Production Level 1 standard for unit water use, water discharge, and water reuse. To meet this target, Tripod has implemented the introduction of a reclaimed water source (from Wuxi Zhonghe Water Company) at the Furong plant in 2022. The Tuanjie Plant, on the other hand, has introduced reclaimed water (from Wuxi Dexi Water Company) as early as 2014. The Tuanjie plant introduced reclaimed water into the roof exhaust gas spray tower to replace the fresh water usage.	
3.3.2	<i>Where water scarcity is a shared water challenge, annual targets to improve the site's water use efficiency, or if practical and applicable, reduce volumetric total use shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has set targets in its Water Stewardship Plan to improve water use efficiency and reduce total water use, for example, by meeting the government's water abstraction limits and achieving Cleaner Production Level 1 (CPL1) standards for water use per unit, water discharged, and reuse rates. To this end, Tripod has introduced reclaimed water sources to replace the use of fresh water.	
3.3.3	<i>Legally-binding documentation, if applicable, for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	No legally-binding documentation is issued by local government authorities to Tripod for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs.	
3.3.4	<i>Advanced Indicator The total volume of water voluntarily re-allocated (from site water savings) for social, cultural and environmental needs shall be quantified.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
3.4	<i>Implement plan to achieve site water quality targets</i>	
3.4.1	<i>Status of progress towards meeting water quality targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	In the Water Stewardship Plan, a target for water quality was set to achieve wastewater generation per unit of product for the Cleaner Production Level 1 standard. Tripod also set internal wastewater quality control targets that are 80-90% lower than discharge standards, and achieving 100% of the internal control targets by 2023. Tuanjie Plant completed the MBR membrane cleaning project of the biochemical system of the wastewater station in October.	
3.4.2	<i>Where water quality is a shared water challenge, continual improvement to achieve best practice for the site's effluent shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.</i>	 Yes

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

Comment Tripod has formulated an enterprise self-monitoring program for 2023, and outsourced third-party testing of industrial wastewater once a month, and according to the test results, the wastewater all meets the discharge standards. Tripod has also set internal control standards, and according to the results of online monitoring equipment, Tripod's wastewater is lower than the internal control standards. In addition to this, Tripod also conducts regular tests on drinking water, secondary water supply, and groundwater to monitor the water quality of this water sources.

3.5 *Implement plan to maintain or improve the site's and/or catchment's Important Water-Related Areas.*

3.5.1 *Practices set in the water stewardship plan to maintain and/or enhance the site's Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.*


Yes

Comment There are no Important Water-Related Areas in the site. Although there are no IWRAs within the Tripod site, there is a great deal of concern about the status of IWRAs in the catchment and some effort has been made. For example: Tripod has developed a monthly river patrol program and organizes staff to patrol the river while uploading the patrol logs to the River Patrol Bao app. 2023 From January-October, the two sites conducted river patrol activities 11 times each. In addition, Tripod also pays attention to IWRAs outside the catchment. Tripod participated in a water environment protection exchange jointly organized by customers in May 2023, and one of the activities was to clean up garbage at Qiandao Lake in Hangzhou.

3.5.2 *Advanced Indicator
Evidence of completed restoration of non-functioning or severely degraded Important Water-Related Areas including where appropriate cultural values from a site-selected baseline date shall be identified.
Restored areas may be outside of the site, but within the catchment.*


N/A

Comment The facility does not perform this indicator.

3.5.3 *Advanced Indicator
Evidence from a representative range of stakeholders showing consensus that the site is seen as positively contributing to the healthy status of Important Water-Related Areas in the catchment shall be identified.*


N/A

Comment The facility does not perform this indicator.

3.6 *Implement plan to provide access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers at all premises under the site's control.*

3.6.1 *Evidence of the site's provision of adequate access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers onsite shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.*


Yes

Comment Tripod evaluated the number of toilets in the factory according to GBZ1-2020 Industrial Enterprise Design Hygiene Standard, GB31177-2014 Bachelor Dormitory Hygiene Requirements and Management Code, WBCSD, and the results showed that they all met the requirements. Tripod carried out a questionnaire survey on employee satisfaction regarding drinking water, sanitation, and facilities, and according to the survey results, the satisfaction was high, and also evaluated using WBCSD self-assessment tool and the final result was 97%. In addition, Tripod conducts regular testing of drinking water and secondary water supply to ensure safe drinking water.






