



# **Environmental Product Declaration**

# Hot rolled SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup> steel plates

EPD of multiple products, based on the average results of the product group In accordance with ISO 14025:2006 and EN 15804:2012+A2:2019/AC:2021

Programme: The International EPD® System, www.environdec.com Programme operator: EPD International AB EPD owner: SSAB Europe Oy EPD registration number: EPD-IES-0018716 Publication date: 2025-02-01 Valid until: 2030-01-20



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# 1. General information

# **PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Program:	The International EPD® System
Address:	EPD International AB Box 210 60 SE-100 31 Stockholm Sweden
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#### Accountabilities for PCR, LCA and independent, third-party verification

#### Product Category Rules (PCR)

Core product category rules: CEN standard EN 15804 serves as the core PCR.

Product category rules: PCR 2019:14 Construction products. Version 1.3.4. Date 2024-04-30.

Product group classification: UN CPC 412.

PCR review was conducted by: The Technical Committee of the International EPD System. See www.environdec.com for a list of members. Review chair: Claudia A. Peña, University of Concepción, Chile. The review panel may be contacted via the Secretariat www.environdec.com/contact.

#### Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

LCA accountability: Lisa Hallberg, IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute.

#### **Third-party verification**

Independent third-party verification of the declaration and data, according to ISO 14025:2006, via:

EPD verification by individual verifier

Third-party verifier: David Althoff Palm, Dalemarken AB.

#### Approved by: The International EPD® System

Procedure for follow-up of data during EPD validity involves third party verifier:

#### 🖾 Yes 🛛 🗆 No

[Procedure for follow-up the validity of the EPD is at minimum required once a year with the aim of confirming whether the information in the EPD remains valid or if the EPD needs to be updated during its validity period. The follow-up can be organized entirely by the EPD owner or together with the original verifier via an agreement between the two parties. In both approaches, the EPD owner is responsible for the procedure being carried out. If a change that requires an update is identified, the EPD shall be re-verified by a verifier]

#### The EPD owner has the sole ownership, liability, and responsibility for the EPD.

EPDs within the same product category but registered in different EPD programs, or not compliant with EN 15804, may not be comparable. For two EPDs to be comparable, they must be based on the same PCR (including the same version number) or be based on fully-aligned PCRs or versions of PCRs; cover products with identical functions, technical performances and use (e.g. identical declared/ functional units); have equivalent system boundaries and descriptions of data; apply equivalent data quality requirements, methods of data collection, and allocation methods; apply identical cut-off rules and impact assessment methods (including the same version of characterization factors); have equivalent content declarations; and be valid at the time of comparison. For further information about comparability, see EN 15804 and ISO 14025.

## 1.1 SSAB'S VISION – A STRONGER, LIGHTER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE WORLD

SSAB is a global steel company with a leading position in high-strength steels and related services. The company is a frontrunner in the green transformation of the steel industry and aims to largely eliminate carbon dioxide emissions from its operations and together with suppliers and customers create a fossil-free value chain.

SSAB's production sites are in Sweden, Finland and the USA and have an annual crude steel production capacity of 8.8 million tonnes. SSAB Europe is responsible for sales of strip, heavy plate, and tubular products in Europe as well as for the global business in the Automotive customer segment. SSAB Special Steels has global responsibility for sales of SSAB's quenched and tempered (Q&T) steels and advanced high-strength steels (AHSS). SSAB Americas is the largest heavy plate producer in North America and has a strong position based on cost efficiency and quality. During 2023, the company started production of SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup>, a steel based on recycled steel and made using primary fossil-free electricity, biocoal and biofuels.

SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup> steels are 100 % recyclable and are made from a unique production process using 100 % recycled steel. This reduces the environmental impacts of steelmaking while maintaining SSAB's strict quality standards.

## **1.2 COMPANY INFORMATION**

#### EPD owner:

SSAB Europe Oy, Kaisa Ahvonen, Harvialantie 420, 13300 Hämeenlinna, Finland.

#### Description of the organizations:

- SSAB Europe is responsible for strip, heavy plate, and tubular products in Europe as well as for the global business in the Automotive customer segment. SSAB Europe is also responsible for color coated products.
- SSAB Americas is responsible for heavy plate products in North America and for SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup> slabs for SSAB Europe.
- SSAB Special steels is responsible for SSAB's quenched and tempered steels and advanced high-strength steels.

#### Name and location of production sites:

- SSAB Americas (Iowa, USA): 1770 Bill Sharp Boulevard, Muscatine, 52761 Iowa (USA).
- SSAB EMEA AB (Oxelösund, Sweden): Aspleden 1, 613 80 Oxelösund (Sweden).

