# **Secondary Structural Steel Frame Components**

Metal Building Manufacturers Association Industry-Wide EPD



Illustration of secondary structural steel framing (girts/purlins) supporting the metal roof panel (standing seam or through fastened) and metal wall panel (through fastened) cladding. The girts and purlins are attached to the primary structural steel framing.

Note: Secondary structural steel framing featured in illustration above.



METAL BUILDING MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION®

The Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA), Cleveland, OH, was founded in 1956. Since that time, MBMA and its manufacturer members have worked together as partners to further its mission: to conduct research, to help advance building codes and standards, and to educate the construction community. MBMA's passion is to support a strong, sustainable metal building systems industry that meets the needs of building owners and society.

MBMA's members are deeply committed to the social, environmental and economic principles of sustainability. This pledge is aimed at improving the quality of life for everyone now without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

This industry average EPD includes only the Secondary Structural Steel Frame components used in metal building systems. These components include the girts, purlins and bracing elements in a metal building system.

Separate EPDs are available that address the primary structural steel framing, and the exterior metal roof and wall panel cladding used to form a complete metal building system.

This industry average EPD is representative of the MBMA metal building systems members.

A complete list of members is available at <u>https://www.mbma.com/System\_Members.</u> html





Secondary Structural Steel Frame Components Industry-Wide EPD

According to ISO 14025, ISO 21930:2017 and EN 15804

## **Declaration Information**

Program Operator Name, Address, Logo & Website	UL Environment, 333Pfingsten Rd., Northbrook, IL 606011 <u>https://www.ul.com</u>						
General Program Instructions & Version Number	UL Environment General Program Instructions v2.5, March 2020						
Location of Explanatory Material	For any explanatory material, regarding this EPD, please contact Tony Bouquot (tbouquot@thomasamc.com)						
Declaration Holder & Address	Metal Building Manufacturers Association 1300 Sumner Avenue Cleveland, OH 44115-2851						
Declaration Number	4789771662.102.1						
Declared Product & Functional Unit	Secondary Structural Steel Frame Components-1 metric ton						
Product Definition	Cold-formed structural steel components (purlins/girts) used in a metal building system (05 12 00 Structural Steel Framing).						
Reference PCR & Version Number	Part A: Product Category Rules for Building Related Products and Services (UL Environment, 2018, v3.2)						
	Part B: Designated Steel Construction Product EPD Requirements (UL Environment, 2020, v2.0)						
Markets of Applicability	USA – business-to-business focus						
Date of Issue	April 01, 2021						
Period of Validity	5 years						
EPD Type	Industry-average						
EPD Scope	Cradle-to-gate (modules A1 to A3)						
Year(s) of Reported Manufacturer Primary Data	2019						
LCA Software & Version Number	Sima Pro v9.1.1.1, 2021						
LCI Database(s) & Version Number	ecoinvent 3.6, December 2019						
LCIA Methodology & Version Number	US EPA TRACI v2.1+ IPCC 2013 (AR5)						
The PCR Review was conducted by:	Thomas P. Gloria, PhD (Chair), <u>t.gloria@industrial-ecology.com</u> Ms. Brandie Sebastien, JBE Consultants Mr. James Littlefield, Independent Consultant						





#### Secondary Structural Steel Frame Components Industry-Wide EPD

Environment

According to ISO 14025, ISO 21930:2017 and EN 15804

This declaration was independently verified in accordance with ISO 14025: 2006. The UL Environment "Part A: Calculation Rules for the Life Cycle Assessment and Requirements on the Project Report," v3.2 (September 2018), based on ISO 21930:2017 and EN 15804 + A1:2013, serves as the core PCR, with additional considerations from the USGBC/UL Environment Part A Enhancement (2017)	Grant R. Martin Grant R. Martin, UL Environment						
□ INTERNAL X EXTERNAL							
This life cycle assessment was conducted in accordance with ISO 14044:2006 and the reference PCR by:	Athena Sustainable Materials Institute						
This life cycle assessment was independently verified in accordance with ISO 14044:2006 and the reference PCR by:	Homes Sprie						
	Tom Gloria, Industrial Ecology Consultant						
LIMITATIONS The environmental impact results of steel products in this document are based on a declared unit and therefore do not provide sufficient information to establish comparisons. The results shall not be used for comparisons without knowledge of how the physical properties of the steel product impact the precise function at the construction level. The environmental impact results shall be converted to a functional unit basis before any comparison is attempted. See Section 3.10 for additional EPD comparability guidelines.							