3.6.2 *Evidence that the site is not impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations, and that traditional access rights for indigenous and local communities are being respected, and that remedial actions are in place where this is not the case, and that these are effective.*


Yes

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)




Audit Number: AO-000946

Comment	No evidence is showed that the site is impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations according to the interviews with Tripod's employees, local community and local government authorities.	
3.6.3	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>A list of actions taken to support the provision to stakeholders in the catchment of access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene awareness shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Considering there are many outdoor workers will working or come through Tripod's outdoor, free drinking water points are set up at the security kiosk at the east gate of the Tripod plant for outdoor workers to drink. Nearby outdoor workers, including sanitation workers, express delivery personnel, etc.	
Score	5	
3.6.4	<i>Advanced Indicator:</i> <i>In catchments where WASH has been identified as a shared water challenge, evidence of efforts taken with relevant public-sector agencies to share information and to advocate for change to address access to safe drinking water and sanitation shall be identified.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The facility does not perform this indicator.	
3.7	<i>Implement plan to maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment:</i>	
3.7.1	<i>Evidence that indirect water use targets set in the water stewardship plan, as applicable, have been met shall be quantified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod collects information on the water status of suppliers and hazardous waste handlers, including their water use, water source, and wastewater generation; and on the risk status of the catchment in which the suppliers are located. Tripod also investigates the compliance status of suppliers and hazardous waste handlers through the IPE website, and sends out e-mails to suppliers with a record of violations to inform them to remove it, with one supplier removing its record in 2023. Tripod also collects wastewater test reports from high-risk vendors and monitors high-risk vendors' compliance with wastewater discharge standards.	
3.7.2	<i>Evidence of engagement with suppliers and service providers, as well as, when applicable, actions they have taken in the catchment as a result of the site's engagement related to indirect water use, shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod surveys suppliers and hazardous waste handlers about their water use to identify high-risk suppliers to focus on. On November 30, 2023 Tripod gave AWS training to high risk vendors to encourage vendors to focus on their own water management status.	
3.7.3	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Actions taken to address water related risks and challenges related to indirect water use outside the catchment shall be documented and evaluated.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod gave AWS training to high risk vendors on November 30, 2023 to encourage them to focus on their own water management status. Tripod surveyed vendors and hazardous waste handlers for compliance through the IPE website and sent emails to vendors with records of violations advising to remove the violations, and in 2023, 1 vendor had a record removed.	
Score	7	
3.8	<i>Implement plan to engage with and notify the owners of any shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns the site may have.</i>	
3.8.1	<i>Evidence of engagement, and the key messages relayed with confirmation of receipt, shall be identified.</i>	 Yes

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)








