## Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State

Minnesota Public Benefit Corporation / Annual Benefit Report

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 304A



Read the instructions before completing this form Must be filed by March 31 Filing Fee: \$55 for expedited service in-person, \$35 if submitted by mail

The Annual Benefit Report covers the 12 month period ending on December 31 of the previous year. Notice: Failure to file this form by March 31 of this year will result in the revocation of the corporation's public benefit status without further notice from the Secretary of State, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 304A.301

1. File Number 1126873900032

2. Corporate Name: (Required) Earth Scout, GBC

3. The public benefit corporation's board of directors has reviewed and approved this report.

4. In the field below, enter the information required by section 304A.301 subd. 2 or 3 for the period covered by this report, (see instructions for further information): Note: Use additional sheets if needed. (Required)

See attached sheet

5. I, the undersigned, certify that I am the chief executive officer of this public benefit corporation. I further certify that I have signed this document no more than 30 days before the document is delivered to the secretary of state for filing, and that this document is current when signed. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath. Troy Schwidtke, Chief Executive Officer

Signature of Public Benefit Corporation's Chief Executive Officer

February 15, 2023

Date (Must be dated within 30 days before the report is delivered to the Secretary of State for Filing)

#### **Email Address for Official Notices**

Enter an email address to which the Secretary of State can forward official notices required by law and other notices: blake@elakelegal.com

X Check here to have your email address excluded from requests for bulk data, to the extent allowed by Minnesota law.

List a name and daytime phone number of a person who can be contacted about this form:

Blake Iverson

612-396-5477

Contact Name

Phone Number

Entities that own, lease, or have any financial interest in agricultural land or land capable of being farmed must register with the MN Dept. of Agriculture's Corporate Farm Program.

Does this entity own, lease, or have any financial interest in agricultural land or land cloable of being farmed? Yes  $\square$  No  $\square$ 

#### Earth Scout GBC, General Benefit Corporation 2023 Annual Benefit Report

As we enter 2023, Earth Scout, GBC continues to grow and expand. We continue to sell the EarthScout® units in a number of markets to growers looking to enhance their real-time data capture and collection capabilities. This year we are launching a new product, WeatherScout, which will provide growers with real-time, granular weather data that greatly exceeds what is currently available to them.

We retain the same Mission, Vision and Values.

**Our Mission:** We are growers helping growers develop smart, industrial grade tools for gathering useful, growerowned data. We help growers optimize growth, reduce inputs, conserve resources and build living soils for a stronger, healthier future.

Our Vision: To create the world's premier community of science-minded growers dedicated to advancing living soils and sustainable agriculture via the most elegant and robust Internet of Things (IoT) platform that promotes collaboration, education and applied data analytics.

Our Values: With respect for our people, our community, or our standards, we take the long view in everything we do, always thinking about well-being and sustainability.

#### **Our History**:

- Design Ready Controls (DRC) is a manufacturer of electrical control panels and wire harnesses with 500
  employees; DRC builds over 50,000 panels and harnesses per year at locations in MN, OR, OK, and VA;
  DRC employs 50+ electrical, mechanical and computer engineers.
- In 2015 while looking for a new product brand, DRC started developing an Internet Of Things (IOT) device for the precision Ag market and Earth Scout® was born a revolutionary technology for measuring real-time growing conditions, 24/7—above and below the ground. Sensors capture multiple data points in the soil and within the local growing environment giving up-to-the minute field information between zones. Data is wirelessly communicated back to the grower's smartphone or desktop computer through an intuitive interface.
- In 2017 DRC spun off Earth Scout as a new company and deployed the first 15 Earth Scout beta units.
- Earth Scout, GBC was incorporated on December 19, 2019.

# Earth Scout continues its success in achieving its goals as a General Benefit Corporation in the following manner:

- We provide data to growers in real time educating them on ways they can more effectively manage and reduce costly inputs including insecticides, fertilizer and water, while maintaining soils that produce healthier plants, higher yields and a better environment.
- Earth Scout's board has completed the B Impact Assessment (as its third-party standard) and remains in compliance with it.
- Earth Scout can be configured for any grower, any crop, and any environment including grains (corn, soybean, wheat, etc.), orchards, vineyards, fruits, vegetables, turf & landscape, nurseries, greenhouses, and specialty growers (hemp, hops, etc.).
- 300+ Earth Scout units have been deployed across the USA and 30+ deployed outside US. The units are
  gathering real time data for our researchers and growers to analyze. Earth Scout is working with the
  growers to continually enhance our products for mass production.
- Earth Scout has assembled a sales team providing proactive technical, agronomic, and sales support to help hand hold new customers and retain them long term.
- Earth Scout has assembled a team of leading Ag experts including: an irrigation specialist; a soil scientist and precision Ag expert; a plant pathologist; and an entomologist to further develop the suite of Earth Scout tools available to our customers.
- We continue to expand our operations and grow in line with our mission.



### Work Item 1378473400035 Original File Number 1126873900032

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Steve Simon Secretary of State