Environmental declarations from different programs (ISO 14025) may not be comparable.

This declaration is an environmental product declaration (EPD) in accordance with ISO 14025:2006 and ISO 21930:2017. EPDs rely on Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) to provide information on a number of environmental impacts of products over their life cycle. Exclusions: EPDs do not indicate that any environmental or social performance benchmarks are met, and there may be impacts that they do not encompass. LCAs do not typically address the site-specific environmental impacts of raw material extraction, nor are they meant to assess human health toxicity. EPDs can complement but cannot replace tools and certifications that are designed to address these impacts and/or set performance thresholds – e.g., Type 1 certifications, health assessments and declarations, environmental impact assessments, etc. Accuracy of Results: EPDs regularly rely on estimations of impacts, and the level of accuracy in estimation of effect differs for any particular product line and reported impact. Comparability: EPDs are not comparative assertions and are either not comparable or have limited comparability when they cover different life cycle stages, are based on different product category rules or are missing relevant environmental impacts. EPDs from different programs may not be comparable.







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## Metal Building Manufacturers Association

The Metal Building Manufacturers Association (<u>www.mbma.com</u>) is a trade association established in 1956. The mission of the MBMA is to promote the design and construction of metal building systems in the low-rise, non-residential building marketplace. Metal building systems are commonly used to provide warehouses, manufacturing, office, retail, community, and religious buildings. The popularity of metal building systems has been driven by the design and aesthetic flexibility, the consistency, and the speed of construction. MBMA building systems members fabricate the primary rigid frames, secondary framing, and component products such as metal roof and wall panel cladding systems.

#### **Ownership of Industry Wide EPD**

This EPD was developed for use by MBMA member companies, a complete list of whom can be found here: <u>https://www.mbma.com/System\_Members.html</u>.

#### **Product Description**

Secondary structural steel frame components covered by this EPD and commonly used in a metal building system includes:

- Cold-formed steel "cee" and "zee" shaped purlins used in the roof to span the distance between the primary rigid framed rafters in order to support the metal roof panels
- (standing seam roof or through fastened roof). Purlins typically range from 203.2 mm (8 in) to 304.8 mm (12 in) in depth and can span 6.1 m (20 ft) to 12.2 m (40 ft) depending on the loading, material thickness and bracing methods. The average purlin spacing is 1.5 m (5 ft) on center.
- Cold-formed steel "cee" and "zee" shaped girts used on the walls to span the distance between the primary rigid framed columns in order to support the metal wall panels (or other wall cladding materials). Girts typically range from 203.2 mm (8 in) to 304.8 mm (12 in) in depth and can span 6.1 m (20 ft) to 12.2 m (40 ft) depending on the loading, material thickness and bracing methods. The average girt spacing varies based on design parameters.
- Cold-formed steel components used in the endwall framing, such as columns (posts), end rafters, beams, eave struts and girts.



Girts and purlins attached to primary structural steel frames. Various types of bracing shown, such as xbracing, flange bracing, girt/purlin bracing.

- Framed openings utilizing cold-formed steel components to allow for a door, window, or skylight opening.
- Bracing elements, such as roof and wall 'X' bracing (commonly steel rods or wire rope), along with flange, purlin and girt bracing (commonly angle irons, threaded rods, channels, and metal straps).

The girts and purlins are often coated with a rust-inhibiting primer or painted to meet project specifications. Once the secondary framing members have been fabricated, completed with holes to accept connection bolts, the products are delivered to the jobsite.





Secondary Structural Steel Frame Components Industry-Wide EPD

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#### Flexible Design

Metal building manufacturers custom design the secondary structural steel frame components, along with the primary structural steel framing and the metal roof and wall cladding, in accordance with the order documents. Order documents are based on the specified building code, loading conditions, and serviceability requirements.

