



PRESS RELEASE

Apical Rises to 2nd Place in SPOTT Palm Oil Assessment 2021

Jakarta, 25 November 2021 – Apical Group, one of the largest palm oil processors and exporters in Indonesia, has been rated the second most transparent palm oil company globally in the SPOTT (Sustainable Palm Oil Transparency Toolkit) Assessment 2021. Apical improved from a score of 82.5% in 2020 to 89.4% this year, moving up the ranks from eighth to second place.

“Apical remains dedicated to ensuring sustainable practices are adopted across the entire value chain of our palm oil production, from cultivation to consumption. As part of our commitment to transparency, we have been participating in the SPOTT Assessment since 2019. Our recent score reflects the proactive initiatives and emphasis we have been placing on the three pillars of environmental, social and governance (ESG),” said Bremen Yong, Director of Sustainability for Apical Group.

The assessment spans 12 months and evaluates 100 palm oil producers, processors and traders on their public disclosure regarding their organization, policies and practices related to ESG matters. Companies assessed on SPOTT are ranked according to their overall SPOTT score. The scores are further broken down into three disclosure types: organization, policy and practice. A total of 182 indicators, spread over 10 categories, were used in the assessment of the SPOTT scores for palm oil producers, processors and traders.

The 10 categories are as follows:

1. Sustainability policy and leadership;
2. Landbank, maps and traceability;
3. Certification standards;
4. Deforestation and biodiversity;
5. HCV, HCS and impact assessments;
6. Peat, fire and GHG emissions;
7. Water, chemical and pest management;
8. Community, land and labour rights,
9. Smallholders and suppliers; and
10. Governance and grievances

“Apical recognizes the importance of SPOTT as a platform for promoting industry transparency and accountability to drive the adoption of social and environmental best practices, especially in sectors with high biodiversity impacts,” added Mr Yong.

This is the third consecutive year that Apical Group has risen up the ranks among palm oil companies globally, based on assessments on transparency, commitments and

overall execution of its ESG initiatives. SPOTT is an initiative developed by ZSL (Zoological Society of London).

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About Apical Group

Apical Group is one of the largest palm oil processors and exporters in Indonesia. It owns a broad spectrum of the palm oil business value chain including downstream processing into oleochemicals, functional fats, and biodiesel among others for domestic use and international export. Its operations are located in Indonesia, China and Spain, and include six refineries, four biodiesel plants, two oleochemical plants and two kernel crushing plants. Through its joint ventures, Apical also has processing and distribution operations in India, Pakistan, Philippines, Vietnam, Myanmar and Brazil.

Apical's business is built on an extensive sourcing network in Indonesia with integrated refinery assets in strategic locations. This is reinforced by efficient logistics channels supported by Apical's own infrastructure to deliver to local and international industrial clients comprising of food, feed and fuel brands among others. With its unique business model, Apical has been able to control product quality and address sustainability and food safety concerns, while running highly efficient operations in integrated world-class refineries and downstream processes.

For more information, please visit www.apicalgroup.com

About SPOTT

Developed by ZSL (Zoological Society of London), SPOTT – Sustainability Policy Transparency Toolkit – is an online platform supporting sustainable commodity production and trade. By tracking transparency, SPOTT incentivises the implementation of corporate best practice. SPOTT assesses commodity producers and traders on the public disclosure of their policies, operations and commitments related to environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues. SPOTT scores companies annually against sector-specific indicators, to benchmark their progress over time. Investors, buyers and other key influencers can use SPOTT assessments to inform stakeholder engagement, manage risk, and increase industry transparency. For more information, visit www.spott.org.

About ZSL

ZSL (Zoological Society of London) is an international conservation charity working to create a world where wildlife thrives. From investigating the health threats facing animals to helping people and wildlife live alongside each other, ZSL is committed to bringing wildlife back from the brink of extinction. Our work is realised through our ground-breaking science, our field conservation around the world and engaging millions of people through our two zoos, ZSL London Zoo and ZSL Whipsnade Zoo. For more information, please visit www.zsl.org.

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