Audit Number: AO-000946

Comment	Wuxi Environmental Protection Bureau, Xishan District Environmental Protection Bureau, Wuxi Water Group visit Tripod from time to time to communicate about water consumption, wastewater discharge and environmental protection. Customers of Tripod also visit Tripod from time to time to carry out factory inspection and communication, and Tripod records every inspection and communication.	
3.9	<i>Implement actions to achieve best practice towards AWS outcomes: continually improve towards achieving sectoral best practice having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.</i>	
3.9.1	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice, related to water governance, as applicable, shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Starting in 2020, Tripod obtained AWS Platinum level certificate, developed AWS International Sustainable Water Stewardship Control Specification (EW04601025-00), and assigned the authority and responsibility for water stewardship to the Energy and Resources Department, Procurement Department, and EHS Control Department. Tripod also continuously collect and update catchment information, best practice cases, carry out water saving measures, maintain communication with stakeholders, etc.	
3.9.2	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water balance shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod not only commissioned a third-party company to conduct water balance assessment in December 2020, but also trained staff with water balance calculation skills. Tripod's water balance calculations are updated annually for the Tuanjie plant and biannually for the Furong plant. In 2023, Tripod implemented measures to reduce water consumption, such as: reuse of back-channel wash water instead of tap water for exhaust tower spraying at the Tuanjie plant, reuse of effluent from the wastewater treatment station instead of tap water for pharmaceutical blending at the wastewater station at the Tuanjie plant, and the introduction of externally reclaimed water at the Furong plant.	
3.9.3	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water quality shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has set 80-90% of the pollutant discharge values for environmental requirements as internal control targets. On-line monitoring devices had been installed at Tripod's wastewater treatment station and networked with local environmental protection authority. About wastewater discharge testing, groundwater monitoring and soil monitoring are carried out regularly to meet or be more strict than government requirements.	
3.9.4	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	There are no Important Water-Related Areas on the site. Although there are no IWRA within the Tripod site, there is a great deal of concern about the status of IWRA in the catchment and some effort has been made. For example: Tripod has developed a monthly river patrol program and organizes staff to patrol the river while uploading the patrol logs to the River Patrol Bao app. 2023 From January-October, the two sites conducted river patrol activities 11 times each. In addition, Tripod also pays attention to IWRA outside the catchment. Tripod participated in a water environment protection exchange jointly organized by customers in May 2023, and one of the activities was to clean up garbage at Qiandao Lake in Hangzhou.	
3.9.5	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod regularly tests drinking water and secondary water supplies for compliance with standards to ensure safe drinking water. Tripod also regularly cleans the restrooms to ensure hygiene and safety. Tripod has conducted a questionnaire survey on employee satisfaction with drinking water and sanitation facilities, and most of the employees were satisfied. Tripod also used the WBCSD self-assessment tool for evaluation and the final result was 97%.	

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

3.9.6	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of good water governance shall be quantified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod's good performance in water governance has received many honors and recognition from governmental departments. For example, Tripod Furong Plant was awarded the honor of Environmental Protection Demonstration Enterprise and Institution in 2022. Tripod Tuanjie Plant was awarded the honor of Environmental Protection Demonstration Enterprise and Institution in 2021. Tripod was awarded the third batch of Water Efficiency Leaders in Wuxi City in 2021, and the advanced enterprise in 2020 for ecological and environmental protection work.	
Score	8	
3.9.7	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of sustainable water balance shall be quantified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod has implemented a number of measures in the area of sustainable water balance, and has achieved Level 1 cleaner production standards for water consumption and drainage.	
Score	8	
3.9.8	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of water quality shall be quantified</i>	 Yes
Comment	For internal control, Tripod has defined the stricter discharge limits for its effluent, which are 80%-90% of the permitted discharge levels. The testing report showed that all testing results are meet the internal standards.	
Score	8	
3.9.9	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas have been implemented.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The facility does not perform this indicator.	
3.9.10	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be quantified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod's WASH level meets the WBCSD's assessment form. Tripod also meets the requirements of GBZ1-2010 Hygiene Standard for Industrial Enterprise Design.	
Score	4	
3.9.11	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>A list of efforts to spread best practices shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	On November 24, 2023, Tripod conducted an AWS online communication session with Hubei Jian Ding to share AWS stewardship experience. On November 30, 2023, Tripod conducted water stewardship training for high-risk suppliers.	
Score	3	
3.9.12	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>A list of collective action efforts, including the organizations involved, positions of responsible persons of other entities involved, and a description of the role played by the site shall be identified.</i>	 Yes


CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

Comment In June 2023, as a co-organizer, Tripod organized environmental protection month activities with Xishan Environmental Protection Bureau and Wuxi Environmental Protection Bureau, providing financial and manpower support. They organized a painting competition on the theme of environmental protection for young people, and received more than 12,000 paintings from the works.

Score 8

3.9.13 *Advanced Indicator* 
Yes
Evidence of the quantified improvement that has resulted from the collective action relative to a site-selected baseline date shall be identified and evidence from an appropriate range of stakeholders linked to the collective action (including both those implementing the action and those affected by the action) that the site is materially and positively contributing to the achievement of the collective action shall be identified.