#### Less Material

Most often, the weight of steel used in a metal building framing system is significantly less than hot-rolled steel framed buildings due to the structural optimization of the tapered web design and the cold formed secondary structural steel frame components. By tapering the primary structural steel framing web, material is used where it is needed for strength and stability. Traditional hot-rolled steel frame designs and other competing materials do not take advantage of this material optimization. Similarly, for the cold formed secondary framing members, the weight of steel used is less than the traditional bar joist type systems. This weight savings inherently reduces the environmental impact of metal buildings when compared to traditional framing systems. Life cycle assessment software, such as the Athena Impact Estimator, can be used to confirm the environmental and material savings.

#### Metal Building System - EPD Family

A complete metal building system is made up of primary structural steel frames (covered by the Primary Structural Steel Frame Components EPD), a secondary framing system (covered by this EPD) and metal roof and wall panel cladding (covered by the Rolled Formed Roof and Wall Panels EPD). All three EPDs may be found on the UL Environmental website available here: <u>http://productguide.ulenvironment.com</u>.

#### **Product Codes, Specifications, and Standards**

The products considered in this EPD meet or exceed one or more of the following codes, specifications, and standards:

Model Codes and Standards	Specifications and Standards				
International Building Code	American Institute for Steel Construction (AISC)				
State or Locally Adopted Code	AISC 303 - Code of Standard Practice for Steel Buildings and Bridges				
ASCE/SEI 7 - Minimum Design Loads for Buildings	AISC Design Guide 3 - Serviceability for Steel Buildings				
and Other Structures	American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI)				
UL - Building Material Directory	AISI S100 - North American Specification for the Design of Cold-Formed				
UL - Fire Resistance Directory	Steel Structural Members				
Common Industry Standards	American Welding Society (AWS)				
MBMA Metal Building Systems Manual	AWS D1.3 / D1.3M - Structural Welding Code - Sheet Steel				
International Accreditation Services (IAS)	ASTM International (ASTM)				
Accreditation Criteria 472 (AC472) - Accreditation Criteria for Inspection Programs for Manufacturers of Metal Building Systems	ASTM A653/A653M - Standard Specification for Steel Sheet, Zinc-Coated (Galvanized) or Zink-Iron Alloy-Coated (Galvannealed) by the Hot-Dip Process				
	ASTM A1011/A1011M - Standard Specification for Steel, Sheet and Strip, Hot-Rolled, Carbon, Structural, High-Strength, Low-Alloy and High- Strength Low-Alloy with Improved Formability and Ultra-High Strength				







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#### **Quality Control**

Metal building primary structural steel frames, secondary framing and metal wall and roof cladding are all custom fabricated in a factory following strict quality assurance standards. Quality control is a major focus for all MBMA metal building manufacturers. MBMA worked with the International Accreditation Services (IAS), a subsidiary of the International Code Council (ICC), to develop the Accreditation Criteria for Inspection Programs for Manufacturers of Metal Building Systems (AC472). This comprehensive, third-party accreditation program is based on the special inspection requirements in the International Building Code (IBC) Chapter 17. This program provides code officials with a means to approve the inspection programs of manufacturers involved in the fabrication of a metal building system. It provides building owners and specifiers with an extra level of assurance the metal building system manufacturer's engineering, order, design and fabrication process all conform to high-standards. All MBMA member companies are committed to quality control and they adhere to the strict criteria of the AC472 program.

#### **Range of Applications**

Metal buildings are used for low rise, non-residential construction end uses. This includes smaller building designs for health care, religious, office, education, and retail facilities, up to larger building designs for warehouses, aircraft hangars, manufacturing and sports facilities. These and other building end uses are shown below.



Healthcare



Religious



Office



Automotive



Aviation



Agriculture



Recreation



Retail



Storage / Warehouse









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#### **Product Average**

Primary gate-to-gate LCI manufacturing and input/output transportation data were collected for secondary structural steel frame components for the reference year 2019. These data were collected from 14 MBMA member facilities from three discrete regions (East, Midwest, and Western US), to represent the US industry average geographic mix. These 14 plants were deemed representative of the specific processes and the MBMA's membership. The MBMA represents 41 different production facilities; as a result, the plant sample represents about 25% of all establishments. The 14 plants were combined on a production weighted basis to provide a weighted average profile for US production of secondary structural steel frame components.

