

WHAT IS AN EPD?

An EPD® is a certified Environmental Product Declaration, which reports environmental data over the life cycle of products in accordance with the international standard ISO 14025.

The International EPD® System is a programme to develop and register EPDs for any type of goods and services. The system is international, third party verified and deliver flexible source information.

The programme operator of the International EPD® System is EPD International AB with clients and member organisations in a number of countries, such as Italy, Spain and the USA.

HOW DO I CREATE AN EPD?

To create an EPD, a LCA study is carried out in accordance with the calculation rules in the product category rules (PCR). The results from the study and other information, as required by the PCR, are then compiled into the EPD reporting format. The EPD is then verified by an approved independent party. Registration and publication of the EPD is done by contacting the Secretariat at info@environdec.com, who also work as a helpdesk throughout the process.

WHAT KIND OF INFORMATION DOES AN EPD CONTAIN?

Programme-related information

Information on registration of a product, product category rules, and validity of the EPD.

Product-specific information

Specific information such as functional properties and a content declaration of a certain product.

Environmental and performance-related information

A life cycle assessment (LCA) provides information on use of resources and energy as well as various types of emissions.

Additional environmental information

An EPD may contain environmental information additional to the LCA, such as specific information about the user- and the end-of-life phases.

Mandatory statements

Information about the verification procedure needs to be included

EPD® SYSTEM ADVANTAGES

International

The International EPD® System is based on the international ISO standards, assuring international use, acceptability and continuity.

Adaptable

No minimum levels or preferences of environmental performance. Open to all types of products, target audiences and markets.

Credible

Based on scientific principles for Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and approved through independent verification.

Comparable

Based on specific rules for different product groups (PCR) ensuring that EPDs within the same category of products are calculated and presented in the same way.

Comprehensive

Providing a tool for communicating additional information such as social responsibility, quality control and environmental management.

PRODUCT CATEGORY RULES (PCRS)

PCRs form the foundation of EPDs. Each product category needs specific rules, PCRs, to enable comparability between different EPDs. Any stakeholder may initiate the creation of a new PCR and participate in an open consultation on the website www.environdec.com. The PCR is published online as a practical tool for developing an EPD.

AREA OF USE?

Product-related environmental issues are becoming increasingly important to businesses and public administrations. In practice an EPD is a report containing market-driven and verified facts about the environmental performance of goods and services. One of the most important applications for EPDs is green procurement in the public as well as the private sector, as the EPD provides a fair basis for comparing environmental performance of products.

The EPD methodology includes mapping all the relevant environmental aspects from a life-cycle perspective. This science-based, environmental information can be used for any type of environmental management system and may support other organisational goals in the environmental domain.

The information given in the EPD may also in some cases be used in building assessment schemes to demonstrate knowledge of the life cycle environmental impact of the ingoing construction materials.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information about the international EPD® System, EPDs, PCRs and Climate Declarations, please visit www.environdec.com.