#### **Certifications:**

Certificates applicable to SSAB sites are ISO 14001 and ISO 9001.

#### Contact:

EPDssab@ssab.com.

# 2. Product information

## 2.1 PRODUCT TECHNICAL INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS

SSAB specializes in materials for demanding applications where high strength and formability are needed for weight savings and increased durability. Hot rolled steel plates are used in many industries and applications, including the construction industry, shipbuilding, heavy machinery, pressure equipment, and other various metal structures.

SSAB offers a comprehensive selection of hot rolled steel plates that includes structural steels, wear-resistant and surface pressure-resistant steels and shipbuilding and offshore steels.

The products are often customized to meet national and/or international standards as well as customerspecific or other Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) standards. Besides standardized steel grades, SSAB's hot rolled plate product portfolio also includes products unique to SSAB and which in some cases may be patented.

For more detailed information about technical product properties and the product portfolio, please visit www.ssab.com.

## 2.2 PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

The scope of this EPD is Hot rolled SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup> steel plates. SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup> is made using 100 % recycled steel, of which over 90% comes from external scrap (post- and pre-consumer) and the remainder from internal scrap from the manufacturing process.

The steel is an alloy of mainly iron and carbon, with small amounts of alloying and trace elements. Alloying elements improve the chemical and physical properties of steel, such as strength, ductility, durability, and corrosion resistance.

The exact composition of the steel manufactured by SSAB depends on product requirements, either based on national and/or international standards, such as EN 10025 or EN 10225, or on customer-specific and/or other OEM standards. SSAB's unique products also have their own specific requirements.

Content declaration and average chemical composition is presented in section 4.2. More detailed information on the different steel compositions is available from national and international standards, and on www.ssab.com.

## 2.3 LABELING AND PACKAGING

SSAB products are labeled to be easily identifiable and traceable. The packaging and protection type of SSAB steel products is specified when ordering.

Steel bands or strappings, wood props, paper or plastic film, corner protection and other accessories supporting

packaging are used as appropriate, depending on the protection needed.

Hot rolled steel plates may be packed and, depending on product size and type, strapped to an appropriate pallet or packed in crates suitable for that purpose.

# 3. Production and transportation

# **3.1 PRODUCTION SITES**

SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup> steel slabs are manufactured at SSAB lowa in the USA. Production is based on an electric arc furnace (EAF) using scrap steel as a raw material and primary fossil-free electricity, biocoal and biofuels. Scrap steel along with raw materials, such as charge/injection carbon, lime and other additives, are added to the EAF, where electricity is used to melt the batch and make molten steel. The molten steel is cast into slabs.

SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup> steel slabs are shipped to Sweden, where they are cut, reheated, rolled, cooled, sheared, quenched, tempered and cut to length at SSAB Oxelösund.

Co-products, such as slag, mill scale and iron oxide, generated from SSAB's steel production processes are

recycled as industrial raw materials or materials to replace virgin resources. A high percentage of the baghouse dust originating from the EAF process is recycled to reduce waste and improve efficiency. However, no emissions were allocated to co-products in this EPD.

## **3.2 TRANSPORTATION**

SSAB Zero<sup>TM</sup> steel slabs from SSAB lowa are transported via rail or truck to a port and shipped to Sweden, where they are transported by rail to SSAB Oxelösund.

#### FIGURE 1. SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup> production sites and transportation between sites.

Hot Rolled Steel Plates with SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup> – main production processes



# 4. LCA

# **4.1 LCA INFORMATION**

**Declared unit:** 1 kg of product

#### Reference service life:

Not applicable.

#### Description of system boundaries:

The system boundaries are cradle-to-gate with modules C1– C4 and module D.

#### Time representativeness:

2023 for the slabs production at SSAB lowa,

#### System diagram:

2022 for the steel processing at SSAB Oxelösund. H2/2023 – H1/2024 for fossil-free electricity and biofuel used at SSAB Oxelösund.

The data for fossil-free electricity and biofuels is from a period when SSAB Zero has been produced. The other data is from a representative full year of the production process where SSAB Zero is produced today.

#### Database(s) and LCA software used:

The LCA was modelled using the LCA software LCA for Experts and corresponding database (version 2024.1) provided by Sphera.