#### **Material Composition**

<u>Table 1</u> lists the material inputs used in the production of secondary structural steel frame components.

Purlins and girts are formed from coils of steel in the metal building manufacturer's plant from either hot rolled coils, cold rolled coils or hot dip galvanized coils. These coils of steel are shipped to the manufacturer's plant and may be pre-painted. Primer may also be applied to the finished product in the manufacturer's plant, depending on the project's specifications.

For the production of secondary steel frame components, the semi-finished steel inputs are hot-dipped galvanized (bare), cold-rolled pre-painted coil and hot rolled coil (both bare and pre-painted). Steel substrate input used in the production of

#### **Table 1: Material Composition**

#### **MBMA Product**

Secondary Structural Steel Frame Components

#### Input Materials

Pre-painted hot and cold rolled coil (HRC, CRC), unpainted HRC, and hot-dipped galvanized (HDG) metal coils of varying thicknesses

secondary frame components is sourced from both the BOF (20%) and EAF (80%) routes and varies in thickness from 1.37 mm (0.054") to 3.05 mm (0.12").

#### Manufacturing

The gate-to-gate processes in the production of secondary steel frame components include coil slitting (if applicable), de-coiling, punching/shearing, roll-forming, painting (if applicable), welding (if applicable), touch up painting (if applicable), packaging, space conditioning and lighting, warehouse and loading, and pollution abatement equipment (as shown in Figure 1). The major process energy input is electricity followed by natural gas used for space conditioning and in the paint process. For every metric ton of secondary frame component produced, a total of 1.038 metric tons of steel is required, which yields a 3.8% scrap rate for the processes leading to the production of secondary frame components. The resulting fabrication steel scrap is 100% recyclable. The average inbound transportation of input materials and fuels to production facilities by truck, rail, and ocean freighter as well as the outbound transportation of manufacturing wastes and waste disposal processes are included.

#### Packaging

Packaging materials consist of one-way wood pallets and steel banding.

#### Transportation

Environment

Product transportation to the customer or construction site is outside the scope of this EPD (see Table 3).









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## Life Cycle Assessment Background Information

#### **Declared Unit**

The declared unit is one metric ton (1,000 kg) of the secondary structural steel frame components, as shown in Table 2.

# NameQuantityRequired UnitDeclared Unit1metric tonDensity7,833kg/m³

#### System Boundary

The underlying LCA product system boundary was limited to a cradle-to-gate analysis (as shown in <u>Figure 1</u>) of the production stage – Modules A1-A3 as depicted in <u>Table 3</u> below. As per the scope of the PCR, construction, use and end-of-life stages are excluded from the product system boundary. The optional Module D is also excluded. No reference service life is specified for secondary structural steel frames.

#### **Estimates and Assumptions**

Primary gate-to-gate LCI manufacturing and input transportation data were collected for secondary structural steel frames production for the reference year 2019. Background data to support the LCA of secondary frames were obtained from 2020 North American LCI profiles of semi-finished steel products (hot rolled plate, hot rolled bar and sections) and various proprietary and commercial databases as documented in the project background report. All background data are less than 10 years old. When selected background datasets, a conservative approach was applied in that datasets associated with higher impacts are used when there are multiple possible options.

#### **Cut-off Criteria**

The cut-off criteria as per Part A, 2.9 and ISO 21930, 7.1.8 were followed for this EPD. All flow data reported by the participating MBMA facilities were included for the relevant process and product models. None of the reported flow data were excluded based on the cut-off criteria as specified in the PCR. No known flows are deliberately excluded from this EPD. This EPD excludes the following processes: (1) Capital goods and infrastructure required to produce MBMA products, and (2) Personnel related activity (travel, furniture, office operations and supplies).



