CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001560

WSAS WATER STEWARDSHIP ASSURANCE SERVICES

SITE DETAILS

Site: **Handan Midea Air-conditioning Equipment Co.,Ltd.**

Address: No. 99, Midea Road Economic and Technological Development Zone,, 056000, Handan City, Hebei Province, P.R. CHINA

Contact Person: Jiancheng Zhou

AWS Reference Number: AWS-000789

Site Structure: Single Site

CERTIFICATION DETAILS

Certification status: Certified Gold

Date of certification decision: 2025-Jun-23

Validity of certificate: 2028-Jun-22

AUDIT DETAILS

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

Audit Type(s): Initial Audit

Audit Start Date: 2025-Apr-21

Audit End Date: 2025-Apr-23

Lead Auditor: Harinder Yue

Audit team participants:

Lorry Long

Harinder Yue, Support Auditor

Site Participants:

Yang Hao, Maintenance Engineer

Meng Song, Assistant Manager - Engineering and Maintenance

Ou Zhiguo, Human Resources

Chen Jinyu, EHS Engineer

Zhao Zhiheng, Human Resources

Wu Dongwei, EHS Engineer

Sun Wenbin, Maintenance Engineer

Zhang Jifeng, Engineering Manager

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ADDITIONAL INFO

Summary of Audit Findings: Non-conformities were raised during the certification audit, five non-conformities, 3 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 23/05/2025.

The non-conformities must be closed within 90 days of receipt of the report. In order to meet this timeline evidence is to be submitted to WSAS (within75 days) [by 08/07/2025].

The audit team recommends certification of Handan Media Refrigeration Equipment Co., LTD) at Gold level pending approval of the corrective actions plan and closure of the non-conformities.

Scope of Assessment: The scope of services covers the Initial certification audit for assessing conformity of Handan Media Refrigeration Equipment Co., LTD against the AWS International Water Stewardship Standard Version 2.

Handan Midea Air-Conditioning Equipment Co., Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as "Handan Midea") is located at 99 Midea Road, Handan Economic and Technological Development Zone, Hebei Province. It was established in January 2011 and covers an area of 36 hectare. It is one of the seven R&D and manufacturing bases under the Household Air Conditioning Division of Midea Group's Smart Home Business Group. It mainly undertakes the production and supply of domestic household air conditioners and is the largest white goods production base established by Midea Group in northern China. The site has more than 4,200 employees. The process including metal component manufacturing, plastic component manufacturing, electronic component manufacturing, sub-component assembly, final assembly. The main manufacturing process included: punching, welding, machinery, spraying, washing, powder coating, heating, injection molding, SMT, refrigerant filling, assembly and packaging.
For production, the water is mainly used in washing process and cooling tower.
The water sources used in Handan Midea site area include municipal water.
The municipal water is supplied by Handan city Eastern municipal water plant.
The industrial wastewater in Handan Midea’s site area is treated by its internal wastewater station, then mixed with domestic sewage and then discharged to Handan Economical Development Zone Wastewater Treatment Plant via municipal pipeline for further treatment, and then discharged to Fuyang River.
The facility is located in the Fuyang River catchment, sub-catchment of Haihe River catchment.

The audit was conducted onsite on 2025.04.21~23.
The onsite audit activities included the site visit covering production lines, wastewater treatment plant, chemical warehouse and IWRA, stakeholder interviews and documents review.

FINDINGS

NUMBER OF FINDINGS PER LEVEL

Observation	3
Non-Conformity	5

FINDING DETAILS

Finding No:	TNR-018148
Checklist Item No:	1.2.1
Status:	Closed
Finding level:	Non-Conformity
Due date:	2025-Jul-18
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	The site has not yet established a stakeholder identification and communication procedure to clarify the process of stakeholder identification and define the scope of influence around the site.
Corrective action:	Revise the company's "Sustainable Water Management Manual" to provide detailed and clear procedures for stakeholder identification, and communication.

Finding No:	TNR-018150
Checklist Item No:	1.3.8
Status:	Closed
Finding level:	Non-Conformity
Due date:	2025-Jul-18
Checklist item:	Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site shall be identified.
Findings:	The site has not yet formulated a clear maintenance plan for the water dispenser, including maintenance items and cycles. At the same time, there is no testing plan for drinking water.
Corrective action:	1) Establish the " Direct Drinking Machine Management Operation Standard" to clearly define the responsibilities, operation content, operation standards of all parties, including daily maintenance and maintenance, water quality testing plans, specific requirements, equipment replacement and replacement standards and other contents. 2) Logistics management department carries out targeted training.

Finding No:	TNR-018151
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:	It is recommended that the site improve the process of identifying indirect water use risks, and incorporate internal risks (e.g., supplier water management policy, wastewater quality, etc.) into the indirect water use assessment.

Finding No:	TNR-018152
Checklist Item No:	1.6.1
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	Shared water challenges shall be identified and prioritized from the information gathered.
Findings:	It is recommended that the site update the common water challenges within the basin in the stakeholder questionnaire, with clearer descriptions of the issues in the questionnaire to avoid misunderstandings.

Finding No:	TNR-018202
Checklist Item No:	2.4.2
Status:	Closed
Finding level:	Non-Conformity
Due date:	2025-Jul-23
Checklist item:	Advanced Indicator 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.
Findings:	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 was not identified.
Corrective action:	According to the identified water-related risks that climate change may cause, revise the plan for mitigation or response in the plant area, communicate with the water conservancy authorities, seek their opinions, form a communication memorandum or agreement. Then, according to the communication opinions, revise the plan for mitigating or responding to the plant area in a targeted manner.

Finding No:	TNR-018241
Checklist Item No:	3.2.1
Status:	Closed
Finding level:	Non-Conformity
Due date:	2025-Jul-21
Checklist item:	A process to verify full legal and regulatory compliance shall be implemented.
Findings:	During the on-site view, it is noted that the rainwater pipe network around the canteen building is at risk of being polluted by the drinking water area.
Corrective action:	Conduct a survey and connect the tail water drainage of the water dispenser to the sewage network.

Finding No:	TNR-018245
Checklist Item No:	3.4.2
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Due date:	2025-Jul-21
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	It is recommended to post different signs for Tap water pipes, pure water pipes and concentrated water pipes in the Sheet metal workshop, prevent different water pipes from being mixed up during use.

Finding No:	TNR-018247
Checklist Item No:	4.1.3
Status:	Closed
Finding level:	Non-Conformity
Due date:	2025-Jul-21
Checklist item:	The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.
Findings:	The site has not yet confirmed the shared value benefits of the catchment and quantified them where applicable.
Corrective action:	Identify and qualitatively or quantitatively assess the value benefits created by the external collective actions that have been carried out in the watershed.