Comment In June 2023, as a co-organizer, Tripod organized environmental protection month activities with Xishan Environmental Protection Bureau and Wuxi Environmental Protection Bureau, providing financial and manpower support. They organized a painting competition on the theme of environmental protection for young people, and received more than 12,000 paintings from the works.

Score 3

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)


Audit Number: AO-000946

4 STEP 4: EVALUATE - Evaluate the site's performance.	
4.1	<i>Evaluate the site's performance in light of its actions and targets from its water stewardship plan and demonstrate its contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes.</i>
4.1.1	<i>Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated.</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	A management review was conducted on January 6, 2023 to summarize the overall environmental performance in 2022, and the environmental performance in 2022 was summarized, which included water stewardship. Tripod review water stewardship plan and check each performance of targets in the plan.
4.1.2	<i>Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan shall be evaluated.</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	In 2023, copper recycling of wastewater from etching and plating, reduced the generation of approximately 73,000 tons of hazardous waste liquids. 5.24 million tons of recycled water was used, generating an economic benefit of 1.836 million Yuan.
4.1.3	<i>The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	In 2023, Tripod carried out river patrol activities and posted 22 records on the River Patrol Bao app, with a total of 9 hours of public service. In June 2023, as a co-organizer, Tripod held an environmental protection day with the Xishan Environmental Protection Bureau and Wuxi Environmental Protection Bureau, providing financial and human resources support. A youth environmental protection theme painting competition was held, and more than 12,000 paintings of works were received.
4.1.4	<i>Advanced Indicator A governance or executive-level review, including discussion of shared water challenges, water risks, and opportunities, and any water-related cost savings or benefits realized, and any relevant incidents shall be identified.</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	Mr. Huang Leren, General Manager of Mainland China, attended the management review of 2022 environmental performance in January 2023, participated in the discussion of the review meeting, and was responsible for signing off the results of the review.
Score	3
4.2	<i>Evaluate the impacts of water-related emergency incidents (including extreme events), if any occurred, and determine the effectiveness of corrective and preventative measures.</i>
4.2.1	<i>A written annual review and (where appropriate) root-cause analysis of the year's emergency incident(s) shall be prepared and the site's response to the incident(s) shall be evaluated and proposed preventative and corrective actions and mitigations against future incidents shall be identified.</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	No water-related emergencies or extreme events occurred at the site in recent years. Tripod has developed several water-related incident response plans, which contained the analysis and improvement procedure.
4.3	<i>Evaluate stakeholders' consultation feedback regarding the site's water stewardship performance, including the effectiveness of the site's engagement process.</i>

CERTIFICATION REPORT


Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

4.3.1 *Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance shall be identified.*  No

Comment Tripod conducted a stakeholder satisfaction questionnaire survey in November 2023. From the results of the questionnaire, stakeholders were more than 80% satisfied with Tripod's wastewater treatment, water saving, and environment compliance. However, Tripod's water stewardship performance was not reflected in the satisfaction questionnaire.


Finding No: TNR-008709

4.3.2 *Advanced Indicator*
The site's efforts to address shared water challenges shall be evaluated by stakeholders. This shall include stakeholder reviewing of the site's efforts across all five outcome areas, and their suggestions for continual improvement.  Yes

Comment Tripod participated in the wastewater clean plan project proposed by the client, and the water reuse rate of Tripod exceeded 50%, scoring more than 90% in the project evaluation, which was recognized by the client.

Score 6

4.4 *Evaluate and update the site's water stewardship plan, incorporating the information obtained from the evaluation process in the context of continual improvement.*

4.4.1 *The site's water stewardship plan shall be modified and adapted to incorporate any relevant information and lessons learned from the evaluations in this step and these changes shall be identified.*  Yes

Comment Tripod publishes a management review control process, and once a year the AWS Leader meets with management to set goals for the upcoming year and evaluate the previous year's performance. Plan for 2023 were developed at the January 2023 management review meeting, and the 2024 plan is expected to be developed in January 2024.

