

## **PROGRAM RULES FOR THE EPD PROGRAM “EAA-BUILDING SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT”**

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## **1 GENERAL PROGRAM RULES**

### **1.1 Scope of the program**

The program will support the development and publication of Type III environmental product declarations (EPD) for Products for building applications where Aluminium contributes significantly to the product's performance. The program further supports a software tool for generating EPD according to the PCR. EPD from this program are not intended for comparative assertions.

### **1.2 Objectives of the program**

The objective is to develop credible, comparable and consistent EPD for business to business. EAA members and SME will be supported in developing EPD of their products.

### **1.3 Program operator**

The program operator is the EAA-Building group of the European Aluminium Association. The program operator prepares, maintains and communicates the general program rules. The program operator is responsible for setting up and inviting the product forum for the PCR development as well as the third party advisory board for the PCR review. The program operator also appoints the third party verifier for the verification of the EPD.

### **1.4 Involvement of interested parties**

Interested parties are involved in the development of the program rules (see advisory board) and of the PCR document (see advisory board, see §2, product forum, see §5). Additional to the work of the product forum and advisory board, an open consultation with interested parties is conducted. The program operator is responsible for inviting the interested parties and facilitating their participation.

### **1.5 Definition of product categories**

The product categories are defined by the product forum and become part of the PCR.

### **1.6 Compliance with relevant standards**

EPD developed under this program shall comply with the international standards on Type III environmental product declarations, ISO 14025 Environmental labels and declarations – Type III environmental declarations – principles and procedures and ISO 21930, Buildings and constructed assets “Sustainability in building construction— Environmental declaration of building products”. EPD data shall be calculated and documented in accordance with ISO 14040 series of standards, Environmental management — Life cycle assessment, and with ISO 15686-1 Buildings and constructed assets -- Service life planning -- Part 1: General principles and ISO/DIS 15686-8 Buildings and constructed assets -- Service life planning -- Part 8: Reference service life.

### **1.7 Data confidentiality management**

Specific LC-Inventory data and LC-Impact Assessment data for the LCA underlying an EPD

is developed and maintained by EAA or in behalf of EAA. In principle, this data is confidential. It shall however be made available to the third party verifier of the EPD who in turn shall keep this data confidential. Life Cycle Impact Assessment data and additional

information is published in the EPD according to the selected parameters listed in the PCR document.

## **2 PROCEDURE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PCR**

The product forum prepares the draft PCR document. The program operator invites the members of the product forum. It consists of experts from the Aluminium industries, preferably EAA members. It should not consist of more than 20 participants and the moderator. The product forum can also include external experts. The product forum also prepares the draft documents for any revision of PCR. The moderator of the product forum prepares the draft PCR review statement for the advisory board.

## **3 MAINTAINING A PUBLICLY AVAILABLE LIST OF VALID AND VERIFIED PCR**

The program operator maintains a publicly available list of all valid and verified PCR documents issued by the program. The list and PCR documents are accessible via the web-site ([www.alubuild.org](http://www.alubuild.org) and/or [www.aluminium.org](http://www.aluminium.org)).

## **4 MONITORING CHANGES IN RELATED EPD PROGRAMS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE PCR AND REVISING DOCUMENTS WHEN NECESSARY**

The program operator strives to keep updated about PCR rules and the general rules of pro-grams related to the construction sector. The intention is to make EPD of the same product category from different programs as comparable and consistent as possible. When it improves comparability and consistency, without compromising the data quality, PCR from the same product category but from different programs should be aligned. For further application of EPD, e.g. in building planning and building assessment consistency of EPD across all construction products is a prerequisite. Therefore exchange with other pro-gram operators to align common elements between PCR from different product categories is encouraged by the program operator.