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WSAS WATER STEWARDSHIP ASSURANCE SERVICES

Report Details

Report	Value
Report prepared by	Harinder Yue
Report approved by	Ruth Wandera
Report approved on (Date)	16/06/2025

Surveillance

Proposed date for next audit
2026-Apr-21

Stakeholder Announcements

Date of publication	Location
18/02/2025	https://a4ws.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/AWS-000789_Meidi Handan_StakeholderAnnouncement_MonthYY_V3.0-billingual.pdf
18/02/2025	https://www.tuv.com/content-media-files/greater-china/about-us/downloads/management-systems/aws-000789_meidi-handan_stakeholderannouncement_monthyy_v3.0-billingual.pdf
18/02/2025	posted onsite

Catchment Information

Catchment Information

The site used the water by the municipal water for domestic and production from the local water company. The source of the municipal water plant Danjiangkou reservoir (South-to-North Water Diversion Project), and the water source of the Danjiangkou Reservoir mainly comes from the Han River and its tributary Dan River. The industry water is treated by treated by the onsite wastewater treatment plant, and domestic sewage is treated by septic tank. After the onsite treatment, all treated wastewater is discharged to Handan Economical Development Zone Wastewater Treatment Plant via municipal pipeline for further treatment, and then discharged to Fuyang River. The rainwater is discharged into municipal rainwater pipe and then are discharged into the Fuyang River. Based on the location of water source and final discharge, the outer Boundary of the site is the Haihe River Basin.

The Danjiangkou reservoir is located in Hubei Province, about 600 kilometers away from the site. So, the site will mainly focus on the local catchment, Fuyang River catchment, the sub-catchment of Haihe River Catchment.
The Haihe River Catchment is mainly composed of three major river systems: the Haihe River, the Luanhe River, and the Tuhai-Majia River. Among them, the Haihe River system includes the Jiyun River, Chao Bai River, Bei Canal, Yongding River, Daqing River, Ziya River, Zhangwei River, Heilonggang River, and the river systems in the eastern canal region. The basin mainly covers parts of Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Shanxi, Henan, Shandong, Inner Mongolia, and Liaoning, with a total area of 320,600 km². There are 59 rivers with an area of more than 1,000 km².
The Ziya River system is composed of two major tributaries: the Hutuo River and the Fuyang River, with a drainage area of 46,868 km².
The Fuyang River originates near Handan City and Village, and has many tributaries, including the Ming River, Sha River, Niuwei River, and Baima River. After these tributaries converge at Xingjiawan, they form a fan-shaped river system. The Fuyang River flows to Zangjia Bridge in Xian County, where it merges with the Hutuo River to form the Ziya River.
The average total precipitation in the Fuyang River Basin over many years is 671 million cubic meters. The interannual variation of rainfall is large. The maximum rainfall was 1,158.8 millimeters in 1963 and the minimum was 330.9 millimeters in 1965. 79.5% of the years reached more than 400 millimeters. The Fuyang River has water all year round and does not freeze in winter. The amount of water in the river often remains above 6 cubic meters per second.

Fuyang River Catchment.png

Hai River Catchment.png

Client Description and Site Details

Client/Site Background

Handan Midea Air-Conditioning Equipment Co., Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as "Handan Midea") is located at 99 Midea Road, Handan Economic and Technological Development Zone, Hebei Province. It was established in January 2011 and covers an area of 36 hectare. It is one of the seven R&D and manufacturing bases under the Household Air Conditioning Division of Midea Group's Smart Home Business Group. It mainly undertakes the production and supply of domestic household air conditioners and is the largest white goods production base established by Midea Group in northern China. The site has more than 4,200 employees. The process including metal component manufacturing, plastic component manufacturing, electronic component manufacturing, sub-component assembly, final assembly. The main manufacturing process included: punching, welding, machinery, spraying, washing, powder coating, heating, injection molding, SMT, refrigerant filling, assembly and packaging.

For production, the water is mainly used in washing process and cooling tower.

The water source used in Handan Midea site area is only municipal water.

The municipal water is supplied by Handan city Eastern municipal water plant.

The industrial wastewater in Handan Midea's site area is treated by its internal wastewater station, then mixed with domestic sewage and then discharged to Handan Economical Development Zone Wastewater Treatment Plant via municipal pipeline for further treatment, and then discharged to Fuyang River.

Site boundary.jpg

Summary of Shared Water Challenges

Summary of Shared Water Challenges

The share challenges included:

1. Obvious contradiction between supply and demand for water resources. (High)
2. Significant impact of extreme weather, and increased risks of rainstorm and floods. (High)
3. water quality of natural water bodies such as rivers and groundwater within the basin is subject to fluctuations. (Medium)
4. water-related infrastructure is insufficient in the catchment. (Low)

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	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; - Water service provider and its ultimate water source; - Discharge points and wastewater service provider; - The catchment that the site affects and relies on for water. (Haihe River Catchment)	
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.*	✗ No
Comment	The site has identified key stakeholders such as government, employees, clients, infrastructures, surrounding factories, suppliers and etc. The site has developed an analysis table of stakeholders and has established diversified communication channels with different stakeholders, such as phone calls, e-mails, meetings, questionnaires, visits, supplier reviews, official government websites and etc. Stakeholder's water-related interests were collected during the engagement. ***Finding No: TNR-018148***	
1.2.2	*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.*	✓ Yes
Comment	The site has developed an analysis table of stakeholders, the degree of influence between site and stakeholder has been identified of each stakeholder.	

1.3 *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.*

1.3.1 *Existing water-related incident response plans shall be identified.* Yes

Comment: Midea has developed a comprehensive response plan for environmental emergencies, including special emergency response plans for chemical and hazardous waste leakage and its decontamination wastewater treatment, wastewater pipeline leakage, which are all related to water. The plan was registered with Handan Ecological Environment Bureau Economical Technology Development Zone Office, No.130471-2024-009-L.
Midea also developed a chemical leakage emergency preparedness and response operation procedure, MDZL/YA-04, which identifies the response measures when hazardous chemical leakage, the process of response level confirm, reporting of emergency and etc.
Midea has also developed a water cut-off emergency plan, which identifies the response measures when production workshops, living quarters and other water use areas and facilities are facing water cut-off.
In addition, according to seasonal climate change, Midea has also developed an emergency plan for rainstorm, flood and hail to cope with the upcoming extreme weather.
Midea prepares an emergency drill plan every year, which includes all the drill needs planned for the year (including water-related emergency drills), and the drill topics, participants, drill time, etc. are defined.