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

5 STEP 5: COMMUNICATE & DISCLOSE - Communicate about water stewardship and disclose the site's stewardship efforts	
5.1	<i>Disclose water-related internal governance of the site's management, including the positions of those accountable for legal compliance with water-related local laws and regulations.</i>
5.1.1	<i>The site's water-related internal governance, including positions of those accountable for compliance with water-related laws and regulations shall be disclosed.</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	Tripod's Organization Chart of Integrated Management System clearly shows the manager representative of environment and water stewardship, the responsible department and person. The Organization Chart is available on Tripod's website: https://www.tripod-tech.com/article/%E4%BC%81%E6%A5%AD%E7%A4%BE%E6%9C%83%E8%B2%AC%E4%BB%BB%E5%AF%A6%E8%B9%9F-61710ec7da7c6
5.2	<i>Communicate the water stewardship plan with relevant stakeholders.</i>
5.2.1	<i>The water stewardship plan, including how the water stewardship plan contributes to AWS Standard outcomes, shall be communicated to relevant stakeholders.</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	The water stewardship plan is available on Tripod's website. Tripod's website: https://www.tripod-tech.com/article/%E4%BC%81%E6%A5%AD%E7%A4%BE%E6%9C%83%E8%B2%AC%E4%BB%BB%E5%AF%A6%E8%B9%9F-61710ec7da7c6
5.3	<i>Disclose annual site water stewardship summary, including: the relevant information about the site's annual water stewardship performance and results against the site's targets.</i>
5.3.1	<i>A summary of the site's water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets, shall be disclosed annually at a minimum.</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	Water stewardship performance summary is available on Tripod's website (https://www.tripod-tech.com/article/%E4%BC%81%E6%A5%AD%E7%A4%BE%E6%9C%83%E8%B2%AC%E4%BB%BB%E5%AF%A6%E8%B9%9F-61710ec7da7c6) and some public web site such as CDP, PRTR and etc.
5.3.2	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>The site's efforts to implement the AWS Standard shall be disclosed in the organization's annual report.</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	In the CSR report, Tripod disclosed the organization's efforts in implementing the AWS standard, including obtaining the platinum level certification, conducting AWS knowledge training, and supply chain water and water risk surveys.
Score	1
5.3.3	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Benefits to the site and stakeholders from implementation of the AWS Standard shall be quantified in the organization's annual report.</i> ✔ Yes
Comment	In the CSR report, Tripod quantified the organization's efforts in implementing the AWS standard. For example, compared with 2021, total water consumption in 2022 is decreased from 12,240,768 ton to 10,941,288 ton.
Score	1
5.4	<i>Disclose efforts to collectively address shared water challenges, including: associated efforts to address the challenges; engagement with stakeholders; and co-ordination with public-sector agencies.</i>

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

5.4.1	<i>The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Tripod discloses the common water challenges and responses on Tripod's website. Tripod's website: https://www.tripod-tech.com/article/%E4%BC%81%E6%A5%AD%E7%A4%BE%E6%9C%83%E8%B2%AC%E4%BB%BB%E5%AF%A6%E8%B9%9F-61710ec7da7c6	
5.4.2	<i>Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Through holding the publicity campaign regarding environmental protection and water saving on Environmental Day, the site promotes the stakeholders' awareness, including employees, suppliers, government and neighbor enterprise. The site performed the online AWS webinar to their suppliers and Hubei branch, to increase the awareness on water, and also shared the water stewardship practices with the suppliers and Hubei branch. The site performed satisfactory survey to the stakeholders. The site communicated AWS information on Tripod's website. Tripod's website: https://www.tripod-tech.com/article/%E4%BC%81%E6%A5%AD%E7%A4%BE%E6%9C%83%E8%B2%AC%E4%BB%BB%E5%AF%A6%E8%B9%9F-61710ec7da7c6	
5.5	<i>Communicate transparency in water-related compliance: make any site water-related compliance violations available upon request as well as any corrective actions the site has taken to prevent future occurrences.</i>	
5.5.1	<i>Any site water-related compliance violations and associated corrections shall be disclosed.</i>	 Yes
Comment	A procedure to manage non-conformance and related preventive action is developed, there is no water-related compliance violation identified in past few years.	
5.5.2	<i>Necessary corrective actions taken by the site to prevent future occurrences shall be disclosed if applicable.</i>	 Yes
Comment	A procedure to manage non-conformance and related preventive action is developed, there is no water-related compliance violation identified in past few years.	
5.5.3	<i>Any site water-related violation that may pose significant risk and threat to human or ecosystem health shall be immediately communicated to relevant public agencies and disclosed.</i>	 Yes
Comment	A procedure to manage non-conformance and related corrective action is developed, any site water-related violation that may pose significant risk and threat to human or ecosystem health is required to immediately communicated to relevant public.	

