



Dear Book and Claim Stakeholder,

Another end of the calendar year is approaching, and more than anything, we're thankful for your participation and assistance this year. Thanks to each of you for your enthusiasm for this subject and the conversations you've been a part of, large and small.

In this newsletter, we cover:

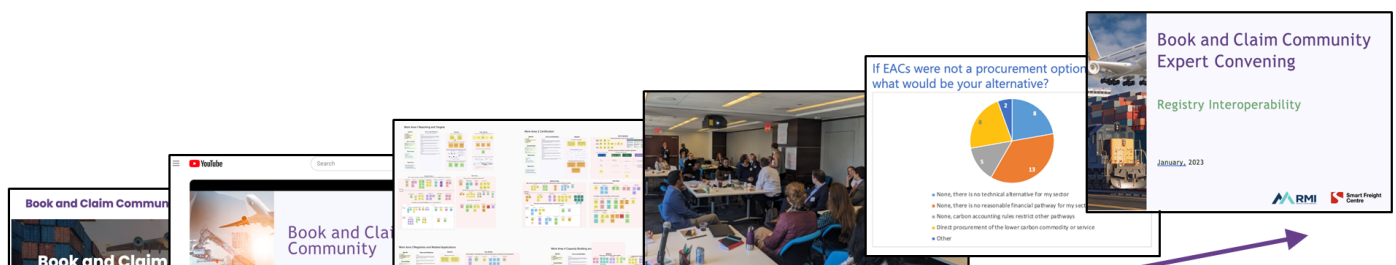
- 2023 Book and Claim Community
  - Milestones
  - Resource links
- Capacity Building: Mass Balance Basics

Questions, please email us [secretariat@bookandclaimcommunity.org](mailto:secretariat@bookandclaimcommunity.org)

Sincerely,  
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## 2023 COMMUNITY MILESTONES

Let's take a look back at the year and all that we have accomplished together. It is hard to believe that just seven months ago we announced our launch! To celebrate, enjoy a year in review:





## May: Founding ethos—[bookandclaimcommunity.org/pressrelease](https://bookandclaimcommunity.org/pressrelease)

- In May, we launched the Book and Claim Community, with the charter of bringing together transport sector leaders and global organizations who wish to foster structured and effective book and claim chain of custody solutions to support heavy transport decarbonization. The Community welcomed Amazon, Deutsche Post DHL Group, Deloitte, Microsoft, Shell, and World Energy to form its first Governing Board.

## June: Community Launch – [YouTube Video](#)

- In June, our Community convened over 200 stakeholders through a webinar to welcome the greater transport ecosystem to the new Book and Claim Community, explain the four work areas—reporting and targets, certification, registries, and capacity-building and communication—and share how organizations can get involved.

## July: Work Area Convenings - read the summary [here](#)

- The July Work Area Convenings were a great success due to the Community's candid and active participation. Thank you. The four convenings, one per work area, each hosted more than 50 participants, and the learnings guide our work today and into 2024.

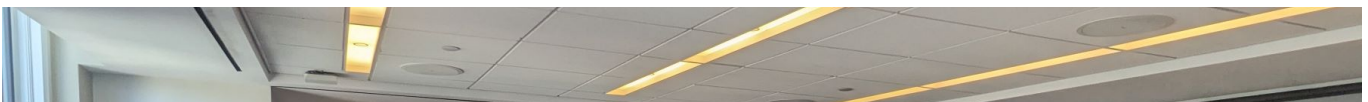
## September: Climate Week Workshop, “Maximizing the legitimacy of book and claim systems: An assessment of double counting mitigation methods” (image below)

- It was invaluable to bring the Community together during Climate Week NYC this year. The group discussed mitigating erroneous double-counting in and between book and claim systems. Attendees expressed interest in further expert convenings, specifically our upcoming work on registry interoperability.

## November: SBTi [Call for Evidence](#) Response

- SBTi's “Call for Evidence on the Effectiveness of Environmental Attributes in Corporate Climate Targets” provided a fantastic opportunity to combine our Community's experience and put pen to paper to demonstrate how book and claim mechanisms can and are being credibly used. Thanks to all who provided critical support and survey.

Upcoming Convenings: Building on the feedback and growth from this past year of working together, we are launching an **Expert Convening** series starting with two subjects: **Registry Interoperability** and **Book and Claim Principles and Practices**. We will bring learnings back to the Community. Stay tuned!





## COMMUNITY CAPACITY-BUILDING: Mass Balance Basics

In our first newsletter issue, we explored our namesake chain of custody model, [Book and Claim](#), so could there be a more perfect way to celebrate the end of this calendar year than to visit a much-loved chain-of-custody cousin: *mass balance*?

When we use a book and claim as a tool for sustainable procurement, how do we ensure that we are receiving the correct environmental attributes? This data often underlies an important carbon reduction benefit, so how can we ensure the claim is credible and accurate?

Especially in complex supply chains, we lean on sustainability certification systems to establish and track the sustainability profile of the fuels, ensuring that each party along the chain of custody has met specific sustainability criteria and implemented the correct calculation methods. Certification systems reference chain of custody models—or approaches for tracking the lifecycle of a product. A model called “mass balance” is particularly common for transportation fuel supply chains.

In short, mass balance helps us define product outputs when physically mixing inputs. A mass balance chain of custody model is key for tracking a fuel’s sustainability profile, particularly when infrastructure makes it necessary—or where it’s more efficient—to mix feedstocks in a production process or blend fuels before delivery.

Mass balance allows a sustainable fuel to be tracked and audited as a proportion of a volumetric total, ensuring its environmental impact without requiring the purchaser to physically isolate and directly consume the lower-carbon fuel in order to claim its attributes. Note that book and claim is a similarly flexible model, but even more so—it allows for the environmental attributes to be completely decoupled from the underlying fuel volume and claimed elsewhere.

Correct use of mass balance, then, helps enable subsequent practitioners, such as a registry operator, to correctly track and trace the sustainability profile of the solution, or an emission reporter, to correctly account for and allocate the emission profile of the fuel.

An emerging best practice for transport book and claim systems is to require mass balance certification of the physical fuel supply chain, when applicable, as a prerequisite to the book and claim step. This ensures the supply chain demonstrates specific sustainability characteristics before decoupling the environmental attributes.

It is important to note that mass balance is not the only chain of custody model for tracking the environmental attributes of a transport fuel. Other chain of custody models that evaluate physical supply chains similar to mass balance, include, in increasing order of stringency about the level of mixing: controlled blending, segregated, identity preserved.

Learn more about the underlying elements of mass balance and these additional models in [ISO 22095\(2020\)](#). Or, for more information about how mass balance plays a role in your supply chain, we encourage you to explore existing certification schemes for your industry. Additional information may also be available from your fuel provider, certifier, or registry operator.

A few scheme examples include:

- Aviation: [RSB CORSIA](#), [ISCC CORSIA](#), [RSB EU RED](#), [ISCC EU](#), [RSB Global](#), [ISCC Plus](#)
- Maritime Fuels and beyond: [ISCC Plus](#), [RSB Global](#), [ISCC EU](#), [RSB EU RED](#)

What has your experience been with mass balance? What schemes have you utilized in Road or Rail? How has mass balance come into play in your accounting and reporting? Send us a note [secretariat@bookandclaimcommunity.org](mailto:secretariat@bookandclaimcommunity.org). We'd love to hear from you.

THANKS!

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