1.3.2 *Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows shall be identified and mapped* Yes

Comment: Midea has recorded the income and input and output data via meter reading, evaporated water and loss water via estimation or calculation, and developed a water balance map based on the data. The water inflows, losses, reuses, and outflows were identified and mapped.
Midea tracks the readings of each water meter and carries out water balance analysis every month. The annual variance in water usage rates was quantified.
In November 2023, the site commissioned a qualified third-party to analyze its water balance for the year 2023 and compiled a water balance analysis report.

1.3.3 *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.* Yes

Comment: Midea has recorded the income and input and output data via meter reading or estimation or calculation and developed a water balance map based on the data. The water inflows, losses, reuses, and outflows were identified and mapped. Midea tracks the readings of each water meter and carries out water balance analysis every month. The annual variance in water usage rates was quantified. Water consumption of recent 3 years (301,224 m3 in 2022, 330,782 m3 in 2023, 364,620 m3 in 2024)
In November 2023, the site commissioned a qualified third-party to analyze its water balance for the year 2023 and compiled a water balance analysis report.

1.3.4 *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.* Yes

Comment	Midea has developed a water-related quality monitoring plan, including Industrial wastewater, , rainwater, domestic wastewater, drinking water, groundwater. For example: • Industrial wastewater is tested by an external qualified laboratory once a quarter. The site has installed online monitoring facilities at the wastewater discharge outlet to monitor pH, COD, NH3-N in real-time. • Domestic wastewater is tested by an external qualified laboratory once a year. • Rainwater is tested by an external qualified laboratory twice a year. • Drinking water is tested by an external qualified laboratory once a year. • Purified water is used in the production process of the site. Midea carries out RO purification treatment for municipal water. The conductivity of the purified water for production is monitored in real time internally to ensure that the water quality meets its process requirements. • Groundwater (1 point) is tested by an external qualified laboratory once a quarter. •The site monitors the parameters (COD, NH3-N, TP, pH) of the Fuyang River (the final receiving water body for rainwater and wastewater) by themselves once a year. •Midea also pays attention to the water quality of Danjiangkou Reservoir and the water supply company through the official website.	
1.3.5	*Potential sources of pollution shall be identified and if applicable, mapped, including chemicals used or stored on site.*	Yes
Comment	The site has established a chemical inventory, which includes information on the names, hazard categories, uses, quantities, storage locations, quantities, and compatibility of the chemicals used on the site. And a map was drawn, identifying and marking the storage and use areas of chemicals. Rainwater and domestic wastewater are discharged separately through different pipe networks. Midea drew a rainwater and sewage pipe network diagram, and the rainwater and wastewater transmission pipelines were mapped. Midea also drew a map of potential pollution sources, wastewater treatment facility, hazardous waste storage areas and chemical storage areas were identified. The site also identifies the pollution factors of each potential pollution source.	
1.3.6	*On-site Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified and mapped, including a description of their status including Indigenous cultural values.*	Yes
Comment	As per the site tour, document review, and interview, no IWRA is within the site.	
1.3.7	*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.*	Yes
Comment	The water-related costs sheet was provided for review, including 1. Water supply invoice 2. Cost of wastewater discharge rights 3. Cost of Water/Wastewater Treatment (including electricity of pumps, consumables, depreciation and maintenance of facilities, etc.) 4. Water/wastewater/rainwater quality testing, peripheral water testing. Operation and maintenance of wastewater online testing facilities 5. AWS related expenses The site identified water-related cost data for 2024.	
1.3.8	*Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site shall be identified.*	No

Comment

• As per the Evaluation Report on the Effectiveness of Occupational Disease Hazard Control The WASH facilities in the site area, such as the restaurant, workshops, etc. comply with the requirements of the Hygiene Standards for Industrial Enterprises (GBZ 1-2002).
• The site installs water purification facilities in workshops, office areas and living quarters, providing drinking water to employees. The water purification facilities were regularly maintained.
• The site entrusts a third-party laboratory once a year to test the water quality of the secondary water supply in the site area.
• The site provides employees with free drinking water, is equipped with 48 water dispensers, and entrusts a third-party laboratory to test the quality of drinking water, in accordance with the standard: Drinking Water Quality Standard, GB 5749-2022
• The site also provides sufficient toilets to workers, and regular cleaning was conducted. Necessary equipment like handwash and tissue were also provided.
• The site performed the assessment of the WASH level as per WBCSD. The result is satisfied.

Finding No: TNR-018150

1.4 *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.*

1.4.1 *The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site's catchment, shall be identified.* Obs.

Comment

The site screened the suppliers and categorized them into indoor unit and outdoor unit, then selected suppliers with a procurement amount greater than 5% total weight in each category for investigation, resulting in 16 suppliers being included in the survey, and all 16 suppliers responded to the site's survey.
Through the investigation, the site collected water consumption information from suppliers. Moreover, the site also evaluates the risk of indirect water based on the supplier's location and WWF water risk screening results, etc.

1.4.2 *The embedded water use of outsourced services shall be identified, and where those services originate within the site's catchment, quantified.* Yes

Comment

The site also collects the water consumption of its outsourced services such as hazardous waste and non-hazardous waste disposal units through interviews/questionnaires.
The transportation vendors did not have a car washing center, so the car washing is performed by driver randomly, making it unable to quantify.

1.4.3 *Advanced Indicator*
The embedded water use of primary inputs in catchment(s) of origin shall be quantified. Yes

Comment

Via the data of the industry average water consumption of raw materials researched, the site calculated the embedded water use of the main suppliers. The embedded water use of materials is about 1,175,340 tons by calculation (based on data provided by the main 16 suppliers).

1.5 *Gather water-related data for the catchment, including water governance, water balance, water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, infrastructure, and WASH*

1.5.1 *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.* Yes

Comment

Water governance initiatives were identified in the Catchment Background Survey Report by the site. The initiatives included national, provincial, and local levels, including the catchment development plan, industrial development plan, environmental and ecological conservation plan, etc.