# Environment

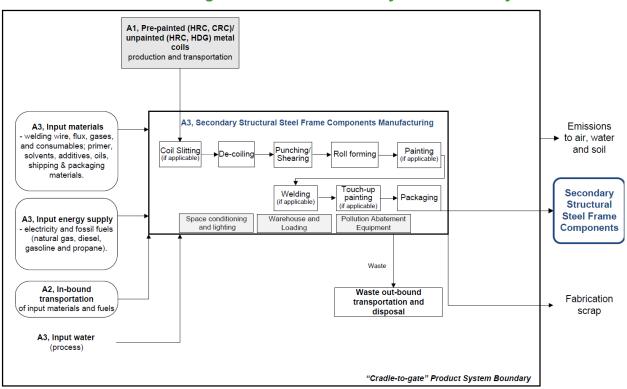
#### Table 2: Declared Unit





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## Figure 1: Cradle-to-Gate System Boundary

## **Table 3: Systems Boundaries**

Pr	roductic Stage	on	Constr Sta		Use Stage			End-of-Life Stage				Optional supplementary information beyond the system boundary		
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
Extraction and upstream production	Transport to factory	Manufacturing	Transport to site	Installation	Use	Maintenance	Repair	Replacement	Refurbishment	De-construction	Transport to waste processing or disposal	Waste processing	Disposal of waste	Potential net benefits from reuse, recycling and/or energy recovery beyond the system boundary
Х	Х	Х	M	ND	MND			MND				MND		
X = Inc	X = Included in LCA; MND = Module is not declared													







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#### **Data Quality**

#### **Representativeness:**

- Time related coverage of the MBMA primary data: 2019.
- Secondary data: American Iron and Steel Institute North American LCI data for semi-finished steel products (2020) – cradle to gate, excluding end-of-life recycling, ecoinvent v.3.6 datasets, December 2019, US LCI datasets, September 2015, SimaPro 9.1.1.1, 2021. No Secondary data sources are more than 10 years old.
- Geographical coverage: the geographical coverage is the US.
- Technological coverage: typical or average reflecting MBMA's membership.

The LCI data is deemed representative for the production year and the industry and adequately reflects North American conditions and prevailing technologies.

**Consistency:** To ensure data consistency, all primary data were collected with the same level of detail, while all background data were consistently applied.

**Reproducibility**: Through disclosure of input and output flow data, selected datasets, and methodological approaches as described in the project background report, a third-party should be able to demonstrate results similar to this EPD using similar and consistent data sources and modeling approaches.

**Uncertainty**: A sensitivity check was conducted to assess the reliability of the EPD results and conclusions by determining how they are affected by uncertainties in the data or assumptions on calculation of LCIA and energy indicator results. The sensitivity check includes the results of the sensitivity analysis and Monte Carlo uncertainty analysis as documented in the project report.

#### Allocation

*Multiple product output*: The MBMA plant participants produce an array of products used in the structure and envelope of metal buildings and, as such, allocation across shared processes was applied. "Mass" was deemed as the most appropriate physical parameter for allocation of the total inputs/outputs of the plant production system between primary frames, secondary frames, and roof and wall panel manufacturing lines. Data collection participants provided input and output data specific to each of four selected manufacturing processes. Then inputs/outputs were allocated over the total outputs of panel or framing on a mass basis.

Semi-finished steel products are integral commodities used in the production of upstream and the primary MBMA metal building products. As a result, 2020 peer-reviewed North American LCI data, according to the ISO 14040 series for these metal products, as generated by the American Iron and Steel Institute were applied in this LCA study. Semi-finished steel product LCIA results and LCI data based on physical allocation approach are used. The physical allocation approach follows the partitioning methodology developed by worldsteel.

#### Life Cycle Assessment Results

<u>Table 4</u> presents the life cycle impact assessment (LCIA), resource use and waste output flow results for the production stage (A1 to A3) per metric ton of secondary structural frame. US EPA Tool for the Reduction and Assessment of Chemical and Other Environmental Impacts (TRACI), version 2.1, 2012 impact categories are used as they provide a North American context for the mandatory category indicators to be included in this EPD. *It should be noted that LCIA results are relative expressions and do not predict impacts on category endpoints, the exceeding of thresholds, safety* 







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margins or risks.

In addition to the impact results, this LCA supports several metrics related to resource consumption and waste generation. These data are informational as they do not provide a measure of impact on the environment.