- Module A1: Production of raw materials and production of fuels
- Module A2: Transportation of raw materials to SSAB's manufacturing site (including transportation of steel between SSAB sites)
- Module A3: Manufacturing of steel products and management of production waste
- Module C1: Deconstruction of the product

- Module C2: Transport to waste processing and disposal
- Module C3: Waste processing of the product, to be sent to steel recycling
- Module C4: Disposal of the remaining part of the product in a landfill
- Module D: Benefits from recycling the steel

#### Allocation:

Pre-consumer scrap is used in the production of steel. The environmental burden from the use of this scrap is allocated based on economic value by making a conservative assumption equal to 5 % of virgin (blast furnace-based) steel. This corresponds to a value of 0.1 kg  $CO_2$ eq per kg of pre-consumer scrap.

Co-product allocation has been applied to the scrap generated in modules A1 – A3 as per PCR 2019:14, wherein the impacts are allocated to the declared product, based on negligible economic value to scrap as compared to the steel products.

#### Cut-off criteria:

The maximum cut-off criteria established by the PCR and EN 15804:2012+A2:2019 standard is 1 % of all material and energy flows to a single unit process and 5 % of total inflows (mass and energy) to the upstream and core module. No cut-offs exceeding this limit have been made.

#### Inclusion of infrastructure and capital goods:

Infrastructure and capital goods are not included in any of the modules covered in this EPD. For the electricity sources of renewable origin (within the residual mix), the infrastructure of the power plant is included.

#### **Electricity information:**

The electricity used in the production of the steel slabs at SSAB lowa is a mix supported by a contractual document. The mix is based on 99.2 % wind, 0.6 % solar and 0.1 % biomass, corresponding to a GWP-GHG impact of 0.0095 kg CO<sub>2</sub>eq per kWh.

At SSAB Oxelösund, some of the electricity used is produced internally (corresponds to a GWP-GHG impact of 1.2 kg  $CO_2$ eq per kWh). For most of the electricity, the residual electricity mix for Sweden has been applied (corresponding to a GWP-GHG impact of 0.07 kg  $CO_2$ eq per kWh).

#### Scenario for module C1:

The product is being deconstructed by a machine powered by diesel.

#### Scenario for module C2:

The waste is transported 150 km by truck to waste processing (C3) and disposal (C4).

#### Scenario for module C3:

98 % of the product is assumed to be processed in order to be sent for recycling in an EAF.

#### Scenario for module C4:

 $2\ \%$  of the product is assumed to be disposed of as waste at a landfill.

#### Scenario for module D:

The environmental benefit of the recycled steel is gained through the avoided production of primary steel. This benefit corresponds to  $-1.7 \text{ kg CO}_2$ eq per kg of scrap in module D. The net flow of the recycled steel being credited in module D corresponds to 0.16 kg and is based on an assumed recycling rate of 98 % and as well as on an assumption of yield losses in the steel recycling process.

#### Weighted average for the EPD:

The results represent a weighted average based on the production volumes for the product group.

Life cycle stage	Module		Modules declared	Geography	Specific data used	Variation - products	Variation - sites
	Raw material supply	A1	Х	US			
Product stage	Transport	A2	Х	US & EU	67 %	+10 % -21 %	0 %
	Manufacturing	A3	Х	US & SE		21.00	
Construction	Transport	A4	ND	-	-	-	-
process stage	Construction installation	A5	ND	-	-	-	-
	Use	B1	ND	-	-	-	-
	Maintenance	B2	ND	-	-	-	-
	Repair	B3	ND	-	-	-	-
Use stage	Replacement	B4	ND	-	-	-	-
	Refurbishment	B5	ND	-	-	-	-
	Operational energy use	B6	ND	-	-	-	-
	Operational water use	B7	ND	-	-	-	-
	De-construction demolition	C1	Х	EU	-	-	-
Ford of life of an	Transport	C2	Х	EU	-	-	-
End of life stage	Waste processing	C3	Х	EU	-	-	-
	Disposal	C4	Х	EU	-	-	-
Resource recovery stage	Reuse-Recovery-Recycling-potential	D	Х	EU	-	-	-

#### Modules declared, geographical scope, share of specific data (in GWP-GHG indicator) and data variation

X: Module Declared ND: Module not declared

# **4.2 PRODUCT CONTENT DECLARATION**

External pre- and post-consumer scrap is 89.7 %. Recycled material content with internal pre-consumer scrap is 98.0 %. Content declaration and average chemical composition of hot rolled SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup> steel plates per kg produced :

Product Composition	Weight (%)	Weight (kg)	Biogenic carbon, weight (%)	Biogenic carbon, weight (kg)
Pre-consumer scrap, External	8.3 %	0.08	0 %	0
Post-consumer scrap, External	81.4 %	0.81	0 %	0
Pre-consumer scrap, Internal	8.3 %	0.08	0 %	0
Alloys	2.0 %	0.02	0 %	0
Average chemical composition*				
Iron (Fe)	> 97 %			
Manganese (Mn)	1.3 %			
Silicon (Si)	0.2 %			
Carbon (C)	0.2 %	-		
Other	< 1.5 %	-		

\*SSAB Zero<sup>M</sup> is based on recycled scrap, which may contain small amounts of residual elements such as copper and tin. The figures provided represent the best estimate at the time of publication.