1.5.2	*Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be identified, including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights.*	Yes
Comment	Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements were collected and listed. The site checks and updates the list annually.	
1.5.3	*The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be quantified, including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance.*	Yes
Comment	The site collected the Water Resources Bulletin via the related authority website, which contained the water-balance and water quality information of the catchment. The water balance is analyzed based on the rainfall, precipitation, surface water resources, groundwater resources, water diversion, consumption, total water supply and total water consumption. Via the information, the water resources development and utilization rate has exceeded the internationally recognized warning line level for local area. However, the supply of tap water is sufficient due to the South-to-North Water Diversion Project, which introduced water from Hubei Province, thousands of kilometers away.	
1.5.4	*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.*	Yes
Comment	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). The data includes the water quality of the water source, the final discharged water body, and the water from municipal water plant. The data will be published monthly or annually, therefore, the annual variances could be identified.	
1.5.5	*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.*	Yes
Comment	The Catchment Background Survey Report lists the Important Water-Related Area of the catchment. The Important Water-Related Areas are collected from government published documents, including 'Ecological protection red line of Hebei Province', 'Ecological environment zoning of three lines and one list'. The status of the IWRAs is collected from the manage authorities.	
1.5.6	*Existing and planned water-related infrastructure shall be identified, including condition and potential exposure to extreme events.*	Yes
Comment	The Catchment Background Survey Report lists the existing and planned water-related infrastructure including water supply, 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	*The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be identified.*	Yes
Comment	The site obtained the WASH status in Handan from Handan Statistical Yearbook for 2023, including the tap water penetration rate, wastewater treatment rate and other data. Overall, the WASH services is good in Handan City.	

1.5.8	*Advanced Indicator* *Efforts by the site to support and undertake catchment level water-related data collection shall be identified.*	Yes
Comment	The site monitors the significant water bodies outside the site, Fuyang River (the ultimate receiving water body for site rainwater, domestic wastewater, and industrial wastewater), with parameters including pH, ammonia nitrogen, COD, TP, BOD. The sampling point is located 50 meters upstream of Yueai Lake and Ecological River confluence in point, 50 meters downstream of Yueai Lake and Ecological River confluence out point. The site shared the test reports with its key stakeholders, such as the Environmental Protection Bureau and Water Supply Bureau.	
1.5.9	*Advanced Indicator* *The adequacy of WASH provision within the catchments of origin of primary inputs shall be identified.*	Yes
Comment	The site 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, health organizations and etc.	
1.6	*Understand current and future shared water challenges in the catchment, by linking the water challenges identified by stakeholders with the site's water challenges.*	
1.6.1	*Shared water challenges shall be identified and prioritized from the information gathered.*	Obs.
Comment	Midea identifies 4 shared challenges in the catchment, and addressed initiatives are also established. The share challenges included: 1. Obvious contradiction between supply and demand for water resources. (High) 2. Significant impact of extreme weather, and increased risks of rainstorm and floods. (High) 3. water quality of natural water bodies such as rivers and groundwater within the basin is subject to fluctuations. (Medium□ 4. water-related infrastructure is insufficient in the catchment . (Low□ Meanwhile, based on the analysis of relevance/rationale for stakeholders and relevance/rational for the site, the site has prioritized the shared challenges. The risk level from low to high. The level of risk is determined by attention, impact, and outcome.	
1.6.2	*Initiatives to address shared water challenges shall be identified.*	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	*Advanced Indicator* *Future water issues shall be identified, including anticipated impacts and trends*	Yes
Comment	The site analyzed the trends in population changes, water source and climate changes within the catchment by querying reports published by government or academic institutions. And based on research reports and WWF, predictions were made for future water issues in the catchment. Overall, by 2030, the shortage of water resources in the catchment can gradually intensify to high risk, and the water quality problem in the catchment will raised to high risk.	
1.6.4	*Advanced Indicator* *Potential water-related social impacts from the site shall be identified, resulting in a social impact assessment with a particular focus on water.*	Yes

Comment	The site conducted a focused social impact assessment on site-related water issues and compiled a social impact assessment report, which mainly covers the following contents: 1. Description of the current situation related to site water 2. Water use and drainage patterns of the site a. Basic situation of local water resources b. Local socio-economic conditions and major water-consuming industries c. Water resource stress and other risks 3. Identification and analysis of social impacts a. Water consumption and its impact on water resource availability b. Water quality and health impact c. Impact on livelihoods and socio-economic development d. Ecosystem impact e. Impact on occupational health and safety of employees 4. Stakeholder identification 5. Impact evaluation 6. Mitigation and improvement measures 7. Monitoring and evaluation	
1.7	*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.*	
1.7.1	*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.*	Yes
Comment	The site has developed AWS Management Manual including the risk and opportunity identification process. The site has identified its water risks covering water governance, sustainable water balance and water quality, etc. Based on risk analysis, the site has prioritized its water risks according to potential impact, likelihood and difficulty of detection. Meanwhile, corresponding response strategies to mitigate water risks are developed.	
1.7.2	*Water-related opportunities shall be identified, including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities.*	Yes
Comment	The site has developed AWS Management Manual including the risk and opportunity identification process. The site identified water-related opportunities including cost saving, capacity enhancement, enterprise operation sustainability, and customer satisfaction, and ranked their importance.	
1.8	*Understand best practice towards achieving AWS outcomes: Determining sectoral best practices having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.*	
1.8.1	*Relevant catchment best practice for water governance shall be identified.*	Yes
Comment	The site has identified relevant catchment best practices for water governance including: • Conduct water management certification, such as ISO 14001, AWS; • Communicate stakeholders to promote water stewardship; • Conduct water balance testing • Publicly disclose water information. •Conduct water management training for suppliers.	
1.8.2	*Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water balance (either through water efficiency or less total water use) shall be identified.*	Yes

Comment	The site has identified relevant sector and/or catchment best practices for water balance including: • The wastewater reuse rate has reached the top 5% of the industry according to Evaluation Requirements for Green Factories in the Air-Conditioning Manufacturing Industry; • The water consumption per unit product has reached the advanced level of the industry water quota within the catchment as published by the official authorities. • Leakage Rate (Comparison between Primary and Secondary Meters) meets the domestic standard requirements and Group requirements.	
1.8.3	*Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water quality shall be identified, including rationale for data source.*	Yes
Comment	The site has identified relevant sector and/or catchment best practices for water quality, such as: • Establishing stricter internal wastewater discharge standards than the requirements of the pollution discharge permit. • Wastewater per Unit of Product has reached the top 5% of the industry according to Evaluation Requirements for Green Factories in the Air-Conditioning Manufacturing Industry	
1.8.4	*Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified.*	Yes
Comment	The site has identified best practices related to Important Water-Related Areas (IWRA). Such as: Water quality monitoring of neighbor river. Support projects aimed at restoring and improving IWRAs that have been damaged in the past. Support public awareness campaigns that can enhance public recognition of IWRAs and prevent actions by others that may harm IWRAs.	
1.8.5	*Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services shall be identified.*	Yes
Comment	The site has identified relevant sector and/or catchment best practices for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services including: • WBCSD self-assessment tool • The quantity of toilet and drinking facilities meet the voluntary clause of the GBZ 1-2010 Hygienic standards for the design of industrial enterprises	