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946



Drinking water filling area-Tuanjie Plant.jpg



Wastewater treatment-Tuanjie Plant (2).jpg



Oxidation pond-Furong Plant.JPG

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946



Wastewater treatment-Furong Plant..jpg



Drinking water-Tuanjie Plant.jpg



Disclosure of wastewater testing result.jpg

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946



Initial rainwater collection pond-Tuanjie Plant.jpg



Online monitoring facilities-Furong Plant (2).jpg



Rain water discharge point-Tuanjie Plant.jpg

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946



Drinking water filling area-Furong Plant.jpg



Hazardous waste warehouse-Tuanjie Plant.jpg



Water meter-Tuanjie Plant.jpg

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946



Online monitoring facilities-Furong Plant (1).jpg



The water purification facilities-Tuanjie Plant.jpg



Industrial wastewater discharge point-Tuanjie Plant.jpg



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CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

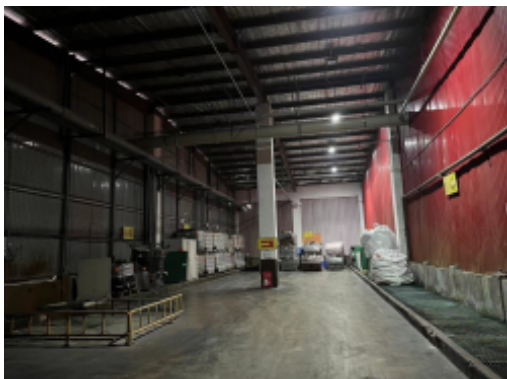
Online monitoring facilities-Tuanjie Plant.jpg



Water meter-Furong Plant.jpg



Initial rainwater collection pond-Furong Plant.jpg



Hazardous waste stored area-Furong Plant.jpg

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946



Hazardous waste stored area-Tuanjie Plant.jpg



Domestic wastewater discharge point-Tuanjie Plant.jpg



Hazardous waste warehouse-Furong Plant.jpg



CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

Chemical warehouse-Tuanjie Plant.jpg



Water reuse system.jpg



The water purification facilities-Furong Plant.jpg



Non-hazardous warehouse-Tuanjie plant.jpg

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946



Wastewater intelligent monitoring platform.jpg



Drinking water-Furong Plant.jpg



Chemical warehouse-Furong Plant.jpg



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CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

Factory gate-Tuanjie Plant.jpg



Rain water discharge point-Furong Plant.jpg



Domestic wastewater discharge point-Furong Plant.jpg



Industrial wastewater discharge point-Furong Plant.jpg

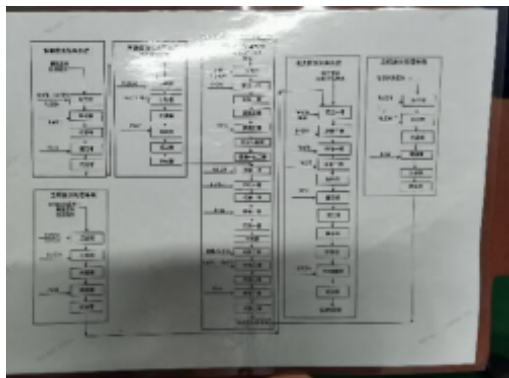
CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946



Drinking water area-Furong Plant.jpg



Wastewater treatment flow chart.jpg



Oxidation pond-Tuanjie Plant.JPG

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946



Non-hazardous warehouse-Furong plant.jpg



Wastewater treatment-Tuanjie Plant (1).jpg



Drinking water area-Tuanjie.jpg



CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000946

Factory gate-Furong Plant.jpg


Yes

Previous Findings

All non-conformities raised in the previous audit have been satisfactorily closed.


Yes