## **5 PROCEDURE FOR THIRD PARTY VERIFICATION OF THE PCR, INCLUDING THE PROCEDURES FOR AN OPEN CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

A third party advisory board reviews the PCR. The program operator shall ensure a reason-able mix of interested party perspectives and competencies. It shall not include any producers of construction products where Aluminium is a significant part and contributes significantly to the product's performance, nor any other member economically dependent on the EAA. The program operator invites the advisory board. The advisory board shall at minimum consist of two members and a chairperson. The combined competencies of the PCR review panel should include:

- General background knowledge of relevant sector, product and product-related environmental aspects;
- Expertise in LCA and methodology for LCA work;

- Awareness of relevant standards in the fields of environmental labelling and declarations and LCA;
- Knowledge of the regulatory framework within the scope of the PCR;
- Knowledge of the program for Type III environmental declarations.

A review statement is prepared by the person chairing the PCR development and then reviewed by a third party review panel, the advisory board. The review statement may also be prepared in its entirety by the advisory board. The review statement, comments of the LCA experts from the task group (see § 6) and any response to recommendations made by the re-viewers, shall be included in the PCR document.

The PCR review shall ensure that

- The PCR support credible, comparable and consistent EPD;
- The rules of ISO 14040 are followed, especially the provisions for defining scope and goal of a LCA study. Care should be taken that the provisions e.g. for functional or declared unit or allocation and calculation rules are adequate for the product category;
- The PCR are based on experience with LCA studies carried out in compliance with ISO 14040ff.
- The selection of LC-Indicators and additional information to be reported is adequate for the product category under study e.g. no relevant information is missing;
- The additional information is based on scientifically sound methodology.

## **6 DEVELOPMENT OF THE LCA UNDERLYING THE EPD**

The task force calculates the LCA data and develops the specifications for the default settings underlying the EPD-software to generate specific EPD. This task force consists of EAA and external LCA experts.

## **7 PROCEDURE FOR THIRD PARTY VERIFICATION OF EPD**

One or more independent third party expert(s) shall verify the underlying LCA and the default settings in the EPD-software producing the EPD for the product category under study. The verification procedure shall be transparent. The independent verifier shall generate a report documenting the verification process, while adhering to his obligations for data confidentiality. This report shall be available to any person upon request. The verification procedure shall confirm whether the information given in EPD accurately reflects the information in the documents on which the declaration is based. The verification procedure shall also confirm whether this information is valid and scientifically sound. Third party independent verification of data from LCA, LCI and information modules, and of additional environmental information shall at minimum confirm:

- Conformance with the PCR;
- Conformance with ISO 14040 series of standards;
- Conformance with general program instructions for the Type III environmental declaration;
- Plausibility, quality, accuracy and completeness of the LCA-based data;
- Quality and accuracy of additional environmental information;
- Quality and accuracy of the supporting information.

The program operator appoints the verifier(s). Members of the advisory board can also act as verifiers for the EPD. The program operator will arrange for sample checks of the outcome of registered EPD-software applications by the verifiers.

The minimum requirements for the verifiers in terms of competence are the following:

- Knowledge of relevant industry, product and product-related environmental matters;
- Process and product knowledge of the product category;
- Expertise on LCA and methodology for LCA work;
- Knowledge of the relevant standards in the field of environmental labelling and declarations, and life cycle assessment;
- Knowledge of the regulatory framework in which requirements for environmental declarations have been prepared;
- Knowledge of the program for Type III environmental declarations.

## **8 MAINTAINING A PUBLICLY AVAILABLE LIST OF VERIFIED EPDS**

The program operator maintains a publicly available list of all verified EPDs published by the producers within this program. The list is accessible via the Internet. The short and/or long version of the EPD can be made available by the program operator via the Internet, if the producers agree.

## **9 ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES TO AVOID MISUSE OF REFERENCES TO THE PROGRAM, ITS EPD SOFTWARE TOOL AND ITS LOGO**

The general legal requirements for the protection of rights on intellectual property apply. The program operator develops a procedure to follow up misuse of references to the program and its logo as well as of the EPD software tool. However, the operator is not required to keep track of all applications of EPD developed under this program.

Users of the EPD software tool shall register before using it. The program operator can use the list of registered users of the software and the list of EPD developed when using the tool, to perform sample tests with the software users. The tests are intended to check whether or not the EPD software tool is employed properly delivering a valid EPD according to the program's PCR.