2	STEP 2: COMMIT & PLAN - Commit to be a responsible water steward and develop a Water Stewardship Plan	
2.1	*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.*	
2.1.1	*A signed and publicly disclosed site statement OR organizational document shall be identified. The statement or document shall include the following commitments:* *- That the site will implement and disclose progress on water stewardship program(s) to achieve improvements in AWS water stewardship outcomes* *- That the site implementation will be aligned to and in support of existing catchment sustainability plans* *- That the site's stakeholders will be engaged in an open and transparent way* *- That the site will allocate resources to implement the Standard.*	Yes
Comment	A water stewardship commitment to follow all the AWS core criteria has been signed by the top management of Handan Midea. The commitment includes all the necessary elements and has been displayed on the site: https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/T44NrdGEPbsftkEU4Q20zw.	
2.1.2	*Advanced Indicator* *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.*	Yes
Comment	A water stewardship commitment to follow all the AWS core criteria has been signed by the top management of Handan Midea. The commitment has been displayed on displayed on the site: https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/T44NrdGEPbsftkEU4Q20zw.	
2.2	*Develop and document a process to achieve and maintain legal and regulatory compliance.*	
2.2.1	*The system to maintain compliance obligations for water and wastewater management shall be identified, including:* *- Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility organizational structure* *- Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.*	Yes
Comment	Handan Midea disclosed the information of its water management organizational structure and members of the compliance responsible team on the site: https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/T44NrdGEPbsftkEU4Q20zw. Handan Midea has prepared its own sustainable water stewardship operation procedure, which defines the water management responsibilities of each department. The Measures for the management of environmental compliance and process control QMK-GC15.0036-2022 was established to ensures the operation of Handan Midea meets the provisions of relevant laws, regulations and other requirements. The guidance on the submission of compliance data to regulatory authorities, was also included in the Procedure QMK-GC15.0036-2022.	
2.3	*Create a water stewardship strategy and plan including addressing risks (to and from the site), shared catchment water challenges, and opportunities.*	
2.3.1	*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.*	Yes

Comment	Handan Midea has developed a water stewardship strategy and announced it on the site: https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/T44NrdGEPbsftkEU4Q20zw. To realize water stewardship strategy, in the field of water management, Handan Midea has been committed to continuously improving the water management performance of its own operations, actively participating in and promoting the transformation of the industrial chain, and contributing to the water security of employees, river basins and communities. Specific strategic priorities, objectives and work paths include: (1) Improve the concept and ability of water conservation for all employees, fully implement a complete water management system, and ensure full coverage of production and operation links. (2) Focus on the evaluation, development and practice of technological innovation in water-saving production processes, environment-friendly processes, resource recycling and reclaimed water reuse. (3) Improve the transparency of water management information and performance, actively participate in or initiate industry initiatives, promote cooperation among relevant parties, and lead industry change. (4) Take the initiative to carry out water risk assessment in the basin, consider the possible long-term impact of climate change, and formulate corresponding risk management plans and contingency plans.

2.3.2	*A water stewardship plan shall be identified, including for each target:* *- 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	The site developed a water stewardship plan, covering the aspects of water balance, water quality, IWRA, water governance, WASH and indirect water use, etc. Each goal is defined clearly and set up various measures according to the requirements of 2.3.2. 1. Improve wastewater treatment and reuse; increase metering and dividing water meters; establish a leakage detection system: carry out underground water supply pipeline detection, improve and correct drawing data, identify and repair leakage points. 2. Regularly conduct water quality testing of discharged wastewater, including effluent from sewage treatment plants, domestic sewage, and groundwater. 3. Organize surrounding stakeholders to jointly conduct river patrols and garbage collection activities at Yue Ai Lake and nearby rivers, carry out water conservation promotion activities and tree planting activities at surrounding schools or Yue Ai Lake, and conduct water quality testing in the rivers around Yue Ai Lake. 4. Complete the establishing of AWS system; Conduct sustainable water resource management training to enhance employees' water conservation awareness; Regularly conduct water-related emergency drills. 5. Use WBCSD to evaluate the WASH of the site; Increase the frequency of bathroom cleaning; regularly replace the water dispenser filter, regularly test water quality; regularly clean the site hygiene. 6. Conduct training on sustainable water management in the supply chain; Conduct a supplier satisfaction survey.	

2.3.3	*Advanced Indicator* *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.*	✓ Yes

Comment	In February 2025, Handan Midea as an organizer, organized a river patrol activity in Yue Ai Lake with local Directorate of Social Affairs and one Water utility, a total of 15 persons attended the activity. In February 2025, Handan Midea shared the water management experience at Handan Development Zone Primary School and taught the students how to identify and post water-saving signs. In March 2025, Handan Midea as an organizer, organized a tree planting activity in Yue Ai Lake with local Bureau of Urban Management Administration and Law Enforcement, a total of 13 persons attended the activity. In March 2025, Handan Midea helped two nearby factories to conduct the leak detection of water pipelines.	
2.3.4	*Advanced Indicator* *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.*	Yes
Comment	In January 2025, the site organized Supply Chain Water Conservation Management Seminar with total 16 suppliers from different catchments.	
2.3.5	*Advanced Indicator* *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.*	Yes
Comment	Handan Midea communicates its sustainable water stewardship plan with various stakeholders through face to face, interviews, and questionnaires, including wastewater treatment service provider, freshwater service provider, local ecological environment bureaus, Directorate of Social Affairs, enterprises, nearby schools and communities. For example, Handan Midea communicates its sustainable water management performance with Directorate of Social Affairs, and the person responsible stated that the site has made great achievements in environmental protection, and the water affairs department fully supports the continued development of process water-saving transformation and water-saving technology application, and recommends more external exchanges, good experience and technology sharing, and more organization or participation in regional water-saving public welfare publicity activities.	
2.4	*Demonstrate the site's responsiveness and resilience to respond to water risks*	
2.4.1	*A plan to mitigate or adapt to identified water risks developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.*	Yes
Comment	Handan Midea has identified its water risks covering water governance, sustainable water balance and water quality. Meanwhile, Handan Midea has also developed a Production Emergency Response Management Procedure, and Emergency response plan for environmental emergencies to control and respond to water risks under different scenarios, such as wastewater leakage, equipment failure, water supply interruption, natural disasters, etc. The site developed these via study of the government's water-related plan or consultation and discussion with the government.	
2.4.2	*Advanced Indicator* *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.*	No
Comment	Handan Midea has developed a Special Emergency Response Plan for water risks associated with climate change. And two relevant public-sectors and infrastructure agencies (Handan city Water Conservation Promotion Center, and Eastern Water Plant) are also identified and coordinated with. Their support and capabilities are listed.	