Content Declaration of packaging material	Weight (kg)	Weight % (of product)	Biogenic carbon, weight (kg/declared unit)
Wood	0.0053	0.53 %	0.0023

The production of the packaging materials has been omitted since it falls under the cut-off limit. The content of biogenic material in the packaging is 0.0023 kg per kg of steel.

Hot rolled SSAB Zero<sup>™</sup> steel plates do not contain any of the substances of very high concern (SVHC) regulated by Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH) or Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

## 4.3 ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS RESULTS

The estimated impact results are only relative statements, which do not indicate the endpoints of the impact categories, exceeding threshold values, safety margins and/or risks. Usage of results from A1 – A3 without considering the results of module C is not encouraged.

#### Potential environmental impact - mandatory indicators according to EN 15804+A2 (version EF 3.1)

Results per declared unit: 1 kg of product								
Indicator		Unit	A1 - A3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
	Climate Change - fossil	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	0.637	4.39E-04	1.01E-02	2.71E-03	2.99E-04	-0.285
Clobal warming	Climate Change - biogenic	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	3.39E-03	1.34E-06	2.68E-05	1.01E-05	9.52E-07	6.06E-05
potential (GWP)	Climate Change - land use and land use change (LULUC)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	1.08E-03	7.31E-06	8.61E-05	3.66E-05	1.80E-06	-3.79E-05
	Climate Change - total	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	0.641	4.47E-04	1.03E-02	2.76E-03	3.02E-04	-0.285
Depletion potential of the stratospheric ozone layer (ODP)		kg CFC-11 eq	3.02E-12	4.39E-17	1.34E-18	4.89E-15	8.08E-16	3.83E-13
Acidification pote	ntial (AP)	mole H+ eq	2.17E-03	3.01E-06	1.18E-05	1.36E-05	2.13E-06	-6.97E-04
	Freshwater	kg P eq	1.99E-06	1.86E-09	3.12E-08	1.05E-08	6.80E-10	-6.64E-08
Eutrophication	Marine	kg N eq	6.34E-04	1.49E-06	3.93E-06	6.24E-06	5.47E-07	-1.12E-04
p	Terestrial	mole N eq	6.92E-03	1.65E-05	4.74E-05	6.90E-05	6.03E-06	-1.00E-03
Formation potent	ial of tropospheric ozone (POCP)	kg NMVOC eq	1.76E-03	2.89E-06	1.01E-05	1.73E-05	1.67E-06	-4.55E-04
Abiotic	Minerals and metals*	kg Sb eq	1.15E-06	3.71E-11	8.05E-10	2.84E-09	1.94E-11	-1.61E-06
depletion potential (ADP)	Fossil resources*	MJ	6.75	5.68E-03	0.140	5.07E-02	3.95E-03	-2.83
Water scarcity po	tential (WDP)*	m <sup>3</sup>	8.61E-02	6.48E-06	9.13E-05	5.18E-04	3.43E-05	-1.92E-02

\* Disclaimer: The results of this environmental impact indicator shall be used with care as the uncertainties of these results are high or as there is limited experience with the indicator.

Note: Biogenic carbon in packaging is balanced in A1 - A3.

#### Additional mandatory and voluntary impact category indicators

Results per declared unit: 1 kg of product								
Indicator		Unit	A1 - A3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
Global warming potential (GWP)	GWP-GHG <sup>(1)</sup>	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	0.641	4.47E-04	1.03E-02	2.76E-03	3.02E-04	-0.285

(1) This indicator accounts for all greenhouse gases except biogenic carbon dioxide uptake and emissions and biogenic carbon stored in the product. As such, the indicator is identical to GWP-total except that the characterisation factor for biogenic  $CO_2$  is set to zero.