## Table 4: EPD Results Per Metric Ton of Secondary Structural Steel Frame Components

Impact category and inventory indicators	Unit	A1	A2	A3	Total
Global warming potential, GWP-100 <sup>1)</sup> (IPCC 2013)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	1,779.8	62.1	86.8	1,929
Ozone depletion potential, ODP <sup>2)</sup>	kg CFC-11 eq	6.2E-06	1.4E-06	1.1E-05	1.9E-05
Smog formation potential, SFP <sup>2)</sup>	kg O₃ eq	65.5	20.9	5.5	91.9
Acidification potential, AP <sup>2)</sup>	kg SO <sub>2</sub> eq	9.2	0.8	0.2	10.2
Eutrophication potential, EP <sup>2)</sup>	kg N eq	0.42	0.05	0.37	0.84
Abiotic depletion potential, elements ADPe <sup>3)</sup>	kg Sb eq	1.3E-02	3.7E-07	2.3E-04	1.3E-02
Abiotic depletion potential, fossil ADPf <sup>3)</sup>	MJ LHV	20,109	853	1,137	22,099
Renewable primary resources used as an energy carrier (fuel), RPR <sub>E</sub>	MJ LHV	959	0	635	1,594
Renewable primary resources with energy content used as material, $\mbox{RPR}_{\mbox{M}^{4)}}$	MJ LHV	0	0	0	0
Non-renewable primary resources used as an energy carrier (fuel), NRPR <sub>E</sub>	MJ LHV	21,725	862	1,389	23,976
Non-renewable primary resources with energy content used as material, $NRPR_M^{4)}$	MJ LHV	0	0	0	0
Secondary materials, SM <sup>4)</sup>	kg	473	0	0	473
Renewable secondary fuels, RSF <sup>4)</sup>	MJ LHV	0	0	0	0
Non-renewable secondary fuels, NRSF <sup>4)</sup>	MJ LHV	0	0	0	0
Recovered energy, RE <sup>4)</sup>	MJ LHV	0	0	0	0
Consumption of freshwater, FW <sup>4</sup> )	m <sup>3</sup>	4.5	0	0.03	4.5
Hazardous waste disposed, HWD <sup>4)</sup>	kg	0.690	0.000	0.009	0.699
Non-hazardous waste disposed, NHWD <sup>4)</sup>	kg	0.0	0.0	1.9	1.9
High-level radioactive waste, conditioned, to final repository, HLRW <sup>4)</sup>	m <sup>3</sup>	1.3E-07	6.3E-11	1.5E-07	2.9E-07
Intermediate- and low-level radioactive waste, conditioned, to final repository, ILLRW <sup>4)</sup>	m <sup>3</sup>	2.4E-04	4.6E-07	2.9E-06	2.4E-04
Components for re-use, CRU <sup>4)</sup>	kg	0	0	0	0
Materials for recycling, MR <sup>4)</sup>	kg	11.6	0.0	37.6	49.2
Materials for energy recovery, MER <sup>4)</sup>	kg	0	0	0	0







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Impact category and inventory indicators	Unit	A1	A2	А3	Total
Recovered energy exported from the product system, $EE^{4)}$	MJ LHV	0	0	0	0

#### Table Notes:

<sup>1)</sup> Calculated as per U.S EPA TRACI v2.1, with IPCC 2013 (AR 5), SimaPro v 9.1.1.1.

GWP 100, excludes biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> removals and emissions associated with biobased products; 100-year time horizon GWP factors are provided by the IPCC 2013 Fifth Assessment Report (AR5), TRACI v2.1 with AR5, v1.05.

<sup>2)</sup> Calculated as per U.S EPA TRACI v2.1, SimaPro v 9.1.1.1.

<sup>3)</sup> ADPe and ADPf are calculated as per CML-IA Baseline v3.05, SimaPro v 9.1.1.1.

<sup>4)</sup> Calculated as per ACLCA ISO 21930 Guidance.

It is also noted that comparisons cannot be made between product-specific or industry average EPDs at the design stage of a project before a building has been specified. Comparisons may be made between product-specific or industry average EPDs at the time of product purchase when product performance and specifications have been established and serve as a functional unit for comparison. Environmental impact results shall be converted to a functional unit basis before any comparison is attempted.