Finding No: TNR-018202

3	STEP 3: IMPLEMENT - Implement the site's stewardship plan and improve impacts

3.1 *Implement plan to participate positively in catchment governance.*

3.1.1 *Evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance shall be identified.* ✓ Yes

Comment: Handan Midea cooperates with the government supervision department actively to conduct supervisory inspections and visits.
Handan Midea respectively selected that the river flow in the site and one point that the river flow out of the site of the Yue Ai Lake, to conduct water quality testing (test parameters include pH, BOD, TP, COD and NH3-N, etc., a total of 5 parameters) according to the national standard: Surface Water Environmental Quality Standard GB 3838-2002.)
Handan Midea also shared the water quality monitoring reports of the stakeholder, such as Social Affairs Bureau, water company and suppliers.
The site shared their AWS system and Water Stewardship Plan with local government, such as Ecological Environmental Bureau and Social Affairs Bureau.

3.1.2 *Measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, that are not part of 3.2 shall be implemented.* ✓ Yes

Comment: The water rights are respected under legal and regulatory mechanisms, and there are no indigenous people in the catchment area.

3.2 *Implement system to comply with water-related legal and regulatory requirements and respect water rights.*

3.2.1 *A process to verify full legal and regulatory compliance shall be implemented.* ✗ No

Comment: The □Measures for the Management of Environmental Compliance and Process Control□QMK-GC15.0036-2022 has been formulated on 23 November 2022, to ensure the operation of Handan Midea meet the provisions of relevant laws, regulations and other requirements. The site prepared an evaluation report on compliance with water management regulations and obtains updated information on laws and regulation every year and keeps records. According to IPE and monitoring reports, the site operated in accordance with laws and regulations.

Finding No: TNR-018241

3.2.2 *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.* ✓ Yes

Comment: The □Measures for the Management of Environmental Compliance and Process Control□QMK-GC15.0036-2022 has been formulated on 23 November 2022, to ensure the operation of Handan Midea meet the provisions of relevant laws, regulations and other requirements. The site prepared an evaluation report on compliance with water management regulations and obtains updated information on laws and regulation every year and keeps records. No water-related non-compliance has happened in Handan Midea.
Handan Midea has developed a water quality monitoring plan, including rainwater, discharged wastewater, and groundwater to ensure that the drainage water quality and pollutant concentrations in groundwater meet the requirements of laws and regulations.

3.3 *Implement plan to achieve site water balance targets.*

3.3.1 *Status of progress towards meeting water balance targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.* ✓ Yes

Comment	The site has developed a Water Stewardship Plan (Year 2024 and 2025) improvement action list, which specifies action description, goal, project leader, cooperation stakeholders, financial budget, completion time, goal achievement, benefits, supporting materials, etc. Handan Midea has developed a proposal for improving water balance in 2024, with a total of 6 improvement measures approved, involving topics such as optimizing production processes to save water consumption and improve wastewater utilization, such as 1, The site arranged personnel responsible to investigate and repair the leakage points of the waterway in the factory area to prevent the water from "running, rising, dripping and leaking". 2, Chapless cutting application of two short U copper sheets, the annual water saving is 30,000 m3, which greatly reduces the water production, treatment and discharge of production wastewater. 3, Through technological innovation, the water consumption of production equipment is reduced, and the concentrated water generated by pure water equipment is reused in the sheet metal washing line. 4, Completed the renovation of the water pipe & set of mold waterway of the injection molding machine in the injection molding branch, and recycled the cooling water to reduce the amount of fresh water and sewage generated. 5, On-site water waste inspection: Compare the water payment data provided by the water service with the actual over-meter data every month, and if the data is different, the underground pipe network of the plant shall be investigated for water leakage and timely repair. 6, Leakage detection: Regularly inspect the leakage in the water pipeline system and find and repair the leakage in time.	
3.3.2	*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.*	Yes
Comment	Handan Midea continuously improves the wastewater reuse rate through various ways, such as: -The site newly built the water reuse treatment equipment and dedicated pipeline systems, allowing the treated wastewater from the sewage treatment plant to be reused for flushing toilets in production workshops and for landscaping in the plant area. A total of 180 tons of water are reused every day. -The application of intelligent irrigation systems replaces traditional manual flooding methods, utilizing collected rainwater and other recycled water to create an effective internal water circulation effect. -Collect the concentrated water from the pure water production, and after purification treatment, reuse it for replenishing the HVAC system. -Rainwater collected and treated is used to supplement water for the greenery in the factory area. -The condensate from the central air conditioning system is used to supplement the cooling tower water.	
3.3.3	*Legally-binding documentation, if applicable, for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs shall be identified.*	Yes
Comment	No legally binding documentation is issued by local government authorities to the site for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs.	
3.3.4	*Voluntary Advanced Indicator* *The total volume of water voluntarily re-allocated (from site water savings) for social, cultural and environmental needs shall be quantified.*	N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
3.4	*Implement plan to achieve site water quality targets*	
3.4.1	*Status of progress towards meeting water quality targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.*	Yes