#### **Resource use indicators**

Results per declared unit: 1 kg of product								
Indicator		Unit	A1 - A3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
Primary energy	Used as energy carrier (PERE)	MJ	8.57	4.80E-04	7.81E-03	5.41E-03	6.89E-04	0.112
resources –	Used as raw materials (PERM)	MJ	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Renewable	Total (PERT)	MJ	8.57	4.80E-04	7.81E-03	5.41E-03	6.89E-04	0.112
5.	Used as energy carrier (PENRE)	MJ	6.75	5.68E-03	0.140	5.07E-02	3.95E-03	-2.83
resources –	Used as raw materials (PENRM)	MJ	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Non-renewable	Total (PENRT)	MJ	6.75	5.68E-03	0.140	5.07E-02	3.95E-03	-2.83
Use of secondary material (SM) kg		kg	1.15	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Use of renewable secondary fuels (RSF)		MJ	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Use of non renewable secondary fuels (NRSF) MJ		MJ	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Net use of fresh v	vater (FW)	m <sup>3</sup>	4.28E-03	5.39E-07	8.94E-06	1.51E-05	1.05E-06	-2.88E-02

Note: Primary energy calculated using PCR option B.

#### Waste indicators

Results per declared unit: 1 kg of product							
Indicator	Unit	A1 - A3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
Hazardous waste disposed (HWD)	kg	3.32E-08	1.84E-13	7.06E-12	7.33E-12	9.84E-13	-2.12E-08
Non-hazardous waste disposed (NHWD)	kg	2.45E-02	8.84E-07	2.08E-05	1.39E-05	2.00E-02	3.43E-02
Radioactive waste disposed (RWD)	kg	8.09E-04	7.34E-09	1.70E-07	6.38E-07	4.15E-08	3.10E-07

#### **Output indicators**

Results per declared unit: 1 kg of product							
Indicator	Unit	A1 - A3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
Components for re-use (CRU)	kg	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Materials for recycling (MFR)	kg	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.980	0.00E+00	0.000
Material for energy recovery (MER)	kg	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Exported electrical energy (EEE)	MJ	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Exported thermal energy (EET)	MJ	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00

#### Disclaimer

ILCD classification	Indicator			
	Global warming potential (GWP)			
ILCD Type 1	Depletion potential of the stratospheric ozone layer (ODP)			
	Potential incidence of disease due to PM emissions (PM)			
	Acidification potential, Accumulated Exceedance (AP)			
	Eutrophication potential, Fraction of nutrients reaching freshwater end compartment (EP-freshwater)			
	Eutrophication potential, Fraction of nutrients reaching marine end compartment (EP-marine)			
ILCD Type 2	Eutrophication potential, Accumulated Exceedance (EP-terrestrial)			
	Formation potential of tropospheric ozone (POCP)			
	Potential Human exposure efficiency relative to U235 (IRP)			
	Abiotic depletion potential for non-fossil resources (ADP-minerals&metals)			
	Abiotic depletion potential for fossil resources (ADP-fossil)			
	Water (user) deprivation potential, deprivation-weighted water consumption (WDP)			
ILCD Type 3	Potential Comparative Toxic Unit for ecosystems (ETP-fw)			
	Potential Comparative Toxic Unit for humans (HTP-c)			
	Potential Comparative Toxic Unit for humans (HTP-nc)			
	Potential Soil quality index (SQP)			

Disclaimer 1 – This impact category deals mainly with the eventual impact of low dose ionizing radiation on human health of the nuclear fuel cycle. It does not consider effects due to possible nuclear accidents, occupational exposure nor due to radioactive waste disposal in underground facilities. Potential ionizing radiation from the soil, from radon and from some construction materials is also not measured by this indicator.

Disclaimer 2 – The results of this environmental impact indicator shall be used with care as the uncertainties on these results are high or as there is limited experienced with the indicator.

#### Variation in environmental indicators

The table below shows the variation for modules A - C where the difference between products is greater than 10 %.

Hot rolled SSAB Zero™ steel plates					
Environmental impact indicator	Difference (%)				
GWP-GHG	25 %				
GWP-fossil	25 %				
GWP-biogenic	14 %				
GWP-total	25 %				
ODP	71 %				
EP-fresh	20 %				
ADP-fossil	46 %				

# 5. References

- General Programme Instructions of the International EPD® System. Version 4.0.
- PCR 2019:14 Construction products. Version 1.3.4 (2024-04-30)
- CEN European Committee for Standardisation (2021). EN15804:2012+A2:2019/ AC:2021 (CEN 2021), Sustainability of construction works – Environmental product declarations – Core rules for the product category of construction products.
- LCA for experts Software System and database for Life Cycle Engineering, sphera, Leinfelden-Echterdingen, Germany
- Hallberg, L., LCA methodology report SSAB Zero, as basis for publication of EPD, Nov 2024

# SSAB