Any comparison of EPDs shall be subject to the requirements of ISO 21930. EPDs are not comparative assertions and are either not comparable or have limited comparability when they have different system boundaries, are based on different product category rules or are missing relevant environmental impacts. Such comparison can be inaccurate and could lead to erroneous selection of materials or products which are higher-impact, at least in some impact categories.

#### Interpretation

<u>Figure 2</u> below provides a percent contribution summary by information module (A1 – extraction and upstream production, A2 – transport to factory and A3 – manufacturing) for the LCIA indicators and energy resource use metrics. A contribution analysis revealed that the A3 Manufacturing accounted for 8% of the total primary energy use and 5% of the GWP-100 of the total cradle-to-gate product system. Potential environmental impacts for secondary steel frame components are driven by the A1 semi-finished steel inputs. A3 Manufacturing is the second largest contributor to the Production stage EPD results, followed by the A2 Transportation. About 94% of the product system energy use (A1 to A3) is derived from fossil fuels, of which semi-finished steel input contribution is 91%. Similarly, semi-finished steel input accounts for 92% of the cradle-to-gate global warming potential (GWP).

A Monte Carlo uncertainty analysis was also conducted to assess the combined uncertainty effect of the data variability on the LCIA and energy indicator results. As a statistical method, Monte Carlo analysis establishes the uncertainty range, which expresses the variance between the upper and lower confidence limit [97.5%, 2.5%], in the calculated EPD results. Based on the industry sample data, [minimum; maximum] range data was calculated per each input/output flow for the secondary structural steel frame components. These data are used in the Monte Carlo uncertainty analysis. This uncertainty analysis assesses the combined uncertainty effect of the inventory data (both foreground and background). It should be noted that U.S. EPA TRACI v2.1 methodology has not specified any uncertainty information of the characterization factors per impact category. With a confidence level of 95%, the confidence interval of cradle-to-gate GWP-100 of the secondary structural steel frame components is [+55%, -40%]. Based on 1,000 runs, such information provides a quantitative indication of the range of results that are likely for the manufacturer's specific products covered by the industry average EPD for secondary structural steel frames.

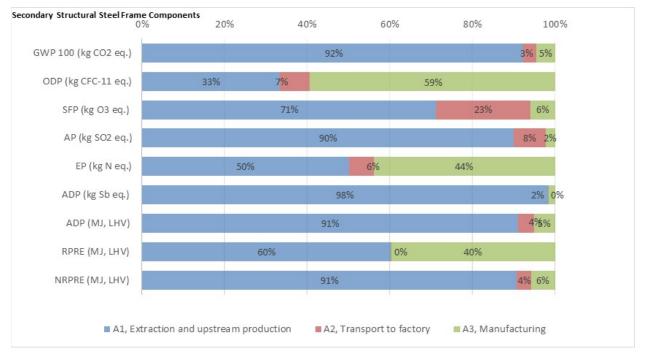






#### Secondary Structural Steel Frame Components Industry-Wide EPD

According to ISO 14025, ISO 21930:2017 and EN 15804



## Figure 2: Percent Contribution by Production Stage Information Modules (A1, A2 and A3)

## Additional Environmental Information

All 14 MBMA member facilities participating in the study are ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certified or follow other company specific environmental management systems. Pollution abatement equipment typically used in the MBMA manufacturing facilities consist of fabric filter– low temperature (baghouse), dry filters and cartridge filters. No substances of high concern were identified in the framework of this EPD.

#### **Disclaimer**

This Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) conforms to ISO 14025, ISO 14040, ISO 14044, and ISO 21930.

**Scope of Results Reported:** The PCR requires the reporting of a limited set of LCIA indicators and resource use metrics; therefore, there may be relevant environmental impacts beyond those disclosed by this EPD. The EPD does not indicate that any environmental or social performance benchmarks are met, nor thresholds exceeded.

Accuracy of Results: This EPD has been developed in accordance with the PCR applicable for the identified product following the principles, requirements and guidelines of the ISO 14025, ISO 14040, ISO 14044, and ISO 21930 standards as well as ULE's general program instructions. The results in this EPD are estimations of potential impacts. The accuracy of results in different EPDs may vary as a result of value choices, background data assumptions and quality of data collected.





Environment



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#### References

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