Comment	The site developed a production water test plan and conducted water test regularly according to the plan. Meanwhile, the site entrusts a third-party laboratory to test the surface water quality in the nearby lake. The discharge of water to the industrial park ETP was tested according to the plan. According to the test report and analysis record provided by the site, the water quality is 100% in line with its internal control standard. The specific details are as follows: Internal control index of discharged wastewater: SS 120 mg/L; NH3-N 21 mg/L; COD 270 mg/L; TP 2.4 mg/L, achieving 100% of the internal control targets by 2025. In addition, the site ensures the amount of wastewater generated per unit product at the level of the top 5% in the industry.	
3.4.2	*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.*	Obs.
Comment	Water quality was identified shared challenge. The site identified the discharge water standards and developed its own water quality standard for fulfil water quality requirements. The site keeps improving production processes and upgrading utilities to achieve water saving and reduce contaminants into the wastewater. The Unit of industrial wastewater discharge was from 3.98 L/unit in 2023 to 1.92 L/unit in 2024	
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	Handan Midea monitored the water quality of the confluence of two rivers (Fuyang river and Yue Ai Ecological River). Yue Ai Ecological River is the final receiving body of rainwater of the site and the discharge point of wetland which receives the wastewater of off-site ETP. The test parameters include NH3-N, TP, COD) in accordance with the national standard: Surface Water Environmental Quality Standard GB 3838-2002 Test reports are shared with the local environmental protection department and water sector.	
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 site 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 site 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	1, The WASH installations fully comply with the national “Hygienic Standards for the Design of Industrial Enterprises” (GBZ 1-2010). 2, The site conducts WBCSD self-assessment to evaluate the level of onsite WASH and the result was 1.8. 3, The site carried out a questionnaire survey on employee satisfaction regarding drinking water, sanitation, and facilities, and according to the survey results, satisfaction was about 80%. 4. Handan Midea conducts regular testing of drinking water and replaces the water dispenser filter regularly to ensure safe drinking water. 5. Sanitation and hygiene installations were checked and cleaned daily, and the maintenance record was well posted.	
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
Comment	No evidence is shown that the site is impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations according to the interviews with the site’s employees, local community and local government authorities.	
3.6.3	*Advanced Indicator* *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.*	N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
3.6.4	*Voluntary Advanced Indicator:* *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.*	N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
3.7	*Implement plan to maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment:*	
3.7.1	*Evidence that indirect water use targets set in the water stewardship plan, as applicable, have been met shall be quantified.*	Yes
Comment	Indirect water use targets have been set in the water stewardship plan. The site sends questionnaires to suppliers to understand their water-related situation, including water quantity, water cost, product capacity, what catchment they belong to and wastewater discharge. The site uses WWF to understand catchment risk of suppliers, which include water shortage, flooding, water quality, status of ecosystem services and environment.	
3.7.2	*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.*	Yes
Comment	The site organized a meeting in January 2025 with raw materials suppliers to introduce the AWS program and requirements for suppliers.	
3.7.3	*Advanced Indicator* *Actions taken to address water related risks and challenges related to indirect water use outside the catchment shall be documented and evaluated.*	Yes

Comment	Handan Midea provided AWS training for 16 suppliers on 15 January 2025. Handan Midea conducted a questionnaire survey on its existing top 16 suppliers and analyzed their indirect water use based on the survey questionnaire. Based on the water risk assessment results of the suppliers, one key supplier (outside the catchment) was selected to be kept attention.
3.8	*Implement plan to engage with and notify the owners of any shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns the site may have.*
3.8.1	*Evidence of engagement, and the key messages relayed with confirmation of receipt, shall be identified.* ✓ Yes
Comment	Handan Midea actively cooperates with the government supervision department to conduct supervisory inspections and visits. Handan Midea keeps close contact with local water-related infrastructure owners through many ways such as Onsite visits, WeChat, e-mail or phone call. The site had provided the evidence such as photos, written record, QR code to demonstrate that it has communicated to the authorities regarding shared water-related infrastructure, as well as any responses received.
3.9	*Implement actions to achieve best practice towards AWS outcomes: continually improve towards achieving sectoral best practice having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.*
3.9.1	*Actions towards achieving best practice, related to water governance, as applicable, shall be implemented.* ✓ Yes
Comment	1. The site has developed its own sustainable water stewardship management manual, to standardize its water management activities. The site conducted internal training regarding sustainable water stewardship management manual on 19 February 2025, to help the management team implement and improve its water management system. 2. Handan Midea communicates its sustainable water stewardship plan with various stakeholders through face to face, interviews, and questionnaires, including wastewater treatment service provider, freshwater service provider, local ecological environment bureaus, Directorate of Social Affairs, enterprises, nearby schools and communities. 3. Handan Midea has established an Environment and Water Stewardship Committee to coordinate its environmental and water management related affairs. An organization chart of the environment and water stewardship management team is included in the AWS management manual. And the related information was also disclosed in the website:https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/T44NrdGEPbsftkEU4Q20zw. 4. The site assigned the third party to conduct the wastewater test to ensure that the wastewater within the local law limit and internal control standard.
3.9.2	*Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water balance shall be implemented.* ✓ Yes
Comment	Handan Midea has developed a proposal for improving water balance in 2025, with a total of 9 improvement measures approved, involving topics such as adding water measuring instruments Equipment, and improve wastewater utilization, such as: 1, The condensate from the central air conditioning system is used to supplement the cooling tower water, and the revenue from this project is RMB 29,400 per year; 2, Benefit-sharing water-saving management project, including 1. Build a water monitoring platform; 2. Establish a leakage inspection system; 3. Water-saving renovation of terminal sanitary fittings; 4. Utilization of recycled water; 5. System operation and maintenance management. And the revenue from this project is RMB 400,000 per year. 3, The application of intelligent irrigation systems replaces traditional manual flooding methods, utilizing collected rainwater and other recycled water to create an effective internal water circulation effect. 4, The site newly built the reuse water treatment equipment and dedicated pipeline systems, allowing the treated wastewater from the sewage treatment plant to be reused for flushing toilets in production workshops and for landscaping in the site area.

3.9.3	*Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water quality shall be implemented.*	Yes
Comment	Handan Midea 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: The specific details are as follows: Internal control index of discharged wastewater: SS 120 mg/L; NH3-N 21 mg/L; COD 270 mg/L; TP 2.4 mg/L. And the site also set the Tagert for the amount of wastewater generated per unit product, 1.89 L. It far exceeded Evaluation Requirements for Green Factories in the Air Conditioning Manufacturing Industry, (T/CNLIC 0057-2022).	
3.9.4	*Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.*	Yes
Comment	In February 2025, Handan Midea as an organizer, organized a river patrol activity in Yue Ai Lake with local Directorate of Social Affairs and one Water utility, a total of 15 persons attended the activity. In February 2025, Handan Midea shared the water management experience at Handan Development Zone Primary School and taught the students how to identify and post water-saving signs. In March 2025, Handan Midea as an organizer, organized a tree planting activity in Yue Ai Lake with local Bureau of Urban Management Administration and Law Enforcement, a total of 13 persons attended the activity.	
3.9.5	*Actions towards achieving best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be implemented.*	Yes
Comment	The site has evenly equipped drinking water facilities based on the results of employee surveys. Handan Midea assigned the personnel responsible to increase the frequency of bathroom cleaning; regularly replace the water dispenser filter, regularly test water quality; regularly clean the site hygiene. The site conducts WBCSD self-assessment to evaluate the level of onsite WASH and the result was 1.8.	
3.9.6	*Voluntary Advanced Indicator* *Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of good water governance shall be quantified.*	N/A
Comment	The site did not perform this indicator.	
3.9.7	*Voluntary Advanced Indicator* *Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of sustainable water balance shall be quantified.*	N/A
Comment	The site did not perform this indicator.	
3.9.8	*Voluntary Advanced Indicator* *Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of water quality shall be quantified*	N/A
Comment	The site did not perform this indicator.	
3.9.9	*Voluntary Advanced Indicator* *Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas have been implemented.*	N/A
Comment	The site did not perform this indicator.	
3.9.10	*Voluntary Advanced Indicator* *Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be quantified.*	N/A

Comment	The site did not perform this indicator.	
3.9.11	*Voluntary Advanced Indicator* *A list of efforts to spread best practices shall be identified.*	N/A
Comment	The site did not perform this indicator.	
3.9.12	*Voluntary Advanced Indicator* *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.*	Yes
Comment	In February 2025, Handan Midea as an organizer, organized a river patrol activity in Yue Ai Lake with local Directorate of Social Affairs and one Water utility, a total of 15 persons attended the activity. In February 2025, Handan Midea shared the water management experience at Handan Development Zone Primary School and taught the students how to identify and post water-saving signs. In March 2025, Handan Midea as an organizer, organized a tree planting activity in Yue Ai Lake with local Bureau of Urban Management Administration and Law Enforcement, a total of 13 persons attended the activity.	
3.9.13	*Voluntary Advanced Indicator* *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.*	N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	

4	STEP 4: EVALUATE - Evaluate the site's performance.	
4.1	*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.*	
4.1.1	*Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated.*	Yes
Comment	A management review was conducted on 18 March 2025 to summarize the overall environmental performance in 2024, and the environmental performance in 2024 was summarized, which included water stewardship. review water stewardship plan and check each performance of targets in the plan.	
4.1.2	*Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan shall be evaluated.*	Yes
Comment	Handan Midea analyzed its costs and value creation resulting from the implementation of water stewardship plan. In 2024, the site saved water about 40,000 m3 by transformation of production process and waterway pipe network.	
4.1.3	*The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.*	No
Comment	The site analyzed its value creation resulting from the implementation of the water stewardship plan, especially the implementation of water-saving projects. For example, Handan Midea implemented a total of 9 improvement measures approved, involving topics such as adding water measuring instruments Equipment, and improve wastewater utilization. ***Finding No: TNR-018247***	
4.1.4	*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.*	N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
4.2	*Evaluate the impacts of water-related emergency incidents (including extreme events), if any occurred, and determine the effectiveness of corrective and preventative measures.*	
4.2.1	*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.*	Yes
Comment	The site presents its emergency response procedure and plan identifying proposed preventive and corrective actions, as well as measures to mitigate future incidents. No water-related emergencies and extreme events occurred at the site in recent years.	
4.3	*Evaluate stakeholders' consultation feedback regarding the site's water stewardship performance, including the effectiveness of the site's engagement process.*	
4.3.1	*Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance shall be identified.*	Yes

Comment	The site communicated its water stewardship performance for 2024, involving with the Directorate of Social Affairs, local environmental protection bureau, water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment infrastructure, communities, surrounding enterprises, suppliers, and employees, etc. By establishing the Water Management Stakeholder Analysis Sheet, the site has evaluated the stakeholder consultation feedback on its water stewardship performance, including the effectiveness of its engagement processes.	
4.3.2	*Voluntary 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.*	N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
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	Handan Midea has developed an 'AWS Management Manual', which specifies that its water Stewardship plan shall be modified and adapted to incorporate any relevant information and lessons learned from the evaluations annually. Handan Midea developed the WSP of 2025 according to this manual.	

5	STEP 5: COMMUNICATE & DISCLOSE - Communicate about water stewardship and disclose the site's stewardship efforts	
5.1	*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.*	
5.1.1	*The site's water-related internal governance, including positions of those accountable for compliance with water-related laws and regulations shall be disclosed.*	Yes
Comment	The site disclosed the site's internal governance in relation to water, communication on sustainable water management issues on its company website https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/T44NrdGEPbsftkEU4Q20zw	
5.2	*Communicate the water stewardship plan with relevant stakeholders.*	
5.2.1	*The water stewardship plan, including how the water stewardship plan contributes to AWS Standard outcomes, shall be communicated to relevant stakeholders.*	Yes
Comment	The site has communicated its water stewardship plan with stakeholders through questionnaires, interviews, and other forms, including how the water stewardship plan contributes to the outcomes of the AWS Standard.	
5.3	*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.*	
5.3.1	*A summary of the site's water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets, shall be disclosed annually at a minimum.*	Yes
Comment	The site disclosed the water stewardship performance of 2024, including quantified performance against targets on WeChat. The site also communicates the water stewardship performance for 2024 to stakeholder through questionnaires, interviews.	
5.3.2	*Advanced Indicator* *The site's efforts to implement the AWS Standard shall be disclosed in the organization's annual report.*	N/A
Comment	The facility does not perform this indicator.	
5.3.3	*Voluntary Advanced Indicator* *Benefits to the site and stakeholders from implementation of the AWS Standard shall be quantified in the organization's annual report.*	N/A
Comment	The facility does not perform this indicator.	
5.4	*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.*	
5.4.1	*The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed.*	Yes
Comment	The site disclosed the shared water-related challenges and the effort to address shared water challenges on WeChat. https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/gmi-uBiEVTXoUKXozjg2WA	

5.4.2	*Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be identified.*	Yes
Comment	The site disclosed the effort to address shared water challenges, internal governance in relation to water, communication on sustainable water management issues on WeChat. They also shared the related information to stakeholder like through questionary and interview.	
5.5	*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.*	
5.5.1	*Any site water-related compliance violations and associated corrections shall be disclosed.*	Yes
Comment	A procedure to manage non-conformance and related corrective action is developed, there is no water-related compliance violation identified in past few years.	
5.5.2	*Necessary corrective actions taken by the site to prevent future occurrences shall be disclosed if applicable.*	Yes
Comment	A procedure to manage non-conformance and related corrective action is developed, there is no water-related compliance violation identified in past few years.	
5.5.3	*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.*	Yes
Comment	A procedure to manage non-conformance and related corrective action is developed, there is no water-related compliance violation identified in past few years.	

Previous Findings		
	All non-conformities raised in the previous audit have been satisfactorily closed.	No
Comment	This is an Initial Audit.	